



Win Awenen Nisitotung

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Ode'immin Giizis



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

Bay Mills, Sault Tribe unveil their MMIP Tribal Community Response Plans

SAULT STE. MARIE — Bay Mills Indian Community and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians recently announced their Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Tribal Community Response Plans during an event held at Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie.

The plans are part of a broader initiative by the U.S. Department of Justice, which was created through congressional action (*Savanna's Act* and *Not Invisible Act*).

For the last several months, law enforcement officials, victim services coordinators and communication departments for both tribes have been collaborating to create their own plans.

The plans will be deployed if and when any Native individual fits the core criteria for missing or murdered by law enforcement officials.

The plans address four core components of a proper response to a missing persons case: law enforcement, victim services, community outreach and public communications.

What makes tribal plans unique is the inclusion of a cultural perspective.

BMIC and Sault Tribe were both part of a pilot project aimed at providing other tribes with guidance on creating their own plans. Their work will serve as a part of a template for tribal nations across the country to develop their own MMIP response plans.

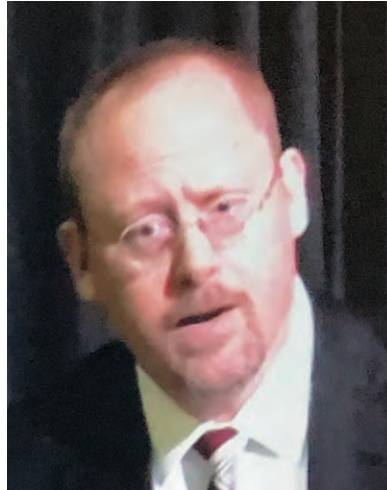
“In our Anishinaabe Biimaadziwin, life is sacred. Everyone who is a victim of crime, murdered or missing is



Sault Tribe Chairperson
Aaron Payment



Secretary of the Interior
Deb Haaland



US Attorney
Andrew Birge



Attending the MMIP Tribal Community Response Plan roll outs by Bay Mills and Sault Tribe were more than 80 officials from tribal, state, county and federal agencies. More photos on Pages 14-15.

someone's loved one. Regardless of the circumstances, they deserve

our best efforts to prevent, rescue and recover them,” said Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment. “The MMIP protocol is an affirmative step in this direction. I appreciate our Sault Tribe and Bay Mills comprehensive team effort in creating a model we intend to share with other tribes.”

During the event, law enforcement officials provided an overview of their actions, as well as services that will be provided by

victim services units.

“Over the past several months, working groups from Bay Mills and Sault Tribe formed under a pilot project to write their Tribal Community Response Plan (TCRP) to respond to a missing person report. I saw that we all had a heartfelt passion to get this plan right for both the victims and their families while remaining culturally sensitive, balanced with what the law requires,” said

Joel Postma, DOJ's MMIP coordinator for Michigan. “I've been thoroughly impressed with how everyone has come together to make their communities a safer place.”

BMIC Tribal Chairperson Whitney Gravelle was the emcee, introducing several dignitaries in attendance, including U.S. Attorney Andrew Birge.

“The development of Bay Mills' Tribal Community Response Plan (TCRP) is part of our effort to empower our tribal nation with the abilities and resources that allow us to adequately investigate, prosecute, and punish the crimes committed against native women. For centuries, native women, two spirit, and indigenous people have suffered a disproportionate rate of violence, and today we stand ready to make sure those injustices no longer continue,” said Gravelle.

The U.S. Attorney's office has been working to increase collaboration and communication with tribes, all relevant law enforcement partners, MMIP victim families, grassroots Indigenous persons and groups, and all other MMIP stakeholders.

“With these response plans, we see tribes — here the Bay Mills Indian Community and the Sault Ste Marie Tribe — taking the lead on the difficult and important challenge of setting forth how best to respond to reports of missing and murdered members of their communities,” said Birge. “I fully expect other communities and law enforcement agencies — tribal and non-tribal alike — will see these plans as examples to follow.”

Michigan is among the first of six pilot-program states developing community response plans, in accordance with the U.S. attorney general's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons initiative and the president's Operation Lady Justice Task Force. The other states are Oklahoma, Montana, Minnesota, Alaska and Oregon.

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Traditional Medicine constructs sweat lodge for Manistique area



Photo by Lori Gambardella

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine visited Manistique in May to construct a sweat lodge for the community. Above, from left, are Traditional Healer Joe Syrette, Bay Mills Cultural Director Jesse Bowen, Traditional Healer Assistant Annie Thibert, Traditional Healer Gerard Sagassige, western end TAP Coordinator Kelli Beaudry, Manistique center Secretary Viola Neadow and Unit IV and V Membership Liaison Mary Jenerou.

ACFS receives gift of blankets for families



Anishinaabek Community and Family Services thanks Judge Blubaugh from the 91st District Court, court staff and probationers for their generous donation of blankets for our families. The blankets were made by those on probation as part of community service assignments and donated to non-profits and agencies in the area. Chi miigwech!



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Existing vacancies on Sault Tribe committees

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

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

Child Welfare Committee - three vacancies (4-year term), one vacancy (expires May 2023)

Conservation Committee - one vacancy - Fisheries (term expiring March 3, 2023)

Election Committee - four vacancies (4-year term)

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

Health Board - five vacancies (4-year term)

Housing Commission - one vacancy - Unit I (4 year term) one vacancy - Unit II (4-year term)

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

Elder Advisory Committee

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

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

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

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

Unit IV - Manistique (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

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

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

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

Elder Subcommittee

Unit I - Sault (4-year terms), two regular seat vacancies, two alternate seat vacancies

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

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

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

Unit IV - Manistique (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies, one alternate vacancy

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

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

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

Sault Tribe 2021 powwows

Due to COVID-19 concerns, this year's Sault Tribe powwow in Sault Ste. Marie is scheduled for Sept. 3-5. This 40th annual powwow in our Bahweting community is set for September rather than July to give more people the chance to get vaccinations for COVID-19. For more information, please contact the Language and Culture Department by phone

at (906) 635-6050 or email at culture@saulttribe.net.

Other powwows set for this year are the Honoring Our Veterans Powwow in November (date TBA) and the New Year's Eve Sobriety Gathering and Powwow on Dec. 30-31, 2021, to Jan. 1, 2022. More information for these two gatherings and powwows will be released at a later date.

Wellbriety meetings

Sault Ste. Marie Waabinong Wellbriety — Tuesdays and Fridays 6-8 p.m., Niigaanagiiizhik Building, 11 Ice Circle Drive in Sault Ste. Marie, 12 Step recovery group in the Native American way, contact Justin at (906) 203-4700.

Manistique Talking Circle and Wellbriety Group — Wednesdays 4-6 p.m., Manistique Tribal Health Center, 5698W HWY US-2 in Manistique, 12 Step recovery group in the Native American way, call Sault Tribe Behavioral Health: (906) 341-8157, ext. 29581, to register.

Girls' volleyball camp at LSSU

Middle school volleyball camp, July 12-14, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. for females entering grades 5-8. Lunch provided, registration is limited, with FREE registration for Sault Tribe youth.

Register online at www.BigBearArena.com. Register with the Sault Tribe Recreation Division, not LSSU. Deadline: June 21 at 5 p.m. Questions: bookthebear@saulttribe.net.

June, July Traditional Medicine schedule

Traditional Medicine Program schedules for June and July. Please call numbers provided for questions or to set up an appointment.

Gerard Sagassige

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center: June 21, 22 and 28; Lori Gambardella, 906 632 0236, or Annie Thibert, (906) 632 0220

Munising Health Center: June 23; (906) 387 4721 or (800) 236 4705

Manistique Health Center: June 16; (906) 341 8469 or (866) 401 0043

St. Ignace Health Center: July 6; (906) 643-8689 or (877)

256-0135

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center: July 7, 12, 13, 19, 26, 27 and 28; Lori Gambardella, (906) 632-0236, or Annie Thibert, (906) 632-0220

Munising Health Center: July 14; (906) 387-4721 or (800) 236-4705

Escanaba Community Center: July 20; Lori Gambardella, (906) 632-0236, or Annie Thibert, (906) 632-0220

Manistique Health Center: July 21; (906) 341-8469 or (866) 401-0043

Joe Syrette

Hessel Community Center:

July 1; (906) 484-2727

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center: July 2, 8, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, 29 and 30; Lori Gambardella, (906) 632-0236, or Annie Thibert, (906) 632-0220

St. Ignace Health Center: July 6; (906) 643-8689 or (877) 256-0135

Manistique Health Center: July 7; (906) 341-8469 or (866) 401-0043

Newberry Community Center: July 15; (906) 293-8181

Munising Health Center: July 28; (906) 387-4721 or (800) 236-4705

Ailing memorial golf scramble, July 31

The eighth annual Jim Ailing Memorial Golf Scramble, will be held Saturday, July 31, at Tanglewood March Golf Course, with a 9 a.m. registration and a 10 a.m. start.

Four-person scramble; \$60/person includes 18 holes of golf, cart and BBQ dinner. Free koozie to the first 13 teams

Don't golf? Dinner served at

3 p.m. \$20/person. Hole sponsorships available \$50.

Proceeds will support Hospice of the EUP, WMH Road to Recovery, 50/50 raffle will support FOCUS.

Contact Sheri Ailing to register or make a donation at (906) 203-5597 or jimailingmemorial@yahoo.com.

Jim was an avid golfer who

not only enjoyed the game but helping others as well.

In 2011 Jim was diagnosed with small cell lung cancer. He lost his battle in July 2013.

Jim was a generous man who always wanted to help others. His family wants to continue his legacy by donating the profits to various charities throughout the community.

DOE announces \$14.5 million to combat plastics waste and pollution

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced an investment of up to \$14.5 million for research and development to cut waste and reduce the energy used to recycle single-use plastics like plastic bags, wraps and films.

"For years, single-use plastics have had a detrimental impact on the environment — clogging landfills and polluting our neighborhoods, parks and beaches," said Secretary of Energy Jennifer M. Granholm.

Single-use plastics are the largest subset of plastics found in landfills and among the most challenging to recycle. Plastic production accounts for more than three percent of total U.S.

energy consumption and uses roughly the same amount of oil around the world as the aviation industry. Yet, less than 10 percent of plastics are currently recycled, most of which are "downcycled," or repurposed into low-value products.

Through this funding opportunity, the DOE will support a range of projects to develop economically viable solutions for converting plastic films to more valuable materials and design new plastics that are more recyclable and biodegradable. These solutions can increase investments in recycling processes and recycling jobs in the United States, reduce the amounts of

plastics that end up in the environment and decarbonize the plastics industry.

"I'm thrilled with the announcement of this substantial federal investment in researching better ways to recycle and upcycle single use plastics. This has been a top priority of mine in the United States Congress and I launched the bipartisan Congressional Plastics Task Force in 2019 to help combat the plastic waste crisis in our country," said U.S. Representative Haley Stevens. "I applaud Secretary Granholm and the Biden team for taking this important step."

As part of the application, applicants are required to describe

how diversity, equity and inclusion objectives will be incorporated in the projects.

This funding opportunity builds on DOE investments, including the DOE Bio-Optimized Technologies to keep Thermoplastics out of Landfills and the Environment (BOTTLE) Consortium. and the Reducing Embodied energy And Decreasing Emissions (REMADE) Institute. BOTTLE consortium members have previously engineered an enzyme to better deconstruct polyethylene terephthalate, one of the most commonly used plastic packaging materials, developed a new approach to deconstruct single

use polyethylene for use in new products, and developed a brand new plastic that can be easily recycled.

The funding opportunity announcement is available now on EERE Exchange.

DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Advanced Manufacturing Office and Bioenergy Technologies Office oversee these investments in support of the Biden administration's efforts to address the climate emergency. DOE's Office of Science and Office of Fossil Energy also play key roles in supporting plastic research and development efforts.

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

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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 fund-

ed 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-toehng."

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

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

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EPA intends to boost authority of tribes to protect waters

By RICK SMITH

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently signaled intent to revise Section 401 of the 2020 Clean Water Act after concluding the section reduces state and tribal authority in protecting their waters.

The EPA said it intends to strengthen the authority of tribes and states as co-regulators involved in protecting waters.

According to the agency, the Clean Water Act sets the procedures regulating discharges of pollutants into U.S. waters and regulates surface water quality.

The act originally passed into law in 1948 as the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, but was significantly reorganized, expanded and became known as the Clean Water Act in 1972. These days, the act is reauthorized every five years.

Ahead of making any changes, the EPA is conducting virtual listening sessions with stakeholders during the second half of June. Hearings were scheduled on June 14 for certifying authorities, and June 15 for project proponents and the public.

Hearings are scheduled again

for certifying authorities on June 23 and June 24, and the public on June 23. Those interested in participating must register online at <https://projects.erg.com/conferences/epa/register-401.asp>.

The agency is also accepting written feedback. For more information on participating in the listening sessions or contributing written submissions, log on to www.epa.gov/cwa-401.

On Jan. 20, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden issued Executive Order 13990, titled *Executive Order on Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring*

Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis, in which he ordered all federal departments and agencies to immediately review policies adopted by federal agencies between Jan. 20, 2017, and Jan. 20, 2021, and take appropriate action as applicable by law to ensure those policies align with science and the best interests of protecting people, economies and the environment.

The EPA announced intent to revise Section 401 of the *Clean Water Act* on May 27, 2021.

Individuals or organizations wishing to provide input on

revisions will be selected on a first come, first served basis with "consideration given to hearing from a variety of stakeholder groups."

Participants should limit presentations to three minutes and the EPA will provide background information on Section 401.

Until revisions come to pass, the EPA intends to continue listening to states and tribes about their concerns regarding the 2020 rule and evaluate approaches to address challenges.

Visit the agency's website at www.epa.gov.

Bill reinforces federal help for Indian-owned businesses

By RICK SMITH

The United States Small Business Administration's (SBA) Office of Native American Affairs (ONAA) would receive doubled funding, expanded capacity to help Native-owned businesses and an associate administrator to serve as the director under a bipartisan bill introduced into the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship on May 20.

The bill, designated S.1735 and titled the *ONAA Enhancement and Modernization Act of 2021*, was introduced by Senator John W. Hickenlooper (D-Colo.) and co-sponsored by Sen. Cynthia M. Loomis (R-Wyo.), Senator Maize K. Hirono (D-Hawaii) and Sen. James M. Inhofe (R-Okla.) also endorsed the bill.

The ONAA operates with

chronic underfunding and is seen as somewhat rudderless.

Hickenlooper said in an announcement, "The SBA's Office of Native American Affairs is designed to promote and support Native American entrepreneurs. However, the office's effectiveness is limited by a lack of funding and the absence of an associate administrator to set policy and direction. Most similar offices within the SBA have such an administrator."

The administrator would be tasked with carrying out "meaningful, substantive and effective Native American outreach programs" and would also be charged to form and promote policies, programs and assistance that improve meeting the multi-faceted needs of start-ups and established businesses of

American Indian tribes and individuals.

According to the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development (NCAIED), the ONAA budget hit a high in the 1990s with \$5 million; more recently, the budget is \$2 million.

The NCAIED also calls the bill a formal recognition of the ONAA, elevates its importance and expands its reach.

In a letter to Hickenlooper and Loomis, the NCAIED thanked them for striving to help small business success and development in Indian Country. "We applaud you and your staff for taking the initiative to enhance legislative proposals long promoted by NCAIED and our partner organizations to provide desperately needed assistance to Indian tribes,

tribal enterprises and thousands of other Native-owned small businesses – not only to recover from economic devastation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, but to flourish long into the future."

The letter further noted the bill could provide the means for the ONAA to provide financial and other types of help to deploy education outreach services, workshops, SBA entrepreneur assistance access and other programs geared to help start-up or established businesses owned by women, veterans and others.

"In sum," said Chris James, NCAIED president and CEO, "ONAA implementation of urgently needed Native American outreach would be the proper and most effective fulfillment of the SBA's federal trust responsibility

to promote Indian self-determination by targeting SBA's powerful entrepreneur development, contracting and capital access program assistance to revitalize Native businesses and economic development in Indian Country."

The letter was also circulated to the National Congress of American Indians, Native American Contractors Association, Native American Finance Officers Association and the Native Community Development Financial Institutions Network.

Further, the letter urged Congress to act quickly on the new legislation so important to Indian Country economic development.

The *ONAA Enhancement and Modernization Act* waits on action by the Senate committee.

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Post National Missing Children Day safety tips for kids

In 1983, then President Ronald Reagan declared May 25 as National Missing Children Day in memory of Etan Patz. On May, 25 1979, six year old Etan Patz disappeared while walking to the school bus stop two blocks from his home. Julie Patz, Etan's mother, did not know that her child was missing until he did not make it home from school. When she called the school looking for Etan, she was informed that Etan never made it to school. Julie contacted the police to report her son missing. The local police sent more than 100 officers and dogs to search for Etan, however, even with this intense search was never found.

Etan's disappearance changed how the United States handled child abduction investigations.

Thanks to Julie and Stanley (Etan's father) Patz's relentless and tenacious search efforts, Etan was one of the first missing child cases to coordinate a nationwide missing child campaign. Photographs and contact information were distributed on posters, newspapers, and television broadcasts

and he was also the first missing child to have his picture shown on milk cartons.

The family did get closure in 2017, when Pedro Hernandez, who worked at a store by the bus stop when Etan disappeared, was convicted of his kidnapping and murder.

Since 1983, the Department of Justice has conducted an annual ceremony honoring the heroic efforts of individuals, agencies and organizations that strive each day to protect children; 2021 nominees can be found at <https://ojjdp.ojp.gov/events/missing-childrens-day/about-missing-childrens-day>.

This year, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children will host a weekly Hero Award video tribute to honor people who go above and beyond to help protect our nation's most valuable resource – our children.

For more information on National Missing Children's Day or to view the tribute videos, please go to www.missingkids.org/supportus/events/2021/heroesawards.

Etan Patz and other high profile missing children's cases in the late 1970s and the early 1980s led to the idea of "stranger danger." As the years progressed many experts have agreed that the concentration on the danger of strangers has led to a false sense of security. True stranger abductions of children only represents a very small percentage of missing children.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children published an article titled *Rethinking "Stranger Danger"* on the KidSmartz webpage at <https://kidsmartz.org/StrangerDanger>. In the article are the following suggestions for a better way to educate children on today's dangers:

DON'T SAY: Never talk to strangers.

SAY: You should not approach just anyone. If you need help, look for uniformed police officers, a store clerk with a name tag or a parent with children.

DON'T SAY: Stay away from people you don't know.

SAY: It is important for you to get permission before going any-

where with anyone.

DON'T SAY: You can tell someone is bad just by looking at them.

SAY: Pay attention to what people do. Tell me right away if anyone asks you to keep a secret, makes you feel uncomfortable, or tries to get you to go with them.

Along with the above talking points, National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Kid Smartz page also has a list of common lure tricks, here are a few:

The "bad child" trick: Someone accuses the child of doing something wrong and says the child must go with him or her.

Beat it: Teach your child to always check with you or the adult in charge before going anywhere with anyone. Instruct children to immediately tell you if someone approaches them or tries to take them away.

The "help" trick: The child is asked to help with something such as directions, looking for a lost pet or carrying something

Beat it: Adults should ask other adults for help, not children. Have

your child practice saying "I can't help you" in a firm voice. Teach children to stand at least one to two arms' lengths away while interacting with unknown adults.

The "flattery/model" trick: Someone compliments the child and asks to take his or her picture. The person may promise the child fame or fortune.

Beat it: Instruct your child not to accompany anyone anywhere without your permission. Teach older children that a legitimate photographer or casting agent will try to talk to a parent or guardian, not a child.

If anyone would like more information about child safety, please visit the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's different educational web pages at <https://www.kidsmartz.org>, <https://www.missingkids.org> and <https://www.missingkids.org/netsmartz>.

Also, if anyone has questions about Sault Tribe's sex offender registration and notification requirements, please contact Latiasha Willette at (906) 635-6065 or at lwillette@saulttribe.net.

NCAI calls for clarity and action after Kamloops discovery

The discovery of the remains of 215 children at the Kamloops Indian Residential School in Canada is a sorrowful reminder that the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) has repeatedly called for transparency and accountability for the historical and generational trauma caused by Native American boarding schools in the United States. In 2016 and 2017, NCAI called upon the United States government and organizations that operated residential boarding schools to fully account for their treatment of Native children and be fully transparent in providing records related to enrollment and living conditions.

"The discovery of unmarked graves of Native children at Kamloops, dating back possibly a century or more, is beyond horrific. By law, our ancestors were systematically forced into boarding schools where they were beaten, starved, sexually abused and, as we see now, died from neglect or even worse. Their families were never told the truth about what happened, and the perpetrators, individually or institutionally, were never held responsible," said Fawn Sharp, president of NCAI. "These were lawful actions for nearly 100 years by both the United States and Canada. A new era of accountability starts with a

genuine commitment to truth and reconciliation with tribal nations, and with the formation of a formal commission to study the impacts of the Indian boarding school policy. We call on the federal government to finally answer for these transgressions against Native children and families."

Historically, the Boarding School Policy of 1869 required American Indian and Alaska Native children to attend boarding schools to assimilate the children into a westernized identity and way of life. Federal boarding school policies required AI/AN children to be taken from their families and stripped of their culture, language and tribal iden-

tity and placed in the 'care' of federally run schools. Children could face severe punishment in the form of physical, mental and emotional trauma, in addition to neglect, inadequate nutrition, disease and succumbing to illness either as a result of either non-compliance to the assimilationist rules or as a byproduct of attending such an institution. Some students forced into these institutions between 1869 and 1972 are unaccounted for, and their fates and whereabouts remain unknown.

In 2016, NCAI passed a resolution to address our lost relatives and formally call upon the United States government to provide a

full accounting of the total number of students removed to the custody of boarding schools or churches operating with federal funding and to account for the fate and final resting place of each child who did not survive.

In 2017, NCAI passed another resolution to call upon our membership to gather testimony and share information about our loved ones who attended boarding schools but who remain unaccounted for. NCAI will continue to work to ensure that none of our American Indian and Alaska Native children are ever forgotten and to right the wrongs imposed upon both past and present generations.

HUD announces \$145 million in funding to help homeless youth

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is making \$145 million in competitive funding available to build systems intended to end youth homelessness in local and rural communities through HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program. Competitive funding is available to up to 50 communities for implementation of youth specific innovative programs to address the needs of youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

"Getting and keeping young people off the streets and helping them find a safe, stable home can change the trajectory of their lives," said HUD Secretary Marcia L. Fudge. "Local leaders who are on the ground every day know what it takes to meet the needs of youth experiencing

homelessness, and this funding will empower them to do so. I am pleased to announce this funding and encourage local groups to apply."

"While eradicating youth homelessness is a tough challenge, we can work toward the goal of getting it done with the help of our local partners," said Arthur Jemison, HUD principal deputy assistant secretary. "Offering this funding to local communities through our Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program not only helps vulnerable youth but it also brings us closer to ending youth homelessness as we know it."

The program was developed with youth in mind, relying upon the recommendations provided directly from young people who had experienced homelessness. To ensure that the program meets the

needs of young people, HUD has continued to work closely with young people with lived experience in the application review process and to provide technical assistance to communities to help them incorporate youth voices and leadership into their local work. HUD works closely with our federal partners, including the departments of Health and Human Services, Education and

the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, program development and application assessment to ensure that program communities are working with a diverse set of stakeholders and across silos to

assist youth in crisis.

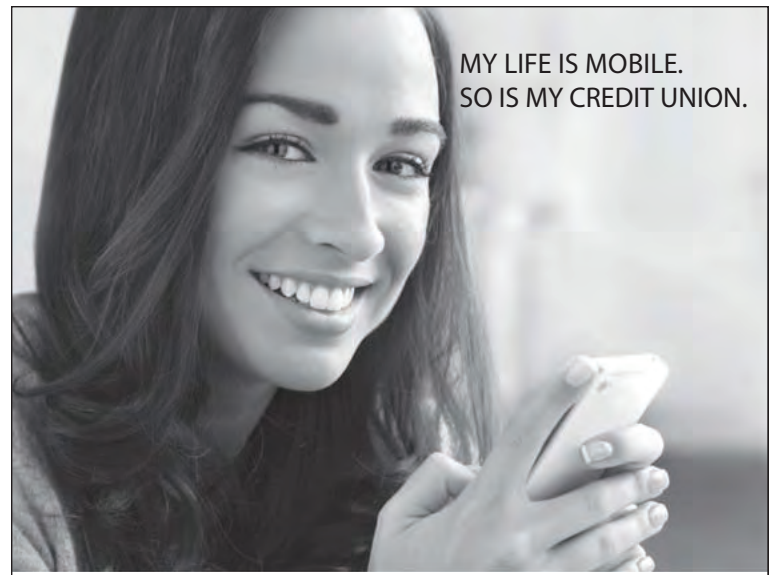
Selected communities will use funding for rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing and transitional housing, and to fund innovative programs.



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Anishinaabemowin 2021

“You did not come into this world, you came out of it, like a wave from the ocean. You are not a stranger here.” (Alan Watts)



Demin Giizis
Strawberry Moon
by Susan Askwith

Aanii kina nawendaaganak! Hello all my relatives!

aa-nii ki-na na-wen-daa-gan-ak

When a dog like me (Nimkii Nimosh) is adopted into a family, we belong — with all the family and relatives. When life is easy or when it’s rough, we are there.

Maaba nini, noos aawi.

maa-ba ni-ni noos aa-wi
This man is my father.



Maaba kwe gashi aawi.

maa-ba kwe gash-i aa-wi
This woman is my mother.



Nda wiidigemaagan aawi.

n-da wii-di-ge-maa-gan aa-wi
This is my spouse.

Maaba kwezenhs, n’dawemaa aawi.

maa-ba kwe-ze(nh)s n-da-we-maa aa-wi
This girl is my sister.

Maaba gwiizenhs n’nijkiwenh aawi.

maa-ba gwii-ze(nh)s n-nii-j-ki-we(nh) aa-wi
This boy is my brother.

Nookomis maaba.

noo-ko-mis maa-ba.
This is my Grandmother

Ezhi n’godooziwing gonda bmaadizijig.

e-zhi n-god-oo-zi-wing gon-da b-maa-diz-i-jig
This is my family, these people.

Nda nawemaa. (____)

n-da na-we-maa)
I am related to him/her (*name*)

N’mishoomis maaba.

n-mi-shoo-mis maa-ba
This is my Grandfather

Find the meaning of these words:

Nookomis	_____
Nawendaaganak	_____
Kwezenhs	_____
Demin	_____
Wiidigemaagan	_____
Nijkiwenh	_____
Nini	_____
Gwiizenhs	_____
Maaba	_____
Gashi	_____
Kwe	_____
Noos	_____
Mishoomis	_____
Ndawemaa	_____

Anishinaabemowin Word Search

Find the words to the left in the word search below:

P	I	S	H	N	E	Z	E	W	K	T	G	S	B
O	G	W	I	I	Z	E	N	H	S	A	W	O	M
E	B	A	A	N	I	M	E	D	G	A	N	O	A
W	I	I	D	I	G	E	M	A	A	G	A	N	A
K	S	H	I	N	S	I	M	O	K	O	O	N	B
I	H	S	A	G	T	N	D	A	W	E	W	A	N
M	I	S	H	O	O	M	I	S	T	O	O	Z	I
W	K	A	N	A	G	A	A	D	N	E	W	A	N
N	I	I	J	K	I	W	E	N	H	B	S	I	T

*Has there been any insanity in your family?
Yes Doctor. My husband thinks he’s the boss.*

Boy: My father’s name is LAUGHING and
my mother’s name is SMILING.

Teacher: You must be kidding.

Boy: No, that’s my brother’s name.
I’m JOKING

Boy: Mom! I love you so much!

Mom: I have no money. Try it with your dad.

Making our Sounds

Most letters sound like in English.
Here are the exceptions.

aa sounds like the a in *awsome*

a sounds like the a in *tuba*

ii sounds like the e in *be*

i sounds like the i in *dip*

oo sounds like the o in *go*

o sounds like the oo’s in *wood*

e sounds like the e in *end*

g sounds ONLY like it does in *go*

Pronounce all the letters. *Italic type* will tell you which word-parts to stress. No italics in a word means the parts have equal stress. Long words are broken up with dashes (-); still, say each word smoothly. And notice “nh” *has NO SOUND of its own. It is a sign to say the vowels just before it “through your nose”.*

Recommendations gathered for America the Beautiful initiative

By Rick Smith

The U.S. Department of the Interior released a 24-page report last May recommending priorities and objectives for a collaborative 10-year push to restore and conserve the country's lands, waters and wildlife.

The report, titled *America the Beautiful Initiative 2021*, is a plan developed by the U.S. departments of Interior, Agriculture and Commerce along with the White House Council on Environmental Quality submitted to the White House National Climate Task Force.

The task force, established last January, consists of the heads of 15 federal departments and four presidential advisors charged with planning, organizing and facilitating a federal government-wide approach against climate pollution while protecting and rejuvenating natural resources with an eye toward "spurring well-pay-

ing union jobs and economic growth."

The initiative also calls for federal collaboration with state, tribal and local governments as appropriate.

The America the Beautiful initiative is a step toward the Biden administration goal of protecting at least 30 percent of lands and 30 percent of waters by 2030, commonly referred to as 30x30.

According to the White House, the effort has six main priorities for the earliest stage of the initiative based on feedback gathered in the first 100 days of the Biden administration. One of those priorities is to support tribally-led conservation and restoration priorities. Another priority is to create jobs in restoration and resilience projects, including the Civilian Conservation Corps. Other priorities included expanding collaborations and incentives, developing more nature parks

and increasing access to outdoor recreation.

Comments included in the report show a diverse array of support. Tribal leaders and organization were quoted from a letter, "Tribal nations are key to the success of the 30x30 policy initiative in the U.S. as they are intrinsically linked, presently and historically, to existing and prospective protected areas. Tribal nations are the original stewards of these lands and waters and have been the most effective managers and protectors of biodiversity since time immemorial. The 30x30 policy serves as a vitally important opportunity to safeguard the environment, tribal cultural values, strengthen the nation-to-nation relationship, and uphold tribal sovereignty and self-determination."

Other positive feedback came from more than 70 mayors, the Hispanic Access Foundation,

Outdoor Afro and many organizations related to natural environments, outdoor recreation, farming and other concerns.

Eight key principles in pursuit of the initiative's goals are stipulated in the report. The fourth key principle directly addresses working with Indian Country, it is titled *Principle 4: Honor Tribal Sovereignty and Support the Priorities of Tribal Nations*. "Tribal nations have sovereign authority over their lands and waters, possess long-standing treaty hunting and fishing rights on and off reservations, and have many cultural, natural and sacred sites on national public land and the ocean," the principle states. "Efforts to conserve and restore America's lands and waters must involve regular, meaningful and robust consultation with tribal and nations. These efforts must respect and honor tribal sovereignty, treaty and subsistence

rights and freedom of religious practices. Federal agencies should seek to support and help advance the priorities of American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and Indigenous leaders, including those related to sustainable land management and the conservation of natural, cultural and historical resources."

The White House noted in a related executive order that the recommendations were developed after hearing from tribal leaders, governors, members of Congress, county officials, state elected officials, state fish and wildlife agencies, leaders on equity and justice in conservation policy, environmental advocacy organizations, hunting and fishing organizations, regional fisheries management councils, farming and ranching organizations, trade associations, forestry representatives, outdoor recreation businesses and users, the seafood industry and others.

NCAI and NARF applaud Supreme Court decision in *U.S. v. Cooley*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) and the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) applauded the recent decision in the United States Supreme Court case of *United States v. Cooley*. Rightfully, the court held that tribal law enforcement have the authority to temporarily detain and search non-Indians traveling on public rights-of-way running through a reservation for suspected violations of state or federal law.

"Protecting our tribal citizens is one of the most basic services we can provide, and today every member of the Supreme Court agreed," said Fawn Sharp, pres-

ident of the National Congress of American Indians. "This 9-0 decision is one of the strongest affirmations of tribal sovereignty in a generation and helps secure Native communities. For too long, non-Native criminals escaped justice from crimes committed on tribal lands, but today's unanimous decision in *United States v. Cooley* is monumental in changing that. We applaud this decision and look forward to advocating for our member tribes as they improve safety and security in tribal communities as a result of this new precedent."

This case involves the temporary detention and search of Mr. Cooley, a non-Indian, by a

Crow Tribe police officer. After conducting a safety check of the vehicle parked on the side of a state roadway crossing the reservation, the tribal police officer formed the opinion that the motorist was non-Indian, observed firearms in the vehicle, and suspected possible violations of state or federal law. He detained the motorist while local and federal police were being dispatched. A subsequent search of the vehicle by the tribal police officer uncovered 50 grams of methamphetamine and additional firearms. The district court granted the driver's motion to suppress evidence obtained by the tribal police officer, and the Ninth

Circuit affirmed.

The Tribal Supreme Court Project, which is jointly staffed by NARF and NCAI attorneys, coordinated the preparation and filing of eight amicus briefs supporting the tribal interests in this case. NCAI joined tribal nations and inter-tribal organizations in urging the court to reject the Ninth Circuit's decision. NCAI's amicus brief can be found on the Tribal Supreme Court Project's website.

Relying on the second exception in *Montana v. United States*, 450 U.S. 644, 566 (1981), the court affirmed tribal inherent sovereign authority to address "conduct [that] threatens or has some

direct effect on . . . the health or welfare of the tribe."

It also reasoned that not recognizing authority to detain suspected non-Indian offenders could pose serious threats to public safety in Indian Country.

The court noted that several state and lower federal courts have recognized this authority and several Supreme Court opinions assumed such authority existed. Moreover, the court pointed out, such detentions of non-Indians do not subject them to tribal law, but only to applicable state or federal law.

The court vacated the Ninth Circuit's decision and remanded the case for further proceedings.

DOI budget supports racial equity, civil rights movement preservation

WASHINGTON, D.C. — As part of the Biden-Harris administration's whole-of-government approach to advancing equity and justice, the Department of the Interior's 2022 budget proposal contains major investments in initiatives that advance racial equity and tell the stories of historically underrepresented communities and the struggle for civil rights.

"From our national parks and monuments, to our own workforce development efforts, telling the rich, diverse story of America is a priority for us at Interior. President Biden's budget will make much-needed investments in communities and projects that will advance our vision for an equitable future while preserving the past," said Secretary Deb Haaland. "We will continue to

center the voices of those who have been historically unrepresented or underrepresented as we strive to lift up every community through our work."

The President's 2022 budget proposal includes a \$12.8 million increase across the department to better address diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in our workforce. As part of this process, the department is working to identify gaps, challenges, best practices and examine what changes need to be made to ensure this opportunity for growth and discovery in the agency.

Through the president's Justice40 Initiative, the department will seek to bring 40 percent of the overall benefits of relevant federal investments to underserved communities. This

initiative will focus on clean energy and energy efficiency, training and workforce development, the reduction of legacy pollution, and affordable and sustainable housing in tribal communities.

The budget also includes significant investments in other Interior programs, including:

- \$15 million to expand capacity for national park units and

programs that preserve and tell the story of historically underrepresented and marginalized groups.

- \$10 million for the Selma Interpretive Center to construct a voting rights center that honors the legacy of civil rights leaders, including the late Congressman John Lewis.

- \$10 million for historically Black colleges and universities

through the National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund.

- \$5 million in additional funds for competitive historic preservation grants to increase support to State and local efforts to preserve sites that document the struggle for civil rights and equal opportunity for African Americans.

- * \$3 million to support African American History Commission.

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Cathy DeVoy hired as tribe's cultural director

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Cathy DeVoy has been hired by the Sault Tribe as the director of the Language and Culture Department. The Language and Culture Department includes: Ojibwe language, cultural programming, the Mary Murray Culture Camp, repatriation and some other smaller grants and programs that support those main areas.

For the last 14 years, DeVoy has been the Ojibwe Culture and Language teacher at the Ojibwe Charter School in Bay Mills for K-12 students. "I feel like I have come full circle and back home to work for my own tribal communities," she said. "There is still so much work to be done to restore and preserve our language and cultural ways for the coming generations."

DeVoy has a degree from Northern Michigan University in history and English, and a professional teaching certification with numerous training certificates and graduate work. She has taught for tribal schools, public schools, adult education programs and community colleges for over 30 years.

She said the most important education she has received has been from her elders, including her mother, aunts and uncles. "I have been blessed with good Anishinaabe bimaadiziwin (way of life) mentors that taught me so I could teach others," she said.

DeVoy said that in addition to teaching, she also worked for the tribe for a number of years; most notably the Youth Sports and Drug Elimination program. "From this program - with the help of tribal housing, the board of directors and many individuals - came the Mary Murray Cultural Camp," she said. "The purpose for the camp was to teach our culture *with* our culture, not just talk about it in a book or classroom. Between that program and the Culture Camp, I believe many young people and their families have found a good path through learning about our culture and language."

DeVoy's family is from Sugar Island and Baaweting (before it was the Sault), going back generations. "In my younger years we lived in the "west end" of the Sault with a lot of other tribal families. My mother took me around to our older relatives

to visit frequently, where I listened to their stories. I have memories of sitting under the kitchen table at "Uncle Fred's" as they met to form the Original Bands. These were my first teachers," she said.

DeVoy said some short-term goals she has for the Culture and Language Department include getting back to pre-COVID activities and events in our communities - including powwows, ceremonies and cultural camps. "One good thing that has come out of the pandemic experience is that we have learned how to do so much more online, which has served our tribal members outside the tribal territories. We have had a tremendous response from members from all over the country joining us online for Ojibwe language classes and "Coffee with Elders."

Some longer-term goals she has in mind include establishing Ojibwe language immersion opportunities that would include young tribal members, establishing an interpretive heritage center, expand new cultural programming to reach tribal communities in all the



Sault Tribe Language and Culture Department Director Cathy DeVoy

units to offer workshops in traditional arts, dance and other cultural teachings and ceremony.

She said there is a need to establish a repository for historical items, such as pipes and other ceremonial items, and a place for repatriated ancestors to reside until re-burial arrangements are made.

DeVoy said the Ojibwe Learning Center is a great resource for tribal members -

housing over 1,000 books on Indigenous culture and Ojibwe language, over 150 artifacts and numerous educational videos.

The Sault Tribe Language and Culture Department can be contacted by calling (906) 635-6050. You can also visit them online for more information, at: <https://www.saulttribe.com/membership-services/culture>.

Board resolutions passed on May 18 to June 1

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians convened on May 18 with all present except for Unit II Director Causley-Smith and passed the following resolutions.

Resolution 2021-120 – Tribal Transportation Program FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved for a decrease in federal funding of \$783,500.

121 – Transportation Program Award Construction Contracts Sidewalks and Trails Project – Approved negotiation and execution of a contract between Sault Tribe, Arrow Construction and Hunts Brothers for general contracting services and authorized expenditures from the Tribal Transportation Program funds.

122 – Adding 3% 401(K) Discretionary Contribution – Approved continuation of a one-percent match to the tribe's 401(K) plan, contingent upon

employee contributing one-percent. Further, approved an additional three-percent discretionary employer contribution for all employees eligible under the terms of the plan, effective on July 1, 2021. Moreover, mandated the one-percent matching contribution shall not be included for any person eligible for the law-enforcement MERS plan. Also, authorized execution of any amendment necessary to implement the purposes of this resolution and such other actions as may be needed.

123 – 2021 Head Start and Early Head Start Grant – Supported and recommended submission of a grant application to the Office of Head Start, American Indian and Alaskan Native Program Branch.

The board reconvened on June 1 with all present except Director Hollowell and passed the follow-

ing resolutions.

124 – Eldercare Services FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses with no effect on tribal support.

125 – Community Health Technician FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses with no effect on tribal support.

126 – Manistique Dental FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses with no effect on tribal support.

127 – Health Sault Laboratory FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses with no effect on tribal support.

128 – FY 2021 Governmental Capital Purchases Modification Shipping and Receiving – Approved to reduce the amount

of funds needed from \$30,000 to \$25,000, and to change the funding source.

129 – Demawating Development FY 2021 Enterprise Capital Outlays Budget Modification – Approved to increase expenses of \$275,000 with no tribal support.

130 – Trust Land Lease Parcel 46 Sault Ste. Marie, MI – Approved for approximately 1.20 acres of land.

131 – U.S. Department of the Treasury FY 2021 Homeowner Assistance Fund – Authorized the tribe's Housing Authority to apply for federal funding.

132 – Approving Contract Michael T. Edwards – Approved for legal services, ending Dec. 31, 2022.

133 – Approve Community Response Plan – Approved Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons plan which

includes Victim Services, media and public communication, law enforcement and community outreach partnerships.

134 – Amending Resolution 2020-108 Interim General Counsel – Approved to negotiate, execute and amend interim general counsel agreement with Patterson, Earnhart, Real Bird and Wilson LLP.

135 – Creation of Community Pool Development Committee – Approved to establish the committee and authorize facilitation for the committee. The committee shall consist of any or all board members, staff from the tribal departments of Health, Economic Development, Recreation, Housing and Education as well as members of the local and tribal communities.

View resolutions and voting grids at www.saulttribe.com.

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Community Shared Agriculture

Box of Produce
Each Week
starting
June 28



Sign up by
June 1 for
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Bonus items!

The Miller Family Farm is looking for health conscious partners to secure a share of the farm's bounty in 2021. Boxes will begin the week of June 28, 2021, and continue for 16 weeks to Oct. 18 and be ready for pick up at a central location.

Spots secured and paid for by June 1 will receive a priority status.

Discount price of:

- \$475 for a family box – feeds 4-6 people (\$85 savings)
- \$350 for an individual box – feeds 1-3 people (\$50 savings)
- Bonus item each month (i.e. eggs, fresh bread or jam)



To sign up, stop by The Journey Matters, 545 Ashmun St. in the Sault, visit the Miller Family Farm at 845 W. 6 Mile Rd., email jdebruler@att.net, or call (616) 558-9958.

6 Mile Farmers Market

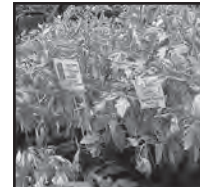
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Lane accepts Facilities and Operations manager position

By BRENDA AUSTIN

Andrew Lane recently accepted the position of Sault Tribe Facilities and Operations manager. Lane previously worked as a maintenance and housekeeping supervisor for Sault Tribe Facilities Management.

Lane began working for the tribe in 2007 as a Motorpool attendant. After applying for a Maintenance/Housekeeping worker for Facilities Management in 2008, he was offered the position. "I continued to work in that position for the first part of the 2010s. Later, when the maintenance technician position posted, I applied for it and received the new job. I worked in that position until October of 2015, at which point I left the tribe. I returned

in 2019 as the Maintenance/Housekeeping supervisor for Facilities Management," he said.

The newly created position of Facility and Operation manager is responsible for management of all government tribally owned buildings and properties. Lane will be developing building budgets, planning for capital outlays, construction, excavation, renovations, space planning for tenants, and organizing, planning and scheduling as needed, and delegating duties to facilities management team members.

The department manages 38 Sault Tribe governmental buildings and dozens of vacant lots spread across the tribe's seven-county service area. These buildings include all health cen-

ters, multiple office buildings, recreation centers, child care centers, multiple advocacy resource centers, elder meal buildings and multiple vacant buildings. The list is ever growing he said.

Lane said Facilities Management has projects that come from the needs of all seven counties they operate out of. They are currently working on the replacement and upgrades for multiple boiler systems, siding replacement, life safety equipment upgrades, door replacements and insulation upgrades. Over the past few months, they have changed out nine boilers that were 85 percent efficient, and replaced them with 98 percent efficient units. "These new systems will save the tribe money on

energy use, and lower our environmental impact on our communities," he said.

Facilities Management remodeled the McCann building in Unit III with a focus on lowering energy consumption. In order to achieve that, they used spray foam insulation, LED fixtures, sensor switches and sensor lavatory fixtures. He said that although the changes sound small, they will allow for energy savings by lowering the cost to operate. The department also recently moved into their new building at 2280 Shunk Road, behind Gitchi Auto Home & RV Sales. Their new location is more centrally located and has more space for the department's vehicles, building supplies and

equipment.

Lane said he has been making some small changes to the department's operations and the tribe's overall approach to the way it manages buildings and vacant lands. "I am looking to overhaul the infrastructure on as many buildings as possible. These changes will include but are not limited to HVAC, electrical, plumbing and structural changes," he said. "I have an eye for making our structures as eco-friendly as possible. I believe we need to transition to LEDs, incorporate smart technologies for HVAC and electrical systems. I am also advocating for geothermal heating/cooling systems, solar power, and wind power whenever and where ever possible."

Tribal Business News hires Rob Capriccioso as senior editor

Sault Tribe member Rob Capriccioso recently joined *Tribal Business News* as its senior editor based in the Washington, D.C. area.

He was previously the D.C. bureau chief for *Indian Country Today* (ICT), serving in that position from 2011 through 2017. He started working as a general assignment reporter at ICT in 2008, and has contributed to many publications including *The New York Times*, *Politico*, *Forbes*, *The Guardian* and *Campaigns and Elections*.

In 2012, he became the first Native American to interview a sitting United States president - something he says he hopes to accomplish again with President Joe Biden.

In his new position at *Tribal Business News*, Capriccioso will continue reporting on Native-focused politics and policy, with an emphasis on economic development, Indian entrepreneurship and recovery from the many problems the coronavirus has caused for Indigenous people.

"Tribes and Native American citizens have experienced a difficult social and economic time during the pandemic, but there are signs of a rebound and growth to come," Capriccioso said. "Resilience is a common Indigenous trait, and I enjoy reporting on ways that tribal members across the country are making progress and succeeding."

Capriccioso, who has won several Native American Journalists Association awards, said he would like to see more young Native Americans become journalists and writers so that they can share their own powerful storytelling and reporting.

He is a graduate of the University of Michigan.

"Better and increased journalistic coverage is necessary in all areas that impact Indian Country, especially in business, culture, health, policy and politics," he said. "Native voices need to be heard and amplified, especially during this new presidential administration and with the COVID-19 crisis and its associated funding of new programs for Indian Country. There are so many unique and under-cov-



Rob Capriccioso

ered issues that face tribes and Indians.

"I'm a strong believer that much more Native-focused journalism needs to be supported and done to ultimately help our people and to help non-Indians better understand us," he added. "That's why *Tribal Business News* and what it offers to readers in Indian Country and beyond is so important at this critical time."

Tribal Business News, founded in 2020, is the sister publication of *Native News Online*, which is celebrating its tenth anniversary this year. They are both published by Levi Rickert, a citizen of the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, who was the editor of *Tribal Business Journal* magazine between 2015 and 2019. He recently reported on the Sault Tribe and the Bay Mills Indian Community's joint Murdered and Missing Indigenous Persons Tribal Community Response Plans.

The publications both employ Indigenous writers, including Capriccioso, Kyle Edwards (Ebb and Flow First Nation), Chez Oxendine (Lumbee-Cheraw) and various freelancers, and they are looking to add more Indian staffers in the future.

In 2020, Rickert's Indian Country Media LLC partnered with MiBiz Inc., a regional publisher based in Grand Rapids, Mich., to begin publishing *Tribal Business News* in order to focus more in depth on the \$130 billion Indian economy.

Rickert said Capriccioso brings important experience to the team. "Regardless of one's feelings about Washington, D.C.,

it is the center of power when it comes to determining policy and funding for the country. And that is especially true for Indian Country," Rickert said. "Without a doubt, Rob's connections in the nation's capital are huge for *Tribal Business News*."

"Rob understands the importance of writing to a readership beyond Native Americans," he said. "*Tribal Business News* strives to provide the non-Native readers, who want to do business in Indian Country the 'why' and 'how' things are done the way they are among tribal business enterprises. Rob's experience allows him to write to both audiences simultaneously."

Capriccioso's mother, Marcy, who passed away in 2015, was a member of Sault Tribe and worked in various health-related positions with the tribe, including at its pharmacy and for its substance abuse clinic. His father, Robert, who passed away in 1992, helped the tribe with legal

issues, including doing work for its Economic Development Commission.

Capriccioso's wife, Katrina,

is a manager in the federal government. They have four children and reside in the metropolitan D.C. region.

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TRIBAL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

(Including the Issuance of Certificates of Exemptions)

INITIAL REGISTRATION AND OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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

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

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

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTIONS

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

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

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

Have something you would like to submit for publication in Win Awenen Nisitotung? Send it to us in an email at saulttribenews@saulttribe.net.

Diane Moore retires after 37 years of service



Dear friend and beloved employee, Diane Moore, administrative assistant for the Sault Tribal Health Center, (center in striped skirt) retired after 37 years of service. She also served on the Sault Tribe Election Committee for many years and plans to continue. Moore's last day of work was on May 14. Coworkers, acquaintances and family gathered in her honor on May 12 in the health center auditorium. She has been an integral part of the Health Division for many years and her hard work, commitment and dedication will be greatly missed. Let us all wish her the best of luck on her retirement.

Newland awaits DOI post confirmation

As *Win Awenen Nisitotung* goes to press, former president of the Bay Mills Indian Community Bryan Newland completed a hearing with the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on the possibility of assuming the office of Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs.

Newland currently holds the office of principle deputy assistant secretary at the Department of the Interior (DOI).

Rivard to be ordained



Deacon Benjamin Rivard will be ordained to the priesthood at St. Peter Cathedral on June 4 by Bishop John Doerfler.

Rivard attended Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit, and his home parish is All Saints, Gladstone. His parents are Jim and Michelle Rivard and he is the oldest of 10 children.

“Even though it has been a challenge learning how to minister as a deacon in the middle of a pandemic, the Lord has blessed me with a zealous love for ordained ministry,” Rivard said. “I can’t wait to be a priest!”

Newland also has experience in a federal capacity from his earlier position as counselor and policy advisor to the assistant secretary of the Interior – Indian Affairs.

Prior to his presidency, he also served as a chief judge for the Bay Mills Tribal Court.

Newland is a graduate of

Michigan State University and the Michigan State University School of Law.

The National Congress of American Indians praised Newland’s nomination and expressed support for his installation to the office and urged swift confirmation for Newland’s appointment.

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Budget proposal would boost Indian education funding

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Biden-Harris administration recently submitted to Congress the president's budget for fiscal year 2022, including \$1.3 billion in funding to invest in Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) initiatives that would support Native students and teachers from early childhood through college, an increase of \$110.6 million from the 2021 enacted level.

As the administration continues to make progress defeating the pandemic and getting our economy back on track, the budget makes historic investments that will help the country build back better and lay the foundation for shared growth and prosperity for decades to come.

"The Interior Department plays an important role in the president's plan to reinvest in the American people. From bolstering climate resiliency and increasing renewable energy, to supporting tribal nations and advancing environmental justice, President Biden's budget will make much-needed investments in communities and projects that will advance our vision for a robust and equitable clean energy future," said Secretary Deb Haaland.

"The president's Fiscal Year 2022 budget provides the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) the opportunity to support BIE students and our schools after such a tough year," said BIE

Director Tony L. Dearman. "With the dedicated financial resources outlined in this proposal, this funding would go a long way in supporting some of our most critical educational infrastructure needs and programs that serve students located in often geographically challenged locations across the country."

The budget includes the two historic plans the president has already put forward — the Americans Jobs Plan and the American Families Plan — and reinvests in education, research, public health, and other foundations of our country's strength. At the Bureau of Indian Education, the budget would:

- Increase Indian School Equalization Program and Early Childhood funding. The 2022 request includes a \$60 million program increase above 2021 enacted levels to improve Indian student academic outcomes, support expanded preschool programs and provide pay parity for tribal teachers while fully funding projected tribal grant support costs. In the increase, \$49 million is for Indian School Equalization Program formula funds to improve opportunities and outcomes in the classroom; provide improved instructional services; and support improved teacher quality, recruitment and retention. An additional \$3 million is for Early Child and Family Development to expand preschool opportunities at BIE-

funded schools and \$8 million is for tribal grant support costs for tribes that choose to operate BIE-funded schools to support 100 percent of the estimated requirement.

- Improved access to Education IT. An increase of \$20 million for Education IT will support the ongoing costs of distance learning and enhanced use of technology in the classroom. Supplemental funding to support BIE-funded schools has enabled new technology investments and operational capabilities for learning in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

These investments will be long-lasting and will provide invaluable infrastructure to enable BIE to continue to deliver education during and after the pandemic, and they will substantially improve the efficiency and quality of education upon return to in-school learning. Although most schools remain in either a distance learning or hybrid instruction mode, BIE continues to work collaboratively with tribes and communities to alleviate the strains imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic on BIE students and their families, as well as on teachers, administrators, and staff in K-12 schools and at tribal colleges and universities. The 2022 budget increase in education information technology resources will continue the annual

learning software subscriptions and licenses. The increase will also support contract extensions needed to maintain this investment, as well as the educational IT personnel costs to support remote learning and additional broadband capabilities.

- Expand scholarships and adult education opportunities. An increase of \$10 million for the Scholarships and Adult Education program will improve educational opportunities and serve a larger population of qualified Native American students with financial assistance for eligible American Indian and Alaska Native students. The program supports administration priorities through educational grants to tribal communities, which have been historically underserved and adversely affected by persistent poverty and inequality. These funds enable tribes to further tribal sovereignty and self-determination by establishing their own educational priorities, promoting economic development and improving standards of living in American Indian and Alaska Native communities.

- Improve diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility practices. The BIE budget includes \$400,000 as part of a department-wide diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility budget initiative to address identified high-priority needs in support of *Executive Order 13985, Advancing Racial Equity*

and *Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government*, as well as *Executive Order 13988, Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation*. As part of this initiative, the department, bureaus and offices will jointly conduct a review of the diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility program across Interior to identify gaps, challenges and best practices and to examine department and bureau roles, responsibilities and governance.

- Prioritize education construction. The 2022 budget includes \$264.3 million in annual funding for education construction to replace and repair school facilities in poor condition and address deferred maintenance needs at campuses in the BIE school system. Education construction funds will be supplemented by permanent funds from the *Great American Outdoors Act* (GAOA, P.L. 116-152). BIE is expected to receive up to \$95 million per year in GAOA permanent funding for priority deferred maintenance projects from 2021 through 2025. Actual amounts are dependent on energy development revenues, as specified in the GAOA.

For more information on the president's proposed FY 2022 budget, please visit the White House website, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/>.

EPA, Army announce intent to revise definition of WOTUS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of the Army announced their intent to revise the definition of "waters of the United States" (WOTUS) to better protect our nation's vital water resources that support public health, environmental protection, agricultural activity, and economic growth.

As described in an EPA declaration requesting remand of the 2020 Navigable Waters Protection Rule, a broad array of stakeholders—including states, tribes, local governments, scientists and non-governmental organizations — are seeing destructive impacts to critical water bodies under the

2020 rule.

As a result of findings after a review, the Department of Justice is filing a motion requesting remand of the rule. The action reflects the agencies' intent to initiate a new rulemaking process that restores the protections in place prior to the 2015 WOTUS implementation, and anticipates developing a new rule that defines WOTUS and is informed by a robust engagement process as well as the experience of implementing the pre-2015 rule, the Obama-era Clean Water Rule, and the Trump-era Navigable Waters Protection Rule.

The agencies' new regulatory effort will be guided by the fol-

lowing considerations:

- Protecting water resources and our communities consistent with the *Clean Water Act*.
- The latest science and the effects of climate change on our waters.
- Emphasizing a rule with a practical implementation approach for state and tribal partners.
- Reflecting the experience of and input received from landowners, the agricultural community that fuels and feeds the world, states, tribes, local governments, community organizations, environmental groups and disadvantaged communities with environmental justice concerns.

The agencies are committed to meaningful stakeholder engagement to ensure that a revised definition of WOTUS considers essential clean water protections, as well as how the use of water supports key economic sectors. Further details of the agencies' plans, including opportunity for public participation, will be conveyed in a forthcoming action. To learn more about the definition of waters of the United States, visit <https://www.epa.gov/wotus>.

The *Clean Water Act* prohibits the discharge of pollutants from a point source to navigable waters unless otherwise authorized under the act. Navigable waters are defined in the act as "the waters

of the United States, including the territorial seas." Thus, "waters of the United States" (WOTUS) is a threshold term establishing the geographic scope of federal jurisdiction under the *Clean Water Act*. The term "waters of the United States" is not defined by the act but has been defined by EPA and the Army in regulations since the 1970s and jointly implemented in the agencies' respective programmatic activities.

The 2020 Navigable Waters Protection Rule was identified in President Biden's Executive Order 13990, which directs agencies to review all existing regulations adopted between Jan. 20, 2017 and Jan. 20, 2021.

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A Native woman's experience with gaslighting

BY DIANE PAVLAT, STRONG-HEARTS NATIVE HELPLINE

I was pregnant with our first child when I drove him to the doctor's office. He said that he broke his ankle when he jumped down from the back of his truck and rolled his foot. The nurse came in and examined his ankle. She explained that the break likely occurred when the other man in the altercation kicked him. Tears rushing to my eyes, the nurse looked at me and said, "Don't worry, he's going to be fine."

My tears were not for his well-being and he knew it. They were for the instant betrayal I felt when I realized he had lied to me. Little did I know the extent to which his lies would permeate every aspect of our lives.

What is gaslighting?

A common technique of abusers, dictators, narcissists and cult leaders alike, "gaslighting" is an abuse tactic in which a person gains power by making a victim

question reality. Abusers refuse responsibility for any wrongdoing and instead blame their victim. It is often difficult for victims to recognize the abuse.

ADHD and gaslighting

I live with ADHD or Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder, which is a neurodevelopmental disorder that causes the person to have trouble paying attention to detail and controlling impulsive behaviors like shopping. A person with ADHD often forgets or loses things. They have a hard time resisting temptation and tend to take unnecessary risks. I've learned these traits are exploitable.

According to Dr. Stephanie Sarkis, people suffering with this disorder are especially vulnerable to a person with a narcissistic personality — one who tends to be selfish with a sense of entitlement. A narcissist has an inflated ego with a deep need for attention and admiration. Sarkis describes the gaslighter as a constant liar

and master of deception. They deny wrongdoing and use what is near and dear to you as ammunition.

In my case, my abuser became excessively jealous of our son. He treated him poorly and at times, put him in harm's way. He did it to spite me, to scare me and to show me that in his household, he was in control. He even admitted when our son was just six months old that he was starting to hate him because I loved him so much. He said it was unfair that his own mother didn't love him like I loved our son. At the time, I was busy being a mom and didn't see it as a manipulation meant to garner my attention.

They called me crazy

Gaslighters are masters at manipulation and finding the people they know will stand by them no matter what, such as a parent. They turn people against you. You may start to doubt who to trust and that's exactly what the gaslighter wants because isolating

you gives them more control.

They tell you and/or others that you are crazy. This is one of the most effective tools of the gaslighter. The gaslighter knows if they question your sanity, people will not believe you when you tell them the gaslighter is abusive. I didn't know that his family called me "crazy," but in retrospect, it was crazy to love a man who could in one breath make me feel like no else mattered and in the next like I wasn't worth a dime. (Read more about projecting and cheating, love bombing and devaluing in the full story at strongheartshelpline.org)

Food for the soul and recovery

Over time, a victim of gaslighting may start to believe that they cannot trust themselves, or that they have a mental health disorder. They may have anxiety, depression, isolation, confusion and psychological trauma. The long-term impact on someone's mental health and self-esteem is

often devastating but there are ways to cope.

Recovering from gaslighting takes time. Victims should never blame themselves. You are not responsible for the abusive behavior.

For me, my healing takes place when I travel to distant places and see beautiful things. I call it food for the soul. I find peace in my visits to the redwoods in northern California. The trees have lived for more than a thousand years. My ancestors — who were once free to roam the continent — saw these very same trees. I feel whole when standing among the redwoods of Stout Grove.

Find food for your soul. Practice listening to your thoughts, feelings. Learn to trust your instincts again.

Read more to this story at <https://strongheartshelpline.org/stories/my-experience-with-gaslighting>. Advocates are available 24/7 to chat online or call/text 1-844-7NATIVE.

Prevent colorectal cancer: Start your screenings at age 45

FROM ITCMI

Colon cancer can be preventable with early and regular screenings, and on May 18 the age recommendations for colon cancer screening were lowered from age 50 to 45. This change provides the opportunity for adults with no family history of colon cancer to be screened at age 45, instead of waiting until they are 50 years of age.

As reported by the Prevent Cancer Foundation on May 18, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) finalized their new recommendations for colorectal cancer screening,

recommending colon cancer screening for people of average risk ages 45-49. Under the provisions of the *Affordable Care Act*, insurance companies to include the Indian Health Service are required to fully cover any screening or early detection services for individuals in this age group age 45-49, those aged 50-75, and individuals under age 45 with a documented family history or who are at increased risk for a colon cancer diagnosis.

Why are these changes important, and why should you share this information with your friends and relatives? Colon cancer is the

second leading cause of cancer, and cancer death among Native Americans. As briefed by the Indian Health Service, a study of colon cancer rates indicated that over a 12-year period the overall incidence of colon cancer decreased by 12 percent for the general population and during this same period the incidence rate among Native Americans increased by 38 percent. Native Americans are at increased risk for colon cancer, however, with early screening colon cancer can be prevented.

In the early stages, colon cancer generally has no symp-

toms and it can be detected with one of the many screening tools available from your provider or tribal health center. These screening tools include at-home tests and office tests (FIT/FOBT/Cologuard) or scheduled procedures with a pre-procedure bowel preparation such as a colonoscopy or flexible sigmoidoscopy can detect cells or polyps in the colon or rectum. Detecting the cells or colon polyps in the precancerous stage can prevent a future cancer diagnosis. Finding cancer cells or polyps in the localized stage when it hasn't spread beyond the colon or rectum has resulted in

a 90 percent survival rate after five years, unlike those who are diagnosed at later stages when the cancer has spread beyond the colon or rectum. Those who are diagnosed late stage have a 12 percent survival rate after five years. This information makes it more important that you reach out to your provider today and ask to be screened for colon cancer.

Call your tribal health center or care provider and ask which screening method is best for you. If you are looking for a tribal health center in Michigan, you can locate them at www.itcmi.org/healthcenters.

Collaboration provides veteran-centric counter-overdose resources

LANSING, Mich. — In honor of Military Appreciation Month, two State of Michigan agencies are collaborating with emergency medical services (EMS) providers to provide veteran-centric resources in the EMS Leave Behind Naloxone Program.

This program equips EMS providers with naloxone, the lifesaving opioid overdose reversal drug, to leave behind with the patient, family and friends or bystanders at the scene of a non-fatal overdose. With this new collaboration, these kits will also include information on veteran-centric

resources that may assist veterans during their current situation.

The collaboration between the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency (MVAA) furthers the state's efforts in the Governor's Challenge to prevent suicide and reduce opioid overdoses among service members, veterans and their families.

EMS providers are key partners for reaching individuals at the highest risk of overdose and it has been well established that the more connected

veterans are to services (federal, state and local), the lower their risk for self-harm including suicide or opioid overdose.

EMS providers can play a central role in removing barriers to accessing naloxone and increasing awareness of available veteran-centric resources by providing it directly to those present at the scene of an overdose.

"EMS providers are on the front lines every day witnessing the effects the opioid crisis has on Michiganders, and veterans and their families are not immune," said MVAA Director Zaneta Adams. "We know our

veteran population is affected by opioid overdoses and often lack the support they need to protect themselves and their loved ones. This partnership gets naloxone and other veteran-centric resources directly into the homes of those veterans who need it most."

MDHHS continues to work with partners across the state to encourage adoption of the EMS Leave Behind Program protocol which is available in Michigan through funding from Vital Strategies for EMS-provider Narcan through an online naloxone portal.

"The COVID-19 pandemic

has unfortunately exacerbated the opioid epidemic and having naloxone on hand can make the difference between someone living or dying from an overdose," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, chief medical executive and chief deputy for health at MDHHS. "This program will help prevent fatal overdose by distributing naloxone to people at highest risk as well as provide important information to our state's veterans."

For more information and resources, visit Michigan.gov/Opioids and Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency.

June is LGBTQ2+ Pride Awareness Month, help stop the violence

Sexual violence affects every demographic and every community, but the LGBTQ2+ community face higher rates of poverty, stigma and marginalization, which put them at greater risk for sexual assault. LGBTQ2+ also face higher rates of hate-motivated violence, which can often take the form of sexual assault. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), lesbian, gay and bisexual people experience sexual violence at similar or higher rates than straight people. The CDC conducted a survey and found for LGB people:

- 44 Percent of lesbians and

61 percent of bisexual women experience rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner, compared to 35 percent of straight women.

- 26 Percent of gay men and 37 percent of bisexual men experience rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner, compared to 35 percent of straight men.

- 46 Percent of bisexual women have been raped, compared to 17 percent of straight women and 13 percent of lesbians

- 22 Percent of bisexual women have been raped by an intimate partner, compared to

nine percent of straight women.

In the LGBTQ2+ community, transgender people and bisexual women face the most alarming rates of sexual violence. Among both of these populations, sexual violence begins early, often during childhood. The 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey found 47 percent of transgender people are sexually assaulted at some point in their lifetimes. Among people of color, American Indians (65 percent), Multiracial (59 percent) Middle Eastern (58 percent) and Black (53 percent) respondents of the survey were most likely to have been sexually assaulted in

their lifetimes.

For the LGBTQ2+ survivors of sexual assault, their identities — and the discrimination they face surrounding those identities — often make them hesitant to seek help from police, hospitals, shelters or rape crisis centers, the very resources that are supposed to help them.

Some common reactions to experiencing sexual violence as LGBTQ2+:

- Wanting to be believed.
- Wondering if it is your fault.
- Feeling alone.
- You may face disbelief that sexual violence affects LGBTQ2+

people.

- It can be hard to self-identify as a survivor.
- Telling someone might be harder if you are not out yet.
- You may not find support in some faith communities.

Ways you can support LGBTQ2+ survivors — The reaction of the first person a survivor discloses to can affect if they choose to tell others or seek additional resources.

If you are the victim of a sexual assault, contact the Advocacy Resource Center at (906) 632-1808 to see what services are available to help you.

David and Stephanie Giles celebrate 50th



David and Stephanie Giles, above, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a surprise drive-by afternoon reception. The party was hosted by the four children of the couple, Steve of Grand Rapids, Greg of Grand Rapids, Celeste of Detroit and Susan of Sault Ste. Marie. Jasmine, their oldest granddaughter, helped 10 grandchildren and one great grandchild serve refreshments curbside, while David and Stephanie greeted each guest. The couple married at Kelly Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas, on April 6, 1971, and, in 1986, moved to Sault Ste. Marie where David took a job with All Phase Electric. He then began his career with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians as a purchasing agent and Stephanie taught children at Washington School. The Sault has been their home and has been a perfect place to raise a family and celebrate with a surprise drive-by anniversary party.



David and Stephanie Giles at their wedding in 1971.

How to purchase a Sault Tribe flag

Interested in purchasing a Sault Tribe flag? Shop for tribal flags at the bottom page of this link: <https://saulttribe.com/enterprises/michigan-indian-press>
You can order flags by emailing smckerchie@saulttribe.net or by calling 906-635-4800. Or, you can mail or visit: Northern Hospitality, 827 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

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For more information, please contact us
by phone at 906-635-6050 or by email at culture@saulttribe.net
Miigwech (Thank you)
from the Sault Tribe Language and Culture Department

Save The Date!

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
40th Annual Powwow

Scheduled for September 3-5, 2021



Aaniin/Boozhoo!!

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting our 40th Annual Powwow in our Bahweting community later in the Summer, to allow more time for everyone to get the Covid-19 Vaccination Series. We are looking forward to gathering in celebration with all of our people once again in September! More information will be released at a later date!

Head Staff - TBA

Host Drum - TBA

For more information, please contact the Language and Culture Department
by phone at 906-635-6050 or email at culture@saulttribe.net



Bay Mills and Sault Tribe unveil MMIP Tribal Community Response Plans



From left to right, DOJ MMIP Michigan coordinator Joel Postma, Sault Tribe CFO Robert Schulte, Kewadin Casinos CEO Allen Kerridge and Sault Tribe Executive Director Christine McPherson.



Bay Mills Law Enforcement representatives.



Sault Tribe Anishinaabek Community and Family Services representatives.



Little Traverse Bay Band Chair Regina Gasco-Bentley and Sonia Killips.



Tribal elder Jeannette White (left) prays before Bay Mills candlelight vigil.



Community members remember their missing and murdered loved ones by saying their names.

During the unveiling, a shawl ceremony was conducted by Anishinaabekwe among the agencies, narrated by ARC Director Jami Moran. As they were called on, each woman placed her shawl on an empty chair.

Moran said, "It is through each of these shawls presented before you today that we collectively acknowledge those who have – and those who continue – to be negatively impacted by violence."

Light Blue Shawl
Today, we remember our children...

From the Eastern Direction, the direction that represents all that is new, we remember our children. Our children who have suffered from abuse and neglect and are exposed to violence within their homes, online, in their schools and in their communities. Our children, they are now not only threatened with face-to-face violence, but captured online and through technology. They are manipulated, kidnapped and sex trafficked. Our children. The innocent ones. Gifts from the Creator. Today, we remember our children. Today, we collectively commit to protect our children from harm, as they are our future.

Red Shawl
Today, we remember our women...

From the Southern Direction, the direction that represents understanding, we remember the women survivors. Survivors of the physical violence that may be seen. Survivors of power and control that most times are invisible. Women – the backbones of our families – the givers of life. We honor those women survivors that have made the difficult decision to raise their voices and share their stories. We offer respect and support to those who have chosen not to. Today, we remember our women. Today, we collectively commit to protect our women from harm. We commit to believing survivors and we commit to ending victim blaming.

Blue Shawl
Today, we remember our men...

From the Western Direction, the direction that represents change — we remember that our men are also victims of violence. Warriors, providers, protectors. Strong and resilient.

Today, we acknowledge that system and community responses to end violence must include our men. Today, we remember our men. Today, we collectively commit to protect our men from harm. Today, we commit to ensuring equality in our responses to violence committed against all genders. And, commit to no

longer promoting gender stereotypes.
Yellow Shawl
Today, we remember our elders...
From the Northern Direction, the direction that represents positivity — we remember our elders, the wisdom keepers of



A woman places a symbolic shawl on a chair during a memorial ceremony for Missing and Murdered Indigenous People.

the past. Our elders — the legacy of our future generations. We remember our elders who never realized how strong they were until they chose to forgive those who caused them harm and were never sorry. Today, we remember our elders. Today, we collectively commit to protect our elders in honor of all that they have sacrificed for the sake of our people and for the sake of our next seven generations.

Purple Shawl
Today, we remember our LGBTQ/two-spirited...

Today, we remember our LGBTQ/two-spirited as the gifted keepers of both the male and female spirits. We remember they are often times abandoned and ignored. We remember our LGBTQ/two-spirited who encounter violence, for nothing more than for who they love. Today, we remember and collectively commit to protect our LGBTQ/two-spirited. Today, we commit to stand beside them, in unity and unconditional acceptance.

The last chair is empty.
And lastly, today, we remember this empty chair...

Today, we remember the MISSING and MURDERED. We remember those who have passed from this earth too soon. We remember those who remain unfound and pray for their safe return. We remember those who were sent to the Indian residential schools and never returned. And, remember those who did return, but were never the same.

Today, we commit to stand together and collectively demand that no more communities experience the loss of their people.

Each and every one of us present here in this room today is a single thread — a single thread that forms our community shawls, a single thread that holds the POWER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Until our community is free from ALL violence, THIS chair will remain empty and we must continue to weave our collective threads of support every second of every minute of every day.

Help one another. Believe survivors. Be the change.
In closing, miigwech! Thank you for joining us today.
Aho.

Photos by Jennifer Dale-Burton



More than 80 representatives of tribal, federal, state and local agencies attended the introduction of Bay Mills' and Sault Tribe's plans.



BMIC President Whitney Gravelle emceed the MMIP Tribal Community Response Plans rollout.

Witkowski one of 1,000 young women in inaugural class of female Eagle Scouts

Meet Jessica Witkowski: A 15-year-old Hartland High School junior with ambitions to make the world a better place.

As a Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians member, co-president of HHS Green Club, varsity figure skater, honors student, Class Council representative, Link Crew leader, NHS member and faithful volunteer, Jessica was drawn to Boy Scouts of America in 2019 when they first allowed girls to join. Her journey in scouting through Troop 2191 (New Hudson, Mich.) brought her to success in several ways, learning life skills, sharing her love of the outdoors with her troop, service opportunities, and perhaps most notably, becoming one of the first female Eagle Scouts, earning the BSA's highest rank. Her induction into the inaugural class of female Eagle Scouts set her not only in the top five percent of scouts (the other 95 percent do not reach Eagle rank).

As of October 2020, Jessica officially became an Eagle Scout. This hard-earned accomplishment came after completing 25 merit badges and serving as her troop's patrol leader, Outdoor ethics guide, assistant senior patrol leader and senior patrol leader while she progressed through scouting. Her practice leading the troop helped her learn how to be a successful leader when Jessica began her Eagle project in the spring of 2020.

Originally, she planned to build a dog park in her hometown, where she previously built three bluebird houses for Settlers Park in 2019. But, the day she planned to meet with a township representative, Michigan entered a state of emergency and lockdown. This put her dog park plans on hold for the safety, but inspired another idea: helping the community's most COVID-vulnerable population. Jessica's scoutmaster, Tami Curtis, suggested sewing face masks instead of building the dog park. Recognizing the desperate need in her community as a national shortage of PPE-challenged senior living facilities, Jessica gathered a group of 34 volunteers, mentored by sewing expert Lynnette Conner. Jessica and her remote volunteers spent a combined total of 362.5 hours gathering supplies and assembling them into face masks. Her project had an extra level of difficulty by including plans for quarantining materials to limit COVID-19 exposure, wearing face masks and gloves, as well as frequent hand-washing in every interaction with her volunteers.

Fortunately, Jessica's hard-working volunteers made all 500 face masks the project was designed to produce, as well as an additional 100 masks sewn from leftover material. Her primary beneficiaries, West Hickory Haven and Village Manor Retirement, graciously accepted 500 of those masks, which met the goal of her project. The other 100



Jessica Witkowski

masks were donated to Hartland Senior Center where they would be distributed to elderly community members who did not live

in assisted living facilities. This surplus of face masks emphasizes the true success of her project in protecting our senior citizens, which was no small task during a global pandemic.

Despite her achievements, Jessica maintains a humble perspective. She wants to thank everyone in her community who helped with her journey, several of whom were complete strangers, even teenagers who had no experience sewing. In line with her Native American heritage, Jessica looks forward to a future in wildlife biology or parks and recreation, where she will continue to grow her love for nature and leave a positive impact on the world.

Health center's March Employee of the Month



Congratulations go out to Brandi MacArthur, Sault Tribe Health Division's project specialist, on her recognition as the March Employee of the Month.

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Walking on...

ELEANOR S. BRABO

Eleanor S. Brabo, beloved mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend, age 95, of Oxford, Mich., passed away peacefully at home on May 2, 2021, surrounded by family. She was born on Feb. 1, 1926, in Detroit, Mich.



Eleanor is survived by her children, Linda Wood, Sharon Brabo, Christal (Douglas) Hatch and Steven Brabo; her grandchildren, Jennifer (Robert) Baker, Shayne (Danielle) Wood, Brandy Brachthuizer, Heather Mattoon, Robin Clark, Tanya Lalko, Ryan Brabo, Adam Brabo, Kyle Byers and Michael Brabo; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Eleanor is preceded in death by her loving husband, Raymond Brabo; son, Alan Brabo; her daughters, Pauline Clark and Karen Brabo; and her brother, Ralph Trosper.

Eleanor was an extremely kind and gentle soul, who loved to give gifts to everyone that stopped by for a visit. She was a loving, caring, supportive mother and grandmother. Eleanor had a great sense of humor, was a compassionate caretaker and the best person to turn to for advice and comfort during difficult times. She adored cats and often teased about being the crazy cat lady. She was an avid reader, loved murder mysteries, especially James Patterson's books. She enjoyed sudoku, crossword and jigsaw puzzles.

Eleanor was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Due to the pandemic, services will be private. Interment will take place at Ridgelawn Cemetery in Oxford. She will forever be in our hearts.

KAREN S. BRABO

Karen Sue Brabo, age 64, of Clifford, Mich., passed away on April 12, 2021, at home with her family. She was born on Sept. 6, 1956, in Bad Axe, Mich., to Raymond and Eleanor (Trosper) Brabo.



Karen was a massage therapist and physical therapist assistant. She was a member of the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, loved to collect rocks, hunt, fish, and take nature walks, hunt morel mushrooms, she had a green thumb and enjoyed spending time with her grandson, Evander. She will be remembered most for her loving heart, kindness and compassionate nature. She spoke with honesty and good humor. She extended help to anyone in need, and felt deep empathy toward others.

Karen is survived by her mother, Eleanor Brabo; daughter, Tanya Lalko; son, Adam Brabo; step children, Jeannie (Steve) Stout, Jimmy Harrison, Johnny (Tracy) Harrison and Renee (Mark) Britton; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; her significant other, Gerald Fisher; twin sister, Sharon Brabo; sisters, Christal (Doug) Hatch and Linda Wood; brother Steve Brabo; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her father, Raymond Brabo; step son, Bobby Brabo; sister, Pauline Clark; and brother, Alan Brabo.

A memorial service will take place at a later date.

DONETTA CARNEY

Donetta "Ducks" Carney, 85 years old, of Cheboygan passed away at her home on June 6, 2021. She was born in Cheboygan on Sept 16, 1935, the daughter of Ernest and Bernadette (Duffiney) Harrington. She married Howard Carney at St. Mary's Church on Feb 27, 1954.



Donetta was a high school graduate in Cheboygan and was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She was employed at Circuit Control, Fox Valley and Cotes Engineering in Cheboygan as well as High Que Engineering in Pellston. She later retired as mailroom manager after more than 30 years at the Cheboygan Daily Tribune.

Donetta had a passion for crocheting and made beautiful doilies and afghans. She enjoyed gardening and was a huge fan of NASCAR. She also enjoyed playing Scrabble and Yahtzee with her family as well as going to the casino.

Survivors include her children, Wendy (Dennis) Sullivan of Green Valley, Ariz., Bernadette Brown (Dennis Miskiewicz) of St. Helen, Mich., Christopher Carney, Ronald Carney of Cheboygan, Carla (Bruce) Kresslien of Riverview, Mich., Amy (Mark) Jarosz of Dimondale, Mich., Joseph Carney of Cheboygan and Jennifer Jenne (Jimi Taber) of Pleasant Valley, N.Y.; 12 grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; as well as her brother, Manuel "Butch" Harrington of Cheboygan.

She was preceded in death by her husband; her son, Mitchell Carney; great-grandson, William Hoppeter; as well as brothers, Eugene "Rut" Harrington, Ernest "John" Harrington, Robert "Bud" Harrington and Gerald "Jig" Harrington; and sisters, Ellarie Rose "Dolly" Caribo, Gloria "Jean" Vanparis, and Linda "Sue" Parris.

Visitation and a memorial service took place on June 12, 2021 at Nordman-Christian Funeral Home. A luncheon followed at the Great Lakes Grill.

RYAN L. CURRIE

Ryan Leonard Currie, 49 years old of Hessel, Mich., passed away peacefully on Memorial Day morning. He got sick and has been in and out of hospitals. He was brave about his illness and did not want to worry the family, especially his mother.



He went to Cedarville and Pickford schools. Later joined the DNR corps in Vanderbilt for two years. He had various jobs in the area, casino, construction and factory jobs in Texas, Florida, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Ryan loved to travel in his younger years. He made a lot of friends wherever he went and always had a smile for everyone. He liked riding his bike, walking for exercise, camping, watching westerns on T.V. Most of all he liked spending time with family and friends; his fur buddy, Rocky, the family pet.

He leaves behind his mother, Stella Currie of Hessel; brothers, Michael and Dustin of Hessel; a sister, Lori (Tim Huffman) of Stiles, Wis.; his aunt, Dorothy of Hessel; a son, Ryan Jr.; nephews, Dillon Currie (Shawnee Mills), Keith Bouschor (Jacqueline Davis), Michael Currie Jr., Tyler Currie, Chandler Currie, Emmett Currie, Chance Currie, Charlie Currie, Kewadin Pierre, Migizi Currie, Ogima Currie, Mason Currie and Leon Pierre; nieces, Serena Currie, Sienna Huffman, Sophie Huffman, Alize Pierre, Azheni Currie and Elizabeth Currie.

Predeceased by his father LeRoy Laclon Currie; brother, Charles LeRoy Currie; grandparents, Roy and Rose Currie, Ignatius and Louise Aibens; several aunts and uncles; friends, Julia Hinton, Kenny Mongene; best friends, Steve Hammonds and Willard Bumstead predeceased him days apart.

A memorial service will be on June 19 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Hessel Tribal Center on 3 Mile Rd.

Condolences can be sent to the family at 5912 E. Simmons Rd, Hessel, MI 49745.

Ryan's ashes will be laid to rest at Rockview Cemetery at a later date.

AALILYANNA A.L. HORNE & ADELINA M.L. HORNE

Aalilyanna Ann-Lee Horne and Adelina Marie-Lee Horne, twin sisters, were born sleeping on May 10, 2021, at Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, Mich. They were born to parents Brandi M. Lee and Joe Horne, Jr.

They are survived by their parents; brothers, Joe Horne III, Jamal Horne, Monte Horne and Anthony Horne; sisters, Marie Horne, Ni'ya Horne, Nadia Horne, Ciara Horne and Aaliyah Horne; aunts, Rachel Lee, Nicole Fish, Jamie Fish, Rochelle

Cade, Rachel Horne, Rebekah Horne, Roshanda Horne, Mary Horne and Sara Horne; uncles, Christopher Fish, Jeremiah Horne, John Horne and Josh Horne; grandparents, Joe and Pat Horne.

They are predeceased by their grandmother, Melody Fish; grandfather, Randy Lee; uncles, Jerry Horne and Larry Cade; and sister, Morgan Horne.

Visitation was from May 20, 2021, at the Sault Tribe Ceremonial Building and until traditional services conducted on May 22, 2021, at the Ceremonial Building. Final resting place is Mission Hill Cemetery in Bay Mills, Mich.

Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.rgalerfuneralhome.com.

RICKY L. STEINHAUS

Ricky L. Steinhaus, age 67, of Sault Ste. Marie, passed away on May 9, 2021, at his home.



Ricky was born on Oct. 13, 1953, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., the son of Dellas and Alvina (Lumsden) Steinhaus. He married Mary Green on May 9, 2012.

Rick graduated from Sault Area High School in 1971 and served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War. He earned a bachelor's degree in business from Lake Superior State University and a master's from Central Michigan University. He worked for many years for the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians in the casino Accounting Department before retiring in 2015.

He was a member of the American Legion, and enjoyed fishing, gardening, gaming, and barbecuing and bonfires with friends and family. Rick is survived by his wife, Mary; stepchildren, Carla Feinauer and Weston Cooper, both of Sault Ste. Marie, and Teresa Maviglia, of Austin, Texas, as well as four grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

He is also survived by his siblings, Donna (Andy) Munsell, Janice (Dan Cooligan) Lewton and Dallas (Nancy) Steinhaus; nieces and nephews, Andrew Cooper, Lana Forrest, Carly Lewis, Pamela Claussen, Randy (Beth) Steinhaus, Jason Steinhaus and Darcy Steinhaus.

Rick was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Terry and Randy Steinhaus.

Visitation took place on May 19, 2021, at the Sault Tribe Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie followed by a celebration of his life and a luncheon.

Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.rgalerfuneralhome.com.

DORIS M. MCKERCHIE

Doris M. McKerchie, 70, left her earthly home on May 18, 2021, surrounded by her family at War Memorial Hospital. She was born on Jan. 12, 1951, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to the late Lawrence L. and Henrietta McKerchie.



Doris enjoyed her job as a bartender on and off during her working career. She also worked many years with Bay Mills at Kings Club Casino, Kewadin in St. Ignace and the U.S. Park Service. She was a member of the American Legion and VFW. Doris was a very sociable person with many friends. Doris is survived by her sons, Lawrence E. (Michelle) McKerchie of Sault Ste. Marie and Shane McKerchie of Casper, Wyo.; siblings, Burton (Deb) McKerchie of Weed, Calif., Katherine Jewell of Sault Ste. Marie, Lawrence H. (Ursula) McKerchie of Brimley, Mich.; uncle, Justin Roy of Mesa, Ariz.; aunt, Evelyn Roy of M'chigeeng, Canada; five grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.

Doris was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Carl A. McKerchie and John Roy; sister-in-law, Joann Brown; and brother-in-law Scott J. Jewell.

Mass was celebrated on May 29 at the Holy Name of Mary Catholic Church with Father Nicholas Thompson officiating with burial in Hillcrest Cemetery, Racoon, Mich., following.

The family requests, in lieu of flowers, to do something simple by making a donation to your favorite charity, greet and smile at a stranger, call a friend and hear their voice, visit a friend and spend time with them, or say a prayer!

Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.rgalerfuneralhome.com.

In memory of Christine McDonald



It has been 26 years the Lord called you home this July. I may have been adopted to another family at birth, but I realize what a privilege it was to have had an open adoption so we would know each other and be a part of each other's lives. I cherish the years and memories we shared together. I miss you all the time, Mom, and sure wish you were still here.

*Love,
Your son, John*

Sault Tribe Thrive Business Directory

Thank you to all the Sault Tribe member-owned businesses who have reached out and contacted us so far. Another month of continued GROWTH! If your business is not listed, please contact us so we can get you or your business set up with our office and into the directory going forward. We will update the list as needed and republishing every month to ensure new members and changes are seen consistently. The Sault Tribe Thrive office is here to help any and all Sault Tribe member-owned businesses.

If you have not already please check out our new website and social media sites at <https://saulttribethrive.com> and <https://www.facebook.com/saulttribethrive>.

Sault Tribe Thrive Office: Info@saulttribethrive.com, (906) 635-6050, ext. 26121.

A Little Golden Studio Kaitlin Lenhard Lansing, MI 48826 (616) 902-0191 alittlegoldenstudio@gmail.com Photography/video and handmade gifts.	(906) 635-4785 tgraham@saulttribe.net Recreation center.	CompHoppers Vickie Griggs Livingston, TX 77399 (337) 739-3664 comphoppers@comphoppers.com Travel agency bookings and training.	Williamston, MI 48895 (517) 243-2877 pemblew@gmail.com Business IT maintenance and management.	https://www.lakesuperiorpendants.com/ Handcrafted Lake Superior agate, stone and fossil pendants.
Allegra Roger Leask Traverse City, MI 49686 (231) 632-4448 roger@allegratc.com Marketing print mail.	Blondeau Construction Matthew Blondeau Marquette, MI 49855 (906) 362-6288 mattblondeau@gmail.com Residential construction company.	Contain-A-Pet of EUP LLC Melinda Menard Dafter, MI 49724 (906) 290-0478 capofeup@yahoo.com Electronic pet fencing and dog training.	Dress Up and Tuxedo Jody Bugay Escanaba, MI 49829 (906) 789-9796 Jody@dressup906.com Clothing outlet.	Gitchi Enterprises Mike Brown Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 203-4491 mikeborwnsells@gmail.com Used car/mobile home dealer.
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Anchor Systems LLC Fredrick Carr Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (202) 306-1365 frederick.t.carr@gmail.com Computer security service.	Bloom Co. Maddie Lockhart Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 205-0275 shop@bloomcosault.com Online floral designing for every day, events and weddings.	Creative Change Alan Barr Manistique, MI 49854 (906) 286-1922 alanb@creativechange.org Communication/job performance services.	Eagle's Dream Rachel Mandelstamm Greensboro, NC 47406 (989) 385-2129 eaglesdream2@yahoo.com https://www.facebook.com/eagles-dream2 Authentic native handmade dream catchers, quilting, crochet and knitted items.	Hakola Logging Tate Hakola Rudyard, MI 49780 (906) 440-0842 Cuts, splits, delivers firewood.
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Arbor Insight Scott Lavictor Ann Arbor, MI 48104 (734) 992-7267 https://www.arborinsight.com Conversation management software.	Burnside Creations Lisa Burnside Hessel, MI 49745 (906) 430-7323 Burnsidecreations1@gmail.com Handmade crafts.	Credence HR Michael DiAngelo Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A5A8 (705) 542-7208 michael@credence.ca Management consulting.	Farmhouse Restaurant Patty Basse Gould City, MI 49838 (906) 286-9763 jbasse2112@yahoo.com Restaurant.	Hand Trucking Andrew Garvin Mount Pleasant, TX 75455 (469) 403-5930 persevere12@yahoo.com We provide vacuum truck services to oil companies.
Barbeaux Fisheries Paul Barbeaux De Tour Village, MI 49725 (906) 297-5969 barbeauxfish@gmail.com Fishing.	C.H. Marine Services Chris Hank Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 203-6396 chmarineservices@gmail.com Boat repair services.	Crooked Music Zac Crook Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 259-7400 crookedmusicstore@gmail.com Music lessons and instrument sales.	Feathers Upholstery LLC Emily McGeary Escanaba, MI 49829 (906) 446-3406 mcemily451@gmail.com Sewing repair shop residential and commercial.	Herbal Lodge Nathan Wright Petoskey, MI 49770 (231) 622-9063 native14u@yahoo.com Herbal medicines and treatments.
Bay Area Demo Pros Kristopher Wood Interlochen, MI 49683 (231) 709-5895 BayAreaDemoPros@gmail.com https://northernmichigandemolition.com/northern-michigan-demolition Demolitions and debris removal.	Carrow Super Market Edward Carrow Farwell, MI 48622 (989) 588-2965 eddie2toes@hotmail.com Super market.	D & S Custom Upholstery Dwayne Lehn Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 748-1047 dwaynel91@gmail.com Custom upholstery.	Floor Masters Art Derry Dafter, MI 49724 (906) 322-0252 art.derry@yahoo.com Flooring and carpet.	Hilltop Bar/Restaurant Brandon/Tracy McKerchie Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 259-2621 mckerchiebrandon@yahoo.com Restaurant.
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Benoit's Glass and Lock Rick Benoit Escanaba, MI 49829 (906) 786-5281 benoitglass@gmail.com Glass repair shop and locksmith.	Clear From Here Jennifer Jespersion North Hollywood, CA 91601 (818) 415-9025 jennifer.jespersion@mac.com Music clearance and consulting for film/television.	Derusha Construction David Derusha Ashland, WI 54806 (715) 730-0734 Derushaconstruction@yahoo.com Construction. Dream Catchers Consulting LLC Bill Pemble	Geo Shelter Michael DiAngelo Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A5A8 (705) 542-7208 mdiangelo@geoshelter.ca Steel homes and buildings. Gitche Gumees Handcrafted Jewelry Gina Harmon Newberry, MI 49868 (906) 293-3625 ginavgc@gmail.com	Irwin Group LLC Mitch Irwin Lansing, MI 48826 (517) 896 6875 irwinmitch@gmail.com Business development, invest-

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-ment and consulting.

ISHPI
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info@ishpi.net
Cyber protection service company.

Iversons Outdoors
Jim Baker
Munising, MI 49862
(906) 452-6370
baker.jimr@gmail.com
Handcrafted traditional snowshoes.

IvyTek Inc.
Sandy Griggs
Jacksonville, FL 32245
(337) 212-0994
sales@ivytek.com
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JETA Corporation
Linda Grow
Neenah, WI 54956
(888) 380-0805
lgrow@jetacorp.com
Distribution.

Kings Fish Market
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Naubinway, MI 49762
(906) 477-6311
benschultz3134@gmail.com
Fish, gifts and sporting goods.

Kings Fish
Robert King
Naubinway, MI 49762
(906) 477-6282
Wholesale.

Lajoie Trucking Service and Freight
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(906) 647-3209
ltsf1@yahoo.com
Trucking.

Lockview
Amy Goetz
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Long Ships Motel
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Ludington Outdoor Services
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Calebbowman1982@gmail.com
Landscaping and tree removal.

M&M Fishing
Lynn Rickley
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(906) 984-3209
Fishing company.

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

Manley’s Famous Smoked Fish
Don Wright
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 430 0937
https://www.facebook.com/
Manleysfishmarket/

Fish market.

Mark and Sons Plumbing and Heating
Lewis Mullins
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(906) 643-9597
markandsonsph@gmail.com
Plumbing/heating/HVAC.

Massey Fish Co.
Jamie Massey
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masseysfish@hotmail.com
Fish market.

Matson’s Fisheries
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McCabes Flooring
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Flooring.

Medical Arts Optical
Melanie Cook
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melaniebea@aol.com
Glasses and hearing aids.

Mesick Market
Carl Brasseur
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(231) 885-1030
carlbrasseur@gmail.com
Full line grocery store (Spartan Brand).

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

Mid-American Title
Amy Goetz
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amy@mid-americanitle.com
Title agency.

MidJim Convenience Store
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jmacdonald@saulttribe.net.
Convenience store.

MidJim Convenience Store
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Convenience store.

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Mountainside Grille
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Restaurant.

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A private wealth advisory practice.

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

National Painting Contractors (MBE) LLC
James McClusky
Kincheloe, MI 49788
(828) 929-1395
nationalpaintingcontractors@gmail.com
Commercial and residential painting.

Native American Church of Turtle Island
David Gaskin
Redding, CA 96001
(906)-256-0062
davidgaskin4@gmail.com
https://www.nacturtleisland.org/
Helping to develop Indigenous communities.

Native Steel Welding & Fab
Trystan Ferris
Moran, MI 49760
(906) 430-7816
nativesteelwelding@gmail.com
Here for your welding and repair needs.

Natures Cure
Joel Halloran
Cedar Springs, MI 49319
(616) 970-8016
hallorjo@mail.gvsu.edu
www.naturescurestore.com
Online store selling natural herbs.

NMK Consulting
Charlee Brissette
Dafter, MI 49724
(906) 630-3082
cnbrissette@gmail.com
Consulting services for Indigenous health and wellness education, individual or organization.

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

Northern Hospitality
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

(906) 635-4800
smckerchie@saulttribe.net
Flooring service and furniture sales.

Northern Wings
David Goudreau
Newberry, MI 49868
(906) 477-6176
dave@northernwings.com
https://northernwings.com
Aerospace and national defense manufacturer.

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

Ojibwe Hazardous Abatement
Rob Arndt
Escanaba, MI 49729
(906) 786-3001
robarndt95@gmail.com
Asbestos removal and abatement.

Pedersons Lawn and Landscape LLC
Heather Pederson
Garden, MI 49835
(906) 644-2150
dr.pederson@hotmail.com
Lawn and landscaping service.

Pemble Concrete Coatings
Charles Pemble
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 361-6562
PemConCo@gmail.com
Epoxy floor coatings/polishes concrete in industrial, commercial and residential settings.

Peninsula Shores Gallery
Eirnella O’Neil
Gould City, MI 49838
(906) 477-6303
Nature and wildlife photo art by Jim O’Neil.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rock Road Masonry & Construction Inc.
Brandon Deno
Escanaba, MI 49829
(906) 789-7892
scs@chartermi.net
Residential and commercial work, ICF foundation work and exterior concrete applications.

Ron’s Birchbark Studio
Ron Paquin
St. Ignace MI 49781
(231) 420-3518
mollyronpaquin@gmail.com
Native American artist with in-store items, workgroups and demonstrations.

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

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

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

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

Salon C
Cathy McClellan
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-3964
cathyan906@gmail.com
Hair salon.

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

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

Seniors Helping Seniors LLC
Chad Lawson
Jacksonville, FL 32258
(904) 716-5680
clawson5454@yahoo.com
Non-medical personal services.

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

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

Sore Arms Fishing Charters
Aaron Hendrickson
Gwinn, MI 49841
(906) 360-6035

From "Directory," page 19
sorearmscharters@gmail.com
Fishing and market.

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

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

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

Superior Custom Blinds
Jennifer Roy
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 630-6939
jennroy209@gmail.com
Custom window blinds

Superior Satellite Solutions
Gary Talarico
Germfask, MI 49836
(906) 450-7675
chieffishfinder1@att.net
UP satellite TV and Internet
installation and service.

Superior Web
Gina Harmon
Newberry, MI 49868
(906) 293-3625
ginavgc@gmail.com
https://www.superiorweb.net/

Responsive web design, web
page/site builders.

Surface Tech Applicators
Nathan Cremeans
Rudyard, MI 49780
(906) 203-9397
Industrial paint applications.

Synchronized Networking
Solutions
Robert Gonczy
Penrose, CO 81240
(719) 371-2315
rgonczy@syncns.com
http://www.syncns.com/
Provides networking expertise
for service providers, government
agencies and enterprise
businesses.

T & K King Fisheries
Theron King
Moran, MI 49760
(906) 643-1068
kingsfishmarket@gmail.com
https://www.facebook.com/
kingsfishmarketandrestaurant/
Wholesale and retail.

The Bostique
Cindy King
Manistique, MI 49854
(906) 283-3245
Bohemian shop.

The Brickyard Bar and Grill
Tate Hakola
Rudyard, MI 49780
(906) 442-1099
Restaurant and bar.

The Buckley General Store
Carl Brasseur
Buckley, MI 49620
(231) 342-4245
carlbrasseur@gmail.com
Convenience store.

The Ice Cream Shoppe
Jill or Jeff McLeod
Cedarville, MI 49719
(906) 484-5525
jmcleod@eupschools.org
Ice cream and treats.

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

Thermal Kernels
Cathy Baker
McMillian, MI 49853
(231) 675-1060
lovethermalkernels@gmail.com
Therapeutic hot and cold pads,
wraps and more.

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

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

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

Total Outlook
Connie Payment
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-6936

totaloutlooksalon@gmail.com
Hair Salon.

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

U.P. Auto Group
Gerald Jackson
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 259-1559
gjackson@upautosales.com
Used car sales / car detailing.

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

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

Walsh Service Solutions LLC.
Rich Walsh
Kalamazoo, MI 49009
(269) 823-1051
rich@walshservicesolutions.com
Environmental consulting
services.

White Pine Lodge
Christmas, MI 49862
(906) 387-1111
whitepinelodgeonline.com
Hotel and convenience store.

Wholistic Energy Healing

Shelly Kucharczyk
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
906-440-2224
s.kucharczyk@yahoo.com
https://www.facebook.com/
wholisticwellnesssolutions
We clear the negative energy,
allowing wellness.

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

Willis Pest Control
Willard Willis
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 322 7445
Full pest control services.

Windy Hills Bison Farm
Carl Brasseur
Tustin, MI 49688
(231) 342-4245
Brasseur@windyhillsbisonfarm.com
Full bison farm and home to
award winning animals.

Y&R Complete Outdoor Services
Yolanda Mellon-Beard
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 203-7388
petitpasyolanda@gmail.com
Tree removal, landscaping and
lawn care.

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

Hazardous invasive and native plant species are here!

BY HADLEY REED, ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE, ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

Around the seven-county service area, plants are coming to life and summer is here. With that, you may have noticed a few species along trails or the roadside that are hazardous to your health.

Whether you know it or not, you've probably been very close to either cow or wild parsnip. Cow parsnip is a native species while wild parsnip is invasive, but both have properties that can cause harm to you and your fellow hikers. The chemicals inside of the plant are photosensitive, meaning they react to sunlight. Sap from the plants can cause intense skin irritation when exposed to sunlight.

Burns from parsnip can

vary from a light sunburn to severe blisters depending on your skin type and the length of time spent in the sun with parsnip chemicals on your skin. To avoid getting burned, you should wear long pants and a long sleeved shirt while among the plants, as well as keeping your eyes open and avoiding parsnip plants altogether.

Identifying parsnip plants depends on the flower color, plant height, leaf shape and stems. Wild parsnip has flat clusters of small yellow flowers with oval to pointy leaves with jagged edges. Cow parsnip has flat clusters of small white flowers with deeply split leaves similar to maple leaves. Both species of parsnip have thick, hairy stems. The biggest difference between the two species is

their height. Cow parsnip can grow up to 10 feet tall while wild parsnip reaches a maximum height of 5 feet.

A third species with photosensitive chemicals is giant hogweed. Giant hogweed is an invasive species that looks very similar to cow parsnip, except that the flower clusters are curved and it can reach a height of 20 feet. Luckily giant hogweed has not yet been found in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

If you come across what looks to be giant hogweed or wild parsnip, please take a picture, mark your location and then send the picture and information to hreed@saulttribe.net. If you can't email it or take a picture, call (906) 632-5575 and report the suspected species and location.



Wild Parsnip

Cow Parsnip

Giant Hogweed

Wildlife Program continues secretive marsh bird surveys

The months of May and June have brought many early mornings on the water for Sault Tribe Wildlife Program staff who have been busy carrying out secretive marsh bird surveys in the lower St. Marys River. Secretive marsh birds are an inconspicuous group of migratory, wetland-dwelling birds that vocalize infrequently. As a result of their behavior and habitat preferences, they are difficult to detect.

Surveying for secretive marsh

birds relies on early morning callback surveys, in which a recording is played of each of the focal marsh bird species and visual and aural observations of responding birds are recorded. Target species in the St. Marys River include sora rail, yellow rail, Virginia rail, king rail, American coot, common moorhen, American bittern, least bittern, and the pied-billed grebe. Staff collect environmental and vegetation data at the time of the

surveys and note all non-focal bird species observed during the survey period. The 2021 survey route includes 23 sites ranging from as far north as the north shore of Sugar Island and south to the Raber area.

Understanding marsh bird presence is important for understanding ecosystem health. Contaminated substrates in Great Lakes wetlands can have negative impacts for secretive marsh birds up the food chain, as

some species of marsh birds rely on substrate-dwelling aquatic invertebrates as a food source. At high enough levels, contaminants such as mercury can accumulate in invertebrates and affect the marsh birds that feed on them, with the potential to have negative impacts for their health and ability to reproduce.

Marshbirds in the St. Marys River are also vulnerable to habitat degradation as a result of invasion by non-native plants.

In the St. Marys River, hybrid cattail is one such plant that has the ability to vastly change wetland vegetation diversity and structure.

Understanding marsh bird patterns can help the Wildlife Program understand the impacts of invasive species and wetland restoration for secretive marsh bird populations.

This information can help guide Wildlife Program management actions moving forward.

June focuses on elder abuse awareness and prevention

Our elders are one of our most precious resources. Elders are the connection to our past and hold stories and facts of our family's history. Elders should always be treated with kindness and the utmost respect. Sadly, this is not the case for many of our loved ones.

An elder is legally defined as a person 65 years of age and older. However, in Native American communities, becoming an elder is not typically at a set age but is a distinct cultural status earned from wisdom, knowledge and responsibility to others. Being an elder is different than being elderly. Elderly is associated with age and ability to care for oneself. Elder and elderly status varies from tribe to tribe. Out of respect, the term elder will be used here.

Elder abuse is defined by the World Health Organization as "a single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring in any relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to an older person." Elder abuse is a silent problem that robs our elders of their dignity, security and can even cost lives.

Such abuse can include physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse, financial or material exploitation, neglect, self-neglect, abandonment and spiritual abuse. Our elders are at a greater risk for abuse due to an increase in elder population, limited caregiving services and supports. This creates an environment for abuse and neglect. Elder abuse is one of the least investigated types of abuse and does not get addressed as frequently as other social issues. Research suggests that four to six percent of the elderly suffer from some kind of abuse, most of which goes unreported. It is reported that elder abuse instances happen mostly in the home of the elder and 90 percent of abuse and neglect incidents are committed by a family member.

Elders may not always feel



comfortable reporting such abuse, therefore it is important that we advocate for our seniors and give them a voice. Often seniors are fearful of repercussions for reporting the abuse or are simply too frail to do so. It is crucial for us to be aware of signs of abuse and to report the abuse to the proper authorities. Adult Protective Services for Michigan can be contacted at (855) 444-3911. Anishnaabek Community and Family Services provides adult protective services and may be reached at (906) 632-5250 or (906) 495-1232.

Family members should watch for these warning signs:

- Pain that is "new" or different
- Fear or anxiety
- Depression
- Isolated or not responsive
- Cuts, sores or burns
- Broken bones, bruises or welts
- Untreated bed sores
- Torn, stains or blood on undergarments
- Dirty, unkempt hygiene
- Poor living conditions
- Lack of medical aids, glasses, walkers, dentures, hearing aids, medications
- Sudden change in function or mobility
- Unusual weight loss, poor nutrition, dehydration
- Change in overall mood or demeanor
- Bills not paid or utilities turned off
- Significant changes in finances
- There are many forms of abuse against the elderly, such as

physical abuse: Hitting, shoving, restraining or confining – anything causing physical pain or impairment. Emotional abuse: Intimidation, humiliation, routine blaming, ignoring, isolating, causing anguish or distress, degrading, ridiculing, insults, using silence or profanity. Sexual abuse: Sexual harassment, sexual activity without consent (rape), forcing elders to watch sexual acts or to undress. Financial abuse: Stealing money, property titles or possessions, taking over accounts or bills, spending without permission, abusing power of attorney privilege, scamming/lying. Spiritual/moral abuse: Denies access to religious services or leaders, makes fun of victim's values or religion, ignores or ridicules cultural or religious traditions, intimidates and threatens for practicing beliefs. Neglect: Failure to fulfill duties or obligations for elder, not caring for hygiene or condition of home, poor nutrition, bed sores, soiled undergarments, medical neglect-missed appointments, not reporting medical issues. Self-neglect: Refusal by elder to care for self, inadequate nutrition, improper clothing, lack of or unkempt shelter, poor hygiene, not taking medication, and not following safety precautions

Sault Tribe Elder Services consists of many different programs that can assist with elders' needs. The Elder In-Home Services Program provides services that give frail and homebound elders the ability to stay in their homes,

maintain a good quality of life and age in place. In-home care services consist mainly of personal care, homemaking and respite care.

The Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Program provides rides to medical appointments. This program is to assist elders who, for a variety of factors, have difficulty using conventional means of transportation to reach medical health care services. There are many varieties of appointments from routine medical care to chemotherapy and radiation therapy for cancer patients and scheduled dialysis for those requiring ongoing care. Rides are provided to tribal health clinics, hospitals, medical buildings in a number of areas including Petoskey and Gaylord, Mich.

The Elder Health Fund provides payment on various services for duly enrolled tribal elders aged 60 and over living in the United States and as certified by the tribal registrar. The fund provides assistance with partial payment for dentures, eye glasses and other items as deemed "medically necessary" by a physician and compliant with Medicare standards.

The Elder Meal Programs provides congregate meals served at meal sites throughout the tribal service area. Daily meal programs operate in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel and Manistique. Three sites provide home delivered meals (Meals-on-Wheels) to homebound elders and their

caregivers.

Sault Tribe's Elder Outreach Service is designed to establish key relationships with tribal elders and families in their homes. Elder outreach workers coordinate programs and services to help tribal elders maintain a good quality of life and age in place. Outreach workers travel to tribal elders' homes to assess and identify elders and family needs and finding resources to meet those needs. They also organize and promote elder involvement in aging programs. Outreach workers assist in the coordination of home care services and provide assistance to tribal elders in completing applications for tribal services and assist in the coordination of meals-on-wheels services, transportation and any other service needs of tribal elders.

Areas of assistance may include physical, mental, psychological and/or social as it relates to aging. Four full-time elder outreach workers cover the seven-county service area, they are stationed in each end of the Upper Peninsula.

Let us celebrate our elders this month and show them the honor and respect they deserve. Make a point to stop and visit your elders and let them know you are there for them. If they are able, go for a walk or play a game. Encourage them to share stories about your family. With their permission, record their stories via audio or video to cherish the memories when they walk on. Bring their favorite snacks or treats to lift their spirits. Play their favorite music, brush or comb their hair, help clean their home or bedroom, or just make a phone call to let them know you are thinking of them. Your kindness can make a difference.

Sault Tribe's Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) also offers elder related victim services such as advocacy and financial services. Advocates may be reached at (906) 632-1808.

Celebrate Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month, Michigan's aging adults can sign up for free online classes

FROM MDHHS

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) and GetSetUp are partnering to offer free classes to improve brain health during June, which is Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month.

Healthful lifestyle choices can improve general health and can possibly protect the brain from Alzheimer's disease.

The MDHHS Aging and Adult Services Agency has a partnership with GetSetUp, a mission-driven education technology company dedicated to creating economic and learning opportunities for older adults. The partnership provides free virtual learning and social engagement opportunities for Michiganders aged 60 and over.

The Alzheimer's Association says regular physical exercise may be a beneficial strategy to lower the risk of Alzheimer's and vascular dementia. Exercise may

directly benefit brain cells by increasing blood and oxygen flow in the brain. Additionally, studies say that maintaining strong social connections and keeping mentally active as people age might lower the risk of cognitive decline and Alzheimer's.

"Dementia – including Alzheimer's disease, which is the most common form – is an emerging public health crisis," said Dr. Alexis Travis, who recently became senior deputy director for the MDHHS Public Health Administration. "An estimated 190,000 Michiganders aged 65 and over are living with Alzheimer's disease. That number is expected to grow to 220,000 by 2025. Brain health is a crucial component of healthy aging and we are pleased to offer these and over 150 classes on the GetSetUp platform to older Michiganders at no cost."

GetSetUp offers a wide variety of classes to empower older adults to connect with others and

stay healthy:

- *Class Series: Our Minds Matter...Embrace Mental Health!*
- *Yoga for Beginners*
- *Get Moving by Line Dancing (the Hustle)*
- *Mindful Chair Yoga*
- *Get Moving with QiGong*
- *Ageless Grace: Exercises for the Body and Mind*

Social hours and interest groups on a range of topics, including a social hour on brain fitness and Dementia Caregivers Unite.

"We have designed GetSetUp online classes and events to provide the physical, mental and social activities that are so critical to healthy living as we work toward a day when we can all age-in-place," said Lawrence Kosick, co-founder of GetSetUp. "And starting in June, we're excited to be able to offer even more programming to support brain health and education around dementia and Alzheimer's disease. With over 80,000 of Michi-

ganders over age 60 already benefiting through our partnership with MDHHS, we're excited to be able to expand our content in the areas that are most needed and support even more older adults in Michigan."

Michiganders aged 60 and over may enroll in any GetSetUp

session at no cost by visiting getsetup.io/michigan and using the code MICHIGANHEALTH or by calling (888) 559-1614.

For more information about Alzheimer's disease and dementia, contact the Alzheimer's Association at alz.org or (800) 272-3900.

Fair and accurate count?



Fair Count, Four Directions Native Vote join forces
Fair Count and Four Directions Native Vote have joined forces due to a strong shared belief in the importance for fair and accurate count of all people in Georgia and across the nation is central to the Fair Count and Four Directions Native Vote partnership. Above is a billboard they put up in Georgia.

Rescue Act (\$18M + \$211M + \$64M) + Cares Act \$87M =

\$379,087,617



Representing All Members Everywhere Ahneen, Boozho, Negee:

It is our Tribal Constitutional duty to write a report monthly to you. This month, I am thrilled to report that the amount we just received from the Rescue Act far exceeded my estimates. With the amount we have already received from the Cares Act (\$87M) + \$211M 1st round of the Rescue Act + \$18M for IHS + an esti-

mated 2nd round at \$64M, our Tribe's total amount is nearing \$380M! Despite my Tribal Board haters, this didn't just happen. I played a key role in shaping legislation through my role with the National Congress of American Indians. We had a Team Effort from key Tribal Leaders and a supportive US President along with both the House and Senate who currently respect honoring the treaty and trust obligation. Let the Board haters hate; I'll continue to deliver the goods.

Given the enormity of the amount we will received by the end of June, I held Town Halls to gather input on how to spend these funds and drafted the following preliminary plan for the Board to consider (lower left) See my video presentation at:

www.facebook.com/aaron.payment/videos/10215891560836883

But, we are not done yet. In the Cares Act, tribes yielded about 1/2 of a percent of the total enacted. In the Rescue Act, a few other tribal leaders and I pushed hard for our equitable share based on population. This time around, we were able to use our full enrollment figures and the overall allocation for tribes was 1.6%. In the **Job's Plan Infrastructure Bill**, I am pushing for a full 2% to match our Native American proportion of the US population. This should result in an estimated \$150M more for our Tribe. Whether or not this happens is based on National and Partisan politics so this figure is admittedly aspirational. If my estimates are right, our total take within one year during the pandemic will approach or exceed 1/2 Billion possibly as much as \$505M!

A few weeks ago, as NCAI 1st VP, I was asked by the White House to testify to our Indian Country Broadband needs. My presentation was to

the White House and Office of Management and Budget and led to a special invite to meet directly with Vice President Harris to advise her on Indian Country's Broadband needs. The picture to the left is a Zoom Selfie I took with the Veep. If we are successful, we should receive millions of funds to fully connect tribes through broadband that will aid in telemedicine, tele-behavioral health, education connectivity and enhance our economic development opportunities. This session helped formulate the announcement made by the VP on June 3rd making \$1B available for Broadband to Indian Country. Check it out at the video link below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLUKMWQ0Yz4>

50:40 Starts with Tribal President Holsey
55:15 VP Speaks (Includes Remarks from my meeting with her)
1:04:21 Secretary of Commerce Raimondo
1:12:19 Secretary Haaland

Recall, some Board Members have falsely claimed our Tribe was prohibited from benefitting our At Large Members in the Cares Act. This

time around, ALL were counted so ALL should benefit. I propose to catch up our At Large Members and equalize all Members at \$2K each. I also propose to reward all of our employment team members with a \$1,000 Appreciation Pay Bonus. My preliminary proposal (lower left) benefits all Members Everywhere, builds our Recovery Campus, builds health clinics to Escanaba, Marquette, Detour, upgrades our remaining clinics, and provide \$56M for much needed 1, 2 and 3 bedroom subsidized apartments.

Some Board haters claim I had nothing to do with securing these funds but the total amount will approximate nearly **28 years** worth of net casino and enterprise revenues. I am proud to serve our Members in this manner. This plan, however, is preliminary and has to be approved by the Tribal Board. I believe I have drafted a caring plan that also balances our tribal budget. Who on the Tribal Board would not support such a plan? Watch closely and remember this vote come the next election cycle and decide if they are worth your vote.



Recently, our Tribe and the Bay Mills tribe launched our Murdered and Missing Indigenous Persons Community Response Plan (TCRP). We had several keynote speakers including Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland, Governor Gretchen Whitmer, MI Attorney General Dana Nessel, US Senator Gary Peters & US Attorney Andrew Birge (Western District). Please go to Youtube and type the link in the search:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ygpnhuxcbm>

There was a great volume of work done to draft our plan, but I see it as a beginning to hone our skills to prevent, rescue and recover our victims. Our Victims Services teams helped write the plan to ensure we care for victims and their families. Our MMIP TCRP consist of four main components that

include law enforcement, victim services, public and media communications and community outreach. Our overarching goal is to collectively utilize all available resources within a victim-centered, trauma-informed and cultural-honoring response between tribal government services, including law enforcement. Both plans of our two tribes include language about sensitivity relating to missing and murdered Indigenous person cases.

I realize there are outstanding cold cases that have left families in pain and unable to heal. It is my hope that we can dedicate resources to reach beyond our jurisdiction to finally solve these cases. I am grateful for everyone who help create these plans. It was a wonderful team effort.

Chi McGwitch, Negee!

PROPOSED RESCUE ACT PAYMENT PLAN

\$ 200,000	Vaccination Lottery ~ 200 draws at \$1,000 ea
\$ 60,000,000	30K At Large @ \$2K ea
\$ 15,000,000	15K Service Area at \$1K ea (total \$2K)
\$ 1,600,000	1K Employment Team Members @ \$1K ea
\$ 857,000	Govt., Housing Team Member Retention
\$ 25,000,000	Recovery Campus
\$ 10,000,000	Sault Heath Center Expansion
\$ 25,000,000	Health Facilities (MQT, Esky, Detour, etc.)
\$ 5,000,000	Clinic Upgrades (all remaining sites)
\$ 10,000,000	ST High School (In Person & Virtual)
\$ 8,000,000	K12 & College Laptop/Tablets
\$ 10,000,000	Tribal Support Backfill 2020
\$ 8,000,000	Tribal Support Backfill 2021
\$ 30,000,000	Payroll Backfill 2020
\$ 10,000,000	Payroll Backfill 2021
\$ 56,430,617	5 Apartment Complexes (1 per unit)
\$ 275,087,617	Rescue Act Funds Only (1st & 2nd Distribution)

Call: 800-793-0660 Cell: 906-203-5159 Email: aaronpayment@yahoo.com Facebook 'Aaron Payment'

AT LARGE MEMBERS CAN REGISTER TO VOTE BY CALLING :

1-800-251-6597

Hoffman gives a rundown on critical issues



DJ HOFFMAN
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

The past several months have been challenging. There has been a constant barrage of attacks upon several members of the board regarding personal, professional and political topic areas. Many of these attacks have been derived from individuals that some would refer to as “Negative Nancys” focusing upon the bad and ignoring the positives that consistently occur. I would like to take a moment to address a few of these social media based rumors:

— I don’t work at Door Dash (also not saving for Europe trip). However, I am glad that there is Door Dash in the area now.

— I have worked in the past for many entities that have worked both with and for the tribe. I have fully disclosed any and all of these to the tribe. In addition, in previous Facebook posts the following has been stated by the individual currently contradicting themselves: (2016) “He is upfront about this. I am not suggesting anything nefarious on Hoffman’s part.”

— The lawsuit with the tribe’s developers has been dismissed since March 30, 2021.

— I do not hate anyone on the board. I may disagree, and at times not like some very much — but definitely do not hate. We are here to do a job!

— I have not missed a meeting or workshop since missing part of a meeting when my uncle passed.

— I serve on many tribal committees, local committees, as well as the BMCC Board of Regents (all of which I have continued to attend and participate as a tribal rep, during COVID).

— I have followed the COVID protocols enacted and required by tribal health and zoomed for several months.

— I have worn my mask to workshops when required and not only when the camera was rolling.

— I apologize for saying “I” this many times.

Unit reports

I have been very fortunate to work with several board members who have since passed and often asked them why they did not always have a report in the paper. Their reply was that they did report to their unit in many avenues: in person, on the phone, in the mail, or via e-mail. At the time, I thought they were incorrect; however, in hindsight, they were correct.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians gained federally recognition in 1972 and adopted its Constitution in 1975. Within the Constitution there consists Article I – Meetings of

the board of directors. Article I Section 8 states: “It shall be the duty of each member of the Board of Directors to make monthly reports to the Unit from which they are elected concerning the proceedings from the Board.” *Win Awenen Nisitotung* was not started at the time of the adoption of the Constitution; actually, it was many years later.

Win Awenen Nisitotung started as a monthly flier that consisted of a letter from the chairperson and a report from the executive director. Over a decade later, tribal board members started placing “unit reports” within the pages of the tribal paper (*Win Awenen Nisitotung*). These reports have devolved into political platforms to pander for votes, as well as staging grounds for salacious attacks. Quite honestly, many of the articles are often written by ghost writers and passed off as the original work of some board members.

At the request of several elders, I will continue to place a report in the paper. I will also be seeking to follow Resolution 2005-181 which states:

“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will have unit reports utilizing the Sault Tribe e-mail list sent out, in conjunction with the *Sault Tribe News*, with a designated deadline by the Sault Tribe Website Administrator. Tribal members will be able to subscribe or remove themselves from an e-mail list if they request to do so. In addition, unit reports will be posted on the Sault Tribe website in an area specific for each board member.”

CARES ACT/AMERICAN RECOVERY ACT

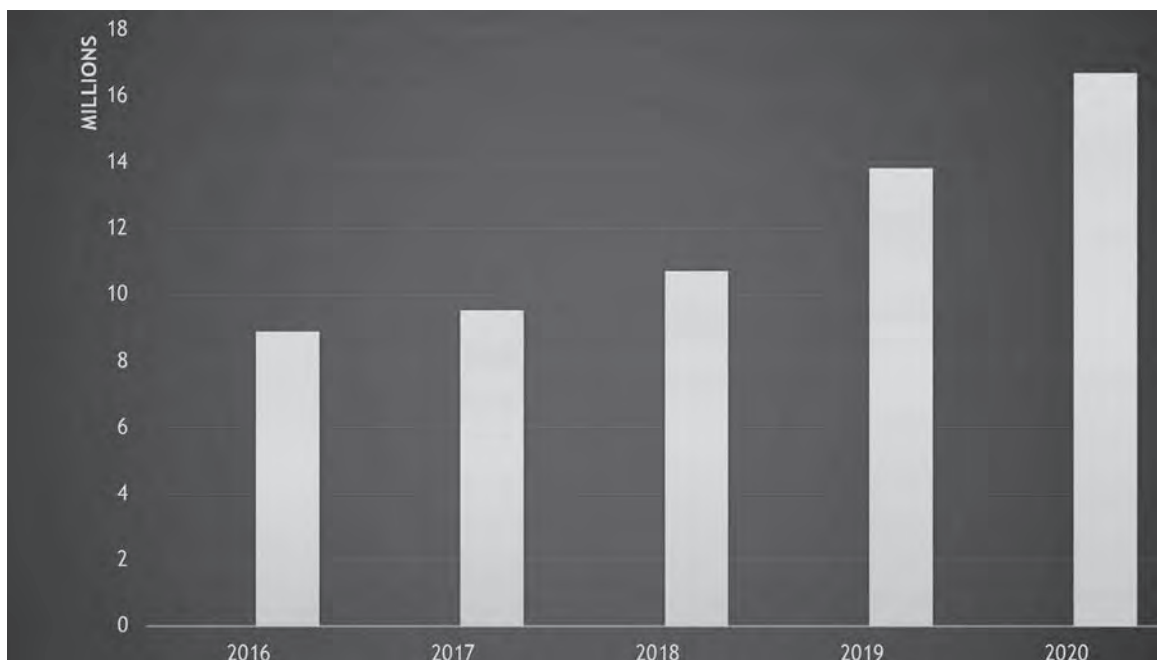
The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians received Cares Act funds in 2020, which were utilized to ensure the stability of the tribe, its employees, and membership. The funds received were based solely upon the Indian Housing Block Grant statistics, which equates to the tribe’s service area population.

The tribe developed a Cares Act Assistance Program that was based upon the service area population and adopted unanimously by the board of directors. In fact, in an official press release, the following was published:

“On behalf of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors, Tribal Chairperson Aaron Payment reinforced that ‘the US Treasury guidelines do not allow for a direct per capita distribution’ of Cares Act funds. The tribe has been expressly warned and the Legal Department has advised that any funds spent on a direct distribution not justified based on the impact of COVID-19 is disallowed.”

This release can be found at www.uppermichiganssource.com/2020/07/13/sault-tribe-clarifies-covid-19-assistance-program/.

In contrast, the tribe has recently received \$211 million from the *American Recovery Act*. These funds are different and based upon the entire tribal population. While drafting this report, the board received a proposed



Sault Tribe Enterprise revenues from 2016 to 2020.

Rescue Act Draft Plan that obligated \$275 million of the \$211 million that we have received and estimated additional funding. This proposal listed \$2,000 for each at-large member and \$1,000 for each member within the service area. The argument being made is that the service area received \$1,000 from the Cares Act distribution. These funds were different funds, generated from different criteria. Since the funds received this time are based upon the entire population, I question the legality of providing more for one criteria of membership than another. Hopefully, this will be addressed before the board takes action.

With the funds available, based upon the entire population, the tribal board has an obligation to ensure that the tribe is steadied for the next seven generations. Planning with staff, as well as the membership needs to occur to ensure that these funds are used for the benefit of the entire tribe and not used for political gain by the creation of those within the service area and those at large.

CASINOS

The casinos are the driving force behind the majority of our non-grant tribal operations revenues. Thanks to our employees, the casinos are steadily moving forward. The Sault property has been greatly impacted by COVID-19 and the lack of Canadian clientele; however, there is a glimmer of hope upon the horizon. If we are fortunate, our Canadian friends will be allowed to return stateside to patronage our properties.

While I have stated it in the past, as well as unsuccessfully proposed legislation to enable it, the tribal board of directors should not be the Gaming Authority or Gaming Commission. These bodies should be comprised of an independent body that has knowledge and experience in the gaming industry. Free of politics, our casinos may once again be a potent economic force.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Our tribe’s Economic Development director continues to push forward exploring new and innovative opportunities for the tribe. This department has done an exceptional job generating revenues for our tribe. The chart above is from a recent MEDC presentation that clearly illustrates our business growth and

development as a tribe.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

I have posted this within my past reports and find it necessary to repeat it:

The threat of substance abuse has been historically prevalent within Indian Country. As a tribe we need to do more and focus more upon prevention and treatment of this affliction. Oftentimes, substance abuse issues result in criminal prosecution and incarceration. While this is one option, it does not provide treatment or prevention from this affliction.

When the tribe sends an individual to jail, there are court costs, as well as the tribal financial obligation to hold these individuals within local jails (we do not have our own). We should be looking at developing our own in-patient treatment center to tackle this issue head on. The funds earmarked for incarceration could just as easily be utilized for treatment.

In addition to treatment, we need to do more to prevent this threat to our communities. We need to provide more opportunities for our children, more focused learning, cultural programming, fitness and more. These things can be accomplished with our current funding by collaboration and proper planning. We have the tools to make a difference; it is past time that we did.

It is essential that this issue is repeated for without taking action to provide treatment options (including prevention) the threat will continue to ravage our community. The threat of substance abuse has been historically prevalent within Indian Country. As a tribe, we need to do more, and focus more upon prevention and treatment of this affliction. With the funds available, under the *American Recovery Act*, we can truly make an impact,

CODE OF CONDUCT

The following is pursuant to the Constitution of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians:

ARTICLE IV - GOVERNING BODY

Section 1. The governing body of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians shall consist of a board of directors.

Sec. 2. A chairperson shall

be elected at large by the voters of the tribe and shall serve as a member of the board of directors.

Over the past 20-plus years, there have been many articles, e-mails and more recently, social media posts regarding the board’s actions and inactions, or conversely those of the chairperson. It is important that the membership understand that collectively the board of directors includes the representatives from the various units as well as the chairperson. No one board member is without fault for our tribe’s failures, just as no one board member is solely responsible for our successes.

To ensure a more professional environment for the benefit of our tribe, I will be proposing to work with any and all members of the board of directors to adopt a code of conduct to stem the tide of negativity and clean up the negativity prevalent within the margins of this publication.

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, 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 that we sometimes appear to be confined to.

Sincerely,
DJ Hoffman
Vice chairman
Unit 1 Director
Cell: (906) 203-0510
Tribal email: djhoffman@saulttribe.net
Personal email: djwhoffman@hotmail.com.

Board working on membership communication



MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Communication has always been a struggle with board communication. We've struggled with technology (wifi availability, live feed issues, etc.) and we've struggled with assigning who needs to communicate what. The board has many hats: Gaming

Commission, Gaming Authority, EDC business ventures, etc., and as such many items of discussion are proprietary and held confidentially until they become official. Business needs, employee issues and allowing directors and managers to discuss and notify also play a part on when information should be shared. With that being said, we still need to do better communicating with the membership.

I believe the entire board has agreed on this and has taken several directives to help improve this. There are several factors that have slowed the process but know that communication with the membership is and remains a priority. Improvements are slowly coming, so be on the look-out for improved communication.

As I write this, the board will be meeting in the next few days to discuss where we are going to prioritize the recently

received funds from the Rescue Act. Whereas, we knew these funds were coming, we've delayed some of our discussion until we knew how much and what restrictions were going to be imposed on the funds. Having already received more than \$200 million, we will be able to address many issues related to the COVID-19 pandemic impact. There are still strings attached and much of the funds must be expended within three years. The restrictions are less than last year's fund restrictions and we will be able to have a greater impact for all members.

I ask the membership for patience while we gather program needs, determine what can and can't be covered and, most importantly, concentrate how these funds can help improve members' lives, all members. That's where we, all board members, need to hear from you.

Please reach out to your board member and share your ideas. Some have already shared some thought on where it should get prioritized; my hope is to have several input sessions from the members held tribal wide by the tribe. We do better when we come together and discuss ideas. Some issues and concerns may require more immediate attention and other issues we may have to take a staggered approach. Many things have changed during this pandemic, including the costs of doing business and employee wages. Mental health and addiction have risen among other things during this multi-year crisis that must be addressed. The housing crisis has only intensified and homelessness has increased. Members requiring general assistance has also risen including food trucks, etc. Our tribe has seen many retirements and people choosing

family time during these difficult times—along with those leaving our organization is also the historical knowledge they possess. I am optimistic about filling these openings, but there are many challenges, including wages, that need to be addressed. My initial thoughts that these are several areas that will require immediate attention. I hope to be sharing more information with you soon: input sessions as well as office hours to get the ball rolling on improved communication.

I am confident that the board will seek additional input to ensure these funds are put to good use for the good of the membership. As always, I encourage members to get in touch with me and help come up with solutions to the many issues our tribe still faces. Send me an email at mmckerchie@saulttribe.net or text at (906) 440-7768. Chi miigwech.

Growing, listening, working on plans and ideas



LANA CAUSLEY-SMITH,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

I'm very pleased to report that our tribe secured additional land base in Unit II — we recently approved purchasing Hillcrest

properties in Cedarville, Mich. This property is ready and available with paved sites and water and sewer for at least 14 sites for housing; we can use this for fair market rental or low income, whichever we decide. There is work and plans to come together but it's a project that has been on the docket for quite some time and our EDC Department brought it all together to complete the close. I'm very grateful for any land base we purchase within our tribe and look forward to many more projects to assist in the housing shortage in all areas. Thanks to all involved and support for this.

During the next months, we will be strategically planning for the funding we received for

COVID-19 relief and funding due to the pandemic. Our tribe was very fortunate to receive millions to replace our lost revenue, replace payroll that we expended due to closure, purchase safety equipment and upgrades for remodels and provide funds and services to members. During the next steps, we will have requirements for the additional funds and I'm supportive and requested feedback from what team members need and projects not complete as well as input from the membership of basic needs and suggestions from all members as to what we can move forward on. Our housing department worked hard to receive funding for rental assistance as that is for all our members within the tribe and now they have requested and will work on a plan for mortgage assistance. I will support the funding to get directly to members. I believe that getting the funds directly in your families' homes is much easier than any red tape or applications based on income and is more effective. Once we find out the Treasury guidelines, we will plan accordingly. This process will begin early June with scheduled workshops to discuss.

I have spoken with many members on what you think the funding should be used for and I will support all that will advance the tribe and membership directly and hoping we can finally get some of our priority projects completed. A full recovery facility is one of my major projects I will advocate for as well as additional clinic areas.

Once again, I would like to sincerely thank our chair, board and especially our hard working executive team that worked toward every single penny we will receive. This will be an opportunity to do better and have better. I'm looking forward to fair, no political nonsense to advance every member.

In closing, I have received calls about the unit reports. The political part of this job is very frustrating and takes a toll, but I have learned that part of the job is MY problem, not yours

(thank you to my family and a few others that I do whine and cry to, though). So, although I could write a book about what really goes on I reframe as many have told me to stay above it and just move forward, but please always remember don't simply believe what you read on social media — facts are so important and division only hurts tribes all over the nation. We have many good things happening within our tribe and the frustrating thing is all that gets lost sometimes. A fact is, with the team members we have dedicating and working hard every day, there is so much to offer our members — housing, education, food, cultural, youth activities, medical care, transportation, heating assistance, child

care, general assistance, behavioral health, substance abuse, employment, in-home services, meals to elders, small business resources and much more. I appreciate all who assist the members with the above resources.

Please look to our official website for updates, notices and information about powwows, events and media releases. They are working hard to update these items often.

If you would like to meet or need me, please don't hesitate to call (906) 484-2954 or (906) 322-3818, or email lcausley@saulttribe.net.

Baamaa pii,
Lana Causley-Smith
Unit II Director

Board meetings often confidential



KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

First of all, my condolences go out to Director Bridget Sorenson and her family with the walking on of her father. A good man whom I never had an encounter with that didn't leave me with a smile.

The tribal board meets this week to work on the priorities of expending the new recovery act monies. The board will be giving broad direction to the executives on what areas the tribe considers essential and necessary. This will take some time to work through and to implement but rest assured

we are working on it.

The tribal board is also working on the consent decree, gaming expansion and many other priorities. It seems to some that the tribal board does little or does not communicate to its members but much of the meetings are confidential and proprietary. We cannot divulge negotiations and strategies. We cannot release business goals and plans. We cannot discuss legal and confidential cases. I apologize for the lack of details in my reports but I am constrained by my oath of office and the rules of confidentiality.

With the Canadian border being closed it has severely impacted our casinos. We have heard many rumors, it looks like next year before they will open the border. The tribe employs nearly two thousand people and these times have been devastating to many of them. The tribal board is doing its utmost to try and soften the negative impact to them and all others that we can. Thank you for all the e-mails and phone calls.

Keith Massaway, 702 Hazelton St. St. Ignace, MI 49781, (906) 643 6981, kmassaway@msn.com.

8th Annual
JIM AILING
MEMORIAL GOLF SCRAMBLE

Saturday July 31, 2021

Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course

9:00 am Registration, Start at 10:00

4 Person Scramble

\$60/person includes 18 holes of golf, cart, & BBQ dinner

Free koozie to the first 13 teams

Don't golf?
Dinner served at 3:00, \$20/person
Hole Sponsorships Available \$50

Proceeds will support
Hospice of the EUP
WMH Road to Recovery
50/50 Raffle will support FOCUS

Contact Sheri Ailing to register or make a donation:
906-203-5597
jjmailingmemorial@yahoo.com

Jim was an avid golfer who not only enjoyed the game, but helping others as well. In 2011 Jim was diagnosed with small cell lung cancer. He lost his battle in July, 2015. Jim was a generous man who always wanted to help others. His family wants to continue his legacy by donating the profits to various charities throughout the community.

Sorenson discusses a number of issues, news



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

I hate to have continuous banter but I do need to correct statements that were put out in the chair's report, continuously claiming that I refused to testify on behalf of housing. I will say that this is absolutely false. I have never refused to testify; I have actually testified a few times over the years for Head Start and presented in person. There was an email sent to me from the chair on March 11, 2021, including another Housing commissioner and a staff member asking if either one of us would be willing to do a consultation sometime in late March. There were no specific details given. My response was, "If need be I'm sure I could do it." It was stated the testimony would be prepared for me, which is something staff always provide. On March 22, 2021, I was sent another email stating he thought it was tomorrow and asked if I was able to do this? Please explain to me how I refused? There was never a follow up after the March 11 email.

There have also been some comments made in regards to me having another job and that the position was my priority. I have never lied about having outside employment. I had to resign my position with the Kewadin Shores Casino when I won the election in 2012. I have for many years of my working career had more than one job. I had for years been involved in local events and attended their planning meetings. When an assistant executive director position opened up with the St.

Ignace Visitors Bureau in 2017, I interviewed and accepted the position. As part of my job acceptance, the VB board was told that the Sault Tribe will always be my priority and I will not be working on Tuesdays and I would be attending other committee meetings as needed as well as travel when necessary. The VB board has been very supportive on my position and it is also beneficial to the tribe as I am able to include them in our events and planning.

Many tribal members stop in my office, call, email or message me while I am at the Visitors Bureau. I have since become the events manager as of August 2019. I can tell you that I probably attend more outside Tuesday board/tribal functions than many others and I have never missed a unit report in nine years. My schedule is very daunting at times but I live for the work I do for both the tribe and my community and I take these roles very seriously. I will also say that I think this shows that I can be employed outside of the tribe and am very willing to put in the hard work. One of my elders once asked me to do something for her and she said, I was told if you want something to get done, go ask a busy person, because they get things done. I truly believe that as I live on a very busy daily schedule. I would also say that my family many times has had to take a backseat to my career choices over the years but are very supportive of my responsibilities.

If any of you happened to also notice, someone does not write their own unit report. Pay close attention to the language and tone and you will notice. When you know how a person speaks and their knowledge and vocabulary and then you read their report, it is so obvious. Makes a person wonder if they are capable of thinking on their own. When many of the comments are, "Well, what do you think?" or "I want that person there." Our role as directors is not just about speaking up for our members and team members but much more in depth as a management board of millions of dollars and it takes some common sense as well.

It really bothers me that there continues to be comments about the "board members being greedy". I can tell you that I do not have to be continuously patting myself on the back, nearly breaking an arm like some do. I do help people and make various donations but that is something that I don't need recognition for. Those that receive know what I do and so do I and that is all that really matters. Many board members help people and donate and like me show humility when doing so.

I would like to express my disappointment in the chair in regards to the American Rescue funds. I am not aware of any other government body's president, chairman, mayor, etc., planning their own townhall meetings to get input as an individual. The first step should have been to have a discussion with our executives and legal counsel on what the needs and things the money could be spent on. Then we could have as a team conducted surveys or meetings to garner input. This is just another ploy at "I'm the hero, I got the funds, I am for the people," chocolate covered BS. He continues to play on the members' emotions and get people's hopes up before knowing all the facts. The board asked to have a morning session with the executives to discuss the funds for Tuesday, June 8. But apparently someone likes the limelight and glory more than working as a team. There is no "I" in team!

These funds are a lot of money and we need to consider all the facts and needs of our members, team members' and tribal-owned businesses. This is not a personal wish list from a couple of Zoom meetings advertised on the chair's personal Facebook page. Personally, I think one of the biggest considerations should be following our mission of providing for the next seven generations not just this very minute. I will keep an open mind and get all the information necessary before making any decisions that just make me look good.

I would also like to say for at-large or service-area members who are wanting to be kept in the loop or involved in

your tribe to read official Sault Tribe social media pages or our websites rather than ones that claim to be "Sault Tribe Truth." It is so unfortunate that a person uses the tribe's name and claims the truth when in fact it is pure manipulation. I will also add that in my first few years of being elected, there were members that hated me and liked to argue with me and once they started really paying attention and kept open minds they realized what was really true. Many of these members are now my friends. Unfortunately, like the world, state or local news sometimes you have to sift through the BS to really see the reality.

The St. Ignace Rendezvous at the Straits Powwow is planning on happening the last weekend of August at the Father Marquette grounds off of US-2. Please contact Daryl Brown for more information. The St. Ignace Native American Festival which normally takes place on Memorial Day weekend has been moved to July 24. This will take place on the Museum of Ojibwa Culture grounds. The city of St. Ignace is celebrating its 350th birthday this year and will be having a large celebration Aug. 19-22. Included in this will be many Native workshops at the Ojibwa Museum, cemetery tours, genealogy at the Straits Cultural Center (Former Forte DeBaude collection) across from the St. Ignace Marina and commercial fishing demonstrations and samples by locally owned and tribal member Jamie Massey of Massey Fish Co. For more information, please visit stignace.com.

Any Sault Tribe crafters who are interested in selling can also contact Shirley Sorrels, the Museum of Ojibwa Culture manager. She buys crafts for the museum store from tribal members. For more information, please call the museum at (906) 643-9161. The museum has a very nice outdoor display of the clan system, our longhouse for ceremonies and teachings, a medicine garden and a boarding school exhibit inside. If you have never been there, it is worth the visit.

Anyone wishing to purchase official Sault Tribe flags can pur-

chase different sizes at Northern Hospitality in the Sault. They also sell some books from tribal authors. Items may be shipped as well. Their number is (906) 635-4800.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or call or text me at (906) 430-0536. In June, Director Massaway and myself will resume our in-person Unit III meetings on the third Monday of the month at the McCann School at 6 p.m.

As I write this report, I am dealing with a huge loss of the passing of my dad two days ago. He was the glue for the Sorenson family and leaves a huge hole in our hearts and in our entire community. From St. Ignace to Rexton, to Black River, Naubinway, Cedarville and Mackinac Island, most people knew and loved the "Big Swede." He was very proud of the work that I do and for my accomplishments. I was fortunate to have him at my last swearing in ceremony as he has battled stage 4 small cell lung cancer since being diagnosed in February 2018.

He was sent home, not even sure he would cross the bridge, on Oct. 1, 2020, with two days to live. He never wanted to leave this earth and wanted one more hunting season, one more Thanksgiving, one more Christmas and one more birthday. He defied so many odds with his will to live. He was a very strong man with a very strong personality that lit up any place with laughter. He and I didn't always see eye to eye, which was probably because we were alike in many ways but I know he supported me.

He worked for 39 years for Arnold Transit Co. as a captain on the Great Lakes until his heart health forced him to retire about eight years ago but that never stopped his activity. He continued to mow his own grass and plow his driveway with oxygen tank in tow, as well as his daily window washing and vacuuming the house until the very end. We are so happy he passed peacefully and his suffering has ended. We will take the wheel from here, Captain!

We should solicit members input more often



**BETTY FREIHEIT,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello, tribal members, congratulations to all graduates! From Head Start through college. Now is the time many high school graduates begin to

think about the future. A job or additional schooling? Education and/or skill training will help you have more choices in life in terms of where and how you live. There are many sources of federal, state and tribal financial aid available to qualifying students. Contact our tribal Education Department at (906) 635-7784 for information and assistance with federal and tribal financial forms.

Students who want a more traditional Native environment may want to explore the many degree options available at Bay Mills, which will also provide free tuition to any student from a federally recognized tribe.

As many know by now, we have received \$211,605,859 in American Rescue Act Funds for COVID-19 relief and are in line

to receive more for an approximate total of \$293,087,618 with another 30 percent expected! Our chair, Aaron A. Payment, deserves much thanks and praise for the sizeable awards we are receiving. The tribal legislative team and Sheila Berger deserve thanks as well. Aaron advocated heavily at the federal level by giving testimony to the White House and the Office of Management and Budget to have all tribal members included in allocation and the feds listened! As a result, we received a greatly enhanced award over what we received last year. These funds have come with guidelines for use but include spending to support public health, compensate for revenue loss, government services and premium pay for essential workers.

The tribal board will have final say as to the allocations in the allowable categories. For those who would like additional information on the allowable expenditure for tribal relief funds, here is a website link: <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-fund/tribal-governments>.

Recently, the tribal chairman held a couple virtual town hall meeting via Zoom to gather input from members on suggestions for using the *American Rescue Act* funds. It was heartening to see the many members participating and giving their input. Austin Lowes and I also attended. The chairman stated he was going to compile the sug-

gestions and submit them to the board.

We need to do more of this. Solicit members' input, and then act on it. We must always remember that we were elected to serve, not lead, not direct, but to serve the will of the members. And we can only do that if we listen to them. Not just once every four years. We need to remain in constant touch with members and talk with them, and allow them to speak to us.

Meetings are now open again and I look forward to hearing and seeing members in person.

In closing, please keep yourself and family safe, help your neighbor and also to look out for the elders anytime you can.

Betty F. Freiheit
bfreiheit@saulttribe.net
(906) 379-8745

Thank you Indian Point clean-up volunteers



**DENISE CHASE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Cemetery clean-up thanks

On May 26 we held the annual Indian Point Cemetery clean-up in Nahma, Mich. Last year we were unable to meet and do the clean-up because of the Covid 19 epidemic and restrictions. We were able to gather a group of volunteers to go out on very short notice to assist.

I would like to thank the following volunteers who attended and were able to help out: Ed Goudreau, Beau Rochefort, Jeremy Sitkoski, Viola Neadow, Stacey Mattson, JoJo Shampine, Brenda and Ron Nelson, Sarah Closs, William Huebner and Stephanie Craddock.

Miigwech to Manistique Kewadin Casino Manager Lisa Fisher and staff Kim Fields and Cindy Stevenson for supplying lunch for the volunteers.

Thank you to Manistique Casino, Ed Goudreau and Ron Nelson for bringing their lawn vacuum/mulching machines. Two machines really made the clean up a lot faster and easier.

Thank you to the Manistique and Escanaba staff for volunteering to help on such a short notice; we appreciate all your assistance and work.

Thank you to Dave Chambers and Jeremy Sitkoski for repairing the cross.

Congratulations, graduates!

I would like to say congratulations and best wishes to all the high school and college 2021 graduates. Congratulations on all your hard work and accomplishments. Good luck in any future endeavor you may have whether it be to join in immediately with the work force or continue on with your education. You make your family and your tribe PROUD!

Recreation opportunities

Now that the Covid 19 restrictions are beginning to ease up, and people are starting to feel comfortable leaving their homes, members have been calling and wondering if they can still access the exercise and wellness facilities.

Please make sure to call the facility and find out if you have to make an appointment first in order to get signed up for access, or just stop in.

Tribal members can access the following exercise/recreational facilities for your health and wellness:

Yoopers Fitness, 215 Oak St., Manistique, MI, (906) 250-9348

Sullivans, 1605 Sheridan Rd., Escanaba, MI, (906) 217-2011. First time users must make an appointment

YMCA of Marquette Co., 350 Iron St., Negaunee, MI, (906) 475-9666

YMCA of Delta Co., 2001 North Lincoln Rd., Escanaba, MI 49829, (906) 789-0005

Healing Around the Lakes Event: Please see flyer below.

Employment opportunities

There are many employment opportunities/positions open tribal wide. If you are seeking employment, please call the Human Resource Dept. The following positions are still open on the western end and HR is seeking applicants.

Manistique governmental jobs

Community Health Program Manager

Certified medical coder

Chief Solo Dentist

Cook- Elder Services

Maintenance Repairer Lead (housing)

Meal Program Aide -Meal delivery

Licensed Practical Nurse

Physician Supervisor

Prevention Specialist

Manistique Kewadin jobs

Cook

Maintenance Worker

Marketing Rep

Restaurant Server

Slot Technician

Manistique Lume

I have been receiving numer-

ous calls on what is being done on the property located besides the casino. The Sault Tribe Board has authorized our EDC director to diversify our tribe's economic opportunities and to contract with Lume for a legal marijuana growing and dispensary opera-

tion (licensed through the state of Michigan). The dispensaries are located across the 7-county service area on tribal lands. Construction has started on the Manistique and Christmas sites and the projects are estimated to be done around the end of August to the beginning

of September.

I hope you all have a good summer and stay safe!

If you need to reach me, please call (906) 203-2471 or dchase@saulttribe.net.

Denise Chase

Unit 4 Board Representative

Board must work together



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello,

As the membership knows by now the tribe has received Recovery Act Funds of over \$210 million and will be receiving more in the future. Our plan is to

have a workshop with the board of directors (BOD) to begin listing priorities. The next step was to meet with program directors, managers, team members and the membership to obtain their input. Hopefully, upon conclusion of these meetings, we'll be ready to move ahead with our recommendations. I believe the majority will be looking forward to building something for future generations.

To date, there have been two unofficial public forums held with the membership. Several BOD were not made aware of these. It is very difficult to participate when you learn after the fact that these meetings were taking place. There were negative and critical comments from the participants about directed at the BOD who did not attend. As a tribe, we cannot move forward if there are

continued efforts to divide and separate our BOD. We need to work together.

Please reach out to us. We appreciate the opportunity to assist you and hear your ideas. Our unit reports list our phone numbers and emails or you can call the Sault Tribe Administration, (906) 635-6050, and ask for our contact information.

As always, I would like to thank team members for their dedication and hard work.

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

If you have any questions or comments, you can contact me at (906) 203-6083 or at KKGravelle@saulttribe.net.

Thank you,

Kim Gravelle

HEALING AROUND THE LAKES MMIWG2S JUSTICE ACTION & ADVOCACY

SATURDAY, JUNE 26TH - 10 AM - 6 PM
**MASONVILLE TOWNSHIP RECREATION
AREA, RAPID RIVER, MI**
GASHKIGOGAMAA-WIIKWED

speakers - art - crafts - vendors
red dress awareness - walk
prayer vigil - round dance

REGISTER - WWW.NATIVEJUSTICE.ORG/HAL
Questions - holden@nativejustice.org






**WEAR RED
TO SHOW
SUPPORT!**

Indian Point Cemetery annual clean-up takes place

Photos by Denise Chase

The annual Indian Point Cemetery clean-up in Nahma, Mich., took place May 26. Volunteers helping out were Ed Goudreau, Beau Rochefort, Jeremy Sitkoski, Viola Neadow, Stacey Mattson, JoJo Shampine, Brenda and Ron Nelson, Sarah Closs, William Huebner and Stephanie Craddock. Manistique Kewadin Casino Kim Fields and Cindy Stevenson supplied lunch. Manistique Casino staff and Ron Nelson made the clean-up a lot easier by bringing their lawn vacuum and mulching machines. And, Dave Chambers and Jeremy Sitkoski repaired the cross.





KEWADIN CASINOS ENTERTAINMENT



SEPTEMBER

Big & Rich with special guest TBA
Saturday | 4th | 8 p.m. | Start at \$40
St. Ignace Outdoor



OCTOBER

Little Texas
Saturday | 9th | 8 p.m. | Starts at \$20
St. Ignace Event Center

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony
Friday | 15th | 8 p.m. | Start at \$25
Sault Ste. Marie DreamMakers Theater

NOVEMBER

**Black Label Society: Doom Trooping
Over North America**
with special guests **Obituary and Prong**
Saturday | 13th | 7:30 p.m. | \$27.50
Sault Ste. Marie DreamMakers Theater

CUE THE MUSIC

JUNE 25 AND 26 - DOORS AND BAND AT 8 P.M.



THE GO ROUNDS

WITH SPECIAL GUEST
TYLER DETTLOFF

DREAMMAKERS THEATER

JULY 23 AND 24 - DOORS AND BAND AT 8 P.M.



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