



WIN AWENEN NISITOTUNG

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

June 3, 2014 • Vol. 37 No. 5
Flower Moon
Waaskoone Giizis



GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE PLATFORMS START ON PAGE 4

Celebrating National Drug Court Month: Criminal justice in action

BY JUDGE JOCELYN FABRY

In May, drug courts and other treatment courts throughout Michigan joined over 2,900 such courts nationwide in celebrating National Drug Court Month. By May 31, thousands of individuals who entered the criminal justice system addicted to drugs and facing incarceration will receive lifesaving treatment and the chance to repair their lives, reconnect with their families and find long-term recovery. Treatment courts are now considered the foundation of criminal justice reform and the most effective strategy to reduce substance abuse, crime and recidivism while saving money for taxpayers. The time has come to expand these programs so they reach every seriously addicted individual who comes into contact with the justice system.

This year's National Drug Court Month theme is "Criminal Justice Reform in Action." Since the late 1980s, drug courts have paved the way for significant criminal justice reform in the U.S. Without the innovative, evidence-based treatment these programs provide, more than 1.4 million Americans would not be living in recovery from addiction. The expansion of the adult drug court model into other types of treatment courts that serve families, juveniles, repeat driving while impaired (DWI) offenders and veterans is transforming how

See "Drug Court," Page 7



Photos by Brenda Austin
WALLEYE RETURN — ITFAP staff returned the fish they took from the Back Bay in Brimley to gather eggs and sperm for the walleye stocking program. At left, walleye wriggle back to the freedom of Waiska Bay on Lake Superior.

BAY MILLS — Fish Hatchery assistant Matt Allard and fishery aide Troy Lehre (above), along with other fishery staff, took part in electroshocking walleye for egg collection in Brimley Bay over a three-day period in April.

They collected 35 females for their eggs and about 50 males for their milt.

About 4.5 million eggs were fertilized and incubated at the Barbeau hatchery. The eggs are timed to hatch out about mid-May when their food sources are readily available.

This year no fish perished or were injured during the long process of shocking them, transporting them to the hatchery, holding them, spawning them and bringing them back to Brimley Bay and releasing them.

The walleye are able to be released so successfully because they do so well with the electroshocking process. Fisheries staff says they have lost only two fish over the past three or four years during the entire project.

Results in for Sault Tribe primary election for tribal board seats

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Unofficial results are in for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians primary election for the Sault Tribe Board of Directors. All incumbents running for office in this election will move forward in the general election. From a field of four in the chairperson's race, two candidates will move forward to the general election, and they will be incumbent Aaron A. Payment with 3,193 votes and Unit III Director Keith Massaway with 2,073 votes.

The deadline for contests related to the vote count was May 23. There are five voting units across the tribe's seven-county service area in Michigan's Eastern Upper Peninsula for a total of 10 board seats. The chairperson is elected by all of the tribe's registered voters. The unit directors' four-year terms are staggered so that approximately half the board seats are up for election every two years.

There were 15 candidates vying for three Unit I seats and only six will progress to the general election. Unit I Director Cathy Abramson announced her retirement, opening a seat for a new director. Incumbents Dennis McKelvie and Jennifer McLeod Tyson move forward with 965 and 683 votes respectively, along with Michael McKerchie with 912 votes, Angeline Bouley with 663, Betty Freiheit, 645 and Nichole Causley with 628 votes.

Unit II incumbent Lana Causley was unopposed and is deemed elected.

In Unit III, incumbent Bridgett Sorenson, with 854 votes, opposes Ilene Moses, who garnered 322 votes.

In Unit IV, incumbent Darcy Morrow (405 votes) will face Krystal Goudreau (210 votes) in the general election.

In Unit V, Anita Nelson with 183 votes will face Charles

Matson, who had 179 votes. Unit V is a special advisory election to replace removed director, Rita Glyptis, for the remainder of her term, which expires in 2018.

General Election Day is June 23. Tribal members can read general election candidates' platforms in *Win Awenen Nisitotung's* June 3 issue, available online May 27 and in mailboxes June 3. Ballots will be mailed to Sault Tribe registered voters June 1.

Unofficial results in alphabetical order are:

Chair

Charles Forgrave, 262
Keith Massaway, 2073
Thomas Miller, 763
Aaron A. Payment, 3193

Unit I (Sault Ste. Marie area)

Angeline Bouley, 663
Nichole Causley, 628
Charles Cook Sr., 411
Angela Declue, 254
Betty Freiheit, 645
Janice Frye, 321
Samuel Gardner Jr., 344
Janet Liedel, 270
Jennifer McLeod Tyson, 683
Michael McKerchie, 912
Dennis McKelvie, 965
George Parish, 526
Maureen "Sue" Pavlat, 318
Helen Wilkins, 280
Barbara Willis, 422

Unit II (Hessel area)

Lana Causley was unopposed.

Unit III (St. Ignace area)

Ilene Moses, 322
Bridgett Sorenson, 854
Bonnie Woodford Culfa, 197

Unit IV (Manistique area)

Krystal Goudreau, 210
Darcy Morrow, 405
Gerald Winberg Sr., 166

Unit V (Munising area)

Tyler LaPlaunt, 80
Charles Matson Sr. 179
Anita Nelson, 183
Boyd Snyder, 78

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Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Recent graduate? Be proud and announce it!

Recently graduated from high school, trade school or college? Inspire your fellow Sault Tribe members and announce it in the tribe's newspaper, *Win Awenen Nisitotung!*

Send us your best graduation photo, some information about you to include home town,

school, field of study in college, any honors, plans, family and so on.

Send your stuff to either saulttribenews@saulttribe.net or Communications Department, 531 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

And, congratulations!

Kewadin hosts chances to learn about selling to federal buyers

On June 8, learn how to increase your revenue by selling goods and services to federal, state, local and tribal government agencies at the fourth annual Doing Business with Government Agencies expo on June 8, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Kewadin Convention Center.

Free registration online at <http://goo.gl/mTBGJN>.

Presentations include doing business with the U.S. Forest Service, starting and building your business, doing business with the State of Michigan, *Buy Indian Act* and doing business with tribes and doing business with the Michigan Department of Transportation.

For more information, contact donmakowski@netowrksnorthwest.org, or by phone at (906) 789-0558, extension 1311.

On June 9, the Small Business Administration presents a quarterly series to connect you with the federal buying marketplace. You have the opportunity to pitch your product or service to decision makers – federal procurement officers and prime contractors who buy in the trade in which you do business.

Takes place June 9 (Thursday) from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Kewadin Convention Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

Federal agencies and prime contractors share their tips on how to navigate the world of federal procurement. You learn what buyers are looking for and how the buying process works.

NO CHARGE to attend, but pre-registration is required. Please register at <http://goo.gl/3m8oPA>

Limit two persons per company. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Joel Auer, SBA business opportunity specialist, at joel.auer@sba.gov

This event is for firms with the following NAICS code capabilities: 236220, 237990, 238160 and 238210.

Participating agencies at the event include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; U.S. Small Business Administration; Northwest Michigan Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC); Wisconsin Procurement Institute; Saginaw PTAC – Region 5; Native Diversification Network NDN-PTAC; Small Business Development Center, Michigan; Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corporation and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Sault Tribe job openings

Call (866) 635-7032 or email stemployment@saulttribe.net
Apply at www.saulttribe.com

Governmental openings
Sault Ste. Marie, Kincheloe
Economic development director – full time/regular – open until filled

Nurse practitioner/physician assistant – on call – open until filled

Staff pharmacist – part time/regular – open until filled

Event worker – part time/regular – open until filled

Insurance manager – full time/regular – open until filled

Weight room monitor – part time/regular – open until filled

Medical technologist – part time/regular – open until filled

Project specialist (Education) – full time/regular – open until filled

Diagnostic radiology technologist specialist – full time/regular – open until filled

Probation officer – full time/regular – open until filled

Clerk of court/legal transcriptionist/judicial secretary – full time/regular – open until filled
Early Head Start instructor – full time/regular – open until filled

Hessel, St. Ignace, Escanaba, Manistique, Marquette, Munising, Newberry

Chief solo dentist (Manistique) – full time/regular – open until filled

Dietician (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – open until filled

Kewadin Casino openings
Sault Kewadin

Chief executive officer – full time/regular – open until filled
Marketing director – full time/regular – open until filled

Christmas Kewadin
Bartender – part time/regular – open until filled

Line cooks – (three) part time/regular – open until filled

Enterprise openings

General Manager (Northern Hospitality) – full time/regular – open until filled

Head Start openings

Sault Tribe Head Start, Early Head Start programs accepting applications for 2016-17 school year. Get applications by calling the central office at (906) 635-7722 or visit online at saulttribe.com (see Education download section under Membership Services).

Committee vacancies

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

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - three vacancies (men, four-year terms)

Health Board - one vacancy (four-year term)

Inland Conservation Committee - two vacancies (four-year terms)

Election Committee - two vacancies (four-year terms)

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

Child Welfare Committee - four vacancies (four-year terms)

Unit I Sault Elders Subcommittee - two alternates (one four-year, one two-year term)

Unit II Hessel Elders Subcommittee -two regular seat vacancies, one alternate (four-year terms)

Unit II Newberry Elders Subcommittee - one regular seat vacancy, one alternate (four-year terms)

Unit II Naubinway Elders Subcommittee - one alternate (four-year term)

Unit IV Manistique Elders Subcommittee - one regular seat vacancy, one alternate (four-year terms)

Unit V Munising Elders Subcommittee - two alternate (four-year terms)

Unit V Marquette Elders Subcommittee - one regular seat vacancy, one alternate (four-year terms)

6TH ANNUAL BAAWTING OJIBWE LANGUAGE CONFERENCE

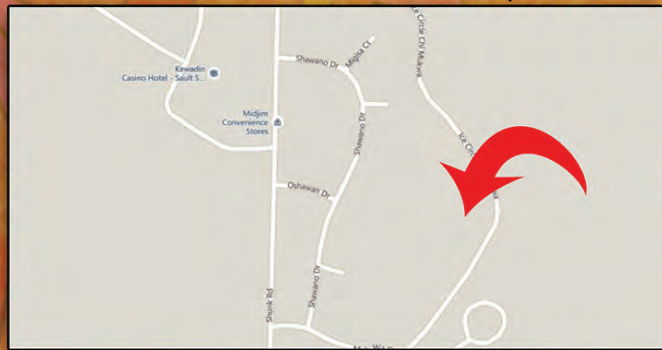
REVITALIZING THE LANGUAGE OF OUR PEOPLE

Presenters

- Shirley Recollet
- Leonard Kimewon
- Josh Eshkawkogan
- Michele Wellman-Teeple
- Barb Nolan
- Doris Boissoneau
- Michelle Dolly
- Paul Blondeau

Location

Niigaanagiizhik Building
11 Ice Circle Drive Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783



Schedule

Friday June 10, 2016

3:00pm Registration Opens

5:00pm Welcome Feast
Singing by Susan Askwith

6:00pm Pipe Ceremony/Speaker

7:00pm Drum Social with
Sturgeon Bay Singers and
White Frost Sobriety Drum

Saturday June 11, 2016

6:30am Sunrise Ceremony

7:30am Breakfast opens

9:00am Language Workshops

For More Information visit
www.facebook.com/saulttribelanguage



FREE ADMISSION

Contact Colleen Medicine or Shirley Recollet at (906) 635-6050
Kewadin Hotel Reservations Call 1-800-KEWADIN Booking ID# 10218

Sault Tribe's 35th Sault area powwow July 6-10

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians 35th annual powwow and summer gathering is slated for July 8-12.

Emcees are Bucko Teeple of Bay Mills and Joe Medicine of Harbor Springs. Nick Van Alstine will serve as Arena Director. White Tail Cree of North Bay, Ontario, is host drum. Sturgeon Bay Singers from Harbor Springs is cohost drum. Invited drums are Bahweting Singers from Sault Ste. Marie, Mukwa Giiziis from Hessel, Kitchitikipee Singers from Manistique and Elk Spirit from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Head Veteran is Bnaaswi Biiaswah from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Head Dancers to be selected each session.

The public is invited to attend. The powwow entrance is Baawating Dr. off Shunk Rd. on the Sault Tribe Reservation.

WEDNESDAY, July 6

The 2015 Powwow festivities will begin with the blessing of

the powwow grounds at 11 a.m. Women's Cedar Cleaning Circle, Dance Arena, 1 p.m. (Please wear your skirts.)

THURSDAY, July 7

Sunrise Ceremony at Waabano Lodge, Summer Gathering to follow

FRIDAY, July 8

Kids Carnival 4:30-6:30 p.m. Powwow Grounds, Drum and Dance Registration 6-8 p.m. Powwow Grounds, Open Drum 7 p.m.

SATURDAY, July 9

Drum and Dance Registration 10 a.m.-2 p.m. All Drums must be registered. Registration is open to dancers participating in Specials. Art Show 9-11:30 a.m. Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Center, Grand Entry 1 p.m., Feast 5 p.m. Niigaanagiizhik, Hand Drum Contest 6 p.m. Powwow Grounds, Grand Entry 7 p.m. Hand drum contest winners announced; top three will sing for two-step contest 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 10
Mass with Brother John Haskell 11 a.m. Niigaanagiizhik, Grand Entry 1 p.m., Giveaway 4 p.m., Cleanup 5-6:30 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
General information: Tribal Administration at (906) 635-6050 or Powwow Chairwoman Jackie Minton at 635-6050, ext. 26144, or (906) 203-4977.

Vendors: Sam Gardner 635-6050, ext. 26041
Spiritual Gathering: Les Ailing at 203-5521

MORE SAULT TRIBE 2016 POWWOWS

(Also see *Manistique Gathering of the Clans ad below.*)

20th Annual Sugar Island Traditional Powwow, July 15-17, Spiritual gathering, Friday July 15, Powwow July 16-17. Grand entries: Saturday, 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., Sunday 12 p.m. Campers & vendors welcome. For more information contact committee members Mick Frechette at (906)

440-8918 or Colleen Medicine at (906) 635-6050.

23rd Annual Gathering of the Eagles Hessel Powwow, Aug. 19-21, Friday Night Spiritual Gathering & Open Drum, Saturday - Grand Entry at 1 and 7 p.m., Potluck Feast at 5 p.m. Sunday - Grand Entry at 1 p.m. Contact Information: Lisa Burnside at lburnside@saulttribe.net or Lana Causley at lcausley@saulttribe.net.

Rendezvous at the Straits Powwow, Aug. 26-28 — New France Discovery Center, Father Marquette National Memorial, St. Ignace. Open to the public. Admission: \$3 for adults, \$2 for elders and students, children under 12 are free. For more information, contact the St. Ignace Events Committee at (906) 643-8717 or Darryl Brown at (906) 984-2083.

12th Annual Youth Empowerment Powwow, Aug. 6 — Newberry Tribal Center. Sponsored by the Youth Education and Activities Program. For more information, contact Patty Teeples at (906) 341-3362, Dee Eggert at (906) 635-7010, Lisa Burnside at

(906) 484-2298.

Kitchi Miniss Munising Powwow, Aug. 13 — Bay Furnace across from Christmas Kewadin Casino. Grand entry noon and 6 p.m. Feast at 4 p.m. Vendors call Peg Morin at (906) 236-3100. For more information, call Kris LeVeque at (906) 387-2368.

10th Annual Honoring the Waters Newberry Powwow Sept. 10, Newberry Tribal Center. For more information, contact Lois Bryant or Shirley Kowalke at (906) 293-8181.

13th Annual Honoring our Anishinabe Veterans Powwow Nov. 12, Kinross Recreation Center in Kinross. Public and traders welcome. Grand entry at 1 p.m., feast/potluck at 5 p.m. Please bring a dish to pass if possible. Contact Jackie Minton at (906) 635-6050 or 203-4977.

2016 Sobriety Powwow, Dec. 31 — LSSU Norris Student Activity Center (SAC). Feast at 4 p.m. at the Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Building. Grand entry at 7 p.m. at the LSSU Norris Center SAC. Vendors and for more information, contact Jackie Minton at (906) 203-4977 or 635-6050.

10th Annual Sault Tribe Manistique Area Gathering of the Clans

POW WOW

Saturday & Sunday - June 11 & 12



GRAND ENTRIES:
Saturday - 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Sunday - Noon

FEAST MEAL: Saturday 5 p.m.

Please bring a dish to pass for the Feast Meal on Saturday

CRAZY AUCTION:
Saturday - After the Feast Meal

Vendors, Traders, or Public can call for information to:
Viola Neadow at (906) 341-6993 or 1-800-347-7137

No drugs, politics or alcohol allowed. No dogs allowed.

Held behind
Manistique Tribal Community Center

5698 Highway US 2
Manistique, MI

NEXT TO THE
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Public Invited and Welcome
Free Admission

HOST DRUM:
Bahweting Singers

CO-HOST DRUM:
TBA

THIRD DRUM:
Mukkwa Giizhik

HEAD VETERAN:
James (Butch) Van Allen

HEAD MALE DANCER:
Richard Lewis

HEAD FEMALE DANCER:
Cathy DeVoy

MASTER OF CEREMONY:
Stanley Spruce

ARENA DIRECTOR:
TBA

FIREKEEPER:
TBA

Sault support groups

Families Against Narcotics meets on the third Wednesdays of every month, 5:30 p.m., at the Huntington Bank meeting room in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information, send an email message to chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org

Also look into the Substance Abuse Support Group for Family and Friends if you have experienced loss, heartbreak or diminished relationships due to someone else's substance abuse.

The group meets on the first and third Mondays of each month, 6 p.m., at the Huntington Bank in Sault Ste. Marie. Call Linda at (906) 440-7252 for more information.

DAV seeks donations

The Department of Michigan of Disabled American Veterans is accepting donations to its thrift store on Thursday, June 9, noon to 8 p.m., at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Please bring gently used clothing and household items. All donations are tax deductible.

Membership concerns

Three membership liaisons work with the chairperson's office on membership issues and concerns across the service area. The requires knowledge the tribe and its practices, administrative experience and the ability to work with data, write reports and organize special projects and events.

The liaisons will also respond to and follow up on membership issues to ensure they are resolved.

Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact liaisons when they need help with tribal issues by emailing

membersconcerns@saulttribe.net or individually at:

Unit I — Sheila Berger, Office of the Chairperson, Sault Ste. Marie, (906) 635-6050, (800) 793-0660, sberger@saulttribe.net

Units II and III — Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, (906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net

Units IV and V — Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469; Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, mjenerou@saulttribe.net

Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

June 3, 2016
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Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor
Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
Rick Smith.....Staff Writer
Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary

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

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

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

Chippewa Indians and is published 12 times a year. Its mission is to inform tribal members and the public about the activities of the tribal government, membership programs and services and cultural, social and spiritual activities of Sault Tribe members.

Win Awenen Nisitotung, in Anishinaabemowin, means, "One who understands," and is pronounced "Win Oh-weh-nin Nis-toe-tuhng."

See our full, online edition at www.saulttribe.com.

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

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.

Advertising: \$8.50/column inch. Submission and Subscriptions: Win Awenen Nisitotung Attn: Communications Dept. 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 Telephone: (906) 632-6398 Fax: (906) 632-6556 E-mail: saulttribenews@saulttribe.net

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Senate eyes amendments to law and order act

By RICK SMITH

U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Chairman John Barrasso (R-Wyo.) introduced the *Tribal Law and Order Act Reauthorization and Amendments Act of 2016* (S. 2920) on May 11. The act would not only reauthorize the *Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010*, it would add measures to create closer working relationships between tribal law enforcement and judicial agencies with federal departments designed to enhance public safety efforts on reservations.

“Crime levels are unacceptably high across Indian Country,” Barrasso said in an announcement. “Our committee has heard that continued enhancements to the *Tribal Law and Order Act* would assist law enforcement

serving tribal communities, and that’s what this bill aims to do. We want to make Indian Country safer.”

The committee listed seven ways the amendment benefits American Indian tribes:

- Mandates Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention consultation with Indian tribes twice a year towards making a variety of improvements in handling cases involving young people.

- The comptroller general would be directed to submit a baseline report to Congress on Indian youth in juvenile justice systems, federal coordination and programs.

- Requires tribes to be notified whenever members enter state

or local justice systems, requires tribal participation in advisory groups, coordinating services and authorizes federal funding for traditional or cultural programs which reduce recidivism.

- Requires the U.S. attorney general to share reports from the federal criminal information database.

- Allows access to information from federal background checks and Bureau of Justice Statistics data.

- The Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement Shadow Wolves drug-trafficking-prevention program becomes permanent.

The bill also reauthorizes

the Bureau of Prisons program allowing incarceration in federal facilities for some convicted in tribal courts along with training for law enforcement and judicial personnel in investigating and prosecuting cases involving illegal narcotics as well as prevention and treatment of alcohol and other substances.

Tribal tax and investment bill introduced in House

By RICK SMITH

U.S. representatives Ron Kind (D-Wisc.) and Lynn Jenkins (D-Kans.) recently introduced the Tribal Tax and Investment Reform Act of 2016 (H.R. 4943) in the U.S. House of Representatives. Essentially, the bipartisan bill would “amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat Indian tribal governments in the same manner as state governments” for certain federal tax and economic purposes, namely issuing tax-exempt bonds, offering employee pension plans and other benefits as well as expanding authority for child welfare.

Section two of the bill recognizes Indian tribes have historically faced disadvantages in acquiring capital to develop businesses and create jobs. Since Congress is vested with the authority to regulate commerce with Indian tribes, the bill would exercise that authority to further

tribal self-governance and affirm the U.S. government-to-government relationship with American Indian tribes.

The bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove a special status for tribal governments allowing them to adopt a population-based formula used by state governments to issue bonds to generate capital. The bill would also strike a current requirement that proceeds from bonds could only be used for “essential government functions.”

Kind said tribes are excluded from some federal tax code provisions resulting in unfair treatment for tax purposes for tribe members and inequality in tribal enforcement authority. The proposed law of the Tribal Tax and Investment Reform Act would make changes in the current law to “give tribes fair treatment in the tax code and access to a full range of financing options.”

Regarding pensions and employee benefit plans maintained by tribal governments, the bill would include tribes by add terms referring to American Indian tribes alongside references to states, essentially allowing tribes the same tax code provisions as states. The bill would also include tribes under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

The bill also includes amendments regarding tribal foundations and charities.

Final sections of the bill address improving effectiveness of tribal child support enforcement, access to the Federal Parent Locator Service and determining special needs if children in adoption proceedings.

Both representatives Kind and Jenkins are on the House Ways and Means Committee, the bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

A gift is a gift: Tribe gets thanks for funds

Dear Editor,

I had a rather disturbing conversation with an individual regarding the \$269,000 dollar donation made by the tribe under the 2 percent funds thinking that it was not such a big deal because they have to participate in the 2 percent distribution under the Michigan Intra State Gaming Compact.

First of all, I want to thank the tribe for stepping up on behalf of the children and people in this area who rely upon the availability to have a swimming facility that serves over a thousand people a year in drown proofing and athletic training.

ic training.

A gift is a gift is a gift. Regardless whether or not the tribe has to provide 2 percent funds to various communities throughout the Upper Peninsula. It still is a gift that supports our community. We should absolutely never take this for granted. The tribe stepped up when it looked as if chances of keeping the pool open were very slim. Once again I thank the tribe for their courage, care and community spirit.

Sincerely,
Wm. Dyke Justin,
Sault Ste. Marie

Grandmother
Mary LaCoy



Native American Ancestors



*For those I live...
to do the best for my people.*

I SUPPORT

- Increased Wages
- Replenish Elder Fund/Build Nursing Facilities
- More Housing For All Ages
- Expand Designated Area
- Increase & Extend Health Services/Outlining Area
- Increase & Extend Law Enforcement/Especially This Area
- Protect Natural Resources
- Support Continuing Education
- Support Separation Of Power
- Promote Camaraderie/The Board, Committees & Members
- Support Line 5 Shutdown

It’s difficult to ask people to vote my way when I haven’t been to visit you in your home, or been to lunch with you, or attended your family gatherings but the people in my area that do know me... do believe in me and I ask that you will do the same.

Thank you for your continuing support and vote in getting me through the special election primary for Unit 5. I am honored to have this opportunity to represent you in Unit 5’s General Election.

VOTE: ANITA NELSON UNIT 5

This ad is endorsed by Anita Nelson.

Grandfather
James LaValleé



Fabry testifies at Sault inaugural Court Night

By Rick Smith

Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry was among law enforcement and judicial officials who spoke to a packed room at the inaugural Court Night symposium sponsored by the Chippewa County chapter of Families Against Narcotics (FAN) on May 19. The affair took place in the courtroom of the 50th Circuit Court at the county courthouse in Sault Ste. Marie. Speakers focused on first-hand observations in the escalation of criminal activities and family disintegration fueled by illicit and prescription drugs as well as alcohol. They also explained their roles and mechanisms of the processes in place to protect the public and deal with individuals and families in cases involving drug and alcohol addiction.

Court Night is a new measure in support of FAN's mission to save "lives by empowering individuals and communities to prevent and eradicate addiction."

State, county and city law enforcement officers estimated about three-fourths of arrests are linked to drugs or alcohol for crimes ranging from burglary to driving while intoxicated. Chief

Judge Fabry confirmed the officers' observations and added that drugs and alcohol usually figure into family court cases and a growing number of babies born with addictions.

In advance of the symposium, Fabry described the event as a way for folks to learn about the workings of the justice system and the consequences of committing crimes. During her presentation, she had advice for folks whose addictions lead to coming under scrutiny in courtrooms, especially for youngsters, — most don't see it as an opportunity when mired in the judicial system, but it is an excellent opportunity to get help with rehabilitation and taking charge of living a more positive life.

Circuit Court Chief Judge James P. Lambros added the intention of the symposium is to create a relaxed forum to provide the community with insight into the legal and judicial systems as well as opening communication "about the negative effects and prevention of substance abuse, keeping youth out of the court system and encouraging healthy behaviors."

FAN strongly encourages the attendance of everyone, but especially teens and their parents, at



Photo by Rick Smith

Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry testifies while Bay Mills Indian Community Chief judge Bryan Newland, seated, looks on in the Chippewa County courtroom.

future symposiums.

After the inaugural event, the organization's executive secretary, Lynn Farnquist, noted, "FAN of Chippewa County believes education and awareness are crucial in preventing addiction and chang-

ing the stigma surrounding those who battle this disease which, at times, can begin from something prescribed to them. No one wakes up and decides to become an addict. No one decides to live a hell like that. But addictions will

oftentimes lead to crime. People came out last night to hear about what happens when those crimes have to be dealt with by law enforcement and the courts. They also heard there is hope. We need that message, too."



Photo by Rick Smith

Seen herre, some of the officials who spoke before a packed courtroom listen to opening introductions during the inaugural Court Night in Sault Ste. Marie sponsored by Families Against Narcotics of Chippewa County. The symposium took place in the Chippewa County 50th Circuit Court. Back row from left, Magistrate Eric Blubaugh, Friend of the Court Elizabeth Chambers, Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry, Chippewa County Circuit Chief Judge James P. Lambros and Bay Mills Court Chief Judge Bryan Newland. Front from left, Chippewa County Sheriff Deputy Doug Mitchell, City of Sault Ste. Marie Detective Tom Swanson, Michigan State Police Trooper Joseph LeBlanc of the Sault post, Michigan State Police Trooper Jonathan Morrison of the St. Ignace post.

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NATIVE Act could power revenue magnet for Sault Tribe

SENATE PASSES NATIVE AMERICAN TOURISM AND IMPROVING VISITOR EXPERIENCE (NATIVE) ACT

By RICK SMITH

An act of the U.S. Congress recently passed by the Senate and under consideration in the House could help deliver an economic boon for Sault Tribe and its members if all goes well. The measure is seen as both a way to more fully convey the histories of the United States and Indian Country as well as to jump-start tribal commerce.

The Native American Tourism and Improving Visitor Experience (NATIVE) Act was introduced in the Senate last June 16 and unanimously passed on April 25. The House companion bill was introduced on Sept. 10. As reported in the October edition of *Win Awenen Nisitotung* after the House bill was introduced, the act essentially mandates departments of the federal government to put their resources and expertise to work with Indian Country communities to build and integrate historical and cultural tourism ventures.

The measure could mean significant gains in gainful employment and many other benefits for tribes across the country through revenue generated from tourism centered on tribal culture and history.

According to a Senate summary of the NATIVE Act, the departments of Commerce and the Interior along with other federal agencies having recreational or

travel functions would be required to update management plans and tourism initiatives to integrate American Indian tribes and organizations. The plans must specify proposals to improve travel and tourism data collection and analysis, increase usefulness of public information and federal websites, support national tourism goals, identify programs to help build tourism infrastructure in American Indian communities, develop elements that showcase and respect the diversity of American Indians, share languages through bilingual signs and improve access to transportation programs to build capacity for tourism trade.

The departments would also be tasked to provide technical assistance for American Indian organizations or businesses entering the tourism industry. They would be required to submit reports to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on any support provided. Further, the Smithsonian Institution would be required to work with American Indian tribes and organizations in sharing collections and conduct joint research and other projects with museum as well as educational and cultural organizations.

The bill also authorizes grant funding for American Indian tribes or organizations to support presenting their stories and cultures in addition to revitalizing their communities through the arts

and humanities as well as other efforts to carry out the act.

"Expanding local tourism to include tribes is a great way for Americans to learn about Native culture, history and traditions," said Senator John Barrasso, chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, "The Senate has passed legislation that will boost local tribal economies." He added that he hopes to see the bill passed by the House soon.

Should the NATIVE Act become law, Sault Tribe could not only take advantage of the existing tourist trade in the neighborhood, but could also develop its own unique market or engage in joint ventures with other tribes in

Michigan or Canada. Moreover, the possibilities for cultural and historical tourism attractions are limited only by the collective imagination and will of our people, the ability to actually develop any new ventures bounded only by budgetary resources. Anything might be possible from developing foundations to support tourism ventures to creating a technically accurate Anishinaabe village version of "living history museums" like the famed Colonial Williamsburg or Plimouth Plantation.

American Indian tourism associations are already moving to capitalize on attracting national and international trade. The

American Indian Alaska Native Tourism Association (AIANTA), for example, recently launched a new website, www.nativeamerica.travel, highlighting amazing Indian Country destinations to "experience Native America" in all regions of the United States. According to the *Native Times*, American Indian tribes in North Dakota are planning to form an affiliate of AIANTA and tribal leaders are soon meeting with state and federal officials at the North Dakota Native Tourism Summit in Bismark. One of the issues the new association seeks to address is state and federal funding to promote tourism on reservations.

Bureau of Indian Affairs extends burial assistance deadline to 180 days

By RICK SMITH

The U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) offers direct aid to American Indians unable to get certain services otherwise. Meant as a secondary resource, BIA Financial Assistance and Social Services offers help with general finances, childcare, adult custodial care, burials and emergencies.

The agency recently extended the deadline for burial assistance application submissions from 30 days to 180 days after the time of death of qualified indigent individuals. The measure was taken

to address hardships caused by the previous 30-day deadline.

The new rule acknowledges the 30-day timeframe was often missed because eligible applicants were unaware of such resources until long after the deadline passed or due to other circumstances that delayed submissions. Other considerations mentioned, "The 30-day time restriction also creates barriers to eligible applicants dealing with other extenuating circumstances, such as delays in funeral billing and the processing of death cer-

tificates, which frequently exceed 30 days. This rule addresses these hardships by replacing the 30-day deadline with a more reasonable 180-day deadline."

According to the BIA, the agency consulted with at least one American Indian tribe in making the decision to extend the timeframe.

To learn more details about BIA Financial Assistance and Social Services visit either <http://www.bia.gov/WhoWeAre/BIA/OIS/HumanServices/DAP/index.htm> or the nearest BIA office.



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Unit 5

Thank you for your support to make it past the primary. I am honored and humbled by the opportunity to be on the ballot for the general election. Our campaign will not smear or negatively campaign against other candidates. We will stay focused on promoting positive change for the Sault Tribe and all tribal members. Let us stand and vote together to create positive change. I humbly ask for your vote to be the next Unit 5 Representative.

MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION — Ensuring Members have a Voice in the Decision Making Process Via Members' Referendum Vote on Large Business Decisions, Unit Meetings and Office Hours.

INVESTING IN FUTURE GENERATIONS — Increasing Education Funding, Providing Quality Daycare for Working Families, Fair Compensation for Tribal Employees

TREATY RIGHTS PROTECTION — Establish a Strategic Plan for 2020 Consent Decree Negotiations to Protect our Commerical, Subsistence and Sport Great Lakes Fishing Rights. Expert in Treaty Rights and Negotiation Techniques with State and Federal Governments.

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Smith is new IHS principal deputy director

BY RICK SMITH

Mary Smith of the Cherokee Nation and former Indian Health Service (IHS) deputy director recently accepted the post of principal deputy director early last month. While the IHS made no mention of the promotion, the *Cherokee Nation News* issued a release on March 4 announcing Smith's appointment by U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Burwell.

The release noted Smith hails from the Chicago area and quoted Burwell praising Smith's

significant government and private management experience and track record in support of Indian Country.

One of the first actions Smith took in her new position was to deliver statements on behalf of the IHS on March 9 before the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Interior, Environment and Related Agencies. She spoke about the proposed fiscal year 2017 president's budget for the IHS. Smith described the agency to the committee as a health delivery system for approximately 2.2 million

American Indians from 567 federally recognized tribes in 36 states.

She said the IHS is committed to ensuring a healthier future for American Indians and, from fiscal years 2008-16, appropriations for the agency have increased by 43 percent and "these investments are making a substantial impact in the quantity and quality of health care" provided to Indians. She added the president's 2017 IHS budget proposes an increase of \$402 million above last year's funding, bringing total IHS funding for 2017 to \$6.6 billion.

"The overall funding increases proposed in the president's budget are consistent with tribal priorities and would continue to address long-standing health disparities among American Indians/Alaska Natives, compared to other Americans," said Smith. "Specific



Mary Smith

investments include expanding behavioral and mental health services, improving health care qual-

ity, capacity and workforce, supporting self-determination by fully funding Contract Support Costs of tribes who manage their own programs and ensuring increased health care access through addressing critical health care facilities infrastructure needs."

She also address priorities in health care services, improving care delivery and access, supporting Indian self-determination, mandatory funding for mental health initiatives and legislative proposals regarding Indian Country and the Affordable Care Act and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians.

Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker expressed pride and confidence in Smith, according to a release, as she works in one of the most important fields for Indian Country.

From "Drug Court," Page 1 —

the justice system responds to addiction and mental health and proving that treatment is far more effective than punishment.

In 1999, Gwaiiak Miicon, Sault Tribal Court's adult drug court, the first tribal drug court in Michigan, opened its doors with a simple premise: rather than continue to allow individuals with long histories of drug abuse and crime to cycle through the criminal justice system at great expense to the public, use the leverage of the court to keep them engaged in treatment long enough to be successful. Today, drug courts and other treatment courts have proven a combination of accountability and compassion can not only save lives, but save valuable resources and reduce exorbitant criminal justice costs.

More research was published on the effects of drug courts than virtually all other criminal justice programs combined. In 2012, the U.S. Government Accountability Office reported to Congress confirming drug courts reduce substance abuse and crime and save money. Nationally, drug courts return to communities up to \$27 for every \$1 invested.

Drug courts reduce crime by up to 50 percent, and the longest study to date shows reductions lasted an astounding 14 years. Moreover, studies show the more serious an individual's drug addiction and the longer his or her criminal record, the better treatment courts work.

This approach not only diverts individuals from a life of substance abuse and crime, it is proven to reduce use of jail or prison beds, emergency room admissions, family conflicts associated with domestic violence and child abuse, and foster care placements.

Michigan is now home to over 120 treatment courts, including seven tribal drug courts, and is setting a national standard for smart on-crime justice policies that reduce recidivism and save money. These programs keep our roads safe from impaired drivers, intervene before our youth embark on a debilitating life of substance abuse and crime, give parents the tools they need to stay clean and maintain custody of their children, and ensure our veterans receive the benefits and treatment they have earned.

Treatment courts represent a compassionate approach to the ravages of addiction. This year's National Drug Court Month celebration should signal that the time has come to reap the economic and societal benefits of expanding

this proven budget solution to all in need.

Jocelyn Fabry is the chief judge of the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court.



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Unit 4 — Tribal Board of Directors

SOME ACCOMPLISHMENTS — FOR UNIT 4

- Established an Ad hoc Health Access Exploratory committee to revitalize services and put back Escanaba, Marquette and other areas needing access to health services;
- Reestablished access to Health Care in Escanaba and Marquette;
- Established services at after hours care clinics in Manistique, Escanaba, Marquette, Munising, Newberry, Sault & St. Ignace;
- Brought back Youth Development funding for school pictures, pay-to-play sports, drivers training, music instruments, etc...;
- Reestablished NMU recreation facility agreement to benefit members in Units 4 & 5;
- Advocated for Shingles Vaccine & Diabetic Pumps that are available thru all Tribal Health Centers;
- Supported team members bonus;
- Have pushed & will continue to support our Commercial Fishermen and Treaty Rights;
- Advocated for membership input at Great Lakes Committee & 2020 Consent Decree meetings via teleconference from Manistique & Munising Tribal Centers. (Videoconference equipment on site.);
- 23+ years organizing and participating in Children's Christmas Parties in Manistique & Escanaba;
- 15+ years organizing and participating in Gathering of the Clans Pow Wow & other pow wows

GOALS for TRIBAL ELDERS - HEALTH CARE - YOUTH - EDUCATION

- * Expansion to the Elder Meal program to include home delivery to homebound;
- * Support expansion of Elder Housing (Apartment Complexes); *Support restoring the Elder Recreation Funds;
- * Support a centralized Elder/Health/Community Center (Gwinn, Ishpeming & Negaunee);
- * Thru Health Adhoc we are working on expanding Tribal Health clinic hours to include evening & weekends;
- * Working with the planning dept. transportation grant & pushing for transportation to & from Health Centers;
- * Support a plan being developed to diversify and increase tribal support dollars for programs and services for the membership no matter where you live.
- * More funding for Higher Education, Vocational Technical & on the Job Training;
- * Support student loan forgiveness thru a Tribal work recruitment initiative; *Western Culture Camp
- * Expand Family Recreation/Exercise Access *Support Elders Mentoring Youth *Western End Midjim

I will continue to be the strong, persistent and full-time board member that Unit 4 needs to ensure members benefits. Too often the outlying Units are not fully considered when new services are announced. The expansion of services needs to be prioritized throughout all units based on identified need.

I am very grateful and would like to Thank You the Unit 4 members for your support in the primary election. I will continue to work hard to represent your needs. I need and would appreciate your support in the general election.

Contact Information: EMAIL: darcymorrowforunit4@yahoo.com PHONE: 906-298-1888

RESPECT Act would end old Indian laws

By RICK SMITH

A bill was recently introduced in the U.S. Senate to repeal 12 antiquated laws still in the books of the Code of Laws of the United States that harken back to the dying days of widespread open hostilities between the U.S. and American Indians. The laws focus on details surrounding boarding school operations as well as federal funding and food rations to Indians.

“Native Americans are currently still legally subject to a number of historically wrong laws,” said Senator Mike Rounds in announcing the *Repealing Existing Substandard Provisions Encouraging Conciliation with Tribes (RESPECT) Act* (S.2796). “These statutes are a sad reminder of the hostile aggression and overt racism displayed by the early federal government toward Native Americans as the government attempted to ‘assimilate’ them into what was considered ‘modern society.’ There is no place in our legal code for such laws.”

Rounds introduced the RESPECT Act on April 13. “We strive to work together, to constantly improve relationships and to mend our history through reconciliation and mutual respect. It is long past time to repeal these antiquated, racist statutes,” he added.

The act would eliminate 12 sections of Title 25 in the nation’s body of laws commonly called the United States Code

or USC. Title 25 covers laws regarding Indians. One of the sections is found in Chapter 7 of Title 25, Section 302, which gives a glimpse into the actual spirit behind what are now called Indian boarding schools — institutions for stripping Indian youngsters of their languages, cultures and spirituality and replacing them with Euro-American language and culture along with coerced conversion to Christianity. The institutions are identified in the code as Indian reform schools and authorizes one person, the Commissioner of Indian Affairs acting under the Secretary of the Interior, to designate and set all the rules for the schools, including placing Indian youth into the schools. Section 302 concludes with a provision that “*the consent of parents, guardians or next of kin shall not be required to place Indian youth in said school,*” which essentially amounts to legalized kidnapping.

Other laws repealed if the RESPECT Act achieves passage:

- *Abrogation of treaties* — (25 USC 72) — Authorizes the president of the United States to abolish treaties with any hostile tribes.

- *Moneys of annuities of hostile Indians* — (25 USC 127) — Prevents any tribe engaged in hostile activities against the federal government from receiving and funding or annuities until resumed by Congress.

- *Appropriations not paid to Indians at war with United States*

- (25 USC 128) — Cuts off federal Indian Service funding for any Indian bands while at war “with the United States or with the white citizens of any of the states or territories.”

- *Moneys due Indians holding captives other than Indians withheld* — (25 USC 129) — Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to withhold any money due to any tribes who may hold any captives, other than Indians, until said captives are surrendered to lawful authorities of the United States.

- *Withholding of moneys of goods on account of intoxicating liquors* — (25 USC 130) — Denies annuities, money or goods shall be paid or distributed to Indians while intoxicated or when government pay officers or agents believe “that there is any species of intoxicating liquor within convenient reach.”

- *Supplies distributed to able-bodied males on condition* — (25 USC 137) — Stipulates agents distributing supplies and annuities shall require able bodied Indian males aged 18 to 45 years to perform services on reservations equal to the value of said distributions. Value of services performed determined by distributing agents, any exceptions must be ordered in writing by the Secretary of the Interior “where he deems it proper and expedient.”

- *Goods withheld from chiefs violating treaty stipulations* — (25 USC 138) — Cancels deliv-

eries of treaty authorized goods and merchandise to the chiefs of any tribe for violations on their part of any treaty stipulations.

- *Detail of Army officer* — (25 USC 273) — Authorizes the Secretary of the Army to “detail” an officer at or below the rank of captain “for special duty with reference to Indian education.”

- *Vacant military posts or barracks for schools; detail of Army officers* — (25 USC 276) — Authorizes the Secretary of the Army to use vacant military facilities to establish “normal and industrial training” schools for Indian youth of nomadic tribes having educational treaty claims with the United States, as long as those facilities are not required for military occupation. Also authorizes designation of officers “for duty in connection with Indian education.”

- *Regulations for withholding rations for nonattendance at schools* — (25 USC 283) — Cuts distribution of food and cloth-

ing rations as well as money for the head of any Indian family on account of having children aged 8 to 21 years who have not attended school during the proceeding year as directed by regulations. The Secretary of the Interior may reinstate distributions after families comply with regulations. This law does not apply to reservations without sufficient school facilities.

- *Withholding annuities from Osage Indians for nonattendance at schools* — (25 USC 285) — Authorizes the Commissioner of Indian Affairs to withhold any annuities or other payments due to Osage minors above 6 years of age whose parents fail to place and keep them in “some established school for a reasonable portion of each year.

While addressing the Senate when he introduced the bill, Senator Round said the lawmakers would not be able to adequately repair history, but could take measures to move forward.

Election Committee findings on candidate’s residential status

The Sault Tribe Election Committee recently ruled on an eligibility contention between two of the 2016 election candidates.

Unit I board representative candidates Janet Leidel and Angela Declue differed in opinions about the eligibility of Declue to run in the 2016 election. The matter in question was Declue’s residential status in the unit.

The Election Committee recently found Declue as eligible to be a candidate in the 2016 Sault Tribe elections.

A full report on the findings can be found online at http://www.saulttribe.com/images/Leidel_v_Declue_Decision.pdf

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Bill would expand tribal criminal jurisdiction

By Rick Smith

Tribal courts would have greater jurisdiction over accused criminal offenders who lack American Indian ancestry if Congress ever passes the Tribal Youth and Community Protection Act of 2016.

Senators Jon Tester (D-Mont.) and Al Franken (D-Minn.) recently introduced the bill, which was referred to the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, to expand tribal jurisdiction over drug related crimes, domestic violence against children and crimes against tribal police officers.

“Tribal communities must have every tool they need to protect themselves from folks who traffic illegal drugs and harm children in Indian Country,” Tester said in an announcement. “This bill gives tribes certainty and provides tribal law enforcement with the tools they need to police and prosecute every criminal in their community.”

He indicated only state or federal law enforcement officials can arrest and prosecute those who commit any offenses against children in Indian Country because of different levels of authority, proximity and capacity between state, tribal and federal law enforcement agencies. Legislation passed in 2013 allows for tribes to arrest and prosecute non-Indian offenders for domestic violence against women with whom they are involved, but

does not cover offenses against children and other members of tribes.

“Communities in Indian Country need to be able to take action against every dangerous offender who brings in drugs, hurts children, or threatens tribal law officers,” noted Franken in a release. “But right now, tribes

don’t have the jurisdiction they need to fight back against many of those very serious crimes. Our new legislation would restore the ability for tribal governments and law enforcement to protect their communities.”

Franken further indicated drug-related deaths in Indian Country have spiked by 206 per-

cent since 1979, accounting for 35 percent of violent crimes.

Executive director of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), Jacqueline Pata, remarked, “NCAI appreciates Senator Tester and Senator Franken’s attention to criminal jurisdiction issues in Indian Country, especially in protecting

our Native youth. Restoration of tribal criminal jurisdiction is an essential governmental service that all tribes need to protect their communities and create social wellbeing throughout Indian Country.”

The bill was referred to the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

CDC study indicates spikes in U.S. suicide rates

By Rick Smith

The annual suicide rate among American Indians climbed 89 percent among females and 38 percent among males from 1999 to 2014, according to figures from a study recently released by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics.

According to the numbers, the study indicated 54 females per 100,000 died by suicide in 1999, the total climbed to 118 per 100,000 in 2014. Women aged 25-44 years had the highest rate in 1999 and 2014. For men, the study shows 222 deaths by suicide per 100,000 in 1999 and 348 per 100,000 in 2014. Again, the largest percentage of suicide deaths by age involved men 25-44 years old.

Rough estimates of actual numbers of deaths by suicide could be calculated from the 2010 U.S. Census figures cited by the National Congress of American Indians. Those figures indicate

an Indian Country population of about 9.1 million, of whom 2.9 million were solely from American Indian ancestry and 5.2 million had American Indian ancestry combined with other races. However, it appears the accuracy of those figures may be questionable because of a historically noted widespread reluctance to participate in Census efforts among some American Indians nationwide.

Suicide figures specific to Sault Tribe members would likely be unavailable or unreliable due to the isolation of many members from the scope of tribal affairs, either geographically, administratively or both.

Authors of the suicide study noted, “Suicide is an important public health issue involving psychological, biological and societal factors. After a period of nearly consistent decline in suicide rates in the United States from 1986 through 1999, suicide rates have increased almost steadily from

1999 through 2014. While suicide among adolescents and young adults is increasing and among the leading causes of death for those demographic groups, suicide among middle-aged adults is also rising.”

Comparisons of figures with other races reflect Indian Country as having the highest overall suicide rates.

Among females, Afro-Americans maintain the lowest rate of 1.7 percent in 1999 and 2.1 percent in 2014 while American Indian women show the highest rate at 4.6 percent in 1999 and escalating to 8.7 percent in 2014.

Among males, suicide rates for the period actually declined from 10.5 percent to 9.7 percent for Afro-Americans and from 9.0 percent to 8.9 percent for Asia-Americans and Pacific islanders. The rates for American Indian males skyrocketed from 19.8 percent in 1999 to 27.4 percent in 2014. Suicide rates among white

men also reflected relatively high numbers of 20.2 percent in 1999 moving up to 25.8 percent by 2014.

The report authors noted, “The age-adjusted suicide rate in the United States was 24 percent higher in 2014 than in 1999, and increases were observed for both females and males in all age groups under 75.” As previously indicated, though, the actual figures indicate drops in suicide deaths among males of Afro-American, Asia-American and Pacific islander ethnicities.

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 Northern Rewards Club hours vary by site.

Resolutions approved at recent board meetings

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened a meeting on March 29, 2016, in Manistique. All were present with the exception of Bridgett Sorenson. During the meeting, the board passed 14 resolutions, 11 of them by a unanimous vote.

Resolution 2016-64: FY 2016 Institute of Museum and Library Services Basic Library Grant – the board approved the application for funding of the Library Grant to fund the salary of the current library aide and to promote cultural education.

Res. 2016-65: Institute of Museum and Library Services: Native American Library Services Enhancement Grant – this grant application was authorized by the board to provide additional resources to library staff and tribal members.

Res. 2016-66: Weatherization Program Plan – the board adopted the Weatherization Program Plan as presented.

Res. 2016-67: Correction of Parcel ID Numbers In Resolution Number 2015-52; Authorization to Purchase Real Estate Parcels Adjacent to JKL School – the board approved the modification to Resolution 2015-52 to reflect the correct parcel ID numbers on four lots adjacent to the school.

Res. 2106-68: Establishing Tort Claims Facilitation Committee: This resolution allows the board to create a committee of board members to act as settlement and negotiation committee to resolve currently pending tort based claims without further action of the board. The committee will be comprised of directors designated by motion of the Gaming Authority.

Res. 2016-69: Fisheries — EPA Capacity Grant Establish FY 2017 Budget – The establishment of a FY 2017 Fisheries budget for the Fisheries EPA Capacity Grant with federal monies of \$75,000 was approved.

Res. 2016-70: Drinking Water Emergency Establish FY 2016 Budget – The establishment of a FY 2016 budget for Drinking Water Emergency with Other Revenue monies of \$20,000 was approved.

Res. 2016-71: Emergency Preparedness FY 2016 Budget Modification – An increase in State of Michigan monies of \$11,638 was approved.

Res. 2016-72: Healthy Start Grant, Establish FY 2017 Budget – A FY 2017 budget for a Healthy Start grant with Other Revenue Inter Tribal Council monies of \$85,000 was approved.

Res. 2016-73: Law Enforcement — COPS TRGP 2015 Establishment of FY 2016 Budget – The board approved the establishment of an FY 2016 budget for COPS TRGP 2015 with Federal Department of Justice Revenue monies of \$47,330.

Res. 2016-74: Manistique Health Clinic FY 2016 Budget Modifications – Changes to the Personnel Sheet and reallocation of expenses was approved.

Res. 2016-75: Inland Fish & Wildlife – Tribal Cooperative

Establishment FY 2016 Budget – The establishment of a FY 2016 budget for Tribal Cooperative Landscape Conservation with BIA revenue monies of \$56,594 was approved.

Res. 2016-76: FY 2017 Budget Document 001 – The board approved the FY 2017 Budget Document 001 totaling \$5,266,160 of which \$4,211 comes from Tribal Support.

Res. 2016-77: Fisheries – MEDC — Grand Marais Establishment FY 2016 Budget – The board approved the establishment of a FY 2016 budget for MEDC Grand Marais with State of Michigan Revenue monies of \$88,370.

The board met again on April 5 with all present except for Catherine Hollowell.

A section of the Tribal Code Chapter 34: Personal Protection Orders and Injunctions was amended to stipulate that the Tribal Court shall have full jurisdiction to issue and enforce personal protection orders as provided in the other parts of the chapter involv-

ing any person in matters arising anywhere under the authority of the tribe.

The board approved a request to the Bureau of Indian Affairs to add and update a roster of roads in the tribe's service area to the inventory of the tribe's Tribal Transportation Program as part of the tribe's long-range transportation plan. The complete roster is posted on the tribe's website along with the board resolutions from the meeting.

Four trust land leases and three lease cancellations were approved. Modifications were approved to casino, government and enterprise employee introductory period policies and separation policies.

A 2017 budget was established for GLRI Quality Funding System Funding with federal monies of \$65,000 and \$80,000.

Modifications to 2016 budgets were approved for the Manistique, Munising and Marquette medical clinics for changes to personnel sheets and reallocation of expenses with no effect on tribal support.

The board convened another meeting on April 19, 2016, in Munising. All were present. During the meeting, nine resolutions were passed, eight by unanimous votes.

Resolution 2016-93: Consent to Waiver of Tribal Court Jurisdiction Visa Commercial Express Card Program – PNC Bank – This resolution approved a waiver of Tribal Court jurisdiction and an agreement to indemnify PNC Bank against certain limited claims.

Res. 2016-94: Native Employment Works Program – This resolution allows Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) to submit an application to the Office of Family Assistance, Administration for Children and Families Native Employment Works Program to assist low income members in the service area reach their self-sufficiency goals. ACFS is designated as the lead agency to receive and administer the Native Employment Works program for FY 2017-2020.

Res. 2016-95: Acceptance of the 2015 Northern Kewadin Ca-

sino Audit – The board accepted and approved the 2015 Northern Kewadin Casinos Audit as presented by Anderson, Tackman, & Company, PLC.

Res. 2016-96: Amending Tribal Code Chapter 21: Inland Hunting and Inland Fishing, Use of Suppressed Weapons – The Inland Conservation Committee asked to have the Tribal Code changed to authorize the use of suppressed weapons while harvesting game. This amendment will take effect on May 19. This amendment does not supersede any Federal law pertaining to the ownership or use of a suppressor.

Res. 2016-97: Video Conferencing Great Lakes Conservation Committee Meetings – The board approved the video conferencing of the Great Lakes Conservation Committee meetings at the Manistique and Munising community centers for a trial period of up to one year. Other locations such as St. Ignace and Hessel will be added to the

— Continued on page 11

★ RE-ELECT BRIDGETT SORENSON ★ TO THE SAULT TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS UNIT 3 SEAT

COMMUNITY SERVICE & BOARDS

- Sault Tribe Head Start Advisory Board
- Newly Appointed to the Sault Tribe Housing Commission
- Sault Tribe TAP Committee
- Communities That Care Group
- St. Ignace Events Committee
- St. Ignace Recreation Board
- Straits State Park Board
- President of the St. Ignace Hockey Association
- MAHA District 7 Council
- Mackinac County Relay for Life Leader
- Blood Drive Coordinator for 5 Years
- Member of the Women of the Moose
- Member of St. Ignace Loyola Catholic Church
- Coordinated 1st Annual Pink in the Rink Hockey Game
- Member of the Chipper Huskey Scholarship Committee



PLEASE FEEL FREE
TO CONTACT ME

★ 906.984.2052 ★

BRIDGETT91@YAHOO.COM

 BRIDGETT SORENSON
UNIT 3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PAID FOR AND ENDORSED BY BRIDGETT SORENSON

★ ★ ★ ★ QUALIFICATIONS ★ ★ ★ ★

- Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration
- Associate's Degree in Business Management
- Held a Real Estate License for 10 Years
- Previously Worked for the Sault Tribe for 10 Years (Human Resources & Casino Administration)

★ ★ ★ SINCE BEING ELECTED ★ ★ ★

- Gave Away Yearly \$1000 Scholarships
- Wrote a Unit Report in Every Newspaper
- Held Monthly Unit Meetings
- Held Office Hours – Now By Appointment
- Testified Twice for Sault Tribe Head Start
- Presented TAP at the Department Of Justice Conference
- Was Presented an Eagle Feather at the St. Ignace Native American Festival
- Attended the Youth Powwow and Unit 2 & 3 Powwows
- Co-Sponsored a Resolution for an HR Audit
- Co-Sponsored Casino Employee Surveys
- Told the Truth At All Costs
- Named a Scholarship for Unit 3 After Donald "Duck" Andress
- Sponsored Annual Kid's Fishing Day
- Sponsored Annual EUP Special Olympics Mackinac Island Bike Ride
- Secured Funding for the New Longhouse
- Donated Fish to the Elders for Fish Fry Fundraisers
- Was Tasered by Law Enforcement For Junior Police Academy Fundraiser

★ ★ ★ NEXT FOUR YEARS ★ ★ ★

- Continue to Fight for Employee Advocate Positions
- Secure Funding for Grimes Property as a Cultural Center
- Secure Funding for Local Recreation Opportunities
- Continue to Strive for Economic Development
- Use Portions of Third Party Revenue for Elders & Education
- Use Portion of Third Party Revenue for Health Access (Such as Mackinac Island)
- Pay Off Casino Debt and Reinstate 401K Plan
- Break Ground on the 20-Unit Elder Complex
- Continue the Fight For Long Term Planning
- Continue to Support Downstate Casino Projects to Fund Services & Self-Sufficiency

Recently approved resolutions continued

Continued from page 10

video conferencing when possible. If there is not enough participation it will be discontinued.

Res. 2016-98: GLRI Wildlife Projects FY 2016 Budget Modification – The board approved the FY 2016 budget modification to GLRI Wildlife Projects for an increase of Federal BIA monies of \$42,552.

Res. 2016-99: Coastal Program FY 2016 Budget Modification – The board approved the FY 2016 budget modification to the Coastal Program for an increase of Federal US Fish and Wildlife Services monies of \$19,092.

Res. 2016-100: Amending “Horne Pay Grid” Health Center Employee Policies – The board approved the amendment of the Compensation Administrative Guidelines for the Health Division and the inclusion of new positions.

Res. 2016-101: Contracting Authority After Hours Health Care Clinic Contracts – The board delegated the chairperson or his designee, the authority to contract with health delivery agencies for after-hours care for tribal members within the tribe’s service area.

On May 3, the board met again with all members present except for Darcy Morrow.

Submission of a grant application was approved in support of Early Head Start and Head Start.

Gary (Tom) Derwin was appointed to a two-year term as a tribal delegate to the Michigan

Indian Elders Association.

Consent was granted for contracts with indemnification provisions to the Oscar W. Larson Company for work to be done on both Midjim stores.

A budget to accommodate \$63,413.09 in federal funding was approved for Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Marten, no effect on tribal support.

A fiscal year 2016 budget modification was approved for an increase of federal funding of \$669,100.46 to transportation planning and maintenance of roads under the Indian Reservation Roads Program.

Installations of motorized swing doors were approved for the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building, tribal administration, George K. Nolan Judicial Building along with the following buildings: Fred Hatch, Mary Murray, Shedawin, Lambert Center, powwow showers, Eavou Group Home, Inland Fish, Enrollment, Mary Murray Culture Camp, Northern Hospitality, McCann, Newberry Health Center and the Advocacy Resource Center.

The Sault Tribe Election Committee was directed to swear in the winning candidate from a special advisory election for the vacant Unit V board representative’s seat subject to the provisions of the tribal election ordinance.

A re-obligation of \$50,000 in 2 percent funding for a term of

five years was approved for Sault Ste. Marie schools.

A fiscal year 2016 budget modification was approved for USDA to reallocate unspecified expenses for consulting with no effect on tribal support.

The following are approved resolutions from the May 17 board meeting in Naubinway where all board members were present with the exception of Cathy Abramson. The board passed 14 resolutions, nine by a unanimous vote.

Resolution 2016-111: Partial Waiver of Convictions was passed pursuant to Tribal Code Chapter 76 for the conviction of misdemeanor controlled substance, marijuana, Jan. 2016.

Res. 2016-112: Approving Contract Steward & Sheridan, P.L.C. – The board approved the contract to end December 31, 2016 for providing legal services to the tribe.

Res. 2016-113: Appointment of Karrie Wichtman as an Appellate Judge – Wichtman was appointed by the board to serve as an attorney judge for the tribe’s Court of Appeals for a four-year term.

Res. 2016-114: Appointment of Karrie Wichtman Chief Judge of the Appellate Court: Wichtman was appointed chief judge of the tribe’s Court of Appeals to begin May 17, 2016.

Res. 2016-115: Appointment of Jared Alan Blair Hautamaki as a Reserve Appellate Judge – Hautamaki was appointed to serve as reserve attorney judge

for the tribe’s Court of Appeals for a four-year term beginning May 17, 2016.

Res. 2016-116: Appointment of Elizabeth Kronk-Warner as a Reserve Appellate Judge – Warner was appointed to serve as a reserve attorney judge for the tribe’s Court of Appeals for a four-year term.

Res. 2016-117: Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Consent to Waiver of Tribal Court Jurisdiction for MEDC Grant for Frazier Dock – The tribe waived its sovereign immunity from suit in favor of MEDC only should an action be commenced under the Agreement.

Res. 2016-118: Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Consent to Waiver of Tribal Court Jurisdiction Credit Agreement with the Huntington National Bank Authorization to Enter into Agreements – To induce the Bank to enter into a letter of credit, the tribe is required to confirm that they will not claim tribal immunity or exclusive tribal court jurisdiction with respect to any disputes or causes of action between the tribe and the bank that might arise from, or relate to, the letter of credit. The board approved the limited waiver of sovereign immunity.

Res. 2016-119: Letter of Intent Upper Peninsula Commission for Area Progress – The board authorized Elder Care Services to send a letter of intent to receive a grant application from the Upper Peninsula

Commission for Area Progress in order to secure funding to provide and expand direct services to elders.

Res. 2016-120: Sovereignty in Indian Education (SIE) Enhancement Acceptance of Grant and Establishment of a FY 2017 Budget – The board accepted the Sovereignty in Education Enhancement Grant in from the Bureau of Indian Education in the amount of \$200,000 and established a FY 2017 budget.

Res. 2016-121: Governmental – MEDC 3 Mile Project Establishment of FY 2016 Budget – The board approved the establishment of a FY 2016 budget for the MEDC 3 Mile Project with State Revenue monies of \$33,008.14.

Res. 2016-122: GLRI Tribal Initiative Establish FY 2016 Budget – The board approved the establishment of a FY 2016 budget for GLRI Tribal Initiative with Federal EPA monies of \$100,000.

Res. 2016-123: Culture Camp FY 2016 Budget Modification – The board approved a budget modification to reallocate expenses to construct an arbor.

Res. 2016-124: Health Center X-Ray FY 2016 Budget Modification – The board approved a change in the personnel sheet, the reallocation of expenses and an increase in Other Revenue – Third Party Revenue monies of \$87,000.

To view the above resolutions in their entirety, go to www.saulttribe.com.



Elect Ilene (LaVake) Moses Unit 3 Board of Directors



COMMITMENT: *I will work hard for our Tribe and all the Committees to better understand the functions of our programs. I will work hard to serve the Tribal members of Unit 3. I will not make promises I cannot keep.*

- 8 yrs Teacher Aide HEAD START PROGRAM 1966-1974
- 17+ yrs State of Michigan Indian Outreach Worker (IOW) 1975-1992
- 4 yrs former Sault Tribe Unit 3 Board of Directors Representative 1998-2002
- 1 yr Sault Tribe General Assistance representative 1992-1993
- 4 yrs Sault Tribe Contract Health Coordinator 1995-1999
- 7 yrs Sault Tribe Elder Service Division Health Coordinator 2002-2009
- 3 yrs Title IV Indian Ed Program Chair/St. Ignace Area Schools 1975-1978
- 13 yrs Title IX Indian Ed Program Parent Committee member/St. Ignace Schools 1999-2012
- 10 yrs member of Unit 3 Sub Committee 1995-2005
- 10 yrs Secretary and member of Elderly Advisory Committee/Unit 3 St. Ignace 1995-2005
- 10 yrs member Sault Tribe Child Welfare Committee 1998-2008
- 10 yrs member Sault Tribe Health Committee 1998-2008
- 17 yrs Sault Tribe delegate to Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) 1996-2013
- 3 yrs member of Jewel of Mackinac Golf Tournament 1998-2000 Moses Dialysis Unit
- 10 yr member Moses Dialysis Board/Mackinac Straits Hospital 2002-2012
- Sault Tribe Elder Service Division Kitchen Aide 2014-present
- Title IX Indian Ed Program Parent Committee Chair/St. Ignace Schools 2013-present
- Member Unit 3 Sub Committee 2015-Present
- Member Wequayoc Cemetery Committee 2015-present

MidJim convenience stores offer jobs, accessibility

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Sault Tribe owns and operates two MidJim convenience stores and gas stations in Sault Ste. Marie and in St. Ignace. "MidJim" means "food" in Ojibwa. According to general manager and 12-year employee Jaime MacDonald, they sell gas, diesel, tobacco and convenience products such as home and health care items, grocery, snack items and beer and wine.

The stores offer the Tribal Discounting Program to tribal members and tribally-owned businesses on the purchase of diesel and gas, cigarettes and tobacco. In addition to the two tribally owned MidJims, there are stores in Kinross, Christmas, Cedarville, Manistique, Marquette and Escanaba that also offer tribal members discounts on gas and diesel. All tribal members residing within the tribes agreement area receive a 6 percent sales tax discount off their purchases.

According to MacDonald, the MidJim stores strive to keep a moderate financial plan with low expenses, low payroll and a moderate sale forecast while maintaining a positive cash balance and slowly growing the total cash and company's net worth.

Management strives to make a profit for the tribe to help support tribal programs and offers convenient locations for tribal members and customers to shop from their wide variety of products. In addition to tribal member discounts, the MidJims also provide tribal members with employment opportunities.

Staffing at the two stores includes a general manager based out of the Sault, assistant manager based in St. Ignace and 10 cashiers. The Sault staff is comprised of one lead cashier and five additional cashiers. The St. Ignace staff also has five cashiers. Current employees are all tribal members or members of tribal households.

Two of the stores more recent milestones include three fuel tanks replaced in MidJim Sault in 2013; and new fuel lines, concrete and parking lot at MidJim St. Ignace in 2015. This fall MidJim Sault will replace its gas dispensers, gas lines and the concrete under the canopy. The sale of gas during those two weeks of construction will stop temporarily. Planned for early summer, MidJim St. Ignace will also replace its gas dispensers and will be down for gas sales for one day. The MidJims will also begin accepting fleet credit cards at the pump beginning mid to late June.

Summer hours at the two stores begin June 5, and they will be open Sundays from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The Sault MidJim store is located on Shunk Road and opened in 1986, while the store in St. Ignace, located on Mackinaw Trail, opened in 1991. You can contact the Sault store by calling (906) 635-4782, or faxing to 635-4972. The MidJim store in St. Ignace can be contacted by calling 643-9906, or by faxing 643-0604.



Sault Ste. Marie cashiers: From left, lead cashier 13-year employee Jessica Smith, two-year employee Hunter Captain, nine-month Alicia Landreville and nine-month Karen Landreville. Missing from the photo are Adam Merchberger and Sandy VanValkenburgh, both employed at MidJim for one year and eight months.



St. Ignace staff: From the left, two-month employee Kelly Perrault, two-month employee Troy Johnston, two-year employee Kelly Jenkins, 12-year employee Lisa Sayles, and, in front, 12-year employee and MidJims' general manager, Jaime MacDonald. Missing from photo: Marie Moses, an eight-month employee.

Vote Michael McKerchie, Unit 1 Board of Directors - Move Forward Together

I am excited and honored by your support in the Primary Election. With your continued backing WE can move OUR Tribe forward. Please consider casting your vote for me in the upcoming General Election: Review my platform, contact me with any questions, and go to my Facebook page and see what I can offer.

Economic Development

- Actively pursue expanding tribal gaming operations in Lansing and Romulus.
- Create additional tribal businesses that can stand on their own.

Improve Current Operations

- Eliminate micro-managing by trusting managers to do their jobs.
- Revive our workforce so our team members feel valued and empowered.

Strengthen Sovereignty Rights

- Preserve hunting and fishing rights, fight for maintaining and expanding the Consent Decree. Protect the environment; work with state and federal governments to Shut Line 5 down.
- Develop strategic plans for all programs.

Provide for the Seven Generations

- Designate specific funds to increase the principle for the self sufficient fund (Elder fund). Continue working with our schools and increase opportunities for our youth.
- Include our Elders in the decision making process—Create an annual Gathering of the Elders.



I ENCOURAGE MEMBERS TO CONTACT ME WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT MY CAMPAIGN OR HOW TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT: (906) 203-7828 EMAIL: VOTEMCKERCHIE@GMAIL.COM FACEBOOK.COM/VOTEMCKERCHIE



To represent members and to strengthen our foundation Board Members must:

- Set our tribe's mission and create policies to achieve our goals.
- Establish budgets with financial & fiscal controls.
- Ensure that our Constitution, By-Laws, Ordinances, and tribal laws are followed.
- Provide resources for our programs and services for our members.
- Always remember who we are and where we came from.

As your Board Member, I promise that I will represent your interest to the best of my ability. I've gained experience and I can help our tribe flourish. I've been involved and I'm dedicated to the success of our tribe. I ask for your vote for positive change to move our tribe forward...

LISTEN TO THE MEMBERSHIP & UNITE OUR TRIBE

With your support, I will work to get things done.

**INVOLVED
DEDICATED
EXPERIENCED**

Michael MCKERCHIE

This ad endorsed by Michael McKerchie.

Walking on

JOHN W. MACKEY

John W. Mackey Jr., 70, of Dollar Bay, Mich., formerly of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on May 5, 2016, at War Memorial Hospital with his loving wife and daughter at his side holding his hands. He was born on Nov. 25, 1945, in Sault Ste. Marie to the late John W. and Elda (nee LaFaver) Mackey.

John grew up in the Sault and graduated from Sault High with the class of 1964. He attended Michigan Tech University and later LSSU. He joined the Navy and was honorably discharged due to a heart murmur. He sailed on the great Lakes for U.S. Steel for eight years. He then went to work for Michigan Bell Telephone Company as an installer in St. Ignace. John moved to the Sault as a lineman and a splicer. In 1978 he took a management job with Ameritech in Hancock, Mich. He retired from Ameritech after 24 years. After retirement, John went to work for Data Tel Communications in Green Bay, Wisc. From there, he went to Ameritech in Columbus, Ohio, as a design engineer for fiber optics, moving to Warren, Mich., to work for Quest Communication as a design engineer. In 2000, he and his wife, Mary Kay, moved back north due to the economy. He worked with the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians as busing manager, from which he retired due to developing primary lateral sclerosis. John was an elder of the tribe.

His hobbies were golf, fishing, raising show rabbits and fancy guppies. He was a fish judge for many years and traveled to shows all over the US.

John is survived by his wife, Mary Kay (nee Ketchum) Mackey, whom he married in 1969 and is from the Sault; daughter, Jamie Mackey of the Sault; sister, Diane (Rick) Comley of Marquette, Mich.; brother, Jeff Mackey of Jacksonville, Fla.; several nieces, nephews and great nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, John W. Mackey Sr. and Elda (nee LaFaver) Mackey; a brother, Richard Mackey; and granddaughter Julia Rae.

Due to John's wishes there will be no public funeral.

JAMES MOSHER

James "Jim" Mosher, aged 73, most recently of West Chester, Ohio, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on April 19, 2016, at University Hospital. Jim was born on Oct. 31, 1942, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Francis J. and Stella (nee Martin) Mosher.

Jim was married to his best friend and love of his life,



Claudia (nee Novak) Mosher for 51 years. Over the years, they lived in several places including California and Chicago. He passed his love of fast pitch softball to his family and even coached several of them to become a pitcher like he was. Jim enjoyed his travels to Washington, D.C., and Boston because of the amount of history in the cities. In addition to being a history buff, Jim was a "true crime enthusiast." His family teased him that he could provide tours around the city of Chicago based on where certain crimes took place. Camping and playing croquet in the backyard with his family were also favorite pastimes.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Francis and Stella Mosher; and a brother, John Mosher.

Jim is survived by his wife, Claudia; daughters, Jackie Mosher, Michelle (Jesse Garcia) Mosher, Monique (Robb) Stull, Nicole (Fred) Galvan, Jr., Claudine (Todd) Burge and Tempeste (Tom) Duvelius; grandchildren, Tiffany (Todd) Hanlon, Britnee Mosher, James Mosher, Alexandria Mosher, John Mosher, Francine Stull, Joceline Stull, Taylor Galvan, Samantha Galvan, Madison Galvan, Hayley Burge, Noah Duvelius and Abbey Duvelius; great-grandchildren, Lucy Hanlon, Cooper Hanlon and another one on the way; and many other loving family members and friends.

Visitations took place on April 22 at Mueller Funeral Home in Mason, Ohio, and on April 23, at St. John the Evangelist Church in West Chester where services followed.

Please sign the online guest-book at Muellerfunerals.com.

NANCY CORP SASADA

Nancy Marie (nee Corp) Sasada, born Dec. 21, 1950, in St. Ignace, Mich., passed away in her sleep on March 1, 2016, while residing in Brookfield, Wisc.

She is the beloved mother of Jason, Joshua (Jennifer) and David (Erika) Sasada. Loving grandmother of Brooke, Carter and Nathan. Further survived by nieces, nephews other relatives and friends.

Private family services took place. In lieu of flowers memori-

als to the charity of your choice appreciated.

RUBY SMITH

Ruby Smith, 43, of Jackson,

formerly of St. Ignace, died unexpectedly from injuries in an auto accident near Lansing on April 10, due to slippery roads. She was born in St. Ignace on Oct.

28, 1972, to William and Deborah Ann (nee Andress) Foster.

Ruby graduated from LaSalle High School in the Class of 1991. See "Walking on," page 14

Sault Tribe Housing Authority

Down Payment Assistance Program Is Now Accepting Applications

from

June 01, 2016, through July 05, 2016

Applications available at
154 Parkside, Kincheloe, MI 49788

If interested, please call Dana Piippo at 906-495-1450 or 800-794-4072 or 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 and Marquette

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

Family Size Annual Income

| Family Size | Annual Income |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1 | \$ 36,792 |
| 2 | \$ 42,048 |
| 3 | \$ 47,304 |
| 4 | \$ 52,560 |
| 5 | \$ 56,765 |
| 6 | \$ 60,970 |
| 7 | \$ 65,174 |
| 8 | \$ 69,379 |

Join Me In Voting For Michael A. McKerchie – Unit I Board Member

Michael knows and understands our people, our community and our tribal organization. He knows our strengths and our areas that need improvement.

He will take the time to work hard towards making the changes that are sorely needed to help mend our tribe.

He will do so by seeking the advice of our elders, relying on the strengths and talents of our people while working with our chairperson and tribal board to bring the best we can give to our entire tribe.

Michael will keep focused on the issues that matter and on the vision for our future so that we may continue to protect our rights and resources while bringing pride for our generations to come.

It is because of this that I wholeheartedly support Michael A. McKerchie for Unit I Board Member. He's a great choice. He will make a difference because he cares.

— Cathy M. Abramson



This ad is endorsed by Cathy Abramson.

Part III in the series by tribal member Seth Allard

[Author's Note: The following story and poem are representations of genre of writing called "creative ethnographic writing." This writing style provides a more creative, aesthetic expression of a people's culture and history, as shown through stories, poetry, prose and other forms of artistic representation. The story which immediately follows will resurface in two more chapters in this thesis, as will several other instances of poetry, prose, excerpts of non-fiction and fiction, and anecdotal material. Also, the Ojibwa/Anishnaabek words included in this section

and thesis overall are not specific to any dialect or local styles of pronunciation and language. Anishnaabek words are spelled simply as they are sounded out. The themes of the following two pieces of creative writing will be taken up in the next installment, "Chapter Two: Conflicted Identity in the Sault Tribe: Part One"].

We work quickly to untie and carry the 20-foot flat bottom aluminum boat to the bank. Next, we place the spear, lantern, C-clamp and lantern mount, and the kill stick (a short, heavy stick so aptly named because of its purpose, which is to thwack a fish near its

ear drum in order to concuss it to death and thereby stop it's noisy SOS to other fish) in the boat.

The last slice of sunlight sinks below the horizon, plunging the world into a starry darkness. We march up the porch steps to pay a visit to our uncle. Before knocking on the storm door, the inner door opens and the spry, white haired man says, "Whattaya want?"

He can contain his comical sense of seriousness for a second before he breaks into a smile and holds the storm door wider, beckoning us to "Come on in and have a seat."

We follow our orders and shuffle inside, gratefully accepting cups of fresh coffee and wooden chairs around the kitchen table. As usual, his home is nearly immaculate. The linoleum kitchen floor is swept clean, the carpeted area still shows the tell-tale tracks of a vacuum cleaner (yes, us Indians can even track appliances through the wilds of our living rooms). Picture frames filled with children, grandchildren and our recently departed and much admired Aunt are hung about or placed around the house. Books, magazines and various knick-knacks are also strewn in

an organized fashion. The sink is clear of dirty dishes.

After decades of retirement from long-haul trucking, mainly out of industrial southern Michigan, Uncle Mike always struck me as the most industrious of my four uncles. Even in his mid-seventies, the idea of "retirement" seems to elude him. He can often be caught clearing brush on his property and setting fish nets in the river in the summer, or plowing snow in the cold months at a pace that would exhaust most twenty-somethings.

"You wanna come out with us
See "Part III," page 15

From "Walking on," page 13

She also earned a bachelor's degree in applied science and was the human services director

at Fire Keepers Casino near Battle Creek, Mich. Ruby was loyal to her Native culture and made many art items, including ear rings and dreamcatchers, to name a few. They are sold on Mackinac Island and at powwows. She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe Chippewa Indians, with a heritage of Native American background of several generations. She was a member of St.



Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church.

She married the love of her life, Robert Smith, on Aug. 1, 2015, in St. Ignace, and he survives (in stable condition at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing). Also surviving are her children, Vlad Jannett and Sophia Jannett, at home; step children, Alyssa Smith, Gabriel Cox and Sam Smith, at home; her mother and stepfather, Deborah and Allen Campbell, Sault Ste. Marie; her brother, Will Foster, St. Ignace; her sister, Jennifer Foster, St. Ignace; her in-laws, Lane and Cheryl McFarland, Haslett, Mich.; her former husband, Paul Jannett; and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by

her grandparents, Pat and Mary (nee Cadotte) Andress; and her father, William Foster.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will take place at a later date in St. Ignace with burial of her ashes on Mackinac Island in the Andress lot.

Dodson Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.

Traditional Native American prayer for the grieving

I give you this one thought to keep, I am with you still — I do not sleep. I am a thousand winds that blow, I am the diamond glints on snow, I am the sunlight on ripened grain, I am the gentle autumn rain.

When you awaken in the morning's hush, I am the sweet uplifting rush, of quiet birds in circled flight, I am the soft stars that shine at night. So not think of me as gone — I am with you still in each new dawn.

LORRAINE J. TIERI

Lorraine J. (nee Rosenburger) Tieri of Philadelphia, Penn. sadly passed of ALS on Feb. 15, 2016, at the young age of 56. She was born Aug. 29, 1959. She was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa



Indians. Beloved wife of John L. Tieri, mother of Jillian, Adam (Debra), Rebecca (Shane) and loving grandmother of Jared, John, Jacob, Madylyn, Michayla, Kaitlyn, Adam Jr., Taylor, Emily and Elizabeth.

Preceding her were her father, Herbert Rosenburger; mother, Patricia (nee Rapson), who also passed of ALS; grandmother, Frances (nee Murphy) Schrader.

Lorraine is survived by many relatives.

Lorraine and her mother Patricia were both born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. her father was born in Pennsylvania.

Lorraine was so loved and will be truly missed.

RE-ELECT DENNIS MCKELVIE UNIT 1

Thank You for Your Support in our Primary Election!

"I just want to thank all the Candidates for their effort and hard work to try to better our Tribe with their new ideas.

"This has been one of the cleanest and best Primaries of my time, with no negative ads. A Big Thanks to all the Candidates for this. They have shown what a clean race looks like. It just goes to show what our People are really about. Again, thank you for your Participation in the Election Process.

To the Candidates who are moving forward, Good Luck."



Re-Elect Dennis McKelvie to Unit 1 for Strong, Independent Leadership

Part III in the series by tribal member Seth Allard

From “Part III, page 14

Uncle?” asks CJ.

“No, I...” He almost hesitates. “No, I can’t do ’er tonight. My knee is still healing,” he says, referring to a recent knee surgery.

“Yeah, you don’t want to mess that up. Gotta let stuff like that rest if you want it to heal right,” I says.

“Yeah, the doctor said I really had to take it easy with it. I wish I could go out with you boys, though. Last year’s was a heck of a night. You remember that?” he says, pointing to me.

“Yeah that was pretty cool.”

“I never saw a sturgeon that close.”

“You guys saw a sturgeon out here?” asks CJ.

“Yeah,” says Uncle Mike, “Came right under our boat and circled us three or four times. Man, I’m glad you didn’t spear that one.”

“I almost did,” I say. “I looked out and thought, ‘Is that a boulder moving? Am I seeing things?’ But when I realized it was moving, I didn’t know what to think. I turned to Uncle Mike and said, ‘There’s something big out there moving toward us.’”

“And I told him, ‘Well, what is it?’”

“I don’t know,” I says, “but whatever it is, it’s bigger than any fish I’ve ever seen.” And he says, “well, spear it!”

“Did you try to spear it?”

Asks CJ.

“No way,” I says. “As it came closer and we saw the spots on its back and the skin instead of scales, we knew it was a sturgeon.”

“If you woulda speared that, we’d’ve been dragged to the East coast before it stopped. That thing was...how big would you say it was?”

“Jeez, probably around five feet long and nearly three feet wide. And that isn’t even as big as they get,” I says.

“That woulda been a lot of meat though. And probably a pretty high price per pound, considering how the fine for spearing a sturgeon without a permit,” says CJ with a chuckle.

“The only way I know of to spear a sturgeon is to use two boats and two spears, and even then the spears that we had would’ve shivered,” says Uncle Mike. “Or you can turn the spear so the tines go long-ways so they sink right in the middle of its head along the spot where the bony plates come together. That’s the only weak spot it has where you can land a shot in the brain and kill it immediately.”

“But that would’ve been a

lucky strike,” I says. “I just thought it was pretty neat, seeing that big sturgeon circle the boat and the lantern light within arm’s reach.”

“Yeah, that was pretty neat,” says Uncle Mike. A short silence falls among us after the description of the encounter with the prehistoric giant, a greatly reduced number of which still lurk in river. “Well, you guys better get out there if you want to get a full night in.”

With a good luck from our Uncle, we pick our way across the yard to the boat. After putting the gear, ores and the 10-foot spear along the inside of the wall, we take positions on the sides and lift it partially into the water. I step in and make my way to the back over two rows of seating. CJ and Matt push the boat out further and CJ files in. CJ and I push with ore and spear-butt, while Matt, in his knee-high boots finishes pushing us out until we are free of land and barely floating above the sandy, pebbly river bottom. He steps in and weighted with over 600 pounds of men, the small aluminum craft gently begins to drift out into the small bay.

CJ lights the gas lantern and hands it to me, instructing me in hanging in how to hang it onto the post clamped to the aft wall. With the lantern hanging precariously over the water we paddle out into deeper water.

Spearing is a fun thing to do, but probably a funnier thing to see. Originally, Ojibwa men would paddle out in canoes, and with a torch held out by a scone from one end of the canoe, spear fish by torch light. I am not sure where the idea came from, but I would have loved to be in on that conversation. In my mind it goes something like this:

“Hey, you know how fire and boats don’t mix?”

“Yeah.”

“And how standing in a canoe can be lead to impromptu swimming lessons?”

“Uh-huh.”

“Well, I have an idea...Let’s put a small fire on one end of a canoe, paddle it out to the middle of a river, and stand up and try to spear fish as they pass by.”

“Yeah, I like fish. Let’s do that.”

A part of me has to believe I am related to one of the people involved in this conversation.

In place of a torch, we now use gas lantern, or even regular household light bulbs placed precariously in the river and held in place above the water by a floating board, which is powered by a car-battery (electricity being

another thing that does not mix well with aquatic activities). Supposedly, the fish are attracted by the light and are that much easier to spear; though I have yet to see a fish purposefully come to the light or be stunned by the light in some close-encounter-of-the-fourth-kind scenario.

The person who is spearing stands completely upright on the back of the boat, searching the 20-foot arch of illumination. The pilot sits on the opposite end and paddles according to the direction of the spearman. So the boat is literally being paddled backwards. Directing the boat towards unsuspecting fish or intercepting a moving target requires a lot of communication between the spearman and the pilot. If you were a third person in the boat, as I was now, you could keep an eye out and in the event a fish is speared and carefully lifted into the boat, beat its head with the aforementioned “kill stick,” in order to keep it from warning its buddies of their impending doom.

CJ is the first one up to spear and Matt the pilot. So I wait my turn to spear or pilot and chew on jerky in the center of the boat.

CJ tells Matt to “take her straight out for a while.” As we make our way at a crawling pace, CJ gives directions to avoid the large rocks and boulders strewn along the river floor, some of which poke out of the water, and other barely remain submerged for the unsuspecting. Thousands of years ago the receding glaciers left great boulders in its wake; though, from another view, it looks as if God decided to play a game of marbles eons ago and forgot to pick up. After about 20 minutes, we come to the spot CJ guided us to. Two small islands, perhaps a hundred feet long and 50 wide and covered with brush and stunted pines, have made good spots for spearing in the past. They also made for fun adventuring, and as kids we kicked out on driftwood to explore them.

We keep our eyes peeled on the water, searching for the slightest shift in the shadows or flicker of a tale that would indicate a pike, walleye, trout, bass or perch. The silence is only broken by miniscule drips of water from the ore, which Matt expertly wields. CJ holds the spear as a high wire artist would for balance.

For nearly an hour, we circle the islands and make our way eastward along the shallows, never drifting past depths of four or five feet. The wind, thankfully, keeps calm. Wind-born

ripples can make spearing all but useless, but are held at bay tonight. Perhaps there was something to offering the tobacco in the water before setting off.

Eventually, CJ and I switch and I take my turn standing with the spear poised over the water. For all of my concentration, I cannot see a thing that resembles a fish other than the notorious “stick-fish,” small logs and branches that can look deceptively like a fish, especially when one wants so badly to see something.

In the cool silence of the night we drift like lonely ghosts, lit by the eerie glow of the lantern. Lonely, because during the many times that I have speared on the river, I have not once seen another boat chasing aquatic game along the shoreline. Every house, every person and everything is asleep but us, the fish who dance playfully in and out of our light, and the river with its many sounds. Deliberately, strategically, meticulously we weave around islands, follow stream heads to their terminus and even search under private docks and boats in our inspection. Fish tend move along the edges of underwater plants and rocks, as opposed to being out in the open of the sandy bottom areas; and so then do we.

Over two ours have passed. We have cycled between pilot, middle person and spearman at least twice each. CJ had a stab at a quickly moving perch, and we had a few sightings on the murky edges of the light, but all in all the only significant event occurred when I almost tipped into the water while trying to take a piss.

Losing faith in the eastern stretch of the river, we turn about and begin on the long trek westward, aiming for the landing at Uncle Mike’s. Matt takes the spear, CJ the paddle in the back and I, the lazy seat in the middle. Caught up in the simple bliss of yet more beef jerky and the brilliant stars set above us and reflecting against the calm water, I didn’t notice it. And even if I had seen it out of the corner of my eye, I would’ve dismissed it as just another small log that resembled a fish. But Matt and CJ were quick to realize that it was not a log, even though they too had to do a double-take.

Drawn Away

So many attempted suicides, they filled up the [hospital] wards
It’s very economically depressed, there’s nothing much for the kids
We’ve lost our spirituality

And our guidance in our lives
Kids don’t really have anything to fall back on.

I try to encourage them to get on the drum,
Attend sweat lodges.
They were caught up in the same problems that the rest of society has.
Even though they’re exposed to the positives,
The spirituality,
They are also exposed to negatives.
They’ve been drawn away.

[The children are] exposed
To substance abuse
And unstable, dysfunctional family
Even though they were exposed to the traditions
That has an effect
Throughout their lives
It’s really hard for ’em to break that.

They have to leave to find decent jobs and work
You find that going back two generations
And they lose their culture.
Mother, she would bring up things from my youth on Sugar Island,
My ancestral home.
People would gather there.
You would get culture from that.

Anishnaabekmowin...
[the Ojibwa] language
She wouldn’t, she didn’t want to teach me.
Children my age
Their parents didn’t want to teach the language.
Being known as Indian
Would hold you back in life.

People would try to hide
That they were Native
By calling themselves French-Canadian
Or Spanish
Not Indian
Really you’re only fooling yourself.
Everybody knew who you were anyways.

I asked my mother what French-Canadian was
And she was kind of...embarrassed we did that.
“Oh, you know, that’s a... a way that people can try to hide
That they are Indian.”
And I says, “Why do they do that?
They’re Indian aren’t they?”
I didn’t understand.

– Poem formed from conversation with Sault Tribe member, born 1950s

Reserve a space now for Sault Summer History Camp

Looking for a fun and educational week of activities for your child? The Chippewa County Historical Society (CCHS) is sponsoring its fifth annual Summer History Camp in Sault Ste. Marie during the week of June 20-24.

Camp begins at 9 a.m. in

the East Dependency of the historic Schoolcraft House on Water Street, and conclude at 3 p.m. Students finishing grades 3 to 6 (aged 9-12) are invited to attend. The cost for the week is \$75.

The theme this year is the early history of Sault Ste.

Marie and the building of the Soo Locks. Camp activities are being coordinated by CCHS board members and retired teachers, Patty Olsen and Ginny Cymbalist. Please contact Ginny Cymbalist at 632-9523 or ggycymbalist@yahoo.com for more information or to reserve

a space. Space is limited, so please do not hesitate.

The Society is grateful once again for the support of the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, which has awarded a mini-grant to CCHS for our fifth annual summer history camp.

The Chippewa County Historical Society, founded in 1919, is at 115 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information about CCHS, view www.cchsmi.com and Facebook, or contact cchs@sault.com or 635-7082.

Sault Tribe Construction committed to doing the best

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The smell of diesel fuel, heavy equipment being worked on, piles of limestone and men in work wear are what you would see if you stopped by Sault Tribe Construction's office on M-129 just outside of Sault city limits.

Look for the blue building and red work trucks parked nearby.

Project Manager William "Billy" Sams oversees the construction company's two divisions – public works and commercial – and said his employees are all Sault Tribe members.

The public works division has all the heavy equipment and does excavating, snow plowing, sanding, salting, and snow removal. They also do septic fields, ponds, drainage ditches, and roadwork in addition to tackling demolition jobs such as old houses, garages and sheds.

Proud of the quality work his men do, Sams said the road they installed for JKL Lumsden Way hasn't been patched in over 10 years and is holding up well. His crew also recently installed the mile road at tribal fisheries (running south off of 15 Mile and Shunk Roads) using BIA grant funding secured by Transportation Planner Wendy Hoffman.

The Public Works division also works with the tribe's Housing Department to install septic systems and on other projects. "We have done some work outside of the tribe, but not a lot. The tribe usually has enough in-house work to keep us busy, but there are times when some of the guys are laid off in-between jobs or while we are waiting on approvals," he said.

Sams said his crew is currently resurfacing the circle drive around the powwow grounds in the Sault through the BIA development program and Hoffman. They are using crushed limestone, which Sams said will be softer on bare feet and moccasin-wearing dancers and will shed water so it doesn't puddle on the road. "It's basically the same stuff they use on baseball diamonds — there won't be any rocks — it will be a nice clean surface," he said.

Another project they recently completed is the installation of a concrete diversion ditch for a new fish pond at the Odenaang Housing site. The pond was formerly used as the housing development's septic lagoon before they tied into city water. Fisheries received a grant they used to clean out the lagoon and turn it into a pond, and the new diversion ditch allows them to open a valve to fill the pond with water. Once it has filled to the wanted level, they shut the valve off and the water gets diverted to a nearby drainage ditch.

"We change projects every day," Sams said. "The guys just finished grading the road we installed at 15 Mile for



Back row: Mike Romano, Joe Bourque, Joe Paquin, Scott Jewel. Front left to right: Billy Sams, Ken LaFaver, Frank Toms, Ed LaPoint, and Jeff Tamlyn. Project Manager William "Billy" Sams oversees the construction company's two divisions – public works and commercial – and said his employees are all Sault Tribe members. The public works division has all the heavy equipment and does excavating, snow plowing, sanding, salting, and snow removal. They also do septic fields, ponds, drainage ditches, and roadwork in addition to tackling demolition jobs such as old houses, garages and sheds. Then there is the commercial side of Sault Tribe Construction, the carpenters and laborers. The Fleet Department consists of heavy equipment repairer and one-year employee Frank Toms. Sams said, "All of our guys have the tribe's best interest in mind. We strive to give the tribe the best job we can."



Photo by Brenda Austin

Sault Tribe Construction work crew spreading crushed limestone on the Ring Road around the powwow grounds. Left to right: Joe Paquin, Mike Romano and operating the Skidsteer is Jeff Tamlyn.

Fisheries. We also have some work we are going to do at the tribe's Cultural Camp. Their footing drains back up so we are going to clean the ditch out and extend the culvert on the north-west corner so it sheds water away from the building. We are also looking at doing a few more demolition jobs if we get them."

Sams said if a job is within their scope of work the tribe usually gives them the work, provided they can do it within their budgeted amount.

"Sometimes I have to bid against outside contractors. It's hard for me to bid on the open market because we have a set rate and often contractors on the open market can bid less than us because they can pay their guys less. Like everywhere else

our labor force changes with the demands of the jobs," Sams said.

The Public Works crew based in their Sault office consists of lead operator and 12-year employee Ed LaPoint, operator and 12-year employee Ken LaFaver and operator and 16-year employee Mike Romano. Operator and 14-year employee Joe Paquin and operator and seven-year employee Jeff Tamlyn are based out of St. Ignace and handle the majority of the work in that area.

The Fleet Department consists of heavy equipment repairer and one-year employee Frank Toms. As the equipment gets older, Sams said, it's nice to have someone on board who knows how to take care of it and who can do more than

just everyday repairs. Last year, Toms refurbished one of their Front End loaders, which Sams said turned out nice and improved its value. Toms is scheduled to refurbish a second one over the summer.

Then there is the commercial side of Sault Tribe Construction, the carpenters and laborers. "We do a lot of remodeling for the casino and bid on home improvement projects through the Housing Department," Sams said. "We do a lot of design work. I try and save the tribe money by meeting with departments and doing a complete design, and then if we need to get an engineer involved the majority of the design is done which helps minimize their cost."

Sams said lead carpenter

and five-year employee Joe "Mel" Bourque and Carpenter and three-year employee Scott Jewel will be demolishing and expanding the old concession stand upstairs at Big Bear Arena by about 10 feet and turning it into a training kitchen. "When we are done it will have new tables, countertops, cabinets, sinks, new flooring and a new drop ceiling and paint. We constructed a kitchen similar to it at the USDA building and it came out really nice," he said. The new kitchen at Big Bear will be used for trainings and events and will be able to service the hospitality room as well.

Sams has been a tribal employee for over 20 years. "I started in the early '90s as a foreman with the Force Account when they started the housing projects up again. The Force Account was originally started to keep tribal members working and train our people so they have real marketable skills. One of our former employees is now a site superintendent building hotels along with a couple of others that have since moved on and started their own companies. There are several other individuals who started out with us and are now working for other companies, which is nice to see. We have had a lot of good guys come in and work their way up through the ranks and leave for other positions," Sams said.

"I give a lot of credit to the tribe for where I am at today, because they gave me that opportunity," Sams said. "Ed LaPoint has been here almost as long as I have and he knows his equipment and knows what it takes to get the job done. He is invaluable to the everyday operations of our company; our crew is all trustworthy and committed to their work."

Sams said one of his newer projects involves working with Kathie Brosmer from the tribe's Environmental Department on wetland mitigation and the possibility of obtaining some Go Green funding. "Two years ago Kathie's department received an award (one of only two in the nation) and started helping us with the Go Green application process and there is a possibility if we receive funding they would match us dollar for dollar on equipment replacement and possibly help with maintenance items. Anything we get will be a bonus," he said.

Proud of the employees and their dedication and work ethic, Sams said, "We do a really good job for the prices we quote. Usually the price we quote is pretty close to our actual job cost, time and materials. All of our guys have the tribe's best interest in mind. We strive to give the tribe the best job we can. My favorite saying to my guys is 'One bad job takes care of 10 good ones.' So every job we do we are concerned about quality and making sure it gets done right."

Native play staged at DreamMaker's Theater

Sliver of a Full Moon, reenactment of the historic congressional reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) in 2013 by Native playwright Mary Kathryn Nagle, was presented to the public May 16 at Kewadin Casinos DreamMakers Theater in Sault Ste. Marie.

As part of the Chippewa Storytelling Incubator project, University of Michigan students and faculty worked with the Sault Tribe's Advocacy Resource Center, the Diane Peppler Center and Uniting Three Fires against Violence to stage a reading of the play, directed by U-M Professor of Theatre and Drama Anita Gonzalez.

VAWA restored the authority of tribal governments to prosecute non-Native abusers who assault and abuse Native women on tribal lands. Eight local Native performers were selected to perform a staged reading of the play.

Above, right, the cast poses after a successful performance: (back row, from left) Jocelyn Aptowitz, U-M Associate Director of the State Outreach Office Dana Sitzler, Zach Kolo, Lori Jump, Liam Loomer, Erin Croom, Mia Massimino, Joe Medicine, Caleb Foote, U-M Associate Professor of Dance Robin Wilson, Colleen Medicine, U-M Professor of Theatre and Drama Anita Gonzalez, (front row, from left) Paula Modafferi, Rebecca Parish, Sonja Killips, Chloe Gonzales, Cecil Pavlat and Jackie Minton.



Photo courtesy Sault Tribe Culture Division

Billy Mills offers insight, inspiration

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

(See photos of Billy Mills visit on page 18.)

Olympic gold medal winner Billy Mills visited Sault Ste. Marie mid-May for the annual 5k Fun Run/Walk hosted by JKL Bahweting School. (See Photo spread, next page.) During his visit, he also took time to be a guest speaker for an in-service the Sault Tribe hosted for their team members and participated in a ribbon cutting ceremony for JKL School's newly completed

gymnasium.

Mills, an Oglala Lakota raised on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, won the Gold Medal in the 10,000-meter race during the 1964 Summer Olympics. He was the second Native American to win a Gold Medal at the Olympics and is the only American to win the 10,000-meter race.

Using his Olympic win as a catalyst, Mills has many accomplishments including becoming co-founder and spokesperson

of the nonprofit group Running Strong for American Indian Youth. Running Strong helps American Indian people fulfill basic needs such as food, water and shelter, while also helping communities gain self-sufficiency.

Mills said, "The Olympic run was the catalyst but the motivation was I felt that moment was a gift and I wanted to give back. I just reached into the Native American culture — the giveaway — and orchestrated a life and career giving back. Not because of the run, but because of the culture. If you achieve something in your life you need to thank the community and those that empower you."

Mills' charity work also includes diabetes prevention and education and helping people with diabetes learn how to maintain a healthy lifestyle and improve their lives.

According to his wife, Pat, Mills has shown great grace and growth from when they first met to now. "I wish he had another whole lifetime to give because I think he has really reached his momentum now at the age of 78," she said. Billy and Pat have been married for 54 years.

Pat said she does all her husband's scheduling, marketing, media and artwork for his promotions. She also teaches art on the Crystal Cruise Line for about three weeks each summer with Mills acting as her assistant. She said they have traveled all over the world on the cruise ships with the exception of Thailand, Vietnam and Antarctica.

Two portraits of Mills painted by Pat are hanging in museums — the Crazy Horse Museum and the World Olympic Museum in Switzerland.

Mills said what he enjoys the most is participating in projects that allow him to reach out to youth and the elderly and feel that his words inspired them and made a difference.

"One of the projects now is our Dreamstarters Program. One of our Dreamstarters is from your community (Sault Ste. Marie). On the 50th anniversary of me winning the gold medal at the Olympic games I wanted to give

back to those people who helped empower me. My board got together and started thinking how can we give back and remembered I am always talking about dreams, and they came up with the Dreamstarters program. We are giving ten \$10,000 grants a year for 5 years, so there would be 50 grants total in honor of the 50th anniversary," he said.

To find out more about this program, visit: <http://indianyouth.org/dreamstarter>.

Mills said what he is trying to do in an indirect way is to let young people know how powerful their Native American virtues and values are. "The culture, tradition, spirituality, the songs have the virtues and values within them — the sound of the drum, the dance. To take those virtues and values and put them in our current daily living — I have been able to do that, but on occasion I have failed drastically," he said.

"This community inspires me as much as any community I have been to," Mills said. "There are things that stand out in this community; there are just a few tribes in American that have the strength of the leaders I have gotten to know here. They have this deep passion to help the community and you don't see that everywhere. They are committed; it's almost like a spiritual strength. They are visionaries for the community. That is unique and I think the community needs to know that me, as an outsider, sees that in their leadership. I want them to know they are my heroes."

Mills said that Cathy Abramson (Unit 1 director) and her family have inspired him. "She challenged me — just because of who she is — to be a better person. She challenged me to be a better husband, a better father; I want her to know that. I want Aaron, Lisa, and Chad to know that I looked at their core virtues and values and have seen them mature to become leaders in their communities," he said.

One thing is certain; Mills' Olympic run still brings excited cheers and enthusiastic hand clapping each time the film of the last moments of his race is shown.

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Billy Mills visits JKL School and Sault Tribe team members for inservice at LSSU

Billy Mills races proceed in spite of blustery weather —

(See photos on next page.) Cold and gusting breezes with gray skies and splotchy sunshine accompanied runners and walkers in the Billy Mills Fun Run/Walk events on May 14 starting and finishing at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center on the tribe's reservation in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Races were divided into three categories with toddlers

and those slightly older running the first race in the tot trot. Later, older youngsters ran and walked the one-mile race and guest-of-honor Billy Mills gave the starting signal for the 5K run and walk.

Runners who finished the 5K in the regular age category, masters and grandmasters and top overall male and female 5K walkers received plaques, all participants received medals. Emmett Fazzari of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., took first place in the youth one-mile for boys and

Taryn Pratt, 9, of the Sault cinched it for girls. The 5K open winners were Kyle Keil of Williamsburg, Mich., and Jessica Koster of Sault Ste. Marie; 5K masters, Gary Fellow of Sault Ste. Marie and Kristen Verette of Williamsburg; and grandmasters, Gary Messer and Marge Meincke, both of Sault Ste. Marie.

The event was sponsored by JKL Bahweting Public School Academy.



Ogimaa-minisinoos, the JKL Bahweting School drum, played during the opening ceremony of Billy Mills' visit and ribbon cutting ceremony for the new gym.



From left, Joy Kerfoot, fifth grade; Beau Litzner, kindergarten; Anthony Abramson, kindergarten; and Alana Dyament, fourth grade, during the official ribbon cutting for the new gym.

Photos by Brenda Austin



Billy Mills addresses the students at JKL Bahweting School. (See story on page 17).



JKL's new gymnasium.



Students listening to Mills talk about his Olympic gold medal win and what that has done to encourage him to inspire help others.



Mills addressing Sault Tribe team members during an inspirational in-service at LSSU.



Married to Billy for 54 years, Pat Mills, above, does all of her husband's scheduling, marketing, media and artwork for his promotions.



AND THEY'RE OFF! Above left, Tot Trot racers leave the starting line for a dash to the finish. Above right, Brielle McCready, 2, wears a medal while in the arms of an admiring fan.



Photos by Rick Smith



AND THEY'RE OFF AGAIN! Above left, racers in the youth one-mile heat leave the starting line. Above right, Emmett Fazzari is the first to cross the finish in the youth one-mile race.



Above left, Billy Mills and others look on as a Bay Mills drum performs prior to the races. Above right, Kyle Kiel of Traverse City finishes first in the final race of the event, the 5K.



Above left, Billy Mills autographs the runner's bib for one of the young racers. Above left, a racer in the grandmaster category begins her run in the 5K race.



Gates Millennium scholar Opalka, going places!

Tessa Rose Opalka graduated from Sault Area High School with honors in 2012 with a full-ride Gates Millennium Scholarship to Michigan State University.

This year, she graduated from MSU with high honors and a bachelor's degree in marketing. She also graduated from the university's Honors College after fulfilling the eight honors options of special projects and classes required for recognition by the college. "I was awarded the Board of Trustees Scholarship as a result of my perfect 4.0 GPA," Opalka noted.

After graduating from MSU on May 7, Opalka landed a summer sales internship with Altria Group Distribution Company in Lansing, Mich., during her junior year. "As a result of my performance during the internship, I



was offered a full-time position with the company at the end of the summer. I will be starting with Altria sometime during summer 2016," she said.

She takes a role in sales and consulting for Altria managing a territory of 100 to 150 stores that carry the company's products. "My role will include developing relationships with the store managers to assist them in growing their respective businesses,"

she noted. "For the time being, I will be focusing on getting work experience in the corporate world. However, I hope to get a master's degree or MBA once I have some work experience. I would like to get a Ph.D as well, but not anytime soon!"

While at MSU, she worked as an on-campus researcher with the International Business Center and was heavily involved in the Multicultural Business Programs, specifically Native American and Hispanic Business Students (NAHBS), an organization in which she had various leadership positions. "This past year, I was the external vice president for the organization. My previous roles in NAHBS include community service chair in my sophomore year, and internal vice president during my junior year." Opalka indicated she

also participated in four study abroad programs while at MSU, traveling to Paris, London and Zurich in the summer of 2014 to study marketing and international comparative dimensions of business in Europe; on to Havana, Cuba in March of 2015 to see the country's culture and business; off to Beijing, Xi'an, Guangzhou, Shanghai and Hong Kong in China during the summer of 2015 to learn about marketing in China; and is learning about doing business in South Africa this year as she visits Johannesburg, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town.

In the summer of 2013,

Opalka acted as conference assistant, moving to program assistant in the summer 2014 for the Native American Business Institute, "a program which brings Native American high school students to MSU's campus for a weeklong summer program dedicated to growing the students professionally and educating them about opportunities in higher education," Opalka explained. Further, she participated and placed in several case competitions, including the Multicultural Heroes Hall of Fame Case Competition and the Supply Chain Management Internal Case Competition.

Fevold and Levi, Class of 2016



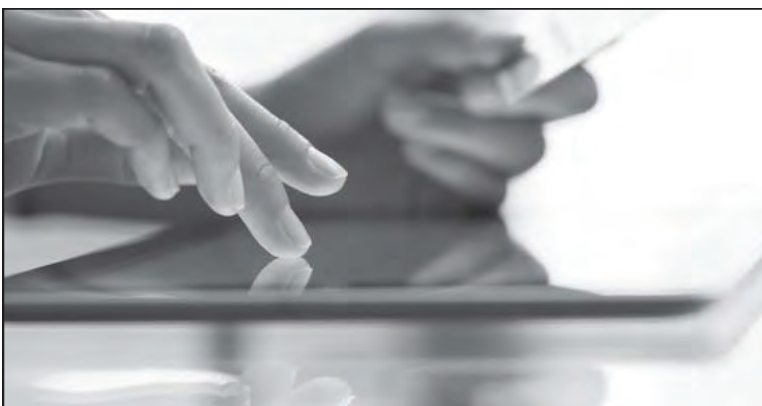
Both Ryan Levi and Jandrea Fevold graduate on April 30, 2016, with Bachelor of Arts in accounting. Levi is from Owosso, Mich., and Fevold is from Ventura, Calif. They met while attending Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colo. After sharing multiple classes, they realized they both have membership in the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Since then, they've been great friends and have plans to visit the reservation together. Fort Lewis College averages over 1,000 Native students representing over 140 tribes.

Johnston graduates Magna Cum Laude

Chris and Anisa Johnston announce the graduation of their son, Andrew Johnston.

Andrew graduated Magna Cum Laude from Alpena Community College with an associate degree on May 5, 2016.

Johnston attends Grand Valley State University this coming 2016-17 academic year working towards a Bachelor's degree in finance.



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Tribal member awarded contract with Charlotte Ballet

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

St. Ignace resident and graduate of the Michigan Virtual Charter Academy, Michael Menghini has hit the job jackpot. He has signed a professional contract with the Charlotte Ballet at the age of 18.

For the past nine years Menghini has been in training six days a week at the Crooked Tree Arts Center in Petoskey with instructor Heather Raue to become a professional ballet dancer.

This summer he will attend a summer program in upstate New York before moving to Charlotte and starting his professional career. “He will go to the Chautauqua Institution and the Charlotte Ballet as an apprentice and will leave the third week-end in June and stay for seven weeks. Then he will come home for a week and we will pack him up and take him back to the Charlotte Ballet so he can start his professional dancing career,” said his mother, Ann Massey. The Charlotte Ballet spends its summers as the resident company at Chautauqua Institution.

His love of music and dance began at a young age. “He was the kind of baby that would walk by a radio or a TV playing music and he would stop dead in his tracks and do the diaper bounce,” Massey said. “It was my idea to get him into dancing because he loved to move and my family comes from a long line of natural athletes and he really didn’t have any interest in baseball or football. He loved music so I thought we would give dancing a try and see how he does.” She first enrolled him in a hip-hop class at the age of seven and by the time he was nine he was taking classes in Petoskey.

He stopped going to a brick and mortar school and began taking online classes in the eighth grade, which gave him the ability to train more - from four to



Photo courtesy Michael Menghini

Professional ballet dancer Michael Menghini is a member of the Sault Tribe and a resident of St. Ignace.

eight hours a day. “I was in the St. Ignace Area Schools through the seventh grade before taking online schooling to focus more on dance and pursuing it as a career,” he said. “I feel like it was a really good choice for me because I learned how to manage my independence and manage a schedule from a very young age.”

Massey said, “He would be a basketball coach’s dream; he’s 6-foot, 4-inches and about 175 pounds. In some instances being

tall has made it a bit more difficult for him as a dancer. He went through a large growth spurt and there were a couple of years when it was very difficult for him for body placement because ballet is so precise. He would get very frustrated but has the work ethic of a lumberjack. His passion, work ethic and dedication have got him where he is today.”

His mom said that to be a good male dancer you have to be a good partner, and Michael

already partners at a professional level because of his teacher. “There have been days gas money wise when we had to lift the cushions of the couch and shake down old pants to see if you can find enough change to put in the gas tank, but it has all been worth it,” she said. “I wouldn’t do anything different - I would do the same thing all over again for him. I feel blessed and privileged to be his mother - he is extraordinary and as much as I will miss him he is a gift that needs to be shared.”

Menghini said he grew very attached to the whole artistic work culture when he was very young after being exposed at the age of three to his mothers workplace - the former theater where she used to work. “She worked in the box office and I got to spend a lot of time with the performers. When they closed down I don’t think I realized it at the time, but it left me with a void. That’s when I started to experiment with dance and mom enrolled me in classes in St. Ignace. Two years later we found Miss Heather in Petoskey and I have been with her ever since,” he said.

“I am hoping for a long injury free career with the Charlotte Ballet. They do a lot of outreach programs for the community and schools in the Carolina area and I will be able to share through that something that is very close and dear to me with students - and hopefully I will inspire some of them to start moving the way I was inspired to start moving.”

Menghini said his favorite classical ballet is Manon - a Romeo and Juliette type story - very tragic but very beautiful. One of his dream goals is to dance in a production of Manon. “As far as the favorite role I have performed, I think the show that I am currently working on might be my favorite so far. There are a lot of mature moments and I feel there is a lot of retrospect back on all this training that I have had.

This show is really tying together all the training I have had and the years I have danced,” he said. “It is called Fantasia Reimagined - it is short segments of music that have different themes so there is a 15-minute ballet that is NYC themed, and then there is a half hour one about Greek mythology. There is also a solo in it that I will be doing. There are many factors that come together to make it a storybook of a show.” He said the show is scheduled to run just before he leaves for the summer.

You can find out more information about the show and tickets by visiting: <https://www.crookedtree.org/event/ctac-school-of-ballet-presents-fantasia-reimagined/>

“If there is anything that I can pass on, I think it would be that if there is something that you really love you need to invest yourself 100 percent into it. That is something I have really gained from being with my mom and Miss Heather. They have both influenced me so largely when it comes to commitment, loyalty, devotion and dedication and other virtues that I feel very strongly about. Find what you love and invest yourself 100 percent into it,” he said.

Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux is the director and Grant Cooper the conductor of the Charlotte Ballet. According to their website, “The Charlotte Ballet performs classic, contemporary and cutting-edge dance with virtuosity, energy and artistic excellence. Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux is Charlotte Ballet’s third and longest serving artistic director. He and his wife Patricia McBride joined Charlotte Ballet in 1996, just six years after the company moved from Winston-Salem, N.C. Having already been named as the artistic director of Chautauqua’s School of Dance, a natural partnership was born between these two organizations.

St. Ignace Museum Clan Park named third best in world

FROM THE MUSEUM OF OJIBWA CULTURE

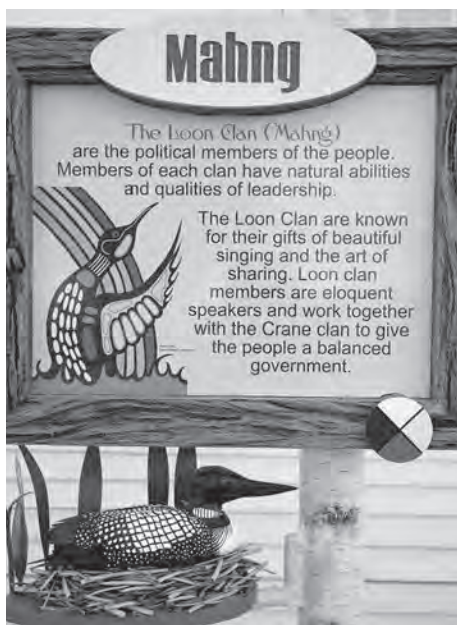
ST. IGNACE —The prestigious national *Signs of the Times* magazine named the Museum of Ojibwa Culture Clan Park project as the third best in the 2016 Murals/Exhibits category in an international contest.

A project in Missouri came in first, second place went to Germany and the museum’s Clan Park in St. Ignace came in third.

Jennifer de Vos, the project fabricator and her business partner Lisa Walker of the Graphix Garage in Pickford entered the project in the competition.

De Vos traveled to British Columbia, Canada, to attend the course to learn the technique she applied in the creation of the animals. The project involved fabricating one general information placard and one for each of the seven clans. De Vos built the animal sculptures using Magic Sculpt textured modeling clay.

One viewer’s comment was included in the entry, “The first time I walked past the signs the Graphix Garage made for the Museum of Ojibwa Culture I was speechless. They are so exact and the colors are amazing, you stand there and read every word over and over again while you keep scanning the artistry of



One of the museum’s award winning Anishinaabe clan placards.

the signs. They are amazing.”

Initially, there were 285 entries from around the world in three categories and in the readers’ choice survey. The process began with nominating 10 non-electric and 10 electric signs. The Clan Park was chosen one of 10 in the non-electric category.

This important cultural revitalization project is the culmination of years of cul-

tural workshops on the museum grounds and in the classroom, relating to the Ojibwa clan system of government and years of clan teachings given by Sue St. Onge, Francie Wyers and Lisa Burnside with the Sault Tribe’s Youth Education and Activities (YEA) program.

When visiting a museum, many people thoroughly read each panel of an exhibit, while some breeze past. One thing we can know for sure, a lot of effort went into deciding exactly what those words were.

For this project, the journey from concept to final words in the panels was long and thoughtful. Sue St. Onge, local YEA coordinator, took the reams of information on the clans and distilled the years of research she had completed on this topic to become the words people see when they come to visit the exhibit.

One of the goals is to explain the exhibit concept to people who may not start out knowing these traditional teachings, someone like the average museum visitor, who is not an expert on the clan system of government and to make the language interesting, informative and memorable.

Anyone visiting this exhibit can clearly define from her writings in the exhibit the importance of the clan system

and how this Anishinaabe knowledge can guide the way to a better future for community members. As one Sault Tribe member said with tears in his eyes after viewing the exhibit, “You have brought the clan system of government back to our people.”

Mark Anthony Jacobson, a successful Canadian Ojibwe artist, gave us permission to use illustrations from his book, *Ojibway Clans (Animal Totems and Spirits)*. Mark used a variety of colors and designs when creating the animals in the book. His rich, colorful designs reflect the ability to see within the animal and symbolize the idea of seeing the spiritual energy of the animal. Vibrant colors are prominent in his artwork and are used to communicate many different things such as the different moods and feelings of the animals. The colorful illustrations from his book have truly added to the huge success of the exhibit.

The exhibit was made possible by 2 percent funding from the Sault Tribe and a grant from the Michigan Humanities Council.

A grand opening of this exhibit, and the *Broken Feathers - A Path to Healing the Circle* exhibit on the impact of the residential boarding schools, is planned for mid-July.

LSSU Fisheries and Wildlife Club dissect white suckers with JKL sixth graders



Photos by John Shibley/LSSU

SCENT OF SCIENCE — Lake Superior State University student Emily Barkley rinses off a white sucker that, from left, Geezhik Sayers and Wynn Pietarinen are about to dissect in class. Both are reacting to the specimen's strong fish odor, which evidently doesn't seem to faze Barkley at all. LSSU's Fisheries and Wildlife Club was visiting sixth-grade science classes at JKL Bahweting Middle School on March 22 in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to teach kids fish physiology. Barkley, from Harbor Springs, Mich., is in her third year of fisheries and wildlife management. Run a web search on "discover LSSU" to customize a university education at Lake Superior State.



START YOUR FISHES — Lake Superior State University students pass out white suckers for dissection to a sixth-grade science class at JKL Bahweting Middle School in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Looking on is president of the student Fisheries and Wildlife Club, Clifford Pattinson, who helped organize two sessions on March 22 to teach kids about fish physiology. The fish were pulled from deep storage at LSSU's Aquatics Research Laboratory. Pattinson, from Marshall, Mich., is in his third year of fisheries and wildlife management.



SOMETHING SMELLS FINNY — Right, Miriam Clark laughs off a whiff of white sucker before she dissects its digestive tract. Students with the Lake Superior State University Fisheries and Wildlife Club were visiting Mrs. Heather Purple's science class at J. K. Lumsden elementary school on March 22 in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to help kids learn fish physiology. On left, LSSU student Emily Barkley works with sixth-graders Sagen Nolan and Kylie Goodman, while Alleigh Sexton (in hoodie, right) supervises her charges. Barkley (a junior from Harbor Springs, Mich.) and Sexton (senior; Alpena, Mich.) are studying fisheries and wildlife management.

LSSU's Native American Center celebrates 30 years

Graduate Jennifer Donn named outstanding Native American Student by Native American Center

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Native American Center (NAC) recently celebrated 30 years of service to LSSU's Native American student population and also awarded the annual Outstanding Native American Graduating Student Award for 2015-16.

This year's award was presented to Jennifer Donn, who is graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in nursing. She was also honored with the School of Nursing's Academic Excellence Award for having the highest GPA in her class, made the Dean's List six times, was nominated for speaker at commencement, and is graduating magna cum laude.

Donn is a single mother to five-year-old Michaela and moved to Sault Ste. Marie from the Detroit area after leaving a domestic violence situation in February 2011. "Michaela was 4 months old at the time. My mom is from the U.P. and I didn't think I would ever want to live here, but now I don't want to leave," she said. "I just knew I needed to make a positive path for my daughter and everything has worked out incredibly well."

Donn attended Bay Mills Community College (BMCC) for a year before transferring to LSSU in 2012. It was while she attended BMCC that she became friends with Diane McLeod-Maleport, who nominated her for the award. "A very proud moment for her was when she was chosen



Jennifer Donn with her diploma after graduation ceremonies.

to be an Indian Health Service Health Professions scholar after she started taking classes at LSSU. This is a merit-based competitive scholarship pro-

gram in which a student agrees to work with the Indian Health Service after graduation," said Maleport. "Working with the Indian Health Service has always



Photo by Brenda Austin

Stephanie Sabatine congratulates Jennifer Donn on being chosen as the LSSU Outstanding Native American Graduating Student.

been her dream, even prior to receiving the scholarship, because of the inspiration and support she has received from IHS as a community member. She was also selected to be a recipient of the Women's Independence Scholarship Program. Both of these scholarships involved application processes and program eligibility update deadlines continuously. She has also received multiple other awards, including the Bernard Bouschor Honorary Scholarship, the Board of Trustees Academic Excellence Transfer Scholarship, and awards from the American Indian College Fund. She is a member of the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing through the Chi Omega chapter at LSSU."

Donn said that becoming a recipient of the Indian Health Professions Scholarship enabled her to focus on her college education and be a mom and student without having to work full time. "It was the most life changing opportunity I have ever been given. It was a full scholarship that covered all my tuition and provided a stipend for living expenses. And now that I am graduating, I have joined the IHS Native Healthy Start program at Bay Mills," she said.

Maleport said that through it all, Donn still gave as much as she could to her family and friends. "When I was deciding whether or not to return to college after being out of school for several decades, she was my biggest supporter and was always willing to help me navigate things like the financial aid process or help me format a paper. I have watched her work hard at being the best student, mother, and friend that she could be."

Donn said that growing up as a blond-haired pale child she felt intimidated when she went to the Native Center in Detroit where

she received health care. "I felt like I wasn't wanted or accepted as a Native person, I was kind of given that message from certain people in my family," she said. "When I got older and became pregnant I started utilizing the center for more than primary health care. I got really involved in the Native Healthy Start program and began going to weekly talking circles and attended all the parenting classes. After I had my daughter I was able to attend sweat lodges and that was hugely empowering. That helped me more than anything ever had in my life – becoming involved in that center and applying those teachings to my life," she said. "I have been very lucky and definitely feel that those old feelings of not being able to claim this part of my identity are gone. I don't deny my other ancestry, but I am very proud of being Native American and I am very eager to give back to that culture, particularly because of the tremendous support I have been given. I hope to stay here and serve our tribe," she said.

The LSSU Native American Center first opened its doors in 1986 in a small office in Brown Hall. Since then they have moved to their current location at 650 West Easterday Avenue in a former frat house, next to the Chippewa House. The building is appropriately named, "Eskoonwid Endaad," which means, "student study house" in Ojibwe. Students are invited to use the Center on evenings and weekends and non-Native students are welcome as well.

If you have questions or would like additional information about the Native American Center on the campus of LSSU, contact NAC and Campus Diversity Director Stephanie Sabatine at (906) 635-6664 or by email at ssabatine@lssu.edu.

Sault Tribe members make college deans' lists

Veteran Damon Anderson makes LSSU dean's list

Damon Anderson, member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and just left active duty for the United States Marine Corps after 12 years of faithful service, ended his 2015-16 academic year with high

honors by making Lake Superior State University's dean's list. He is currently a sophomore with a grade point average of 3.8 and plans on earning a Bachelor of Science degree by majoring in history.

Anderson thanks his family and friends for their support during this latest endeavor. Upon graduating, his plans include giv-

ing back to his Sault Ste. Marie community by teaching history to future generations of college students. His favorite quote, "Whoever said the pen is mightier than the sword obviously never encountered automatic weapons," by Douglas MacArthur.

Anderson is looking forward to the beginning of his 2016-17 academic year and plans on tak-

ing classes such as world civilization, United States history and a variety of geography courses.

Sierra Hanchera named to Grand Valley dean's list

Sierra J. Hanchera was recently notified of her placement on the dean's list at Grand Valley State

University for this semester.

In order to be named to the dean's list, a student must have earned at least 12 grade point credits at an average of 3.5 or higher.

Her father, John Hanchera, and the rest of her family wanted her to know how very proud they are of her accomplishments.

Congratulations, Sierra!

Congress moves to update Johnson O'Malley support data

BY RICK SMITH

Bills now in the U.S. Congress would update data and revamp future data collection to increase federal funding and improve American Indian student access to Johnson O'Malley education programs.

The *Johnson-O'Malley Act of 1934* authorizes education funding and support for public schools with significant numbers of American Indian students between age 3 and grade 12 to address particular needs of these students which are not part of regular school curricula in their schools. Johnson O'Malley programs, as they are called, may vary from school to school but generally offer courses in culture, language and achieving academic standards.

It is hoped the new measure would improve the accuracy of gathering the numbers of Indian students in public schools. According to the sponsors of the legislation, the current data excludes about 500,000 Indian

students from federal resources to help address academic and cultural needs. The situation exists because of reliance on 20-year-old student counts by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Senators Heidi Heitkamp (D-N.D.) and James Lankford (R-Okla.) introduced the *Johnson-O'Malley Supplemental Indian Education Program Modernization Act* (S.2842) on April 21 and Representative Betty McCollum (D-Minn.) introduced the House companion bill (H.R.4390) last January.

"In too many forgotten corners of our country, Native young people – often neglected and underserved – are falling behind," Heitkamp noted. "We already know that culturally specific programs in schools, like Native language preservation courses, help put Native students on brighter paths personally and academically. But for the past two decades, federal agencies have failed to provide an accurate count of the Native students most in need – and potentially eligible for – these resources. As one of

the fastest growing populations in the country, U.S. Census data suggests that Native students eligible for such resources have dramatically increased. No child in America deserves to be forgotten – and every child deserves the chance to succeed. That's why our bipartisan bill would work to get accurate numbers and increase access to the cultural programs that help Native children thrive."

The pending bills would tack on a new section of the 1934 law. The additional section covers

general definitions, recommendations and guidance. The legislation directs the Secretary of the Interior to increase participation of eligible entities through contact and consultation with tribes and school districts with significant qualified populations.

The Senate bill was referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs and the House bill is in the hands of the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Scholarships for college freshmen available from tribal elders

Applications are being solicited for two one-time \$500 scholarships from the Sault Tribe elders for qualified freshmen enrolled in public colleges, universities or trade schools. The deadline for applications is Aug. 31, 2016.

All applicants must be registered Sault Tribe members who have successfully completed and passed all five General Education Development (GED) equivalency

tests with a minimum score of 40 and an average score of 45, possess a GED certificate or graduated from an accredited high school with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50; accepted or enrolled in any two-year or four-year public college, university or trade school in any field of study as a fulltime student.

Applicants must submit letters that include name, address,

telephone number, proof of tribal enrollment, social security number, high school transcript verifying cumulative grade point average or proof of achieving GED requirements stated above. Submissions must also include letters from the college, university or trade school showing acceptance for the 2016-17 school year and academic major or course of study.

Essays of 300-500 words are

required describing how you feel a college education will benefit you, your career objective and why this scholarship will help you achieve your goal.

All requirements must be received no later than Aug. 31, by 5 pm, by the Elder Service Division, 2076 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Call Sheryl Hammock at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

A Strong Leader for a Strong Tribe



I am honored to serve as your Unit 1 Director, and I thank you all for the trust that you have placed in me. The past four years were spent working hard, helping to provide for our way of life and the welfare and prosperity of our people. As a Board, we faced many challenges against our right to self-government, and the protection of our property and resources. But among all the meetings, the voting, the politics and the fighting, I sadly realized that too much of our time is spent focused on GRANT dollars and political games... **not on creating a STRONG TRIBE.** I chose to do more.

I have found great joy in the direct help that I have been able to give to our People... helping them no matter where they live! I have helped our members with food, housing, and medicine. I have **stood strong** for children with problems at schools, and alongside women and children who are victims of

Domestic Violence. I've worked with our people who are suffering from Substance Abuse and helped them rebuild their lives. **Helping our People** is the reason I asked for your vote four years ago, and I hope it will be the reason you give me your support once again. Though much of my work is in political arenas, **I am not a politician. I am a Tribal Leader.** I do not tell our people what they want to hear, I tell them what they MUST know.

I am an Eagle Clan woman, firmly rooted in the culture and traditions of our Anishinaabe people and **I am Focused on Our People.**



Call: (906) 440-9151

jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

com

facebook:Jennifer McLeod –

Sault Tribe

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Re-Elect Jen McLEOD ~ Unit 1

This ad is endorsed by Jennifer McLeod.

Classes can help elders avoid dangerous falls

BY RICK SMITH

For some folks, especially as one gets older, physical abilities that were once taken for granted seem to diminish as time goes by. Senses may fade, such as vision, hearing. Sometimes some folks develop difficulty in keeping their balance as they walk or stand. Falling can be hazardous for anyone, but especially so for elders. Bones may break, infections may set in, falls could eventually lead to many inconveniences, restrictions or even

fractures.

That's why Sault Tribe Elder Service brought the free program called *A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls* to the Nokomis-Mishomis Place on the tribe's reservation in Sault Ste. Marie. The award-winning program is designed to help folks manage falls and increase their activity.

According to publicity material, attendees learn to view falls as controllable incidents and how to make changes to reduce

risks of falling in their homes. Further, they learn how to set goals for increasing activity along with exercises to increase strength and balance. The classes are geared for anyone concerned about falling during their daily routines, those interested in improving their balance, flexibility and strength; those who have fallen in the past or anyone with physical limitations due to falling concerns.

The inaugural sessions ran from April 21 to June 9 and

another opportunity for anyone interested is coming in the autumn. Elder Service secretary Sharon Hovie and AmeriCorps VISTA worker Emily Higbee facilitate the classes. Hovie noted the inaugural classes were very well received and the elders looked forward to getting to the class each week, sharing stories and snacks and taking comfort in learning they're not alone in their fear of falling.

"This class has given me a

rewarding feeling knowing that Emily and I are giving our elders confidence to overcome their fear of falling," said Hovie.

Those interested in learning more should call either Hovie or Higbee at 635-4971.

The program is based on *Fear of Falling: A Matter of Balance* created by Boston University and was developed by a grant from the U.S. Health and Human Services Administration on Aging.



From left, AmeriCorps VISTA worker, Emily Higbee, and Elder Service secretary, Sharon Hovie, facilitated the classes called "A Matter of Balance: Managing Concerns About Falls" for anyone concerned about falling during their daily routines or improving their balance, flexibility and strength.

Elder Employment Program openings

Community Health program clerk

The Sault Tribes Elder Employment Program is accepting applications for a part-time Community Health program clerk in Marquette, Mich.

Qualifications: Must be a Sault Tribe member aged 60 or over, reside in the seven-county service area, undergo a criminal background investigation, complete and pass pre-employment drug testing. Computer knowledge preferred.

Please call Nicole Gauthier at 341-9526 for application and details.

Closing date is June 30, 2016.

News assistant

The Sault Tribes Elder

Employment Program is accepting applications for a part-time News Assistant for the Communications Division in Sault Ste. Marie. The senior news assistant will be directly responsible for providing 1) clerical support services to the newspaper and 2) coverage of Elder events, topics and issues.

Qualifications: Must be a Sault Tribe member aged 60 or over, reside in the seven-county service area, undergo a criminal background investigation, complete and pass pre-employment drug testing. Computer knowledge preferred.

Contact Brenda Cadreau, (906) 635-4767, for application and details.

Closing date is June 30, 2016.

Vote FREIHEIT for Unit 1



I would like to take this opportunity to thank the tribal members who supported me in our primary election. I would have never have made it to this point without your support. I'm asking for your support in our general election.

This election isn't about me — "I know who I am." I am a person who is dedicated to the advancement of our tribe. I'm NOT in this race to line my pocketbook. My involvement as a watchdog of our tribe for the past 25 years, stands

as testimony of the effort to help tribal members. I'm in this election to protect the tribe's and tribal members' interests. Knowing that if "I'm elected" my decisions as an elected leader will affect the destiny of our tribe for years to come.

I believe there are serious deficiencies in our tribe, and no deficiencies should be left on home plate for our tribal elders and children to deal with down the road. If elected, as a leader of our tribe, I'm NOT willing to subject and support a system that promotes unhealthy, unproductive and dysfunctional conditions that may lead to a lifetime of economic, social and emotional deprivations to our tribal members.

I will always work in good faith with tribal, city, state and federal officials. I promise the membership I will not become a lackadaisical leader. I will NOT act unaccountable, abuse my power and be immune to change!

I believe, if there were a mandatory attendance record in place at board meetings & workshops, the membership would actually see which directors are less energized and

causing inadequate representation.

For those who may never have given the topic "term limits" much thought, here are a couple of mine. Term limits will lead to a healthier board, it will reduce the likelihood that a few individuals will become "entrenched incumbents," and it promotes political accountability.

I want to be able to provide tribal members with opportunities to better their lives in a skilled trade. I believe it's the tribal leaders, who have a fiduciary responsibility, to create and give tribal members the tools to make a better life for themselves.

I want to make sure that our Constitution Amendments are carefully crafted, which is a body of basic principles, privileges, rights and limitations that a governing body must abide by. If we have a chance to build something that will create a positive change for our tribe and our members for years to come, to me that is real hope for a better future!

My platform, are real issues, I am willing to reform and to make things right.

- Constitution Amendments
- Separation of Powers
- Elect Tribal Judges & Prosecutor
- Code of Ethics
- Decrease Board Salary & Increase Elders Checks
- Eliminate Boards Retirement & Health Package
- Mandatory Board Meetings & Workshop Records
- Honor our Treaty Responsibilities
- Enforce Member Hiring Preference
- Pass Tribal Violence Against Women Act
- Term Limits
- Eliminate Expiration of Tribal Cards & Fee
- Establish a Trade School
- Build More Affordable Housing
- Re-Evaluate Tribal Codes
- Drill our Own Well & Septic System

I encourage you to vote for me. I won't disappoint you!

Thank you,

Betty
Betty F. Freiheit
906-322-0976

Video shows effects of addictive drugs on unborn babies

Ashli Green is haunted every day by the suffering her infant daughter endured after she was born with symptoms of neonatal abstinence syndrome.

Green is certain that knowledge of her unborn baby's pending plight would have convinced her to stop using hard drugs during her pregnancy. It also could have prevented Green from having her parental rights terminated for both her newborn daughter and her then 4-year-old son.

Today, Green is in recovery, and a key figure in *Stories Not Secrets: Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome*, a video that aims to



Stories Not Secrets: Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome

help educate the public — and women like Green — of the risks of opioid dependency

during pregnancy. The video was produced by legal and community organizations in northern

Michigan.

Neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) is a group of problems that occurs in newborns exposed in the womb to addictive opiate drugs, such as heroin, oxycodone or methadone. The baby becomes addicted along with their mother. Symptoms include excessive or inconsolable crying, seizures, trembling, poor feeding, diarrhea, sleep problems and other health problems

Many babies are born with NAS. While the video tells the story of the physical and emotional struggles associated with drug dependency and NAS, it

also offers a message of hope — there is help available every step of the way and women should not be ashamed to seek it.

The video features two courageous mothers frankly discussing their experiences and the professionals who can help without judging.

Anyone can watch the video *Stories Not Secrets: Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome*, on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=T8E8i-xe1jE.

Photo credit: CML Marketing Communications and Jacqueline Southby Photography, both of Traverse City.

Bessler named 2015 officer of the year

MANITOWOC, Wisc. — Officer Kurk Bessler was selected as the Manitowoc Police Department's 2015 Noon Rotary Officer of the Year, according to a press release. Bessler has been with the department since May of 2012 working on the afternoon shift, coming to the department with 27 years of law enforcement experience.

Bessler's shift commanders and fellow officers rely on Bessler to lend his expertise in high risk calls and training new officers on searches and barricaded subjects, according to the release. Officer Bessler has put on several self-defense presentations and teaches several topics to his fellow officers. Last year, Officer Bessler graduated from Motor Officer School, said the release.

His supervisors noted in the release Officer Bessler is "what our patrol officers should strive to be throughout their career, and is a stellar example to all of us on work ethic and dedication to duty."

According to the release, Officer Bessler was recognized in his nomination for his "endless commitment" to community members, organizing a



local Shop with a Cop program, creating positive interactions with Holiday House, which empowers people with disabilities, and inspiring others.

Bessler is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Men's Health Event in Newberry on June 17

The staff of the Newberry Tribal Health Center will be hosting the fourth annual Men's Health Event on June 17 from 4 to 7 p.m.

This year, the gathering will focus on the importance of annual screenings for men of all ages.

So if you have a teenage son, grandson or nephew, please feel free to bring them.

One of the guest speakers makes his own fishing decoys, if anyone planning to attend

makes them and would like to display them, please feel free to bring your decoys.

We also hope to have someone from the inland fisheries committee and a nutritionist to talk about the benefits of hunting to provide traditional food for our families.

We are planning to share wild game recipes and anyone with favorite recipes for wild game is invited to bring them and share.

Come join us, call (906) 293-8181 to register.



ELECT ✓

NICHOLE CAUSLEY



PROTECTING TRIBAL MEMBERS, NEW CONSTITUTION ADOPTION

- Tribal Transparency Act
- Ethics Code
- Separation of Powers
- Elected Court
- Right of Recall
- Right of Initiative

PRIORITY GOALS 2016 - 2020

- Promoting Self Sufficiency
- Increasing revenues via business diversification
- Sovereignty

- Advocating for our treaty rights: 2020 Decree
- New Education Opportunities for all members
- Increasing job training opportunities
- Increasing vocational training opportunities
- Increasing meeting the Needs of the Elders
- Creating innovative

- programs and services, expanding for all members
- Creating transportation-vouchers and lodging for members traveling to service area for health

PROTECTING NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES

- Increasing Fishing Rights, Hunting, Gathering Rights
- Fighting for accurate formulation of Catch Limits with State
- Increasing cultural activities
- Increasing Language usage and proficiency

Contact Me!
 (906) 259-3792
 or
nicholecausley@yahoo.com
 'Causley Nichole'

This ad endorsed by Nichole M. Causley.



Vote



Angeline Boulley

Unit 1 Board of Directors

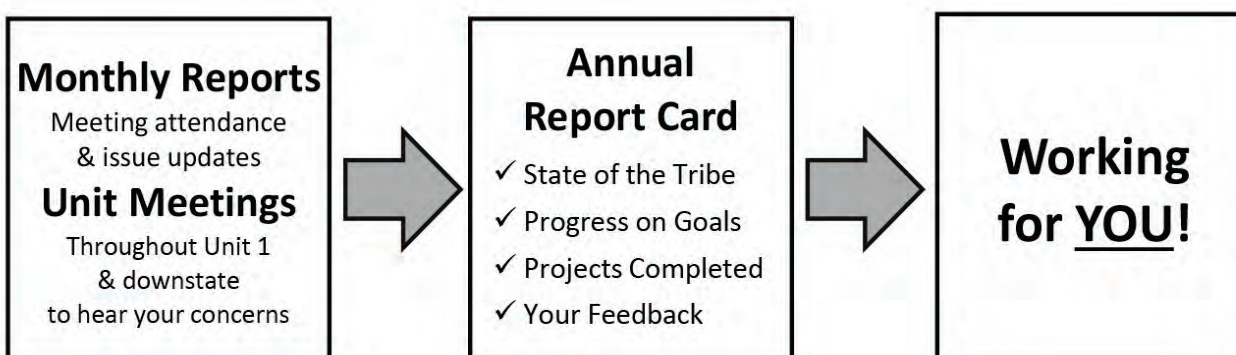
Consider this...

- When Tribal Departments must reduce budgets, does the Board offer reductions on their own budget?
- When our Board voted to eliminate the 401k contribution for employees, did they also offer to reduce their lucrative retirement benefit?
- Are Board members required to disclose conflicts of interest when their vote on a particular resolution will benefit themselves or immediate family explicitly?
- Has the Board done anything to enact a Separation of Powers, to approve a Board Code of Conduct, or to create a long-term Strategic Plan/Vision for our Tribe?

Accountability Begins

With

Angeline Boulley



When the Tribal Board serves themselves better than they serve our members and employees ...

it's time for a change!

This ad endorsed and paid by Angeline Boulley.

For more info, please visit www.AngelineOnBoard.com or [www.Facebook.com/Angeline.Boulley.1](https://www.facebook.com/Angeline.Boulley.1) or call (906) 203-8847.

Floral art by Tracy Toulouse, Aboriginal Designer. Used with permission. www.swirlingwind.com

Photo details (left to right): With dad Henry Boulley, Sr.; Just me; Kissing my Gram at CMU graduation.

Paid for by the Community to Elect Aaron Payment

For Strong Local, Regional, Inter-Tribal & National Leadership ~ Please Vote:

PAYMENT

Sault Tribe Chairperson ~ Serving All Members Everywhere!



With My Mom Katherine (Gotnee) Payment in 2004

Ahneen, Boozho ~ Dear Sault Tribe Members Everywhere:

I always give you 100%. While serving as Chair and on the Board, I have never had an outside job. My opponent has treated this sacred trust as a part-time job missing several meetings. I have only missed one meeting ~ the day my mother died. Serving you is my full time job and has always been my full commitment.

I do my best to represent you with care and compassion. My opponent uses terms like, "Chronic Users" of services. This is demeaning. We exist as a Tribe to serve our people. When I left office, my opponent voted to: shut down clinics in Escanaba, Marquette & Kinross; cut the Elder checks by \$1,000; scholarships by \$600,000; eliminate the right to appeal firings; freeze raises; and to pay our former chief of police (his 1st cousin & a felon) \$19,000. He even proposed to tax our treaty rights and close fishing waters to gillnet fishers.

I have no management authority over our casinos, but my opponent's dishonest campaign tactics suggest I do. Over the areas I do have authority, we have excelled by bringing ten of millions in new funds and set a new standard for our reputation nationally. I have stabilized our Tribe where we have preserved jobs and returned raises. Great things are ahead of us. Our gaming expansion projects are coming to fruition and expansion of services will soon follow in the service area and wherever you live. All of the work we have accomplished in the last four years is threatened if we abandon our progress. Please give the opportunity to finish what we started. I promise, I will work even harder to make you proud.

Chi McGwitch, Negee, Aamin

HIGHLY QUALIFIED ~ VAST EXPERIENCE: "My Career has Always Been in Public Service to Our People, Not Private Business"

- Master's Public Administration
- National Advisory Council on Indian Education
- Vice-President, Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan
- Sen. Carl Levin Center Legislative Oversight Board
- Master's Degree Education Administration
- Secretary, National Congress of American Indians
- Vice-Chair, HHS Secretary Tribal Advisory Committee
- Testified in U.S. Congress (8X)
- Master's in Education Specialist (impending)
- Past Area Vice-President, NCAI
- IHS Contract Support Cost Work Group
- Testified in Senate Indian Affairs Committee (3X)
- Doctorate in Educational Leadership (impending)
- Every Student Succeeds Act Negotiated Rule Making
- Co-Chair, HHS ~ Health Research Advisory Council
- National Sergeant Shriver Community Service Award
- Chair, Chippewa Ottawa Resource Treaty Authority
- Vice-President, Mid-West Alliance of Sovereign Tribes
- Chair, NIH Tribal Consultation Advisory Council
- National TRIO Achiever (Upward Bound)

PROGRESSIVE, ACHIEVABLE REFORMS: "Don't Trust a Politician Who Doesn't Clearly Lay Out Their Plan for Reform"

- Increase Land Claims Fund Annually by 10% Once Gaming Expansion Approved**
- Increase Elder Checks to \$5,000 & More Once Gaming Expansion Approved**
- Increase Need-Based Higher Education & Job Training Scholarships to \$2,500**
- Return Non-Need Based Higher Education & Job Training Scholarships to \$2,000**
- Create \$1,000 K-12 Student Merit Scholarship Based on Attendance & Grades**
- Program Expansion in Service Area & Enhance Services in all 5 Units**
- Establish & Expand Tribal Centers in Lansing & all Service Area Population Centers**
- Extend Tax Agreement Area to Include Mackinac Island, UP and All of Michigan**
- Create Veterans' Outreach Workers for Service Area & At Large Veterans Fund 3 Service Area & 3 At Large ACA Medicaid Expansion Coordinators**
- Retrofit Tribal Government, Enterprise & Casino Buildings to be ADA Compliant**
- Create a Tribal Workgroup to Advocate Special Needs & Services for Members**
- Next Generation: Expand Tribal Youth & Young Adults Recreation & Opportunities**
- Create an Independent Economic Development & Enterprise Authority for the Tribe**
- Public - Private Partnerships to Build Single Unit Apartments & Townhouses**
- Open Tribal Midjim Convenience Stores in Kincheloe, Hessel, Manistique & Munising**
- Invest in a Tribal Career Development & Job Placement Function to Serve Members**
- Referendum to Set Chair & Board Salary Once and For All**
- Strong & Tough Negotiator for 2020 Great Lakes Treaty Negotiations**

Constitutional Amendments

- Separation of Powers with Elected Judges
- Tribal Labor Rights to Due Process & Annual Raises
- Require Referendum Votes on Treaty Rights
- Member Vote on Creation of Unit 6 & At Large Unit

There is never a mystery what I represent or stand for. My opponent has not put out a platform; only empty platitudes on leadership. My whole life has been in preparation and practice in serving you. My vast administrative experience coupled with my advanced education have all been engineered to represent you and expertly oversee the administration and governance of our Tribe. We are electing a leader of a great tribal nation, not hiring a convenience store manager. My opponent's background just doesn't match up and will not hold up with the diversity and complexity of responsibility including testifying in Congress, meeting with U.S. Senators, members of Congress, administrative officials and yes ~ even the US President. I performed these duties and I have been invited by Congress to testify and even received a Presidential appointment. When I asked my opponent what I am doing wrong and why he would run against me, his response was I was doing an excellent job ~ that he had no complaints but it was his turn. We are running a Nation, not taking turns on the swing set. You decide whose turn and or how long.

Chi McGwitch, Negee, Aamin



I love serving you as your Chairperson. Thank you for your support. Please consider my full commitment when you cast your ballot!



Let's Move! fighting for healthy children

BY KAREN DESALVO

There are things we can do, as parents, educators and community members to ensure that every child has the same opportunity to grow up healthy.

When Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans 10 years ago, I became a public servant almost by accident — looking around at our devastated community, I joined a group of doctors, nurses, officers from our U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and community members who came together to get our neighbors the care they needed. It was a real grassroots effort, driven by a community-based vision for our city's future.

I saw that same spirit, passion and grassroots effort recently at the White House, where approximately 150 parent bloggers (who are so critical to our communities) came together to learn, share stories and hear from leaders throughout the administration about the ongoing efforts to raise a healthier generation of kids through First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move! initiative.

Let's Move! is based on a simple premise: There are things we can do, as parents, educators and community members to ensure that every child, in every neighborhood, has the same opportunity to grow up healthy. These are locally driven efforts, with elected officials, schools, community organizations and houses of worship stepping up to make health a priority.

The first lady, who hosted the event and spoke to the group, has made it her mission to improve the health of our nation's children through Let's Move! The White House event helped these active and influential parents see the role they can play in building stronger, healthier communities throughout our country.

At the event, I had the privilege of joining Let's Move! Executive Director Deb Eschmeyer, White House Council on Environmental Quality managing director Christy Goldfuss and President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition Co-chair Dominique Dawes for a panel on the work we are doing throughout the administration on this important issue.

One of the key components of Let's Move! is a call to action for mayors and other local elected officials to adopt long-term, sustainable and holistic approaches to addressing childhood obesity. During our panel, I had the chance to make an exciting announcement: *Let's Move! Cities, Towns and Counties* has now been adopted by enough communities to reach over 80 million Americans. This is an incredible accomplishment. And moving forward, we are looking to continuing to work in partnership with the National League of Cities to achieve our goal: assisting local elected officials as they work to prevent childhood obesity.

This is a tremendous accomplishment, but it is far from our only progress:

— Let's Move! Child Care has led to more than 16,000 child care providers, serving more than 1.6 million children, committing to helping build a stronger, healthier futures for our kids.

— Let's Move! Active Schools has led to nearly 18,000 schools reaching over 10 million students with physical activity before, during, and after school for at least 60 minutes a day.

— Let's Move! Faith and Communities has led to certifying nearly 3,000 faith and community leaders who are committed to wellness.

— Let's Move! Salad Bars to Schools has led to the installation of more than 4,000 salad bars in schools, reaching more than 2 million students.

— Let's Move! in Indian Country has led to more than 400 partners and sites committing to reducing the rates of child obesity in our American Indian communities.

For all of our progress, we know our work is far from finished. That is why this event — where a room full of dedicated, energetic community leaders and influencers came together to take on one of our toughest challenges, the health of our children — was so important. And it is a reminder of just how significant an impact we can make when we put our communities at the center of our conversations about health.

Learn more about The First Lady's initiative at www.letsmove.gov.

gov.

Karen DeSalvo, M.D., M.P.H., M.Sc., is acting assistant secretary for health and national coordinator for health information technology. Reprinted with permission from HealthCanal.com. Those interested can also learn more about this and other programs from Sault Tribe Community Health.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health Center
2864 Ashmun,
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-5200
Toll Free: (877) 256-0009

Newberry Tribal Community Health Center
4935 Zeez-ba-tik Lane,
Newberry, MI 49868
Phone: (906) 293-8181

Grand Island Chippewa Community Center
622 W Superior,
Munising, MI 49862
(906) 387-4721
(800) 236-4705

Marquette Tribal Community Health Center
1229 W. Washington Street
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 225-1616

Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center
1401 North 26th Street Suite 105
Escanaba, MI 49829
(906) 786-2636

Manistique Tribal Community Center
5698 W Hwy US-2,
Manistique, MI 49854
(906) 341-8469
Toll Free: (866) 401-0043

Sault Tribe Health & Human Services Ctr.
1140 N State, Suite 2805,
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-8689
Toll Free: (877) 256-0135

Hessel Tribal Community Health Center
3355 N. 3 Mile Rd, Hessel, MI 49745
(906) 484-2727

I wish to personally thank all the primary election candidates who offered to serve our people. I am humbled and honored by the members who have placed their trust in me. I could not have been elevated to the final six without your support. I pray for the opportunity to serve the membership on our governing body and I'm asking for your continued support in the general election.

Miigwech,

Betty F. Freiheit

This ad paid for by Betty Freiheit.

Keith Massaway for Chairman

7 Grandfathers

Nbwaakaawin — Wisdom
Use good sense.

Zaagidwin — Love
Practice absolute kindness.

Mnaadendimowin — Respect
Act without harm.

Aakwade'ewin — Bravery
Use courage to choose.

Debwewin — Truth
Be faithful to reality.

Dbaadendiziwin — Humility
Treat all life equally.

Gwekwaadiziwin — Honesty
Speak the truth.



Miigwech for Your Continued Support.

My Values

The tribe comes first
Integrity matters
Accountability must be present
Honesty is a given
Humility is a gift
Sustainability is a must

Contact Me Any Time

kmassaway@yahoo.com
(906) 630-1693
keithmassaway.com
702 Hazelton St.
St. Ignace, MI 49781
KEITHMASSAWAY.COM

STOP THE CHAOS

We must stop the destructive comments, lies and innuendoes that follow the Chairman and the Board. I do not partake in these actions and would work diligently to bring honor and respect back to our tribe. We need a strong leader to make this happen and I know I can accomplish this for you.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The decisions we make today will have a lasting effect on our people. We have to weigh our responsibility to our current needs with the future. To not heed our seven generations teachings is to disregard those who need us the most.

SUSTAINABILITY

We have to look at what we have and plan so we can maintain at least to stay at the same level of deliverables. This is a key to how I vote and how I will lead the tribe.



New analysis of local fish reveals newfound benefits, say researchers at BMCC presentation

BY MARIA CANTARERO

It's confusing, isn't it? The American Heart Association tells us to eat more fish for a healthy heart, and the media reports the benefits of omega-3 fish oil for everything from shiny hair to improved memory. But the government advisories are scary enough to make some of us avoid fish altogether, just to be on the safe side. More and more, however, we're hearing a new message from both the media and the government, and that message supports both sides: yes, we should eat more fish, but do so wisely, choosing the variety of fish we eat based on its known nutritional benefits weighed against its known risks.

That's the message that Inter-Tribal Fisheries and Assessment Program environmental coordinator Mike Ripley brought to Bay Mills Community College last month. As part of a continuing series on environmental issues, BMCC's Science Department invited Ripley to present the results of a study he and research partner, Dr. Matthew Dellinger, recently published in *Human and Ecological Risk Assessment: An International Journal*. Speaking to an audience of students, faculty, area biologists and community members, Ripley described a long-term contaminant study of Great Lakes fish conducted by the Inter-Tribal Fisheries and Assessment Program, between 1991 and 2011. Whitefish and lake trout from the Great Lakes were taken on an annual basis and analyzed for their mercury levels and other contaminants. The results were encouraging for those of us who heard the warnings about Great Lakes fish and turned to supermarket fish for what we thought were safer choices.

As it turns out, that may not be entirely true. In fact, our local whitefish and lake trout appear to have less mercury and more of those important omega-3 fatty acids than the supermarket varieties commonly believed to be safer fish choices. CORA plans to continue its research with direct testing of those supermarket choices to confirm preliminary

indicators that Great Lakes whitefish and lake trout may even have less mercury than staples like tuna, tilapia and cod. In this recent study, however, our local favorites were found to have less mercury than expected and higher fatty acid levels than previously thought.

Of course, mercury is not the only contaminant in the Great Lakes, and Ripley stressed that "comparatively less" mercury does not mean mercury-free. While scientists predict that mercury levels will decline as Michigan closes or converts its coal burning energy plants to cleaner sources of energy, the toxins that sparked the EPA and FDA alerts are not gone yet. The methyl-mercury, dioxin and PCBs already in the water have settled into the sediment at the bottom of the lakes and they will remain trapped there for decades. Bottom feeding fish pick up the toxins by eating the bacteria, those fish are eaten by larger fish and, ultimately, the larger fish become contaminated. For this reason, Ripley said, "Millions of dollars are being spent right now on removing these contaminated sediments in places like Green Bay, Wisc., and Manistique, Mich."

Media attention on these pollutants, combined with government-issued warnings and reports, seem to have caused reduced fish consumption in tribal communities. A University of Wisconsin 2004 report on fish consumption among the Anishinaabe showed that on average, tribal members were only eating about one third of the "safe fish consumption rate" issued by the FDA in the same year. That reduction points to a potentially dangerous deficit in tribal diets, because fish consumption is the only direct way — other than breast milk — for humans to access the omega-3 fatty acids EPA and DHA. These fatty acids are vital to human health, and they were once plentiful in the traditional Anishinaabe diet.

The concern over the health implications of a diet low in fish led to the development of the CORA study. In his presentation, Ripley showed the audience that

there are ways to get more omega-3s in their diets while reducing their exposure to toxins. He explained how CORA researchers applied a novel method of contaminant analysis, one that was first used on the east coast. The



Local fish have less mercury and more omega-3s than previously thought...

approach compared the crucial health benefits of eating fish versus the risks of accumulating mercury by eating fish. They found that certain Great Lakes fish — whitefish and lake trout — have predictably lower levels of mercury than most other species in the lakes, and the contaminants they do have may be balanced with their higher nutritional value, making them the right choice for dinner again.

But choosing the right local fish is just the first step. How the fish is cooked also makes a key difference. Because PCBs and dioxins settle in the fatty tissues of all fish, it's important to remove the skin and trim away all visible fat before cooking.

Finally, eating the right proportions of these local fish will help ensure that each family member gets the highest omega-3 nutrition with the lowest possible mercury risk. For maximum safety, CORA prefers to recommend the most conservative portion of one six-ounce serving per week. This is the maximum amount established for pregnant women and women who may

become pregnant. Ripley admitted, however, that men and older adults might adjust their portion upwards, as long as they keep in mind that larger portions raise not only omega-3 value, but also mercury content.

Just how important are omega-3s? Ripley and Dellinger examined what nutritional research had to say about the effects of little or no fish in our diets. What they found was alarming. When expectant mothers skip fish altogether, the absence of DHA, derived from the omega-3 oil in fish, raises the risk of babies born with vision and brain development disorders. Likewise, the absence of EPA — also found in omega-3s from fish — could impact the newborn's immune system and heart development. The human body cannot make EPA on its own, and yet it needs EPA to access the DHA necessary for a healthy brain. This is why the American Pregnancy Association recommends that pregnant and lactating women actually increase their intake of omega-3s. But how can they do that safely?

The CORA study suggests that for pregnant and lactating women, six ounces of omega-3 rich fish from the Great Lakes (whitefish and lake trout) may deliver a higher portion of those recommended fatty acid levels than fish commonly available in supermarkets. EPA and DHA can also be synthesized, in the body, from another source of fatty acids known as ALAs, but the omega-3s from fish required no such extra step. ALAs are the fatty acids found in seeds and nuts. Supplements can help new moms reach those target levels, but both Mike Ripley and American Pregnancy warn that supplements might contain the same contaminants we're trying to avoid in the first place, so they recommend that we read the label carefully to be sure the manufacturer uses purified fish oil.

Once born, infants can get their EPA and DHA from mother's milk, but as they move to solid foods, they should be introduced to fish in recommended portions. For children under

the age of six, the USDA Food Pattern suggests an amount of three to five ounces per week." (FDA, 2014)

The Dellinger-Ripley report stressed that the benefits of fish oils continue for a lifetime, at all stages of life. As children grow, they continue to need DHA for brain development. Research reported by the University of Oxford suggests that fatty acids from fish may play an important role in avoiding learning deficits such as ADHD and dyslexia. In teens and adults, consistent levels of omega-3s have been shown to significantly reduce depression, cancer risk and perhaps most important to tribal communities, obesity and diabetes rates. The benefits of eating fish high in omega-3s may be of particular interest to our elders, since these nutrients have been shown to reduce inflammation and the pain of arthritis, as well as the risk for coronary heart disease, by as much as 14 percent.

With the best source of omega-3s as close as the nearest lake, there's no reason not to include high levels of these vital nutrients in our diets. As Ripley reminded us, "Our ancestors seemed to know how important the traditional Anishinaabe diet of fish was to our well being. In 1836, they treated to guarantee us access to Great Lakes fish."

CORA's research now gives us a way to maximize our intake of omega-3s while reducing our toxin exposure. Regularly eating controlled portions of those local fish that appear to be exceptionally high in omega-3s, and cooking the fish without the skin or fatty tissues, could make a real difference in our health and the health of the next seven generations.

For more information about the importance of fish oil during pregnancy, visit the American Pregnancy Organization at <http://americanpregnancy.org/pregnancy-health/omega-3-fish-oil/>.

Maria Cantarero is assessment coordinator and instructor for communications at Bay Mills Community College. She may be reached at (906) 248-8439 or mcantarero@bmcc.edu.



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Beware of leaving children in parked cars

FROM MICHIGAN STATE POLICE

In 2013, nationwide, 44 children died from heatstroke after being accidentally left in a parked vehicle, including three deaths in Michigan. Even with mild temperatures outside, the temperature inside a vehicle can rise 20 degrees in as little as 10 minutes.

Heatstroke is the leading cause of non-crash, vehicle-related deaths for children according to Safe Kids Worldwide. A child's body heats up three to five times faster than an adult's, making them more susceptible

to heatstroke. To prevent this tragedy, parents and caregivers are reminded to A-C-T:

A — Avoid heatstroke-related injury and death by never leaving your child alone in a car, not even for a minute. Keep your car locked when you're not in it so kids don't get in on their own.

C — Create reminders by putting something in the back of your car next to your child such as a briefcase, a purse or a cell phone that is needed at your final destination. This is especially important if you're not

following your normal routine.

T — Take action. If you see a child alone in a car, call 911. Emergency personnel want you to call and they are trained to respond to these situations. One call could save a life.

"A hot car can be deadly," said Community Service Trooper Ailene Bitnar. "Always be sure to look twice before getting out, it's easier than you think to forget a baby in the backseat."

Take steps to remember not to leave a child in vehicle:

— Write yourself a note and

place it where you'll see it when you leave the vehicle.

— Place your bag, briefcase or something else you're sure to need in the back seat so you'll see a child left in the vehicle.

— Keep an object in the car seat, such as a stuffed toy. Once the child is buckled in, place the object where the driver will notice it when he or she leaves the vehicle.

— Ask your child care center to call you if your child doesn't arrive on time for child care.

— If you are dropping your child off at child care, and it's

normally your spouse, partner or caregiver who drops them off, have them call you to make sure the drop off went according to plan.

— If you see a child alone in a hot vehicle, call 911 immediately. If they are in distress due to heat, get them out as quickly as possible. Cool the child rapidly (not in an ice bath, but by spraying them with cool water).

For more information and safety tips about preventing child heatstroke deaths, visit www.safekids.org/heatstroke.

Try some DASH during Blood Pressure Awareness Month

FROM COMMUNITY HEALTH STAFF

Eating a diet rich in whole grains, fruits, vegetables and low-fat dairy products can lower your blood pressure. This eating plan is called Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH). Some small steps you can do to eat more like DASH:

Keep a food diary. Write down or use an app on your phone to monitor food intakes. See your dietician for a goal

calorie level to maintain or lose weight. Weight loss is one of the most effective lifestyle changes for controlling blood pressure. Losing just 10 pounds can help reduce your blood pressure.

Boost your fruit and vegetable intakes. Potassium can lessen the effects of sodium on blood pressure and is found in many fruits and vegetables. Try adding vegetables to eggs or fruit to your cottage cheese or oatmeal at breakfast.

Have a side salad or add

vegetables to your sandwich at lunch. Boost your intakes at dinner by grilling in-season fruits and vegetables on the grill.

Read food labels. Choose lower sodium alternatives of foods and beverages you normally buy. Eat fewer processed foods, as sodium is usually added during processing.

Fiber is your friend. Adding fiber to your diet by increasing fruit, veggies and whole grains at meals can help lower blood pressure and can keep you full for weight loss.

Use herbs when cooking. Try growing and adding your own herbs, such as rosemary, to meals instead of higher sodium seasonings. Remember to choose powdered forms of seasonings over

seasoning salts and always read the ingredients list for sources of added sodium. Remember adding fresh vegetables, fruits and herbs will add less sodium and more vitamins and minerals to help control your blood pressure.

The Community Health staff is here to help you control your blood pressure. Call us today for services in your area: Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health Center, 2864 Ashmun, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, 632-5200 or toll free at (877) 256-0009.

Newberry Tribal Community Health Center, 4935 Zeez-batik Lane, Newberry, MI 49868, phone 293-8181.

Grand Island Chippewa Community Center, 622 W. Superior, Munising, MI 49862,

387-4721 or (800) 236-4705.

Marquette Tribal Community Health Center, 1229 W. Washington Street, Marquette, MI 49855, phone 225-1616.

Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center, 1401 North 26th Street Suite 105, Escanaba, MI 49829, phone 786-2636.

Manistique Tribal Community Center, 5698 W Hwy US-2, Manistique, MI 49854, 341-8469 or toll free at (866) 401-0043.

Sault Tribe Health and Human Services Center, 1140 N. State, Suite 2805, St. Ignace, MI 49781, 643-8689 or toll free at (877) 256-0135.

Hessel Tribal Community Health Center, 3355 N. 3 Mile Rd, Hessel, MI 49745, phone 484-2727.

Health board changes name, seeks same for Bemidji area office

FROM GLATHB

The Indian Health Service (IHS), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, maintains a regional office in Bemidji, Minn. — hence the name, "Bemidji area." One of 12 IHS regions in the country, the Bemidji area serves 34 tribes and nations in three states, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan, plus four urban Indian Health Centers in Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Detroit and Chicago.

Kara Schurman is helping lead the effort for a name change on behalf of the Great Lakes Area Tribal Health Board (GLATHB).

Schurman, whose office is housed in the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council in Lac du Flambeau, Wisc., is the director of GLATHB, which represents the same 34 tribes and four urban Indian health centers. GLATHB is requesting the name of the Area Indian Health Service Office changes from "Bemidji area" to "Great Lakes area." The GLATHB, in an effort to promote uniformity, voted in early April to change its own name from "Midwest Area Tribal Health Board" to "Great Lakes Area Tribal Health Board."

Additionally, the GLATHB has recently unveiled its new logo, which incorporates culture and its representative service area.

In a letter to the acting president of the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST),



Aaron Payment of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and the board of MAST, requesting support for the change, Schurman wrote, "This name will promote unity, comprehensive representation and inclusion of the Great Lakes area. Additionally, it will eliminate confusion regarding the composition of the service area."

MAST is an intertribal organization representing 33 federally recognized tribes and four inter-tribal organizations in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana and Iowa.

MAST passed a formal resolution on April 27, 2016, to support changing the name of the Bemidji Area Indian Health Service to the Great Lakes Area Indian Health Service. The resolution notes that the Bemidji area is the most underfunded of the IHS areas and calls for "a collaborative effort to promote awareness and a more inclusive voice of the Great Lakes area and its tribal communities."

The resolution and recommendations are headed for the desk of Keith Longie, the area director for the Bemidji Indian Health Service Office.

WALK-IN CLINIC

Sault Tribe Health Center, 2864 Ashmun, St. Sault Ste. Marie

Open Monday through Friday
from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Sault Tribe Health Center 2nd Floor
2864 Ashmun, Sault Ste. Marie

Rae Ann Brand FNP
Andrew Rife PA



The Walk-In Clinic Provides Routine Medical Care, Such As:

- Vaccinations
- Evaluation and Treatment of Cold and Flu Symptoms
- Minor Ailments or Illnesses
- Minor Cuts Requiring Stitches
- Minor Injuries
- Minor Burns
- Sore Throats, Earaches
- Insect Bites
- Simple Rashes
- Skin Infections
- Sprains and Strains



No Appointment Necessary!

ELIGIBILITY

All patients eligible to be seen at our medical clinic are eligible to come to our walk-in clinic.

WEEKEND CARE

Urgent care patients can still be seen at War Memorial Hospital's Community Care Clinic on weekends and holidays when the Tribal Walk-in clinic is closed.

AFTER HOURS CARE

After hours, call 906-632-5200 to speak to a nurse for guidance on your health issue.

Sault Tribe Health Services ... "Health for a Lifetime"

Tribe responds to Flint water crisis

By **KATHIE BROSEMER**

On Jan. 5, 2016, the State of Michigan declared a state of emergency for the city of Flint due to the ongoing drinking water contamination with lead and other pollutants. At that time, it occurred to various personnel in the tribal government that we have tribal members living in Flint. How could we help?

We certainly did not want to duplicate services already provided by other governments, but we also did not want to leave our members to fend for themselves while we simply watched from afar.

Working with the Enrollment Department to collect contact information on members living in Flint and with the urging of the chairperson's office, the Environmental Department looked into how to best help those living in the water crisis zone. Enrollment provided 158 members names. Of these, 77 were unique addresses and over 18.

In early February, members of the Environmental Department began making needs assessment phone calls to all members living in the area. Over the course of a two-week span, Environmental Department employees were able to speak with 43 members in the area. Messages were left when we couldn't reach someone, if it was possible to leave a message. During the needs assessment, phone calls with members gave the Environmental Department an unbiased look at their issues and needs. The fortunate news was

that only 12 of the people on our list reported having major issues, either in regards to handling the crisis or getting supplies from emergency services.

Once the initial assessment was completed, the Environment Department decided the best way to assist members living in Flint was to provide on-the-scene support. A tribal member and new graduating student in environmental sciences, who worked with the Environmental Department in the past, was contracted to travel to Flint and meet with members to help them access the services available and find resources to help them.

After meeting with staff of the various governments' emergency response programs, our person met with seven members in the area. While meeting with our members, she provided them with the types of assistance they were having trouble obtaining. For instance, some of our elders were unable to get out and get the supplies they needed on a regular basis. We were able to deliver things like water filters, bottles of water, test kits and even nutrient rich foods that combat lead poisoning straight to their door, plus connect them with local services that would continue to make these deliveries for them. In addition to providing these items and connections, our person in the field was there to show members practical ways to reduce their water contaminant levels, such as cleaning out aerators that had built up with

sediment. In two extreme cases the tribe purchased and installed reverse osmosis filters for households unable to install the water filters the various services were handing out.

The tribal chairperson's office and the Environmental Department are extremely grateful to our members in Flint who took our assessment phone calls, allowed us into their homes and practiced patience and kindness when it came to waiting for assistance. We'd also like to profusely thank Robin Bouschor, tribal member and now current employee with the Environmental Department, for taking the time to travel to Flint to meet with and assist members.

In addition, we greatly appreciate the board of directors' confidence in us to allocate resources for the first time to assist members in crisis outside of our service area. The funds came from gaming revenues, and we would not have been able to provide the thorough support our members needed without this.

The Flint water crisis continues to be an unfolding saga. Members in the area in need of information and assistance are encouraged to call the Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575. We will continue to do anything and everything we can to assist in your safety and quality of life during this crisis. If we missed you and you need us, please call.

Kathie Brosemer is the Sault Tribe Environment Department Manager.

Moving ?



TRIBAL MEMBERS!
When you move, let us know where you are headed! That way you won't miss one issue of your tribal paper.

906-632-6398
slucas@saulttribe.net

U.P. filmmaker Michael Loukinen visits the Soo

SAULT STE. MARIE — Marquette filmmaker Michael Loukinen will visit the Bayliss Public Library Wednesday, June 22, at 7 p.m., to talk about his 35-plus years of making films about the U.P., including those about Finnish and Ojibwe cultural themes. He is Professor Emeritus from Northern Michigan University and director of Up North Films. Loukinen will provide an overview of his work along with excerpts from various films. His DVDs will be available for purchase.

Co-sponsored by the library and the Chippewa County Historical Society, the event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided.

Bayliss Library is located at 541 Library Drive in Sault Ste.



Courtesy of Up North Films

Marie. Please enter by the front door, since the rest of the library will be closed that evening.

For more information about Loukinen and his films, see www.upnorthfilms.com.

She has a gambling problem.
HER MOM.

When you or someone you love has a gambling problem, the whole family suffers. For free, confidential help, call **1-800-270-7117.**

USDA launches pollinator window box initiative

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently urged Americans of all ages to “Plant a Window Box for Pollinators” by using a new, free online tool available at the redesigned People’s Garden Initiative website at peoplesgarden.usda.gov.

The new tool allows people to determine which plants provide pollinator forage based on their zip code. Site visitors can then print out the list of plants to take to their local garden store and grown them in a window box. There is also a virtual window box game. Even a space as small



as a window box can help pollinators by ensuring they don’t have to fly too far to find food.

The interactive People’s Garden website also includes the popular live USDA “bee cam,” which broadcasts honeybee activity on the roof of USDA’s headquarters building in Washington, D.C.

The new People’s Garden website is just in time as Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack designated April as National Garden Month.

“Gardens provide a positive setting for pollinators such as bats, bees, birds, butterflies, beetles and other animals that contribute substantially to the U.S. economy and play a vital role in keeping

fruits, nuts, and vegetables in our diets,” Vilsack said in the proclamation.

In addition to the window box tool, the website features an interactive map of the more than 2,100 People’s Gardens planted since Vilsack launched the effort at the start of the Obama administration. The new website shares People’s Garden success stories and numerous resources, from videos to checklists, on how to create a garden that benefits the community and incorporates sustainable practices.

“The website’s ‘Plant a Window Box for Pollinators’

tool is a fun way for gardeners to select native plants for their gardens and, at the same time, help bees, butterflies and other pollinators flourish,” Agricultural Marketing Service Administrator Elanor Starmer said.

The People’s Garden Initiative works with agencies and offices across USDA and with federal, state and local partners to start and sustain gardens with the mission of growing healthy food, people and communities. USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service, Transportation and Marketing Program oversees the Initiative for the Department.

Do your part to keep oak wilt disease out of the EUP

FROM THE MICHIGAN DNR

By not pruning oak trees from April 15 to July 15 or moving firewood, we can keep oak wilt at bay. Oak wilt is a serious disease of oak trees, according to Robert Mech, forest health specialist for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Forest Resources Division. It mainly affects red oaks, which die within a few weeks after becoming infected. White oaks are more resistant; therefore, the disease progresses more slowly. Red oaks include northern red oak, black oak and pin oak.

“The normal time-tested advice is to prevent oak wilt by not pruning or otherwise ‘injuring’ oaks from April 15 to July 15,” Mech said. The spread of oak wilt occurs during this time

of year as beetles move spores from fungal fruiting structures on the trees killed last year by oak wilt to wounds on healthy oaks. As warmer weather melts away snow and ice, the beetles that move oak wilt become active.

“It only takes a few 50-degree-warmer days for both the beetles and fungus to become active,” Mech said.

Although oak wilt hasn’t been detected in every Michigan county, Mech said the need for vigilance is present statewide.

Spring is a popular time for people to move firewood to vacation properties and other locations. During this April-to-July period, Mech said it’s vital not to move wood from oak wilt-killed trees. These trees often are cut into firewood and moved,

sometimes many miles from their original locations. Any wounding of oaks in this new location can result in new oak wilt infections as beetles move spores from the diseased firewood to fresh wounds on otherwise healthy trees.

“With the transport of firewood and other tree-related activities, you have to assume the risk is present, whether you live in metro Detroit or in the Upper Peninsula,” Mech said.

The DNR recommends that anyone who suspects they have oak wilt-tainted firewood should cover it with a plastic tarp all the way to the ground, leaving no openings. This keeps the beetles away and generates heat inside the tarp, helping to destroy the fungus. Once the bark loosens on

the firewood, the disease can no longer be spread.

New oak wilt sites have been traced to spring and early summer wounding from tree-climbing spikes, rights-of-way pruning, nailing signs on trees and accidental tree-barking (a wound created when bark is removed via impact from equipment, falling trees and other causes). If an oak is wounded during this critical time, the DNR advises residents to cover the wound immediately with either a tree-wound paint or a latex paint to help keep beetles away.

Once an oak is infected, the fungus moves to neighboring red oaks through root grafts. Oaks within approximately 100 feet of each other — depending on the size of the trees — have connect-

ed or grafted root systems. Left untreated, oak wilt will continue to move from tree to tree, progressively killing more red oak over an increasingly larger area.

To minimize the risk of oak wilt infection caused by logging damage, DNR prohibits cutting of red oak trees on state-managed land between April 15 and July 15. The DNR recommends private forest landowners exercise caution during this period and, whenever possible, delay harvesting activity in oak forests until after July 15 to reduce the risk.

To report a suspected oak wilt site, email DNR-FRD-Forest-Health@michigan.gov or call (517) 284-5895. Learn more about oak wilt and other forest health issues in Michigan at www.michigan.gov/foresthealth.

PROUD TO REPRESENT YOU AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS



1 *Aaron - Thank you for your dedication to Indian education and strengthening tribal nations across the country! Sally Jewell*

Chairperson Aaron A. Payment, MPA, MAED
“Representing All Members Everywhere”

I want to express my most sincere gratitude for the privilege and honor of serving as Chairperson. Upon returning to office in 2012, Cathy Abramson asked me to help advocate for our Tribe’s interests at the national level. She served on the National Indian Health Board (as Chair), National Special Diabetes Committee, CDC Tribal Advisory and as Chair of the HHS Secretary’s Tribal Advisory. Cathy’s service to our Tribe has been inspiring.

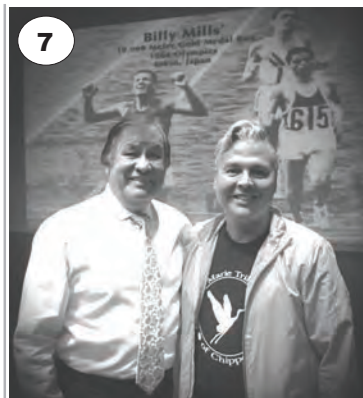
With her retirement, I am concerned with the national access we have carved out between the two of us coming to an end. Cathy has taught me to go after a bigger piece of the pie. Thank you Cathy.

This last month has been

busy. A few weeks back, I got a special invitation from the White House to meet with the President and join him for his address to Flint residents (picture #2) regarding the Flint Crisis. I am working to secure \$100,000 for relief for our “At Large” Members who live there. Below are (#3, 4, 5) Little Miss Flint (whose letter got the President to visit); long time friend Senator Debbie Stabenow; and EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and HHS Secretary Sylvia Burwell. I serve as Vice Chair on Secretary Burwell’s Tribal Advisory Committee and have served on numerous panels for the EPA. Picture 6 is of Tribal Members Terry Bishop and Shawn Borowicz who were part of the Motorcade detail for the President.

I have done my best to serve you ~ my people. I am and have always been proud to be Indian. My heroes ~ like Bill Mills (1964 Olympic 10,000 meter Gold Medalist) inspires me to work even harder to serve you. My doctoral research is dedicated to improving graduation rates for our people. Two weeks ago, I finalized my second Master’s degree in Education. By August, my doctorate in Education will be complete.

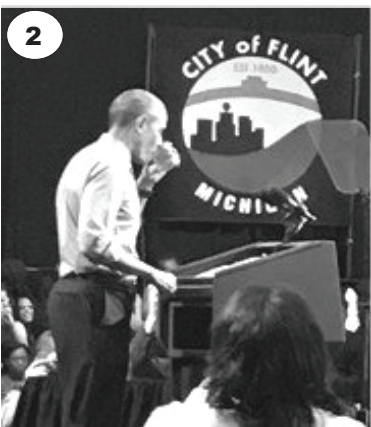
Representing you is self-fulfilling but it is nice when a Presidential Cabinet Members like Secretary of Interior Sally Jewell recognizes your work (#1). Additionally, I have been asked to testify over a dozen times in Congress. Picture # 8 is from testifying on Senate Bill 246 to



establish a National Indian Child Commission.

Chi McGwitch Negee for allowing me to serve as your Chairperson for the last four years. I love serving as your Chairperson!

Chi



Abramson retires after 20 years of service to tribe



**CATHY ABRAMSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Well, this is my last unit report, and, as usual, I am writing at the 11th hour to get it done. It's the way I've been rolling for years! I would like take this time to reflect on my 20 years of service to you as a tribal board member. Being an elected tribal official is a role I have always taken very seriously and I have tried to lead our people by example.

I don't know how much wis-

dom I have learned in the past 20 years, but one thing I do know about life on the board – it ain't easy! From the beginning it was made evident. I recall the then long-term County Commissioner Len Pianosi advising me, "Cathy, if you don't make it the first time, don't feel bad because you will eventually." I am happy to say I did make it the first time, but not without controversy. Quite honestly, I worked hard to burst through the finish line, feeling the thrill of success, only to be told there may be a new election. Thank God it didn't go that way. Life, the way we plan it, does not always follow a smooth path.

I swear for the first year that I came home crying not so much because I was hurt but more so out of frustration. I learned to rely more on prayer. I listened to you, our tribal members, my family, my friends, youth, elders, the far left, the far right, the hard core militant and the laid back passive. I heard you and your voices mattered AND I GREW.

It doesn't matter what walk

of life you come from — people are people. I've been taught to never let anyone treat you less than what you are and you should never try to make anyone feel less either. If you really get this concept, people will no longer be so intimidating to you. Once I learned this, I was able to confidently go head to head with congressmen and senators. I could lead national boards. I carried with me all of your voices and the voices of our ancestors. I was proud to do so and I think I will miss that the most. We all have special gifts and that is what we need to celebrate. We need to let our people know how much we appreciate them and their talents. We need to build their confidence so they may represent us to the best of their abilities.

So life on the board ain't easy and you know how to counter that? You learn to forgive. Forgiveness is freeing because you learn to let go of your anger and put your ego aside so you can focus on the real issues. That's one of the hardest lessons

I have had to learn. Extreme emotion and logic can't exist in the same space at the same time. Forgiveness helps you separate the two.

So how do we change things? It doesn't start with the tribal board. It starts with you. In each and every one of us is the power to make change happen. Big sweeping gestures get a lot of attention but it's the small everyday things that keep our tribe alive. It's families who help prepare for our funerals, our ceremonies, our powwows, our gatherings, passing on our language (even just speaking a word or two to our children), gathering and making our medicines, hunting, growing, gathering and cooking our traditional foods. Sharing is one of the oldest traditions whether it be sharing your time, your harvest, a meal. Use your life to save our place in this world.

I would like to give recognition for the supreme sacrifices that my family has made over the years. No, it ain't easy being

a tribal board member but it was even harder on my family. However, in the 20 years, my children graduated from high school, college and now have beautiful families of their own. They all give back to our tribe and are passing on our culture and traditions to their children. I couldn't be any prouder! My Finlander husband, Tony, has put with my antics and stubbornness and my lateness. I wouldn't have any of this without your love and support. My cup runneth over.

It ain't easy being on the board, but some days (and there are many) when you hit it just right — IT'S AMAZING. Being able to serve my tribe in this capacity has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my life. No, it hasn't been easy but it's been worth it!

Chi Miigwech for this journey we have shared. I will still be around and if you need any help or advice or a great pot of waboose nabob, I am and always will be happy to serve you!

Two steps forward, one step back is still progress



**DJ HOFFMAN
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

The election cycle is thankfully nearing its end; I congratulate all of the candidates who successfully made it through the primary, as well as all of the candidates for running to make the tribe better.

In the coming months, we must "get our house in order." The tribal board must work together to restore a sense of respectability to our tribe. To do so we must focus on planning for our tribe's present, as well as future, operations. Without proper planning there is no reasonable manner with which to gauge our tribe's needs, successes, failures, goals and objectives. If we continue to fail to plan, we will no doubt continue to fail to progress as a Tribe.

Casinos

As of the date this report has been submitted (May 23), it has been 536 days since the Gaming Authority Authorized hiring a Temporary Casino Executive Officer. The premise of this temporary position was based upon an RFP issued in August of 2014 which stated:

"Temporary Overall Management of Gaming/Hospitality Operations with the ultimate goal of assisting with selection of a permanent Chief Executive Officer of Kewadin Casinos."

Policy dictates that temporary positions shall not exceed six months. My concern has been the

message of not following policy, adopted by tribal resolution, and what it conveys to the membership and our employees as a whole.

Scheduled for the next meeting in June 2016 meeting will be the approval of a key employee (Casino CEO). The board has selected an independent interview panel comprised of qualified individuals to take the politics out of the selection process. The panel has concluded its process and I look forward to the board approving the hire of a qualified CEO to lead our largest enterprises forward.

We will need strong, experienced leadership to address the threats of our current declining casino revenues, as well as competition from the new Mackinac City casino. As of today there are no plans to combat this serious threat.

Human Resources Audit

Human Resources is the central hub for all employment-related actions: pre-employment, hiring, discipline, retention and termination. As a tribe, we need to ensure that these areas are performing in an optimal manner, and in accordance with adopted policy to ensure that all employees are treated in an equitable manner.

The tribal board of directors approved a resolution to audit the performance of the tribe's Human Resource Department in the fall of 2015; this has not been completed. The audit will address the strengths and weaknesses within the department so that they may be assessed and addressed. I am hopeful that the audit RFP will be issued within the first weeks of June.

JKL Bahweting School

The gymnasium had its grand opening just last week and the smiles from the children and families made the entire project something I will never forget. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the JKL Fiduciary Committee, the Tribal Board of



The new gymnasium at JKL Bahweting Public School Academy in Sault Ste. Marie.

Directors and both Kim Gravelle and Jennifer McLeod for making this phenomenal project come to fruition.

Economic Development

In each and every report I write, I will continue to list economic development as a major emphasis. I have, and will continue to stress, the need to diversify economically. To ensure that we are able to diversify, we must adopt plans and embrace opportunities outside of the realm of casinos. In addition, the tribe needs to ensure that its business approaches are separated from its tribal politics

The establishment of the Economic Development director position will allow our businesses to move forward in a more profitable manner, as well as lead the charge towards new business development and diversification. Unfortunately, the retention of an Economic Development director has stalled. The following is a picture of the

extent of the progress:



The picture is the entire progress thus far, a door to a vacant office in the Tribal Administration building.

Please contact the Tribal Board to ensure that this position is filled so our Tribe's Economic future can move forward in a structured manner.

Priorities

As a board member it is my goal to move our tribe forward. It is not my goal to get involved

in petty squabbles because of personal likes and dislikes. The common theme should always be to approach each topic, each vote, based on the betterment of the tribe as a whole. I prefer documentation and research to assertion and opinion. I am not always right, however, I believe we as board members have a responsibility to do more than just show up.

In closing, as always, 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 that 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
(w) djhoffman@saulttribe.net
(h) djwhoffman@hotmail.com

Shores casino hosted VIPs for 28th anniversary



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

Congratulations to all the students graduating high school. Good luck in the next phase of your education, work or military

career. All those recent college graduates deserve recognition too. Please consider working for your tribe if you are able to.

Thank you to everyone who came to the Wequayoc Cemetery cleanup on May 21. There was quite a good crowd with many stories and history of our ancestors shared as well as a potluck lunch.

The Shores Casino celebrated their 28th anniversary and hosted a VIP dinner for 500. This was the largest plated dinner group they have hosted. Staff from various casinos was on site to coordinate and serve the guests. The room was nicely decorated, they had two singers providing dinner music and the food was very good. I talked to several guests on the way out of the dinner and on

the gaming floor and heard nothing but great things. Thanks Team Kewadin, you guys knocked it out of the park!

The board voted to increase the starting wage for tipped positions at the May 3 meeting. When the board voted to do the wage study five years ago, it did not include tipped positions. We have been discussing this for the last few years as well as the wage compression issue. The compression issue will likely cost the tribe close to \$1 million to fix. We are losing long-term team members because of this and we need to figure it out soon.

At this same meeting was the discussion of eliminating charges for tribal cards and expiration dates. The expiration dates were likely placed to keep members'

addresses current. Currently, renewing your tribal card cost \$5 and replacing \$20. The estimated cost to the tribe was \$20,000. Which will mean \$20,000 would come from tribal support and would likely take away from something else.

Giving raises, eliminating fees for tribal members, increasing the elder dividend, are all great things but all come with a price tag. We only have so much tribal support to contribute to programs and services; so when you give to one area, another area is not getting it. Odawa is opening their Class II casino on May 25. This will likely impact the Shores revenues from \$1 million to a few million dollars, which will likely cause the government to receive less

than their current \$17 million of tribal support.

I realize that many of our out-of-area members feel like the red-headed step-children of this tribe. I think there are several reasons for those feelings, such as lack of communication, services and distance, to name a few. I also believe in the past there were promises made that could not be delivered that have fueled the fire. Promises cost money and that is something that is very limited with our current businesses. We need to focus on what we can provide.

If anyone is willing to discuss bridging the gap, please email me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com, or (906) 430-0536.

Politics of tribal government hurting members



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

It has been nearly four years since I was elected as a Unit I director by the people of our tribe. I have been thinking about

all that has been accomplished, as well as not accomplished during this time. I am a teacher by profession and have learned the importance of planning, implementation and reflection on my results. I apply these skills to my work for our people and, looking back over this past four years, I have learned one thing with absolute certainty: I prefer "Professionalism over Politics." The politics of our tribal government is hurting our people. Although I was elected to my new job, I do not consider myself a "politician." I consider myself a leader; chosen by my people, to serve our people to the best of my ability. I do not focus on the next election; my focus is on doing good things for the betterment of

our tribe.

However, developing our board into a team has not met with great success (due to politics), but I remain hopeful. I have great respect for each member of the board and believe in them. At the point where members of the board are confident that every board member's intentions are good, trust will develop. "Trust lies at the heart of a functioning, cohesive team. Without it, teamwork is all but impossible." (Lencioni, 2002). Hurtful words, half-truths, untruths and speculations have no place in a professional working environment. I prefer that we attack issues, not each other.

Discord however, can be an important sign of progress. Tame

meetings can mean that important issues are not being addressed.

It's critical however, that personal attacks are not tolerated. I respect the leaders our people have voted into office, and I am honored to serve with them. Working together, we will achieve good things. "Working together" does not mean always agreeing. I have voted "no" on issues I believed were not good for our tribe, were not properly executed, or the timing was not right. I have also abstained when there was good reason to. Please note that "politics" is not a good reason in my mind. I vote on the issue, not the person bringing it forward. In the end, I vote for what I believe is best for our people and, in accordance with our tribal

Constitution, that is my responsibility.

This report is just a small glimpse of the things we are doing at the board level. A more comprehensive report would be much, much longer! There are many committees and projects that board members are involved in, based on interest and expertise. I also serve on other committees, attend Unit I elder meetings and help everyone if I can.

Miiigwech to you all for this chance to work for the betterment of our tribe. If you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance, please contact me!

Bamapii!

Jen McLeod, (906) 440-9151 or email to: jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

Audit Committee busy with grants, programs



**KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

The Audit Committee has been busy the last few months. Denny McKelvie is the chair of that committee since he is the treasurer of the tribe. This com-

mittee is tasked with many topics but mainly is set up to work through our internal and external audits of our grants, programs and businesses. Lately, we have been assigned audits and research in these fields: Fraud Policy, Conflict of Interest Policy and Purchasing Policy. This committee is a very important one for our tribe and to make sure everything is being watched to the best of our ability.

The Wequayoc Cemetery is looking very nice these days. Wequayoc Cemetery is one of the cemeteries that the tribe owns and this one is between Hessel and St. Ignace. Our ancestors have been buried there since the beginning of time. We had a spring clean up out at the cemetery this past weekend and it was

well attended. About 30 people worked on cleaning headstones and cutting grass. Many relatives were there to help and tell stories of the grandfathers who have walked on. It was a very uplifting day and we had a luncheon after all the work was done. This is what a tribe is and what a tribe should do. We need to stop and think about what is important to our tribe and work to remind all our members that we are all family and should think accordingly. I know our ancestors were watching and smiling. Thank you to all those who helped and are willing to maintain all our cemeteries.

On a similar note, the Wequayoc Committee passed a funeral and lunch procedure for the St. Ignace meal site at McCann. It is a great compliment

to our culture and gives guidance and many helpful contacts to anyone who wished to proceed with a traditional mourning period and customs. Contact Russ Rickley, the cemetery sextant, at russrickley@yahoo.com for more information if you are interested.

It was the Kewadin Shores of St. Ignace's 28th anniversary this weekend. Several board members were there to see the festivities. I was very pleased to see the parking lot overflowing with cars and as I walked through the casino floor the place was lively and full of excitement. The guests said the dinner was fantastic and everyone was having a good time. While talking to the Shores Casino manager, he said it was all hands on deck and they were about to feed 500 people dinner.

He pointed out that the other casino managers from all the other sites were there to help in anyway they could. I saw some serving and some picking up dishes while other did prep work in the back. It truly was "all hands on deck" and they worked very well together for the common good of the business. All the team members deserve a big thank you for all the hard work and preparations that went into the event.

Thank you for all the e-mail and phone calls, it truly has been so nice talking to so many of our constituents over the last couple of months.

Keith Massaway, 702 Hazleton St, St. Ignace, MI 49781, kmassaway@msn.com.

Looking to hire casino CEO by June

Aaniin, first, I would like to congratulate the candidates who have moved on to the general election. Good LUCK to all of you.

At a board of directors meeting, we decided to retain an outside group to interview and recommend an applicant for the permanent CEO of casino operations. We are hoping to have this individual in the position by June. A permanent CEO brings stability to the position and we can move forward with bringing our casinos back to a force to be reckoned with. We need

an individual who will understand the dynamics that make up Sault Tribe and the surrounding areas, especially our sister city Sault Ste. Marie, Canada.

The JKL Bahweting School gym has been completed and a grand opening was held on May 13 with Billy Mills, Olympic gold medal winner in the 10,000 meter run at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics, as the guest speaker. Once you meet him and hear him speak, you can understand why he is an inspiration to so many. The students

love having the extra space and not being transported to the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center for gym classes. Again, I would like to thank the board of directors for making this possible for the benefit of the students.

On another note, I would like to touch on the subject of board of directors not being asked to serve on interview panels and candidates being handpicked for a position. The reason board members aren't aware of these panels is because when we have workshops, some

of the board members don't show up or they leave early. Usually by mid-afternoon we are left with only four or five directors still sitting at the table. So when we are finishing our business for the day, volunteers are being asked for to sit on various panels, and it just so happens that the ones still at the meeting are usually the ones who volunteer or are assigned because there isn't anyone else left.

If you have questions or comments, call (906) 203-6083 or kkgavelle@saulttribe.net.



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Preparing for 2020 Consent Decree negotiations



DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

On May 14, the elders held the annual Indian Point Cemetery clean up in Nahma, Mich. It started out a cold and rainy morning, then the weather broke and we were able to complete the cleaning of our sacred grounds for the Memorial Day weekend. Thank you to everyone who helped with the clean-up: Betty Majestic, Pam and Ernest Demmon, Brenda and Ron Nelson, Monica and Emery Rochefort, Kathy and John Perkins, Elizabeth Knoph, Mary Miller-Jenerou, Jenna Chase, Denise Chase, Jacob Morrow, Josh Brush, Levi Morrow and

Frank Chase III — all your hard work is greatly appreciated! I would also like to thank the casino for donating to the event.

With the 2020 Consent Decree coming up in four years we need to stay progressive and aggressive so our members gain back what we lost in the past Great Lakes Consent Decrees. Our fishermen have not been able to fish in their own back yards since these decrees were implemented. We need a board that is willing to stand up against the state and fight for our treaty rights — not give them away.

I presented a resolution to the board for participation in the Great Lakes Conservation Committee, which passed unanimously at the Munising meeting. This resolution will allow all tribal members to be able to attend and participate in the Great Lakes Committee and all 2020 Consent Decree meetings through our teleconference equipment. These meetings will now be available for members to attend at the Manistique and Munising Tribal Health Centers. Staff will be onsite at each of these facilities for members to attend. Now is the time that your

voices need to be heard — with the 2020 Consent Decree coming up your input is valuable. The Consent Decree affects our hook and line, subsistence and commercial fishermen on the Great Lakes. It is vital that you attend these meetings and have your voice heard on the issues you face exercising your treaty rights.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (906) 298-1888.

Thank you,
Darcy Morrow
Unit 4 Representative
dmorrow@saulttribe.net



Volunteers young and old showed up on a blustery day to help the elders clean up Indian Point Cemetery in Namah. Pictured L-R (back row) Levi Morrow, Monica Rochefort, Elizabeth Knoph, Emery Rochefort, Brenda Nelson, Denise Chase, John Perkins, Jenna Chase and Frank Chase III, (front row) Jacob Morrow, Josh Brush, Ernest Demmon (kneeling), Ron Nelson (kneeling), Pam Demmon, Mary Miller Jenerou (kneeling), Kathy Perkins. Not pictured: Betty Majestic and Darcy Morrow. Below, volunteers take a break with a picnic lunch on the grill.



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