



# Win Awenen Nisitotung

December 15, 2021 • Vol. 42 No. 12  
Little Spirit Moon  
Manidoo Giisoonhs



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

## USFWS changes process for eagle feathers permits

During 2018, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service held several tribal consultation sessions on potential changes to 50 CFR 22.22 regulations. Tribes identified the eagle feather permit process as being confusing and slow. The USFWS took action by changing its policy to streamline the permit process, according to a recent letter to tribal leaders.

Starting on October 1, 2021, according to the letter, the National Eagle Repository (NER) will process all eagle feather permit applications. This includes all new applications, amendments (e.g., name change, contact information) and reorders. Tribal members will no longer need to submit a permit application to regional Migratory Bird Permit Offices and then to the NER. Moving forward, sending applications to the NER is all that is needed.

Tribal members may apply for an eagle feather permit using the Native American Religious Purposes Permit (Form 3-200-15a) either electronically at ([www.fws.gov/ePermits](http://www.fws.gov/ePermits)) or mail hard copies to: National Eagle Repository, 6550 Gateway Road, RMA, Bldg. 128, Commerce City, CO 80022.

## Casino Can-A-Thon brings help to communities across service area



Photo by Brenda Austin  
**Kewadin Casinos' annual can-a-thon drive brought food for the holidays to communities across the EUP. Above, Sault Kewadin brings donations to the Salvation Army in the Sault. Back row, L-R: Kewadin Sault General Manager Dana Schlehuder, Inventory Control System Specialist Adam Rutledge, Supply Clerk Travis Jackman, Kewadin Casinos CEO Allen Kerridge and VP Marketing and Sales Shawn Carlson. Front L-R: Sault Tribe Unit I Representative Kim Gravelle, Supply Clerk Gary Hazen, Sault Tribe Unit I Representative Michael McKerchie and Salvation Army Envoy Eric Gilbert. More photos on page 13.**

If submitted electronically, the permit application will go directly to the NER and if there are any issues with the permit, a NER staffer will work directly with the tribal member to make the necessary corrections. According to the letter, "it is the Service's hope that this new process will eliminate an unnecessary step for tribal applicants applying for Native

American Religious Purposes Permits. We are always trying to improve our service to tribes and their members and welcome feed-

back." If there are any questions or concerns, please contact NER by calling (303) 287-2110 or

emailing at [repository@fws.gov](mailto:repository@fws.gov). Additional information may also be found on the NER's website at [www.fws.gov/eaglerepository](http://www.fws.gov/eaglerepository).

## MERRY CHRISTMAS!



Photo from the Archives by Rick Smith

The staff at Win Awenen Nisitotung would like to extend to all their readers Best Wishes for a Happy Holiday Season.

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

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 30  
Gaylord, MI  
49735

Win Awenen Nisitotung  
531 Ashmun St.  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

# Sault Tribe Board of Directors 2022 Calendar

**NOTE: Until the State of Emergency is over, all meetings will be held in Sault Ste. Marie.**

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors meeting calendar for 2022:

- Jan. 4 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Jan. 18 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Feb. 1 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Feb. 22 – Sault Ste. Marie

- March 1 – Sault Ste. Marie
- March 15 – Manistique
- April 5 – Sault Ste. Marie
- April 19 – Munising
- May 3 – Sault Ste. Marie
- May 17 – Sault Ste. Marie
- June 7 – St. Ignace
- June 21 – Sault Ste. Marie
- July 5 – Sault Ste. Marie
- July 19 – Escanaba
- Aug. 2 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Aug. 16 – Sault Ste. Marie

- Sept. 6 – Sault Ste. Marie
  - Sept. 20 – Sault Ste. Marie
  - Oct. 4 – Sault Ste. Marie
  - Oct. 18 – Sault Ste. Marie
  - Nov. 1 – Sault Ste. Marie
  - Nov. 22 – Hessel
  - Dec. 6 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Per the Constitution and Bylaws, Article 1 – Meetings of the Board of Directors, Section 1: “.....provided that at least one meeting per year shall be held

in each of the five election units established pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the tribal constitution.”  
General meetings of the Board of Directors are held the first and third Tuesdays of the month. All general meetings start at 5 p.m. All Sault meetings will be held at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center, other locations to be announced. Meetings with “\*\*\*”

are changed to accommodate the chair/board attendance at MAST, NCAI, United Tribes, various Wash., D.C. meetings or holidays.  
All special meetings will be announced.  
For further information please call Joanne Carr, ext. 26337 or ext. 26338, at the Administration Office, (800) 793-0660 or (906) 635-6050.

## Sault Tribe Saturdays at Northern Hospitality

Attention all tribal members! Starting Dec. 11, we will offer a special deal every second Saturday the month — Sault Tribe Saturdays! 15 percent off any item in stock, furniture and flooring! Stop in and see us at 827 Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie. For questions, call (906) 635-4800.

## 2021 New Year's Eve powwow canceled

There will be no Sault Tribe New Year's Eve Powwow this year. The powwow has been canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**BECOME A TRIBAL WATER OPERATOR**

**HELP KEEP TRIBAL COMMUNITIES SAFE ONE DROP AT A TIME**

For more information, contact your local tribal utility or the ITCA Operator Training Program at 602.307.1548.

The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer. This material is based upon work supported under a grant by the Rural Utilities Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Rural Utilities Service. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# OUR BEST HOPE IS THE COVID-19 VACCINE.

## Why should I get mine?

The COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective. It will save lives and help Michigan move forward. Protect us all, by getting your dose of hope.

To find your vaccine or to learn more visit [Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine](https://Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine).

Text your zip code to 438829 or call the COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136 and press 1.



Spread Hope  
**NOT COVID**

# Sault Tribe Committee Vacancies

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

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - nine vacancies - four males (4-year term), five female (4-year term)

Child Welfare Committee - two vacancies (4-year term), 1 vacancy (expires May 2023)

Election Committee - four vacancies (4-year term)

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

Health Board - four vacancies (4-year term)

Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - seven 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), two alternate vacancy

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year

term), three regular seat vacancies, two alternate vacancies

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

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

## Work Experience Program taking applications

The Sault Tribe's WIOA Program is accepting applications for the Work Experience Program. Eligibility Requirements: Must be Native American age 16 to 21 and reside within the seven-county service area. If you are interested in applying for after school employment, applications may be picked up at the WIOA office at 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, or by contacting Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767 or [bcadreau@saulttribe.net](mailto:bcadreau@saulttribe.net).

## Tribal members: need assistance?

Three membership liaisons work with the chairperson's office on membership issues and concerns across the service area.

The liaisons respond to membership issues and follow up to ensure they are resolved. Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact the liaisons when they need help with tribal issues by emailing [membersconcerns@saulttribe.net](mailto:membersconcerns@saulttribe.net) or contacting them individually at:

Unit I — Sheila Berger,

Office of the Chairperson, Sault Ste. Marie, (906) 635-6050, (800) 793-0660, [sberger@saulttribe.net](mailto:sberger@saulttribe.net)

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

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

## Elder in residence needed

An elder in residence position in the Sault Tribe Language and Culture Division is available through the Sault Tribe Senior Employment Program. The position is 14 hours per week.

The elder in residence will provide assistance in the Ojibwe Learning Center and Library at 531 Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie. The library is open Monday-Friday. Special events with hands on construction of traditional crafts may be scheduled during non-public hours.

The position:

- Works in the Ojibwe Learning Center and Library,
- Provides historical and cultural information about the tribe,
- Provides demonstrations of traditional arts and crafts,
- Provides guidance to Lan-

guage and Cultural Division, Qualifications are:

- Extensive knowledge of history, culture, and customs of Great Lakes Anishinaabe,
- Good verbal skills and presence,
- Ability to work with individuals and in group settings,
- Knowledge of Ojibwe language.

Must be a Sault Tribe member age 60 or over and reside within the seven-county service area. Applicant should be self-motivated with the ability to prioritize and communicate clearly. Must undergo and pass pre-employment drug testing.

If interested, contact Brenda Cadreau, WIOA / Senior Employment Program, (906) 635-4767.

## Senior Employment Youth Elder Worker sought in Manistique

Youth Elder Worker position for the Manistique YEA Program is available through the Senior Employment program. The position is 14 hours per week. The youth elder worker assists YEA staff with chaperoning activities, field trips and outings and ensures that youth are in a safe environment; assists tutor with homework labs; prepares snacks; assists with cleaning and basic office tasks (copying, faxing, filing and telephone

assistance). May have to work evenings, weekends and holidays as requested. Must be a Sault Tribe member age 60 or over and reside within the seven-county service area. Must undergo and pass a criminal background investigation and pre-employment drug test. Must be able to travel.

Contact Brenda Cadreau at 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, (906) 635-4767, if interested.

## We need you!

Are you or someone you know interested in becoming a foster parent?

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) is in need of tribal foster homes. Make the difference in the life of a child, consider being a foster parent. Contact ACFS at (906) 632-5250 or by email at [acfs-fosterhomes@saulttribe.net](mailto:acfs-fosterhomes@saulttribe.net) for more information.

The impact of a foster parent lasts a lifetime!

## Seeking information about Missing and Murdered Sault Tribe members

In an effort to create an informational database for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP), the Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) seeks information regarding missing and murdered individuals who belong to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

The information provided does not be current information. The ARC is seeking information for ALL missing or

murdered tribal members including the seven-county service area and tribal members across the world.

Please ask for community educator, Jess Gillotte-King (extension 73104), when calling the ARC.

If messaging the ARC Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC](http://www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC)), please leave the following information: First/middle/last name, date of

birth, date of death, murdered/when/where, and perpetrator name, if applicable.

If missing: Nickname/alias, date last seen/went missing, physical description, distinctive physical features, and any vehicle information.

Any information would be appreciated.

Thank you for your participation in this matter. Please feel free to share this information.

## Attention Sault Tribe households

The Sault Tribe Food Distribution Program is open and accepting new applicants. Office hours are Monday through Friday 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., and our store is open by appointment for clients to come in and shop. Everyone must still keep social distancing in mind and wear a mask if not fully vaccinated. The program offers a variety of seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables, as well as other new items.

There has been some confusion regarding eligibility and the extra pandemic money. Our program does not use the extra \$300 pandemic unemployment compensation, the recent child tax credit payments, or any past stimulus payments to determine eligibility. If you want to know if you or a loved one qualifies or if you have any questions about USDA and the food program, call (906) 635-6076, or (888) 448-8732.

## ARC's website now online

Please take a moment to view the Advocacy Resource Center's newly published website domain. The ARC is excited to have the ability to have their own site filled with helpful information, ARC services, resources and event and awareness info. Thank you in advance for viewing the site at [www.arcsaulttribe.com](http://www.arcsaulttribe.com).

As always, the ARC can be reached at (906) 632-1808 and at [www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC](http://www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC).

## CORA seeks accountant

The Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority, located in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., seeks applicants for the position of accountant. A minimum of an Associate's Degree in Accounting or Business Administration required; Bachelor's preferred. Must have at least 5 years of work experience in an accounting-related field; additional experience in managing tribal organizational accounting services preferred. As an inter-tribally and federally funded entity operating on inter-tribal federal Indian Trust Land, federal Indian preference in hiring applies.

For a copy of the job description and application, contact the CORA at (906) 632-0043 and ask for Beverly Carrick or email at [bev.carrick@chippewaottawa.org](mailto:bev.carrick@chippewaottawa.org). Resume and a completed application must be submitted.

## Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

December 15, 2021  
Little Spirit Moon  
Manidoo Giisoonhs  
Vol. 42, No. 12

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

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

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

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

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

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

See our full, online edition at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

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

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

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

E-mail: [slucas@saulttribe.net](mailto:slucas@saulttribe.net) or [jdale-burton@saulttribe.net](mailto:jdale-burton@saulttribe.net).

"For All Your Tire Needs"



**U.P. TIRE**

Complete Tire Sales & Service

**BRIDGESTONE Firestone**

(906) 632-6661  
1-800-635-6661

1129 E. Easterday Ave., Sault, MI 49783

# Tribe welcomes new administrative manager

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Barbara Rider has been hired by Sault Tribe as an administrative manager for the tribe's executive office.

Rider will be managing administrative staff and operations and providing support to Executive Director Christine McPherson in projects relating to Internal and Membership Services Divisions.

She will be responsible for developing and supervising administrative programs and projects and assisting in strategic plan development, tactical plans, and tracking progress towards goal completion. She will also be

preparing and managing annual operating budgets and ensuring fiscal responsibility; monitoring division budgets and tracking expenditures. She will assist with personnel policy development and recommend edits to existing policies and help tribal members and staff to resolve concerns.

In addition to her other duties, Rider will be identifying training needs and providing technical, administrative and procedural training and support to division directors and administrative staff. She will be developing interview and skills assessment questions for new hires, conducting inter-

views, selection and creating and facilitating administrative onboarding process for new hires. She will be doing inventory tracking and office supply ordering for executive management and clerical staff (including warranties and maintenance agreements), and attending meetings on behalf of the executive director.

She will also be working to coordinate and facilitate local, regional and national training sessions and meetings, write training guides and develop presentations and advertising materials.

Rider began employment with the tribe Nov. 8. Prior to

her new position, she managed the Newaygo County Sheriff's Office for over 17 years. Rider is a graduate of Cedarville High School and attended Lake Superior State University from 1987 to 1990. She resides in Hessel and enjoys golfing, camping and horseback riding. She has four grown children and seven grandchildren.

Rider's office is located on the third floor at the Administration building at 523 Ashmun St. in downtown Sault Ste. Marie. She can be contacted by email at [brider@saulttribe.net](mailto:brider@saulttribe.net) or by calling (906) 635-6050.



Barbara Rider

# Bay Mills Community College and Salish Kootenai College announce new articulation agreement

BAY MILLS — Bay Mills Community College students can now use their credits towards a Bachelor's degree being offered at Salish Kootenai College in Montana without ever leaving their home. The two tribal colleges officially signed an articulation agreement offering another educational opportunity to BMCC students.

The articulation agreement, effective immediately, enables BMCC students to transfer into the online Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education, Mathematics program, at SKC. This

will provide students with a pathway that is streamlined to help them complete their studies and obtain a teaching degree in math instruction. The new agreement ensures a smooth curriculum transition, minimizing loss of credits and duplication of coursework. Students can begin their first two years of coursework at BMCC and then transfer to SKC. The program, offered virtually, can be completed anywhere.

After graduation, students can take their Michigan certification tests to become teachers.

The Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget has found that the median of math teacher salaries in Michigan is \$80,360.

"Articulation agreements between two TCUs is always special, especially when our institutions are working together to help strengthen our communities," BMCC President Duane Bedell said. "This articulation agreement will help meet the shortages of mathematics teachers in Indian Country and the communities they serve. I'd like to thank everyone who worked

on this very important agreement."

Students should contact Katherine Tassier for more

information on the degree program and enrollment. Further information can be found online at [www.bmcc.edu](http://www.bmcc.edu).



**CENTRAL SAVINGS BANK**  
SEE WHAT THE CSB FAMILY CAN DO FOR YOU

YOUR HOMETOWN FULL SERVICE BANK SINCE 1902

*Ask about our eBanking services!*

Sault Ste. Marie-Main • Sault Ste. Marie-Spur  
Cedarville • DeTour • Kinross •  
Mackinac Island • Pickford • Rudyard • St. Ignace

 906-635-6250 | [www.centralsavingsbank.com](http://www.centralsavingsbank.com) 

Saturdays in January\*

# BLIZZARD OF CASH

WIN YOUR SHARE OF UP TO **\$34,000** CASH AND CREDITS

**HOT SEAT DRAWS STARTING AT 5 P.M.**



All Sites  
\*Excluding January 1

See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details. Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion.

**MANISTIQUE \* ST.IGNACE \* SAULT STE. MARIE \* HESSEL \* CHRISTMAS**



SAULT STE. MARIE + ST. IGNACE  
HESSEL + CHRISTMAS + MANISTIQUE  
1-800-KEWADIN | KEWADIN.COM

## REINDEER GAMES

Saturdays in December (Excluding Christmas December 4 & 11)  
Win up to \$200 CASH or Kewadin Credits  
Hot Seat Draws Start at 5 p.m.

## ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas Site | December 3, 4, 10, 11  
Win your share of \$15,000 CASH

## NEW YEAR'S DAY HOT SEATS

January 1  
Win your share of up to \$30,700 CASH & Credits  
Hot Seat Draws Start at 4 p.m. | CASH Draws 10:10 p.m.

## TOURNAMENTS

NEW YEAR'S DAY MANIA  
Manistique | Christmas | Hessel | January 1, 3p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Win up to \$500 CASH & 40,000 Bonus Points

## SPIN TO WIN

Sault Ste. Marie | January 21 - 23  
Win up to \$15,000 CASH/ Bonus Points

## \$3000 MINI BINGO

Sault Ste. Marie | February 19  
Jackpot game \$1,000 CASH

Thank you for your understanding as we close areas to in order to celebrate the holidays with our families. Please go to [kewadin.com/holiday-hours](http://kewadin.com/holiday-hours) for a list of area hours on Christmas Eve and Day. Wishing you all the very best holiday season. Kewadin Casinos

# Approaching a Traditional Healer, Elder or Medicine Person

When you are on a healing journey, it is a natural step for you to seek help and guidance from a Traditional Healer, an Elder or a Medicine Person.

## HEALERS

When Healers talk about healing, they say that the Creator and the spirits work through them to help the people. If they are asked in what way they are different, they say that the gifts they have and that they are allowed to use is what makes them different. They always express their deep gratitude for the healing powers of everything that the Creator has put here and for the spirits that do the healing. Each Healer has a purpose and that purpose is to help the people. They tend not to call themselves Healers but might refer to themselves as helpers in Traditional Healing or helpers to the spirits.

The help that they give is credited to the spirit that they have, the Creator, and the spirit helpers who come in many forms to assist them. Helpers can manifest in any form. They can be animals, trees, sticks, rocks, fire, water, plants and earth.

The abilities of some Healers are said to be their birth right and generally these individuals start training and working at an early age. The abilities of others may be revealed later in life as a result

of a severe illness or a near-death experience. Some may go on fasts or on a vision quest where their gifts and their responsibilities are revealed and explained to them by the spirits.

A Healer can be given his or her direction of how to take care of the people through dreams and visions.

There are similarities to all healing practices but each Healer has their own way and medicines that they work with. Each Healer is an individual and they live their lives according to the teachings they have received. Some may work with plants, some may counsel, some may use other forms of doctoring and some may heal with their hands. They may work through ceremonies such as the sweat lodge or the shaking tent. There may be one or many forms of healing that they have received training in.

Depending on the form that their healing work takes, Healers may use drums and shakers as they sing and pray. They will use one or more of the four sacred medicines for smudging.

## MEDICINE PEOPLE

Some Healers are called Medicine People because they work with the plant medicines. They know about plants and they prepare medicines.

There are special procedures for everything. If a Healer needs a powerful medicine for someone, the Healer has to find out how to get it, how to keep and store it, and how it should be used and given. One plant may have five or six different uses. The Healer may need to fast in order to learn about a particular medicine. Healers say that they are continually learning.

## Doctoring

Doctoring takes many forms.

The use of the medicines is one of them. Removing sickness by extraction is another.

Some Healers are specialists in treating certain illnesses. For example, a Healer may have special abilities to help with heart disease or with diabetes.

As Traditional Healing is holistic, if a person seeks help for an ulcer, it is not only the ulcer that is treated. The root cause of the condition is addressed.

## Spiritual Healing

All Healers look at all aspects of the individual - the spiritual, emotional, mental and physical - as they are interrelated. There are some who describe the work they do in terms of working with energy, the mind and the spirit. They might work with eagle feathers to get to the core of the problem.

## Counseling

Counseling is an intrinsic part of all Healing, but there are Healers whose particular gift is to use words to heal. Some communities have seers who it is said can see backwards and forwards.

## Ceremonies

Healers may perform doctoring during a sweat lodge ceremony or they may take care of you when you go on your fast for healing. They may work through the shaking tent to advise and prescribe and they may support you when you participate in the sun dance.

## ELDERS

A Traditional Elder is someone who follows the teachings of our ancestors. It is said Traditional Elders walk and talk the good way of life. Traditional Elders teach and share the wisdom they have gained of the culture, history and the language. The sharing of their wisdom is healing.

An Elder does not have to be a senior but could be someone younger who has many teachings

***To get a referral to a Healer, Elder Medicine Person, or to make an appointment in the seven-county service area, call Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine at (906) 632-5200, option 9.***

and who has earned the respect of their community by contributing to its spiritual development.

## VISITS WITH HEALERS, ELDERS AND MEDICINE PEOPLE

When you go to a Healer, Elder or Medicine Person, be yourself, be respectful to them and to yourself. Take tobacco to give as an offering.

Tobacco is meant for that communication between you, the Healer and the Creator. The tobacco can be in any form. For example, it can be one cigarette from a pack, it can be a pack of cigarettes, it can be a pouch of tobacco or it can be loose tobacco wrapped in a small square of cloth (called a tobacco tie).

Talk to the Healer or Elder explaining why you have come to them. Refrain from taking alcohol or drugs for four days before going to a Healer. Women schedule their appointments with Healers for times when they are not on their moon time.

Other gifts can be given to express your gratitude for the

help you have received. This may be in the form of an item such as a basket or blanket or it could be money.

There are certain protocols specific to each Healer, Elder or Medicine Person. Many Healers will have helpers who will convey these protocols to you. For example, they will let you know whether you may receive treatment after having chemotherapy.

## REFERRALS TO HEALERS, ELDERS AND MEDICINE PEOPLE

As our awareness and knowledge of our traditions and culture increases, so does our honor and respect for these ways. This has not always been the case in our communities.

There are always those who present themselves as Healers, Elders or Medicine People who have not earned that title and may use the teachings and medicines in the wrong way. It is important for everyone, especially young people, to be aware of this and to exercise caution when they seek healing, teachings or advice. It is advisable to consult with people whom you trust to get referrals to respected and recognized Traditional Healers, Elders and Medicine People.

*Special acknowledgement is given to the following Healers and Elders who contributed their knowledge and understanding of the traditions and culture in the preparation of the brochures from which this article was taken: Jake Aguonia, Garnett Councillor, Harlan Downwind, Roger Jones, Rose Logan, Dorothy Sam, Mary Louie, Nelson (SugarBear) Shog-nosh, Geraldine Standup and Ella Waukey.*

— Reprinted with permission from Anishnawbe Health Toronto, at: <https://aht.ca/>



## Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program

# Gerard Sagassige

## 2022 January Clinic Hours

**January 3, 10, 12, 17, 20, 24, 25, 31**

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center  
(906)632-0236 Lori Gambardella

**January 4th**

Escanaba Community Center  
(906)632-0236 Lori Gambardella

**January 5th**

Manistique Health Center  
(906)341-8469 or (866) 401-0043

**January 11th**

St. Ignace Health Center  
(906)643-8689 or (877)256-0135

**January 18th**

Hessel Community Center  
(906)484-2727

**January 26th**


Munising Health Center  
(906)387-4721 or (800)236-4705

JOE PITAWANAKWAT  
FROM CREATORS  
GARDEN PRESENTS:

**HOW TRADITIONAL  
MEDICINE CAN  
ASSIST WITH OPIOID  
WITHDRAWAL AND  
ADDICTION  
SYMPTOMS**

WILDCRAFTED  
WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOM  
MANAGEMENT  
ANISHINAABE METHODS

JANUARY 13TH, 2022  
9:00-11:00 AM  
PLEASE CONTACT  
SAULT TRIBE  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
AT (906) 635-6075 FOR  
MORE INFORMATION



Scan the QR code or go to  
<https://forms.gle/HsKx3XYU>  
H8ffa2TH6  
to register!

# Anishinaabemowin 2021

No gift is too small to give or too simple to receive when it is wrapped in thoughtfulness and tied with love. The beautiful words of Anishinaabemowin are gifts like that, too.

**Wiikwejiibjige-daa!** Let's wrap gifts.\*  
wiik-we-*jiib*-ji-ge-daa \*this just says "let's wrap things"  
we assume in this case, it's gifts!

**Wiikwejiibjigan maanda.** This is wrapping paper.\*  
wiik-we-*jiib*-ji-gan *maan*-da  
\*note this includes the word for wrapping of course, and the  
"gan" ending says "what we use, to do it" So we get: The stuff  
we use to wrap things with = wrapping paper.

**Moozhwaagan maanda.** This is a scissors.  
*moozh*-waa-gan *maan*-da

**Gookizigan maanda.** This is tape.  
goo-*kiz*-i-gan *maan*-da

**Mkakoonhs maanda.** This is a little box.  
ma-*kak*-oo(nh)s *maan*-da

**E-maagweng maanda.** This is a gift.\*  
e-*maag*-weng *maan*-da \*gift = what you give away

<b>Miijim</b>	<i>mii</i> -jim	Food
<b>Gwinaan*</b>	gwi- <i>naan</i> -an	Clothes
<b>Nakaazowinan</b>	na- <i>kaa</i> -zo-win-an	Tools
<b>Maziniganan</b>	ma- <i>zin</i> -i-gan-an	Books
<b>Segaajiganan#</b>	se- <i>gaa</i> -ji-gan-an	Jewelry
<b>Daminawaanhsan</b>	<i>da</i> -min-a- <i>waa</i> (nh)s-an	Toys

\* notice all the 'an' endings here: they all mean  
"more than one" (plural).

# Did you recognize this word from "bows" above?  
It still means decorations, which describes jewelry!  
Look for it below in the "Christmas tree" word, too.

**Toonan newe shkapijigan-an** Put those packages  
*toon*-an *ne*-we sh-*ka*-pi-ji-gan-an (wrapped gifts)  
**naami e-segaajagaazod mitig!** under the decorated  
*naa*-mi e-se-*gaa*-ji-*gaa*-zod mi-*tig* (Christmas) tree!

**Nahaaw! Kiizhiitaami! Biinchige-daa!**  
na-*haaw* kii-zhii-*taa*-mi *biin*-chi-ge-*daa*  
OK! We are finished! Let's clean up!

The capacity to learn is a gift. The ability to learn is  
a skill. The willingness to learn is a choice.

Brian Herbert

Language is not a genetic gift, it is a social gift.  
Learning a new language is becoming a member of  
the club — the community of speakers of that lan-  
guage — our language! Welcome home!

If parents want to give their children a gift, the best  
thing they can do is to teach their children to love  
challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort,  
and keep on learning. That way, their children don't  
have to be slaves of praise. They will have a lifelong  
way to build and repair their own confidence.

Carol Dweck

Education unlocks your mind and expands your  
horizons. Knowledge helps you see the world in a  
whole different perspective; it's like stepping out of  
the darkness into the light. What a gift!

## Manidoo Giisoonhs

Little Spirit Moon

by Susan Askwith

**Wenesh waa meneziiin?** What will we need?  
*w*e-nesh waa me-*ne*-ziiin

**Zenbaanhsag\* gonda.** These are ribbons.  
*zen*-*baa*(nh)s-ag *gon*-da  
\*the 'ag' ending says 'more than one (ribbon)'.  
So how would you say "one ribbon"?

**Zenbaanhs-segaajigaanhsan\* nanda.**  
*zen*-*baa*(nh)s - se-*gaa*-ji-*gaa*(nh)s-an *nan*-da.  
These are bows.

\*this time the 'an' ending says more than one (bow).  
Zenbaanhs still means ribbon, and segaajigaanhsan  
says little decorations. So we have little ribbon deco-  
rations = bows!

**Mino niibaanamaa-daa**  
(Let's have a happy Christmas)  
**Zhinomaadi-daa zaagidowin**  
(Let's show one another love and)  
**miinwaa mino maadizowin**  
(and a healthy life)  
**Niibaanamaang**  
(during Christmas)  
**miinwaa Nimkodaading**  
(and in the New Year)

*Kina e-kinoomaagaazojig*  
*Anishinaabemowin*  
*maampii Baaweting Anishinaabek*

(All those who are being taught  
Anishinaabemowin here at Sault Tribe)

Sault Tribe offers you the **free** gift of learning our Language. Look at the Tribe web-  
site, or Facebook (Sault Tribe Language and Culture) or call at the tribe offices to  
check on the weekly days and times we offer this gift for you! You are so welcome!

**Making our Sounds** Most letters sound like in English.  
Here are the exceptions.

**aa** sounds like the a in *awesome*    **a** sounds like the a in *about*  
**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*  
**nh** has no sound; it says "pronounce the previous vowel nasally".  
Those letters are in parentheses to remind you of that!

Otherwise, 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. Take time to enjoy  
the words, even the long ones. Roll the sounds around in your mouth. The  
sounds of our language have been voiced for generations. Keep them going!

# International Day of Persons with Disabilities

## FROM SAULT TRIBE ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER

December 3 was honored as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities.

The term “disability,” as used by the Department of Justice in the National Crime Victim Survey (NCVS), includes a wide range of limitations such as sensory, cognitive, self-care and ambulatory or mobility limitations. A 2008 study by the NCVS found that people with disabilities experience double the rate of violence that people without disabilities experience.

Another alarming finding is that people with cognitive disabilities (or intellectual disabilities) experienced the highest risk of violent victimization. Another study reported that 25 percent of girls and women with intellectual disabilities who were referred for birth control had a history of sexual violence. Other studies suggest that 49 percent of people with intellectual disabilities will experience 10 or more sexually abusive incidents. Any type of disability appears to contribute to

higher risk of victimization but intellectual disabilities, communication disorders and behavioral disorders appear to contribute to very high levels of risk, and having multiple disabilities results in even higher risk levels.

Risk factors for people with disabilities may include but are not limited to feeling of powerlessness, lack of communication skills and inability to protect oneself due to lack of instruction or resources. Individuals may live in over-controlled and authoritarian environments, contributing to the feeling of powerlessness over their situation. Perpetrators are often those known by the victim, such as family members, acquaintances, residential care staff, transportation providers and personal care attendants. Research suggests that 97 to 99 percent of abusers are known and trusted by the victim. Therefore, the delivery system set in place to care for those in need with disabilities contributed to the risk of sexual violence. There are treatments available, but finding a qualified

therapist may be difficult since the person should be trained in child sexual abuse, adult sexual abuse and sexual assault treatment as well as intellectual disabilities, non-verbal and mind-body healing modalities that do not require an intellectual processing component of the therapy. Payment for the therapy may be obtained through victim witness programs, community mental health centers or developmental disability centers.

Consent is crucial when any person engages in sexual activity, but it plays an even bigger and potentially more complicated role when someone has a disability. In addition, someone who has a developmental or intellectual disability may not have the ability to consent to sexual activity, as defined by state law. By understanding that disabled persons are at greater risk of experiencing sexual violence than per-

sons without a disability, we can take action in our communities and the first step is recognizing the magnitude of the problem and facing the reality that people with disabilities are more likely to be assaulted sexually than those without disabilities. Also, societal attitudes must change to view victims with disabilities as having equal value as victims without disabilities and giving them equal advocacy.

Things you should look for if you suspect victimization:

**Physical:** Bruises or pain in the genital areas, signs of physical abuse, headaches, stomachaches and STIs.

**Behavioral:** Depression, substance abuse, withdrawal, avoids specific settings or people, sleep or appetite changes, crying spells, seizures, phobias, regression, guilt or shame feelings, self-destructive behaviors, severe anxiety or worry, resists physical

exam, learning difficulties, irritability and changes in mood or habits.

If you suspect a child is being sexually abused, contact your local child protective agency. If the person is an adult, contact adult protective services. These are also referred to as “Social Services,” “Human Services,” or “Children and Family Services” in the phone book. You do not need proof to file a report and it can be anonymous. If you believe the person is in immediate danger, call the police.

Everyone has the right to safety. If you or someone you know has a disability and has experienced sexual assault or abuse, there is support available. REMEMBER YOU ARE NOT ALONE, YOU ARE NOT TO BLAME, HELP IS AVAILABLE. Contact the Advocacy Resource Center at (906) 632-1808 to see what we can do to help you.

## Justice Department boosts efforts to solve American Indian missing person cases

WASHINGTON, DC — The Department of Justice on Nov. 23 announced a commitment of \$800,000 to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System, or NamUs, specifically to increase the program’s capacity to provide outreach, investigative support and forensic services to cases involving American Indians and Alaska Natives.

The investment is in response to recommendations from the federal Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives, known as Operation Lady Justice. It also supports the executive order issued by President Biden on Nov. 15 to “reduce violence against Native American people, and to ensure swift and effective federal action that responds to the problem of missing or murdered indigenous people.”

“Our research tells us that American Indians and Alaska Natives experience violence at rates well above those of many other groups, a disparity that is sadly reflected in reports of missing and unidentified Native Americans,” said Jennifer Scherer, Acting Director of the National Institute of Justice, the division of the Justice Department’s Office of Justice Programs that manages NamUs. “We look forward to using these new resources to bolster NamUs and help investigators solve these difficult cases and bring answers to families.”

Operation Lady Justice was created in 2019 as a multi-agency effort to enhance the operation of the criminal justice system and address the concerns of American Indian and Alaska Native communities regarding missing and murdered people, particularly women and girls.

Among other charges, the task force was directed to expand the

use of NamUs, a DOJ-supported national repository for case information. The funds are made available from OJP’s Bureau of Justice Assistance through a transfer to NIJ.

NamUs employs regional program specialists nationwide, who provide training, technical assistance and support to individuals with missing, unidentified and unclaimed person cases. Since 2017, NamUs staff have provided training and outreach to American Indian and Alaska Native communities through more than 50 events and webinars. To encourage tribal law enforcement participation, the NamUs system is pre-loaded with information on more than 300 federally-recognized tribal law enforcement agencies so officers can quickly access cases and share information.

This new funding supports DOJ’s commitment to review unresolved cases and improve information sharing. NamUs is prioritizing resources to ensure that all American Indian and Alaska Native cases in the database are as robust and complete as possible. This funding supports updates to case information that can include data regarding tribal enrollment or affiliation, whether missing persons were last known to be on tribal land or resided on tribal land prior to their disappearance, and whether unidentified decedents were found on tribal land. Any information found lacking will be obtained and entered to increase the chances of case resolution.

Monthly updates on American Indian cases are available at: <https://namus.nij.ojp.gov/library/reports-and-statistics>.

Information about Operation Lady Justice is available at: <https://operationladyjustice.usdoj.gov/>.



## The Things in Life That Matter Most

When you reach a certain age, you just have better things to do than worry about money. You want to enjoy the simple things, like playing with the grandkids, a quiet walk on a beautiful day.

We’re here to help you with the retirement planning you need to enjoy the things in life that matter most.

*First National Bank*  
OF ST. IGNACE

Community Minded... Just Like You

Celebrating 133 years of service to the area.

906-643-6800 • 132 N. State St. • P.O. Box 187 • St. Ignace, MI 49781

[www.fnbsi.com](http://www.fnbsi.com)

Stop in and find out more at one of our 7 local banking offices.

St. Ignace • North Bay • Moran Township • Cedarville • Mackinac Island • Naubinway • Newberry



# The Anishinaabe Dental Outreach Program

BY JESSICA A. RICKERT, DDS

The Anishinaabe Dental Outreach Program is an undertaking sponsored by Delta Dental of Michigan to address the disparate levels of oral health care between the Michigan Indian population and the general population.

Delta Dental of Michigan established the Anishinaabe Dental Outreach in 2019 under its Population Health and Utilization Management Department to address the entire state of Michigan on the issues of:

\*How to find care for those suffering from disparate levels of oral health, including those in the Native; American community.

\*The importance of early intervention (knee-to-knee exams, for example) and education of those caring for the children to develop good oral hygiene and dietary habits for their children and themselves.

\*Caries as the most common cause of chronic childhood disease.

\*The importance of oral health to overall health (the correlation to diabetes, cardiovascular disease, respiratory disease, etc.).

\*The nature of a periodicity schedule of exams, diagnostic tests, and preventive services throughout life.

\*The need of a healthy household and family members for a child to be healthy, due to the nature of transmissible infections.

\*Removing the specter of pain and illness from a young person's ability to achieve success in life.

\*Encouraging dental careers to Michigan Indian youth.

Our commitment to population health management through culturally appropriate messaging is strong (and growing) as we make organizations aware of the available materials and our willingness to

**Jessica Ann Rickert, DDS**, is the first female American Indian Dentist, a member of the Prairie Band Pottawatomi Nation. She attended the University of Michigan School of Dentistry and practiced in private practice and at the Family Health Care FQHC located in Baldwin. She is an adjunct faculty instructor and preceptor at the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry and University of Michigan School of Dentistry. She is also a past president of the Resort District Dental Society. She is the author of *Exploring Careers in Dentistry*, has written numerous articles, and has served as a speaker and consultant. She has been inducted in the Michigan's Women's Hall of Fame and is a recipient of the Ida Gray Award from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry.



Dr. Rickert

present them in suitable languages and formats.

The oral-systemic health link that we are all familiar with makes this initiative of paramount importance. The many challenges of rural access to dental care are included in this effort. This outreach includes the 12 Michigan Indian tribes, tribal schools and colleges, Native American Student Associations at colleges and universities, and Michigan Indian urban centers mentioned above.

The initial outreach has been to the Michigan Tribal Health Council and the Inter-Tribe Council of Michigan Inc. As permission was granted, visits to tribal entities began with presentations to the dental staff, allied health care staff, and to the department heads.

There had been events scheduled previously, in which the Outreach participated. An example is the University of Michigan SACNAS Science Expo for middle school students at the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians on ancestral grounds. Myself, Jacob Collins (Choctaw '21), and V. Natani Atsitty (Navaho '22) presented dentistry as an ideal career. For all the youths present, this was

the first time they had ever seen American Indian/Alaskan Native dentists.

In October 2019, I provided a presentation on the Anishinaabe Dental Outreach to the members of the Michigan Tribal Health Council. They enthusiastically agreed to schedule future visits by me with their entities. I was happy to be able to meet the tribal leaders.

They agreed that these tribal departments could integrate dental health messages into their everyday operations as indicated below:

Health care staff can explain the oral-systemic link, emphasizing the importance of dentally healthy mothers; showing the importance of early intervention (knee-to-knee exams for example); liken the well-baby dental exam to the immunization schedule for physical disease prevention; discuss fluoride and sealant benefits; tie nutritional counseling to dental health; and demonstrate the "rethink your drink" kit, encouraging healthy beverage choices.

Educational staff can explain the Anishinaabe Dental Outreach Program, integrating dental lessons into everyday instruction, with fun work sheets and games for K-6;

provide nutritional education; emphasize National Children's Dental Health Month in February; explain the Lessons in a Lunch Box program; explain DDS pipeline programs; plan possible visits to University of Michigan School of Dentistry and to the University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry.

Educational activities are free to Anishinaabe Dental Outreach participants, sourced from the Delta Dental Foundation, the ADA, the MDA, the Michigan Milk Producers, Colgate Palmolive, Crest, the state of Michigan, and the U.S Department of Health and Human Services. Other entities have stepped forward as the Anishinaabe Dental Outreach becomes well-known. Anishinaabemowin — the Anishinaabeg language — is being used by Delta Dental in its educational efforts.

Dental careers can be promoted by role models. Tribal youth have not considered dentistry as a career-goal. Asking them to go to dental school is like asking them to walk on the moon. When Michigan Indians see an Anishinaabe dentist standing in front of them, their perceptions are changed.

As Margot Lee Shetterly, author of *Hidden Figures*, has said,

"You see people who look like you doing these amazing things and you internalize that, you normalize it, and it changes your inner landscape. It completely changes what you believe is possible."

Prenatal parents and new parents can be educated as to the importance of dentally healthy mothers; knee-to-knee exams; encouraging nursing; discouraging putting baby to bed with bottle; recommending daily fluoride and sealants; explaining oral care for infants.

Parents and caretakers of children in pre-K through grade six can be educated that dental disease is the most common chronic childhood disease and the most common reason for grade school absences. Sealants and fluoride varnish can be recommended. Students can be given oral hygiene instruction and nutritional education, including avoidance of sugary and carbonated drinks.

Students in grades 7-12 can receive nutritional education; information about career choices and dental careers; the dangers of tobacco (including vaping); and the dangers of alcohol use as well as other beverages. Adults should be asked to model good behavior, such as avoiding tobacco/vaping, alcohol, drugs, and stress the oral/systemic link, especially the link between oral disease and diabetes and cardiovascular disease. Elders can be informed about many of these same issues.

The Anishinaabe Dental Outreach was initiated by Delta Dental of Michigan through its Quality Improvement and Utilization Management Department. As Dr. Erik James Stier, its director, has stated, "Delta Dental seeks to improve the oral and overall health of all

See "Dental outreach," page 12

## TRIBAL MEMBER REGISTRATION IN THE TAX AGREEMENT AREA

### TRIBAL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

(Including the Issuance of Certificates of Exemptions)

### INITIAL REGISTRATION AND OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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

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

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

### CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTIONS

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

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

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

IN BUSINESS FOR 45 YEARS

**FLOWERS'**  
**AUTO SERVICE**

LICENSED MASTER MECHANIC

(906) 632-8074

3750 East 5 Mile

**Roy Electric Co. Inc.**

INDUSTRIAL - COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL

Don't get caught without power again!  
Generators: Sales, Installation, Maintenance  
by a Trained Licensed Electrician  
Visit our website for a list of services!

(906) 632-8878

www.royelectriccompany.com

Home • Auto • Life • Boat  
Motorcycle • RV • Motor Homes  
Business • Snowmobile

906-253-1904

Bouschor & Sherman  
Agents

2081 Ashmun St  
Sault Sainte Marie, MI

**NuStar**  
INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

"We Cover Your Assets"

**INSURANCE**

Email: bbouschor@nustarinsurance.net  
www.NuStarInsurance.net



# Brosemer attends COP26 conference in Glasgow

Sault Tribe Environmental Program Manager Kathie Brosemer recently travelled to Glasgow, Scotland, to attend, network, and speak at the COP26 conference.

**By Kathie Brosemer**

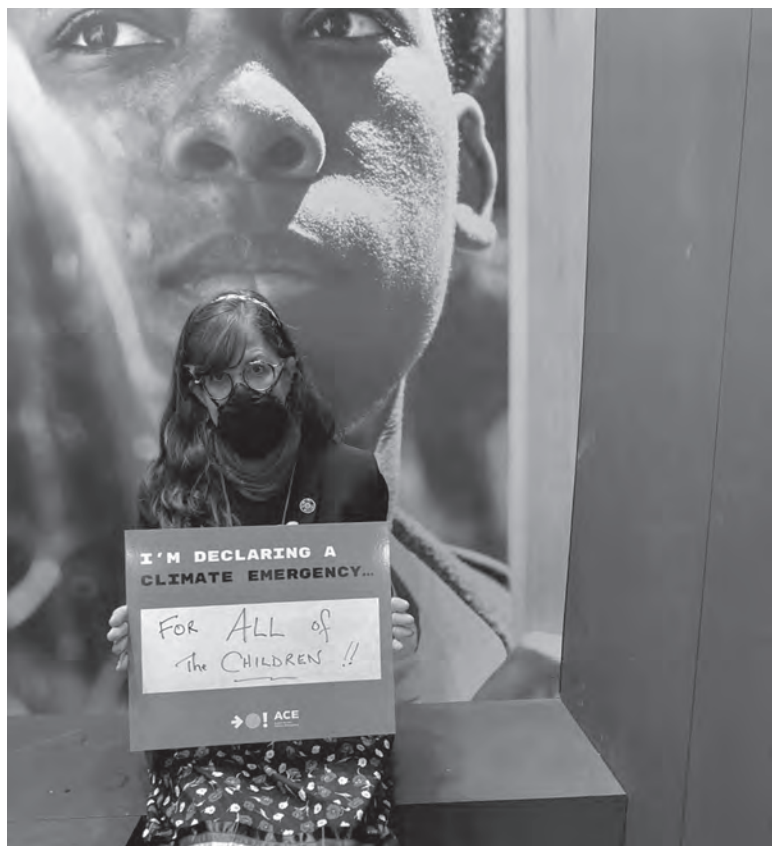
What's COP26? It's the 26th Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

It's a huge conference but the attendance is tightly controlled. Many tens or hundreds of thousands of people would go if they could, climate change is that important! I got the chance to attend because of my Michigan Tech connection. A chemistry professor there leads a course in how the UN process functions around the Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). She is part of a university consortium that brings a small group of students each year as observers. While she prioritizes the students who take her course, and I haven't taken it, somehow the pandemic travel difficulties and other issues meant that this year my name rose high enough on her list that I was given one of her limited badges to attend.

After she confirmed that, and that she had funds for my plane ticket and room in the AirBNB she booked for the MTU group, she mentioned an email she had from the Indigenous Peoples' Pavilion, welcoming presentations and events. I decided then and there to put in an application, and by the following Tuesday I had word that it was accepted! I was going to give a one-hour talk about energy justice for the Anishinaabeg, at COP26 in Glasgow!

The United Nations has been brokering a climate change agreement between the nations of the world for over 26 years. It's not controversial, it's settled science that humans are altering the climate of the only planet we know of that can support human life. It's not a smart thing to do, but so far, it's been profitable, so it's tough to get it stopped.

My talk, as it turned out, was attended by a U.S. Senate Transportation Committee staff person. She was interested in what I had to say about Enbridge Line 5 and about Line 6B and the infamous



**Left: Sault Tribe Environmental Program Manager Kathie Brosemer at the COP26 conference in Glasgow, Scotland. Right: Indigenous caucus working session with former tribal chairman of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Frank Ettawageshik (on left).**



spill into the Kalamazoo River. She asked some good questions at the end of my talk, and we swapped cards to follow up.

At the COP, I spent most of my time with the Indigenous Peoples' Caucus, helping draft language for inclusion in Article 6 of the Paris Rulebook, which provides the details for implementing the 2015 Paris Agreement. Article 6 contains rules about market and non-market measures and international cooperation. What worries indigenous peoples around the world is the possibility that states could put rules on how people are living within healthy forests, turning them into "protected areas" that exclude the people living there. So-called "forest offsets" are false solutions for mitigating climate change — they're just calculators that let states pretend they're taking action while continuing to subsidize fossil fuels.

We were able to get some good language inserted into Article 6, as well as into the final COP26 decision, recognizing indigenous peoples' rights and providing for a grievance mechanism when states take actions that harm indigenous peoples. However, a grave disappointment was the failure of the parties to promise to phase out coal, instead

using the more wishy-washy "phasing down" in the final consensus document. They also only committed to "cut back" on state subsidies to non-sustainable energy production, not to eliminate those subsidies.

At Paris in 2015, our Anishinaabeg knowledge keeper Frank Ettawageshik was there for the exciting moment when the governments of the world promised to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius. The former chairman of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians has been active worldwide in protecting Aki

(Mother Earth) through work on the Great Lakes Commission and many other collaborative efforts. Since 2015, he has turned his voice toward climate change.

Ettawageshik understands the drastic and terrible consequences that all of humanity faces, but that will come first and worst to Indigenous peoples, if we let this get away from us. If we are to keep our Paris commitment, we must reduce emissions by 45 percent (below 2010 levels) by 2030. This is the best science we have and has been accepted by the signatories to the UNFCCC.

That's only eight years away. There is frankly no way to do this while governments still subsidize fossil fuels, using our tax dollars at cross purposes.

We are at a turning point. What can you do to reduce carbon emissions? There is a long list of things to try. Some of it will save you money. Other things won't work in your life or require too much of an investment you can't afford right now, but no matter your circumstances there is something you can do. After Glasgow, it looks as though it's going to be up to us.

Checklist of things you might incorporate into your life to reduce carbon emissions:

- Grow some of your own food in your garden - food from far away increases vehicle emissions.
- Hunt, fish, and gather locally.
- Buy food from local farmers.
- If you buy any new appliances, look for the EnergyStar logo. Switch from natural gas or propane, to electric appliances.
- Start and use a backyard composter for kitchen and garden waste.
- Recycle as much as you can - landfills emit methane, which is a potent greenhouse gas. The less

we throw in, the less methane.

- Buy less stuff - buy used items if they'll do the job, or share with others. Manufacturing emits carbon.
- Air seal your home - clear caulk is cheap, and will reduce drafts and save money.
- Add insulation to your home. Especially the top (attic) and bottom (basement). Insulating and air sealing the top and bottom means stopping the chimney stack effect that steals your heat.
- If you do any renovations (even for just one wall or one room), plan for energy efficiency at the same time. Any extra costs will pay for themselves in energy

savings.

- If a furnace upgrade is in your future, plan for ground source heat pump and/or wood or pellet stove heat.
- When it's time to replace a car, look into a hybrid or all electric vehicle - prices are coming down!
- Use the car less. Combine trips, carpool, and walk or bike if that's possible for you for some trips.
- If travelling, see if you can avoid a car rental and use public transit.
- Look into solar net metering
- A recent Michigan Tech study found it was a better investment than a GC.

## 2022 Black Lake Sturgeon Lottery Application

Sault Tribe has an allocation of sturgeon from Black Lake in Cheboygan County in 2022. Please fill out the following application and return to Sault Tribe Natural Resource Department at: **2428 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Application must be received by 5:00 pm on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021.** Applications received after 5:00pm on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 **WILL NOT** be accepted.

First Name  Middle Name  Last Name

Address  City  State  Zip Code

File Number (Red # on Tribal ID)  STS #

Date of Birth  Sex  Phone Number  Email

# Sault Tribe member Cody Mayer youngest Marquette mayer pro tem to be sworn in



Left: Marquette's youngest mayor pro tem - Marquette City Commissioner and Sault Tribe member Cody Mayer is sworn in as Marquette's mayor pro tem after being elected Nov. 8. He is the first tribal member to be elected to the commission, and the youngest mayor pro tem in Marquette's history. (Photo courtesy of Cody Mayer). Right: Marquette Mayor Jenna Smith (on left) and Mayor Pro Tem Cody Mayer, in front of a Marquette fire truck. (Photo courtesy of Marquette Fire Dept.).



## Michigan enacted Clean Slate Law in April

In April 2021, Michigan enacted the Clean Slate Law to help those with criminal records seek expungement through the legal system. The law will help people find better jobs, qualify for housing and higher education loans, and give peace of mind that past mistakes are no longer a hindrance. Courts may set aside your conviction(s) if you meet specific criteria.

Although Michigan Indian Legal Service's (MILS) expungement priority is statewide, we are currently focusing expungement services in northwestern Michigan. MILS is collaborating with Northwest Michigan Works, which will assist clients at the beginning of the process by helping to gather the information and documents needed for an attorney to eval-

uate their case, and Safe and Just Michigan. MILS will provide legal representation in the expungement court proceedings for income-eligible clients with convictions in the Northwest Michigan region. We are also coordinating with other legal aid providers around the state who will assist income-eligible clients with convictions arising from courts in other areas of Michigan.

Starting in February 2022, a first-time operating while intoxicated offense will be eligible for expungement in certain situations.

### Criteria you must meet

1) Your crime must be one that can be expunged or set aside. For example, most criminal sexual conduct convictions, some child abuse crimes, felony

domestic violence if you have a previous misdemeanor domestic violence conviction, terrorism or human trafficking cannot be expunged. Convictions for which the maximum punishment is life in prison cannot be set aside.

2) You may have too many convictions. If you have more than three felony offenses in Michigan you might not be able to expunge any convictions, with the exception of misdemeanor marijuana offenses.

3) There are waiting periods. The waiting periods range from none at all for misdemeanor marijuana-related crimes to seven years for more than one felony conviction.

### The process of cleaning your record

You do not need an attorney to set aside your conviction.

However, it is strongly recommended given the complexities of the law. If you meet the criteria set forth in the statute, you must submit the required paperwork to the court in which you were convicted. You must also file this same paperwork with the Michigan State Police, the prosecutor in the county in which you were convicted and the Michigan Attorney General's office. The application should include supporting documentation of why your conviction should be set aside, such as letters of recommendation, attendance at AA (applicable to first-time OWI petitions), or other improvements you have made in your life. Once all the documents are submitted, a hearing will be scheduled in the court you were convicted in.

### Costs

Free legal representation may be available to you. Items you will be responsible for:

- Obtaining certified copies of your convictions (costs depend on the county);
- Obtaining fingerprints (may be a fee associated with obtaining them);
- Application fee to the Michigan State Police for verifying your identity and criminal background (\$50);
- Notary services (may be a fee associated with obtaining notarization).
- MILS will help you obtain required items and seek assistance with covering costs.

Call MILS to see if you are eligible to have your convictions set aside: (231) 947-0122, M-F, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-5 p.m.

Michigan Indian  
Legal Services



Heard about Michigan's new CLEAN SLATE law? Learn more about how Michigan Indian Legal Services can help clear your criminal record.

In April 2021, Michigan enacted the Clean Slate Law to help those with criminal records seek expungement through the legal system. The law will help people find better jobs, qualify for housing and higher education loans, and give peace of mind that past mistakes are no longer a hindrance. Courts may set aside your conviction(s) if you meet specific criteria.

### Criteria You Must Meet

Your crime(s) must be ones that can be expunged or set aside.

- o For example, most criminal sexual conduct convictions, some child abuse crimes, felony domestic violence if you have a previous misdemeanor domestic violence conviction, terrorism or human trafficking **cannot be expunged**.
- o Convictions for which the maximum punishment is life in prison cannot be set aside.

You may have too many convictions.

- o If you have more than three felony offenses in Michigan you might not be able to expunge any convictions, with the exception of misdemeanor marijuana offenses.

There are waiting periods.

- o The waiting periods range from none at all for misdemeanor marijuana related crimes to seven years for more than one felony conviction.

### The Process of Cleaning Your Record

You do not need an attorney to set aside your conviction(s). However, it is strongly recommended given the complexities of the law.

If you meet the criteria set forth in the statute, you must submit the required paperwork to the court in which you were convicted. You must also file this same paperwork with the Michigan State Police, the prosecutor in the county in which you were convicted, and the Michigan Attorney General's office. The application should include supporting documentation of why your conviction should be set aside, such as letters of recommendation, attendance at AA (applicable to first-time OWI petitions), or other improvements you have made in your life. Once all the documents are submitted, a hearing will be scheduled in the court you were convicted in.

### Costs

Free legal representation may be available to you.

Items you will be responsible for:

- o Obtaining certified copies of your convictions (costs depend on the county);
- o Obtaining fingerprints (may be a fee associated with obtaining them);
- o Application fee to the Michigan State Police for verifying your identity and criminal background (\$50); Notary services (may be a fee associated with obtaining notarization).
- o MILS will help you obtain required items and seek assistance with covering costs.

Starting in February 2022, a first-time operating while intoxicated offense will be eligible for expungement in certain situations.



Please reach out to Michigan Indian Legal Services to see if you are eligible to have your convictions set aside.

Income eligibility thresholds are 200% of the 2021 Federal Poverty Guidelines as set by the U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services.

Call (231) 947-0122, M-F, between 9-12pm, and 1-5pm

Safe & Just  
Michigan

LSC  
America's Partner  
for Equal Justice

# DOJ awards grants for public safety and crime victims - Sault Tribe receives over \$1 million

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — U.S. Attorney Andrew Birge announced Nov. 22 as part of a national rollout, the Department of Justice awarded over \$2.4 million in grants to improve public safety, serve victims of crime and support youth programs in tribal communities in the Western District of Michigan.

“The Justice Department is pleased to make the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation (CTAS) available to federally recognized tribes, providing a transparent and simple process to apply for grants that best align with their community’s needs,” Associate Attorney General Vanita Gupta said. “This one-step application makes it possible for tribes to access critical resources to help them meet the critical public safety needs of their communities.”

“These awards underscore the Department of Justice’s commitment to help federally recognized Tribes keep their communities safe,” Birge said.

More than four in five of American Indian and Alaska Native adults have experienced

some form of violence in their lifetime, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. This equates to nearly 3 million people who have experienced stalking, sexual violence, psychological aggression or physical violence by intimate partners.

“Each year, the department invests millions of dollars to help our tribal partners confront the challenges of violent crime and domestic abuse in their communities and strengthen their public safety infrastructure,” Acting Assistant Attorney General Amy L. Solomon for the Justice Department’s Office of Justice Programs said. “We are pleased to support the critical work that Tribal nations are undertaking in communities across the country.”

More than \$73 million will be awarded under CTAS, a streamlined application which helps tribes apply for tribal-specific grant programs that enhance law enforcement and tribal justice practices, expand victim services and sustain crime prevention and intervention efforts. CTAS grants are administered by OJP (\$48 million) and the Office of

Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS Office) (\$25 million).

“These grants provide vital resources to tribal law enforcement and their communities by offering equipment and training, along with resources to help officers understand and better serve their communities in areas of domestic abuse, stalking and sex trafficking, and alleviate the detrimental effects that substance abuse and crime have on individuals and their families,” Acting Director Robert Chapman of the COPS Office said.

The COPS Office also awarded \$400,000 to Western Oregon University to create a structured and tribal-centered innovative approach to enhance the operation of the criminal justice system to address the concerns of the American Indian and Alaska Native communities regarding missing and murdered indigenous people, particularly missing and murdered women and girls.

In addition to CTAS funding, OJP has awarded more than \$100 million through the Tribal Victim Services Set-Aside to improve

services for crime victims in tribal communities. OJP’s Office for Victims Crime is supporting tribal grantees with capacity building, training and technical assistance (more than \$6.8 million) and an update of the Tribal Resource Tool (\$199,999), which maps the availability of victim services in tribal communities. An additional \$2.9 million will be awarded under the Children’s Justice Act Partnership to tribes to enhance the handling of cases centered around criminal child abuse and neglect.

The department also funded \$6.5 million through OJP’s Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking to help Tribes comply with federal law on sex offender registration and notification.

The following tribes in the Western District of Michigan received funding:

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians: \$1,078,902 — Public Safety and Community Policing (COPS Office): \$628,902 and Children’s Justice

Act Partnerships for Indian Communities (OVC): \$450,000.

Bay Mills Indian Community: \$508,245 — Tribal Youth Program (OJJDP)

Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians: \$851,176 — Tribal Justice Systems (BJA)

The Office of Justice Programs provides federal leadership, grants, training, technical assistance and other resources to improve the nation’s capacity to prevent and reduce crime, advance racial equity in the administration of justice, assist victims and enhance the rule of law. More information about OJP and its components can be found at [www.ojp.gov](http://www.ojp.gov).

The COPS Office is the component of the U.S. Department of Justice responsible for advancing the practice of community policing by the nation’s state, local, territorial and Tribal law enforcement agencies through information and grant resources.

More information about the COPS Office can be found at <https://cops.usdoj.gov/>.

## Interior Department announces formation of the PROGRESS Act Negotiated Rulemaking Committee

On Nov. 22, the Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Indian Affairs announced proposed membership for the Practical Reforms and Other Goals to Reinforce the Effectiveness of Self-Governance and Self-Determination for Indian Tribes Act of 2019 (PROGRESS Act) Negotiated Rulemaking Committee, which will negotiate and advise the Secretary of the Interior on the implementation

of the PROGRESS Act.

Signed into law in October 2020, the PROGRESS Act will streamline the Interior’s self-governance compacts approval process by amending Title IV of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, the self-governance law for the Department, to align with Title V, the self-governance law for the U.S. Department of Health and

Human Services.

The Office of Self Governance directly funds tribally operated infrastructure, law enforcement and justice, social services (including child welfare), tribal governance, and trust land and natural and energy resources management programs for the nation’s Self Governance Federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes.

Sault Tribe is a self-governance tribe.

“The creation of this committee is a critical step in the implementation of the PROGRESS Act, and the continued improvement of the Tribal self-governance program, which lies at the heart of the United States’ Nation-to-Nation relationship,” said Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs Bryan Newland.

In an announcement published via the Federal Register, the Interior Department is soliciting comments on the proposed membership and the proposal to form a negotiated rulemaking committee.

The notice also invites additional nominations for committee members who will adequately represent the interests that are likely to be significantly affected by the proposed rule.

## Secretary Haaland takes action to remove derogatory names from nation’s geographic features

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland recently established a process to review and replace derogatory names of the nation’s geographic features. She also declared “squaw” to be a derogatory term and ordered the Board on Geographic Names — the federal body tasked with naming geographic places — to implement procedures to remove the term from federal usage.

“Racist terms have no place in our vernacular or on our federal lands. Our nation’s lands and waters should be places to celebrate the outdoors and our shared cultural heritage — not to perpetuate the legacies of oppression,” Haaland said on Nov. 19. “Today’s actions will accelerate an important process to reconcile derogatory place names and mark a significant step in honoring the ancestors who have stewarded our lands since time immemorial.”

Secretarial Order 3404 formally identifies the term

“squaw” as derogatory and creates a federal task force to find replacement names for geographic features on federal lands bearing the term. The

**Haaland has declared “squaw” to be a derogatory term and ordered the Board on Geographic Names to implement procedures to remove the term from federal usage.**

term has historically been used as an offensive ethnic, racial, and sexist slur, particularly for Indigenous women. There are currently more than 650 federal land units that contain the term, according to a database maintained by the Board on Geographic Names.

The newly created Derogatory Geographic Names Task Force will include representatives from federal land management agencies, as well as diversity, equity and inclusion experts from the Department.

The Order requires that the task force engage in tribal consultation and consider public feedback on proposed name changes.

Additionally, Secretarial Order 3405 creates a federal advisory committee to broadly solicit, review and recommend changes to other derogatory geographic and federal land unit names. The Advisory Committee on Reconciliation in Place Names will include representation from Indian tribes, tribal and Native Hawaiian organizations, civil rights, anthropology and history experts, and members of the general public. It will establish a process to solicit and assist with proposals to the Secretary to change derogatory names and will include engagement with tribes, state and local governments, and the public.

Together, the Secretarial Orders will accelerate the process by which derogatory names are identified and replaced. Currently, the Board on Geo-

graphic Names is structured, by design, to act on a case-by-case basis through a process that puts the onus on the proponents to identify the offensive name and to suggest a replacement. The process to secure review and approvals can be lengthy, often taking years to complete a name change. Currently, there are hundreds of name changes pending before the Board. The newly established Federal Advisory Committee will facilitate a proactive and systematic development and review of these proposals, in consultation with local community representatives.

The Board on Geographic Names — originally established by Executive Order in 1890 — is a federal body designed to maintain uniform geographic name usage throughout the federal government. It is comprised of representatives from federal agencies concerned with geographic information, population, ecology, and management of

public lands. In 1947, the Secretary of the Interior was given joint authority with the Board on Geographic Names and has final approval or review of its actions.

Derogatory names have previously been identified by the Secretary of the Interior or the Board on Geographic Names and have been comprehensively replaced. In 1962, Secretary Stewart Udall identified the N-word as derogatory, and directed that the BGN develop a policy to eliminate its use. In 1974, the Board on Geographic Names identified a pejorative term for “Japanese” as derogatory and eliminated its use.

Several states have passed legislation prohibiting the use of the word “squaw” in place names, including Montana, Oregon, Maine, and Minnesota. There is also legislation pending in both chambers of Congress to address derogatory names on geographic features on public land units.

# Secretary Haaland strengthens nation-to-nation relationships with federally recognized tribes

WASHINGTON — The Department of the Interior today announced the formation of a new Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC), which formally establishes a mechanism for tribal leaders to engage in routine and robust conversations directly with Secretary Deb Haaland. This important move will further strengthen the Department's nation-to-nation relationship with federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native tribes and their

leadership.

The STAC will ensure that tribal leaders and the current and future secretaries have a forum to seek consensus, exchange views, share information and provide advice and recommendations regarding programs and funding that affect tribes across the entire Department.

"Tribes need a seat at the decision-making table before policies are made that impact their communities. The creation of this new Tribal Advisory Committee is a

timely and much-needed development that will ensure tribal leaders can engage at the highest levels of the Department on the issues that matter most to their people," said Secretary Haaland.

"The establishment of a STAC and planned consultation process improvements at Interior are welcome additions to the ways we connect and communicate with tribal leaders and address their priorities," said Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs Bryan Newland. "Their input is vital

to improving how we respond to the needs of their communities through the many programs Interior administers."

The Department also announced that tribal consultations will be held regarding draft updates to the Department's tribal consultation policy and procedures contained in its Departmental Manual at 512 DM 4 and 512 DM 5, respectively. As part of the Department's continuing efforts to improve implementation of Executive Order 13175,

"Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments," the Department will seek tribal input on edits that would:

Bolster Interior's consultation policy; establish a model for seeking tribal consensus; require that DOI staff undergo training before participating in consultation; codify the STAC; address flexibility for tribal waivers; clarify that Interior decision-makers must invite tribes to engage in consultation; and require a record of consultation.

## The Anishinaabe Dental Outreach Program

*From "Dental outreach," page 8*  
our members through proactive, culturally appropriate messaging and outreach, including those developed with, and in service to, the Native American community."

Delta Dental of Michigan and the Delta Dental Foundation generously provided thousands of toothbrushes, toothpaste, posters, educational materials, and more to Michigan Indians. The Society of American Indian Dentists, the National Indian Health Board, the Association of American Indian Physicians, the American Dental Association, Native News Online, and The White House Initiative on American Indian and Alaska Native Education have also helped.

Because of the pandemic,

my presentations in 2020 were canceled until this year. Several virtual sessions were provided to keep communication going throughout 2020-21. Delta Dental of Michigan and the Delta Dental Foundation also continued to provide educational materials included in tribal outreach during the pandemic, such as food boxes, Christmas boxes, Michigan Indian Veteran Services, and back-to-school backpacks.

### Better health is needed

Healthy teeth! Healthy body!  
Healthy tribe!

This is important. There exists a wide disparity between the general population and the American Indian populations when it comes to wellness. The infant mortality rate in American Indian/Alaskan

Natives is twice that of the general population, 9.2 per 1,000 live births. Life expectancy for American Indians is 73.7 years, lower than the national average of 78.1 years.

Native Americans suffer from the poorest oral health of any population in the United States, with staggering rates of untreated tooth decay among children and untreated decay and gum disease among adults. Preschool-aged Native American children had four times more cases of untreated tooth decay than white children — 43 percent compared with 11 percent. Sixty-eight percent of Native Americans ages 35 to 44 had untreated decay in 1999, the most recent year for which nationwide data are available.

This is more than twice the rate of 27 percent among all adults in the United States. Of Native Americans in this age group, 43 percent had both untreated decay and periodontal disease. And, Michigan Indians are more likely to have tooth loss or total loss of teeth than the general population.

### A need for more American Indian dentists

In the United States, there are about 500 American Indian/Alaskan Native dentists. To achieve parity with the percentage in the population, there should be 3,000. American Indians/Alaskan Natives comprise 3 percent of the country's population; they make up 0.2 percent of dentists. Nearly 10,500 students applied to attend dental school in the

United States in the fall of 2019. Just 16 of those students are Native American, according to the American Dental Education Association.

### In conclusion

I rejoice every day, thankful for the amazing life dentistry has afforded me. We have a fabulous family, a lovely home, fantastic opportunities, and remarkable friends and colleagues. This admirable and noble profession of dentistry has been extremely beneficial and enjoyable for me. I want this type of success for every Michigan Indian, and the Anishinaabe Dental outreach is a start.

*Reprinted with permission.  
From November 2021 Journal of the Michigan Dental Association.*

## Approved board resolutions from November meetings

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors met on Nov. 2 and 16 in Sault Ste. Marie, and passed the following resolutions.

Res. 2021-272: Elder Division, Title VI A&B Supplemental Funding American Rescue Plan Act Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with Federal HHS Revenue monies of \$31,158.46.

Res. 273: Prosecution FY 2021 Budget Modification — Approved a change to the personnel sheet.

Res. 274: COVID-19 Emergency Response for Suicide Prevention Acceptance of Grant and Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — The board approved the acceptance of the grant and approved the establishment of a FY 2022 budget with Other Revenue Inter Tribal Council monies of \$160,000.

Res. 275: IHS Special Diabetes FY 2021 Budget Modification — Approved for a change to the personnel sheet and an increase of federal IHS revenues of \$515,728.55.

Res. 276: Interim Diabetes Manager — An interim diabetes manager was appointed until a replacement is hired, with an approved 5 percent salary increase starting Nov. 2, 2021.

Res. 277: FY 2022 Budget Document 002 Health Division — Approved for a total of \$41,442,364.

Res. 278: Trust Land Cancellation Lots 872 and 871, Kincheloe, Mich. — Approved  
Res. 279: Sault Tribe

Corporate Charter Board Appointment Approval — Michael Griggs was appointed to the Corporate Board of Directors of Sault Tribe Incorporated to serve for a term expiring June 30, 2024; replacing the vacant seat of Linda Grow.

Res. 280: American Rescue Plan Act Fund Appropriation Unit I Market Based Housing DeMawating Development — The board authorized DeMawating Development to execute the Market Based Housing Development provided to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in a workshop; with the plan expected to result in a minimum of 20 modular homes with associated land work, and 15 manufactured homes with associated infrastructure upgrades on tribal lands located in Chippewa County. The board appropriated \$8 million of Unit I approved ARPA funds for the market-based rental plan purchases. The board also authorized the Economic Development director to establish a budget for the DeMawating Development market-based housing plan.

Res. 281: Approving Lease for the Marquette Tribal Community Health Center — The tribe has committed to operate a Marquette Tribal Community Health Center in Marquette, Mich.; and has entered into a lease with Midtown Office Center, permitting the tribe the usage of 600 square feet of Midtown Office Center's office building located at 1229 W. Washington Street

in Marquette. Services to be offered will include Community Health program services, Health Education services, confidential meeting space for the tribal liaison with tribal members, confidential meeting space for ACFS, Behavioral Health and Nutrition and program services with tribal members. It will also allow a confidential meeting space for the veteran's service representative. The yearly rent on the property is \$11,580 for the first year; and the annual CPI-U increase will be waived to the end of the term; the cost has been budgeted and approved; this lease will expire Oct. 31, 2022, at which time these services will relocate to tribal property.

Res. 282: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) FY 2021 Indian Housing Block Grant Program Competitive Grants — HUD has solicited a funding opportunity (FR-6500-N-48) for the Indian Housing Block Grant Program - Competitive Grants (IHBG-C); the competitive funding will provide a minimum of 21 additional rental units for low to moderate income tribal families, in accordance with the established Odenang Development Plan. The Sault Tribe Housing Authority Commission has identified leveraged funds and has committed \$425,000 of the Indian Housing Block Grant funds for each grant year FY 2022-2025, for a total of \$1.7 million. The Housing Authority is seeking to develop and submit a grant application

for up to \$5 million of IHBG Competitive funds and commit a leveraged match in the amount of \$1.7 million IHBG funds, as a 25 percent leveraged overall project match for the \$SM IHBG-C. The board agreed with committing \$425,000 of the Indian Housing Block Grant funds for each grant year FY 2022-2025, for a total of \$1.7 million and authorized the Sault Tribe Housing Authority director to develop and submit a \$5 million FY 2021 IHBG - Competitive grant application.

Res. 283: Acceptance of Governmental Audit Proposal — The board appointed Dennis, Gartland and Niergarth, to perform a governmental audit for the tribe for years ending Dec. 31, 2021- 2023, for an amount not to exceed \$300,000.

The following resolutions were approved at a meeting held in the Sault on Nov. 16, 2021.

Res. 284: Establish FY 2022 Budget for Transportation Mobility Coordinator — The board approved the establishment of a FY 2022 budget for a transportation mobility coordinator with federal BIA monies of \$137,288.

Res. 285: Establish FY 2022 Budget for Health Informational Technology and Telehealth — Approved using federal IHS monies of \$273,215.

Res. 286: Establish FY 2022 Budget for Health COVID-19 Telehealth — Approved with federal IHS monies of \$295,435.

Res. 287: Child Advocacy Acceptance of Grant and

Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — The Department of Justice, under the Children's Justice Act Partnerships for Indian Communities, has awarded the Sault Tribe a grant of \$450,000 to provide trauma-informed assessment and victim support services to child victims and their families involved in the Sault Tribe's criminal justice system. The board authorized the acceptance of the award and approved the establishment of a FY 2022 budget for Child Advocacy with Department of Justice monies of \$151,876.70 for the first year of program operation.

Res. 288: Demawating Development FY 2021 Enterprise Capital Expenses Modification — Approved for an increase in expenses of \$890,000 from Other Revenue/Fund balance.

Res. 289: Demawating Development, Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course Establishment of FY 2021 Budget — Approved with Fund Balance monies of \$43,887.

Res. 290: Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Document 004, Enterprises — The tribe recognizes the need to authorize expenditures and revenues for key components of the tribal organization essential to continuing operations. The board approved the FY 2022 Budget Document 004 Enterprises for revenue of \$17,081,702 and expenses of \$16,240,516.

Res. 291: FY 2022 Enterprises Capital Purchases Budget — The board approved a total of  
*See "Resolutions," page 18*

# Kewadin Casinos donates to area food banks

Each of the five Kewadin Casino locations donated \$500 to an area food bank, as well as canned goods that were collected during the month of November. The total monetary donation was \$2,500, in addition to the thousands of pounds of food. Kewadin Sault donated to the Sault Ste. Marie Salvation Army, Kewadin Christmas to the Alger Community Food Pantry, Kewadin Manistique to Good Neighbor Services, Kewadin St. Ignace to St. Ignace Hope Chest and Food Pantry, and Kewadin Hessel to Cedar Post Thrift Shop and Food Bank.



Photo from Kewadin Casino Board Chair and Alger Community Food Pantry Manager John Sherman-Jones and Kewadin Christmas Marketing Rep. Stephanie Segerstrom, with the cash donation from Christmas Casino.



Photos by Brenda Austin Kewadin Casinos CEO Allen Kerridge, Inventory Control System Specialist Adam Rutledge and Supply Clerk Travis Jackman unloading donated food at the Sault Ste. Marie Salvation Army.



Kewadin Sault General Manager Dana Schlehuder and Sault Tribe Unit I Representative Kim Gravelle.



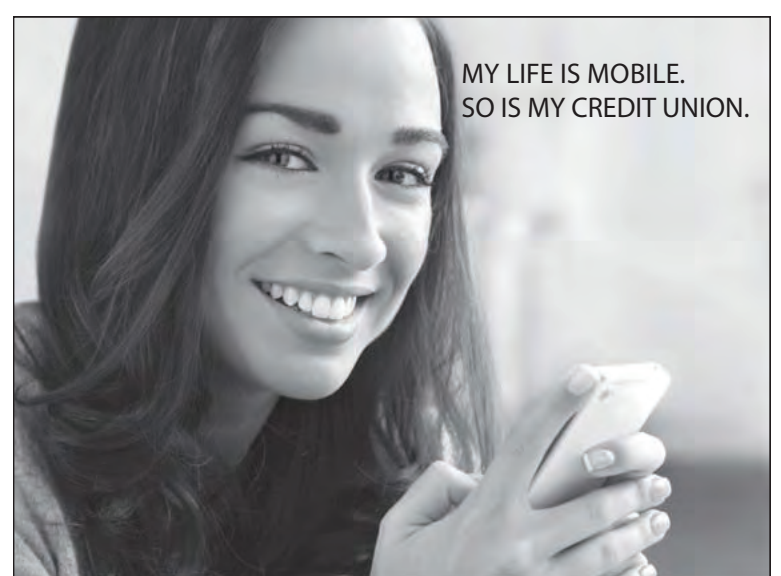
Sault Tribe Unit I Representative Michael McKerchie, Kewadin Casino Supply Clerk Gary Hazen, and Salvation Army Envoy Eric Gilbert stacking donated food inside the Salvation Army building.



Kewadin Casino Supply Clerk Travis Jackman unloading the tribe's truck filled with donated food items.



Kim Gravelle passing a box of canned goods to be added to the growing stack in the center of the room.



With our web enabled mobile app, you have access anywhere in the world, anytime, wherever you are. View accounts, transfer money, make deposits and more all from the palm of your hand using your smart phone or tablet.



Sault Ste. Marie • Brimley • Bay Mills  
Kinross • Cedarville

# Biden Administration Fact Sheet: Building A New Era of Nation-to-Nation Engagement

In preparation for the Nov. 15-15, 2021, White House Tribal Nations Summit, the Biden Administration published a fact sheet (below) on its progress to support tribal communities in their recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, advance equity and opportunity for all American Indians and Alaska Natives and help tribal nations overcome new and long-standing challenges.

According to the fact sheet, “The White House Tribal Nations Summit is an opportunity to celebrate the progress we have made in this new nation-to-nation era and map out plans to improve outcomes for this generation of Native Americans and for the seven generations to come.”

## Working together to defeat COVID-19

When President Biden took office, the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated pre-existing health care inequities facing tribal nations and disproportionately affected Native American populations across the country. American Indians and Alaska Natives experienced infection rates over three times higher than non-Hispanic whites, were four times more likely to be hospitalized as a result of COVID-19, and had higher rates of mortality at younger ages. Yet Tribes demonstrated resilience, determination, and patriotism—embracing testing and vaccination to save lives and protect communities. In collaboration with tribal health programs and Urban Indian Organization health facilities, the Indian Health Service (IHS) has administered more than 1.7 million vaccination doses to patients, health care employees, essential workers, and others in Native communities. Working together, tribal Nations, Urban Indian Organizations, Alaska Native health corporations, and the Administration have succeeded in making vaccinations rates amongst Native Americans the highest in the United States.

## Supporting Financial Recovery for tribal Nations

The Biden-Harris Administration has made unprecedented financial investments in tribal nations so that Indian country can thrive. By prioritizing tribes in all of our economic recovery and development efforts, the Administration is laying the foundation for robust tribal economies, making health care more accessible, expanding early childhood education, modernizing infrastructure, and advancing climate resilience. In March 2021, the President signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, which made the largest single federal financial investment in Native communities in the history of the United States. The ARP is helping the country recover

from a world-altering pandemic with \$1.9 trillion in investments, including \$32 billion devoted specifically to tribal communities and Native people. This funding included \$20 billion in emergency funding to help tribal governments rebuild economies devastated by the pandemic.

## Building Physical and Human Infrastructure in Indian country

In November, President Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and is working to pass the Build Back Better Plan. Together, these two economic packages contain billions of dollars to support Indian families with programs that will cut the costs of raising a family, make it easier to afford health care and care for older Americans, and take unprecedented action against the climate crisis. The Administration recognizes that chronic underfunding of infrastructure in Indian country has harmed tribal communities, which is why the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will make game-changing infrastructure investments spanning transportation, water, sanitation, energy, environmental restoration, telecommunications, and climate resiliency—totaling more than \$13 billion in direct investments, with the ability to access hundreds of billions more in grants and other funding opportunities. Investments in the Build Back Better Plan would bring record funding for Tribes in the areas of child care and preschool programs. These transformative cradleboard to college funds will make it easier for Native women and other family providers to remain in the workforce and increase educational opportunities and outcomes for tribal children.

## Investing in tribal Nations in the Long-Term

In May, President Biden presented his Fiscal-Year 2022 discretionary budget request to Congress, which included \$28.8 billion for Indian programs, one of the largest budget requests ever for these programs. As part of our commitment to promoting health equity for Native Americans, the Administration requested \$8.5 billion in discretionary funding for the IHS in FY 2022, an increase of \$2.2 billion from the FY 2021 enacted budget. In addition, to ensure a stable and equitable funding stream for IHS, for the first time ever, the budget includes a request for an advance appropriation of \$9 billion for IHS in FY 2023, to support Administration and tribal priorities. Advance funding is important to keeping healthcare available for Native Americans in the event of uncertainties and delays in future appropriations process. Additionally, the Office

of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) have begun an administrative process along with tribal consultation on mandatory funding approaches for the IHS.

## Combatting Climate Change and Protecting tribal Lands

President Biden has used his office to protect tribal lands and help mitigate the devastating effect of climate change on Native communities. He has taken executive action revoking the Keystone XL pipeline permit; restoring protections to the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments, Arctic waters and the Bering Sea, and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge; and prioritizing environmental justice. He has set a goal of conserving 30 percent of America’s lands and waters by 2030, and is working in collaboration with tribal nations to focus on the most ecologically important lands and waters.

## Advancing educational equity for Native children

To help broaden opportunities for Native children, President Biden issued an executive order advancing education equity, excellence and economic opportunity for Native Americans, pledging to expand opportunities for students to learn their Native languages, histories, and cultural practices; promote indigenous learning through the use of traditional ecological knowledge; and promote education opportunities that prepare Native American students for college, careers and productive and satisfying lives. The American Rescue Plan included \$19 million in supplemental grant funding to ensure the survival and continued vitality of Native American languages.

In June 2021, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced a Federal Indian Boarding School Initiative, a comprehensive review of the troubled legacy of federal boarding school policies. The primary goal of the initiative is to identify boarding school facilities and sites; the location of known and possible student burial sites located at or near school facilities; and the identities and tribal affiliations of children interred at such locations.

## Honoring Indigenous Peoples’ Day

In October, President Biden became the first president in American history to issue a proclamation declaring Oct. 11 Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

## Strengthening the nation-to-nation relationship

President Biden’s respect and commitment to a stronger nation-to-nation relationship is embedded throughout all of

The graphic features a dark blue background with a vertical column of thirteen five-pointed blue stars on the right side. The main text is white and reads: 'THE WHITE HOUSE TRIBAL NATIONS SUMMIT PROGRESS REPORT' in large, bold, serif font. Below this, in a smaller font, it says 'NOVEMBER 15-16, 2021'. At the bottom, it states 'PREPARED BY THE DOMESTIC POLICY COUNCIL'. On the right side, there is a small white icon of the White House building with the text 'THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON' underneath it.

the Administration’s work on Native affairs. On Jan. 26, just six days into office, the President signed a memorandum committing the Administration to the fulfillment of the federal trust and treaty responsibilities; to respecting tribal self-governance; and to conducting regular, meaningful, and robust consultations with tribal Nations on a broad range of policy issues. Since then, 80 federal agencies and offices have conducted extensive consultation and created individual tribal consultation plans of action including OMB, the Domestic Policy Council (DPC), and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). The President also signed an executive order promoting access to voting, leveraging the resources of the federal government to expand citizens’ opportunities to register to vote and to learn about, and participate in, the electoral process. This executive order created a Native Rights Steering Group, which is engaging in consultations across the country in preparation for a report and recommendations on protecting and improving access to voting in Native communities.

**Elevating Native American Voices**

To elevate the voices of Native Americans in the Administration, President Biden restored the White House Council on Native American Affairs (WHCNAA) earlier this year and has fostered an all-of-government approach to working on Native issues. Thirteen

high-ranking officials from the Administration have already visited Indian country in 2021. The President has nominated a historic number of Native Americans to Senate-confirmed positions and there are already 52 Native Americans serving in political positions, including Natives in 1 in 5 appointments at the Department of the Interior (DOI). The President committed to nominating federal judges who understand Indian law and respect tribal sovereignty and, in October, a Native woman was confirmed as a judge on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington. The President has also nominated numerous Native Americans to federal boards and commissions.

In its first year in office, the Biden-Harris Administration has begun a new era of tribal relations with the federal government, rooted in honesty and modeled on diplomacy that will support an improved and strengthened Nation-to-Nation relationship for decades to come. This Summit demonstrates the Administration’s commitment to listening to tribal priorities and being a good partner in supporting tribal Nations and serves as an important opportunity to celebrate the progress we have made, and work together on a plan of action to move forward. To mark this occasion, the Administration is releasing a full report on the progress we have made to date in our effort to support tribal communities.

To demonstrate the Admin-

istration’s commitment to this work, the Administration is announcing a number of new commitments during the Tribal Nations Summit.

## Executive Order on improving public safety and criminal justice for Native Americans and addressing the crisis of missing or murdered indigenous people

On Nov. 15, 2021, President Biden signed an executive order directing the Departments of Justice, Interior, Homeland Security, and Health and Human Services to create a strategy to improve public safety and justice for Native Americans and to address the epidemic of missing or murdered Indigenous peoples. President Biden tasked the DOJ, DOI, and DHS with addressing specific law enforcement issues, as well as providing support for tribal Nations to implement tribally-centered responses. He also directed HHS to develop a plan for prevention and survivor support initiatives.

## Greater Chaco Landscape mineral withdrawal

Located in Northwestern New Mexico, the Greater Chaco Landscape is a region of great cultural, spiritual, and historical significance to many Pueblos and Indian Tribes and containing thousands of artifacts that date back more than one thousand years. Chaco cultural sites were listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987 and are one of only 24 such sites in the United States. For the past decade, Pueblos and Tribes in

Arizona and New Mexico have raised concerns about encroaching oil and gas development threatening sacred and cultural sites, and Congress has passed a series of actions to temporarily defer new leasing. In the coming weeks, the Department of the Interior will initiate consideration of a 20-year withdrawal of federal lands within a 10-mile radius around Chaco Culture National Historical Park, protecting the area from new federal oil and gas leasing and development. The proposed withdrawal will not apply to Individual Indian Allotments or to minerals within the area owned by private, state, and tribal entities. The action will also not impose restrictions on other developments, such as roads, water lines, transmission lines, or buildings. To support conservation of the area, the State of New Mexico Land Office has implemented a moratorium on new state mineral leases within a 10-mile radius of Chaco Culture National Historical Park.

## Tribal Treaty Rights Memorandum of Understanding

The Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Commerce, Education, Energy, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Justice, Labor, Transportation, Veterans Affairs, State, and the Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Personnel Management, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Council Environmental Quality signed a tribal Treaty Rights

MOU. The MOU provides that the agencies will determine how they can best protect tribal treaty rights in their policymaking and regulatory processes. The MOU sets a timeline of 180 days for signatories to report back to the WHCNAA on their progress for strengthening the protection of tribal treaty rights.

## Tribal Treaty Rights Database

Tribal treaties are not readily accessible to federal employees. Yet, provisions of various treaties are often referenced and needed for specific work on tribal issues. To remedy this problem and ensure ready access for implementation of the Tribal Treaty MOU, the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior have contracted with Oklahoma State University (OSU) to develop a publicly available, searchable and indexed database of all the tribal treaties. This new database will allow federal employees and the general public to search through American Indian treaties. The first phase of the project will digitize a set of treaties compiled by Charles Kappler, the former clerk of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, which is widely considered the most comprehensive collection of treaties with Indian Tribes. Both the digitized treaties and the indexing in the database can be expanded in future phases. OSU has hired Indian law experts to advise on this indexing process. The beta version of the database will launch at the White House Tribal Nations Summit.

## Indigenous knowledge statement and establishment of interagency working group on Indigenous traditional ecological knowledge

The Biden-Harris Administration issued a memorandum recognizing Indigenous traditional ecological knowledge as one of the important bodies of knowledge that contributes to the scientific, technical, social and economic advancements of our nation. With tribal consultation and input from knowledge holders and practitioners, the Administration will develop a guidance document for federal agencies on how the collection and application of such knowledge can be mutually beneficial to tribes, Native communities, and federal agencies and can strengthen evidence-based analysis and informed decision-making across the federal government. An interagency working group on Indigenous traditional ecological knowledge will gather input from tribes and Native communities and prepare the guidance document for planned release in 2022.

## Tribal Homelands Joint Secretarial Order

In recognition of the impor-

ance of tribal homelands under federal stewardship, the Departments of Agriculture and the Interior have launched the “Tribal Homelands Initiative” through a joint Secretarial Order. The Order commits the two Departments to increase opportunities for tribal participation in federal lands management as well as co-stewardship agreements and other tribal stewardship opportunities.

## Sacred Sites Memorandum of Understanding

The Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Energy, the Department of Transportation, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of the Interior have contracted with Oklahoma State University (OSU) to develop a publicly available, searchable and indexed database of all the tribal treaties. This new database will allow federal employees and the general public to search through American Indian treaties. The first phase of the project will digitize a set of treaties compiled by Charles Kappler, the former clerk of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, which is widely considered the most comprehensive collection of treaties with Indian Tribes. Both the digitized treaties and the indexing in the database can be expanded in future phases. OSU has hired Indian law experts to advise on this indexing process. The beta version of the database will launch at the White House Tribal Nations Summit.

## Indigenous knowledge statement and establishment of interagency working group on Indigenous traditional ecological knowledge

The Biden-Harris Administration issued a memorandum recognizing Indigenous traditional ecological knowledge as one of the important bodies of knowledge that contributes to the scientific, technical, social and economic advancements of our nation. With tribal consultation and input from knowledge holders and practitioners, the Administration will develop a guidance document for federal agencies on how the collection and application of such knowledge can be mutually beneficial to tribes, Native communities, and federal agencies and can strengthen evidence-based analysis and informed decision-making across the federal government. An interagency working group on Indigenous traditional ecological knowledge will gather input from tribes and Native communities and prepare the guidance document for planned release in 2022.

## Tribal Homelands Joint Secretarial Order

In recognition of the impor-

and recommitted USDA to strengthening Indigenous food systems. This initiative includes the publishing of a public-facing USDA Food Sovereignty Resource Guide, the purchase of shelf-stable tribal foods for the USDA’s new Hall of Tribal Nations and several food sovereignty cooperative agreements.

## Established the Department of Agriculture Hall of Tribal Nations

The USDA Office of Tribal Relations opened the USDA Hall of Tribal Nations in November 2021 to better reflect the diplomatic nature of the nation-to-nation relationship with tribal nations.

## Creation of the first-ever Secretary of the Interior’s Tribal Advisory Committee

The Department of the Interior has created the first-ever Secretary’s tribal Advisory Committee (STAC), a foundational step toward modernizing DOI’s tribal consultation plan and making permanent, long-lasting change to prioritize the nation-to-nation relationship. The STAC will facilitate intergovernmental discussions, serving as a forum for open dialogue between high-level DOI leadership and bureau officials with elected tribal representatives.

Creation of the first-ever Department of Homeland Security Tribal Homeland Security Advisory Council. DHS will establish the first-ever DHS tribal advisory body. It will be made up of tribal nation leaders and subject matter experts (including tribal organization subject matter experts), to inform the Department on a broad range of intergovernmental relations and homeland security interests of tribal nations.

## Creation of first-ever Housing and Urban Development Tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee

HUD will establish its first-ever tribal advisory committee, the HUD tribal Intergovernmental Advisory Committee (TIAC). TIAC will allow Tribes to provide direct input on HUD priorities and policies.

## Creation of the first-ever Veterans Affairs Tribal Advisory Committee

In October 2021, the VA created a tribal Advisory Committee to ensure that the federal government is collaborating on veterans’ issues with tribal nations.

## New Veterans Health Administration Native Affairs Office

In order to ensure effective delivery of Veterans’ services, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) has established a new office to coordinate issues related to Native veterans’ health. This includes allocating budget resources for staff, with the goal to have the office staffed by March 2022.

# Cope graduates with Masters in Education



Sault Tribe member Drew F. Cope of Holland, Mich., completed graduate studies in Education on Nov. 11, 2021. He will receive his Master's in Education in January 2021 from Southern New Hampshire University. Cope is a 2006 graduate of LaSalle High School in St. Ignace, Mich. He obtained his Bachelor of Science in Education from Grand Valley State University in 2013. His graduation ceremony will be in the spring in Manchester, N.H. His parents are Mary (née St. Onge) and Michael Cope of Mackinac Island and St. Ignace. Maternal grandparents are the late Francis and Elizabeth St. Onge from Mackinac Island, and the late Stanley and Ruth Cope of St. Ignace. Cope has a brother Jordan and a sister Michaela (Lauren) Boxell, all of Grand Rapids, Mich. Paternal grandparents are the late Stanley and Ruth Cope.

# Ingalls bags 8-pointer



Tribal member Adam Ingalls shot this 8-point buck in Lake County, Mich. Adam is from Twin Lake, Mich.

# Hartwig coordinating Anishinaabe language and culture for Red Cliff Band

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member and former employee Calvin Hartwig has accepted the position of Anishinaabe language/culture coordinator for the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians near Bayfield, Wisconsin.

Hartwig, GrDip, MA, Indigenous issues and digital media consultant, said he has been learning to speak Anishinaabemowin off and on for over a decade. "I've been learning it through in-person classes, online classes, language tables and in other ways such as in ceremony," he said. Hartwig has earned a Certificate in Leadership, Organizing and Action: Leading Change from the Harvard Kennedy School and a Master of Arts from the Yale Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, where he concentrated his studies on indigeneity and Indigenous rights. Much of his research has focused on Anishinaabemowin revitalization.

Hartwig will be performing an assessment of Red Cliff's language and cultural activities and collaborate with their planning department to research and develop funding sources to benefit Red Cliff's five-year language plan the tribe hopes will lead participants towards fluency in Anishinaabemowin.

Hartwig will also be collaborating and assisting with cultural activities and events and participating in language and cultural activities held by the tribe to learn how they are implemented and determine what is effective and areas that might need improvement.

In order to prioritize and advise on language and culture projects, Hartwig will be working to assemble and facilitate a Language and Cultural



Photo by Jay London

**Calvin Hartwig**

Knowledge Project Advisory Committee that will be meeting bi-monthly.

In addition to acting as a cultural and language resource specialist to tribal administration and staff for program and policy development when requested, he will also be responsible to research and identify evidence-based best practices of other tribal language revitalization programs throughout the country.

Hartwig was an education project specialist for the Sault Tribe from 2016-19, and managed the spending of \$500,000 of federal grant money on cultural resources. From 2017-20, he was a member of the Sault Tribe Higher Education Committee, judging competitive scholarship applications on behalf of the tribe.

As an independent film producer, Hartwig produced the

award-winning short film, "This Is Who I Am" (aka "Mii Maanda Iyaawayaa"), that aims to inspire Indigenous youth to take responsibility for ancestral languages, cultures, lands and rights. The film was licensed by the National Film Board of Canada; and premiered at the United Nations. It has screened for hundreds of classrooms, community events and film festivals across the world.

In addition to learning Anishinaabemowin, he can also speak some French and German. To inquire about his films or learn about his Harvard major project, "Community Organizing around Anishinaabemowin Revitalization," write him at [Kalvin.Hartwig@redcliff-nsn.gov](mailto:Kalvin.Hartwig@redcliff-nsn.gov). To read his Yale major paper, Language as an Aspect of Identity and Indigeneity, write Renee Albert at [Renee.Albert@redcliff-nsn.gov](mailto:Renee.Albert@redcliff-nsn.gov).

# Daughter thanks Kewadin Shores Casino

My dad, David LaVake, passed away after a brief illness on Aug. 1, 2021. I was totally heartbroken, but I soon found out that not only did he have a love for his family, but also a love of his job and the staff at Kewadin Shores Casino in St. Ignace. He truly was a hard worker and proved it by working right up until the day he had to leave due to illness. He was hospitalized off and on for over three months, but his mindset was, I will get better because I have to get back to work, and we all thought that was going to happen; my dad was a true fighter.

He worked for over 20 years at the casino, wearing many hats. First a slot tech, then a Keno clerk, then a Gift Shop cashier, but he realized out of them all he wanted to be a slot tech. His supervisor, Richie Sayles, was always so good to my dad, giving him time off when needed and helping him toward the end with various things.

My dad loved his job and spoke fondly of all the people that he worked with and the many, many patrons of the casino. I never realized all the people's lives he touched until after his passing. I received many condolences from people who said they knew my dad from the casino and he always had a smile on his face and was so kind and friendly, he often would stop and chat to many and for that, they said, he will be greatly missed.

There are so many I would like to thank for making my dad's life more enjoyable: his supervisor, Richie, all his co-workers he worked with



**David Aker loved his job and many friends at Kewadin Shores.**

throughout the years and of course all the friends who would stop and chat with him, which in the end made him truly happy. Thank you to his other family at Kewadin Shores Casino, co-workers and all the people that touched my dad's heart and life.

Chi Miigwech,  
Loni LaVake LaJoice

# Walking On ...

## ALICE VERA HUHTALA

Alice Vera (Campbell) Huhtala, 100, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died Nov. 24, 2021, in Sault Ste. Marie. She was born June 30, 1921, in Detroit, Mich.

Alice married George Huhtala on June 30, 1938, and was blessed with three wonderful daughters. George passed away in 1975 and later, one daughter, Carol Bruce Mramar of Ohio, passed away.



Surviving are two daughters, Judith Lajoie of Barbeau, Mich., and Linda (Howard) Behlmer of Madison, Ohio; seven grandchildren, Steven Robertson, Kimberly (Robert) Andrews, Todd (Lisa) Robertson, Troy Robertson, Tammy (Gerald) Hunsucker, Ronald Mramor and Andrew Johnson; many great-grandchildren, nephews, and nieces.

Preceding her in death are husband, George; daughter, Carol Mramor; son-in-law, Elmer Lajoie; and grandson, Daniel Clifford Robertson.

Visitation was held on Nov. 30 at Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home in Sault Ste. Marie. There were no services to follow.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of the EUP, 308 W. 12th Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at [www.galerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.galerfuneralhomes.com).

## ANTHONY “TONY” NERTOLI

*A life well lived... Anthony “Tony” Lewis Nertoli, 1946 – 2021*

A great man who had a big, generous heart for his family and community,



Anthony “Tony” Louis Nertoli, has crossed over to the spirit world to join his parents, Lucille (Hatch) Nertoli and Germano (Joe) Nertoli, his sister Barb (Edward “Pie”) Pine, and brother, brother Phillip (Penny) Nertoli.

Of all the things he accomplished in life, Tony’s greatest love was family. A member of the Bear Clan, Tony was known as M’kwa Ogimaa ba (Bear Chief), Dad, Uncle, Papa-Misho, Nert, Papa Nert and Big Brother. Tony is survived by his son, Thomas (Michaela) Dangler and grandson, William; and sisters, Jolene Nertoli and Catherine (Nertoli) DeVoy. Tony counts 68 nieces and nephews, including Michael (Becky) Pine and sons Christopher, David, Douglas; Debra Ann (Christopher Hall) Pine and children Alexia, Jada, Justin, Nick; Steven (Carrie) Pine and children Hunter, Samantha and Chance; Mariea (Dan) Pine-Mongene and children Joe, Jolene, Melinda; Priscilla Pine and daughter Aubrie; Becky

Nertoli and children Jen, Nathan, Jordan and Brandon; Phillip Nertoli Jr.; Angela (Todd) Nertoli-Filback and children Donald, Jessica, Jocelyn, Kaitlynn; Luci (Holly) DeVoy; Rita DeVoy and daughter Luna; Tony (Amy) Nertoli; and many more great, great, great nieces and nephews.

Tony’s life was blessed by two additional families that he also deeply loved...his tribe and baseball. A decades long career began in Tony’s last year of college working for TV 9/10 as a camera man. He often told the story of being the only reporter allowed behind the barricade lines during the Bay Mills Indian Community’s protest over treaty fishing rights. Tony began work for his second family, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Tony served his tribe in many ways — as an elected tribal board member, a community developer, as well as one of the tribe’s first appellate judges, before settling in as the director of the USDA Commodity Food Program. During his tenure, Tony and his staff provided food to thousands of tribal citizens in Michigan’s Upper and Lower Peninsulas. In this role, Tony assumed additional service at the national level as president of the Native American Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (NAFDPIR). Because of his efforts, the Sault Tribe became a national leader in addressing food insecurity in Indian Country. Serving four consecutive, two-year terms, Tony was most proud of the achievement of developing Food Distribution Centers nationwide that provided needy families with respect and dignity as they shopped for what they needed, including fresh foods.

Tony’s third family was the Sault Baseball Team. Tony’s love for the game came from his parents. He said, “I owe everything I’ve achieved to them. My dad loved baseball.” Generations of players have passed through the Sault program while Tony coached. Lovingly called “Papa-Nert” by his players, Tony said, “You are a coach to them for a few years and then you’re a part of their lives. That’s what makes it so worthwhile — the relationship that you create.” Tony’s baseball career included induction into the Michigan High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame (2000) and the Gordon Malcolm Sportsman of the Year award (1997). After a brief retirement, Tony came back as assistant coach to the Sault High JV team.

Tony coached and mentored many of his players to go on to bigger and better life achievements. When needed, he took care of them like his own kids, earning the nickname, Papa-Nert.

Tony told his players that there are three things that would be fine for a coach to be remembered for: “Win more than lose, play with pride, know that someone cared.” Tony will always be remembered for his inspiration to achieve, his pride in who he was and where he came from, and especially for the great love he so generously shared with his personal family,

his tribal family and the hundreds of players and parents who were his baseball family.

Tony laid at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building from his entrance ceremony Monday, Nov. 29, afternoon until the final ceremony at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2021. Burial will be held at Donaldson Catholic Cemetery.

Arrangements are in the care of C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Condolences may be left online at [www.csmulder.com](http://www.csmulder.com).

## FRANCES A. HAMEL

Frances Ann (Smith) Hamel, 75, of Hessel, Mich., died on Dec. 1, 2021, at home surrounded by her family. She was born on Aug. 1, 1946, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to parents Fred Howard and Frances Marian (Causley) Smith.



Frances spent her youth growing up in Hessel. She graduated from Cedarville High School in 1964. She married and began her family. In 1965, she moved to Lansing, Mich., and worked at Zody’s Department store for several years. Then worked for many years at a neighborhood party store “Mario’s Market,” where she made many friends. In 1991 she moved back to the Upper Peninsula. She began working for the Hessel Casino retired in 2008 and enjoyed her retired life.

Frances was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Frances loved to read books and spend game nights playing cards with her family and friends. She enjoyed spending time on the computer playing games and browsing Facebook. She lived for her family and grandchildren. She cared deeply for everyone in her life and will be greatly missed.

Frances is survived by her son, Anthony “Chito” Hamel of Lansing; daughter, Elizabeth “Renee” Hamel of Hessel; brother, Fred Smith of St. Ignace, Mich.; sisters, Maggie Rounds of Hessel, Nancy Smith of St. Ignace, Betty (Ken) Smith of Hessel and Patty Chambers of Hessel; grandchildren, Leigh Ann Hamel, Morgan Hamel, Jacob Hamel, and Joshua Williams; great-grandchildren, Damon and Jonas; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Frances is preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Frances; brothers-in-law, Buck Rounds and Mike Chambers; sister, Mary (Bill) Albert, Bev (Bud) LaFrenier, and Becky Smith.

Visitation was held Dec. 3 at the Anaamianag Nopaming Tribal Center in Hessel from 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., with services held Dec. 4 at the Anaamianag Nopaming Tribal Center beginning at 12 p.m.

Final resting place will be at the Italian Cemetery, Clark Township, Mich.

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation in Pickford, Mich., is serving the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at

[www.galerfuneralhomes.com](http://www.galerfuneralhomes.com).

## JOHN F. KIBBLE

John (Jack) Francis Kibble, 78, of Sugar Island, Mich., peacefully passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 30, 2021. He was born on October 20, 1943, in Sault Ste. Marie.



Jack was the oldest child of William John and Charlotte (Harrington) Kibble.

Jack attended Sault Area High School, graduating in 1962. After finishing high school, Jack went on to serve in the Army, during the Vietnam era, from 1963-1967.

He obtained a B.A. in Sociology from Lake Superior State University, graduating in 1976.

Jack served as Sault Tribe’s Education Division director for 26 years. He was also Director of the Native American Center for students at LSSU for nine years. During his time there, Jack published five research papers on Native American student academics, success rates and retention. Helping Native American students, from the Head Start and Early Head Start level all the way through vocational and university degrees, was his life’s work.

Jack was retired for 16 years but kept busy by serving on various boards, including the EUP Transportation Authority, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Alternative Education, Bay Mills Community College, the Historical Society and the Sugar Island Ambulance Association.

He sat on the Department of Health and Human Services Board of Directors for the past 14 years.

Jack was an active member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He loved to golf and ride his motorcycle.

Jack married Holly (Corbiere) Kibble on April 12, 1990. They were married for 31 years. Jack enjoyed spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Jack is survived by his wife, Holly; brother, Russell Kibble of Cedarville, Mich.; father-in-law, Emery Corbiere of Sugar Island; sisters-in-law, Hope (Bruce) Schlehner of Moran, Mich., Lorali (Larry) Swick of Flat Rock, Mich.; brothers-in-law, Donald (Lisa) Corbiere of Sugar Island, Emery (Sharon) Corbiere of Wakeman, Ohio; children, Cassandra Kibble of Sault Ste. Marie, John Kibble of Kincheloe, Mich., Brian Kibble, Jacob (Rachel) Green of Kincheloe, Mich., and Jessica (Joey Gleason) Green of Marquette, Mich.; grandchildren, Nick (Rachel) Kibble, Landon Kibble, Alexis Blattner, Aurora and Aidan Corbiere, Bailey McKechnie, Michaela Quinn, Brian Kibble, Joshua and Jameson Green and Desmond Gleason; and seven great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Jack was preceded in death by his parents, William John and Charlotte Kibble; sister, Linda Neal; brother, Patrick Kibble; and mother-in-law, Donna Corbiere.

Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 7, 2021, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie. Traditional services will follow visitation at 3 p.m.

## EDWARD GERMAIN

Edward “Butchie” Germain, 67, born on July 19, 1954, passed away unexpectedly at his home in Kinross, Mich., on Dec. 6, 2021.



Butchie enjoyed visiting friends and family, and you could always find him teasing someone, or tormenting one of his nieces or nephews. He loved to hunt and fish when his health allowed it.

Butchie grew up in the Eastern Upper Peninsula, and proudly served in the U.S Army in 1971.

He was preceded in death by the love of his life Francis “Fran” Prater; his parents, Leo “Hoppy” and Eleanor Germain; and brothers, Larry McKechnie, Kenneth “Weegie” Mongene, Jackie Germain and Richard “Louie” Germain.

He is survived by his son Casey “CJ” Cline and his step sons Theodore “Teddy” (Angela) Prater and Brian Prater; brothers, Robert “Bobby” (Peggy) McKechnie, Ronald “Bo” Germain, Gilbert “Luigi” Bonno, John “Chicky” Germain and Bernard “Bunz” Germain; sisters Patricia “Patti” (Gary) Bosley, Darlene “Suzy” (Terry) Niemi, Sharon Oliver, Linda Germain, Janet “Toad” Germain and Sandy Graham (Dwayne Lehn); grandchildren Landin Prater, Jensen Prater, Sapphire Prater and Evan Miller; and many nieces and nephews, cousins, and a very special close niece Jenna Graham.

Services were held at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on Dec. 11, 2021. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the family at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home (<https://www.csmulder.com>), under Edward Germain.

## REUBEN M. KANGAS JR.

Reuben Martin Kangas Jr., 69, of Rudyard, Mich., died Dec. 13, 2020, at his home. He was born Jan. 16, 1951, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Reuben Martin Kangas Sr. and Donna Margaret Elizabeth (Bosley) Kangas.



Reuben, known to family and friends as ‘Marty,’ grew

See “Walking On,” page 18



# Walking on continued ...

**From "Walking On," Page 17**  
up in Sault Ste. Marie and was a graduate of Sault Area High School. He lived and worked in Seattle, Wash., for several years before returning to Michigan. He worked as a heavy equipment operator throughout Michigan's upper and lower peninsulas and also performed most of the maintenance on the equipment. He was a member of the Operating Engineers Local 324. After "retiring" in 2013, he worked operating heavy equipment for Sault Tribe Housing Construction throughout the Eastern Upper Peninsula.

Reuben was a master fisherman who also enjoyed hunting. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Reuben is survived by one son, Eric Kangas of Sault Ste. Marie; and daughter-in-law, Chasity Kangas of Hersey, Mich.; two granddaughters, Mikayla (Nate) Fassbender and Alyssa Kangas; and siblings, Darryl Kangas of Rudyard, Shari (Robert) Carlisle of Brimley, Mich., Anthony Eugene (Gloria) Kangas of Sault Ste. Marie, Sandra (Kim) Florey of Sanford, Mich., Dale Kangas of Sault Ste. Marie, and Corey (Shaunda) Kangas of Sault Ste. Marie.

Reuben was preceded in death by one son, Michael Kangas, and his parents.

Services are delayed until Summer 2022.

Interment was be in North Rudyard Township Cemetery.

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

## ROSE MARIE GERRISH

Rose Marie Gerrish (LaJoice) passed away peacefully on Oct. 31, 2021, at the age of 101 years old. Her immediate family held a service in Michigan



City, Ind., and will return Rose to her resting place in her lifelong home town, the Sault, in the spring.

Preceding Rose in death are her husband, Andy; parents, Clifford and Flora LaPorte; her two sisters, Alma Rand and Florence Braun, and her beloved son, Paul Gerrish.

Rose is survived by her son Paul's wife, Jo Aune; her son, Robert and wife Fran (Gauthier); daughter, Brenda and husband William Stratton; and Ann Marie and husband Thomas Bour. She was blessed with 11 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

Rose was one of the longest living members of St. Joseph Church, member of women's bowling league for 64 years, 50-plus years in women's golf leagues and 81 years a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother.

## SHAWN RYAN WAIT

Shawn Ryan Wait, 45, of Aloha Township passed away Aug. 19, 2021, at McLaren Northern Michigan. He was born June 25, 1976, in Cheboygan to Gary and Vada (Morrow) Wait.



Shawn was an avid outdoorsman, hunting, ice fishing and riding dirt bikes. He worked for Local 25 as an Ironworker out of the Detroit area, putting up windmills in New York and working on the Mackinaw Bridge. Shawn married Heather Crosby on Aug. 16, 2006, in Las Vegas. He enjoyed spending time with family, friends and his dogs, Buford and Rosco. He will be missed by many friends.

He is survived by his wife, Heather; son, Hunter; parents, Gary and Vada; brother, Jason (Marianne) Wait; niece, Megan; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

He was preceded in death

by grandparents, Charles and Jean Morrow and Lee and Helen Wait; mother-in-law, JoAnn Forester; nephew, Lee Wait; and uncles, Roxie Morrow and Michael Wait.

A Celebration of Life took place on Aug. 28, at Benton Township Hall.

Memorials may be given to Cheboygan Humane Society in memory of Shawn Wait. Arrangements were by Beck Funeral Home. Online condolences may be left at [www.beckfuneralhome.org](http://www.beckfuneralhome.org)

## SONDA S. VAUGHN

Sonda Sue "Soups" Vaughn, 53, died unexpectedly on Nov. 12, 2021, at the comfortable residence of a dear friend in Billingham, Wash.

Sonda was born on May 15, 1968, in St. Ignace, Mich., to Jimmy (James) and Robin (Jacqueline) Vaughn. She was a 1986 graduate of LaSalle High School in St. Ignace where she participated in the high school band for four years and was a member of the girls' track team. Sonda furthered her education by attending Brooks College of Fashion and Design in San Diego, Calif., for two years.

Sonda was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She was proud of her Native American heritage, participating in many powwows and cultural activities with her family. She encouraged her daughters to embrace their heritage, as well.

Sonda spent most of her adult life working in the food service industry where she shared her smile and laughter with her patrons, making many friends along the way.

She was a struggling soul suffering from drug addiction for her entire adult life. Never giving up, Sonda participated in numerous drug rehabilitation programs, but could not win the



mental illness and drug abuse battle. Sonda fought this battle, up until her death, for her daughters and family, but sadly lost this war. She did not give up, and her family did not give up, either, offering her support, encouragement and tough love whenever possible.

Sonda was preceded in death by her dad, brother Todd, aunt Sandy (Mike) Doud and cousins Curtis Grondin and La Tanya Grondin.

Survivors include daughters Tessa and Emily Pavia; parents John and Robin Lavallee; uncles Pat (Kathy) Grondin, Tony Grondin, and Mike (Sandy) Doud; aunt Jan (Tom) Mulder; stepsisters Amy (Rob) Goodson and Julie Lavallee; and the Lavallee and Grondin families.

We would like her family and friends to remember Sonda's beautiful smile, infectious laughter and all the good times we shared with her. As difficult as times were, she always loved her entire family and all her friends.

## THERESA M. LAPOINT

Theresa May LaPoint, 72, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., left to meet her creator on Nov. 1, 2021, surrounded by her loved ones. Theresa grew up in DeTour, Mich., where she attended



DeTour Area Schools. After graduating Theresa lived in different areas throughout Michigan before settling in Sault Ste. Marie. Theresa is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, which she took great pride in. Theresa started working for the tribe in January 1977. She put her heart and soul into helping the tribal elderly. Theresa ran the meal program for many years and the Nokomis-Mishomis home when it opened, which she was a big part of. Theresa enjoyed life in general. Fishing, playing slots, camp-

ing and spending time with her family were among her favorite things to do besides loving up any dog within her reach.

Theresa is survived by her siblings, Frances (Benny) Hank, Kathryn Cruickshank, Edward (Teri) LaPoint and Lawrence LaPoint; beloved nieces and nephews, Vicki (Eric) Puidokas, Samuel Cruickshank, Misty Shaw, Jenni (Derek) O'Dell, Dawn Cruickshank, Marci (Norman) Guild, Liza (Adam) Jackson, Samantha (RJ Miller) LaPoint and Justin LaPoint; great nieces and nephews, Khloe Cruickshank, Samantha Cruickshank, Kimberly Cruickshank, Trevor Shaw, Taylor Shaw, Jessie Farley, Jacob Farley, Kimberly Willis, Nevaeh Cruickshank, Anthony Franklin, Richie Willis, Ryver Stevens, Morgan Stevens, Ashton Causley, Harper Jackson, Madison O'Dell, Brayden O'Dell, Kennedy Guild and Finley Guild.

Theresa was preceded in death by her parents, Edward "Pun Pun" LaPoint and Victoria LaPoint (Polaczyk); youngest brother, Ricky Charles LaPoint; and brother-in-law, Don Cruickshank.

A memorial gathering and services were held Nov. 17 with Mr. Tom Cash at the Sault Tribe Cultural Center.

Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.

## Moving?

If you have moved recently, call Sault Tribe Enrollment at (800) 251-6597, or (906) 635-3396 to update your address. Call *Win Awenen Nisitotung* newspaper to continue receiving your paper in the mail: (906) 632-6398, or email [slucas@saulttribe.net](mailto:slucas@saulttribe.net).

# More Sault Tribe Board meeting resolutions —

**From "Resolutions," page 12**  
\$1,607,905.

Res. 292: Authorization to Establish Membership in the Midwest Tribal Energy Resources Association (MTERA) — The tribe seeks to support providing energy opportunities and resources to Midwest Tribes that advance energy policy and development through collaborative efforts; and the tribe recognizes and supports MTERA, and their bylaws, strategic plan, and member-tribe commitments; and the tribe agreed to retire its sovereign immunity. The board authorized and supports the tribe's membership into MTERA and appointed the tribal chairperson to the MTERA board of directors and the environmental

program manager as the tribe's proxy member.

Res. 293: Transportation Program, City of Sault Ste. Marie Cooperative Agreement — The Tribal Transportation Program has funds available to construct the Admin Annex back lot and associated improvements on Court Street; located within City of Sault Ste. Marie, and the City has made improvements to Court Street and the tribe has requested that the City perform additional work for and on behalf of the tribe, in connection with the Court Street construction; and additional work is described as associated access improvements at the entrance to Admin-Annex Building located adjacent to Court Street; and the

Tribal Transportation Program has funds available for this project. The tribe and City have reached an understanding and agree to enter into contract by and between the City and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Transportation Program. The board approved entering into a Cooperative Agreement with the City and to cover associated project costs for the additional work in connection with the Court Street construction.

Res. 294: LTBB v. Whitmer — The Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians (LTBB) has filed a request for certiorari with the United States Supreme Court in the case they have pursued for the recognition of their ancestral reservation boundaries; and the

Stanford University Supreme Court Litigation Clinic is willing and able to write and submit an amicus brief with the Supreme Court supporting the LTBB and press forward the other issues of importance to the Sault Tribe in this litigation; and the board is of the opinion that joining an amicus brief in this case will serve to advance the tribe's position and interests in relation to land and reservation restoration for Indian tribes. The engagement letter with the Stanford Supreme Court Litigation Clinic was approved, and the board authorized the signing of the amicus brief on behalf of the Sault Tribe.

Res. 295: ARPA Fund Appropriation Unit I Elder Housing, Sault Tribe Housing

— The board authorized the Sault Tribe Housing director to execute the Unit I Elder Housing plan provided to the tribe; expected to result in 20 Elder Units (inclusive of quads and Triplex buildings) with associated land work and associated infrastructure upgrades on tribal lands located in Chippewa County. The board appropriated five million dollars of Unit I approved ARP A funds to accomplish the Elder Housing Unit construction. The board also authorized the Housing director to establish a budget for the elder housing plan.

To view these and previous approved resolutions, visit the [saulttribe.com](http://saulttribe.com) board of directors downloads link.

# YEA students having indoor winter fun

From Youth Education & Activities



Above and below, Rudyard and Kincheloe Youth Education & Activities at Rudyard Area Schools had wild rice soup and frybread for lunch and started to work on moccasins with Jackie Minton.

Below, teaching and handprints with Kindergarten; above, gingerbread houses at the Manistique YEA.



Students made Christmas crafts at Manistique YEA.

Escanaba and Gladstone Students learned about the letter "D."



# Sault Tribe Thrive Business Directory

*From “Thrive,” page 20*

(989) 385-2129  
eaglesdream2@yahoo.com  
<https://www.facebook.com/eaglesdream2>  
Authentic native handmade dream catchers, quilting, embroidery, crochet and knitted items.

Eagle Specialties, LLC  
Taryn Sulkes  
Detroit, MI 48227  
(313) 638-6640 Ext 1  
taryn@es.us.com  
<https://es-us.com/>  
Specialties supplier/Sub contractor.

Everson’s Furnishings  
Jimmy Everson  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-7751  
info@eversonsfurniture.com  
Residential and commercial furniture.

Farmhouse Restaurant  
Patty Basse  
Gould City, MI 49838  
(906) 286-9763  
jbasse2112@yahoo.com  
Restaurant.

Feathers Upholstery LLC  
Emily McGeary  
Escanaba, MI 49829  
(906) 446-3406  
mcmily451@gmail.com  
Sewing repair shop residential and commercial.

Floor Masters  
Art Derry  
Dafter, MI 49724  
(906) 322-0252  
art.derry@yahoo.com  
Flooring and carpet.

Flowers Automotive  
James Flowers  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-8074  
flowersautoservice@gmail.com  
Automotive repair shop.

Franks Place  
Dawn Bumstead  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 440-4457  
dawn@franksplace.biz  
Restaurant.

General Contractor  
Fred Sliger  
Trout Creek, MI 49967  
(906) 852-3232  
fredsliger@jamadots.com  
General contractor.

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

Gitche Gume Handcrafted Jewelry  
Gina Harmon  
Newberry, MI 49868  
(906) 293-3625  
ginavgc@gmail.com  
<https://www.lakesuperiorpendants.com/>  
Handcrafted Lake Superior agate, stone and fossil pendants.

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

Good Fruit Video  
Justin Caine  
East Lansing, MI 48826  
(517) 803-9464  
justin@goodfruitvideo.com  
<https://www.goodfruitvideo.com/>  
Video production company, personal and business capabilities.

Great Lakes Roofing & Insulation Systems Inc.  
Craig Miller  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 647-2916  
info@greatlakesroofing.com  
<http://greatlakesroofing.com/>  
Commercial roofing & insulation systems.

Greene Environmental Services  
Mike Greene  
Livonia, MI 48154  
(734) 272-8434  
mgreene@greeneenvironmentalservices.com  
Asbestos abatement services.

Gus’ Gourmet Nuts  
Dustin Denkins  
Cooks, MI 49817  
(906) 644-2548  
dustin@denkins.net

Hakola Logging  
Tate Hakola  
Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 440-0842  
Cuts, splits, delivers firewood.

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

Hand Trucking  
Andrew Garvin  
Mount Pleasant, TX 75455  
(469) 403-5930  
persevere12@yahoo.com  
We provide vacuum truck services to oil companies.

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

Herbst Seamless Gutters  
Kenneth Peterson  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(989) 329-2139  
herbstsg@gmail.com  
<https://www.herbstseamlessgutters.com/>  
Installing Gutters & Gutter Guards

Hilltop Bar/Restaurant  
Brandon/Tracy McKerchie  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 259-2621  
mckerchiebrandon@yahoo.com  
Restaurant.

Horn’s Odds and Ends  
Irene Horn  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 984-2189  
imhorn517@gmail.com  
Antique, vintage and thrift store.

Huck’s Pub  
Tate Hakola  
Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 442-1042  
Pub/restaurant.

Hunts Maintenance & Services  
Tyson Hunt  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

(906) 748-1920  
tysonhunt2019@gmail.com  
Janitorial/custodial work and maintenance.

Innes Welding and Repair  
Mike Innes  
Brimley, MI 49715  
(906) 440-5634  
thepropmaster@hotmail.com  
Boat props and small metal working projects.

Irwin Group LLC  
Mitch Irwin  
Lansing, MI 48826  
(517) 896 6875  
irwinmitch@gmail.com  
Business development, investment and consulting.

ISHPI  
Earl Bowers  
Suffolk, VA 23435  
(757) 809-2302  
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  
Loan management software services.

JETA Corporation  
Linda Grow  
Neenah, WI 54956  
(888) 380-0805  
lgrow@jetacorp.com  
Distribution.

Kings Fish Market  
Sally Shultz  
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  
Marty Lajoie  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 647-3209  
ltsf1@yahoo.com  
Trucking.

Lockview  
Amy Goetz  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49784  
(906) 632-2772  
lockview2019@gmail.com  
Restaurant.

Long Ships Motel  
Scott Albon  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906)748-0589  
scotty\_joce@yahoo.com  
Motel.

Ludington Outdoor Services  
Caleb Bowman  
Ludington, MI 49431  
(231) 690-1002  
calebbowman1982@gmail.com  
Landscaping and tree removal.

M&M Fishing  
Lynn Rickley  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 984-3209  
Fishing company.

Mackinaw Trail Winery  
Laurie Stabile  
Petoskey, MI 49970  
(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  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-9597  
markandsonsp@gmail.com  
Plumbing/heating/HVAC.

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

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

McGahey Construction  
Randall McGahey  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-4272  
ashmuncreek@sbcglobal.net  
Construction—general contractor.

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

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

Mesick Market  
Carl Brasseur  
Mesick, MI 49668  
(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  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 379-9555  
amy@mid-americanitle.com  
Title agency.

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

St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-9906  
jmacdonald@saulttribe.net.  
Convenience store.

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

Moofinfries  
Laura Flatt  
Naubinway, MI 49762  
(906) 630-6932  
Moofinfries@gmail.com  
<https://www.facebook.com/moofinfries/>

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

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

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

Mullenbrock and Associates  
Craig Mullenbrock  
Piqua, OH 45356  
(937) 773-8500  
craig.w.mullenbrock@ampf.com  
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) 989-1395  
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  
Tristan 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.

*See “Thrive,” page 20*

# Sault Tribe Thrive Business Directory

*From "Thrive," page 21*

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

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

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 train-  
ing.

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  
Eirmella 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.

Peterson Building & Contracting  
Kenneth Peterson  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(989) 329-2139  
Peterson\_building@hotmail.com  
Construction—General  
Contractor

Pink Giraffe Beauty Products  
Maddi Lynch  
Gladstone, MI 49837  
(906) 280-6994  
pinkgiraffebeautyproducts@

gmail.com  
www.pinkgiraffeproducts.com  
Candles, lip balms, scrubs &  
more.

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.

Project Pomona  
Meghan Roberts  
Driftwood, TX 78619  
(281) 248-7406  
meghan2roberts@gmail.com  
https://projectpomona.com

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

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 main-  
tenance 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  
cathyann906@gmail.com  
Hair salon.

Saulteur, LLC  
Scott Lavictor  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
https://www.saulteur.com  
Consulting, Advisory and  
Contracting Services

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.

Say it with Swag, LLC  
Cassandra Pasque  
Macomb, MI 48044  
(248) 953-1933  
sayitwithswagllc@gmail.com  
http://sayitwithswag.net  
Custom Apparel & Promotional  
Products

Sears Hometown Store  
Roger Charles  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-6900  
Sears Brand Appliance Store

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

Seriously SEO  
Dustin Denkins  
Cooks, MI 49817  
(906) 644-2548  
dustin@denkins.net  
https://seriouslyseo.com/  
Marketing services with serious  
results.

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  
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.

Sugar Island Shores  
Dave Menard

Sugar Island, MI 49783  
(906) 440-7644  
dmenard@saulttribe.net  
Vacation Rental (VRBO)  
Convenience store.

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  
jennlroy209@gmail.com  
Custom window blinds.

Superior Satellite Solutions  
Gary Talarico  
Germfask, MI 49836  
(906) 450-7675  
chieffishfinder@gmail.com  
U.P. 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 business-  
es.

T & K King Fisheries  
Theron King  
Moran, MI 49760  
(906) 643-1068  
kingsfishmarket@gmail.com  
https://www.facebook.com/kings  
fishmarketandrestaurant/  
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  
DeTour, 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.

Tribal Voices  
Cressandra Thibodeaux  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(310) 880-3907  
cressandra@mac.com  
Photography and Videography.

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 floor-  
ing.

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 ser-  
vices.

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

Wholistic Energy Healing  
*See "Thrive," page 23*

# Decolonize your media this holiday season

**BY LAKOTA PEOPLE’S LAW PROJECT**

Decolonize your media this holiday season with these podcasts, tv shows, and books, Indigenous-centered content to binge on during your time off.

Whether you’re nesting, waiting in those long airport lines, or taking a roadtrip home for the holidays, it’s a good time to engage with Indigenous communities through art and stories.

Here are some quality Indigenous-centered content for you to stream, listen to, or check out over the coming weeks.

**TV & MOVIES**

**Reservation Dogs**  
**Hulu**

From Co-Creators and Executive Producers Sterlin

Harjo and Taika Waititi, Reservation Dogs is a half-hour comedy show that follows the exploits of four Indigenous teenagers in rural Oklahoma who steal, rob, and save in order to get to the exotic, mysterious, and faraway land of California. We love it because it centers Native People both behind and in front of the camera, giving the viewer a slice of life on the rez that brings both laughter and understanding.

**Rutherford Falls**  
**Peacock**

Two lifelong best friends, Nathan Rutherford and Reagan Wells, find themselves at a crossroads — quite literally — when their sleepy town gets an unexpected wake-up call. We love it for the same reasons we love Reservation Dogs, and it has the

added benefit of featuring an Indigenous woman as its protagonist.

**Indian Horse**  
**Netflix**

An adaptation of Ojibway writer Richard Wagamese’s award-winning novel, this moving and important drama sheds light on the dark history of Canada’s Indigenous Residential Schools and the indomitable spirit of aboriginal people. Indian Horse stars Canadian newcomers Sladen Peltier and Edna Manito-wabi, as well as Ajuawak Kapashesit (Indian Road Trip, Once Upon A River), Forrest Goodluck (The Revenant, The Miseducation of Cameron Post), Michael Murphy (Away From Her), Michael Lawrenchuck (Tokyo Cowboy), Johnny Issaluk (Two Lovers And A Bear) and Michiel Huisman (The Age Of

Adaline).

This content can be triggering, and sadly, the truth is that most children who were sent to these schools did not find a way out through hockey, as this story’s protagonist does.

**Rumble: The Indians Who Rocked the World**  
**PBS**

While this film isn’t made by Indigenous People, it is a loving account of the significant Native American influence in modern music. We love a good celebration of Indigenous art and culture — and many folks may not know just how much the modern musical landscape owes to Indigenous People.

Rumble traces the melodies, rhythms, and beats of traditional Native music as they took different forms across the spectrum of 20th-century American rock. Native Americans such as Robbie Robertson and Buffy Sainte-Marie helped to define its evolution, while Native guitarists and drummers such as Link Wray — the electric guitar pioneer whose titular instrumental hit was banned from the radio, Hall of Famer Jimi Hendrix, who was part-Cherokee, Jesse Ed Davis, and many more forever changed the trajectory of rock and roll. Their stories are told by some of America’s greatest rock legends who knew them, played music with them, and were inspired by them, including George Clinton, Taj Mahal, Slash, Jackson Browne, Taboo, Buddy Guy, Quincy Jones, Derek Trucks, Tony Bennett, Iggy Pop, Steven Tyler and Stevie Van Zandt.

**PODCASTS**

**This Land**

We have previously celebrated and expanded on this superior podcast hosted by Cherokee journalist Rebecca Nagle here. Our comprehensive blog also offers you a chance to take action in support of Native children and sovereignty.

ALM — as referred to in court documents — is a Navajo and

Cherokee toddler. When he was a baby, a white couple from the suburbs of Dallas wanted to adopt him, but a federal law said they couldn’t. The Brackeens’ case would have been a normal adoption dispute, but then one of the most powerful corporate law firms in the United States took it on and helped the couple launch a federal lawsuit. Today, the lawsuit doesn’t just impact the future of one child, or even the future of one law. It threatens the entire legal structure defending Native American rights. The second season of This Land is a timely exposé about how the far right is using Native children to quietly dismantle American Indian tribes and advance a conservative agenda.

**All My Relations**

All My Relations is a podcast hosted by Matika Wilbur (Swinomish and Tulalip), and Desi Small Rodriguez (Northern Cheyenne) — and previously by Dr. Adrienne Keene (Cherokee) — to explore our relationships to land, to our relatives, both human and non-human, and to one another. Each episode invites guests to delve into a different topic facing Native peoples today. As the hosts put it, they keep it real, play some games, laugh a lot, and even cry sometimes.

**Our Native Land**

Join our host, Tchadas Leo as we explore all things Indigenous and First Nations! Our Native Land features fun interviews and compelling discussions about Indigenous and First Nations cuisine, culture, heritage, and more from Vancouver Island and around the world. Recorded at CHEK Studios in Victoria, BC, Tchadas is joined by guests of all backgrounds and professions for educational, emotional, and engaging conversations.

To view the remainder of this article, including their recommendations on good books to read, visit: <https://lakotalaw.org/news/2021-12-08/decolonize-your-holiday-media>.

## VACCINATION STATUS

Dec. 9, 2021

Last week, the Health Division administered 451 doses of COVID-19 vaccine, which brought the grand total to 15,688 since Dec. 17, 2020.

**UPDATE**

Sault Tribe vaccination events are now open to the general public in the local community.

**UPCOMING COVID-9 VACCINATION CLINICS**

All clinics are by appointment only!

Reserve your spot: [www.saulttribehealth.com](http://www.saulttribehealth.com)

12/15/21 – Cedarville School, Sault Ste. Marie

12/16/21 – Moderna (Cedarville) p.m.

12/16/21 – Moderna (DeTour) a.m.

12/20/21 – Second dose only clinic at JKL School

**Outlying areas**

12/21/21 – Munising Tribal Center, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

12/22/21 – Marquette Tribal Community Health Center, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

12/17/21 – Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Sault Ste. Marie, Big Bear**

Walk-ins welcome

12/16/21, Adult Pfizer, 1-3 p.m.

**St. Ignace**

Open for walk-ins, however, appointments appreciated, (906) 643-8689

12/17/21 – Pfizer 12 and up, Moderna 18 and up, and Peds (5 to 11-year-olds) available, 5-8 p.m.

12/18/21 – Pfizer 12 and up, Moderna 18 and up, and Peds (5 to 11-year-olds) available, 7-11 a.m.

**SAULT TRIBE OFFERING COVID-19 VACCINE BOOSTER SHOTS**

Per the recommendation of the CDC, COVID-19 vaccine booster shots will be available through Sault Tribe hosted COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics. At this time, booster shots are recommended for immunocompromised patients along with those who live with or are in regular contact with them. Please look on your vaccination card to determine which vaccine you received and schedule your booster with the same vaccine, as cross vaccinations are not recommended at this time. See vaccination registration information below.

**COVID-19 VACCINATION ONLINE REGISTRATION**

Please use the Sault Tribe Health Division’s online COVID-19 Vaccination Registration Form available at [www.saulttribehealth.com](http://www.saulttribehealth.com), which can be accessed via cellphone, tablet or computer. The purpose of this form is to allow Sault Tribe members and Sault Tribe team members to register their contact information so they can be scheduled for an appointment once the vaccine becomes available. Please note that all participants under the age of 18 years must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian to be vaccinated.

If you need assistance completing the form or have no access to the Internet, please call the health center at (906) 632-5200 (Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.). Please watch [saulttribehealth.com](https://www.facebook.com/saulttribehealth) or Sault Tribe Health Division’s Facebook page for more information about our COVID-19 vaccination services.

**VACCINATION VISIT**

All patients are asked to bring their Sault Tribe membership card to their scheduled COVID-19 vaccination appointment. Patients coming for their second dose should bring their CDC vaccination card provided at the first appointment. All vaccinations are provided by appointment only.

**UPCOMING INFORMATION**

Please watch Sault Tribe website, Sault Tribe Health website and official Facebook Pages:

Sault Tribe website: [saulttribe.com](http://saulttribe.com)

Sault Tribe Health Division Website: [saulttribehealth.com](http://saulttribehealth.com)

Sault Tribe official Facebook: [facebook.com/saulttribe](https://www.facebook.com/saulttribe)

Sault Tribe Health Division official Facebook: [facebook.com/SaultTribeHealthDivision](https://www.facebook.com/SaultTribeHealthDivision)

## Sault Tribe Thrive Business Directory

*From “Thrive,” page 22*

Shelly Kucharczyk  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 440-2224  
[s.kucharczyk@yahoo.com](mailto:s.kucharczyk@yahoo.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/wholisticwellnessolutions>  
We clear the negative energy, allowing wellness.

Wicked Walleye Tackle  
Mendy Kolbus  
Rapid River, MI 49878  
(906) 286-1886  
[wickedwalleyet@yahoo.com](mailto: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](mailto:Brasseur@windyhillsbisonfarm.com)  
Full bison farm and home to award winning animals.

Woody’s One Stop  
Nick and Pam Louricas  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 440-2248  
Full Service Convenience Store  
“A true 1 stop shop”

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

# \$14 B TARGETED FOR TRIBAL INFRASTRUCTURE



**Representing All Members Everywhere**

*Ahneen, Boozho, Negee:*

While some Members of our Tribal Board post nonsense reports that show absolutely nothing they are doing to bring resources to our Tribe or lending any assistance to advocate for our people at the highest levels, I go about my work as the only official for our Tribe elected by all Members everywhere. I appreciate the support of Directors Freiheit and Lowes and occasionally a few others, but by the way some-Board Members spread their bad medicine in their reports, you'd think I'm on the way out. To the contrary, in my last election, Members supported me with nearly 58% of the vote or a 16% margin (the greatest in over 20 years!). Add to this my role in shaping federal legislation that has easily led to over \$350 million so far to our Tribe this year alone, and it seems futile that the opposition Board wastes your time with their petty attacks. So while the haters on our Board stew, they play no role

in going after and securing federal funds to benefit you. I do what I do at unprecedented levels because it is what you elected me to do.

## SQUANDERING FISHER'S RELIEF \$?

Case in point, with the new Congress and President sworn in this last January, a few tribal leaders and I went after and helped write for Fisher Relief funds from the US Commerce Department and NOAA. In addition to directly participating in legislative drafting sessions, I testified at numerous Consultations to shape how these funds would be distributed. This resulted in \$30 million for Fisher's Relief for all tribes with our Sault Tribe share at \$1,153,812! While our share was announced in August, it has been five months and no activity of the Board of Directors to get these funds out to the people for whom the dollars were justified. I have a resolution on the agenda for the December 7th meeting because I got tired of waiting for the Board to do something ~ anything ~ to help our Fishers. Directors Freiheit and Lowes are co-sponsoring a resolution to push these funds out. After five months, there are simply no valid reason ~ only excuses for inaction.

## BROADBAND \$3B!

Next, in my past Chair's reports, I cited my role and provided a link to Vice President's Harris' acknowledgement of my contributions in crafting a plan for distribution \$1B for Broadband to Indian Country. She did so in releasing these funds earlier this year and again during the White

House Tribal Leaders Summit. I admit it's cool to get a shout out by the Veep. This program should result in a \$30+ million Broadband grant if we are fully awarded based on our application. When we wrote our application, I knew an additional \$2 Billion was slated in the Infrastructure Bill so we wrote our application to include a 2nd phase to add additional justification for the next round of funds. True to form, an additional \$2 Billion was appropriated and if it is implemented as I suspect it will be, we should be able to qualify for an even larger 2nd round amount of say \$50 million more for a total of up to \$80 million.

## \$9.4 MM FOR TRIBAL SMALL BUSINESSES!

I have been reporting on the unprecedented number of Consultations with the federal government I have participated in at over 45. One of these was with the US Department of Treasury. Specifically, my testimony was that any Rescue Act funds that make their way to States and Territories should also include Tribes. Thus, we were successful in getting this language included which opened up \$10 Billion over all for the State Small Business Credit Initiative program to include a tribal set aside. The purpose of these funds is as follows:

*Tribal governments may use SSBCI funds to support eligible small business financing in any eligible manner it chooses. This includes supporting small businesses on tribal lands, small businesses in states where tribal lands or tribal members are located, and small businesses owned by tribal members anywhere within the United States.*

In addition to shaping the program during the May 27

Consultation, I made sure we submitted our letter of intent to participate by the first deadline (9/16) but advocated for an extension for all tribes past the 12/11 deadline. The new deadline is now 2/11/2021. Some naysayers have argued against applying as they believe guaranteeing small business loans will result in Tribal Members defaulting on such loans. This is a dim and negative view of our people. Our Sault Tribe allocation is \$9,423,168! I choose to see the opportunity this represents. I will be applying for these funds. If the BOD chooses otherwise, they'll have to reject over \$9 million.

## SECURING NEARLY 1/2 BILLION DOLLARS

I have worked diligently over the years to craft our political capital and reach with virtually no campaign contributions. This has been through hitting the hill, advocating for our people through Congressional Testimony, leadership roles at the highest level including Officer positions at the National Congress of American Indians, Presidential Appointments, Advisory Committee work, leading Federal budget hearings and Consultation sessions, and establishing relations with both Republicans and Democrats and with every Presidential Administration.

In 2017, as an officer for NCAI, I was asked by the then NCAI President to sit in for him and testify on infrastructure in the Senate Indian Affairs and House Natural Resources Committees. Below is a video link of my testimony at 37:00; 42:19; 57:00; 1:50; & 2:07.

[Hearing | Committee Activity](#)

## The House Committee on Natural Resources

While this did not lead to an appropriations in 2017, it laid the ground work for the \$1.2 Trillion just signed into law in November which included \$14 Billion for Tribes.

While the haters on our Board disclaim any role or involvement on my part, I promise you that I played a direct role. As 1st VP for NCAI, our President Fawn Sharp asked that I facilitate a meeting of various national level Native Organizations to create our justification for our Infrastructure needs. While Board Members like Sorenson, Hoffman and others claim I make this stuff up, I urge you to click on the link below to see for yourself. This session was the culmination of several coordinating meetings and following our successful advocacy that led to approval in the US Senate in August and House in November. Click below to see the session I chaired on infrastructure [2:20].

## Tribal Infrastructure Town Hall - YouTube

In the end, tribes secured \$2 Billion more for Broadband; \$4.5 Billion for tribal water and sewer; \$4.5 Billion for Indian Country Roads and Bridges, and \$3 Billion for additional projects. I estimate our Tribe will receive an additional \$150 million from these funds. This will bring our one year total to 1/2 billion. Just imagine what it could be if I had a supportive Board an a level of authority.

*Chi McGwitch, Negee,*

# SECRET PAST A THREAT TO OUR FUTURE?!

WHEREAS the Tribe recognizes the business acumen and political relationships brought to bear by Mr. Ted Gatzaros and Mr. Jerry Campbell, and believes that a joint effort by Gatzaros and Campbell will yield the best opportunity for success in this endeavor

*Want to Guess who Drafted this?*

RESOLUTION NO: \_\_\_\_\_  
PURSUIT OF SETTLEMENT OF LANDS CLAIM WITH RESPECT TO PROPERTY IN THE ROMULUS MICHIGAN METROPOLITAN AREA  
WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe established under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, 25 U.S.C. 467 et seq.;  
WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians recognizes the importance of securing gaming opportunities in high growth and high population density areas such as Romulus, Michigan; and  
WHEREAS the Tribe recognizes the business acumen and political relationships brought to bear by Mr. Ted Gatzaros and Mr. Jerry Campbell, and believes that a joint effort by Gatzaros and Campbell will yield the best opportunity for success in this endeavor  
WHEREAS Gatzaros and Campbell have pledged their best efforts to obtain approval of the "Settlement of Land Claim" signed December 20, 2002 by John M. Engler, Governor of the State of Michigan and on December 30, 2002 by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians ("Tribe"), along with the amendments thereto set forth in the "Addendum to Settlement of Land Claim" signed by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm for the State of Michigan and the Tribal Chairman for the Tribe on November 14, 2007 (collectively the "Settlement Agreement") at no cost to the Tribe; and  
WHEREAS Gatzaros and Campbell will assume primary responsibility for the effort to cause the United States Congress to resolve and extinguish the Tribe's land claims to the Charlotte Beach Lands and provide the alternative land situated in Romulus, Michigan, or other lands agreed to between the parties, to be taken into trust for the benefit of the Tribe, as lands obtained in settlement of a land claim under section 20 of the IGRA, 25 U.S.C. sec 2719 (b)(1)(i), by attempting to bring about Congressional approval of the Settlement Agreement; and  
WHEREAS the Tribe, Gatzaros, and Campbell agree that in the event they are successful in obtaining Congressional approval of the Settlement Agreement, and causing the Federal Government to take the land referred to above into trust under section 20 of the IGRA, 25 U.S.C. sec 2719 (b)(1)(i), the Tribe, Gatzaros and Campbell shall enter into a binding development and management agreement regarding the development, finance, construction and operation of a casino on land situated in Romulus ("Romulus Casino") as allowed under IGRA  
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will proceed with the processing of subordinate agreements as necessary to give effect to the Tribe's intent to enter into a binding and enforceable management contract consistent with Developer's November 2, 2010 letter of intent (LOI) and subsequent discussions of the parties.

Recall the secret deal struck between the former Greek partners that gave away 50% ownership for a \$24K investment. This ended up in nearly a billion dollar Sault Tribe loss that resulted in bankruptcy and our former so-called partners suing our Tribe for hundreds of millions. Flash forward to today, and we are once again being sued for millions by another former developer in Jerry Campbell. We will prevail but this begs the question, who the heck brings these characters to the table and what do they get out of it? Always remember, if a deal sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

You all know who brought the Greeks to the

table, but what you may not know is who brought Jerry Campbell forward. In 2007, as we failed to meet the discriminatory financial covenants imposed by the Michigan Gaming Control Board, we were looking for an investor. DJ Hoffman introduced the Tribe to Jerry Campbell of the failed Pinnacle Race track scheme. The deal proposed was exploitative to the Tribe so the Board rejected Campbell's offer. After, Hoffman lost his election in 2010, he was reportedly hired to work for Jerry Campbell ~ presumably as a lobbyist to buy leverage with then current Members of the Board. Reports indicate this was a \$50,000 contractu-

**Referendum on Greek ~ Campbell Deal**  
**2,986 Disapprove (62%)**  
**1,864 Approve (38%)**

al service to peddle information or influence he had with fellow former Board Members to secure a deal with Jerry Campbell even after the Board rejected it. Hoffman denies it, and repeatedly threatens to sue me but the best defense is the truth and to sue me would put me in a position to put him under oath in a deposition to once and for all reveal any secret double dealings including any on going communications and continued compensation serving Campbell.

This is the same period I was out of office. Late one night, I got a surprise call from Ted Gatzaros to offer me a job for \$80K and 1/2 of a percent of what ever deal I

could secure with our Tribal Board. I refused because this is unethical and would be like selling out your Tribal people.

I have a resolution on the December 7th Tribal Board agenda to conduct an independent investigation of any private dealings with developers. Watch closely to see which Board Members vote to cover this up. I will attest here that with witnesses present (including an attorney and the Treasurer of our Tribe) I asked Jerry Campbell if DJ was in fact a paid contractor for him and his reply was, "yes". With this information, Director Hoffman should spare the costs of an investigation and immediately resign.

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**

# Miigwech to departments for online teachings



**MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Last month was Native American Month and as such our tribe as well as many others celebrated our diverse cultures

and held several events to share our traditions and knowledge. I wanted to take a moment and say “Miigwech” to our Language and Culture Department, Housing, ACFS (ARC) and Traditional Healing among others for organizing events both in person as well as online throughout this year. I’ve seen and heard many good things about the online teachings. The pandemic has changed many things; I’m grateful for those in our tribe who took on the responsibility to continue to share their Anishinaabe ways with all of us.

If you haven’t seen any of the videos, I would encourage you to check out several of our programs on our Sault Tribe website and to look for upcoming events and teachings.

Staying involved and teaching our children to be involved is the only way our way of life will continue on. Keeping our kids busy learning their history, Anishinaabe teachings, etc., is a great way of creating a better community, a more involved community. As the snow flies, now is the time for sharing stories, teachings and our legends.

Unfortunately, this time of year is also when many of our people begin their spirit journey. Our tribe has recently lost several Elders who have spent a lifetime advocating for our people. They left behind big shoes to fill, which simply can’t be done — but we will try our hardest to remember their legacy and their teachings. Until we meet again, Baamaa Pii,

Theresa, Carmen, Edye, Tony and Jack. Words cannot express the impact they and other Elders have had on our tribe. They spent much of their time making our community (as well as many other communities) better and we thank them and hope to continue their work.

Many of my recent unit reports had to do with the non-stop campaigning that has been occurring, and with the official Notice of Election going out next month, expect more wild accusations, people promising the moon and such. It’s unfortunate that many will ignore our teachings and tear people down during these times. But the fact of the matter is, our tribe has weathered the pandemic, and kept many in our community not only working but thriving.

Several new tribal businesses have emerged and we’ve been able to assist more members than we have ever been able to before. Granted, we still have a long way to go and many hurdles to overcome but we’re also grateful for all we have and all that we’ve been able to accomplish.

Just a reminder to take a critical look at any issue and educate yourself by listening to both sides of a story. Don’t be afraid to ask questions, don’t rely on only one source for all your information and most importantly, remember to come from a good place. We’re all in this together. We’re all here to help better our communities.

Chi Miigwech and as always, any questions or concerns please contact me at (906) 440-7768.

# Board should take back its delegated powers



**BETTY FREIHEIT,**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Hello Tribal Members, I believe it is time for the board to take back their authority and responsibility for what

is happening in the tribe. It is what we were elected to do. We have been traveling down and ill advised path for nearly two years in which the board is delegating more and more authority to paid staff while board avoids accountability to the membership.

It made sense a year and a half ago for the board to pass the State of Emergency resolution, which gave the Executive Director and CEOs wide board level powers to modify policies and procedures, order closures and implement programs. COVID-19 was beginning to surge and we had no good idea of the course it would take. Given the board could not meet without several days notice, it was important that the staff had the authority to take the immediate

action for the health and well-being of staff and community members.

But much is changed. We now have vaccines and know the precautions that must be taken. We get timely information on the levels of virus in our community. With Zoom, the board can meet anytime, from anywhere. One board member hasn’t physically attended a board meeting in over a year and a half. And we could have and should have implemented an emergency meeting protocol that would allow a waiver of meeting notices.

There really is no more need for the tribal Executive Director and CEOs to hold board level authority. It becomes too easy for the board to sit back and avoid responsibility of making

decisions and to pass the buck on accountability.

Next, the Sault Tribe’s EDC director has agreed to accept a position as CEO for Sault Tribe Inc. At this time, I am not at liberty to discuss the status of our tribal infrastructure. I will keep the membership informed of this plan in place.

Fishers relief monies has had no action to get these funds out to the fishers. Chairman Payment has placed a resolution on the agenda for the Dec. 7 meeting. Director Lowes and myself are co-sponsoring this resolution in hopes to get these funds out before Christmas. We are also co-sponsoring several other resolutions that directly affect our people, but the majority of the board will table the resolutions as

usual. That is a game to them.

Just a reminder for the at-large members, please be sure to register to vote by calling (800) 251-6597.

In closing, I want to thank all the members who have reached out to expressed their continued support and encouragement. I am especially thankful for those who recognize that only part of the story is often told. It is a privilege and honor to serve you.

I want to wish you and your families happy holidays and to stay warm. Please take care of yourself and family. Help your neighbors any time you can and please take care of our elders!  
Betty F. Freiheit  
Unit 1 Director  
bfreiheit@saulttribe.net  
(906) 379-8745

# Wildlife needs community for manoomin plan



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Aanii, My family and I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and peace in the coming New Year.

I’ve mentioned this before, even though Christmas is a season of excitement for many, we need to keep in mind this time of year is emotional for some and more so this year with restrictions on our normal way of life. Please keep in mind those who have lost loved ones, those who are sick or going through troubled times, may they find hope and blessings in the upcoming year.

I would like to touch on the comments my fellow board member made about other board members complaining that Betty is mean to them. He states, “She is a 72-year-old elder.” Let that sink in. He is right, we are adults and I’ve never seen this kind of

behavior from an elder. I was always taught to respect others. The comments that are made from this elder are cruel and meant to hurt. I have a tough skin and can take the comments she makes but I can see that some hit their mark. This is called bullying and our tribal chair does nothing to stop these comments and adds to them and lets it persist until he can’t get the meeting under control. We are there to do business but it’s hard when these unprofessional actions are allowed to disrupt our meetings. This kind of behavior is not normal. Let that sink in.

Each unit has received money from the American Recovery Act Funds (ARAF). Because housing shortage is an issue in Unit I, we have identified this as a top priority. Based on this, we passed a resolution (unanimously) to purchase 38 houses/elder quads which will start arriving in the spring of 2022.

A while back, I shared some information about our Natural Resources Department/Wildlife Program and its work with the restoration and understanding of manoomin (wild rice) within the 1836 Ceded Territory. Since that time, the Wildlife Program received notice they were selected to receive funding. The grant proposal focuses on St. Mary’s River coastal wetland resiliency. The program will develop a comprehensive inter-agency resilience plan that prioritizes coastal wetlands for protection

and restoration in the St. Mary’s River system. Because Manoomin has played such an important role in the lives of the Anishinaabe people, the plan will include the restoration of not only manoomin, but the entire web of relationships that make up the manoomin bed—those between people, birds, fish, animals, plants and the water.

The Wildlife Program is planning to carry out this work with the community. They would be grateful for community member guidance, shared stories and involvement as they work to restore manoomin beds in the 1836 Ceded Territory. The more they know about manoomin and our shared history with her, the more informed our restoration efforts can be. As we expand our restoration, seeding and monitoring efforts, we hope that community members will be able to join them on the water. Community members who are interested in being involved or talking about manoomin can reach out to the Wildlife Program. Contact Dani Fegan, (906) 632-6132 or dfegan1@saulttribe.net.

I would like to remind everyone that if you move from your residence to a new address without notifying the Tribal Tax Office and the Enrollment Department, you may lose the following: possible tax exemptions, tribal election ballots, elder’s dividends, important notices sent by mail and newspaper delivery.

Stay safe and don’t waste ener-

gy on things you can’t control. Leave issues of the past in the past. Invest your energy in positive things and the future.

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

Please keep the men and women in the armed forces in your prayers and thoughts for a

safe return to their families, especially those cannot be home for Christmas.

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

Stay safe and healthy.  
Thank You,  
Kim

# Please remember to check on Elders



**CHARLES MATSON SR.**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Ahnee,

The holidays are in full force and so is the weather. Holidays can be a very stressful time of the year for many, from missing our loved ones who are no longer with us to worrying about financial stresses of everyday

life. Please remember to check on our elders and others who might need help and do not have the ability to get out and travel for the essentials they need to take care of themselves. It is very important to just stop by or contact them to make sure that they know we are there if they need help or just someone to talk to just for conversation and interactions with others.

I will keep this short and look forward to writing a year in review in my January unit report. In closing, from my family to yours, let me say we hope everyone enjoys their holidays, enjoys time with their family and friends. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at (906) 450-5094 or CMatsom@saulttribe.net.

Respectfully,  
Charles J. Matson Sr.  
Unit 5 Board of Directors



# Our board needs humility, respect and truth



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

As I write this report, I am recovering from a total knee replacement on my right knee on Nov. 30. I have had issues for over a decade with my knees that seem to run in our family. My grandmother had hers done in her '70s and ended up being allergic to the metal but didn't want to be stiff-legged so she dealt with it. I made sure to undergo allergy testing prior so I didn't have to deal with that. I just wanted to say that anyone having knee issues that I have been very happy with the journey so far. I had the surgery at Mackinac Straits Hospital with my surgeon being Daniel Wilcox. It was so convenient to have the procedure locally. I spent one night in the hospital and the staff at our rural hospital are very attentive. I highly recommend Dr. Wilcox; Mackinac Straits Hospital and the therapy and hospital staff are great!

The board will hold its last regular meeting of the year on Dec. 7. I will be attending via Zoom. The agenda is so ridiculous. The three stooges put every resolution on the agenda that the board did not act on for the last year. All this does is cause extra work for the staff, copying documents, paying the expense of mailing these documents just to say look at us, we are the good guys, knowing full well it's like throwing everything on the wall to see what sticks. So much time and energy are spent on trying to look like a hero politically. Every holiday but especially Christmas this happens, special meetings get called, fires are set, distraction after distraction. This should be a great time of the year, spent with family and friends, volunteering in the community, giving and working together for the betterment of our tribe.

I actually hate wasting my time talking about these things but apparently not enough eyes or ears seem to want to believe the reality of the situation. How about the letter or posts about only the chair raising money for the children's Christmas party? The letter is sent on behalf of our tribe to vendors that do business with us. So how does one person take credit for the money raised? Same with the golf scholarships. If this isn't sickening enough, he then goes out and does photo ops and makes the casino design big poster checks. Then he says certain board members do not contribute. I recall him even saying according to the Accounting Department, I do not contribute to things. He uses the tribe by donating to them and then getting

a tax write off. First of all, he can't just ask Accounting about my personal contributions to anything and I am not one to flash my goodwill; it's something I want to do and enjoy doing and that is between me and the recipient. One of the seven grandfather teachings is humility.

If only members could see all the ugliness that our executives deal with through emails, social media and during workshops and meetings. There is no shame in the stooges vilifying our EDC Director at every corner of every action. Some of the same people have publicly stated they do not have business knowledge. There is only one reason to not support our EDC Director and that would be out of jealousy for our successes in property purchases, diversifying and 8a status, just to name a few. The board literally brings an idea or proposal forward and Joel does all the legwork to give the board the information we need to make decisions.

If you were to look back just in the last five years as to what we had then and what we have now, it's a reason to celebrate. For decades, members asked for diversification from the saturated gaming market and we have many different business ventures now. Obviously, it is hard to make big bucks like a casino provides but you have to start somewhere and we are off and running.

So, to combat some of the accusations that the board is giving huge raises and backdoor deals with EDC Director Joel Schultz, I will say this, I am extremely concerned with him being offered the CEO position of Sault Tribe Inc. which is just another arm of the tribe like the Housing Authority. Sault Tribe Inc. has its own board with mostly Sault Tribe business owners (just think board members are often accused of not being experts or knowledgeable, and this board consists of our own members that have that knowledge and experience, so it sounds pretty genius to me). That board operates under our corporate charter to take away some of the politics that loom over the tribe.

Joel has networked with these tribal business owners, has formed connections and paths to generate revenue. Some have even made the comment that anyone can be replaced? That is a simple minded individual. Sure, you can fill a position with a body but that person may not have the ethics, motivation, skills, education, or drive as the prior person. So, when I feel that the tribe is at risk of losing someone of this caliber, you darn better bet I am going to try and do something about it. In the private business sector, or real world, that's what happens. If you want or do not care that valuable team members leave, then you are the problem! So yes, hands down I will work hard in the hopes that Joel will stay on overseeing the EDC division he built, however we need to. That is what is in the best interest of the tribe.

I am no business expert. I do have a business degree and very much care and am interested in

the successes of our businesses. Is that really a bad thing? I do not need any of it to be about me. The tribe and its members shine when our tribe shines. The truth of the situation is our chairperson can only accept things that he feels he made happen. The poor guy needs the constant pat on the back, the constant photo op, interview, etc. So, to put things in perspective when you hate the board members you want them to look bad and since the EDC Director reports to the board, his success makes the board look good and that is not acceptable. If there is failure, then, "I have nothing to do with that, they report directly to the board."

Another thing to clear the air is the accusation that the board is jealous of the chair. I can only speak for myself but I am not jealous in any way. I have worked hard on my own and am very much in control of my personal growth and success. I have the ability to get multiple degrees as I so desire as well. I guess what I am saying is that I don't need a bunch of initials behind my name or to be called "Dr." I'm happy for people who continue with their education but I do not think that defines the person they are. I have two relatives who have doctorates in education and neither one refers to themselves as "Dr." That status, to me, has always been left to the medical field or professors.

Aaron has claimed a few of us have won the tribal lottery getting a seat on our board. He also claimed I would be a one-termer. Sorry to disappoint but my journey stems from working for several years in our casino, government and EDC operations. I worked side by side with many of these people and they know I have their back and will work to help in any way that I can. I also spend an insane amount of time in my community on various committees or boards because I believe in my community and want to see it thrive. I may not be involving myself in everything at the state or federal level, but I feel that I am where I am supposed to be, at home with my community. We all have strengths and callings and I believe I am doing what I need to.

As I write this, I feel like I am screaming into my computer to open up closed or blind eyes to the reality or brevity of our tribe's current state. All this hate that has been fueled by accusations, mistruths and flat out lies is not helping anyone. I am asking each member to read my report with an open mind and heart and to pay attention to social media comments and behaviors and see who is fueling the hate. Who rallies their troops to hope members show up to meetings to put us in our place or think it's funny to scream at us at the podium. Look what politics have done to you if you are that person. I will take accountability for my votes, actions, etc. Instead, we get downright rude calls, messages and emails because of the hate inspired by some. I don't hate anyone but I do hate their politics! We should all treat people as we ourselves want to be treated, I am not asking to be put on a

pedestal or for you to bow to me, but please communicate kindly and respectfully. I would never dream of contacting someone and treating them like we get treated based off someone's one-sided opinion about that person.

Please consider how much more peaceful my life would be if I just sat back and agreed with the chair. No mentions of me on social media or attacks from his supporters. So, you can see I choose to do the right thing even though I am always under attack. I was raised to work hard, tell the truth and stand up for what I believe in.

I will be working into the new year on moving our tribe forward with respect, dignity and accountability. Our members, executives and team members deserve better and some will continue to divide and spread lies and hate with the election near. An ideal candidate should not have to spew hate, lies and mistruths just like Aaron claims with the pink postcards but notice who is right there blasting people he doesn't support, or, God forbid anyone that would think that they could be the leader of this tribe. How dare an individual run against the current chair. I believe the constitution gives members the right to run for any elected office as long as they follow the Constitution and code.

Finally, I hope our team

## Winter is an annual time of peace, reflection



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

Here we are at the end of a most difficult year. Grief, heartache, and loss have touched so many, including me with the loss of my spouse, Richard. In just the last two weeks we've lost five Elders who have contributed so much to our tribal community. Thankfully, we are a resilient and compassionate people who are very familiar with hardship. And, we are fortunate to have helpers to guide us through difficult times. Every single one of us has the power to be part of a positive influence in the world. Love, laughter, truth and compassion go a long way in healing. Thank you for your patience and prayers for our people.

It's winter now. Traditionally, it's a time when we retreat

members and executive staff get to spend quality time with their family and friends. I appreciate all your hard work and dedication to our tribe and its people. Thank you for sticking with us during these last several trying years and working shorthanded during a pandemic. You are the true heroes of our tribe!

To all the members of our tribe, I also hope you get to spend quality time with your family and friends. I hope you all have hope in your hearts that good times are ahead and we are in this together!

My last words of wisdom are that each of us has the ability to be whatever we want to be. You are the person driving your fate. It is not always easy, but anything is possible with hard work and dedication!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!! May 2022 bring some much-needed unity! I pledge to work with anyone that is willing to put the tribe over their own family or personal agenda.

Please keep the families of Tony Nertoli, Jack Kibble, Tad Hamel, Chris Klein, Peggy Coveyou and Jim Lamoreaux in your thoughts and prayers as they move on to the spirit world.

Please contact me with any concerns at [bridgett91@yahoo.com](mailto:bridgett91@yahoo.com), [bsorenson@saulttribe.net](mailto:bsorenson@saulttribe.net) or (906) 430-0536.

within our smaller family units and within ourselves, taking in what we have been through, all that has passed in this full year, which is coming to a close. And we restore ourselves, like nature and the animal kingdom around us. This period of hibernation is so necessary for our tired limbs, our burdened minds. Winter: An annual time of peace and reflection, embracing the darkness and forgiving, accepting and embracing goodbye over the past year. And winter presents us with the perfect time to share stories that bring fire and light to our heart. And then, right around the corner the new year begins and we will all rise with renewed energy once again.

2022 will be a year of healing and coming together unity.

I will report on the tribal direction, operations and challenges in January. But I do want to thank each and every team member and their tremendous dedication to keeping tribe moving forward during challenging times. And, to wish you a most blessed and merry Christmas to you and your loved ones.

Call me anytime with your questions, concerns, or to just talk (906) 430-5551.

Catherine Hollowell  
Unit 2 Director, Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians  
(906) 484-6821

# Expanding fisher relief funds a priority in Unit II



**LANA CAUSLEY-SMITH,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

I want all our commercial, subsistence and helpers to know that I have continued to voice and bring forward the concern of the relief funds that we have to distribute to our tribal fisherman. We have been provided detailed options to distribute and the board has not moved forward on any. I do realize not all options are perfect and as always will not make everyone happy but it's a priority to me and Director Hollowell to get these funds out to relieve any hardship our members have had during their work and operations on the water. We will be discussing options again the next scheduled meeting and if nothing is decided on by a majority, I will be adamant and continue to bring this forward in my board concerns each and every meeting. My hope is that we get it out by Christmas. It's long overdue.

I have received calls about our new clinic that will be opening in DeTour; this is in the planning stage now and our Health Division is busy planning the remodel. It will take some work, but hopefully, this will be complete in the next coming months. I have heard from people who are interested in working and forwarded this to our division for planning. This will be a great benefit to all who reside in DeTour and on Drummond Island and I am very excited to have this open so members can be serviced in those areas.

We are starting to plan for additional housing in our unit. We will be discussing options for land and the purchase of new homes to assist with the housing shortages in our area. We plan to gather data from our Housing Dept. based on the applications that are submitted, so if you are in need it is very important you complete and submit applications even if there are no homes available at the time. This will help us gauge what the need is. I know for a fact we do not have enough homes, but when we have data for the discussion it helps us factor. We have land that we can build on now and the locations will be determined that way. I am looking forward to that for 2022.

I wanted to take the time in this report to reflect a little on

another tough year we have had with the pandemic. Although things seem to be getting back to normal, in some places we remain in a state of emergency and the large gatherings are somewhat still lightened. It's been an exceptionally hard past month with many of our Tribal Elders passing away. We had at least eight pass in the last couple of weeks and it has taken a painful toll on our communities. I just want to ask that we all take a moment and say a small prayer for them and the loved ones that are left here. All of those passing were very close to me and some my own family. I have special memories of them

and great respect for what they all brought to our tribal communities.

It's true that as we get older time goes much more quickly so I will remain diligent on moving us in a good way for things that will help us in the future.

As always, we have many things to be thankful for and I look forward to a year that will bring good things. I want to wish all of you a very blessed Christmas season with those you love and hope our year is safe and Healthy. If you would like to meet or discuss anything, please contact me at (906) 484-2954, (906) 322-3818, or lcausley@saulttribe.net.



## Helping Native Families in Michigan Increase Assets via Homeownership and Entrepreneurship

- ▶ We are a Native Community Development Financial Institution certified by the U.S. Treasury
- ▶ Offering Home Loans for Purchase and Refinancing
- ▶ Offering Business Start-Up and Expansion Loans
- ▶ Offering Home Repair Grant and Business Grant Opportunities
- ▶ Offering Free Homebuyer Education and Business Technical Assistance

906.524.5445 | [www.lakesuperiorcdc.com](http://www.lakesuperiorcdc.com)

**Call 906-632-6398 to Advertise!**

# Cars! SUVs! Trucks!



Get Them

## ALL at GITCHI AUTO

✓ **TRADE INS WELCOME!**

✓ **GENERAL PUBLIC WELCOME!**

✓ **TAX EXEMPTION SPECIALISTS!**



**WE BUY CARS**



[GitchiAuto.com](http://GitchiAuto.com)



**906-203-4491**

**2270 Shunk Rd.**

**Cars • Trucks • RVs • ATVs • Scooters • Homes • And More!**

**Open 6 Days A Week: Mon - Fri 9-6 • Sat 9-2**

Bank2  
and HUD  
184 Home  
Loan  
Program



2022

# COUNTDOWN TO CASH

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31.

WIN YOUR SHARE OF UP TO **\$38,600** CASH AND CREDITS

NOON YEAR'S EVE

HOT SEAT DRAWS STARTING AT 10 A.M. CASH DRAWS 2:30 P.M.

NEW YEAR'S EVE

HOT SEAT DRAWS STARTING AT 6 P.M. **\$13,000** IN CASH DRAWS 10 P.M.

## NEW YEAR'S DAY HOT SEATS

Win Your Share of up to

**\$30,700**

CASH and CREDITS

Hot Seat Draws starting at 4 p.m.

CASH Draws 10:10 p.m.



SEE NORTHERN REWARDS CLUB TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE DETAILS. MUST EARN 50 BASE POINTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR PROMOTION

**MANISTIQUE · ST. IGNACE · HESSEL · SAULT <sup>LES</sup> MARIE · CHRISTMAS**