

# Win Awenen Nisitotung

"One Who Understands" • Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians



Namebin Giizis  
Sucker Moon

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## Groups still fighting limestone mine proposal

Keith Creagh, director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, announced his final approval of the Graymont land transaction in Roscommon, Mich., at a meeting of the Natural Resources Committee on March 20. While not a mining permit per se, the DNR's decision effectively converts roughly 10,000 acres of diverse, high-quality public lands into a complex of open pit limestone quarries and extensive underground mining operations.

"The loss of such a vast area of public lands will have a substantial detrimental impact on the treaty rights of our tribal members, many of whom engage in hunting, gathering and other related activities in and around the affected public lands as is provided for under the 2007 Consent Decree in *United States v Michigan*, WD Mich, File No 2:73 CV 26," said Sault Tribe Board Chairperson Aaron Payment. "We are also concerned about the potential environmental impacts of the proposed mining activities; to the best of our knowledge, these impacts have not even been identified or discussed at least publicly."

Unprecedented in scale, the land transaction includes direct sale of approximately 1,781 acres of state-owned land plus 7,026 acres of state mineral rights to Graymont, a land exchange whereby Graymont acquires 830 acres of state-owned land, and a 10-year option secured by Graymont to acquire an easement over an additional maximum of 55 acres. Graymont Mining submitted the final revision of their application less than two weeks prior to the decision—the latest in an ever-changing application. DNR protocol dictates a 30-day public comment period once any

revisions are received; this time however, no such public comment period was allowed.

The state lands that Creagh decided to trade, sell or transfer to Graymont include areas of shallow soil over limestone. They may include alvar, a globally rare community found only in three regions of the world, including the upper Great Lakes region of eastern Upper Michigan and nearby Ontario, which often support unique plant communities and rare plant and insect species. The diverse wetlands slated to be handed over to Graymont may also harbor rare plants. Documents posted on the DNR's "Graymont Land Transaction" page include no mention of biological or rare species assessments being done in preparation for this land transfer.

An archeological survey of the acreage has never been completed. Although Graymont incorporated archeological surveys into its proposal, it has no plan for inadvertent discovery, such as miners coming upon remains or grave goods.

Last in a long list of actions in opposition to the mining proposal, in late February a collective letter of opposition was sent to Director Creagh, outlining serious concerns with the proposed transaction, including displacement of existing limestone quarrying jobs and the loss of sustainable, long-term jobs in the forestry and tourism sectors, and noting that the sale of these lands would interfere with tribal rights by having an adverse impact on fishing, hunting and gathering activities of tribal members under the 1836 treaty.

The letter of opposition was jointly signed by individual citizens as well as major groups,

including the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, the Michigan League of Conservation Voters, Upper Peninsula Environmental Coalition, Friends of the Land of Keweenaw's (F.O.L.K.) Board of Directors, the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority, the Central U.P. Group of the Michigan Chapter of the Sierra Club, Yellow Dog Watershed Preserve, Concerned Citizens of Big Bay, Save the Wild U.P., Students for Sustainability of Northern Michigan University, Northwoods Native Plant Society, Citizens for Alternatives to Chemical Contamination, Citizens Against the Rexton Project, Concerned Clergy of Marquette, the Marquette Unitarian Universalists Social Action Committee and multiple individual property owners in Trout Lake, Mich.

"This is a huge loss for Michigan taxpayers and a massive blow to federally promised treaty rights," said Alexandra

## Williams named Hessel Casino

### 2014 Team Member of the Year

HESEL — Cage cashier Doris Williams was selected as Kewadin Hessel Casino's Team Member of the Year for 2014. Doris, a '73 La Salle High School graduate, has two children and two grandchildren and lives in Hessel.

"I was very shocked," said Williams upon hearing the news. She said she is "very pleased that my hard-work paid off" in the selection as team member of the year. Williams noted she likes the job and enjoys working with her co-workers.

Known for her smile, kind words, and excellent customer service, Williams has worked for Kewadin Casinos in St. Ignace and Hessel for 12 combined years. She previously worked in the Food and Beverage Department and housekeeping before joining the cage as a cashier.

As a senior Kewadin team member, Williams is always giving friendly advice to other team members on how to take care of the customers as well as the importance of working together as a team.

Hessel casino manager Tel Fox said, "We have total confidence in her ability to do her job and the one thing that stands out about her is how she verbally shows appreciation to team members and customers."

Fox said Williams is especially proud of learning the various computer programs she uses on a daily basis in the cage.

For her selection as team

Maxwell, Save the Wild U.P.'s interim director in a press release. "The DNR's unilateral decision shows clear disregard for the input of Michigan citizens."

After the decision was announced, Dr. Martin Reinhardt, an assistant professor of Native American Studies at Northern Michigan University, Sault Tribe member, along with Dr. Phil Bellfy, professor emeritus of American Indian Studies at Michigan State University and citizen of the White Earth Nation, filed an injunction against DNR Director Creagh citing violations of the 1836 Treaty of Washington between the U.S. federal government and the Ojibway nations. Though the tribal members were unsuccessful in their bid to get an injunction against the company, the judge referred the matter to the court's magistrate, who assigned it to Chief Judge Paul Maloney, who oversees the tribes' consent decrees.

Besides Bellfy and Reinhardt, Monica Cady, Jim LeBlanc, DJ

Malloy and Nathan Wright have put their names to the lawsuit and members from Bay Mills Indian Community, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians are signed on, according to a statement.

"This decision to allow Graymont to open a mine near Rexton was highly irresponsible on the part of Director Creagh and the NRC," said Reinhardt. "It really exemplifies how the state of Michigan is mismanaging public lands in violation of Anishinaabe treaty rights and human rights in general. You can get short-term economic gains through these types of actions, but it will have severe repercussions for future generations. Our Anishinaabe ancestors warned us about this path of destruction, and it is up to us to stop it before it is too late."

member of the year, Williams received gift certificates for \$200 in cash, dinner for two, show tickets for two and a one-night

hotel stay as well as a plaque that will be displayed inside the casino with her picture.

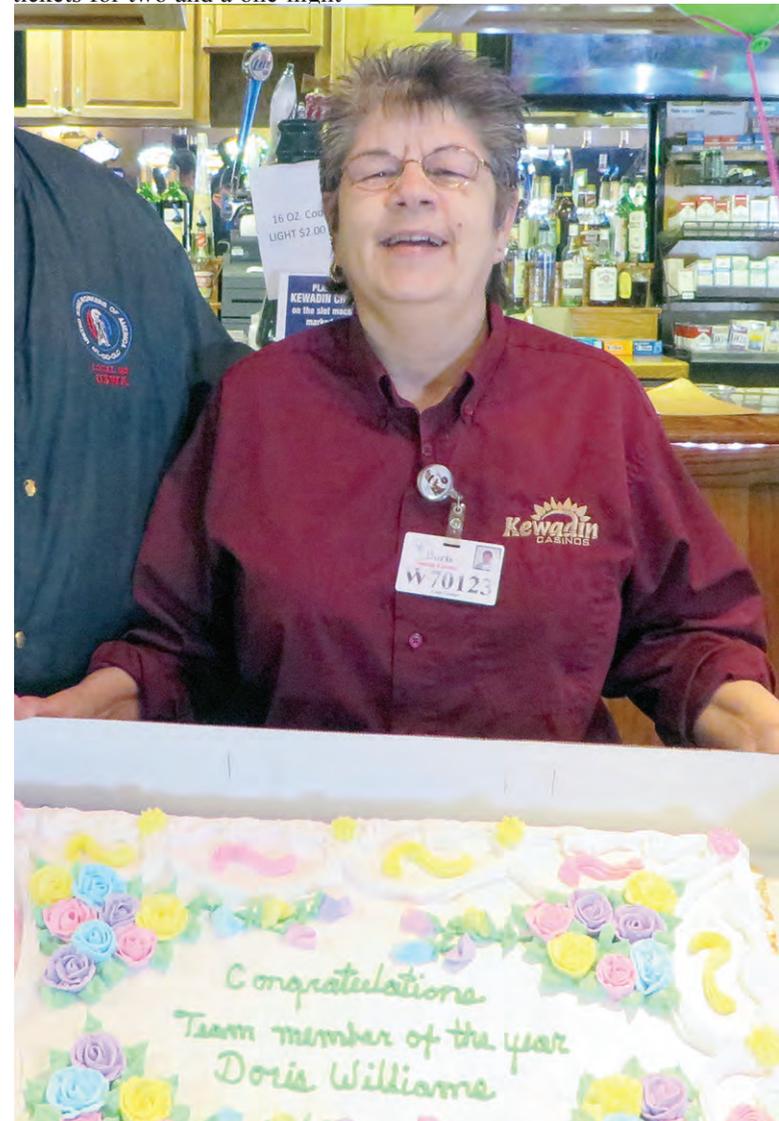


Photo Courtesy Kewadin Casinos

2014 Hessel Team Member of the Year Doris Williams was not only presented with a beautiful cake, she was awarded dinner for two, show tickets for two, \$200 and a one-night hotel stay.

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# Calling all past and present youth council members



## FROM YOUTH EDUCATION AND ACTIVITIES

This year, 2015, marks 20 years of the tribal youth council in Sault Tribe and we want you to help us celebrate! Please friend us on Facebook (sttribalyouthcouncil or celebrating 20 years of tyc) to be part of the coming events and memories that letting 20 years of youth lead the way has done for us.

The photos above are a few of those memories. At right, tribal youth council members in 1996 singing Christmas carols to residents of longterm care facilities in Sault Ste. Marie.

Pictured are (back row, left to right) Jeremy Snider, Amanda Leonard, Lisa Abramson, Laura Abramson, Kim MacPherson, Liz Carr, Aaron Jump, Derek Bouchor, Theresa Ringuette, (front row, left to right) Amanda Cox, Rachel Pavlat, Jodi Ringuette, Amanda Castro, Dee Eggert and Daisy McKechnie.

Above, left, tribal youth council members in 1999 who attended the national UNITY conference in Denver, Colo.

Pictured from left to right, Sarah Miles, a student from St. Ignace (name unknown), Josh Biron, Chantelle Combs, Olivia Peters, Jona Locke and Nikki Sorenson.

## Free youth development workshop

SAULT STE. MARIE — Chippewa County is hosting *Totally Terrific Tools for Teen Facilitative Leadership!* The training is at LSSU's Ontario Room, on Monday, May 18, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Attendees at this workshop will learn and practice a variety of handy, easy-to-use techniques for facilitating and leading meetings and groups, gain skills in using a variety of brain-storming techniques for generating ideas, practice using decision-making and consensus-building tools and gain confidence leading and speaking in front of others.

This free workshop is open to all youth 12-19, and adults who support youth leaders. Free pizza! Pre-registration by May 11 is required at <http://events.anr.msu.edu/TFLSaultSteMarie/>. Call Melanie Green-field at 635-6368 or email her at [greenf20@anr.msu.edu](mailto:greenf20@anr.msu.edu).



Healthcare Assistance available with  
**Medicaid, Medicare, &**  
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## Did you have a Tax Penalty for not having Healthcare Coverage in 2014?



Join Certified Marketplace Navigators from Community Health Access Coalition (CHAC) and Certified Application Counselors from Sault Tribe to learn how you can get healthcare coverage for 2015

**WHEN: Thursday, April 30, 2015**

**9:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.**

**WHERE: Sault Tribal Health Center**

**2864 Ashmun, Sault, MI 49783**

**Special Enrollment Periods** are available outside of  
Open Enrollment for a variety of life events

Call CHAC at  
**635-7483** with  
**Questions or**  
**to Schedule an**  
**Appointment**



[www.facebook.com/upchac.com](http://www.facebook.com/upchac.com)

**Tax Penalty Special Enrollment** eligible consumers have from  
**March 15 through April 30** to enroll in coverage  
through the Marketplace if they meet the following criteria

- Currently not enrolled in health coverage for 2015
- Filed their 2014 tax return and paid a penalty
- First understood at the time of 2014 tax filing about having to pay a penalty

# Bawating 2015 powwow schedule announced

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians recently announced the schedule for its 34<sup>th</sup> annual traditional Maawanji'iding Mnaadendaanaa Ki Jingtamok, Honoring our Mother Earth Powwow. All specials anyone would like to be done at the powwow must be submitted to the Powwow Committee by June 1.

Host drums for this year is Eyabay and Battle River of Red Lake, Minn. Co-emcees are Josh Homminga of Sault Ste. Marie and Joe Medicine of Harbor Springs. Head ogitchidaa is George Martin of Lac Courte Oreille, Wisc., and arena director is Keith Smith of Red Lake.

This year, the event begins on Tuesday, July 7, with a blessing of the powwow grounds and

continues the following day with tending to preparation details. A sunrise ceremony is observed on Thursday, July 9, followed by the gathering.

A kid's carnival is set for the afternoon of July 10 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on the powwow grounds and an open drum session starts at 7 p.m.

All drums must be registered, drum and dance registration starts at 10 a.m. on July 11 until 2 p.m. Registration is open to all dancers participating in the specials. Grand entry at 1 p.m., followed by a feast at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Center at 5 p.m. and a hand drum contest at 6 p.m. on the powwow grounds. Second grand entry at 7 p.m. and hand drum contest winners announced at 8 p.m., top three winners sing

for the two-step contest.

July 12 starts with a morning mass at the ceremonial center at 11 a.m. Grand entry at 1 p.m. and dance special winners announced at 2 p.m.

Head dancers selected for each session on site.

Winner-take-all specials with prizes for male and female aged 18 and over at \$300, aged 13 to 17 at \$200 and aged six to 12 at \$100. Winners of the hand drum contest receive \$300 for first place, \$200 for second place and \$100 for third place. Couples winning the two-step competition receive \$75 for first place, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third.

Only Native dancers, singers and vendors, please. Singers and dancers in specials as well

as vendors must show proof of tribal affiliation when registering or upon request of the Powwow Committee. Electricity is limited, vendors are encouraged to use generators if they have them, but they must have baffles.

The event is open to the public and all are invited to attend, no alcohol or illicit drugs permitted. No dogs on powwow grounds and no outside raffles. Enter from Bawheting Drive off of Shunk

Road on the reservation.

For general information, call the tribal administration desk at 635-6050 or Powwow Chair Jackie Minton at 635-6050, extension 26144, or 203-4977. Vendors wanting information should call Linda Grossett at 635-6050, extension 26041 or 440-1470. Those who want information regarding the spiritual gathering should call Les Ailing at 203-5521.

## Get help completing home improvement applications

The Sault Tribe Housing Authority has scheduled staff to help tribal elders to complete the application process, determine eligibility and answer questions regarding the available Home Improvement Program at local elder's lunches and meetings.

Housing does not have any emergency programs and funding is not guaranteed for each applicant.

The scheduled dates actually started on April 8 and dates listed

here are those that fall after the publication of this edition of the tribe's newspaper.

Sault, May 6, 11:30 a.m.

Marquette, May 7, 5:30 p.m.

Munising, May 18, 3:30 p.m.

Naubinway, May 27, 6 p.m.

Newberry, June 19, 10:30 a.m.

If you would like more information about the Home Improvement Programs, please call Annie Thibert, home ownership specialist, at 495-5555 or (800) 794-4072.

## April committee vacancies announced

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 Tara McKelvie, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie.

Email [tmckelvie@saulttribe.net](mailto:tmckelvie@saulttribe.net) or call (906) 635-6050 for any questions.

- Health Board - One vacancy (four-year term)

- Inland Conservation Committee - Two vacancies (four-year term)

- Child Welfare Committee

- One vacancy (four-year terms). Applicants must pass a background check.

- Election Committee - Two vacancies (four-year terms)

- Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - Five vacancies (two-year terms)

- Housing Commission - One Unit IV vacancy (four-year term)

- Anishinaabe Cultural

- Committee - One vacancy

- (women, four-year term), two

- vacancies (men, four-year terms)

- Sault Ste. Marie Elders

- Subcommittee - One regular

- vacancy (four-year term)

- Newberry Elders

- Subcommittee - Two regular

- vacancies (four-year term)

- Hessel Elders Subcommittee

- One regular and one alternate

- vacancy (four-year term)

- Naubinway Elders

- Subcommittee - Four regular

- vacancies (four-year term)

- Escanaba Elders

- Subcommittee - Two regular

- vacancies and one alternate

- vacancy (four-year term)

- Munising Elders

- Subcommittee - One regular

- vacancy (four-year term)

- St. Ignace Elders

- Subcommittee - One regular

- vacancy (four-year term)

- Marquette Elders

- Subcommittee - Two regular

- vacancies and one alternate

- vacancy (four-year term)

- Manistique Elders

- Subcommittee - One regular and

- one alternate vacancy (four-year

- term)

## Chi Mukwa Summer Recreation Program opens for children aged 5 to 10 on June 8

The Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center is offering its annual Summer Recreation Program for children aged five to 10 years. The program is 10 weeks, from June 8 through Aug. 14.

Morning, afternoon, or full-day sessions offered. Morning hours, 8 a.m.-noon; afternoon hours, 1-5 p.m. and full-day sessions, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. The

program features organized sports and games, arts and crafts, field trips, ice skating, water activities, healthy lifestyle information and playground days.

For questions or to schedule an appointment to register, please call 635-4777 or email Cody Jodoin at [cjodoin@saulttribe.net](mailto:cjodoin@saulttribe.net).

Registration deadline is May 15 at 5 p.m.

## Tax penalty special enrollment outreach coming April 30 brings help for health insurance woes

Did you have a tax penalty for not having healthcare coverage in 2014? Join certified Marketplace navigators from Community Health Access Coalition (CHAC) and certified application counselors from Sault Tribe to learn how you can get healthcare coverage for 2015.

Help is available with Medicaid, Medicare and Marketplace insurance plans.

The event is on Thursday, April 30, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., at the Sault Tribal Health Center at 2864 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Special enrollment periods are available outside of open enrollment for a variety of life events.

Tax penalty special enrollment eligible consumers have from March 15 through April 30 to

enroll in coverage through the Marketplace if they meet the following criteria:

- Currently not enrolled in health coverage for 2015.

- Filed 2014 tax return and paid a penalty.

- First understood at the time of 2014 tax filing about having to pay a penalty.

Call CHAC at 635-7483 with to schedule an appointment.

## Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

April 24, 2015  
Namebin Giizis  
Sucker Moon  
Vol. 36, No. 4

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](http://www.saulttribe.com).

Subscriptions: The regular rate is \$18 per year, \$11 for senior citizens and \$30 to Canada. Please

call for other foreign countries. Subscribe by sending your name and mailing address to the address below with your check or money order made out to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Or, call (906) 632-6398 to pay by credit card.

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E-mail: [saulttribenews@sault-tribe.net](mailto:saulttribenews@sault-tribe.net).

## Manistique gathering for women's health promotion

Event starts at 4 p.m. at the Manistique Tribal Community Center on Wednesday, April 29.

Native American communities recognize the important role women play as providers, caring for the basic needs of our children and families.

Healthy women create healthy communities.

Join us for an opportunity to share and learn about some of the more traditional Anishinabe ways of life.

This gathering will be a casual experience for women interested in learning about incorporating more Native culture into their everyday lives.

Presentations:

- Sacred and current uses of tobacco - Jaime Paradise and Patty Teeples.

health, nutrition and cooking, traditional medicine, journaling, massage therapy, cedar teachings, exercise, mud mind, cultural crafts. Songs by Grandmother Moon Singers and Geenie Morgan.

Sponsored by Youth Education and Activities, Community Health Services, MSU Extension, Kewadin Casino and USDA Food Distribution.

- Sacredness of water, its feminine spirit and the water ceremony - Mary Beth LaVeque.

- Anishinabe language: A simple lesson with song - Alice Carley.

- How to find, buy and use local and traditional foods - Gail Sulander.

- Tribal services information table - Kellie Lakosky.

A potluck feast follows activities, beverages provided.

Call Gail or Jaime at 341-8469 to sign up.

We welcome all women in the community to join us.

Full-page electronic versions of the newspaper you hold is on the web at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com)

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# A brief summary of Michigan's Proposition 1

Sault Tribe is receiving many calls from members asking for guidance on Proposal 1, the complex set of proposed state laws on the state election ballot for Tuesday, May 5.

In particular, they ask how the proposal might affect the current benefits many members receive through the tax agreement between the tribe and the State of Michigan.

Proposal 1 is an unusually complicated ballot proposal. If approved by the voters, it will enact or amend 10 different state laws, increasing a number of state taxes and directing that the

new revenues be expended for specific purposes. For example, the bills in the proposal would increase funding for roads and road repairs, pay off some existing road debt and provide additional money to public schools. It would also restore or increase the tax credits available to certain low-income families and seniors.

But, the part of the law most voters are concerned with are the proposed increases to certain state taxes. If approved, the proposal would: 1) Increase the state sales tax and the use tax from the current rate of six percent to seven percent; 2) Eliminate the current

motor fuel tax and replace it with a new, higher tax; and 3) In addition to these increased taxes, the proposal would also increase the annual motor vehicle registration fee for many motor vehicles.

In general, the proposed tax increases should not affect the benefits currently enjoyed by members living inside the tax agreement areas. In those areas, members will continue to be exempt from the state sales and use tax to the same extent they are now. Similarly, there should be no change to the ability of resident members to purchase tax free gasoline at the tribal Midjim

stations or other participating gas stations. All of the current exemptions for members under the tax agreement will remain in place.

On the other hand, members would be affected by the proposed increase in motor vehicle registration fees. And, like other Michigan citizens, members would certainly be affected by the increased taxes on purchases made outside of the agreement area.

The tribe's board of directors has not adopted a position either supporting or opposing Proposal 1. The effects of the proposal will be different for every mem-

ber. Some may benefit from the increased tax credits for low-income families and seniors. Most members, particularly those living outside of the agreement areas, will see an increase in their state tax burden.

While everyone will presumably benefit from better funding of roads and road repairs, members will need to decide for themselves whether the promised benefits are worth the increased costs.

Whatever decision you reach, members are strongly encouraged to get out and vote on May 5 to make sure their voices are heard.

## AIANTA wooing European tourism business

By RICK SMITH

The American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA) recently introduced Indian Country attractions to Italian tourism officials at Showcase USA-Italy during March 1-3 in Pisa, Italy. Further, the association and seven other indigenous organizations represented Indian Country in Europe March 4-9 at one of the world's largest tourism tradeshows at ITB Berlin, in Germany.

According to AIANTA, this marks the first year the association appeared at Showcase

USA-Italy, where representatives met with nearly 125 Italian tourism trade professionals including tour operators, travel agencies and travel media officials. The association reports Italians have a strong interest in cultural tourism and are bigger spenders than those from the top three European tourism trades from the United Kingdom, Germany and France.

This was the seventh consecutive year for AIANTA showing at ITB-Berlin, and with the help of delegates from seven other indigenous organizations, the association expanded its

presence to include educational outreach activities for high school students at an American Embassy. Further, AIANTA hosted the Taste of America event featuring foods of the United States including fry bread. Germany is among the European countries in which fascination with American Indians predominantly exists among its citizenry.

The other organizations joining AIANTA at ITB-Berlin were the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, Muscogee Creek Nation, Sitka Tribe of Alaska, We-Ko-Pa Resort and Conference Center, Monument Valley Simpson's

Trailhandler Tours, Native Hawaiian Hospitality Association and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Last November, the association began courting a rich trade in tourism from China. The association notes nearly 1.5 million Chinese visitors traveled to the United States in 2012 and many of them visited Indian

Country with interests in cultural experiences.

AIANTA is a nonprofit association of American Indian tribes and businesses from across the United States incorporated in 2002 to promote Indian Country tourism.

Learn more about AIANTA, its mission, how it functions and more by visiting online at [www.aianta.org](http://www.aianta.org).

## Notice to residents in tax agreement areas

Resident tribal members shall notify the Tribal Tax Office in writing prior to moving their principal place of residence. (Tribal Code Section 43.1103)

If you have moved or are planning on moving, please contact the Tribal Tax Office to request an address verification card to update your principal place of residence.

Please note that if the Tribal Tax Office does not have your current principal place of residence on file, we cannot issue certificates of exemption for your tax-exempt purchases. Incorrect information can also delay state income tax refunds and credits.

The Tribal Tax Office is in the process of reviewing address information for all resident

tribal members to verify the information members have on file coincides with the information the Michigan Department of Treasury has on file for the members.

If members' information does not match, members are being sent a new address verification card to fill out with their current address and name information. If you have received an address verification card, please provide your current principal place of residence, name change (if any) and return it along with the supporting documentation to the Tribal Tax Office.

The telephone number for the Tribal Tax Office is (906) 632-6281; tribal administration, 635-6050; and the tax office fax number is 632-6587.

### Sault Tribe Housing Authority

### Down Payment Assistance Program Is Now Accepting Applications

From

May 01, 2015 through June 05, 2015

### Applications available at

154 Parkside, Kincheloe, MI 49788

If interested, please call Dana Piippo at 906-495-1450 or 1-800-794.4072 or [dpiippo@saulttribe.net](mailto:dpiippo@saulttribe.net)

#### To be eligible you must:

- Be a Sault Tribe Member
- Be at least 18 years old
- Make a minimum of \$15,000 per year
- The applicant must contribute five hundred dollars (\$500) of their own cash funds toward the purchase of the home.
  - Be within the income guidelines, see chart below
  - Be a first-time homebuyer
  - Qualify for a mortgage from a lender of your choice
- Must live in the seven county service area: Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac, Alger, Delta, Schoolcraft, & Marquette

**You could receive up to \$9,500 for a down payment And/or closing costs.**

**Family Size      Annual Income**

1	\$ 36,848
2	\$ 42,112
3	\$ 47,376
4	\$ 52,640
5	\$ 56,851
6	\$ 61,062
7	\$ 65,274
8	\$ 69,485

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# Moot court team breaks record, sets higher goal

By Rick Smith

Michigan State University College of Law students Michael Hollowell and Whitney Gravelle advanced further than any other MSU teams that ever competed in the National Native American Law School Moot Court Competition.

Hollowell is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Gravelle is enrolled with the Bay Mills Indian Community.

The Native American Law Student Association (NALSA) representative who led the MSU students in the competition, Elise Diindiisi McGowan of the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, indicated the Hollowell and Gravelle team advancement against 70 other teams from across the country surpassed all other past teams from MSU that competed in the annual rivalry. “The school and the Native student group are very proud,” McGowan noted.

According to NALSA, the competition attracts teams from local chapters all across the country. The teams are given court problems in federal Indian

law or tribal law and governance. The two-person teams give written briefs and present oral arguments before a mock appellate panel.

The panel is usually made up of judges, lawyers who practice federal Indian law and Indian law scholars.

The association states on its website that Indian and tribal issues are some of the most complex and evolving areas of law and the competition helps participants to hone their courtroom skills.

Hollowell noted the competition took place in Tucson, Ariz., at the University of Arizona and it was the largest moot court competition to date.

But the team isn’t going to rest on their laurels, “Since Whitney and I are only second-year law students, we plan on participating again next year. A Native American team has never won the competition, and we would like to change that next year,” said Hollowell.

The problem in this year’s competition concerned civil jurisdiction with two issues: Whether a tribal court would have

adjudicatory jurisdiction over a non-Indian contract claim against an Indian who was not a member of a tribe. And whether a tribe had regulatory jurisdiction over a non-member Indian’s behavior on fee simple land in the boundaries of a reservation.

NALSA released the problem on Dec. 15, written briefs were due on Jan. 12, and the oral arguments took place on March 6-7.

“We researched and wrote our brief over Christmas break,” Hollowell explained. “In January and February, we met twice a week to practice our oral arguments. We had several professors from the law school who attended the practice rounds to ask tough questions in order to get us ready.”

Then came the time to stand and deliver. “My partner and I felt very prepared at oral arguments in Tucson,” Hollowell said. “We topped teams in total points from Harvard, UCLA and Columbia to name a few. Ultimately, we were unable to make it past the round of eight, but it was the best showing ever by a Michigan State University College of Law team.”



From left, second year law students Whitney Gravelle of the Bay Mills Indian Community in Brimley, Mich., and Michael Hollowell of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. The duo recently put in a stellar performance in written and oral arguments in the 2015 National Native American Law Students Association Moot Court Competition in Tucson, Ariz. Both students are members of the Michigan State University chapter of the association. The team was lauded for surpassing all teams in the past that competed on behalf of the Michigan State University College of Law. Gravelle and Hollowell are already preparing for next year’s competition. Their goal is to become the first American Indian team to ever win the competition.



## White House report: Investing in the Future of Tribal Nations

By Rick Smith

The White House recently released the 2014 White House Tribal Nations Conference progress report, Investing in the Future of Tribal Nations, highlighting the Obama administration’s progress and accomplishments in Indian Country during the past year.

An enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe in North Dakota and South Dakota and senior policy advisor for Native American affairs for the White House Domestic Policy Council, Jodi Gillette, posted highlights of the report:

- The Generation Indigenious (Gen I) initiative to address needs of American Indian children for their education, physical and mental health as well as social services;

- New U.S. Department of Justice Task Force on American Indian Children Exposed to Violence recommendations to ease the trauma of youth exposed to violence;

- New moves taken by the administration’s State, Local and Tribal Leaders Task Force On Climate Preparedness and Resilience including the creation of a \$10 million program designed to help tribes to cope with climate changes;

- And restoration of 514,000 acres of land to tribal ownership and other efforts to strengthen the sovereignty of tribal nations.

However, interested Indian Country leaders and citizens would do well to acquire their own copy of the 49-page report due to the wide range of interests it covers. The report also contains useful information for a variety of purposes. Those interested in going into business, for example, might gain valuable insight from a section titled Entrepreneurial and Business Development. The section gives brief accounts of the administration’s help under the subjects of Supporting American Indian and Alaska Native Business, Development Programs for Entrepreneurs, Native Communities Entrepreneurial Empowerment Outreach Training, 8(a) Business Development Training Workshops, Economic Development Feasibility Studies and Tribal Commercial Codes, Long-Distance Learning for Indian Entrepreneurs and Procurement and Marketing Training.

Some of the other many interests include increasing access to capital, workforce development, supporting Indian Country infrastructure development, communications and broadband services, restoring tribal trust lands and there is more.

Those interested in downloading a copy of Investing in the Future of Tribal Nations may do so at [www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/whntnc\\_report\\_final\\_0.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/whntnc_report_final_0.pdf).



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906-440-2177 with any questions!**

Voting ballot can be found in your May/June issue of Michigan Country Lines Magazine.

Ad paid for by Charlie Litzner.

# BIA clarifies roles in ICWA guidelines revision

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Kevin K. Washburn recently announced that the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has taken action to help prevent further dissolution of American Indian and Alaska Native families through the misapplication, and oftentimes misunderstanding, of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA).

Washburn said that for far too many years, Indian Country's youngest members have been removed from their families, their cultures and their identities.

"Congress worked hard to address this problem by enacting the Indian Child Welfare Act," he said. "Yet, today too many people are unaware of this important law and, unfortunately, there are some who work actively to undermine it. Our updated guidelines for state courts will give families and tribal leaders comfort that the Obama administration is working hard to provide better clarity so that the courts can carry out Congress' intent to protect tribal families, preserve tribal communities, and promote tribal continuity now and into the future."

Congress enacted ICWA after hearings found a high percentage of Indian families had been broken up when public and private agencies subjected Indian children to unwarranted removal, with most of those children being placed in non-Indian homes.

ICWA provided guidelines for a federal preference for keeping

American Indian and Alaska Native children with their families and extended families, and deferring to tribal judgment on matters concerning custody of tribal children.

The updated guidelines will provide state courts with guidance as they work to ensure full implementation of the law. This is the first time ICWA guidelines have been updated since they were issued over 35 years ago.

Sault Tribe Prosecuting Attorney Justin Derhammer, said, "ICWA experts got together and realized there were some ambiguity issues in the federal statutes and that state courts were interpreting them in different ways — often in detriment to the tribes and the intent of Congress. The ICWA guidelines were necessary because its interpretation was so variable from state to state and county-to-county based on whatever inherent motivations the judges had."

To help alleviate the confusion stemming from different interpretations of ICWA by the state's courts, the Michigan Family Protection Act, or MIFPA, was passed in 2014.

"MIFPA did some things that ICWA left out — it defined what active efforts really were and defined what good cause was. Those are two specific areas that ICWA hadn't really addressed and MIFPA did. The new guidelines highlighted those areas within ICWA because there were a few ambiguous terms that changed the

shape of the law and what it was designed to do," Derhammer said.

In 2014, the U.S. Department of the Interior invited comments to determine whether to update its ICWA guidelines and what changes should be made. The comment process included three listening sessions with tribes and two listening sessions with judicial organizations across the country.

The updated guidelines clarify the procedures for determining whether a child is an Indian child, identifying the child's tribe and notifying its parent and tribe as early as possible before determining placement.

The updated guidelines also now provide comprehensive guidance on the application of active efforts to prevent breaking up Indian families. They also provide clarification that ICWA's provisions carry the presumption that ICWA's placement preferences are in the best interests of Indian children.

Sault Tribe ICWA Attorney Elizabeth Eggert said the new guidelines changed the qualified expert witness provisions and backed up the stance the Sault Tribe has been taking all along — that, as a tribe, we want our own expert witnesses testifying for our children to be members of the Sault Tribe, not members of another tribe or non-tribe members, residing in the same state as the children whose case is being intervened in by the tribe.

"The old guidelines don't put

them in preferential order and it doesn't prefer an expert witness who is a Sault Tribe member and knowledgeable of Sault Tribe childrearing practices.

"The new guidelines have preferences in descending order for expert witnesses who are presumed to meet the requirements, with the first one being a member of the Indian child's tribe who is recognized by the tribal community as knowledgeable in tribal customs as they pertain to family organization and child rearing practices," she said. "That is huge, because in my experience the tribe wants their own members who have been approved by the tribe to be those qualified expert witnesses. The guidelines are now backing up the position we have been taking in the state court cases."

Eggert said, "The new guidelines also make it clear that we can transfer at any stage during a court proceeding, and that will be really helpful in some situations when transferring a case to tribal court."

Derhammer believes there is one grey area that still remains — the issue of legal representation in intervention cases.

"There was a case out of Oregon, and to my knowledge it is still the only case that exists, about a tribe who wasn't able to send attorneys to hearings simply because of resources. The courts weren't allowing the tribe's non-legal representatives to participate fully in the hear-

ings. The Oregon appellate court looked at it and said you can't do that. Denying them participation because they weren't attorneys is, in essence, denying the spirit of Congress' intent," he said. "It hasn't been addressed by Congress. I think that remains a weakness of ICWA in general because it's not possible to send an attorney to every one of these hearings — it would be an enormous financial burden. Some courts do try to shut out the monitoring workers or agency staff and non-legal representation, which is denying the very right that Congress intended when they established ICWA. MIFPA addresses this shortcoming and defines official tribal representatives to include non-attorney representatives."

The Office of Indian Services Division of Human Services administers the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Indian Child Welfare Act regulations and guidelines for state courts. For more information, visit <http://www.indianaffairs.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/OIS/HumanServices/IndianChildWelfareAct/index.htm>.

## FAN meets in Sault

Families Against Narcotics meets on the third Wednesdays of each month, 5:30 p.m., at the Presbyterian Church, 555 Bingham Ave., in Sault Ste. Marie.

For more information call 203-8959 or visit online at [www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org](http://www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org).

## UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

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June 12-14

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# KBIC member opens online Native business hub

By Rick Smith

Thomas L. Carlson of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community launched the new website [www.buyindianact.org](http://www.buyindianact.org) last January as an online hub for businesses owned and operated by American Indians.

While the Buy Indian Act is a federal law, the privately owned website is not affiliated with any governmental agency or organization.

The law deals with federal policies on procuring goods and services from businesses where the majority of ownership is

American Indian. The website aims to act as a clearing house for government agencies to find American Indian goods and services, plus connect American Indian enterprises with direct links to each other and other potential clients and entities.

Carson indicates the website will help to keep revenue generated in Indian Country to stay in Indian Country as far as possible.

“The goal of this website is an effort to expand on the Buy Indian Act to include supporting purchases from all Indian

owned enterprises, whether or not they are engaged in federal contracting,” Carson notes on the website. “We urge tribal members, Indian casinos, hotels and other tribal governments to reach out and buy from Native American businesses.”

Prior to becoming an online entrepreneur, Carson indicates he worked for the U.S. government in the Department of Agriculture and Customs and Border Protection.

Along with the Buy American Act website, he serves as vice-president of his family’s

Minnesota-based business, Assisted Living Store, Inc., which does business through five websites: [assistedlivingstore.com](http://assistedlivingstore.com), [piloowcase.net](http://piloowcase.net), [laundrybags.com](http://laundrybags.com), [nonslipsock.com](http://nonslipsock.com) and [electricblanket.net](http://electricblanket.net).

His wife serves as the company president.

“We import and sell products through several websites that we created,” he notes. “I am a 60 percent shareholder in our company.”

A number of American Indian entities, from privately owned businesses to nationwide

organizations have signed on as members of [buyindianact.org](http://buyindianact.org), from firms offering assorted wares and services to the Native American Journalists Association.

The site offers a promotional page for members to pitch their offerings and even solicits promotions from its members to post on its products page.

Memberships are free and easy to acquire on the sign-up page of [www.buyindianact.org](http://www.buyindianact.org). It appears it could be a ground-floor chance to get in early on something that may go big.

# Native Edge: Online business portal is now active

By Rick Smith

Entrepreneurial-minded American Indians are looking into a new online one-stop business portal created just for developing and conducting business in Indian Country.

The portal is called Native Edge ([nativeedge.com](http://nativeedge.com)) and runs under oversight of the non-profit National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development.

Native Edge was in development over the past two years and became active online on April 6.

The site invites anyone interested in starting or expanding an American Indian-owned business to see what is offered through four main components called the Hire Edge, N2N Edge Community, Training Edge and Procurement Edge.

The Hire Edge component

is intended as a platform where job seekers and employers can search and evaluate resumes and employment or internship vacancies.

The N2N Edge Community allows online networking among Native Edge subscribers through a variety of features.

Training Edge, according to the site, provides subscribers with online training and skills

development especially for doing business in Indian Country.

The Procurement Edge is where to visit for “tribal and Native American owned businesses seeking federal contracting opportunities with corporations and federal agencies who are seeking qualified buyers.” It’s a platform to “promote your business and secure your next contracting

opportunity.”

According to Native Edge spokesman Lewis Lowe of the public relations firm Strategies 360 based in Washington, D. C., Native Edge subscriptions or memberships cost \$24.99 a month or, if one wishes to pay up front, \$249.99 for a full year with two months free. Special discounts apply to group memberships.

# Reservation cop accused of impersonating a policeman

By Rick Smith

The Bishop Paiute Tribe of California is rendering its full support to one of its reservation’s policemen accused of impersonating an officer of the law by the Inyo County District Attorney.

The Courthouse News Service reports the officer’s arrest stems from a domestic disturbance incident on the Bishop Paiute reservation last Christmas Eve. Tribal police officer Daniel Johnson was dispatched to the home of one of the tribe’s members who complained his ex-wife, who is not a member of the tribe, was causing a disturbance and in violation of tribal and state domestic violence protective orders.

The ex-wife is well known to tribal and local police because of numerous complaints about her violations of the orders.

In a nutshell, Johnson

arrived on the scene in proper uniform and a marked tribal police car. The ex-wife became confrontational and verbally abusive after Johnson advised her she was not allowed to be at her ex-husband’s home. The woman insisted she had the right to visit her son at the residence.

As the woman became increasingly combative, Johnson warned the woman before he used a Taser to subdue her, which seemed to have little effect. A deputy from the Inyo County Sheriff’s Office arrived as back up and, as members of the family grew hostile toward the officials, more assistance was requested from the Bishop Police Department.

Eventually, Johnson and the deputy restrained the woman in handcuffs while she was on the ground, but the ex-husband did not want her arrested. So, the woman was cited for trespassing,



Bishop Paiute Tribe policeman Daniel Johnson

creating a nuisance and violation of the state and tribal protective orders.

The Christmas and New Year holidays came and went and, on Jan. 5, Inyo County District Attorney Thomas Hardy accused Johnson of committing three felonies and a misdemeanor in the Christmas Eve domestic

disturbance incident on the reservation. Further, on the following day, Inyo County Sheriff William Lutz issued cease and desist orders to the tribe for all tribal police officers to stop enforcing California laws and having firearms in their possession off of tribal lands. The orders claim tribal police have no more rights to enforce state or federal laws than the rights of private citizens.

The tribe asserts its officers do not exercise state law enforcement and only carry their firearms off reservation while going to and from work or when required to cross highways during patrols.

Johnson is charged with assault with a stun gun, false imprisonment, impersonating a police officer and battery. The tribe says the unprecedented legal action against Johnson not

only violates common law but also interferes with its authority to maintain law and order on the reservation. Further, the tribe calls the situation a failure to recognize the sovereignty of the tribe and pledges to continue its public safety duties.

The district attorney counters that he respects the tribe’s sovereignty, but says the case has nothing to do with tribal sovereignty.

In the meantime, the tribe seeks court instructions to the sheriff’s office to not interfere with the tribe’s authorized law enforcement activities and declare that the tribe’s officers have the authority on the tribe’s reservation to carry out their official duties.

One would hope the eyes of Indian Country are watching developments in the case.



Photo by Rick Smith

THE FIRST SQUIRT LEAGUE HOUSE HOCKEY TEAM FROM SAULT STE. MARIE TO MAKE IT TO THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 30 YEARS rode off to engage in the state playoffs in a Kewadin bus early on the morning of March 20. Pictured here, the Big Bear Squirts just before their departure to the state championships. Back row, from left, Jory Hominga, Joey Engle, Da’Jon Willis, Logan Pavlat, Gage McLay, Carson Kronmeyer and Anthony King. Front, from left, Triston Foregrave, Ethan Cook, Connor Porcaro, C.J. McKechnie, Kacence Gorsuch, Matthew Lumsden, Joshua Lumsden and Trevor Anderson. The Big Bear Squirts lost all three of their games in this year’s championship. Still, they went further than many and next year is coming.



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# New state agency to keep Presque Isle Power Plant

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

As electric utilities across Michigan retire coal-fired power plants over the coming years, the recent issues faced by the Upper Peninsula over who should pay to operate and update the Presque Isle Power Plant in Marquette can serve as a caution for the lower Peninsula, said Governor Rick Snyder in his Friday, March 13, Message on Energy.

Snyder announced an update to the Presque Isle plant plan and said lower Michigan may face similar challenges soon.

Snyder said issues over retiring coal plants would affect communities south of the Mackinac Bridge within the year. Consumers Energy, one of the state's largest utilities, announced recently that it would retire seven coal-fired power plants with the

go-ahead from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

Reforming Michigan's electrical market to require every electric provider to protect its customers is an issue Snyder said he would like to see addressed. As part of that reform, Snyder created a new state agency in March that will oversee plans for reliable and affordable energy throughout Michigan - the Michigan Agency for Energy. The new agency will be included in the state's Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

Snyder also said during his address that the recent transactions between Wisconsin-based utility We Energies and the Presque Isle Power Plant's biggest customer, Cliffs Natural Resources, is overall a positive outcome for U.P. residents. A

new five-year contract between We Energies and Cliffs Natural Resources has agreed to keep the Presque Isle Power Plant as the mines' source of power through 2020, when the EPA's new air emission requirements take place.

The new contract between Cliffs and We Energies received approval from the Attorney General and Governor Snyder's office.

When Cliffs Natural Resources left We Energies as their power supplier for the mines in 2013, it resulted in a loss of about 80 percent of We Energies customer load in Michigan.

In January, the governor announced a plan for the Upper Peninsula Power Company to purchase the Presque Isle plant for \$1 from We Energies. The transaction was to be complet-

ed by July, and a new, natural gas-fired plant would eventually replace the Presque Isle plant. Instead, We Energies will keep the Presque Isle plant and the mines will remain We Energies customers until a new plant can be built.

Snyder said the proposed natural gas plant is a long-term solution to the U.P.'s energy needs and part of a larger plan for the entire state that will continue to "cement Michigan's energy independence by enabling the creation of Michigan-only utilities when that is in the ratepayers' best interest."

Eastern Upper Peninsula utility Cloverland Electric Cooperative questions if the plan addresses future power needs for their customers. Communications manager Todd Chapman said there

are many unanswered questions about the logistics of building a natural gas plant and if it would cover the load currently being produced.

Instead of only trying to replace the Presque Isle power plant, he said the state should also consider connecting the U.P. with the Lower Peninsula through more transmission lines to share electricity across the Straits of Mackinac.

Valerie Brader, Deputy Legal Counsel and Senior Policy Advisor to Snyder, said the plan for a replacement for the Presque Isle power plant addresses their biggest concerns and won't leave Michigan "on the end of a very long extension cord," while also protecting the U.P. in both the short and long term from System Support Resource charges.

# All-In-One Fitness Center receives new equipment

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

If you have stopped by the All-In-One Fitness Center inside the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in the Sault recently, you might have noticed the fitness center has replaced some of their old exercise equipment with new ones and added a few more weight machines to their offerings.

Assistant Events Manager and Pro-Tem Fitness Center Manager Rex Matchinski said the new equipment is made by Precore, one of the bigger names in commercial grade gym equipment. The new additions include four treadmills, four EFX machines, four stationary bikes - two recumbent and two upright, a glut extension machine, pec deck, T-bar row, and preacher curl bench.

Oversight of the Fitness Club was transferred from Chi Mukwa to the Health Center in January to allow the health program to support fitness activities. Health Center Manager Tony Abramson Sr., said, "The old equipment was aging and needed replaced, so we had funds that were directed to purchase the new equipment. We hope to increase the use of the fitness center by encouraging patients and clients of the health program to actively engage in fitness activities to improve their health. Our goal is to improve

the health of our membership by encouraging them and providing options for them to exercise and stay active."

Abramson reminds Sault Tribe members that the All-In-One Fitness Club is free. "It's one of the best equipped exercise facilities in the area," he said. "We also hope to expand soon on the activities we provide there."

For those who are not Sault Tribe members, the monthly membership fee is very competitive and employees have a reduced rate of \$25 a month. "Our goal is to really improve the health status of tribal members and patients of our facility, and physical activity is one of the most important aspects of living a healthy lifestyle," Abramson said.

Matchinski said the new equipment was delivered in mid-February and people have been excited to try it out. "The equipment is user friendly and fitness center employees can help you get started," he said.

Fitness center hours are Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Chi Mukwa is closed Saturdays during the summer months.

The tribe also has arrangements with clubs and groups throughout the seven-county service area where tribal members

can go and work out or swim for free. Those include the pool at Lake Superior State University (<http://www.lssu.edu/norris/hours.php>), the Manistique High School pool, the YMCA in Escanaba, the Newberry Hospital weight and aerobic room and Northern Michigan University (NMU).

As part of the Sault Tribe Recreation Partnership with NMU, members are able to: Utilize the PEIF Recreation Center, which includes an eight route indoor climbing wall, complete sets of free and circuit weight equipment along with 67 cardio machines; access racquetball, volleyball and basketball courts; swim in the eight lane, 25-yard lap pool or dive in the diving well; and participate in up to 30 different types of drop-in fitness classes. All they have to do is provide their Sault Tribe identification for each person wishing to access the facility, sign in on the sign in sheet and get a hand stamp. Hours for the facility depend on the time of year (they differ during the school year and summer). For a complete listing of NMUs programs, check out their website at [www.nmu.edu/recreation](http://www.nmu.edu/recreation).

Chi Mukwa Arena is located on the Sault Tribe reservation in Sault Ste. Marie adjacent to the powwow grounds and ceremonial building.



Rex Matchinski with some of the new equipment at the Chi Mukwa All-In-One Fitness Center. The new gear and all of the other amenities of the fitness center are free for the use of Sault Tribe members. Tribal employees are entitled to a discounted rate of \$25 a month for a fitness center membership, and competitive rates apply to all others.

# Board resolutions passed at the March 24 meeting

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors met for a regularly scheduled meeting on March 24 in Manistique, all board members were present.

Nine resolutions were passed during the meeting, with two passing by unanimous vote.

Resolution 2015-57: FY 2014 Year End Reconciliation - The reallocation of tribal support in the amount of \$243,779.46 to cost centers for the Child Care Center, Northern Travel and Indirect was approved.

A reduction in total tribal support of \$576,973.52 was also approved.

Res. 2015-58: Education - Child Care Center FY 2015 Budget Modification - An FY 2015 budget modification to the Child Care Center was approved

to decrease state revenue by \$34,005.62 and other revenue by \$38,680.77.

This modification reflects changes to the personnel sheet.

Res. 2015-59: Youth Development Fund FY 2015 Budget Modification - A budget modification to the FY 2015 Youth Development Fund for an increase in other revenue of \$8,436 was approved.

The funds are a carryover from 2014.

Res. 2015-60: Michigan Public Health Institute Community Research Grant FY 2015 Budget Modification - A FY 2015 budget modification was approved to increase other revenue \$748.18, change the personnel sheets and reallocate expenses.

Res. 2015-61: IHS Special

Diabetes FY 2015 Budget Modification National Indian Health Board (NIHB) Tribal Accreditation Support Initiative Acceptance of Grant and Establishment of FY 2016 Budget - The board accepted the NIHB Tribal Accreditation Support initiative and also approved the FY 2015 budget modification for IHS Special Diabetes, to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses, and established a FY 2016 budget for the NIHB Support Initiative with monies received from NIHB of \$10,500.

Res. 2015-62: Inland Fish and Wildlife Great Lakes Restorative Initiative (GLRI) Wildlife and Coastal Program Establishment of FY 2015 Budgets - FY 2015 budgets were established for

the GLRI Wildlife and for the US Fish and Wildlife Services Coastal Program in the amounts of \$86,008.81 (BIA revenue) and \$61,973.55 respectively.

Res. 2015-63: FY 2015 Governmental Capital Purchases Budget - The board appropriated a total of \$171,398 for the FY 2015 Governmental Capital Purchases Budget, of which \$9,500 will come from other revenue/fund balance and \$161,898 from tribal support.

Res. 2015-64: FY 2016 Budget Document 001 - The board approved FY 2016 budget document 001 totaling \$4,805,556, of which \$4,210 comes from tribal support.

Res. 2015-65: Modifying Health Center Service Delivery Model and Benefit Eligibility

Policy - The board adopted and directed the implementation of the Service Delivery Model and Benefit Eligibility Policy superseding previous policies effective Jan. 1, 2015.

The board authorized continued delivery of health services to individuals who are not otherwise eligible for health services in accordance with the requirements of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, and that such services will not result in denial or diminishment of health services to those otherwise entitled to health services under the Sault Tribe's Compact and Funding Agreement with the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

To see these and previous resolutions in their entirety, visit [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

# Advocacy Resource Center assists victims of crime

By Brenda Austin

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services is the social services branch of the Sault Tribe and has three components: Direct Services, Child Placement and the Advocacy Resource Center.

The Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) component provides comprehensive voluntary assistance and support to victims of crime and survivors of abusive relationships. A wide variety of services are available to all victims and survivors regardless of law enforcement involvement, or length of time since the assault, abuse or crime.

Those services include advocacy, legal aid, community education, outpatient behavioral health for sexual assault survivors, and the Lodge of Bravery.

The ARC employs three case managers who provide advocacy assistance to victims to manage their trauma and assist with the resolution of victimization. The case managers can assist with the completion of community resource and Crime Victims Compensation applications and assist with the filing of Personal Protection Service orders. Case managers can also provide transportation and attend court hearings in tribal, state and federal courts to provide support for the victim throughout a criminal case.

Legal aid is available in the form of civil legal representation for victims of intimate partner violence. Services include representation for divorce, child custody and child support issues.

The Lodge of Bravery is for women and child victims of violence in need of immediate safety. The shelter provides a safe environment while providing assistance with locating and applying for community services to support the location of safe alternative living arrangements.

Community Educator Amy McCoy creates and implements non-violence education involving Anishnaabe language and culture and says it's an educational process that is healing in and of itself. She meets with people one on one, participates in community outreach events, does women's Full Moon ceremonies every month for survivors, and works with groups at the shelter.

To be eligible for ARC services you must be a victim or sur-

vivor; a family member or friend needing information about how to support a victim or survivor; and live within the seven county service area (Chippewa, Mackinac, Luce, Alger, Schoolcraft, Delta and Marquette).

If you do not meet eligibility criteria, ARC staff will assist you with referrals to other agencies. There are no fees associated with services provided by the ARC.

ARC Program Manager Jami Moran, said, "If there is a victim that calls from within the seven-county service area that is seeking immediate safety, we will go pick them up and bring them to the Lodge of Bravery. If they want advocacy support services, we will go to them."

"We will assist anyone who is outside of the seven-county service area with locating victim support services where they are at or assisting with the development of a plan for them to come to the service area," Moran said.

Case Manager and Victim Advocate Jenna McKerchie, said, "The ARC assists victims with gaining their independence by helping them gain employment and offering shelter. We offer educational and behavioral health services to help them understand

they can live a healthy normal life and get away from an abusive relationship that many victims don't know isn't normal. Our job is not to push them into doing something, but to give them options of what services are available and what their life could be like."

The length of stay at the Lodge of Bravery is based on each individual resident's circumstances. "Finding and getting into housing can take a long time, or they may have bad credit or a myriad of other issues that detour them from getting housing or a job. We want them to feel comfortable and safe and do things as they can," McKerchie said.

Case Manager Nicole Bye said they never pass judgment on victims. "The door is always open and we are always here. Don't be embarrassed to come see us if you need any of the services ARC offers," she said.

Moran said the services they offer their clients are life saving and life altering. "Creating awareness, educating and supporting the victim is what we are here for. We have victims who come in seeking services with a goal of remaining or returning to their partner. It's not our role to tell

them they are doing something wrong — it's to offer unconditional support and safety planning for what they can do to keep themselves as safe as possible."

On average a woman will leave her abusive partner seven to 12 times before she leaves for good.

McKerchie and Moran agree there is a misconception in society about the reasons a person stays with an abusive partner. If a victim leaves, this may mean the loss of access to a vehicle or the loss of their only means of income. Other reasons victims may remain in the relationship is to avoid potential custody issues and having nowhere else to go.

"They don't know where they are going to live or how they will get food. How are they going to supply their family with what they need without a job? Many women stay until they can find those resources," McKerchie said.

Moran said all of the ARC's current employees are Sault Tribe members and understand the generational trauma that is specific to Native American survivors.

"Our people have experienced the assimilation of the boarding school era and forced reloca-

tion onto reservations — we understand that trauma, while a non-Native provider may not," said Moran. "This historical victimization is unique specifically to Native American people. Survivors and victims are not going to have immediate access to their culture and traditions at non-tribal facilities."

According to Moran, last year there were three shelters in the state of Michigan run by tribes, but one of those had to close.

"So, right now, there are only two remaining tribally operated shelters within the entire state of Michigan which has been identified as one of the top 10 Native American populated states in the nation," said Moran.

She added, "With emergency shelter being the number one request made by victims to the National Domestic Violence Hotline, it is critical that we maintain our shelter and advocacy support services that are specific to Native American victims. It's all about making a healthier seven generations and it starts here."

To contact the ARC, call (906) 632-1808, or (877) 639-7820. Their 24-hour crisis pager number is (906) 278-0033.

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## Home Improvement Program's

The Sault Tribe Housing Authority will have staff available to assist tribal elders in completing the application process, determine eligibility, and answer questions regarding the available Home Improvement Program's at local elder lunches and meetings. Housing does not have any Emergency Programs & funding is not guaranteed for each applicant.

## Mark Your Calendars

If you would like more information about the Home Improvement Program's please contact: Annie Thibert  
Home Ownership Specialist  
Sault Tribe Housing Authority  
(906)495-5555 or (800)794-4072



- Manistique  
04/8/15 @ 11:30 am
- St. Ignace  
4/10/15 @ 11:30 am
- Escanaba  
4/16/15 @ 5:00 pm
- Hessel  
4/20/15 @ 11:30 am
- Sault Ste Marie  
05/6/15 @ 11:30 am
- Marquette  
5/7/15 @ 5:30 pm
- Munising  
5/18/15 @ 3:30 pm
- Naubinway  
5/27/15 @ 6:00 pm
- Newberry  
6/19/15 @ 10:30 am

## Moving ?



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Email  
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# Bear and elk permit applications for 2015

## 2015 Sault Tribe Bear Application

The 2014 bear application period will run from May 1st -June 1st 2015. All applications must be received by the Sault Tribe Inland Fish and Wildlife Department before **5:00 PM on June 1st**, 2015. A lottery will be conducted at the June Conservation Committee Meeting. Please be sure to indicate which Bear Management Unit you are applying for (see map below).

First name  Middle name  Last name   
 Address  City  State  Zip code   
 File number( red# on Tribal card)  STS number ( red # on Harvest card)  Phone number   
 Date of birth  Sex  E-mail address

Please select **one** of the following Bear Management Units. Please note that all Sault Tribe bear permits are only valid with in the 1836 Ceded Territory. See map for generalized boundaries of each Bear Management Unit

- |                                   |                                  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Upper Peninsula                   | Lower Peninsula                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Newberry | <input type="checkbox"/> Red Oak |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gwinn    | <input type="checkbox"/> Baldwin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baraga   | <input type="checkbox"/> Gladwin |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drummond |                                  |



**There is a \$4 application fee. Each bear application must be accompanied by a check or money order for \$4. Elders (60 and older) and youth (16 and under) are not required to pay application fees.**

Please send all applications to:

**IFWD Bear Application  
 PO Box 925  
 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783**

For questions, please contact the Sault Tribe Inland Fish & Wildlife Department @ 906.632.6132

*Foraging for edibles this spring?  
 Send in your photos to [jdburton@saulttribe.net](mailto:jdburton@saulttribe.net).*



## 2015 Sault Tribe Elk Application

The 2015 Elk application period will run from May 1st -June 1st, 2014. All applications must be received by the Sault Tribe Inland Fish and Wildlife Department before **5:00 PM on June 1st**, 2015. A lottery will be conducted at the June Conservation Committee Meeting.

First Name  Middle Name  Last Name   
 Address  City  State  Zip code   
 File number (red #on Tribal ID)  Phone number   
 STS number ( red # on harvest card)  Date of Birth  Sex   
 E-mail address

**There is a \$4 application fee. Each elk application must be accompanied by a check or money order for \$4. Elders (60 and older) and youth (16 and under) are not required to pay application fees.**

Please send all applications to:

**IFWD Elk Application  
 PO Box 925  
 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783**

For questions, please contact the Sault Tribe Inland Fish & Wildlife Department @ 906.632.6132

# Fly a kite to celebrate Month of the Young Child

BY TIFFANY MENARD

April is known throughout the country as the Month of the Young Child.

It's a time to focus on children, their families and the professionals who work directly with them and on their behalf. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Education Division has three individual departments (Head Start, Early Head Start and Child Care) that collaborate together and with many other departments in the tribe and the community on behalf of young children.

During the month of April, individuals are encouraged to show their support for young children by wearing a purple ribbon. The children and staff at the Sault Tribe Early Childhood programs are going to be wearing purple on April 22 to show their support.

In addition, around the state various programs are encouraged to sponsor a Kite Day at home, care and development centers, schools and in communities. The Child Care Center is going

to host a Kite Day on April 29. Please join us by wearing purple and flying a kite in support of young children in your community regardless of your location.

Evidence supports the fact that children develop and learn best in the context of a community where they are safe and valued, their physical needs are met and they feel psychologically secure.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Early Childhood Education programs believes our children are our future leaders, and the survival of the Ojibwe way of life depends on the actions we undertake today.

After all, children are our most valuable resource as we look towards our future and a better tomorrow.

If you are interested in enrolling your child in one of these programs please contact us at (906) 632-5258 or 635-7722.

**Right, Ms. JoAnne teaches beading at the Sault Child Care Center as Ms. Beth and Ms. Dana watch over youngsters outside.**



## Free GED classes offered

Consolidated Community Schools Services (CCSS) and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Education Department sponsors free GED classes in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., at JKL Bahweting Middle School, Mondays-Thursdays, 6-9 p.m., as well as at MI Works! Agency, Mondays-Wednesdays, 12:30-4 p.m.

For more information, please call Tanya Pages at 632-6098 or

email [tpages@eup.k12.mi.us](mailto:tpages@eup.k12.mi.us).

For information on other EUP GED programs, call Tanya Pages at 632-6098, [tpages@eup.k12.mi.us](mailto:tpages@eup.k12.mi.us), or CCSS at 495-7305.

Registration is open to tribal and non-tribal community members from September through May – get started today!

The 2014-15 graduation takes place on May 21, 2015, – there is still time to finish your GED testing!

## Tribal scholarships offered

This year, the Sault Tribe Higher Education Department is offering a total of 58 scholarships. Sault Tribe member and ISHPI founder, Noah Leask, donated 35 scholarships of \$1,000 each, named the Noah Thomas Leask Family Scholarships. Also included among the 58 scholarships are four special needs scholarships, two for students under 18 and two for students over 18, who have documented physical or emotional disabilities. This year's scholarship applicants will be allowed to pick one topic from the three assigned essay topics chosen by the Sault Tribe Higher Education Scholarship Committee. A two-page essay guideline sheet and a provided cover letter are included in the Higher Education Application Packet. The deadline

is June 1, 2015.

Students living in the state of Michigan who are planning to attend full-time will want to apply for the grant program. This is an unmet need program based on the information provided by your college's financial aid office. The deadline to apply is July 1, 2015.

For complete program details or to print off an application packet, please visit the Higher Education section of our website [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com). The 2015-16 Higher Education application has pink highlights. Last year's application packet will not be accepted.

For more information, contact Brandi MacArthur, administrative assistant, Sault Tribe Higher Education at [bmacarthur@saulttribe.net](mailto:bmacarthur@saulttribe.net).

## Head Start and Early Head Start accepting applications

Sault Tribe Head Start and Early Head Start are currently accepting applications for the 2015-16 school year.

Early Head Start openings at the center and home-based options, which serves pregnant women and children from newborn to three years old. Services available in Chippewa and Mackinac counties.

Head Start in Sault Ste. Marie and St. Ignace center-based services for children who will be three years old by Sept.

1, 2015.

Head Start and Early Head Start are high quality programs focused on comprehensive services and serves children from income eligible families who are members of a federally recognized tribe. We have a professional team to provide services for children with disabilities.

For more information, please call 906-635-7722 or check us out on Facebook at Sault Tribe Early Childhood Program.

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# NURSE Corps 2015 scholarship applications sought

The 2015 NURSE Corps Scholarship Program application cycle is now open and closes on May 21, 2015, at 7:30 p.m., Eastern Time. Please refer to the 2015 Application and Program Guidance for all of the program requirements, available online at [www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/scholarships/nursing](http://www.hrsa.gov/loanscholarships/scholarships/nursing).

The program assists students completing nursing education by paying tuition, fees and other education costs, while providing a monthly living stipend. The program is open to full-time or part-time nursing students accepted or enrolled in diploma, associate, baccalaureate or graduate nursing programs at accredited schools in the U.S. Upon graduation, scholarship program members fulfill a service commitment at an eligible NURSE Corps site.

The program continues to be competitive and applicants

are encouraged to begin the application process early as on average it takes approximately three weeks to complete the application.

Applicants are encouraged to participate in two application technical assistance conference calls with program staff, information about the calls is also on the website. Prior to the calls, applicants are encouraged to view the NURSE Corps Scholarship Technical Assistance Webinar with more information on the application process and service requirements.

The technical assistance conference calls are available on the following dates:

1 ) April 7, 8-10 p.m. ET, dial-in number (800) 779-8389, passcode 8645774.

2) May 16, 1-3 p.m. ET, dial-in number (800) 779-8389, passcode 8645774.

Also, to learn more, please view our member story video featuring Kay Smullen, at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, MD.

The NURSE Corps Scholarship Program enables students accepted or enrolled in a diploma, associate, baccalaureate or graduate nursing programs, including RN to BSN, RN to MSN-NP, Direct Entry MSN-NP program to receive funding for tuition, fees and other educational costs in exchange for working at an eligible NURSE Corps site upon graduation.

The NURSE Corps Scholarship Program is a selective program of the U.S. government that helps alleviate the critical shortage of nurses currently experienced by certain types of health care facilities areas with shortages of health professionals. Upon graduation,

NURSE Corps Scholarship recipients work at these facilities for at least two years, earning the same competitive salary and benefits as any new hire.

As much as half of the award funds are reserved for students pursuing a master's level nurse practitioner degree.

**Benefits**  
The NURSE Corps Scholarship Program provides nursing students with financial support in exchange for a commitment to serve at least two-years in a qualifying NURSE Corps site.

Participants receive tuition, eligible fees, other reasonable costs (such as books, clinical supplies, instruments and uniforms) and a monthly stipend (\$1,316 for the 2015-16 academic year).

**Eligible applicants**

- U.S. citizens (born or

naturalized), nationals or lawful permanent residents enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a professional nursing degree program (baccalaureate, graduate, associate degree, or diploma) at accredited school of nursing in the U.S.

- Begin classes no later than Sept. 30.

- Free from any federal judgment liens.

- Free from existing service commitments

- Not delinquent on a federal debt.

**Selection criteria**  
Preference is given to qualified applicants with the greatest financial need who are enrolled or accepted for enrollment in an accredited undergraduate nursing program or master's nurse practitioner program as full-time students.

We look forward to receiving your completed application.

## Indigenous Summer Enrichment Camp announced

The Central Michigan University Office of Native American Programs invites all American Indian students interested in exploring life at college to apply for the week-long North American Indigenous Summer Enrichment Camp during July 12-17.

The first 20 students who

return completed applications will be accepted to the program. Students will be housed in a residence hall and involved in activities on the CMU campus. Registration fee of \$25 applies.

The camp is an opportunity to hone understanding and competency in academics, culture, college preparation,

critical thinking and the learning community. Students will develop stronger academic skills such as how to properly take notes, prepare for examinations and using resources such as libraries.

Participants also receive lessons on Anishinaabe language, history and current

issues. In learning how to prepare for college, students will attend admission workshops, explore career services and financial aid. Another aspect of the camp is to teach students about critical thinking skills, students will be challenged to look at issues from multiple perspectives

rather than one. Further, the group will work on learning community team building skills and understand the value of working together.

For more information, contact CMU Native American Programs, 110 Bovee University Center, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859, phone (989) 774-2508.

## LSSU offers mobile application development course in Escanaba

A course in mobile applications development (CSCI351) starts on May 11 in Escanaba on the campus of Bay College.

This course is an introduction to the development of applications for smart phones and tablets using a simulator and provisioning to mobile devices, user interfaces, touch events, data management and graphics, interaction with camera, accelerometer and location

hardware.

The class meets Mondays through Thursdays, 9-10:50 a.m., for six weeks.

Students with at least one semester of computer programming are able to enroll in this class. This course applies towards earning a Bachelor of Science in computer networking from Lake Superior State University, a degree that LSSU offers on its main campus in Sault Ste. Marie and is offering on

Bay College's campus, based on demand.

In order to sign up for the LSSU course, students should apply now at [www.lssu.edu](http://www.lssu.edu) as registration opens April 3, 2015.

For more information on how to sign up for the course or for degree programs available in Escanaba, please contact Heidi Baumgartner at (906) 217-4123 or [hbaumgartner@lssu.edu](mailto:hbaumgartner@lssu.edu), run a web search on Bay College LSSU or friend us on Facebook.

### Liedel graduates from BMCC online

I'm Stephanie Liedel and I recently received my Associate of Arts degree in business administration from Bay Mills Community College.

I was a full time student online at Bay Mills while working full time as an appointment clerk for the Sault Tribe Behavioral Health program. A couple of my favorite classes were marketing and business law. I also enjoyed several of the cultural classes Bay Mills offers, including contemporary Native American literature and history and organization of Michigan Indian tribes.

I'm thankful I was able to complete this program online while working full time, as I also have an almost six-year-old son I provide for and juggling and physically going to class as well would have been extremely difficult. I would not have been able to accomplish raising my son, working full time and being a full time student without the help from my parents, Dan and Janet Liedel, so I would like to thank both of them for their never ending love and support.

## 2015 Honoring Nations program semifinalists announced

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development's Honoring Nations program is pleased to announce the selection of 19 semifinalists for the 2015 cycle of the prestigious Honoring Nations awards. Honoring Nations identifies, celebrates and shares excellence in American Indian tribal governance. At the heart of Honoring Nations are the principles that tribes themselves hold the key to generating social, political, and economic prosperity and that self-governance plays a crucial role in building and sustaining strong, healthy Indian nations.

This year's applicants included 70 outstanding tribal programs representing 110 tribes and five tribal consortia. Nineteen of the most innovative and successful programs were selected as semifinalists (see below). These programs have demonstrated tremendous impact in their

communities and evidenced great effectiveness, significance to sovereignty, transferability and sustainability – the criteria by which Honoring Nations assesses applicant programs. Each of these programs will be presented to the board of governors, and the board will select six applicant programs to receive site visits. In October, the Honoring Nations Board will select three programs as high honors and as many as three other programs will be selected as honors. Awarded programs provide models of success. By sharing their best practices, all governments – tribal and non-tribal alike – can benefit.

"The Harvard Project's Honoring Contributions in the Governance of American Indian Nations celebrates our peoples, not only as survivors, but as innovators and designers for our next generations," said Chief Oren Lyons, chief and

faithkeeper of the Onondaga Indian Nation and chairman emeritus of the Honoring Nations Board of Governors.

Honoring Nations is the flagship program of the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University and is a member of a worldwide family of "governmental best practices" awards programs. As the program's director, Megan Minoka Hill (Oneida Nation of Wisconsin) explains, "By recognizing success, Honoring Nations gives a voice to outstanding examples of innovation and excellence in tribal governance and serves to transform and inspire local governments across the Indian Country and beyond."

Semifinalists programs:

- Academic Readiness Effort, Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians, California

- Comanche Nation Funeral Home, Comanche Nation, Oklahoma

- First to Implement HEARTH Act-Residential Leasing, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi, Michigan.

- Flathead Finance Program, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Montana

- GeoSpatial Information, Chickasaw Nation, Oklahoma

- Healthy and Whole, Suquamish Tribe, Washington

- Ho-Chunk Village, Winnebago Tribe, Nebraska

- Kenai Peninsula CASA, Kenaitze Indian Tribe, Alaska

- Khapo Kidz Initiative, Pueblo of Santa Clara, New Mexico

- Menominee Model of Long-Term Care, Menominee Indian Tribe, Wisconsin

- Meskwaki Food Sovereignty Initiative, Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa

- Native American Drug and

- Gang Initiative, Bad River, Ho-Chunk, Lac Court Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Menominee, Oneida, Red Cliff, St. Croix, and Stockbridge-Munsee Tribal Communities, Wisconsin

- New Home Construction Program, Cherokee Nation, Oklahoma

- Nez Perce Tribe Fisheries Department, Nez Perce Tribe, Idaho

- Ohero:kon "Under the Husk" Rites of Passage, Mohawk Nation/Akwesasne, New York

- School Based Health Centers, Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes, Montana

- Tiny Turtles Preschool Program, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, North Dakota

- Witaya Care, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community, Minnesota

- Yurok Tribe Sustainable Forest Project, Yurok Tribe, California.

# Walking on

## WILLIAM CARPENTIER

William "Bill" Carpentier Jr., 68, passed away on March 31, 2015, at his home in Indian River, Mich. He was born on Aug. 2, 1946, in Flint, Mich., to William and Mary (nee Smith) Carpentier Sr.

He grew up in Indian River and graduated from Inland Lakes Public Schools in 1966. On June 22, 1968, he married the former Vickie Badge in Carson City, Mich. The couple made their home in Chicago before moving to Saginaw. In 1975, Bill and Vickie moved to Indian River where they have lived since. In his earlier years, Bill was employed as a mechanic, and later worked with his brothers, Steve and Gerry, as a painter and decorator. For the past 20-plus years, Bill worked on the maintenance crew for Tuscarora Township. He enjoyed the out-of-doors, especially hunting and fishing. He enjoyed playing softball, bowling and NASCAR. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of the Chippewa Indians.

Bill is survived by his wife, Vickie; siblings, Chuck (Sue) Rhodes of Clio, Mich., Gerry (Jan) Carpentier of Alanson, Donovan (Judith) Rhodes of Phoenix, Ariz., Jimmy (Maria) Rhodes of Toms River, N.J., and Glenn Rhodes of Clewiston, Fla.; several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and -nephews; godson, great godson, and many other family members and friends.

Besides his parents, Bill was preceded in death by his step-father, Donovan Rhodes Sr., and siblings, Mary Carpentier and Steve Carpentier.

A graveside service will take place at Ohioville Cemetery, in Indian River, and will be announced at a later date.

Memorial contributions are suggested to Hospice of the Straits or the family. Lintz Funeral Home in Indian River served the Carpentier family. Online condolences may be made at [www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com).

## PAULA M. KARPOWICZ

Paula M. Karpowicz of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Jan. 16, 2015, at McKinley Manor. She was born on Feb. 13, 1921, in Sault Ste. Marie, the daughter of Percy and Dorothy Scott.



She was a member of the American Legion Auxiliary. Throughout her lifetime she had many needlework projects, crocheting, sewing and needlepoint. She also became an expert in ceramics.

She retired as a director of the federal housing project. She was also a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church. Paula enjoyed playing bingo with her friends at McKinley Manor.

She is survived by her daughters, Linda McCutchan and Kellie (Karpowicz) King; six grandchildren, Tim McCutchan, Molly McCutchan, Amy Segelnick, Andy McCutchan, Michael King and Samantha King; six great-grandchildren, Alex Segelnick, Layla Segelnick, Talia Segelnick, Ashley McCutchan, Maggie McCutchan and Gracie McCutchan; dear friends, Don and Arlyce Ausdemore; and residents, staff of McKinley Manor.

She is predeceased by her husband, Leonard Karpowicz, whom she married on May 1, 1965; a sister, Roberta Goetz King; and a brother, Deo Thomas Scott.

Services took place on April 8 at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens with Deacon Bill Piche officiating. Memorials to St. Joseph's Catholic Church would be appreciated.

Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home assisted the family. Condolences may be left at [www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com](http://www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com).

## RAYMOND N. KROL

Raymond N. Krol, 78, of Goetzville, Mich., died on Friday, March 27, 2015 at home. He was born May 20, 1936, in Warren, Mich., to Stanley P. and Jane (nee Sura) Krol.



Ray grew up in Warren where he attended St. Clements Catholic School in Centerline, Mich., through the eighth grade and then transferred to Lincoln School in Warren, graduating in 1955. While at Lincoln, he met Sally P. Forsythe and they married on July 28, 1956, in Warren. Ray attended DeVry Institute of Technology and then worked as an electrician for Hydra-Matic (General Motors), retiring in 1999. After retiring, he and Sally moved to Goetzville, the area where his parents grew up.

Ray was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and United Auto Workers, Local 909, in Warren. He enjoyed going to the Detroit Tiger's baseball games with his family and going to Las Vegas with his son, Dan. He also enjoyed fishing, hunting, and playing card and board games with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ray is survived by his wife, Sally; children, Daniel R. Krol of Center Line, Mich., Thomasine A. Taormina (Ed) of Royal Oak, Mich., and Matthew D. Krol Sr. of Goetzville; grandchildren, Roseann P. Krol, Raymond D. Krol, William D. Hunter, Luke J. Hunter, Marie A. Demeuse, Janice L. Krol and Matthew D. Krol Jr.; great-grandchildren, Arianna, Emmerson, Camren, Liam and Desmond; sister, Ruth Jacqueline O'Lear of Goetzville; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one son, Joseph N. Krol.

Visitation and services with Father Janusz Romanek as

celebrant took place on April 1 at St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in Goetzville.

In lieu of flowers, please consider memorial contributions to Hospice of the EUP, 308 W. 12th Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783; [hospiceoftheeup.com](http://hospiceoftheeup.com)

R. Galer Funeral Home of Pickford, Mich. served the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.rgalerfuneralhome.com](http://www.rgalerfuneralhome.com).

## EUGENE P. MUSCOE

Eugene Phillip Muscoe, 80, of Cedarville and Lansing, Mich., died on March 17, 2015, in Lansing. He was born May 31, 1934, in Detroit, Mich., to Mitchell and Marguerite (nee Hutchinson) Muscoe.

Eugene grew up in Cedarville and graduated from Cedarville High school. He attended the University of Iowa with a football scholarship. He transferred to Michigan State University to complete his bachelor's degree in education and was granted two national scholarships to complete his master's degree at Michigan State. Eugene married Shirley Jane Todd on Jan. 3, 1957, in Angola, Ind., while they were both students at Michigan State.



They both became educators. Eugene taught math at Lake Orion Middle School for 13 years before teaching elementary school for 25 years at Mason County Central Schools in Scottville, Mich. After they retired, Eugene and Shirley lived in Arizona during the winter for many years.

Eugene was a member of Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church in Hessel, Mich., and the Downtown Lansing Coaching Club. He enjoyed biking, cross country skiing, golfing and traveling. He was an avid Michigan State University fan of all athletics but especially enjoyed football and basketball. He and Shirley attended countless

events, both athletic and cultural, on the Michigan State Campus. Go Green!

Eugene is survived by his wife, Shirley; son, Michael (Tracy) Muscoe of Howell, Mich.; daughter, Sally (Ross) Williams of Toronto, Ont., Canada; and granddaughters, Aimee Muscoe, Taylor Williams and Tessa Williams; and one sister-in-law, Carol Muscoe.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Joanne Muscoe; and brothers, Mitchell, Kenneth, Donald and Robert Muscoe.

Visitation took place March 22 and services following on March 23 at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church in Hessel with Father Janusz Romanek as celebrant. His remains will be laid to rest in Cedar Cemetery in Cedarville at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to the family in care of R. Galer Funeral Home. Contributions will be given to Jamie Spore, a former student of both Eugene and Shirley, who needs ongoing treatment of spinal bifida. Read about Jamie at [http://www.shorelinemedia.net/ludington\\_daily\\_news/news/entertainment/article\\_2b597aaa-2a7d-11e4-918a-0019bb2963f4.html?mode=jqm](http://www.shorelinemedia.net/ludington_daily_news/news/entertainment/article_2b597aaa-2a7d-11e4-918a-0019bb2963f4.html?mode=jqm).

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.rgalerfuneralhome.com](http://www.rgalerfuneralhome.com).

## JUNE C. PORCARO

June Curran Porcaro, a lifelong resident of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., lost her battle with cancer on March 12 at the age of 87 when the lord took her home. She was the daughter of Antoine and Mable (nee Fisher) LaJoyce of Sault Ste. Marie.

She is survived by her loving husband, Frank Porcaro; sister, Louise Benson of Cedar Springs, Mich.; sister-in-law, Orzelie

See "Walking On," page 14



# Tribal member writes about mining on ceded lands

## The tribes should be involved in mining ceded lands

Descriptions of my positions on the State of Michigan's transfer of land agreement with Graymont Incorporated for the purpose of developing a limestone mine in the Rexton area.

### Overview

I support the activist group that asked for an injunction to stop the transfer of land from the state to Graymont. I don't want to see the state involved in developing that land into a limestone mine. I want to see the tribes of Michigan involved in it. I feel that the tribes should step away from the 2007 Consent Decree. That they should let the state resume its ceded lands case against them in federal court.

I support the tribes developing that land as a natural resource into a limestone mine, either on their own or in cooperation with Graymont. I want to see the tribes get the tonnage fee of \$0.30 per ton, and not the State

of Michigan. The state's transfer agreement with Graymont goes into the 22nd century. The state will receive millions of dollars from Graymont in tonnage fees until then.

The Niagara cuesta runs from Wisconsin through the Upper Peninsula and northern Lake Huron and down across southern Ontario to the Niagara Falls. It is the escarpment under the Niagara Falls. We're fortunate to have it pass through a couple hundred miles of our ceded lands. It is made up of billions of tons of limestone worth billions of dollars in the market place.

### The Treaty of 1836 and Fox's ruling in the fishing rights case

The Treaty of 1836 says that the tribes shall enjoy the usual rights of occupancy upon their ceded of lands.

1. Fox ruled in the fishing rights case that the usual rights of occupancy was what the Indians understood them to be at the time of the treaty.

2. He also ruled that any vagueness in the interpretation of them would favor the Indians.

3. He also ruled that anything that was not given away to the state in the treaty would remain with the Indians.

### The usual rights of occupancy on ceded lands

1. Fox ruled that fishing and hunting and gathering were the usual rights of occupancy for the Indians, something that the Indians would not give away because of their absolute dependency on them.

2. The treaty of 1836 provided blacksmiths for the Indians, it indicates their strong dependency on metals. Blacksmiths melt metals and shape them into tools. The Indians mined and they shaped copper for household purposes and they traded with it. The Indians used sharpen rocks as arrowheads and spearheads. They ground their food with stones. They used rocks to surround their fires and to aid them with build-

ing fish pens and for dwelling purposes, such as thresholds into their shelters and kettle holders around their fires. All of these are mining related activities.

3. Neither the treaty nor the tribe's agreement with the state on the use of natural resources mentioned anything about mining. The Indians did not give away that right away to the state and thus, it remains with them.

4. Before the coming of the white people, the Indians enjoyed all of the rights of occupancy on their lands. They never thought for a minute that the minerals under the surface of them belonged to someone else. That was their understanding at the time of the treaty signing, and thus the minerals below the surface of their lands were never given away to the state and they remain with them.

### The federal court injunction

I agree with the group's filing of the court injunction. I'm glad that someone has the blaze to

do it. Our elected tribal officials sure don't. What I don't agree with however is them going any further with it unless they absolutely have to. I would like to see the tribes join them in their suit or at least fund it for them and aid them with legal counsel. The group members have a lot of education but they are lay people when it comes to practicing treaty law in a federal court. I hope the group goes forward with their suit and that it forces your elected tribal officials to step up and to do the right thing by you, either join them in their suit or provide them with the legal counsel to ensure that they win it. After all, you deserve the best possible prosecution of this case that the tribe can afford you.

Please visit this Facebook site to learn more: Sault Tribe/Bay Mills/In support of mining ceded lands.

Thank you,  
Charles Forgrave,  
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

# Walking on...

From "Walking On," page 13  
LaJoyce of Trout Lake, Mich.; daughters, Renee (Herman) Calkins of Kincheloe, Mich., Rainella (Arty) LaPonsie, Raella (Ron) Green and Patti (Scott) Curran of Sault Ste. Marie, Bobby Jo (James) Mann of Washington state; special daughter, Toyo Eggert of Sault Ste. Marie; sons, Randy (Denise) Gordon, Frank Gordon and Robert Gordon of Sault Ste. Marie; step-children, Lisa (Mike) Phillips and Gina (Erni) Roberts of Maine and Frank Porcaro Jr. of Massachusetts; 33 grandchildren; 36 great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews; and her precious dog, Lady.

June was preceded in death by her two sons, Ronald Gordon and Michael Gordon; brothers, Virgil LaJoyce and Ronald LaJoyce; and sister, Bernice Mitchell.

June was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. On Nov. 6, 2007, the tribe honored her for her foster home and runaway shelter she ran for three decades helping over 2,000 tribal and non-tribal youth. Many of the kids who went through the house still refer to her as mom and even after retirement the kids still come to visit, say hi, ask for her advice and reminisce. The tribe named Nov. 6 as June Curran Porcaro Day. Many

called her Mom or Grandma June. Mom's doors, arms and heart were always open. If you asked her what her name was she would tell you June Teresa Mary LaJoyce Gordon Curran Porcaro.

Visitation was on March 17 at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home and mass was at St. Mary's ProCathedral in Sault Ste. Marie with Father Sebastian Kavumkal officiating.

## SHERRY L. PURDY

Sherryl Lynn Purdy, aged 69, of Kinross, Mich., died on March 12 at McLaren Northern Michigan hospital in Petoskey, Mich. She

was born on Dec. 6, 1945, to Mitchell J. and Margaret Ann (nee Strandholm) Muscoe in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

As a child, Sherry lived in Hessel, Mich., until her family moved to Detroit. She attended Lincoln Park High School and graduated when she was only 16 years old. After finishing high school, she married Kurt S. Yacuone and they started their family. They moved to a farm in Barbeau, Mich., in 1970. Sherry

worked as a teacher's aide at Bruce Township schools. Kurt worked for the Chippewa County Health Department as health inspector until he died in 1980. In 1978, Sherry went to work for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians as a dental assistant at their health center. In 1983, she married Kenneth Purdy and they made their home in Kinross. She retired from the tribal health center in 2008.

Sherry and Ken belonged to a bowling league, a pool league and a horseshoe league. She liked to cook, bake and had a passion for animals, especially strays. She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Sherry is survived by her husband, Kenneth; son, Kurt Eric (Yvonne) Yacuone of Brimley, Mich.; daughter, Julie Margret (Todd) Salo of Sault Ste. Marie; grandchildren, Ryan Yacuone and D.J. (Kelsey) Kuczewski; great-grandchildren, Benjamin Yacuone and Emma Kuczewski; brother-in-law, Gary Kingston; nephews, David (Suzanne) and Mark (Brenda) Kingston; niece, Stacie (Keith) Clark; and close friends, Betty Smith and Diane Moore.

Visitation and services took place on March 18 at R. Galer Funeral Home with Brother John Hascall officiating. Burial will take place at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens in the spring.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.rgalerfuneralhome.com](http://www.rgalerfuneralhome.com).

## NOAH L. YOST

Noah Lee Yost, infant son of Benjamin and Jennifer (nee Barnhart) Yost of Kingsley, passed peacefully to Heaven on March 23, 2015, in the arms of his loving parents. Noah was born on Feb. 25, 2015, and graced his family with his presence for 27 precious days.



He touched many lives during the short time he had with us here on earth. Noah was born in Ann Arbor at the University of Michigan Hospital 10 and a half weeks early. He was able to lovingly hold hands with his parents and gaze into their eyes. Noah had a profound impact on many who were taking care of him and praying for him. His family and friends find great peace in knowing that he is in his eternal home in the precious arms of Jesus.

Noah will be greatly missed by his parents; siblings, Claire and Jacob Yost; paternal grandparents, Jim and Amy Yost of Harrison;

maternal grandparents, Ray and Deb Barnhart of Kingsley; paternal great-grandparents, Jim and Arlene Yost of Harrison and Kathy Jones of Harrison; maternal great-grandparents, Peter and Margaret Haddix of Traverse City; aunts and uncles, Jim and Erica Yost, Jeremy and Jamie Carrier, Chuck and Cassie Barnhart, Josh Barnhart, and Ryan Barnhart; and cousins, Logan, Alex, Isaac, Caleb, Elisha, Hannah, Lilly, Sam, and Gideon.

Noah was preceded in death by his great-grandparents Dot Yost, Billy Jones, and Charles and Margaret Barnhart.

Visitation took place on March 27 at the Covell Funeral Home in Kingsley. Services were conducted on March 28 at the Tabernacle in Buckley. Burial will take place in the spring at Evergreen Cemetery.

Memorial contributions in Noah's name may be directed to TABKids Ministry at the Tabernacle or the Rock of Kingsley.

Arrangements were entrusted to Covell Funeral Home of Kingsley.

*Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Mark 10:14.*

# Advocacy Resource Center hires legal aid attorney

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member, Jesse Viau, was hired recently as the Advocacy Resource Center's legal aid attorney.

Viau graduated with his law

degree from Michigan State University on a full scholarship and in the top 15 percent of his class. He also holds a master's degree in public administration from Northern Michigan

University.

After graduation, the Escanaba native accepted a clerkship in the Idaho Supreme Court and resided in Boise for a year. He later accepted a clerkship position with

District Court Judge Sean Cox of the Eastern District of Michigan in Detroit. Following that, he worked for the second biggest law firm in Michigan, Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer and Weiss doing corporate, family and contract law in Michigan circuit and district courts.

Viau married in September to Jamie, an elementary school teacher from Escanaba, but after living in downstate Michigan, they both decided a move back to the U.P. to be closer to family was what they really wanted. Viau said that he had been looking at job opportunities with the tribe for a while because he wanted to work in tribal law. "This ties in everything and brings it a full circle - helping people, working in a profession that is very rewarding, and doing something that has a noble purpose," he said.

His mother, Ann Viau, works for the Hannahville Indian Community as a FACE (Family and Child Education Program)



parent educator. "She has been there for 20 years and has been involved in almost every child's life there," he said. "I got into law to help people, that is what I have always wanted to do. I am following in my mother's footsteps."

His father, Charles Viau, is a paper maker with Verso Paper. Viau has one sibling, Ashley Samuelson, an educator and resident of Sault Ste. Marie.



Flags are available for sale in the following sizes:

5 x 8 foot \$100

3 x 5 foot \$50

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18- x 24-inch wood dowel gold fringe \$30

3- x 5-inch stick flag \$3

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## Ashland Shields born

Ashland Juliet Shields was born to Sault Tribe member Samantha Hudak and Dustin Shields of Cheboygan on Feb. 18 at McLaren Northern Michigan in Petoskey.

Ashland weighed 7 pounds, 5 ounces and measured 19 inches in length at birth. She joins her big brother Acea Bruce.

Her grandparents are Russell and Kathy Hudak, Gary Shields and Michelle Armstrong, all of Cheboygan. Great-grandparents are Russell and Dorothy Hudak, Alice Shields and Gertrude Newman, all of Cheboygan.



# Agencies teach teens on tobacco and prevention

BY RICK SMITH

Health advocates from the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians joined with representatives of the American Legacy Foundation to present the Youth Leadership and Advocacy Training for Tobacco Prevention program to teenagers and tribal youth program coordinators at the Lake Superior State University Cisler Center in Sault Ste. Marie on March 19-20.

Students and coordinators attending the training represented the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

The program contrasted differences in the cultivation and uses of commercial tobacco products with generally accepted American Indian spiritual practices and applications. Further, students heard talks about the tobacco industry's marketing tactics to attract young customers as replacements for older clients who die off early in life. In addition to learning why they should avoid using tobacco themselves, the students received guidance on taking leadership roles in advocating for tobacco prevention among their peers and prevention measures among tribal and congressional leaders.

In the first morning session, the youngsters heard from representatives of the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan Inc., Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, American Legacy Foundation and the National Native Network. Sault Tribe Board of Directors Representative Cathy Abramson welcomed the students to the program before an introductory



Photos by Rick Smith

**Participants prepare some cedar sprigs for ceremonial kinnikinnick bags, one of several activities the students took part in to develop an understanding of the differences between commercial tobacco and tobacco used for offerings.**

activity facilitated by Heather Hemming of Sault Tribe Community Health and Deanna Knauf of the Inter-Tribal Council. Keith Smith of the Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program spoke on sacred plants and guided them in preparing kinnikinnick, a mixture of bits from plants used for ceremonial purposes. Afterwards, Hemming and Knauf spoke on semaa (tobacco, as referred to in Ojibwe) and medicine gardens as practiced by American Indian tribes in Michigan.

After a break for lunch, students watched a slide show presentation on mobilizing communities to reduce the use of commercial tobacco, which was followed by a focus on how the tobacco targets youngsters as their next replacements for their dying crop of clients. It served to reinforce the program's suggestion, "Be an original, don't be a replacement." Laura

The non-profit American Legacy Foundation was established and funded in 1999 as part of the Master Settlement Agreement between major tobacco companies, 46 states, District of Columbia and five U.S. territories. The organization is dedicated to studying and providing public education about tobacco in efforts to reduce death and disease caused by its use. It is perhaps best known for its truth public service announcements against smoking seen in print and broadcast on television.

Derek Bailey of the National Native Network spoke with the youngsters on the following morning about educating tribal and state leaders about tobacco and provided tips on working with them. The students heard about other aspects to incorporate into advocacy and education campaigns such as

helpful agency resources such as the Centers for Disease Control and others, and planning a statewide activity that invites all tribal communities to participate.

The National Native Network was established in 2008 to create collaboration in American Indian communities to decreasing tobacco use. The organization is currently housed at the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan and has partnerships with tribal organizations and involved in projects across the country to promote culturally sound control of tobacco.

Sponsors of the presentation would like to see the program become an annual opportunity in the Sault and other locales in the region, but it is too early to determine the feasibility.

More on the program is online at [www.KeepItSacred.com](http://www.KeepItSacred.com), [www.facebook.com/semaaproject](http://www.facebook.com/semaaproject) and [www.up4health.org](http://www.up4health.org).

Hmasaka and Ritney Castine of the American Legacy Foundation facilitated the slide presentation.



A seminar on Youth Leadership and Advocacy Training for Tobacco Prevention was conducted on March 19-20 at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Students attending the sessions learned about the ill effects of commercial tobacco use and how to campaign against its use in a variety of ways. The training was sponsored by the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan Inc., Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the American Legacy Foundation. Facilitators for the event were (back row, from left) Josh Mayo and RaeAnne Madison of the Inter-Tribal Council, Tyler LaPlaunt, Kyle Greene and Colin Welker of Sault Tribe Community Health, (front row, from left) Robin Clark and Deanna Knauf of the Inter-Tribal Council, Heather Hemming of Sault Tribe Community Health, and Laura Hmasaka and Ritney Castine of the American Legacy Foundation. The seminar provided leadership guidance to the young participants on discouraging the use of all forms of commercial tobacco when and where they may. Further, the students learned how tobacco is cultivated and prepared for ceremonial rituals and offerings.



Advisory posted at the entrance of the Youth Leadership and Advocacy training for tobacco use prevention program on March 19-20 at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Opens  
April 15th

## Weatherization Program

**The Sault Tribe Housing Authority will be accepting applications for its Weatherization Program as of April 15th, 2015.**

The purpose of the Weatherization Program is to provide energy conservation improvements targeting features of owner occupied homes that require repair/replacement to make the home more energy efficient.

Description of services to include:

- Repair/Replacement of Roofs, windows, and exterior doors
- Air-sealing measures such as weather stripping and caulking
- Insulation of pipes, skirting, roof area/attic

- **Must Own Home & Land \*No Rented Lots**
- **Must be a Sault Tribe Household**
- **Must reside in the seven county service area**
- **Must meet income guidelines**

Please contact the Home Ownership Program  
Annie Thibert @ 906-495-1450  
or 1-800-794-4072

# Sault Tribe members hold sugarbushes across northern Michigan

Munising

A few Sault Tribe members from northern Michigan sent in photos of their own sugarbush operations. More and more members are running personal sugarbushes. Sugarbush permits for state and federal sugarbushes are also available through the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department. Next month, we will feature spring foraging photos if any members would like to share their photos, please send them to [jdburton@saulttribe.net](mailto:jdburton@saulttribe.net) by May 1. Miigwech!

## Cheybogan



Photos by Tony Grondin

**PERRY NEUMAN'S SUGARBUSH**—Perry is a member living on the Anishinaabe Trail in Cheboygan. Perry loves his sugarbush and usually ends up giving much of his hard work away as gifts. He loves the look on friends faces when he says, "Here, it really tastes good on ice cream too!" Above, Perry uses bags to collect his sap and has plenty of hardwood on hand to boil down his sap. He keeps the sap on the boil while he adds more sap.

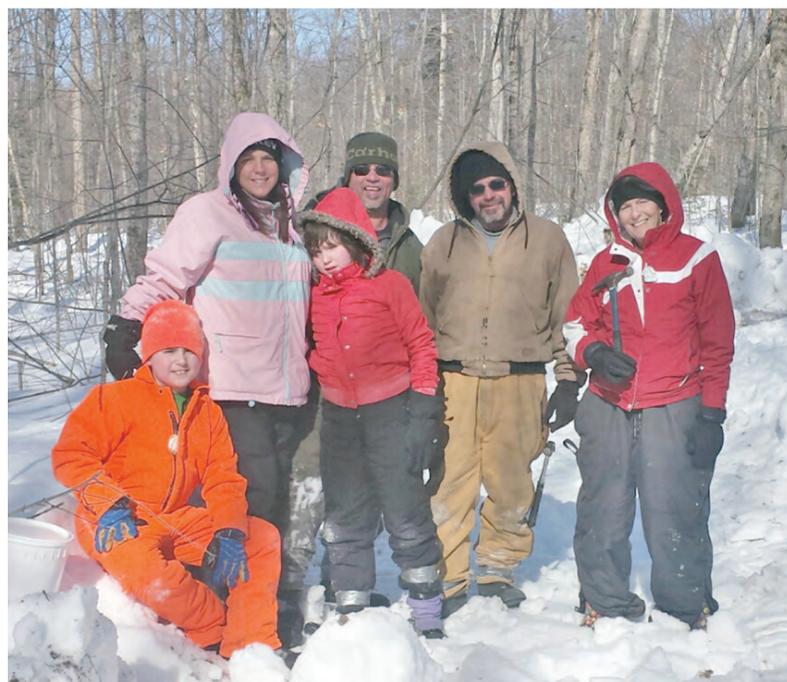
## Sugar Island

Photos by Nikki Dowd-McKechnie

**McKECHNIE FAMILY SUGAR ISLAND SUGARBUSH**—The McKechnie family's "Bluejay Maple Syrup" is on Sugar Island (in the St. Mary's River outside of Sault Ste. Marie and home to many members) where they all make syrup every year. They try to keep the younger generation involved. Gene McKechnie, who has been making syrup his whole life, used the dozer to blaze trails to the trees. Below left, left to right, Nikki Dowd-McKechnie's daughter, Adeleigh Dowd, taps a tree with her uncle, Charlie McKechnie. Below middle, the McKechnie syrup vat pan where they boil the syrup is on its first boil in this picture. Below right, a few of the McKechnie clan at the sugarbush on photo day, left to right, Nikki Dowd-McKechnie with children, Sawyer Dowd and Adeleigh Dowd; Isaac McKechnie, Charlie McKechnie and Cheri McKechnie. Below far right, the shack, which houses the boiler that turns sap into syrup.

Photos by Tom Derwin

**TOM DERWIN** — This elder from Munising participates in a 200-tree sugarbush with about eight other people for the fun, maple syrup and education. Derwin built a wigwam about eight years ago with the landowner's help and brings elementary students to show them the traditional Native to the modern method of making maple syrup. They collect some sap and take home a small bottle of syrup. Derwin opens the demonstration with an honor song while playing a hand drum. They gather the kids around the fire and he gives them some Native American teachings. Next the kids move to the frontier part of the program. From there, they move into the shack for the modern demonstration.



# ACFS celebrates Parenting Awareness Month

Anishinaabek Community and Family Services' annual Family Celebration hosted over 500 community members at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center on March 15. Now in its 17th year, the event is organized by the Family Celebration Planning Committee for every March in celebration of Parenting Awareness Month.

"Spending time with your family is the most important time you can spend," said committee member Jessica Gillotte.

"Celebrate your family every day and make each moment count. March was Parenting Awareness month; try to find an activity to do together each night as a family! On behalf of our committee, thank you."

Community partners with tables at the event were Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities, Sault Tribe Early Childhood Education Programs, Sault Tribe Housing Authority, Sault Tribe ACFS, Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center,

Sault Tribe USDA, Sault Tribe Community Health and Nutrition programs, Sault Tribe Law Enforcement, Sault Tribe Cultural Division, Sault Tribal Court, Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Community Action Agency, UP Kids Post Adoption Resources, Chippewa County Department of Human Services, Chippewa County Families Against Narcotics (FAN), Chippewa County Girl Scouts, Diane Peppler Resource Center, Michigan Great Start to Quality

Collaborative, Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District, Hiawatha Behavioral Health, Community Health Access Coalition, Dafter Lions Club, Chippewa County Council for Youth and Families, Animal Kingdom Veterinary Clinic, Care Net Pregnancy Center and Hiawatha National Forest.

In addition to those listed above, the committee would like to thank the following donors: Star Line Mackinac Island Ferry, Mackinac Island Carriage

Tours, Soo Locks Boat Tours, Garlyn Zoo, Kewadin Casinos, Antler's Restaurant, Taco Bell, Pizza Hut, Domino's, Maple Creek Restaurant, Indo-China Garden, Cup of the Day, Palace Saloon, Family Fare, Family Video and Caffeine Cafe.

And, special thanks to volunteers Jenny Gillotte, Jennifer Gillotte, Josiah P. Ward, Genevieve Gillotte-Ward, Todd Olmstead, Les Neubert, Davie Pace and Drew Kagarise.



Avery Calder, 10, gets her face painted by ACFS staff member, Lisa Bumstead, who volunteered to help during the Family Celebration.



Jennifer and Genevieve Gillotte, 6 months



Katelynn Griffin and baby Meeah, 2, with Officer Ryan Lubben and police dog Lux.



Above, parents registering their kids for the bike giveaway, sponsored by individual board members and community members.



Juanita Bye watches as Jack King, 8, spins the prize wheel.

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# EPA honors tribe's environmental manager

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Environmental Program Manager Kathie Brosemer was recently informed she has been selected as this year's Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 recipient of the Taimi Lynne Hoag Award for Environmental Stewardship. The award recognizes someone making significant contributions in environmental management in Indian Country.

The award was established in 2003 by the Region 5 Tribal Operation Committee (R5TOC) in the name of Taimi Hoag who served as the environmental director for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and represented the tribes in Michigan on the R5TOC, and all tribes in Region 5 on the National Tribal Operations Committee.

EPA Region 5 headquarters are in Chicago where Brosemer will be presented with the award in April during the annu-



**Kathleen Brosemer**

al R5TOC meeting being held in conjunction with the EPA Tribal Environmental Program Managers meeting. "It is very gratifying to be recognized by R5TOC for the work I have been doing for the Sault Tribe," Brosemer said. "I have been at the tribe for five years and in that time I have expanded the

Environmental Program from two people to nine, and will soon be hiring an air quality specialist to join our team."

She said she appreciates the affirmation from Sault Tribe Representative Catherine Hollowell and Chairman Aaron Payment, who nominated her for the award.

As listed in her award nomination letter, the following are some of the accomplishments she is being recognized for. Among her most notable accomplishments is the tribe's recent designation by the White House as a Climate Action Champion. It was her report on the tribe's diverse activities on mitigation and adaptation toward climate change that gained the tribe its new status.

Over the past four years she has worked to equip the tribe's Environmental Department with a water lab, a seed and soil lab, a GIS lab, and an environmental library. Staff also uses the build-

ing grounds for outdoor environmental education.

Environmental Department programs she has established include plant ecology, brown-fields, pesticides, energy, and air. The Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Conservation District awarded the Earth Steward Award to the Environmental Department in early 2014 for their work with invasive and native species, tree planting, and seed banking.

She also established an energy audit capacity in the tribe's environmental and housing programs and has obtained training and certification for a number of staff members. She has led the training, obtained Building Performance Institute certifications for herself, and has prepared study guides and checklists for the rest of the participants.

Brosemer serves on the National Tribal Water Council and is an advocate for the closure of mining loopholes to the Clean

Water Act. She successfully advocated for change to the funding formula for clean water and safe drinking water tribal set-asides, while establishing the funding floor for the first time.

She is also working to unite tribes, first nations, and environmental groups to oppose pipelines in the Great Lakes and tar sands exploitation, across U.S. and Canadian borders. She presents talks on the Kalamazoo tar sands oil spill experience to Canadian groups, and about the TransCanada Pipelines tar sands proposal to groups in the U.S. She has worked to advance tribal interests at EPA Region 5 as well as on the national level, and was recently selected to serve on the R5TOC.

The Sault Tribe Environmental Department is located at 206 Greenough Street in the Sault. For information about environmental programs, projects or initiatives, call (906) 632-5575.

# Wequayoc Cemetery planning project update

BY ALAN BARR

We completed the grant work portion of the Wequayoc Cemetery Project in March. A group of volunteers known as the Wequayoc Work Group met every Friday for three months at the McCann Center in St. Ignace. All tribal member input gathered was thoughtfully reviewed and considered in the creation of recommendations for an overall cemetery ordinance and specific Wequayoc Cemetery policies. The group worked with tribal attorneys to ensure the recommendations met all of the specifics required by law.

The work group then presented the recommendations to the Wequayoc Committee and the board of directors. Further guidance was provided to the work group at these meetings, which will now polish the recommendations. A second presentation to the board will be made with a request to approve the recommendations as an official tribal ordinance.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this project suc-

cessful: Angeline Bouley for her project oversight, Laura Porterfield for her administrative support, the 330-plus Sault Tribe members who provided their input and thinking, the 190 members who took the pre-survey, members Bill Brown and Larry Jacques for assisting with the data gathering sessions, all of the elder sub-committees for allowing us to gather data during their meetings, the Wequayoc Committee for providing guidance during the project, the board of directors for allowing us to engage the broader tribal community as part of this project and the Grand Tribal Youth Council and the Cultural Committee for reviewing the information and supporting our efforts.

It has truly been an honor to work on this project. The many members who gave of their time to participate in our process made my work easy. I met relatives at every single meeting, which has been a blessing. The outcomes of this project will protect and care for our ancestors and our families for generations.



**Wequayoc Cemetery is on the north side of M-134, four miles east of the I-75 and M-134 intersection. Lawrence Grimes, his wife, Anna, and her mother, Agnes Paquin, managed to preserve the cemetery and pass it on to the tribe before walking on.**

# Watch for Safer Choice label

BY RICK SMITH

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced that "Safer Choice" labels begin appearing on containers of EPA approved cleaning products this spring or summer.

According to the EPA, Safer Choice labels indicate all of the ingredients in the products have been reviewed and approved by EPA scientists using a stringent set of human health and environmental safety standards. Hence, the products are safer for families, their pets and Mother Earth than products that don't bear the labels.

The agency asserts hundreds of major producers and distributors of cleaning products have volunteered to meet EPA scientific standards and acquire Safer Choice labels on their

cleaners because it conveys credibility in their commitment to the health of their clients and the

environment, which is good for business. Look for the labels on products such as Clorox bleach on the shelves of retailers such as Walmart stores.

The labels are also destined to appear on a wide range of containers for industrial cleaning products.

"We all want the cleaning products we use in our home to be safe for our kids, our pets and the environment," said Gina McCarthy, EPA administrator, "so starting this spring or summer you'll see the Safer Choice labels appearing on kitchen and bath cleaners, carpet cleaners, laundry detergents and more, and that's good news for all of us."

Those interested may learn more about Safer Choice labeling and other environmental issues at [www2.epa.gov/saferchoice](http://www2.epa.gov/saferchoice).



[epa.gov/saferchoice](http://epa.gov/saferchoice)



**Wequayoc Cemetery sits on the Grimes property. Above is the home where Lawrence and Anna lived, which overlooked the cemetery.**

# Shakopee Sioux partnership launches national nutrition campaign, "Seeds of Native Health"

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. – The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) and three nationally significant partners today announced Seeds of Native Health, a major philanthropic campaign to improve the nutrition of American Indians across the country. The community is committing \$5 million to launch the campaign and plans to recruit other funding and strategic partners.

"Nutrition is very poor among many of our fellow American Indians, which leads to major health problems," said SMSC Chairman Charlie Vig. "Our community has a tradition of helping other tribes and American Indian people. The SMSC is committed to making a major contribution and bringing others together to help develop permanent solutions to this serious problem."

Generations of extreme poverty and the loss of traditional foods have resulted in poor and inadequate diets for many American Indians, leading to increased obe-

sity, diabetes and other profound health problems. "Many tribes, nonprofits, public health experts, researchers and advocates have already been working on solutions," said SMSC Vice-Chairman Keith Anderson. "We hope this campaign will bring more attention to their work, build on it, bring more resources to the table, and ultimately put Indian Country on the path to develop a comprehensive strategy, which does not exist today."

The Seeds of Native Health campaign will include efforts to improve awareness of American Indian nutrition problems, promote the wider application of proven best practices, and encourage additional work related to food access, education and research.

"Native health problems have many causes, but we know that many of these problems can be traced to poor nutrition," said SMSC Secretary/Treasurer Lori Watso, who has spent much of her career in community public

health. She provided the original idea for the SMSC's nutrition campaign.

"Traditional American Indian foods have a much higher nutritional value than what is most easily accessible today," Watso continued. "By promoting best practices, evidence-based methods and the re-introduction of healthy cultural practices, we believe that tribal governments, nonprofits and grassroots practitioners can collectively make lasting strides towards a better future."

Having donated more than \$325 million since opening its gaming enterprise in the 1990s, as well as providing more than \$500 million in economic development loans to other tribes, the SMSC is the largest philanthropic benefactor for Indian Country nationally and one of the largest charitable givers in Minnesota.

Seeds of Native Health partners The SMSC has enlisted three nationally significant strategic partners in the campaign: First

Nations Development Institute, headquartered in Colorado; the Notah Begay III Foundation, based in New Mexico; and the University of Minnesota.

First Nations Development Institute has longstanding expertise in efforts to eliminate food insecurity, build the health of communities, and support entrepreneurship and economic development. It is receiving \$1.4 million from the SMSC for re-granting to projects relating to food access, food sovereignty, and capacity building.

"First Nations has spent 35 years working to build healthy economies in Indian Country, and we are thrilled for the opportunity to be a strategic partner in an initiative that will coordinate so many of the crucial efforts happening today," said Michael Roberts, president of the First Nations Development Institute.

The Notah Begay III Foundation is dedicated to promoting wellness among Indian children. It is receiving \$1.1 mil-

lion from the SMSC for re-granting to projects relating to childhood nutrition.

"The problems facing many young American Indians are great, but none is more fundamental than health problems which have their root cause in poor nutrition," said Notah Begay III, creator of his namesake foundation. "This philanthropic effort led by the SMSC will be a game-changer."

Chairman Vig said that selecting the University of Minnesota as a strategic partner in this initiative was natural.

The University's campaign role will include serving as the convening partner for a new series of annual conferences on American Indian nutrition, developing appropriate cultural interfaces between academic research and its application by Native communities and creating a repository of best practices and national expertise.

Learn more online at [www.seedsofnativehealth.org](http://www.seedsofnativehealth.org).

## Add some spring vegetables and fruits to meals

BY KRISTY HILL

Looking to add more fiber to your diet? Look at in season fruit and veggies to help you increase your fiber intake today without breaking the bank! Even in northern Michigan, we have spring fruits and veggies you can enjoy. And, remember, you can enjoy the taste of any fruit and veggie year round by using frozen, dried, canned or 100 percent juice.

Here are some inexpensive ideas on how you can add nutri-



tion and value to your meals or snacks:

- Add broccoli or asparagus to pasta dishes or side salads.
- Add strawberries to lettuce salads or try them on greens you never tried, such as red leaf lettuce.
- Have pineapple over low-fat cottage cheese or yogurt for quick snacks.
- Add your favorite fruits to breakfast — add sliced bananas, peanut butter and whole wheat toast, apricots in oatmeal or top your pancakes with applesauce and cinnamon.
- Add extra veggies to your favorite recipes.
- Have fruit on the counter for a quick "fruit-to-go" snack.
- Keep ready-to-eat veggies in the refrigerator to add to meals or snacks.
- Top half of whole grain English muffin with low-fat yogurt and your favorite spring fruit for a quick fruit pizza.
- Stuff your next sandwich with extra veggies or add grapes,

raisins, celery or onions to low-fat tuna or chicken salad and serve on a lettuce leaf.

Recipe for a 30 minute meal:

- Pasta with Swiss chard
- 4 oz. dried whole grain bow tie pasta
  - 6 oz. fresh Swiss chard or spinach
  - 1 1/2 tsp. olive oil
  - 2 cloves garlic, minced
  - 1/3 c. light ricotta cheese
  - 2 tbsp. skim milk
  - 2 tbsp. fresh basil or 1 tsp. dried basil, crushed
  - 1/8 tsp. black pepper
  - 1 medium tomato, seeded and chopped
  - 2 tbsp. shredded Parmesan cheese
  - Dash ground nutmeg
- Directions:
- Cook pasta as directed on package. Drain well and return to saucepan. Cover and keep warm.
- Discard center ribs of Swiss chard or stems from spinach. Coarsely chop greens and set aside. In a large skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Add gar-



lic, cook for 15 seconds. Add greens. Cook over medium-low heat about three minutes or until greens are wilted and tender, stirring frequently. Stir in ricotta cheese, milk, basil, pepper and nutmeg. Cook and stir for three to five minutes or until heated through.

Add ricotta mixture and tomato to cooked pasta, toss gently to combine. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese. Nutrition facts per serving (one-half recipe):  
Calories: 307; Total fat: 8g; Protein: 14g; Carbohydrate: 51g

— Recipe adapted from *Better Homes and Gardens cookbook, Eat Healthy, Lose Weight, Vol. 1*

For more information on the Sault Tribe's nutrition programs, please contact Tribal Health and Human Services and Mackinac Straits Health System at 643-8689 or (877) 256-0135, Manistique Tribal Health Center at 341-8469 or (800) 401-0043, Grand Island Chippewa Community Center in Munising at 387-4614 or (800) 236-4705 or the Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health Center at 632-5210 or (877) 256-0009.

## Free mobile app helps providers with suicide risk

A mobile app, *Suicide Safe*, created by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to help health care providers treating patients at risk of suicidal thoughts and behaviors is available at no cost through SAMHSA's website.

Suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in the United States, and it is the second leading cause of death among people from age 10 to 44. For American Indians and Alaska Natives, suicide is 1.6 times higher than all other U.S. races.

"The prevention work we are doing to address the rising number of suicides in tribal communities, especially among our young people, will have a positive and lasting impact. We are looking forward to the con-



**Download this free mobile app to help assess suicide risk.**

tributions this mobile app will provide to IHS, tribal, and urban Indian health programs," said Robert McSwain, acting Indian Health Service director.

One of the downloadable tribal publications accessible from the app is *To Live to See*

*the Great Day That Dawns: Preventing Suicide by American Indian and Alaska Native Youth and Young Adults*. This guide lays the groundwork for comprehensive prevention planning, with prevention broadly defined to include programs that a community can use to promote the mental health of its youth. The guide also covers actions communities can take in response to a suicide to help heal and thereby prevent related suicidal behaviors. SAMHSA launched the app in March during the 10-year anniversary event celebrating the SAMHSA-sponsored National Suicide Prevention Lifeline that has answered nearly seven million calls since 2005. Leaders in suicide prevention came together in Washington, D.C., to commemorate a decade

of progress in the field and to support SAMHSA's pioneering effort.

"Suicide devastates lives throughout all parts of our nation, but it is a public health issue that is preventable. SAMHSA is working to provide people on the front lines with resources they need to save lives," said SAMHSA Administrator Pamela S. Hyde. "*Suicide Safe* is a major step forward in suicide prevention. The app gives behavioral and primary health care providers an essential and modern prevention tool at their fingertips to help address suicide risk with their patients."

Almost half of people who die by suicide have visited a primary care provider in the month prior to their death, and 20 percent have had contact with mental

health services. Behavioral health and primary care settings provide unique opportunities for people at risk of suicide to access effective treatment. Yet, many behavioral and primary health care providers have never received training on how to assess and manage suicidal patients.

*Suicide Safe* can help bridge this gap by furnishing behavioral and primary health care providers tips on how to assess for suicidal risk, communicate effectively with patients and their families, determine appropriate next steps, and make referrals when needed.

SAMHSA's *Suicide Safe* app is available for download on Apple and Android mobile devices through <http://store.samhsa.gov/apps/suicidesafe>.

# Sharon Brunner publishes two new books

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member Sharon Brunner published her first book in 2011 titled *Remnants of a Shattered Past, A Journey of Discovery and Hope*. She now offers two more titles to her collection – *Beyond the Shadows* and *Shadow Travelers*.

*Shadow Travelers* is an expansion and partial reprinting of her first book, but with the addition of six new chapters. This creative non-fiction journey begins in the 1500s to present day and discusses such things as bartering to today's tribal court system. This historical glimpse into Michigan's past helps address questions still asked today about boarding school trauma and other challenges Native Americans have faced through the history of this country, and how that continues to impact today's generations.

Brunner developed two



characters in her first book that continue their journey in *Shadow Travelers*. The Eagle and Coyote guide readers on a journey to a clearer understanding of various historical events by visiting different time periods to investigate such things as the signing of the 1836 Treaty of Washington. She endows her characters with

many gifts – from being shape shifters to being able to spirit travel as they explore Michigan's Anishanaabeg history.

Brunner said there are ancestral legends about eagles and coyotes traveling together, which reflects her life journey through her Native name – Eagle Woman, while a practicing shaman gave her husband the name Coyote.

Her other new offering, *Beyond the Shadows*, is a self-help book that offers practical techniques to help eliminate defeating habits and lead the reader down a path of self healing. Brunner said that within the books pages she shares how people can rid themselves of the harmful effects of historical trauma, and traumas faced in this lifetime. She also addresses the psychological and physical consequences of historical trauma, in addition to self-discovery and

spirituality.

She said that although the book is written for Native Americans it could be of help to anyone.

Brunner's own mother, aunts and uncles attended the Holy Childhood Boarding School in Harbor Springs, Michigan, as children. Brunner said that led her to ask the question: "What does that mean to me in my life and how does it affect me today? What did that do to my mom?" As she asked those questions, she began working on her master's of social work thesis in 2001 doing research into the boarding school experience for Native Americans in Michigan and continuing her own personal journey into the past.

Today Brunner teaches at Bay Mills Community College and has over 25 years of experience with providing services to Native Americans in Michigan and

throughout the U.S.

Brunner's trade paperback books can be ordered by mailing a check or money order for \$10 plus \$3 for shipping to: Freedom Eagles Press, 4599 East 5 Mile Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, or order online from Amazon.com. Her first book, *Remnants of a Shattered Past*, is also now available as an e-book for \$4.99 from Amazon.com or Abbott Press and can be purchased in paperback form for various prices from Amazon and from Freedom Eagles Press for \$10, plus \$3 shipping and handling. Brunner can be contacted by calling (906) 632-9500 or by email at: sbrunner4599@gmail.com.

She is currently writing a fourth book, a fantasy tentatively titled *Hidden Agendas*, that she says is tied into the beginnings of time and the development of Earth and rest of the universe.

# Share Pinocchio's transformation from puppet to boy

SAULT STE. MARIE —

On May 2-3, the Academy of Performing Arts will celebrate its 14th annual children's theatre performance with the production of "Pinocchio," directed and produced by Luanna Luxton Armstrong.

This year's production of Pinocchio, to be performed at DreamMaker's Theatre in Sault Kewadin, brings to life the story of creation and growth. We invite you to join Pinocchio on his journey to humanity. On that journey, he faces temptation, cruelty and evil. He must make the choice between right and wrong, between responsibility and selfishness, and the inevitable consequences of his - and our - actions. On the way he must learn to accept his conscience as his guide. And Jiminy Cricket is a great conscience.

The dancers, actors, dazzling costumes and props along with classical and top of the charts contemporary music and dance styles create a unique, one of a kind theatre experience.

The talented dancers ranging



The Academy of Performing Arts will perform "Pinocchio," on May 2-3, directed and produced by Luanna Luxton Armstrong (left). With her are some of her students who will be performing in the play.

from age three to adult perform ballet, pointe, lyrical, jazz, tap, hip hop, acrobatics and cabaret, are woven into the fabric of the show and enrich the story.

Ryeleigh Orr plays Pinocchio, in her first performance with the Academy. Casey Engle brings the character of young Jiminy Cricket to life. Frank Handziak is the kindly toy maker Geppetto. Veteran actor 10-year-old Riley Wilson plays the

rascally Lampwick and Kendra Kehring and Peter Merchand play the Cat and the Fox, the villainous con artists, respectively. Kayla Price, instructor and longtime participant in the Academy, is the stunning Blue Fairy. David Drockton, well known to theater-goers in the Sault, is the elderly Jiminy Cricket, the narrator, reminiscing about his adventures with Pinocchio when he was young.



Practicing for the play at DreamMaker's Theatre at Kewadin Sault May 2-3. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$8 for children 12 and under.

Pinocchio and the characters he meets along the way, remind us that the decisions we make affect our lives and the lives of those around us. Pinocchio's experiences changed him from a puppet into a real human being. And they can do the same for us.

The Academy is proud to acknowledge the enthusiasm and support of the community, and the contributors not only to this presentation but also to those of

the past 14 years.

Dates: Saturday, May 2 at 6 p.m. and Sunday, May 3 at 2 p.m.

Place: DreamMaker's Theatre, Kewadin Sault  
Tickets: Adults \$15, Children (12 and under) \$8. Available at Kewadin Box Office, 1-800-KEWADIN or 635-4917 and at the door.

For further information, call Luanna Luxton Armstrong at (906) 253-2180.

# A Taste of Mardi Gras wins soup-er United Way throwdown

Hiawatha Behavioral Health staged its fifth annual United Way Soup-er Throwdown, a twist on its yearly chili cooking contest. The cook-off took place in Sault Ste. Marie on March 12, 2015.

The competition raised \$230 for the United Way organization. So far this year, Hiawatha Behavioral Health (HBH) raised a total of \$1,298, including the donations from the throwdown.

Each department entered a recipe of either soup or chili to be tasted by a group of guest judges. Judges included community members, law enforcement, HBH board members and medical personnel from War Memorial Hospital's Behavioral Health Center.

The judges' taste buds were tantalized by five different soups. The winning soup was *Mexican Fiesta* cooked by the Children's/Outpatient and St. Ignace team. Following close behind in judges'

votes was the DD/Connections team, *Bacon Your Day Better*, with a bacon cheeseburger soup.

The Soup-er stars, which consisted of SMI/ACT departments, presented a beef barley soup. Crisis, Nursing and Behavioral Supports departments made up team *Unlucky Turkey Soup*. *Mardi Gras Tortellini* was presented by *A Taste of Mardi Gras*, which was a team comprised of IT, admin, clerical and business departments.

Other awards included People's Choice and Best of Show for decorated booth. Both awards were won by *A Taste of Mardi Gras*.

Hiawatha Behavioral Health thanks the judges for donating their time and taste buds to the event. Judges included HBH Board Members Jim Moore, Dr. John Shoberg and Ron Meister; representatives from the Michigan State Police, Cammi



This year's judges for the fifth annual United Way Soup-er Throwdown, a twist on its yearly chili cooking contest. This year's event took place March 12 in Sault Ste. Marie.

Yeck and Trooper Ailene Bitnar; Bob Marchand, Sault Tribal police chief; Mike Whitney, Sault Ste. Marie city police captain; Dr. Paul Sorgi and Jessica Jannetta of War Memorial Hospital

Behavioral Health Center; Tracey Laitenen of the United Way; and community member Jenny Killips.

Hiawatha Behavioral Health also thanks the teams for

donating their time, financial contributions and creativity toward making the throwdown a success. Judges and teams are already looking forward to next year's competition!

# First Lady delivers remarks on youth initiative

On April 8, First Lady Michelle Obama delivered remarks at a White House convening on *Creating Opportunity for Native Youth in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building*. This event brought together philanthropic organizations, tribal leaders, Native youth and Administration officials to build on the President's launch of *Generation Indigenous*, a Native youth initiative that takes a comprehensive, culturally appropriate approach to help improve the lives of Native youth.

"Good morning everyone, and welcome to the White House. We are so thrilled to have you here today for our *Generation Indigenous* convening.

I want to start by thanking Walter Isaacson and Senator Dorgan for their outstanding leadership and for the terrific work that they're doing at the Aspen Institute.

And as for T.C. – there really are no words to express how proud I am of this young man and how impressed I am by his courage, determination and maturity. Barack and I were blown away by T.C. and by the other young people we met when we visited T.C.'s tribe, the Standing Rock Sioux Nation, last June. And I want to start off today by telling you a little bit about that visit.

It began when we arrived in North Dakota, and as we left the airport where we'd landed, we looked around, and all we could see was flat, empty land. There were almost no signs of typical community life, no police stations, no community or business centers, no malls, no doctor's offices, no churches, just flat, empty land.

Eventually, we pulled up to a little community with a cluster of houses, a few buildings and a tiny school – and that was the town of Cannon Ball, North Dakota, which is part of the



Standing Rock Sioux Nation. And at that school, a small group of young people gathered in a classroom, anxiously but quietly waiting to meet with the president and the first lady.

These teens were the best and brightest – hand-selected for this meeting – and after we all introduced ourselves, they shared their stories.

One young woman was in foster care because of substance abuse in her household. She talked about how hard it was to be separated from her five siblings. One young man had spent his high school years homeless, crashing on the sofa of his friends, even for a period living in the local community center. Another young man had gotten himself into college, but when he got there, he had trouble choosing the right classes; he realized that he'd never been taught how to properly write an essay; and when family problems arose back home, he struggled to balance all the stress and eventually had to drop out.

And just about every kid in that room had lost at least one friend or family member to drug or alcohol-related problems, or to preventable illnesses like heart disease, or to suicide. In fact, two of the girls went back and forth for several minutes

trying to remember how many students in their freshman class had committed suicide – the number was either four or five, this is out of a class of 70.

Just sit with that for a minute: four or five kids out of a class of 70 taking their own lives.

So these are the challenges these kids are facing. This is the landscape of their lives.

But somehow – and this is what truly blew us away – somehow, in the face of all this hardship and all these tragedies, these kids haven't given up. They are still fighting to find a way forward, for themselves and for their community.

After losing her classmates to suicide, one young woman started volunteering at a youth program to help other kids who were struggling. One young man told us that when his family was struggling, he fended for himself for years, sleeping on friends' couches until he was old enough to become a firefighter.

And that young man who had to leave college? Well, when he got back home, he discovered that his family problems were worse than he had thought. He found that his stepmother was on drugs and his four younger brothers were wandering the streets alone in the middle of the night. So at the age of 19, he stepped in and took over – and now, he's back in college while raising four children all by himself.

And then there's T.C. He was the last young person to speak that day, and after telling us his story – how he was raised by a single father, how he's lost so many people he loves, how his family struggles to get by – he then said to my husband "I know you face a lot as president of the United States, and I want to sing an encouragement song for all of us to keep going."

After everything these young people had endured, T.C. wanted to sing a song for us.

So if you have any doubt about the urgency or the value of investing in this community, I want you to just think about T.C. and all those other young people I met in Standing Rock. I want you to think about both the magnitude of their struggles and the deep reservoirs of strength and resilience that they draw on every day to face those struggles.

And most of all, I want you to remember that supporting these young people isn't just a nice thing to do, and it isn't just a smart investment in their future, it is a solemn obligation that we as a nation have incurred.

You see, we need to be very clear about where the challenges in this community first started.

Folks in Indian Country didn't just wake up one day with addiction problems. Poverty and violence didn't just randomly happen to this community. These issues are the result of a long history of systematic discrimination and abuse.

Let me offer just a few examples from our past, starting with how, back in 1830, we passed a law removing Native Americans from their homes and forcibly re-locating them to barren lands out west. The Trail of Tears was part of this process. Then we began separating children from their families and sending them to boarding schools designed to strip them of all traces of their culture, language and history. And then our government started issuing what were known as "Civilization Regulations" – regulations that outlawed Indian religions, ceremonies and practices – so we literally made their culture illegal.

And these are just a few examples. I could continue on like this for hours.

So given this history, we shouldn't be surprised at the challenges that kids in Indian Country are facing today. And we should never forget that we played a role in this. Make no mistake about it – we own this. And we can't just invest a million here and a million there, or come up with some five-year or ten-year plan and think we're going to make a real impact. This is truly about nation-building, and it will require fresh thinking and a massive infusion of resources over generations. That's right, not just years, but generations.

But remember, we are talking about a small group of young people, so while the investment

needs to be deep, this challenge is not overwhelming, especially given everything we have to work with. I mean, given what these folks have endured, the fact that their culture has survived at all is nothing short of a miracle.

And like many of you, I have witnessed the power of that culture. I saw it at the powwow that my husband and I attended during our visit to Standing Rock. And with each stomping foot – with each song, each dance – I could feel the heartbeat that is still pounding away in Indian Country. And I could feel it in the energy and ambition of those young people who are so hungry for any chance to learn, any chance to broaden their horizons.

Even the smallest opportunity can make such a huge difference for these kids. I saw that firsthand when Barack and I invited the kids we met in Standing Rock to come visit us at the White House.

They arrived one morning last November, and we showed them around, and took them out for pizza and burgers, and spent some time talking and laughing and hanging out. Altogether, their visit to the White House was just one day long, but as we hugged each of those kids goodbye, one young woman said to Barack, "This visit saved my life."

And given the odds these kids face, I don't think she was exaggerating. So if we take a chance on these young people, I guarantee you that we will save lives. I guarantee it.

So we all need to work together to invest deeply – and for the long-term – in these young people, both those who are living in their tribal communities like T.C. and those living in urban areas across this country.

These kids have so much promise – and we need to ensure that they have every tool, every opportunity they need to fulfill that promise.

So I want to thank you for your commitment to their futures and for everything you have already done for their communities. I want to thank you for coming here today to learn more about *Generation Indigenous* and how you can help. And I look forward to seeing the extraordinary impact that you all will have in the years ahead.

Thank you so much, and God bless."

## Junior Rotarians help Rotary Club with auction



Junior Rotarians from Chippewa County finished a productive six weeks with the Sault Ste. Marie Rotary Club. The youngsters helped gather items for the Rotary Graver Auction, took video footage of some Rotary sponsored sites and interviewed Diane Harrington about her view of how Rotary helps local young people, especially through Business Professionals of America. Left to right, Kimmi Jodoin, group instructor Tracey Laitinen, program director Charlie Dunton, Anna Harrington, Shoshie Gardiner, Sydney Langendorf, program director Jennifer Dunton, Marielle Ball, Matthew Sirk and Chase Meehan. Missing from photo are Josh Eilola and Ann Diepenhorst.

## Anishinaabe Bimaadiziwin Waawiyeyaa cultural circle

This month's activity for the Anishinaabe Bimaadiziwin Waawiyeyaa committee is a cultural circle on Monday, April 27 at the Hessel Community Health Center, 3355 N. 3-Mile Road. The circle forms at 4 p.m. with guest, Sault Tribe elder, Henry J. Boulley Sr., speaking on the topic of ceremonial fires at 5 p.m. Potluck meal to follow. All are welcome to attend.

For more information, call Lisa Burnside at 440-7666 or John Causley, Jr. at 430-0759.

Anishinaabe Bimaadiziwin Waawiyeyaa is an appointed committee of individuals working together to strengthen, preserve, protect and promote the rich ancestral ways of Bahweting Anishinaabe. All are welcome to attend, share and learn. Miigwech!

# Kewadin Casinos recognizes radio personality Bill Thorne for career spanning 68 years

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Bill Thorne, local radio personality and Anishinaabe man, was honored at Kewadin Sault Casino on March 22.

He received the first Kewadin Casinos Recognition Award 2015, “awarded to Bill Thorne for over 60 years in radio broadcasting and outstanding service Native American communities.”

Thorne’s career spanned 68 years. The 83-year-old started out at WSOO in Sault Ste. Marie as a junior broadcaster in 1949. But he was on the radio before that. He was there for WSOO’s first event on the air, broadcasting from church. Kids used to get half a day off to go to the church of their choice, and WSOO was at the Baptist Church. First thing,

the announcer said, “We are going to start things off with little Billy Thorne.” Bill went up and said in a loud childish voice, “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1.”

Since then he has interviewed over 26,000 people, including Elvis Presley, President Nixon, Johnny Cash and Patsy Cline.

Throughout the years, he has been the recipient of many awards, beginning with Mr. DeeJay USA while broadcasting coast to coast from Nashville in 1959, and culminating in the Northern Ontario Music Association Living Legend Award in 2008.

Locally, Thorne hosted local radio shows Morning Hymn

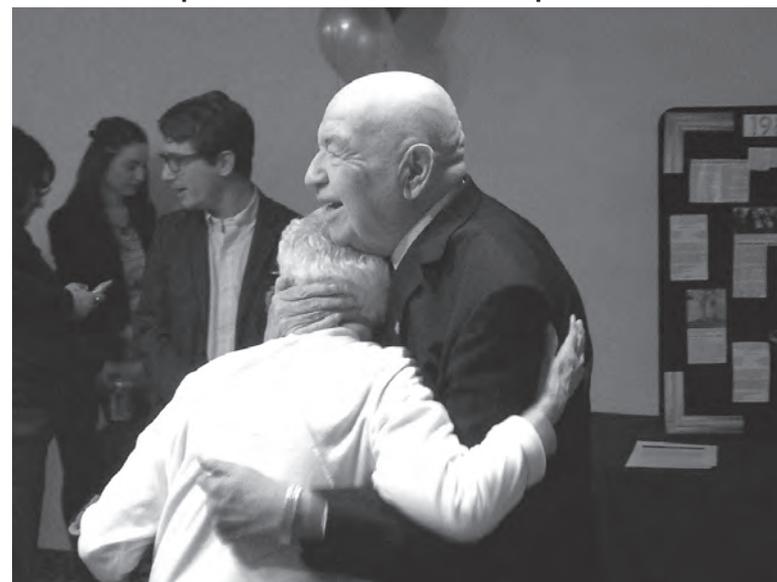
Time and the Four Horsemen for decades. He was honored many times in his community, receiving the American Legion Fourth Estate Award more than once for his exceptional attentiveness to American veterans, and readers’ choice favorite broadcaster. A banquet was held in his honor in 1998 to celebrate 50 years in radio.

While broadcasting, Thorne worked in public relations, as a juvenile officer and probation officer. He owned a music store and even a flower shop.

He said two of his greatest thrills in life were graduating college with his granddaughter in 1996, and his first baby being born. Thorne said you have to leave a legacy, and this is his.



Michael Burton poses with Bill Thorne at his reception.



Thorne hugs a friend during his reception.



Bill Thorne shows off his award, posing with his son, Ed Thorne, Dave Kucharczyk and Amanda Peters (L-R).

## Munro is Hessel Team Member of the Month



Hessel Team Member of the Month Patrice Munro

## Yesterday comes to DreamMakers

Yesterday, one of the top Beatles tribute bands in the world, will be performing live at Kewadin Sault Casino’s DreamMakers Theater on Sunday, May 31. Tickets are on sale for \$12.50.

Yesterday performs all eras of Beatles music in their original key while playing authentic instruments. From Las Vegas to Japan, their critically acclaimed

productions have performed on five continents to outstanding reviews.

Lead vocals and rhythm guitar are performed by Yesterday’s founder, Don Bellezzo, whose tuneful expertise and brilliant vocals creates an undeniably striking stage presence. Backed by a full band with years of experience and enhanced by near perfect mannerisms of each mem-

ber of the Beatles, Yesterday puts on a production that makes you believe you’re seeing the Beatles themselves.

For more information on Yesterday, the Beatles tribute band, visit their website at [www.yesterdaybeatletribute.com](http://www.yesterdaybeatletribute.com).

To get your tickets for Yesterday show on Sunday, May 31, visit [tickets.kewadin.com](http://tickets.kewadin.com) or call (800) Kewadin.



Photo by Chris Carlson

# FOR KIDS AGES 5 to 10!

## Big Bear Summer Recreation Program

**June 8th - August 14th,  
2015**

**FULL DAY PROGRAM**

Monday thru Friday  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**AGES 5-10**

(Must be 5 years old by 7/1/15)

1/2 day Programming  
also available

A.M. Session (8 a.m. to 12 p.m.)

### Activities Include:

Organized Sports & Games,  
Arts & Crafts, Field Trips,  
Ice Skating, Water Activities,  
Healthy Lifestyle Information  
and Playground Days!

### Pricing Information

10% due at time of registration  
\*\*10% discount if paying balance in  
full\*\*

#### Full Day Pricing

\$1,050 per child  
\$850 per Tribal Member

#### 1/2 Day Pricing

\$525 per child  
\$425 per Tribal Member

**Payment Plans and  
Family Discounts Available**

Pro-rated weeks for approved  
educational programs!

Optional Snack Program  
\$100 full day  
\$50 1/2 day

*Must have birth certificate & immunization  
record when registering for the program!*

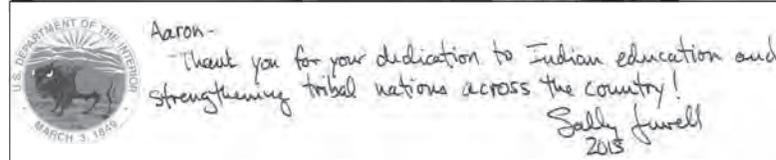
## Registration Deadline is May 15th



For questions or to schedule an appointment  
to register call 906-635-7465 or  
Email: [cjodoin@saulttribe.net](mailto:cjodoin@saulttribe.net)  
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan



# BUILDING A TRIBAL MEMBER DRIVEN UNIFIED FUTURE



**Aaron A. Payment, MPA**  
Tribal Chairperson  
Representing All Members  
Everywhere

## Ahneen, Boozo, Negee:

For the last several months, I have provided updates of how I have been working hard to represent our interests as a tribe at the highest level in the U.S. government by meeting with the President, his cabinet members, and members of Congress. As a fellow voting Sault Tribe member, I ask, "What do **some** board members have to show for themselves? What new initiatives have they introduced? What long awaited reforms have they propelled forward? While some board members are excellent representatives as evidenced by their meetings with the members and advocating policy level improvements, others appear content to gripe, protest vote and stymie any progress we would otherwise make as a tribe. In January, I outlined a series of reforms that I believe the members want and expect to move forward. These are as follows:

### Tribal Legislation:

- Tribal Referendum to include a Tribal Promise to Raise Elder Dividend to 10% of Net Revenue of all Gaming Expansion Projects;
- Negotiate to extend the State Tax Agreement to all Members in Michigan;
- Establish a Mackinac Island Elder Subcommittee;
- Re-Open Enrollment;
- Immediately commit a level of services expansion for the Western End of our Service Area.

### Constitutional Amendments to:

- Establish a Unit 6 "At Large" Election Unit ~ necessary to Consolidate and Enhance;
- Add the Mackinac Band to our Historical Bands;
- Establish a Separation Powers into an Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches;
- Set Term Limits for the Chairperson and Board of Directors

Most of these items are those whereby I intend the Members will get to decide via referendum or Constitutional amendment. It is no longer sufficient to make excuses but time to act. Thus, I have drafted tribal legislation with timetables to initiate some effort that you can measure and decide if your elected officials are — in fact— representing your interests.

## RE-OPEN SAULT TRIBE ROLLS

**WHEREAS**, according to our *Anishinabe Biimaadziwiin*, we recognize our blood relatives as an extension of ourselves; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Board of Directors previously voted to close the rolls temporarily, re-opening the rolls over 10 years ago for a brief period of time and then reclosed the rolls;

**WHEREAS**, it was never intended to permanently close the rolls such that the 10-year roll closure is outside of the bounds of what the Board intended and has created a hardship for those who have brothers, sisters, mothers, father, children, grandparents, uncles, aunts, and other immediate family members, who are enrolled while they wait to enroll;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the *Sault Tribe Board of Directors* hereby refers to the Special Needs and Enrollment Committee the question of re-opening the rolls and directs that they come back to the Board of Directors within 30 days with a recommendation of any legal reason(s) why the rolls should remain closed; .

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that after the expiration of the 30 days and upon report of the Special Need and Enrollment Committee to the Board of Director and Sault Tribe Membership, if there is no legal reason to maintain a roll closure, the rolls shall re-open for those who are otherwise eligible.

## ESTABLISH A UNIT 6 ~ AT LARGE ELECTION UNIT

**WHEREAS**, the creation of a Unit 6 ~ At Large Election Unit necessitates an Constitutional Amendment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Board of Directors has contemplated the creation of a Unit 6 ~ At Large Election Unit — in one form or another — for well over a decade such that it is time to have something to show for this effort;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the *Sault Tribe Board of Directors* hereby directs that the creation of a unit 6 ~ At Large Election Unit Constitutional Amendment shall be prepared for Board consideration by no later than the May 5, 2015, meeting of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors.

## ADD THE MACKINAC BAND AS ONE OF THE SEVEN HISTORICAL BANDS

**WHEREAS**, the addition of the name the Mackinac Band as an historical band to the Sault Tribe Constitution bringing the current "six historical bands" to "seven historical bands" necessitates an Constitutional Amendment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Board of Directors has contemplated the addition of the name the Mackinac Band as an historical band to the Sault Tribe Constitution — in one form or another — for well over a decade such that it is time to have something to show for this effort;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the *Sault Tribe Board of Directors* hereby directs that the creation of an Amendment to add the name of the Mackinac Band to the Sault Tribe Constitution as one of the "seven historical bands" shall be prepared for Board consideration by no later than the June 9, 2015, meeting of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors.

## TRIBAL CITIZENS' EQUAL PROTECTIONS VOTER REGISTRATION REFERENDUM

**WHEREAS**, *Article VIII – the Bill of Rights*, section of the *Constitution and Bylaws of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians* reads:

"All members of the *Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians* shall be accorded equal protections of the law under this constitution. No member shall be denied any of the rights or guarantees enjoyed by citizens under the *Constitution of the United States...*"; and

**WHEREAS**, *Article VII – the Powers of the Board of Directors* section of the *Constitution and Bylaws of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians* reads:

"The board of directors shall exercise the following powers, subject to any limitations imposed by the laws of the United States..."; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Fourteenth Amendment* of the *U.S. Constitution* provides equal protections under the law and prohibits the enactment of separatist laws or dual standard laws that treat subclasses of citizens differently with respect to exercising our rights and liberties as U.S. Citizens such as voting.; and

**WHEREAS**, the *Article V – the Nominations and Elections* section of the *Constitution and Bylaws of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians* reads:

Sec. (1): A four year intervals beginning four years from the year of adoption of this constitution, the board of directors shall cause to be made a census and voter registration of the membership within each unit and shall publish no less than three (3) months in advance of the next general election the results thereof; and

Sec. (5): In any general election called pursuant to this constitution, each eligible voter shall vote within the unit of residence. Voters residing outside of any unit shall register not less than three months prior to any election and vote in the unit of their choice; and

**WHEREAS**, the current *Chapter 10: Election Code* does not comport with the above Sault Tribe Constitutional requirements with respect to voter registration by creating a separate and unequal apartied-like voter registration system and therefore violates the *Fourteenth Amendment* of the *U.S. Constitution*. The current code reads:

### 10.109 Registration of Voters:

- (1) Any Member, eighteen (18) years of age or older on the date of the election as determined in section 10.105 shall be eligible to register to participate as a voter in tribal elections
- (4) Resident Members shall automatically be registered within the election unit in which they maintain residency. Non-resident members shall select the election unit in which they will participate for election purposes...;
- (5) Once a Member has Registered, the Member's registration status is permanent and shall not change...;
- (6) A resident member who loses their resident members status by moving out of an election unit must register...;
- (7) In order to be eligible to participate as a voter in an upcoming election, the Member must be Registered at least ninety (90) days prior to the election.

Only Registered voters shall receive ballots;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the *Sault Tribe Board of Directors* hereby establishes equal protections of voter registration for Tribal Citizens under *U.S. Constitution*, the *Constitution of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians* and all subordinate laws; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Sault Tribe Board of Directors, amends Chapter 10 – Election Code, to read:

### 10.109 Registration of Voters:

- (1) Any Member, eighteen (18) years of age or older on the date of the election as determined in section 10.105 shall be eligible to vote in tribal elections;
- (4) Resident Members shall automatically be registered within the election unit in which they maintain residency. Non-resident members shall be deemed automatically registered to vote in Tribal Chairperson and Referenda

votes and may choose to register to vote in the election unit in which they will participate for Unit election purposes...;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that election code numbering and re-sequencing shall be adjust to accommodate the above changes; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that the aforementioned changes shall be scheduled for a Referenda vote of the Tribal Members within 60 days upon approval of this referendum and shall pose the following question:

**"DO YOU APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE OF SAULT TRIBE CITIZENS' EQUAL PROTECTIONS OF VOTER REGISTRATION?"**

\_\_\_\_\_ APPROVE  
\_\_\_\_\_ DISAPPROVE

## ESTABLISH A THREE BRANCH SEPARATION OF POWERS

**WHEREAS**, the creation of a Three Branch Separation of Powers necessitates an Constitutional Amendment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tribal Board of Directors has contemplated the creation of a Three Branch Separation of Powers - in one form or another - for well over a decade such that it is time to have something to show for this effort;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the *Sault Tribe Board of Directors* hereby directs that the creation of a Three Branch Separation of Powers Constitutional Amendment shall be prepared for Board consideration by no later than the July 7, 2015, meeting of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors.

We have a lot of work to do. The petty bickering and use of board reports to make excuses has gotten old and transparent. A few board members will undoubtedly take issue with this up front approach. Still others do an excellent job representing you. Watch closely to see who makes excuses and who follows though.

Happy Spring! I look forward to outdoor running and the many activities our beautiful summer will bring.

*Chi McGwitch, Negee!*

*Aaron*



Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Burwell and Chairperson Payment who serves on the HHS Secretary Tribal Advisory Council

# Morrow discusses board resolutions and votes



**DARCY MORROW,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

*Amending Tribal Code Chapter 16: Removal from Office Constituency Requirement*

*WHEREAS, the Constitution at Article VI authorizes the removal of elected officials and Tribal Code Chapter 16: Removal from Office was promulgated to govern the initiation and conduct of removal proceedings for that purpose; and*

*WHEREAS, Chapter 16 currently allows any registered voter to sign any removal petition for a member of the Board of Directors without regard to whether the signatory is a registered voter of election unit from which the Director was elected; and*

*WHEREAS, the Board of Directors find this to be inequitable to an election unit's constituency, and to that constituency's Director, because members having little or no contact with the tribal communities within an election unit can seek removal of that election unit's Director with little or no regard for the position of the member's living in or having ties to the election unit; and*

*WHEREAS, the Board of Directors believes it is in the best interest of the Tribe to eliminate this inequity by decreeing that only a Director's constituency may seek their removal; and*

*WHEREAS, the Board of Directors believes it is equitable that all registered voters, regardless of what election unit affiliation, continue to be able to seek*

*removal of the Chairperson.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Tribal Code Chapter 16: Removal from Office is amended as attached so that only registered voters of an election unit may remove that election unit's Director.*

Above is a resolution I have sponsored: *Amending Tribal Code Chapter 16: Removal From Office Constituency Requirement.* I would like the members to know why I worked on amending this part; I want to bring the removal of a board member back to their own unit that voted them in.

To be honest with all members, before I was on the board I wasn't aware that any registered voter from any unit could sign a removal for any board member, no matter what unit the members were voting from. This was one change I wanted to make before the last election, after I found this out, and all I heard was we can't do anything so close to election. I wanted all the members in every unit to know it is up to you to put us in as your representative, but a removal can come from 100 signatures from any unit to start the removal process if they have a legitimate reason to do one. We have had a few removals turned in while I have been on the board and I believe in one removal only two members from that unit actually signed the removal. This is an amendment all board members should support. I have had some weak reasons why some don't support it. I encourage you to call all the board members in every unit and tell them you should be the ones to do a removal on who you voted in, not someone who isn't affiliated with our communities. I will be bringing this resolution to the table, watch who votes for it and who votes against it. Maybe then members will see we need changes this next election to move this tribe forward, not backward or stay the same stagnant way I have watched for over two-and-a-half years.

The second part of my article

is pretty grim after you see the way people voted Aug. 20, 2013, compared to the way they voted April 7, 2015, at the Kincheloe meeting.

Aug. 20, 2013, resolution RE-ADJUST/REDUCE "OVER THE MAX" LIST:

*Resolution No: 2013-188: Adjust/Reduce "Over the Max" List*

*To authorize management to re-adjust/reduce those on the Over the Max listing to the maximum percent allowed, per year, for raises, where no wage refactoring or justification occurred. This action will supersede the Budget Modification Policy and the Key Employee Resolutions, with respect to wage and salaries, pending Legal review.*

The "yes" votes for the above resolution were Keith Massaway, Catherine Hollowell, Joanie Carr-Anderson, DJ Malloy, Denise Chase, Bridgett Sorenson, Denny McKelvie and myself. The "no" votes came from Lana Causley, Cathy Abramson and Deb Pine. Jennifer McLeod was absent from this meeting.

This resolution gave the authority to a primary group of individuals who were tasked by the chairman to go through a list of employees who were over the max. They were to go through each individual's file to see if they were given the same raises as everyone else. Example: some years the board would vote for team members' raises. Some received a 1 percent, 2 percent, up to a 3 percent raise, but some people were given 10 percent raises with no justification. This is not fair from any way you look at it. And when they went through these files, this resolution authorized them to re-adjust/reduce those on the over the max list. I would also like to clarify one thing — throughout this whole over the max issue, I have voiced my concern for the lower paid staff. That night of the meeting, I motioned to hold harmless anyone making \$50,000

and below because I know a lot of single mothers out there trying to raise two to three children and money doesn't go as far as it used to, but, unfortunately, it failed. But the motion did pass eight for it three against.

The team was finally able to present us with their findings and there were people who received higher raises when the board had even put a cap on what team members should receive. The amount of savings annually would have been approximately \$439,963. Since this didn't take effect Jan. 1, 2015, if implemented, this year's savings would have been \$304,589.82. Director Chase also questioned an almost three-year-old wage study. And, as we were talking about working on an updated study, one board member went to John Wernet and had him work on a resolution, Rescinding Resolution 2013-188. See resolution below, sponsored by directors Hoffman, Gravelle, McLeod, Abramson and Causley.

*Resolution No. 2015-72*

*Rescinding Resolution 2013-188 and Establishing a Wage Freeze for Team Members Whose Wages Exceed the Range Established for Their Pay Grade*

*WHEREAS, on August 20, 2013, the Board of Directors adopted Resolution 2013-188; and*

*WHEREAS, the Board has now concluded that a more prudent approach to this issue would be to impose a freeze on the wages of any team member whose current wages exceed the maximum wage for their position, as determined by the market based compensation system adopted by the Tribe, to remain in effect until the team member's wage falls within the range established for their pay grade.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Resolution 2013-188, is hereby rescinded in its entirety.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a freeze is hereby imposed on the wages of any team member whose wages exceed the max-*

*imum wage for their position, as determined by the market based compensation system adopted by the Tribe, to remain in effect until the team member's wage falls within the range established for their pay grade.*

*(April 7, 2015)*

The votes on "yes" to rescind were Lana Causley, Cathy Abramson, DJ Hoffman, Keith Massaway, Kim Gravelle, Jennifer McLeod and Bridgett Sorenson. The "no" votes were Denny McKelvie, Denise Chase, Rita Glyptis and myself. Catherine Hollowell wasn't present at this meeting.

As you will see, some board members have actually changed their vote all together. Makes you wonder why, doesn't it? During our discussion the other day, Lana Causley stated a team member's name from an over the max list she was looking at. We asked for her to email it to us or Joanne Carr, the board secretary, so we could see this. Lana stated, "it wouldn't go through." The list given out before only showed how grossly overpaid some people are, but never names. This resolution was written to protect family and friends because obviously some board members had the list with names. As I said last month, more to come next issue.

As a member of this community my whole life and then having worked for the tribe for almost 20 years, I have come to meet some of the greatest tribal members throughout, with many stories and many good belly laughs. It seems we should have been listening back then a little more. Think back to one of those stories, I bet there was a lesson in it.

I would like take a moment of silence for another angel who is no longer with us in Unit IV, and that is Helen Denkins. Her smile will sure be missed this year at the powwow.

Thank you,  
Darcy Morrow  
(906) 298-1888  
dmorrow@saulttribe.net

# Economic development position to be posted



**DJ HOFFMAN  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

The tribe has many obstacles facing it in the near future and we need to make sure that we address our deficiencies and ignore our personal disagreements to move our tribe forward.

## CASINOS

We are at a crossroads with our casinos. I have been clear from the very beginning that we need to post the chief executive officer position for our casinos and bring in a competent leader who develops a detailed written

plan and roadmap for current and future operations.

Currently, we have a temporary CEO, selected to aid the tribe in its transition from the former COO and help to facilitate the selection of a permanent chief executive officer. Our policies dictate that temporary positions shall not be for more than six months. We are closing in upon that time frame.

In addition to the position, it is no secret that the casinos are currently headed in a direction; unfortunately, that direction is not UP. We need to address this immediately. I would provide more detail as to our casinos' financial performance; however, we have not received any financials in nearly a month.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

"Most of the Fortune 500's top 20 companies now do business in Indian Country, including Walmart, Exxon, GM, Ford, Verizon, AT&T, Home Depot, Target and

Bank of America."

The above quote, derived from *Business Weekly*, illustrates the economic potential that lies out there for tribes. These potential opportunities have been overlooked, unfortunately, by our tribe. However, we have finally taken a step towards economic development and diversification by funding an economic development director position that will be posted in the near future. I am extremely pleased we have finally taken positive steps to do something to move forward, instead of the talking about what could be done.

Part of the position summary is that: "The economic development director performs advanced professional work leading and promoting the business and economic development interest for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. This will include supervision of all enterprises with the exception of the casino operations. This position

will be responsible to develop strategies to enhance, create and build the tribe's economic development and revenue diversification activities, including the complex analysis of data related to planning, financing, tax incentive packaging, marketing and business assistance programming. This position would be responsible to develop long and short term economic and community development goals."

It is my hope that the economic development director will be able to move our businesses in a more profitable manner, as well as lead the charge toward new business development and diversification.

I am also hopeful that our Corporate Charter, approved by the BIA, will one day be utilized. This would afford our tribe with the opportunity to develop, and maintain businesses free from the meddling of politics, thus ensuring that they have a chance to be successful and provide revenues

to tribal services.

A tribe may incorporate under Section 17 of the IRA, 25 U.S.C. § 477, by which the Secretary of Interior issues the tribe a federal charter.

Through Section 17 incorporation, the tribe creates a separate legal entity to divide its governmental and business activities. The Section 17 Corporation has articles of incorporation and bylaws that identify its purpose, much like a state-chartered corporation. However, a federal charter assures the corporation the same benefits as the tribe, including enjoying the tax exemptions and sovereign immunity. The Sault Tribe has an approved corporate charter.

The most successful tribes in America run their businesses through their corporate charters. Examples include Seminoles Inc., Ho Chunk Inc., and hopefully one day Sault Tribe will share in this success.

*See "Hoffman," Page 27*

# Unit II youth councils meet with tribal elders



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

It's official. Spring has arrived! Time to break out the flip flops (even though we know one more snow fall may visit us before April passes by).

I would like to start by giving recognition to staff and community members who keep our communities strong and grounded in traditional teachings and support — too many to mention by name as I don't want to overlook anyone, but you know who you are and we are so grateful for your dedication to our people.

Most recently, as part of the Preserving Our Past Legacy Project being created by our grand tribal youth council, the Nbiish-be-Mwi-jwaang (Hessel youth council) and the Rudyard tribal youth council gathered on Thursday evening with a group of caring elders in Hessel to share a dinner and stories of their personal histories.

The Women's Health Fair in Newberry was held last week with a great turn out. This event, like others, gives us an opportunity to come together and share information and impart some of the cultural and traditional teachings that help us lead healthy lives. Plus, it's just a great way to come together and socialize.

The third annual Hessel Women's Health Fair is on May 21 at the Hessel Tribal Center 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Lunch provided. This is for young ladies, mothers, grandmothers, sisters, aunts and grandmothers. Last year was a blast as we rocked out to aerobic Native hip hop!! Limited room so please call to RSVP: (906) 484-2298 or 484-2727.

And not to forget our community men: Newberry is having a Men's Health Fair on June 19. Please consider attending. It is a good opportunity for resource

## JKL School needs new gymnasium

*From "Hoffman" page 26*

**JKL BAHWETING SCHOOL**

I placed this in my previous report, and I am restating it so that we can move this project forward: The JKL Bahweting School is an excellent school in need of expansion.

Currently, the school has over 490 students K-8. With this many students it is shocking to find the current capacity of the school's sole gymnasium is 51. This disparity is startling.

Imagine the Sault community and its frigid temperatures in the winter, or rainy days in the spring. Now imagine how 490-plus students spend recess, athletic practices, Christmas concerts,

information and fellowship. RSVP at (906) 293-8181.

Along those same lines, an interest has been expressed in starting a tribal veterans support group. If you are a veteran and desire meeting regularly with other fellow veterans, please feel free to give me a call or email. If there is enough interest we can start to move forward on securing a meeting place and time.

### Education

Applications are now available for the 2015-2016 Higher Education scholarships. They must be submitted and received no later than June 1. These are competitive scholarships that require an essay (choice of three topics). All tribal members are eligible to apply regardless of where they reside. Grandparents, please get the word out to your grandchildren. Visit our tribal website for application information and further information on the three essay topics, [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) or [BMacArthur@saulttribe.net](mailto:BMacArthur@saulttribe.net).

There is also the Higher Education Grant Program. Application is from April 1 to July 1. This is for Sault Tribe members attending a Michigan state-supported two or four-year college or university full-time (12 credit hours or more). Students must be an undergrad and have a completed FAFSA on file with their college. Grants are based on unmet financial need as determined by the individual college in which the student is enrolled. Visit our website for further information.

In order for students to take full advantage of these opportunities, including the Self Sufficiency Incentive Award Program and the Pay It Forward: Career Mentoring Program students should apply for these programs starting NOW!

### National Tribal Operations Committee with EPA

I would like to share something about the work involved in my appointment to the National Tribal Operations Committee with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As you know, tribal governments have a trust relationship with the federal government. Defining that relationship has been a long and sad story since the treaty era. The federal government may have originally thought signing over our territories was the end of it all. But that was never the

awards ceremonies, etc.

Currently, the children are bussed back and forth to Big Bear for gym classes and athletics. It rents space at outside venues for its concerts and events.

In this case, the demand for space for these children is high, and the supply is inadequate. The school needs a new, larger gymnasium to accommodate the children.

This is not merely the opinion of elected officials; it has been discussed and debated continually with members of the tribal board and school board as well as direct input from parents and staff.

The window of opportunity for completing a new gym by next



**Nbiish-be-Mwi-jwaang (Hessel youth council) and the Rudyard tribal youth council (back row) at the Hessel Tribal Community Center with elders (front row from left) Great Wolf, Phil Andrews, Tony Grondin, Leona Litzner, Calvin Burnside and John Causley.**

deal and although Indians across the country have suffered greatly from these forced land concessions, our grandparents under duress fought to hold the federal government accountable to their end of the bargain.

There have been a few hard won victories such as the Michigan Indian Lands Claim Settlement (a 60-year battle, arriving too little and too late for those who originally fought so hard to hold the federal government accountable). And the Judge Fox decision was another high water mark for recognition of our reserved rights within the ceded territories. Federal Indian policy has been at the whim of presidential policy and congressional lawmakers. But, for the moment, policy makers have acknowledged they do indeed have a continued trust responsibility to Indian people. Not only the Department of Interior and the BIA and IHS but ALL federal agencies.

When it comes to regulatory frameworks (and delegation of authorities to the states) we bump into difficulties in Indian country because that trust responsibility was not taken into account.

The National Tribal Operations Committee works in collaboration with tribal governments at the regional level to make sure our voices are heard

fall is closing. Please contact your board members and give it the support it so desperately needs.

I will continue to push forward with members of the board who wish to be progressive.

I will also continue to work with members of the board to ensure we become innovative in our approach to economic diversification, membership services and stepping out of the non-progressive box we appear to be confined to.

Sincerely,  
DJ Hoffman  
Cell: (906) 203-0510  
Email: [djhoffman@saulttribe.net](mailto:djhoffman@saulttribe.net) or [djwhoffman@hotmail.com](mailto:djwhoffman@hotmail.com).

when it comes to rule making, compliance, enforcement as well as capacity development, funding and guidance documents that impact our tribal lands. And not just land held in trust by tribal nations but also in protecting our treaty protected activities and rights on ceded territories.

There are some emerging developments, memorandums and court decisions that have favorable implications for our tribe, especially as it relates to the Great Lakes and our Great Lakes fisheries.

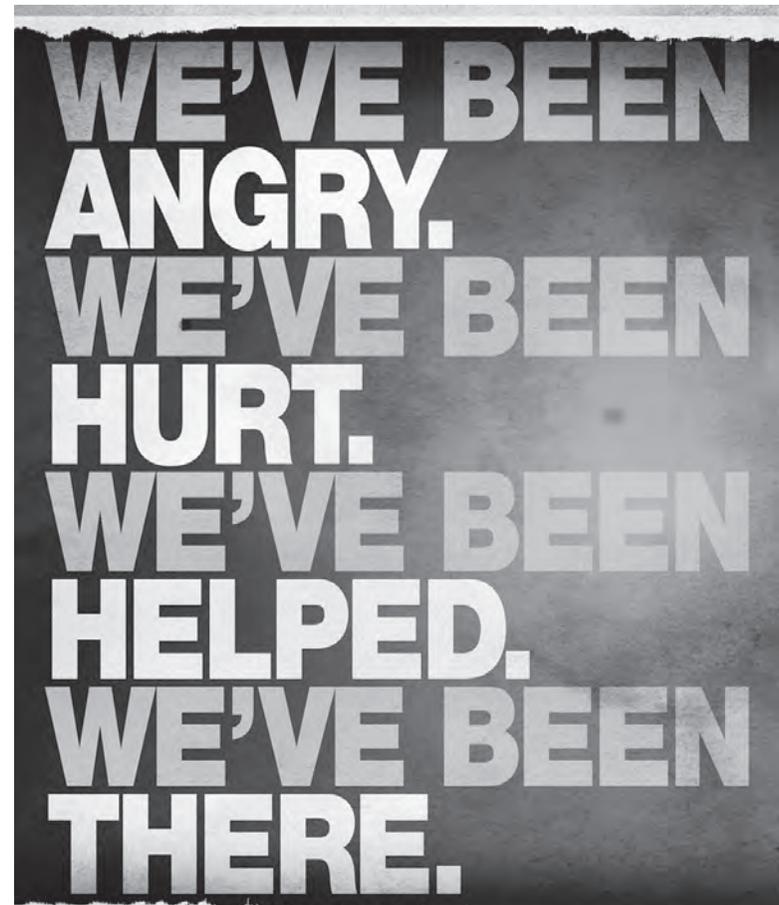
Many of these efforts began as dialog and pressure originating from the Tribal Operations Committee level. For instance a recent EPA decision favorable to the Penobscott tribe that the state of Maine's water quality

standards under the Clean Water Act failed to take into account the need for higher standards to protect Penobscott subsistent fishing and way of life. That story is not complete yet as it moves through the court system but "pushing the envelope" at the Tribal Operation Committee level played an instrumental role.

There is so much work to be done to protect our homeland. I just returned from annual regional conference. There is much information to digest and I hope to report more in my next unit report.

Until then, enjoy this time of rebirth. Hope everyone young and old can get out and enjoy the fine spring weather.

We are all stewards of the Creator's blessings.



text **WeCanHelpUs** to 30364 or go to [reachout.com](http://reachout.com)

# Important information on employee health plan



**DENISE CHASE,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

I want to make sure all employees are aware of the following changes to your health insurance plan, which became effective Jan. 1, 2015. I have noticed in talking to employees that some are not even aware that now they are required to call in for precertification for MRIs, CT scans, home health care, occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy and inpatient hospital services (excludes emergency and maternity). So please take the time to read this important list of changes and if you have any questions call the tribe's insurance department at (906) 635-6050 or the NGS telephone number on the back of your card. Important information regarding the employee health plan.

The changes listed below became effective Jan. 1, 2015:

- In network deductible — \$250 for single coverage and \$500 for two-person and family coverage.
- Out of network deductible — \$500 for single coverage and \$1,000 for two-person and family coverage.
- \$20 co-pay for office visits after deductible.
- The tribe pays 80 percent of services received in-network after deductible.\*
- The tribe pays 50 percent of services received out-of-network after deductible.\*
- Prescription coverage \$15 co-pay for generic, \$30 co-pay for brand formulary, \$60 for brand non-formulary and 20 percent up to \$100 maximum for prescription specialty medications.\*\*
- Eyeglasses covered for up to \$250. No coverage for high definition lenses.
- Twenty-six chiropractic visits per year. Precertification required for MRI, CT scan, home health care, occupational therapy, speech therapy, physical therapy and inpatient hospital services (excludes emergency and maternity).
- Ten percent premium increase.

\* "In-network" refers to services received by a participating provider who accepts the plan's payment, in full less any deductibles, co-pays or co-insurance; "out-of-network" refers to services offered by a provider who is not willing to accept the plan's payment in full. The participant will pay a higher cost for using an out-of-network provider.

\*\* Prescriptions do not apply toward deductible and out-of-pocket maximum.

Services required under Affordable Care Act will be cov-

ered 100 percent.

Once the deductible and out-of-pocket maximum are met, the plan will pay the services in full. This does not include prescription coverage.

### Spring 2 percent allocation

At this time there, is no new update on the spring 2 percent dollar amount available to distribute or which projects will receive funding. Two percent funding applications were still being accepted through March 31. Myself and Director Morrow have not yet received the requests of applications to review prior to this unit report deadline. I will update you in the next report.

### Manistique clinic update

Rural Health Clinic Director Marlene Glaesmann announced a tentative start date the week of April 20 to 24, 2015, for a temporary physician, Dr. Barbara Saul. Dr. Saul will assist with patient care until the vacant physician position is filled.

Congratulations to Shelli Gould and Sue Snyder, Elder Division team members of the month. They volunteered to prepare Indian tacos, chili and frybread for a fundraiser for the Manistique powwow on March 24.

### Manistique parenting awareness activity

I was able to attend the March 28 parenting awareness activity at the Manistique Tribal Center. The activity was held to promote awareness, education and provide resources about parenting and families. The activity also promoted the importance of effective parenting in nurturing your children.

It was a well-attended, fun event. Children got to play games and do crafts, have a turn at winning a cake, get their face painted, participate in finger print identification and enter a coloring contest.

Parents and children were also entered into door prize drawings. I was told ACFS is putting pictures, a write-up and thank you in the tribal paper, so I won't mention the individuals' names so I don't miss anyone.

I would like to say a big "miigwech" to all the volunteers and organizers who put on this community event for the children and parents.

### Cemetery clean-up May 9

The Escanaba elders have planned a clean-up of the Indian Pointe Cemetery in Nahma Township on May 9 at 10 a.m. In case of rain or bad weather, they picked May 16 as an alternative date. If you can come help, bring your rake, gloves and bug spray. Gathering of the Clans Powwow

On behalf of the Gathering of the Clans Powwow Committee, I would like to invite you to the June 13 and 14, 2015, powwow in Manistique. The powwow is behind the Manistique Tribal Center; free entrance, rough camping is available. On Saturday, grand entry is at 12 p.m. and 7 p.m. Feast meal is on Saturday at 5 p.m., with the auction right after the feast meal. If you would like to donate any items for the auction, please drop them off to Viola Neadow at the ACFS window at the Manistique Tribal Center. Please put your name on the item you donate so we can add you to the "Friends of the Powwow" list. Thank you in advance for your donations and I look forward to seeing you there. Also, I wanted to mention we haven't heard back from a couple of people who wanted to purchase Gathering of the Clans Powwow T-shirts. If you're still interested, call myself or Viola at (906) 341-6993.

Over the max list  
Back in August 2013, the board of directors approved Resolution

No. 2013-188 to readjust/reduce the "Over the Max" list. What this resolution did was authorize management to readjust/reduce those employees on the over the max list where no wage refactoring or justification occurred. It was put in the hands of the management team for its review and to compile reports. A couple of weeks ago, the management team brought forward its final recommendations and informed us on what they were going to implement. I had asked at the workshop if they could do an updated wage compensation study, because the one they were using was three years old, which may affect the list. But we didn't get

time to even receive that information because a resolution was prepared to rescind Resolution 2013-188 for the next meeting and establish a wage freeze for the individuals on the over the max list. Back in 2013, some board members tried to exclude those individuals on the list who were at \$50,000 and under; that didn't pass. So, moving forward, now the issue is laid to rest and it was reported to us the savings would have been about \$439,000 a year.

Thank you,  
Denise Chase, Vice  
Chairperson,  
(906) 203-2471  
dchase@saulttribe.net




**Spring Women's  
Health Enrichment Gathering**  
**Wednesday April 29, 2015 4-7pm**  
**Manistique Tribal Community Center**

Native American communities recognize the important role that women play as providers caring for the basic needs of our children and families.  
Healthy women create healthy communities.

JOIN US for an opportunity to share and learn about some of the more Traditional Anishinabe ways of life. This gathering will be a casual experience for women interested in learning about incorporating more Native culture into their every day lives.

Sacred and Current Uses of Tobacco  
Jaime Paradise and Patty Teeples

The Sacredness of Water, It's Feminine Spirit and the Water Ceremony  
Mary Beth LaVeque

Anishinabe Language - A Simple Lesson with Song  
Alice Carley

How to Locate, Purchase and Use Local and Traditional Foods  
Gail Sulander

Tribal Services Information Table  
Kellie Lakosky

**A Potluck Feast will follow activities  
Beverages will be provided**

**Call Gail or Jaime at 341-8469 to sign up  
We welcome all women in the community to join us**



**Congratulations to JKL School Students of the Month for March 2015! Back row, left to right, Elena Masters, Madyson Clark, Mackenzie Aikens, Miriam Clark, Riley Beaudoin, Gavin Harries, Trey Forgrave. Middle row, left to right, Aiden Harries, Kiera Brown, Dewey Frye, Calvin Aldrich, Emma Kitzmiller, Sierra Snider. Front row, left to right, Tiffany Quinn, Lily Powell, Trevor Christensen, Parker Rath and Annabelle Peake. Missing from photo: Ava Shreve, Joslyn Krull and Ashten Jewell.**

# Dealing with nonsense while trying to do job



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

I would like to apologize to the parents who have children attending the JKL School. It is unfortunate that someone would make public statements saying the school would be closing if the board did not renew the lease. This was so far-fetched. There were going to be changes to the lease. Why would the board close the school when we have purchased property to expand the school in the future?

The chairman sent out an email on March 19 claiming he was resigning from the JKL Fiduciary Committee because meetings were being scheduled that didn't fit his schedule. The tribe doesn't stop for one person.

The next bit of hype was that there have never been any appointments to the committee besides Director Abramson. Since I have been on the board it has always been Unit I board members only who served on the JKL. There were no appointments following the last two elections; it was just automatic that the Unit I board members were on the committee. It was said that Director McLeod was not even appointed as the chair of the committee. I remember Aaron suggesting Jen become the chair of the JKL because of her background in education when we got elected, but that is when he liked her.

At the April 7 meeting, there was a resolution titled *Membership on the JKL Fiduciary Committee*. This stated that the chairperson and all Unit I board members would serve on the committee unless they declined in writing. It also stated that all other unit directors could serve as long as they requested an appointment in writing. Director Abramson requested to strike the other units from serving on the committee. This resolution passed with the amendment restricting only Unit I representatives. I voted "no" for two reasons. First, I am not going to appoint the chairman who resigns because meetings do not revolve around his schedule and, second, if the board is ultimately responsible for the funds, then all units should be eligible. We also voted on whether to accept the chairman's resignation from JKL. Myself and two other directors voted "yes" so it failed.

The Cultural Committee sponsored a resolution to rename the committee and amend its bylaws. The committee will now be named the Anishinabe Bimaadiziiwin Waawiyeyaa Circle. The group has been working very hard for the past year or so to create their mission, vision statement and guiding principles, which focus on the seven grandfather teachings. The chairman was appointed to this committee when it was first organized and resigned because he didn't like the direction it was going and he bashed this committee since that time. Lo and behold he wanted to be appointed again since this resolution was on for a vote. I was the only one who voted 'no.' I cannot for the life of me understand why you would appoint someone to a committee focused on the seven grandfathers when the person does not live by them. Just two examples are truth and respect. There was just recent lies spread about JKL closing and there

hasn't been any respect for the women on the board, elders in our communities nor our team members. I sit and wonder if I am the crazy one since I was the only one to vote 'no.'

Another contentious resolution that was voted on was the one to rescind resolution 2013-188 and establish a wage freeze for team members whose wages exceed the range established for their pay grade. This has been a political football since the 2012 election (over the max). We were told there was a list of team members who were being over paid to the tune of over a million dollars. Some of these team members have been there for 10, 20, 30 years. The list has also changed since 2012 and the potential savings currently would be about \$400,000. The board voted in 2013 to have administration check into those team member's employment files who were considered being paid over the max. They were to look for wage adjustments that were not documented and raises that did not meet the tribe's raise percentages of that year and report back to the board with the findings.

It has been about one-and-a-half years since voting on that resolution and that action was going to be taken. I have a few issues with it because the wage study was done a few years ago and these people may no longer be over the maximum for the position, the list has changed and may have been manipulated, and I do not believe there would be so many people that received improper wage increases, which I believe was around 100. I realize we have not been able to give raises to our team members in far too long but pitting these groups of team members against each other is not the answer. It was said that the savings from cutting the "over the max" team members could be used for pay compression and raises. The

resolution passed to rescind 2013-188 because the chairman was going to reduce the team members' wages in May. There are people out there thinking board members were protecting their family by voting to stop the wages from being cut. None of my family members were on the list and do not hold "big" positions in the tribe.

The board had asked the executive director to develop an economic development position so that was voted on at the April 7 meeting also. I had a hard time deciding how to vote because the position will cost the tribe over a \$120,000 with wages, fringe, etc. We continue to make the government side larger when casino revenues are decreasing but we do need to diversify and look at other business opportunities so in the end I voted for it. I hope we get a highly qualified individual with a business background.

At the March 24 meeting there were many resolutions about feasibility studies to build Midjims in other units and to re-locate the St. Ignace Midjim. The staff member who worked on funding for the study drove to Manistique to present and was not even given the time to present. The study for the St. Ignace Midjim was going to be covered by the MEDC. I agree with researching the possibilities for other stores in other units, but why would you not support feasibility in St. Ignace since it already exists and needs over \$600,000 in work currently and it costs the tribe nothing?

At one of our meetings last month, Director Causley asked that the board vote to include board concerns on board meeting agendas. There was not enough support for this. Since I have been on the board we have always had board concerns and many times the meetings remained open so if things needed to be taken care of the

board could vote on it. Lately, the meetings are adjourned before we can discuss them and the chair even moved them to Wednesdays following our meetings, when we were meeting on Wednesdays. I actually had requested that the tribe donate or give a reduced rate to the St. Ignace Schools for taking a group of students to Detroit to catch a plane to Europe. The board voted to adjourn the meeting before I got to even bring my issue forward. Luckily there was consensus to support this. As a board member it is our job to bring our concerns and the concerns of our people forward. We should be able to ask them while membership is present so they can hear the questions and answers.

The chairman has also been directing staff to not show up for certain meetings because he doesn't agree with the meeting. He has directed staff to not write resolutions when the board has asked staff to write them. As you can see, these are more games with his authority. He doesn't have to agree with the board but he does have to comply with board decisions.

We currently have seven vacancies on the election committee. If you are interested, please contact Joanne Carr or Tara McKelvie at 635-6050 for more information.

I would like to thank Shirley Goudreau, her family and the many volunteers and agencies that made the Family Fun Day another great success.

It is that time of year again when students will be preparing for graduation. I will be distributing my yearly \$1,000 scholarship to a student in Unit III. Please email me for an application at bsorenson@saulttribe.net. The deadline to apply is May 15.

Any issues or concerns, please contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

## Massaway attends National Indian Gaming Conference as a delegate for the Sault Tribe



**KEITH MASSAWAY,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

I had the honor of representing the tribe as a delegate to the National Indian Gaming Association at the annual National Indian Gaming Conference last month. At this

conference, we work on national regulatory policies and gaming regulations that are in effect and those that are proposed to go into effect in the near future. We have guest speakers and notable leaders who give insights into how gaming is progressing and changing in Indian Country.

A keynote speaker this year was the Assistant Secretary of the Interior Mr. Kevin Washburn. He is a very strong advocate of Indian Country and helps us in so many ways with the red tape we run into nearly every single time we work with the federal government. He gave a very poignant speech that touched on everything from Native child adoption to land into trust and how he is working with the tribes to better streamline and clarify all processes for the tribes' benefit. He mentioned the visit the pres-

ident of the United States made to a reservation and how he was moved by the hardships and lack of infrastructure available to the indigenous people there. He stated the president was especially moved by the young adults and children as they told their stories of living on the reservations. The president then made an edict that he gave to all his cabinet members that they all must visit a tribal reservation in the next year. For the tribes to get that message and respect, meant a lot to all the leaders who were there.

I attended a lot of breakout sessions that included titles like working in today's casinos and customer service. A truly inspiring session was the fantasy sports betting conversation. We have all heard of Draft Kings and similar sites on the Internet.

We are currently exploring opportunities this might present to our casinos, to expand our offerings of fun new games for a totally new crowd of customers. There was also a trade floor where all the vendors are from every facet of the gaming industry. New slot machines and table games are prevalent, but over half the booths deal with new technology in customer service, food items, construction, fixtures and infrastructure for casinos. There are also many vendors who have groundbreaking ideas in every category, some of which are not applicable to our customers, but some are, bringing back those to the tribe and letting the management vet the pros and cons of the ideas is another reason we go.

This month, I will be attending the Tribal Technical

Advisory Committee to the Secretary of Health and Human Services on behalf of all the tribes of the Midwest. This is a federally appointed position and all costs are paid for by the federal government. We basically work with consultation from the tribal perspective on addictions, suicide and mental health — three things that are huge problems in our Native society. The federal government works with us to better apply the standards of care and new ways to facilitate better budgeting to be more effective and help more people.

I want to thank everyone for the cards and e-mails.

Keith Massaway  
702 Hazelton St.,  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
Kmassaway@msn.com  
(906) 643-6981

# DeTour clinic closing due to canceled lease



**LANA CAUSLEY,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

I received many calls last month about not having a unit report (glad people noticed, especially Captain Bloch; the email was a blessing), but I can say the content of my last report struck a few nerves, and did have an impact on my comments. There really can't be anything worse than advocating for communities in great need of solutions and access to services, just to be faced with politics or games due to my support or non-support on items. It is frustrating but solutions to each fire can be addressed as I am faced with them.

My first update is the Tribal Action Plan (TAP). We held our monthly meeting in March and the attendance was much better — we had almost all of our departments included (board members, directors Sorenson, Chase and myself) with most of the information analyzed. As stated in the past, we held community forums, focus groups (477 individuals included) and mailed a survey to about 6,700 tribal homes. Through the data collected and the outcome of the public forums, we identified that the best practice for this process was the face-to-face input. Only 588 of the 6,700 mailed surveys were returned. In total, 1,065 tribal members and employees participated in this process. During this collection of data and information for a plan we asked what substances people are addicted to, the ways in which people are affected and input and ideas for solving the identified problems.

Once all this information and input is reviewed and discussed by the group of professionals, board members and tribal departments, we are to begin creating a TRIBAL ACTION PLAN based on their information. We will be holding our regular group meeting this month to comment on the results and a technical assistance

representative from Fox Valley will be assisting us once again. Although I'm disappointed in the lack of responses by mail and the time it had taken to get to this point, I'm confident that we may have enough information (we have to make it work) to at least identify the gaps and begin making a plan. All of you know that this has been my priority and continuing to speak about it, educate and constantly keep this on the forefront will prevail for better services and outcomes for our families.

We had some frustrating, unexpected news this past month for our clinic in DeTour. We had seen that the DeTour Clinic would be closing at the end of this month. Once this was confirmed, I inquired to our health director about the situation and it was confirmed that the leaseholder was canceling the lease. We had no role in this nor had we been told. We did speak to War Memorial Hospital and together we will seek out alternatives for members to pick up prescriptions and get labs drawn. We will have to identify another location and this will be a priority with both Director Hollowell and myself. The services on Drummond Island (took some time to secure but it happened) will remain the same and we are informed there will be no change in service at that location.

The need for transportation for services is truly the biggest challenge we have for our members, we have discussed this at our adhoc meetings and both Director Hollowell and I are at the meetings each and every month with the health staff to try and coordinate, identify and determine how we can better service members. A few outcomes of these meetings have been the expanded service on Drummond Island and DeTour, increased clinics and activities in Hessel and Newberry, and the health director meeting with all hospitals in the seven-county service area to negotiate after hours and weekend care. One item that I can speak about now is the possibility of a once-a-month clinic being offered in the Naubinway area. We had been informed this may be a possibility and I'm hoping all the negotiating gets worked out soon to see that result once a location is secured. I will say it's sometimes frustrating for the wait periods, securing any funding available, getting through the politics of any suggestion, and, as Unit II is so geographical-

ly large, the needs are very great and the results become challenging in every step.

Our temporary casino executive made some very crucial changes in our operations and ways of reducing costs (no mass layoffs) and seeing better revenue for our bottom line. I had the opportunity to sit in on a full staff meeting he held with our casino workers in the Hessel area. The message was positive, factual and straightforward about the need for change and the results if we can get there together. I spoke to many team members after that meeting and had a response that sure was needed. Our staff in all casinos work very hard and take so many hits being in the front line, that encouragement, better business practices as well as communication seems to energize our staff — they all want success in their casinos where they are employed and that was evident to see.

I have constantly spoken about pride for our tribe and our businesses so being part of this change is exciting. We empower people, we will see them step up and take charge. I have many members ask me how things are going with the new direction and plans and, simply put, if the board takes critical, educated recommendations and lets the experts do the job, we will see results for better business, so far so good and I'm staying out of the micromanaging, letting the changes work and expecting positive outcomes (challenges and hiccups will come as well). I'm at the table each week to listen and offer feedback but in no way do I want to hinder results for our casino operations to improve. It's been a little over three months since our new direction and our numbers have already shown an improvement, so that is simply the best direction we can go.

One item I have spoken about in the past is diversity for profit. Director Hoffman initiated and brought forward a resolution to once again expand this opportunity. During the last few months the board discussed and was in the process of creating a job description for a qualified, educated economic development director. In the past, we had a committee as well as a director, but it's been more than a decade since a position or attention has been given to this. Our businesses that we have are all under utilized and sometimes clear constant direction is lacking. This past meeting, the

board of directors committed to making that a priority once again and we will be advertising and posting for a director position. There are truly high expectations from me on moving forward with this step and I wanted to place it in my unit report so that members can pass the word that we are seeking a qualified, educated expert to assist our other businesses in the tribe. I was hesitant for a very long time due to the fear of our past hiring practices and experiences but once again I'm expecting that we will take steps for due diligence and the hiring of a qualified person that can and must make expert changes for our "other" revenue generating operations we own and to also seek out funding, create diversity, accountability and better practices for growth in those operations. Again, I supported this as a step in moving forward and will expect outcomes that benefit our businesses.

One last item I am so excited to report, for the last two-and-a-half years, interested tribal members and a few board members (myself, directors Massaway and McLeod) have committed and been working on creating new bylaws (guiding principles) for a committee known as our tribe's "Cultural Committee." We have finally been approved by the full board of directors with a new name and new guiding principles! After meeting in all areas, gathering interested tribal members to the committee and working toward steps to move forward, it's finalized and completed. We actually had to present to the board a couple different times to get approved for this endeavor, but it's once again an active committee. Our new name for this committee is "Anishinaabe Bimaadiziwin Waawiyeyaa Circle," our mission for this committee is "to strengthen, preserve, protect and promote the rich ancestral life ways of Anishinaabe." Our guiding principles are based on the Seven Grandfathers and all tribal members and communities are encouraged and invited to come to all meetings. When we first began the process of recreating this committee we discussed meeting once per month on a specific date and traveling to areas to be inclusive of all our communities that we could host at. Throughout this we gathered a committee and went through all

the painstaking tasks to move forward in a good way. At this point, we have an almost full committee but are still in need of three male participants (I have written about this before and our vacancies are posted in the paper). I encourage any interested members to call Joanne Carr, (906) 635-6050, and place your request to be part of the committee.

Moving forward, our goal is to meet in all areas to offer teaching, circles, feasts and discussions with members on what they would like to see and expectations from our tribe on the needs to uphold traditions, values and encouragement of our way of life. Our Cultural Department has been involved and attends the meetings as well, when available. You can also always contact any of our staff in the Cultural Department as well as Traditional Medicine for your needs and input. They are committed and assist many with what's needed for our people and I'm very thankful for them. Please look for notices and communications on our meeting dates on the tribe's website and in the paper and always feel free to participate. Keeping our traditions is a tribe's work so I'm very happy that this has finally been promoted once again.

In closing, it has been a very tough month for many families in our communities. In my life, I meet many people who impact my path and mean so much to me either from a personal or professional level. During the last three weeks, I attended four services to pay my respects to tribal members who have had an effect on me one way or another. Each and every time I thought of how quickly life can change; it's always so hard to say "Baamaapii" to someone you love, no matter what your beliefs are for the other side, so the simple act it takes to show people that you are there for them and care can mean so much. Please say special prayers for the people who are grieving for loved ones because the loss I've seen this past month was difficult for many tribal families.

Please contact me for any discussions or to meet with me.

Baamaapii,  
Lana Causley  
(906) 484-2954  
(906) 322-3818  
lcausley@saulttribe.net

# Gravelle participating in building re-entry program



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello, I would like to thank the board members who have been going to Washington, D.C., to help gain support for funding of some of the programs we offer the tribal membership such as the Special Diabetes Program, CDC grants and full payment of contract support costs.

I have also been accepted to participate in an intergovernmental reentry program. The program will work on guidelines, principles and tools to assist in the development of reentry strategies for tribal

members returning to their communities after a period of secure confinement in federal, state or tribal facilities.

It will help us understand the risks and needs of tribal reentrants as they return to the community and identify critical services and interventions needed to reduce recidivism. We will be working on relationships between tribes and their federal and state partners in the implementation of reentry strategies that respond to specific community needs. I will be attending a workshop the end of May and

will keep you updated as this program progresses.

We are finally on the path to diversifying our economic growth.

The board of directors passed a resolution for the establishment of an economic development director. The director will have oversight over all of our businesses and be able to work on making sure our businesses are profitable and will also look at investing in other lucrative business enterprises.

If you have any questions or comments you can contact me at

(906) 203-6083 or at  
kgravelle@saulttribe.net.

Thank You,  
Kim Gravelle

## PHONE NUMBERS —

For general information or to be transferred to a tribal department, call (906) 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660.

To change your address, call the tribe's Enrollment Department at 635-3396 or (800) 251-6597.

To advertise in the tribe's newspaper or for news tips, call 632-6398.

# Rose bases art series on Anishinaabe clans

BY RICK SMITH

Kaitlyn Rose is an 18-year-old Sault Tribe member who anticipates taking up studies in biochemistry and molecular biology this coming autumn at the University of South Carolina Honors College.

Beginning in her junior year of high school, Rose studied in a two-year art course where she developed a series of paintings of clan animals over modern photographs of women.

“For two years, I’ve been working on this series to complete all of the animals present on our [tribe’s] flag designed by Karen Lee,” Rose noted. “Each piece is an original photograph transferred onto a six-by-six inch piece of Masonite to give it a woody, natural feel. Then I painted with acrylics. I drew inspiration from the French artist, Charlotte Caron, and my own experiences and personal growth with my tribal identity and characteristics as a woman.” She added, “All of my pieces from this time were cohesive to this central theme of ‘self-image,’ which I began to expand to spirituality and personal experiences.”

Her first piece was *Crane*, in which she indicated she wanted to portray an image of leadership and direction. “My own mother is the subject and I featured handmade armor of her own design with a pole that has a wolf skull, beadwork and collections of horse hair adorning it,” she noted.

Next came *Turtle*, in which she expresses the creation of life and ease of communication between a mother and an infant. “Their foreheads are touching to show an almost physical channel for thoughts to travel,” Rose said.

Rose describes *Rabbit* as a celebration of spring, sunrise, the color yellow, the east direction, infancy and the freshness of creation. The work features a toddler playing with a daffodil in bright, early morning light. She said, “Something akin to innocence in curiosity and child-like naivety is what comes to mind when I see how she holds the flower and discovers it for herself.”

She indicated *Eagle* is a self-portrait in which she conveys young adulthood, confidence and courage, summer, mid-day, the color red and the southern direction. “I actually feel these characteristics contrast with who I am,” she noted, “but being the representative of these things has opened my mind to many facets of being that we don’t immediately assume of ourselves at many points in life.”

Feeling most connected to *Rabbit* and *Deer*, Rose said her next piece, *Deer*, describes “autumn and sunset, middle age, the transition from life to death and new to old, blackness and the west direction. *Bear* is the last work she finished in the series. “*Bear* talks of the time of elders, midnight, the color white, spirituality, winter, the north direction and wisdom.” She indicated the human subject in the work is her boyfriend’s mother, who has long, white-gray hair,

“She and her husband have experienced the trials of spiritual journeys together and I feel she was the best fit for the piece.”

For now, Rose wants to focus on her college studies and concentrate on forensics. “But I definitely want to include art and language studies as well,” she said.

Rose was born and raised in Columbia, S.C., and has maternal relatives in Michigan, mostly around the Drummond Island area.



Kaitlyn Rose, above left, superimposes clan animal symbolism over images of women as an expression of the facets of the feminine spirit. Above right, is *Deer*.



*Bear*



*Rabbit*



*Crane*



*Turtle*



*Eagle*

## Moving?

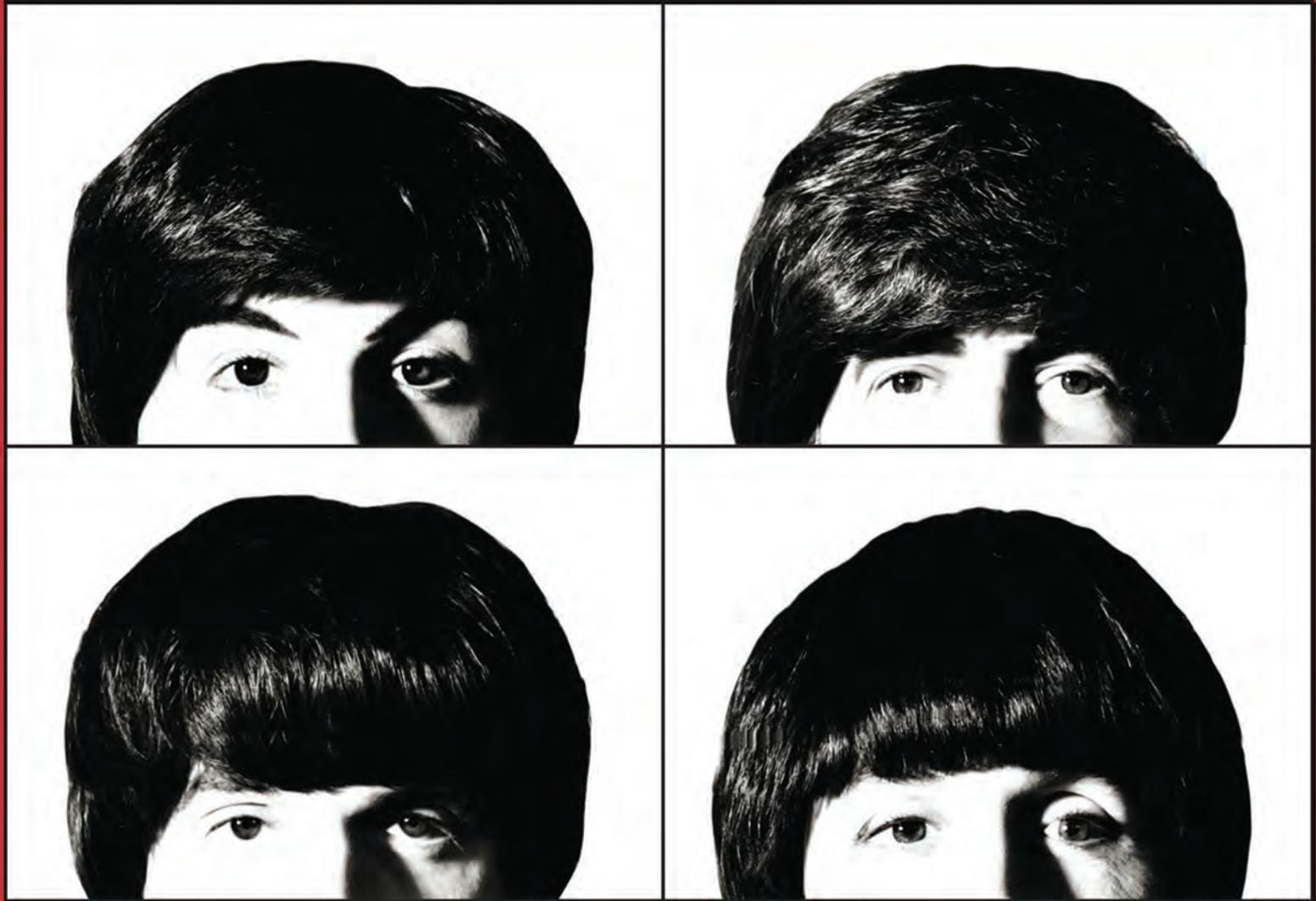


**TRIBAL MEMBERS!**  
When you move, let tribal enrollment know where you are headed!

**(800) 251-6597**  
enrollment@saulttribe.net

# YESTERDAY

A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES



Sault Ste. Marie

## DREAMMAKERS THEATER

### Sunday, May 31

Show Starts at 7 p.m.

(Doors open at 6:00 p.m.)

Ticket Price  
\$12.50



1-800-KEWADIN | kewadin.com

MANISTIQUE-ST.IGNACE-SAULT <sup>STE</sup>MARIE-HESSEL-CHRISTMAS