

THE SAULT TRIBE NEWS



Visit us online at www.saulttribe.com

Manidoo Giizis: "Spirit Moon"

Win Awenen Nisitotung "One Who Understands"

January 13, 2006 • Vol. 27 No. 1

News Briefs

Jan. 3 board of directors meeting rescheduled

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich.—This is a public notice to all interested members of the community that the Sault Tribe Board of Directors workshop and meeting scheduled for Jan. 3 has been rescheduled for Jan. 31. The first board meeting and workshop held in the new year will now be on Jan. 17.

All issues scheduled for Jan. 3 will be placed on the Jan. 17 board workshop and meeting agenda. The Jan. 17 board meeting and workshop agenda will be released to the public after Jan. 10.

The Jan. 17 workshop will be held in Sault Ste. Marie. The Jan. 17 board meeting will be held at the Kinross Recreation Center. The open community hour is held from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. All board meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are open to the public.

For more information regarding Sault Tribe board of directors meetings and workshops, please call Joanne Carr, board secretary, at (906) 635-6050.

Please visit our official Web site at www.saulttribe.com.

Televised meetings return to Charter Cable channel 2 in Sault Ste. Marie

Sault Ste. Marie, MI—Charter Communications has announced the televised broadcast of Sault Tribe board meetings on Charter cable channel 2 between 3 and 5 p.m. on Monday and Thursday is available again for tribe members residing in the Sault Ste. Marie area.

Charter Communications was previously unable to broadcast the board meetings in the Sault Ste. Marie area because of equipment damage that was caused by a lightning storm in early November.

Charter Cable schedule for seven county service area:

Marquette and Alger Counties, Channel 8, 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. on Friday

St. Ignace, Channel 12, 9 a.m. on Monday

Escanaba and Manistique, Channel 8, 3 to 5 p.m.

The meetings can be viewed via the Internet at: www.saulttribe.com.

Civil suit continues versus Bouschor, key employees



PETOSKEY, Mich. — The civil lawsuit between the Sault Tribe, former Chairman Bernard Bouschor and seven former key employees continued with a hearing on Dec. 19 in 57th Circuit Court in Emmet County with the honorable Judge Charles W. Johnson presiding.

The hearing focused on the tribe's request to grant partial summary judgment on the portion of the lawsuit dealing with breach of the employment contracts. Attorneys representing both sides of the case each expressed their opinions on the matter of employ-

ment contracts and severance agreements in a brief hearing that lasted less than an hour. The Sault Tribe's legal team argued its motion before the court on the contract case. Rather than rule from the bench, the court opted to take the matter under advisement and issue a written opinion to be released at sometime in the near future. The case is currently scheduled to go to trial on June 20, 2006, in Chippewa County Circuit Court.

In other related news, an attorney representing Miller, Canfield, PLC, a defendant in the case,

objected to having future court hearings in Chippewa County because it was an inconvenience to the lawyers representing the parties. The defendant's position on the location of future court hearings did not influence Judge Johnson's opinion on location. Since the case was filed in Chippewa County, Judge Johnson indicated that unless there were legal grounds to continue to have these hearings in Petoskey, future hearings would be held in Sault Ste. Marie.

See page 12 for a timeline/history of the case.

Voter registration forms mailed

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

If you are a Sault Tribe member residing outside of the tribe's seven-county service area and did not register to vote in 2004, now is your chance. You should have recently received a voter registration card by mail.

Over the past year, the Sault Tribe Election Committee and Board of Directors worked to address concerns on how elections are conducted. On Oct. 18, 2005, Resolution 2005-158 was passed by the board revising Tribal Code Chapter 10: Election Ordinance. This opens up voter registration, allowing tribal members residing outside of any election unit to register up to three months prior to an election. This change does not effect those members who are already registered to vote.

If you are a tribal member residing within the tribe's seven-county service area and have a current tribal membership card, you are automatically registered to vote.

Voter registration is for a four-year term and must be received by the tribe 90 days prior to a general election in order for the registration to be valid. The next general election is June 22, 2006. Previously, tribal members residing outside the seven-county service area registered every two years for tribal elections.

Members are encouraged to register in the unit they have the closest ties to and indicate the number of the unit they select on their voter registration form.

On the registration form there is a line asking for "physical (principal)" which has caused some confusion. Members who have post office boxes should also write their actual physical address on this line if possible. Your signature is required on the bottom of the registration card to make it valid.

The tribe's seven-county service area is represented by five tribal election units. Along with your voter registration form you will find a map showing the location of the five units with a complete list by city, zip code and county.

For more information call Joanne Carr or Mike McKerchie at (800) 793-0660 or (906) 635-6050.



New Year's Powwow — Front left to right: Head dancers Jackie Halfaday-Minton and Cecil Pavlat, traditional dancers, celebrate the new year at the tribe's annual New Year's Powwow. The powwow is held at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in the Sault and is an alcohol free event. For more photos of the New Year's Powwow, see page 13. Photo by Nathan Wright

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Nationwide health career opportunities

SUBMITTED BY LYNN TROZZO, RECRUITER

Do you want to work in an environment that is fast paced, team oriented, and satisfying all at once? Do you want to travel extensively, make a great income and be able to support a family and actually have quality time with a family? Do you have a desire to give back to the community in which you grew up? If you said yes to any of these questions, then visit the Web site for the Indian Health Service (IHS) at www.ihs.gov and check out the job postings from all over the country.

The need for pharmacists is great almost anywhere and everywhere. For those high school students who are graduating this year and next year, it is still not too late to make your declaration for a bachelor's of science degree in pharmacy. Even for those more mature students who are returning to school for a degree, the opportunities are absolutely endless and growing by the day.

The IHS is nationwide and under the federal agency known as the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. The 2006-2007 IHS scholarship program applications are now available and may

be downloaded from their Web site as well. The deadline, however, for this school year is Feb. 28, 2006. The student-applicant has two enrollment options — full-time or part-time. The Health Professions Scholarship Program provides financial assistance for American Indian and Alaska Natives (federally recognized only) students who enroll in health professions and the allied health professions programs. Priority selection is usually given to graduate students, junior and senior level students. The list is lengthy for those degrees that are acceptable for the scholarship

program but cover nearly everything from a nurse to a Ph.D. in psychology, dentistry and even a certificate or associate's degree in diagnostic radiology. Pharmacy, optometry and physical therapy are also notable to mention.

While you are browsing their Web site, be sure to review the Loan Repayment Program Service Center as well, and consider the possibilities. Applicants to this program are eligible to have their educational loans repaid in amounts up to \$20,000 per year for each year of service they work for an IHS facility or approved Indian health program. See the

guidelines to see if this is an option for your educational and career goals.

The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians serves a seven-county area and maintains 10 health clinics and the most obvious choice is the employer of choice in the beautiful Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Serving our own people can only be the rewarding bonus once the education level is attained. For more information on careers and opportunities for health care professions in your expertise, please call toll free 1-866-635-7032.

Tribal job listings

Governmental openings
 Pharmacist supervisor, Manistique, open until filled.
 Behavioral health counselor, open until filled.
 Bus driver/St. Ignace, open until filled.
 Motor coach driver, open until filled.
 Construction director, open until 1/16/06.

Sault Ste. Marie casino
 Guest room attendants, open until filled.
Christmas casino
 Gaming dealer trainees, open until filled.
St. Ignace casino
 Line cook, open until filled.
 For more information call (906) 635-7032 or toll free (866) 635-7032, or apply online at www.saulttribe.com.

Cool Places, Cool People, Cool Jobs!

Pharmacist Wanted in the Beautiful U.P.



Would you love the opportunity to work in a small town, in a brand new health facility, with a great team?

Would you love to get back to the U.P. of Michigan and work in a great little community serving the needs of tribal members and families?

Would you love to grow and work in a team orientated organization and bring back all the professionalism you have worked so hard to develop?

Give us a call or apply on line at www.saulttribe.com or
Call Lynn TOLL FREE at 1-866-635-7032
 to get all the details on the
PHARMACIST SUPERVISOR POSITION
at the Manistique Health Center TODAY!



For more information contact:
Sault Tribe Human Resources
Attn: Employment
2186 Shunk Rd. • Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Cool People, Cool Places, Cool Jobs! Job Fair!

Join our team at Kewadin Casinos!

Job Fairs Scheduled in St. Ignace and Cheboygan!

Little Bear East, St. Ignace

January 24

February 21

March 14

Michigan Works!

Building, Cheboygan

January 25

February 22

March 15

All job fairs will run from noon to 6 p.m.

Kewadin Casinos new resort facility in St. Ignace is looking to fill nearly 90 full time and 45 seasonal positions.

jobs offer above average wages, a generous benefit package including sick, vacation, and personal time, health insurance, and a comprehensive retirement plan.

Call 906-635-7032 or 1-866-635-7032



December police report

Warrants

Nov. 29, female, lodged Mackinac County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 2, female, lodged Mackinac County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 3, female, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 12, male, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 12, female, felony warrant, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 12, female, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 14, male, lodged Mackinac County Sheriff's

Department.
 Dec. 15, female, traffic warrant, posted bond.
 Dec. 17, male, lodged Mackinac County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 17, male, lodged Mackinac County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 17, male, lodged Mackinac County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 17, male, lodged Mackinac County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 17, male, warrant child support, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department, bond \$13,085.
 Dec. 17, male, warrant child support, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department, bond \$10,085.
 Dec. 17, male, traffic warrant,

lodge Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 18, male, lodged Mackinac County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 20, female, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
Controlled Substance Act violation
 Dec. 28, male, lodged Mackinac County Sheriff's Department.
Obstruction
 Dec. 20, female, turned over to probation officer.
Operating while intoxicated:
 Dec. 7, male, lodged

Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 18, female, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
 Dec. 21, male, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
Malicious destruction of property
 Dec. 17, male, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
Minor in possession
 Dec. 8, female, turned over to parent.
 Dec. 8, female, turned over to parents.
 Dec. 17, male, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's

Department.
Disorderly conduct
 Dec. 19, female, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
Domestic assault
 Dec. 22, male, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
Driving while license suspended
 Dec. 7, male, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.
Serving minors
 Dec. 27, male, lodged Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.

Neighbors save man's life in Brevort Lake house fire

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

An early morning snow plow driver and a lightly sleeping neighbor worked together to save the life of Jeff Schmidberg when his trailer was going up in flames on the morning of Nov. 30.

Snow plow driver Don Giacherio, who was plowing snow for the Mackinac County Road Commission, put his plow into reverse when he saw flames shooting out of the trailer across the street and a lightly sleeping neighbor, Joe Frazier, became curious. "I was in bed sleeping but am a light sleeper. Vehicles go by in front of our house all the time, we've been there for almost 45 years, and I can just about identify who it is by the sound of their car. That morning the snow plow came by but it was odd when his back up alarm sounded. I thought it must be bad outside and that maybe he was backing up to add more salt to Massey Hill. I looked out of the window and that's when I saw the six to eight foot flames shooting out of Jeff's trailer,"



Joe Frazier

Frazier said.

The fire occurred at 3891 North Brevort Lake Road.

Thanks to the help of the two men Schmidberg was able to crawl from his bedroom window a bit disoriented but otherwise unharmed.

Letting his wife know to call 911, Frazier ran across the street where Giacherio was already at the back of the house. "Don had already called for help and I went to the front door and started beating on it. I took a run at it

but bounced off the door and thought for a second that I might have broke my shoulder. So I started beating on the window next to it where I could see the fire burning in the center of the trailer," Frazier said. "I went to the back where Don was and could see that Jeff was standing up but was disoriented. We had a hard time hollering at him through the closed window but we got him to get on his bed and kick the window out. We helped him out and I took him across the street to my house," Frazier said.

A disoriented Schmidberg had tried to open his bedroom door to exit through the house but with the insistent yelling of his two rescuer's, and with smoke starting to come in under his door, he made the right decision to lay on his bed and kick out the window. "He has a bad back and is on disability. He lost everything in that fire," Frazier said.

Once Schmidberg was safely in Frazier's home, they became concerned about his vehicles

parked inside the garage next to his house. "Jeff had his keys in his pocket and I went across the street and thankfully the power had not yet gone off and I was able to open the electric garage doors and get the car out. Then I went back and pushed his Harley Davidson across the street as well," Frazier said.

When the Brevort firefighters arrived, the back side of the house was already gone. Fire was spreading into the bedroom from the west side and burning its way into the living room.

"The timing was just right for us to be able to help him out of his trailer. If it had happened this morning it might have turned out differently because the snow plow was late and I wouldn't have noticed the flames when I did. The good Lord was watching over him that morning," Frazier said.

Frazier said he has been in contact with Schmidberg by phone and he is currently staying with a friend in Detroit. Schmidberg and wife Patricia have already purchased another

mobile home and hope to put it back on the property once the remnants of the old one are cleared away. "Once he gets the new trailer we are going to have some kind of benefit for him. He had to borrow a jacket from me and he is a big man, about 250 pounds, and my jacket didn't fit him too well," Frazier said.

The Schmidberg's have received some help from the Red Cross, and friends have put out collection jars at pool tournaments as well as at some local biker club houses.

Despite losing everything they owned, Schmidberg said, "We are looking forward, not backward. It's the only way to be."

Editor's note: Watch in future editions of The Sault Tribe News for the date and location of the benefit for Jeff and Patricia Schmidberg. Joe Frazier, Schmidberg's neighbor who helped pull him from the burning trailer, is a Sault Tribe member and the father of Sault Tribe Health Center registered nurse, Lynne Manzardo.

Kewadin donates furniture to victims of Hurricane Katrina



Volunteers take a break from loading hotel room furniture into an American United Campaign semi-truck. Left to right: Ted Curry, Habitat for Humanity; Judd Price, Sault Ste. Marie Police Department; Jon Morley, Mike Reengy, Josiah LeBlanc, Andrew Keeney, Reid Desrochers, Bob Smith, all from the First Church of Christ; Wyatt Curry, Habitat for Humanity; Dave Adams, Weir Furniture, and Jon Miller, Kewadin Casinos.

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich.-The America United Campaign, started by the Iron Mountain Police Department, received a semi full of furniture from 25 Kewadin Casino hotel rooms that will soon be renovated. Items included mattresses, box springs, dressers, night stands, photos, lamps, mirrors and bed spreads.

The shipment is being delivered to the Habitat for Humanity group in Covington, La., to help victims of Hurricane Katrina rebuild their homes. Nearly 20 volunteers from the Sault Ste. Marie Police Department, Chippewa County Sheriff's Department, the First Church of Christ, Weir Furniture, Habitat for Humanity and Kewadin Casinos helped load the abun-

dance of furniture.

The America United Campaign is a non-profit organization developed after the terrorist attacks on the United States in 2001 as a way for Upper Peninsula police departments to contribute and get involved with efforts to support fellow citizens.

"Local law enforcement agencies throughout the Upper Peninsula have supported the American United Campaign since it started in 2001," said Detective Sergeant Judd Price of the Sault Ste. Marie Police Department.

Most recently, the campaign held a canned food drive after the effects of Hurricane Katrina were realized, shipping tons of food to the devastated area. This was the first time since 2001 that the operation was reactivated.

"The campaign has really turned into a community effort across the U.P.," said Price. "It's not just law enforcement agencies anymore, its local churches, non-profit groups and Habitat for Humanity organizations helping to make the campaign a success."

"We're glad to help out in any way we can to support campaigns like this one," said casino General Manager Steve Sprecker. "It's all about community and being involved to help your neighbor, even if they're across the country."

The total donation value to the American United Campaign is \$50,000.

In 2005, Kewadin donated over \$60,000 to support local benefits, donations and related activities.

AARP's Tax-Aide Program seeks Upper Peninsula volunteers for 2006 tax season

With the help of volunteers, AARP's Tax-Aide Program provides free tax counseling and preparation services to millions of low and middle income taxpayers, with special attention to those age 60 and older. There is a particular need for counselors throughout the Upper Peninsula, and AARP Michigan is asking for volunteers to help others during the 2006 tax season.

"You don't have to be a lawyer or accountant to help others through Tax-Aide, just

someone who wants to volunteer and who has financial aptitude," said Betty Shaw, AARP Tax-Aide Michigan State Coordinator.

Volunteer tax counselors will assist people in preparing their tax returns and answer tax questions from Feb. 1 to April 15 at sites throughout the Upper Peninsula, including senior and community centers, libraries and other convenient locations.

Volunteers receive training in cooperation with the IRS and

the AARP Foundation, which administers the program. In addition, the program assists with electronic filing and online counseling, and also provides tax counseling services to individuals who are unable to leave their homes.

To find out more information about becoming a tax-aide volunteer, call the AARP Michigan State Office toll free at 1-866-227-7448 or visit the Web site at www.aarp.org/money/taxaide.

Winter fun at Kewadin Casinos

Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan—Come on in to Kewadin Casinos and watch the most anticipated football game of the year on Sunday February 5, 2006!

There will be great prizes including CASH at the Dream Maker's Theater in Sault Ste. Marie, the Anchor Pub in St. Ignace and the Team Spirits Bar in Manistique.

Bring your sweetheart into Kewadin Casinos this Valentine's Day as we celebrate with our "Who Wrote the Book of Love" promotion! Random drawings will take place from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. for customers to come up and pick a page to win great cash

prizes. We're giving away up to \$40,000 between all five casino locations.

Don't forget to check out the races as Kewadin brings you the Michigan Snow X Series Races! Enjoy these extreme racing events on February 18 – 19 in St. Ignace, and March 4 in Manistique. Visitors can hear the roar of the engines and feel the spray of the snow as sleds hit the track with the Michigan Snow X Racing Association's oldest and largest snow cross circuit.

For more information on any promotion or to purchase tickets for the championship game, call 1-800-KEWADIN (539-2346).

Q & A - Questions from tribal members

Q: I read in the tribal paper that the registration of voters for the 2006 board of directors election has been opened. Who do I contact to receive a registration form?

A: Contact Election Committee Chairman, Mike McKerchie, at (906) 635-7035 or Board of Directors

Executive Assistant Joanne Carr, at (906) 635-6050.

Q: I am interested in employment opportunities offered when the new casino in St. Ignace opens. Will there be a listing of available jobs?

A: Yes, there are job fairs scheduled for the following dates: Jan. 24, Feb. 21 and March 14 at the Little

Bear East, St Ignace, Mich., from noon to 6 p.m. And on Jan. 25, Feb. 22 and March 15 at Michigan Works!, In Cheboygan, Mich., from noon to 6 p.m.

For information call Human Resource Recruiter, Lynn Trozzo at (906) 635-7032 or (906) 643-4176 Ext: 53576.

REVENUE, LITIGATION, REFERENDUM UPDATES



Aaron A. Payment, MPA
Tribal Chairperson

An issue began recently with a need to postpone our Jan. 3 Tribal Board meeting because I needed to be in Detroit. Since we did not have any action items, postponing the meeting made sense, so I sent a notice to board members and a media release was sent out so members would be informed. Nonetheless, a select few argued that they would have the meeting anyway despite the fact that there were no agenda items.

At this point, I'm left wondering what was so compelling that these select few board members felt we absolutely had to meet. Since this time, I have learned of a rumored petition to remove me from office; a planned motion led by Director Paul Shagen to terminate General Counsel Steve Morello during the height of our litigation to recover the \$2.66 million taken on election night; and a planned motion to reconsider whether or not to hold the current referendum issue to 'let the members decide' if Shagen and Bouschor are eligible to run given the funds they took on election night in 2004.

Switching gears, I'd like to briefly explain the impact our latest Greektown financing will have on our tribal budget and our programs and services. Prior to completing our financing, we expected to continue to add \$10 million a year to our tribal programs and services budgets.

Though our current relationship with the Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB) staff has improved considerably, it was nonetheless adversely effected by the former chairperson's overstated budget projections. We were expected this time to lower the amount we bring home to \$5 million a year for a period of time while we pay off a significant portion of our Greektown financing debt.

Bouschor's 'rosy projections' were never shared with the tribal board, and took us by surprise during our permanent financing. Because we were lacking in credi-

bility with our revenue projections, the MGCB stipulated that we need to meet our budget projections or trigger a decision to either infuse capital to the bottom-line, or sell the Greektown Casino. However, with more modest budget projections, and a somewhat liberal time period to infuse capital, we don't anticipate any difficulties here.

Last fall, while drafting an 'annual balanced budget' process which obligates 93 percent of our net revenue to programs and services, we analyzed budget increases comparing previous election cycles versus non-election cycles. During non-election budget cycles, we saw a 3.5 percent increase. During election years, however, we typically see an increase of seven percent to the tribal support budget! Again, due to the new 'annual balanced budget' the day of incumbent board members or chairperson using the tribe's assets to get re-elected are over.

Given our new financial constraints, we will need to slow the growth of our tribal support infusion into the tribal budget and operate even more efficiently. The alternative to operating more efficiently is to borrow money to operate and to extend a debt load similar to a national debt. The tribal board established (by resolution) to instead balance the budget by setting an available amount for programs, services, and operations based on 93 percent of net revenue. When revenue is tight, we will need to make necessary reductions to make more tribal funds available for member services. Conversely, when revenues flow, programs and services will automatically expand and keep pace with 93 percent of our net revenue.

Our Kewadin gaming revenue for the months of November and December are up about seven percent over this time last year. A good deal of this is attributed to: new management with a new Chief Operating Officer at the post — Tony Goetz; a revitalized management team and their efforts; and the sheer hard work of all casino team members including frontline personnel like dealers, wait staff, cage cashiers, etc. Our conventions sales are also up by 11 percent for the same time period thanks to local businesses and groups holding their holiday and end of the year celebrations with Kewadin Casinos and not being swayed by political arguments instigated by the former chairperson and supporters.

Greektown Casino revenue is up as well with the month of

December up an incredible 21 percent over last year! This may be attributed to a combination of our new valet parking garage and also the gas prices dropping a bit. We expect even greater revenue for 2006 due to: improved operations and more aggressive marketing; a new passport requirement at customs between Detroit and Windsor; and the Windsor casino becoming smoke free next spring.

In late February 2006, we plan to break ground to complete the permanent Greektown casino. By the end of 2008, we will complete a significant expansion to our existing casino and a new covered and connected parking garage should be completed. With our new covered and connected parking garage, our goal will be to exceed 30 percent of the Detroit market and increase our revenues by tens of millions of dollars.

In 2006, we will unveil our new Kewadin Shores Casino. The net revenue of our Shores operations has consistently challenged our main operation in Sault Ste. Marie. With an expansion that makes Kewadin Shores a waterfront destination resort, we should see a healthy increase in gross revenue. Our planned soft opening is scheduled for Memorial Day weekend.

Both Vice Chair Bob LaPoint (Unit 2) and Unit 3 Director Fred Paquin deserve our appreciation for their contributions toward our team effort to manage this project. While other board members find fault with everything under the sun, LaPoint and Paquin are helping to get the job done. Incidentally, though these meetings are open to all board members, the most antagonistic simply don't attend.

In December, the tribal board voted to establish an early retirement incentive to facilitate those who have long years of service to be able to retire early and receive an incentive in the form of an 'early out' bonus check inclusive of their accumulated vacation and sick time plus two weeks of their annual pay for every year of service.

The tribe benefits through the early out initiative by either not filling vacated positions or by offering vacated positions at a cost of about 35 percent less than the cost of paying someone who has up to 20 plus years of longevity. The 'early out' initiative is completely voluntary. Based on the 19 who signed up before the deadline, where it previously cost us \$637,613 annually (not including benefits) for these positions, the revised annual cost will be just \$173,039. This is a

whopping \$464,573 (73 percent) savings. Directors Lambert and McKelvie voted 'No!' on this initiative.

The main difference between the early-out payouts granted by the tribal board and the tribal funds that were taken illegally on election night 2004 (costing the tribe \$2.66 million or about \$1 million more than the amount the tribe puts into the elders checks for 2,900 elders) is that the board authorized the recent severances. In stark contrast, on election night 2005, Bouschor violated his \$50,000 signature authority and by spending tribal dollars not budgeted. We have already a favorable opinion from the presiding judge that: Bouschor did not have the authority to pay the \$2.66 million to these seven these individuals; that these individuals were not fired but that they resigned; and that they were not therefore entitled to the \$2.66 million.

Paul Shagen alone took \$202,707! This is more than three times as much as the amount we budget annually for the tribe's elderly heating assistance programs, twice as much as our emergency needs program or about 11 times the annual wage of our average casino employee. Astoundingly, Shagen continues to be paid as a member of the tribal board. The gross amount he has pocketed since the 2004 election between his board salary and the amount he took on election night is \$308,360 (*1) The total amount he will have pocketed by the end of his term during the summer of 2006 will rise to a shocking \$345,726! (*2)

On 12-19-05, Bouschor and Shagen's attorneys requested to have our case heard outside of Chippewa County! Their argument? Negative publicity (Shagen actually perpetuated some of this by publishing several letters to the editor suggesting racists comments were made against defendants and promoting a boycott of our tribal gaming business). I find it astonishing that Paul Shagen would argue against the case being heard in his own election unit.

Recently, Shagen has even argued in the local paper against holding our latest referendum (which would let the members decide) on whether or not he should even be eligible for re-election. Shagen claims to want only Unit 1 (roughly Chippewa County) to decide the latest referendum issue but doesn't want tribal members in his own election unit to be able to judge him for his actions taking \$202,707 of the tribe's funds.

During the summer of 2005, eight individuals were initially slated to be laid off for being in high paid non-essential positions. The tribal board granted modest severances (two weeks pay for every year of service) and allow these individuals to instead resign. During this same time period, several other individuals were discharged for various reasons including: theft from an internal tribal service; theft from a tribal program that provides direct services to members; theft by an individual punching in on the time clock but missing most of each day consistently day after day; and a casino employee who lost his/her gaming license by stealing a customer's money.

These terminations were handled through the normal process and are unremarkable except that there have been many political attempts by supporters of the former chairperson and his web page to suggest that we are targeting non-tribal employees for termination.

Bouschor's 'scorched earth' campaign is getting tiresome and demonstrates his lack of commitment to our tribe. To resolve the matter of the resulting employment insecurity, tribal board member/Treasurer Todd Gravelle, General Counsel Steven Morello, and I work in 2006 to establish a set of tribal employment regulatory laws. Neither the tribal board, nor the chairperson, will then be able to fire someone based on politics.

Finally, please vote to 'approve' the board's referendum to change the election code to prohibit the individuals who took the \$2.66 million on election night in 2004 from eligibility for election.

It is only fair that we take this action as a tribe until the litigation is over. At that point 'you the members' will be in full possession of ALL the facts and will be completely able to determine if individuals of this type should be allowed to ever have access to tribal funds again! Let's set a higher ethical standard that holds accountable those who steal from their own people.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments please contact me by email at apayment@saulttribe.net or call (906) 635-6050 or toll free at (888) 94-AARON.

(*1) (\$202,707 + \$105,654 { \$1,288 per week x 82 weeks }).

(*2) (\$202,707 + 143,019 { \$1,288 per week x 111 weeks }).

The next deadline for submissions to *The Sault Tribe News* is January 24 at 9:00 a.m.

THE SAULT TRIBE NEWS

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

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Is this good government?



Paul Shagen
Unit I Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

I first would like to wish everyone a happy new year and hope that you had a great Christmas. My family enjoyed Christmas even more this year, as my daughter is almost two years old. I would like to thank the members for the Christmas cards and words of support.

In regard to tribal business, Payment's "referendum madness" continues. Registered voters should have received a referendum ballot by now. Payment's unconstitutional referendum asks voters from the tribe's five election units to disapprove or approve an amendment to the tribe's Election Code. If approved, the amendment would prevent Bernard Bouschor and myself from running for the tribal board.

Payment is using the pending civil suit as an excuse to eliminate competition well before the court resolves the matter and contrary to tribal law. In fact, in a desperate attempt to persuade members to support his unconstitutional referendum, Payment has once again lied to the membership by attempting to characterize a civil dispute as criminal in nature. Nothing could be further from the truth, and Payment knows it. He has acknowledged this at board

meetings.

Although Payment's referendum may appear to seek input from voters, his motives are transparent and less than honorable, his referendum is nothing more than a veiled attempt to dilute the strength of Unit I voters by converting a general election into a tribe-wide referendum. In the coming 2006 election, only Unit I voters have the right to vote for their representative, and voters from the other four election units are not permitted to vote in this regard. In contrast, all eligible voters from the tribe's five election units have the right to vote in a tribe-wide referendum.

Payment's unconstitutional referendum demonstrates that he does not trust the voters of Unit I to vote the way he wants in the coming 2006 election. He realizes that recent polling indicates that a majority of members in Unit I do not agree with his divisive methods. This is particularly true, as

more Unit I members are now aware of Payment's extremist views, including his "white pigs" comment and keep out the union "white trash" sign.

Because of this, Payment is desperate and running scared. And, consistent with his past approach, he is willing to trample on the rights of Unit I voters to achieve his political goals. Recall, in 2003, I defeated Todd Gravelle in the advisory election to fill a vacant board seat. Rather than accept the fact that his candidate lost, Payment lobbied the board to ignore the decision of Unit I voters and to appoint Gravelle instead of myself. The board rejected his efforts.

It is my hope that voters will also refuse to do Payment's dirty work by voting to DISAPPROVE his referendum. I am concerned that a failure to do so will have ramifications that go far beyond Bernard Bouschor and myself. If Payment succeeds in manipulat-

ing the referendum process to target his political opponents in Unit I, representatives from the other units will be next. Do you want other units to decide who can serve as your unit representative? For example, should a voter from Sault Ste. Marie (Unit I) be able to cast the deciding vote regarding whether representative Causley (Unit II) is eligible to run? Payment, Gravelle and Morello think so. Is this good government?

Moreover, is Payment's approach consistent with his recent statement? In the Nov. 22, 2005, edition of *The Sault Tribe News*, he stated: "To arbitrarily not qualify members for election eligibility out of fear they may beat you is cowardly."

Thank you for your continued support. If you have any questions, please contact me at home (906) 437-5381.

Moving forward in the new year



Lana Causley
Unit II Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Happy New Year! To begin with, I would like to talk about the youth leadership conference we attended in November at the casino in Sault Ste. Marie. As reported in the last edition of the paper, we had three days with over 200 teenagers in attendance. *Changing the Unchangeable* was the theme for the conference and I met many youth in our communities who have unique potential to become great leaders for our tribe. Hearing their thoughts and ideas placed many issues in perspective for me as well as humbled me to the great need for these youth to have individuals to look up to and learn from.

We do not always realize this, but they sure do pay attention and hardly miss anything, it seems, just as the elders, they are always watching . . . and listening. The most critical issue pressing to our youth today is the drug and alcohol abuse within their communities. It is apparent that most all of them know of at least one friend or family member who has a problem/addiction. Prescription drug abuse is becoming more and

more common and these youth are worried about the effects in their areas.

As we move forward into a new year, one of my priorities will be to become more actively involved in solutions our tribe can pursue to combat these addictions and to seek our more assistance and resources available for our substance abuse prevention and treatment programs. Writing about the drug problem within our communities is not a pleasant task but we must all be aware that this is what our teens are dealing with and it's on their minds.

I would like to recognize some of our fellow members who presented workshops and made this conference possible. Dee Eggert, Barb Gravelle, Lisa Burnside, Cathy Abramson, Sue St. Onge, Joann Umbrasses, Jacki Halfaday-Minton, Ronald Paquin, A.J. McLaramore, Calvin Burnside, Darrell Labranche, Kim Swanberg, Buckshot Gravelle, Bud Biron and Les Ailing, our eagle staff carrier. Miigwetch.

Dec. 5 2005, the board of directors received copies of the proposed 2006 tribal support budgets and tribal financial outlook. We have not gone through the budgets line by line as we did the previous year. Therefore, the 2006 budgets have not been presented to the board for enactment yet. We are currently operating on a continuing resolution to stay within last year's amounts. Regardless, I will be reporting the proposed budget amounts for each division.

2006 proposed:

ACFS	\$1,398,033
Cultural	757,607
Education	1,432,169
Elderly	892,307
Employment	156,000
Fisheries	62,559

General	9,091,294
Governmental	1,222,458
Health	8,388,243
Internal Services	5,543,552
Indirect	222,414
Law Enforcement	723,355
Legal	5,164,882
Court	505,207
Self-sufficiency	1,696,599
Total	\$37,256,679

The above amounts total \$37,256,679, we need to operate with a total tribal support budget of \$31,629,961. This is based on the recent resolution the board enacted for a balanced budget. The resolution stated we can only operate at 93 percent of the total tribal net revenue, which is the \$31,629,961. Therefore, we must find reductions of at least \$5,626,718. We have a responsibility to go over and discuss the budget with the entire board. I will be requesting a time to do that at the next meeting, if one has not been scheduled. We cannot continue working under the "continuing resolution" to stay within last year's totals; we do not have that operating amount available for the 2006 year.

Some of the accomplishments just for our unit this past year has been the added increase in unit two's distribution from two percent funding. During the spring we were able to allocate \$49,287.65 and in the fall \$63,338.46. We have focused on distributions to our five schools in the unit, along with new construction in the Naubinway area with a pavilion and funding for the cemetery. DeTour's Sacred Heart Church is completing new renovations with some of the funding. I have had the opportunity to spend time with some elderly women from the DeTour area in assisting with the children's Christmas party and it was a great

turnout. The snow stopped me from going to Newberry for that Christmas party but that was just as much a success as Hessel's and DeTour's. Miigwetch to all those who made those parties possible for our children.

Germfask and Hendricks Township both received funding for their local firefighter's equipment and hall.

Engadine, Cedarville, Rudyard and Taquamanon area schools all received funding for their requested programs.

We allocated funding to Garfield township project for the ambulance hall.

Drummond Island received funding for the ice rink project and Clark Townships library received support as well.

We have hired an additional youth coordinator and expanded much more activities for our youth. Newberry and Detour now have weekly activities, Lisa Burnside and Arlene Graham dedicate 100 percent to our area and it shows in the turnouts they have for our community.

As stated in previous reports, I was able to have input on our Compensation Committee to evaluate and recommend an increase to our team members and this raise will be coming into effect soon. We still have much more work to do on the evaluation and human resource policies, and I will be keeping you up to date on that.

Funding from Greektown has made a new basketball court in Naubinway possible as well as Hessel's new powwow structure along with funding to construct a new firekeepers lodge next to the tribal center.

Our unit's elders have received an increase in the amount of tickets for entertainment. I would also

like to report that the tribe has purchased an additional 80 acres behind the existing casino in Hessel. There has been no discussion as to the development plan for this land but I would like to hear from you so that when the discussions do begin, I will have input as to what you would like to see.

With the new year beginning we must move forward, reading some unit reports makes me even more determined to do that, some of the reports are starting to take the ugly turn. With election time fast approaching you are well aware you will be forced to hear and watch attacks. That's very unfortunate that it has come to this . . . but it has.

When I was younger and my dad was on the board, election time was busy and exciting. Now everyone is stiff and completely stressed about what will happen, how many people will be hurt publicly and personally.

Employees within our tribe really have a hard road, I speak with members/employees everyday, and people are tired of the war going on within in our communities. I will not be part in the attacks, because I know members are sick and tired of it.

To ensure moving forward, we must meet and discuss what your issues are and what goals you want the board of directors to move toward. Here is a list of coming meetings for the month that I will be holding, hope to see you there: Our unit meeting in Hessel will be at the tribal center on Jan. 19 at 6 pm. A unit meeting in Newberry will be on Jan. 20 at 5 pm. Office hours will be in Hessel on Jan. 23.

Baamaapii, Lana Causley, (906) 484-2954.

Tune in to Sault Tribe This Week — *The Saturday Morning Show with George Snider* from 10 to 11 a.m. every week on AM 1230 WSOO. You'll hear news, tribal information, live interviews and music and other great features. Listen for *Sault Tribe This Week* with Tom Ewing scheduled on Tuesdays on AM 1230 WSOO at 9:35 a.m., WNBY-FM 12:37 p.m. and 5:38 p.m. in Newberry and WIDG-AM 9:04 a.m. in St. Ignace. Wednesdays WNBY-FM 12:37 p.m. and 5:38 p.m. and Thursdays on WSUE-FM (Rock 101) at 10:25 a.m and 4:25 p.m. Listen to Chairperson Aaron Payment's report the last Sunday of every month on WSOO and WNDY from 11-11:30 a.m.

Working for you



Cathy Abramson
Unit 1 Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Happy New Year! I hope that you all rang in the new year safely and had a peaceful Christ's birthday celebration. I was fortunate to spend a lot of time with my family this season. I hope that you were, too.

What a year to reflect on. With three referendum votes, tribal politics appears to have taken center stage. A new election cycle will soon begin and it is my hope that we do not see negative campaigning reach an all time high. People should win based on their own strengths and merits not on false images created by other people. I have never been part of, nor do I condone any type of, negative campaigning. Attacking each other only brings our whole tribe down. I, as well as many others, will be looking forward to seeing candidates who will help support our tribe members and help build our community and our organization. We have a lot to be proud of and I urge you all to keep moving forward. Let's not get distracted and dwell on the past. We can't change it, but we can learn from it and move on. It's 2006, a fresh start!

Tribal youth conference — During the week of Nov. 18-20, I attended the Tribal Youth Leadership Conference that was held at our very own Kewadin Casino and Convention Center in Sault Ste. Marie. The Conference was titled "The Leaders of Tomorrow are Here Today — A Conference to Change the Unchangeable." Tribal youth came from Escanaba, Manistique, Munising, Engadine, Cedarville/Hessel, St. Ignace, Cheboygan, Sault Ste. Marie, Brimley, Bay Mills and Hannahville.

Chance Rush, LeAndra Bitsie and RunningHorse Livingston, three

young Native motivational speakers known throughout Indian Country, served as keynote speakers. All three of them emphasized the importance of prayer in our lives. They stressed Native pride and encouraged our youth to remember three things. 1) I'm a leader whether or not I realize it. 2) My attitude is showing, wear a good one. 3) Fifty percent of Indian people are under 24. They were truly inspirational and I wish many more of our adults could share in the teachings they provided to us.

The conference also featured our own local leaders such as Bud Biron, Jackie Halfaday-Minton, Ron Paquin, Kat Memegos and Cal Burnside who shared with us their talents and teachings. George Eicher of the WIA program and Diane Diaz of Human Resources gave a presentation on employment in and out of school; Kim Swanberg presented community awareness and community mapping; A.J. McLaramore gave a workshop on community service and giving back and William (Buckshot) Gravelle presented self improvement — following your dreams.

Director Lana Causley and I were honored when passed tobacco to conduct a workshop on leadership. When we found out the topic was specifically "Politics" my first thought was, "Hmmm . . . coming from our perspective that could be quite a topic." We decided to keep it simple and listen more to what our youth had to say about the subject. We gave them all a copy of our tribal Constitution and discussed our roles as a board members. We also gave handouts regarding who our state and federal representatives were as well as a listing of all the other tribes in Michigan.

Let me tell you about what we learned from our youth. The first question we asked was: "Do you know who your tribal board representatives are?" Very few did. Some did not know who our chairperson was. So, we educated them about who their leaders were. Fellow board members, we highly recommend you have a unit meeting with your area youth. They are very interested in a variety of issues and also have some great solutions to share.

They are very in tune to what politics are and offered some suggestions to improve our own tribal politics. Some of them were: More community/youth input and involvement; better communication and

gatherings/meetings; more honesty and respect; board members need to remember they represent the people and they should all work together respectfully; and learn more about cultural teachings. We will be sharing the complete information with our board.

Our youth told us the issues they would like to see our board address. Some of the major concerns were combating the use of drugs and alcohol by youth and their parents; more adult/parental involvement with youth; eating disorders; more cultural education; more help for our schools and improved educational opportunities; protecting our natural resources; and pollution, particularly trash imported from Canada.

Although I had great fun singing karaoke with some of our youth and the staff of Youth Education and Activities, the highlight for me was the celebration of our tribal youth council's 10 year reunion. One of our past chairpersons, William "Buckshot" Gravelle was a featured speaker. He was excellent! Josh Homminga, also a founding member and storyteller extraordinaire, got up to the podium and shared with us some of the famous UNITY trip experiences, stories and legends. We laughed so hard! Buckshot and Josh could easily travel nationwide to deliver messages to our youth. They are extremely talented!

Other founding members in attendance were: Chris Goetz, Lisa Abramson Kerfoot, Kim McPherson, Jodi Ringuette, Barb Gravelle, Laura Abramson Collins, Melissa Kozeyah, and Shondra (Gervais) Homminga. Not in attendance, but certainly not forgotten were Amanda Leonard, Theresa (Ringuette) and Jeremy Snider, Nicole Ross, Chris Snider and John Shaski, Dan Brady and Angus McKerchie.

Amongst all these founding members we have young adults who are wonderful caring mothers and fathers; college students/graduates with masters and bachelors degrees in health, education, business, natural resources; active participants with our drum; active learners of our Ojibwe language and ceremonies; legislative aides in Lansing; motivated employees of our casino and governmental programs. Also, a number of these young adults are drug and alcohol-free. These young people have certainly come full circle and continue to give back to our community. They are excellent role

models and I am so proud of them!

I would like to thank Alan Rabideau whom I call the "Father of Our Tribal Youth Council" for bringing this idea to our tribe 10 years ago. I would also like to thank our Youth Education and Activities staff for continuing to develop more youth councils across our service area. You all have done an outstanding job.

U.P. and Northern Michigan Task Force: I have also been actively involved with State Representative Gary McDowell as a member of his U.P. and Northern Michigan Task Force. For several months now, we have been conducting a series of hearings across our area. We are gathering testimony from individuals, business leaders, local official and residents. The topics are as follows: economic development (tourism, forestry and other fields); health care and prescription drugs; education; water protection and Canadian and out-of-state trash. We are looking for input to improve the lives of our people in the U.P. and northern Michigan. Once we are finished conducting the hearings, this information will be compiled and delivered to Governor Granholm and the Legislature.

Gary is a good friend of our tribe. As a matter of fact, he has a daughter who is a tribe member, so he does have a vested interest. He works hard for our people and is very knowledgeable about our concerns. He helps educate the state legislature about who we are as a people. He helps us build bridges so that we may accomplish our desired goals. I appreciate all that he does for our communities. I wish him the best in his upcoming election.

St. Mary's River Task Force: I have been appointed by our board to chair our tribe's newly formed St. Mary's River Task Force. Other members include Dan Tadgerson, Kristi Little, Mike Ripley, Joe McKerchie and Cory Wilson. Ernie Walker and Sharon King of the legal department are assisting us. The purpose of this task force is to formally advise the board of directors regarding issues and recommendations for tribal government action with the goal of restoring the St. Mary's River. A monumental task you might say, but we have to start somewhere.

At this point, we are in the process of scheduling a meeting between the tribal chiefs of Garden River and Batchewana and the

chairmen of Sault Tribe and Bay Mills. We are helping to circulate a petition that the "governments of Canada and Ontario promptly complete a comprehensive plan to adequately identify and remediate contaminated sediments remaining in the St. Mary's River, in cooperation with the governments of the U.S. and Michigan, and that the plan be successfully executed in a timely manner. Further, the plan should especially focus on the removal or remediation of contaminated sediments related to the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario's East End Sewage Treatment Plant which continue to threaten the health of residents living downstream of that area." In other words, we need to help put pressure on the Canadian government to do what they said they would do. We hope to help educate our communities about this environmental concern that affects our traditional waters.

Please attend the St. Mary's River Bi-National Public Advisory Council (BPAC) meeting that will be held on Thursday, Jan. 12 at the Civic Center in Sault, Ontario. Help us show our concern! Contact me at (906) 635-3054 if you would like to assist in this environmental initiative.

Threats to Indian gaming and our tribal sovereignty: Due to lack of space, my next unit report will focus on the threats to our Indian gaming and even more important — our tribal sovereignty rights. Stay tuned . . .

Office hours: I would like to remind you that I will continue to hold office hours every Monday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at our tribal administrative building on Ashmun Street in the Sault. My office is on the second floor, just down the hall from the chairperson's office. There are a lot of tribe members with a lot of concerns and ideas. I have designated every Monday to be available to meet with members. Our tribal government is based on your input. We are trying to meet your needs. Please come in to talk about what's working, what's not working and together we can help build a better tribe.

You may reach me at (906) 635-6050 or (800) 793-0669. My home phone number is (906) 635-3054 and my e-mail address is at abrams410@charter.net. I look forward to hearing from you.

Board members should not eliminate their competition

I would like to give my input on a couple items that seem to have everyone's attention. The first issue is the referendum to stop Bernard Bouschor and Paul Shagen from running as candidates in the coming tribal election in June of 2006. When I campaigned to be a board member in 2002, I explained to the membership that an attempt was made to enact rules to prevent me from ever running in the first place. Can you image that the leaders of our tribe actually considered a rule change for the sole purpose of eliminating me as their competition. It sounds crazy but it happened. It also happened before when Bev Louis was removed from office because her

opinions did not go along with the "good-old-boys" in 1993. Once they removed her, our board of directors passed a rule that said any board member who has been removed from office could not run again for life. I promised then that I would never do the same if I was elected to represent you. I kept that promise when I voted no on the resolution to ask the membership if Bernard and Paul should be allowed to run for office this year. I did not deny the membership the right to decide because you will be doing that very thing in the election of 2006 and you are smart enough to know if either of them should ever represent you again. I do not support Bernard or Paul and

I would never vote for them as a candidate but as a board member I could not deny them their Constitutional right to run just to eliminate the competition.

The second issue I want to discuss is the Constitutional convention that is currently ongoing. I attended four of the six community meetings that were held and I must say that I was disappointed in the turnout. The Marquette, Manistique, Detroit and St. Ignace meetings I attended had a combined total of six tribe members show up. I am glad that we have decided to make the changes to update our tribal Constitution but if the membership has no interest in this project, should we spend

\$100,000 to do it. I need to hear from you on this issue. Do you think that we should be doing this at all?

Now that the holidays are over, your Unit III representatives will be holding our monthly unit meetings. The first one will be on Jan. 25, 2006, and will be held at the McCann School/elder center. It starts at 6 p.m. and I hope to see you there.

Thank you for taking the time to read my report,
Rob Lambert
23 Stockbridge St.
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-8840
(800) 484-7919 #8106 toll free
roblambertsr@sbcglobal.net



Rob Lambert
Unit III Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Approve referendum to uphold tribal ethics



Todd K. Gravelle
Unit I Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

The referendum ballot that you have just received in the mail is an opportunity for the membership to continue our efforts to initiate reform within our tribe. By voting to approve this referendum the membership is sending a clear signal that we do not allow tribal members to be elected to office when they act unethically by trying to undermine the tribe's lawsuit against these individuals.

This referendum is really an ethical question for the entire tribal membership to answer and answer honestly. Should an individual who is being sued by the tribe be eligible to run for and be elected to the tribe's board of directors? Should this individual be in a position of governance and authority over the tribe who

is suing them?

The only just and logical answer to this question is NO! The tribe should never allow a person to run for office if they are being sued by the tribe; at least while the case is pending and still unresolved.

This referendum is really a stark example of how greed corrupted our tribe at its highest levels. It is perhaps the membership's best opportunity to use our referendum process to prevent defendants from using their political ties, family, friends and false campaign advertisements to avoid the consequences of prior actions against our tribe.

We must remember that only two years has passed since the historical election where the people voted for change. In my campaign I initiated the idea of a constitutional convention and we are on track for that to happen. Right now, the resolution we are voting on will test the strength of the board in cooperation with the members to assure that justice will be served. Following is a brief chronology of actions that took place after the 2004 election.

1. On May 19, 2004 the primary results showed that 61 percent of the voters voted against Bouschor. Knowing this, the defendants finalized their conspiracy to take \$2.66 million from the tribe.

In fact, June 24, 2004 election

night, Paul Shagen told me and several other individuals that he was resigning his attorney position, if Aaron Payment won the chairmanship.

2. On June 25, 2004 Bouschor closed our tribal offices for the afternoon during which time he and the other defendant's furthered their scheme of deception by taking computers and work files from their own and several other tribal offices. This was obviously to destroy the evidence of their plans to improperly take 2.66 million from our tribe.

3. After I learned of the resignations which were done under the guise of firings, I quickly filed court papers to prevent any more firings to protect our tribe's assets. Our very own tribal judge realized the extent of the possible damage that the former chairman could cause to our tribe and immediately issued a Temporary Restraining Order (TRO) to hold the chairman to his lawful \$50,000 spending authority. The order was issued by our chief judge since she obviously realized the impropriety of the chairman's conduct and issued the TRO to prevent the chairman from causing more damage to our tribe and prevent further irreparable harm to our tribe by his reckless conduct.

4. On August 20, 2004 the tribe's board of directors voted to sue the seven former employees

and the former chairman from improperly taking \$2.66 million from our tribe.

5. On August 14, 2005 the trial judge assigned to hear the tribe's case issued a preliminary opinion in clear and unambiguous language that the seven employees were not fired, but rather they had quit their jobs and were therefore not entitled to any severance pay.

Tribal members can clearly see that there are three solid reasons why these defendants, at an absolute minimum should be ineligible to run for tribal office until this civil case is completely resolved.

1. The tribal judge issued the restraining order against Bernard Bouschor.

2. The trial judge issued a preliminary legal opinion that Bouschor did not have the authority to give away our tribe's precious monies.

3. Your board of directors voted to sue Bouschor and the seven defendants to regain the money.

Only Director's Abramson and Paquin voted not to sue the defendants. All other board members who voted, voted to sue the defendants to get back our tribe's money. The board made the decision to sue the defendants after hearing the facts and evidence surrounding the secretive payments made to the former

employees. The board concluded that the payments made to the employees were wrong and improper triggering the board to vote to sue the defendants.

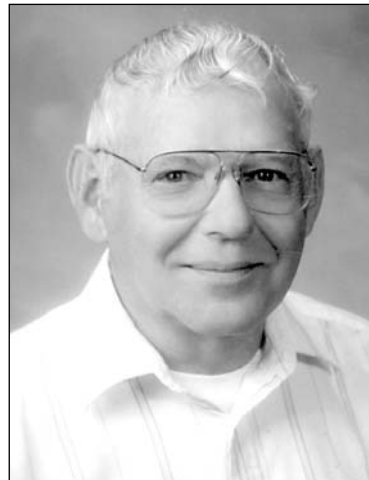
If elected to office, the former chairman, and Director Shagen, will simply use their board seats to work to dismiss the lawsuit against themselves.

A recent flier was sent by the former chairman and Director Shagen and their supporters to state that this referendum is somehow unconstitutional. This referendum properly allows the entire membership vote on the issue as to whether these defendants should be eligible to run for office, rather than just unit 1 voters. The fact is they took the monies from the entire tribe not just unit 1.

These defendants would only be prevented from running until the lawsuit is settled. In fact, these defendants control their own destiny. They could simply return the money and they would be eligible to run for office. It is really that simple. Please participate in this referendum and vote to approve it to ensure and uphold ethical standards within our tribe.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at: Todd K. Gravelle, 713 Maple St., Sault Sainte Marie, MI 49783, phone number: (906) 635-5740, email: tkgravelle@msn.com

Tired of sneaky attacks



Bob Lapoint
Unit II Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

If you accept the premise that the board of directors should have all the power, then I want to know why under the last administration did so many board members abrogate their power to the chairman. I'm getting a little bit tired of the sneaky attacks that have been going on against this administration, yet the board won't take any of the blame for all the abuses that took place under Bouschor.

By the time you read this you will probably have the referendum ballots. There are a few who will argue that Bouschor is not

getting treated fairly. Well let me tell you, if the shoe was on the other foot, the members would not be getting a say on this issue of money being improperly given to a handful of Bouschor's cronies and friends.

I am asking the members to vote to approve the resolution preventing Bouschor and Shagen from running for office until this matter is settled. What is happening right now is almost some sort of conspiracy, even bordering on treason. It was a mistake to keep Shagen on the board after the election when he received money in an illegal manner and now he is trying to remove our general counsel in hopes to keep his seat and bring his buddy Bouschor back.

I said it before and I will say it again, I think Bouschor belongs behind bars for the damage he has done to this tribe. We have to scrimp and cut back to pay for all the bad management in the past. There are some who don't seem to care about the majority of the members who have never received a nickel so long as they can retain power. I think it is not only fair, I think it is smart to let the members decide this issue.

Voting in favor of the resolu-

tion preventing Bouschor and Shagen from running for office will send a loud and clear message, the day of stealing from the members is gone and we don't want to go back to those days. There are some who don't like our new chairman but I want to tell you, he is doing a decent job protecting our money. People can say what they want about Chairman Payment, I can tell you point blank, at least he is not a thief.

There are some on the board who want to oppose everything that our chairman does simply because they don't want to see him get any credit. Things are changing for the better.

Chairman Payment does believe in a more democratic process. He has opened the door for a constitutional convention, this would never have happened with Bouschor in office. The number of referendums that have been brought forth is a good thing, this helps to increase membership participation.

The other big issue I hear the members talking about is the way this board is fighting and arguing over issues that do nothing for the members. Members are beginning to question the effectiveness of this board if they can't support the

chairman and his efforts to reform the system. We have some pretty big hills to climb and we need to get beyond the politics of personal agendas and start doing the peoples business.

I have been trying to stay focused on the priorities such as getting the St. Ignace casino open on time. I will work with any board member who wants to move this tribe forward. Right now all I see is finger pointing. I sometimes wonder if we could ever get beyond the petty politics what would the board be doing. I work full time as your board member. I have always tried to find ways to save this tribe money.

Lately I have been exploring the idea of an entrepreneurial government where we could be sitting down and exploring new ideas for increasing our casino profits. We need to get some of these constitutional issues behind us so we can focus on the future. I was hoping to report on some real positive aspects and begin by suggesting some ideas for the constitutional reform but that will have to wait until the next paper. In my heart and mind, Bouschor broke the law when he gave out more than \$2.6 million dollars.

We need to try and recover as much of this money as we can. It is almost laughable that Bouschor is now trying to invoke the Constitution when in fact he never cared about the Constitution when he was in charge. Our chairman seems to be very patient with the left overs from the past regime and maybe to his own detriment. I'm not sure if I could be as patient. Changing leadership at the highest level has uncovered some real problems. A transition of power means having a team that works with you and not against you. It is becoming increasingly clear there are some who are purposely trying to undermine this chairman for purely political reasons.

If we are ever going to be successful, this has to stop. There may also be people who are holding down jobs who are incompetent, placed there by the past administration, I think some of these issues need to be addressed. I am confident the members are going to do the right thing and approve the resolution that will guarantee justice will be served. We are making progress. Again, if you have any questions or need information contact me. Bob Lapoint, phone (906) 493-5311.

JKL Bahweting Public School Academy Board of Education meetings are scheduled for every second Tuesday of the month in the school cafeteria, 1301 Marquette Avenue, at 5:30 p.m. If there are any questions, please call Shawnda Kangas, president, or Patti Paris, secretary, at 635-5055.

The Sault Tribe News welcomes submissions from our tribe members by mail c/o Communications, 531 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or via e-mail at communications@saulttribe.net. Please, do not send any submissions via fax as material sent that way is usually received in poor visual quality. Any questions concerning submissions can be answered by calling (906) 632-6398.

Many cultural activities scheduled



Denise Chase
Unit 4 Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

The following resolution was presented at the Dec. 6 board meeting:

Escanaba tribal services facility:

"Whereas, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, 25 U.S.C. 467 et seq; and

"Whereas, the Tribe is currently the lessee of certain property in Escanaba, Michigan (the "Leased Property"); and

"Whereas, the tribe currently provides services to tribal members operating from the Leased property; and

"Whereas, the Board of

Directors recognized that the leased property is not suitable for the current services being provided or for the long term needs of the tribe; and

"Whereas, the Board of Directors desires to establish guidelines for the investigation and possible acquisition, renovation or construction of a facility more suited to the needs of the Tribe as a replacement for the Leased Space.

"NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors directs the Chairperson to begin the necessary due diligence for the potential acquisition, renovation or construction of a suitable facility designed to provide existing services to tribal members in or near Escanaba, Michigan.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors establishes a total targeted budget for the new facility of \$500,000, including all acquisition, development, renovation, and construction costs.

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors directs the Chairperson to report back to the Board of Directors prior to approval to proceed regarding the proposed acquisition/development plan."

On Dec. 6 the majority of the tribal board again voted down a request asking to set a budget for going forward with a building in

Escanaba. Our members in that area have a right to a safe, accessible and adequate sized building. In the last issue of the tribal news paper Rob Lambert stated that we could not afford funding to acquire a building in the Escanaba area. Vic Matson, chief financial officer for the tribe, already checked on financing for a building. To purchase a building and renovate or build for up to \$500,000 the cost to the tribe would be about \$34,000 a year. Rob also stated the cost would not cover the additional staff, they were told that only the existing services would move into the building, with plans for expansion/growth in the future when funding is available. And any costs for furnishing could be covered by grant funding. Right now the tribe pays around \$14,000 a year to lease inappropriate office space.

The size of the current building is only 750 square ft. There is funding already budgeted for space costs of \$60,000 a year to rent, lease or purchase a building in Escanaba. If we are going to be moving to another building it makes more sense to purchase or build one instead of renting and, once its paid off, its the tribe's and no one can tell us what we can and can't do there. Over the last 28 years, the tribe has spent a considerable amount of money in leasing space. If you times the current rent of \$14,000 a year X even 20 years

we have already spent over \$280,000 (estimate), we could have paid for a building already, and it would belong to us. The building the tribe has right now is not safely accessible to the handicapped or elderly.

The board of directors was on break for most of the month of December. Of course we still attended various community events, and traveled to Greektown for the management board meeting.

There is a "Together We Dance" contemporary Great Lakes powwow regalia exhibit at the Bonifas Arts Center in Escanaba from Jan. 13 to Feb. 23. The Rapid River Powwow Association Learning Circle would like to invite the elders from Marquette, Manistique and Escanaba to participate in special guided tours of the Bonifas exhibit. In addition to the tour, the learning circle will provide the opportunity for a hands-on workshop making tobacco pouches. The tour and activity would be about 2.5 hours long. There is no charge and spouses are welcome to attend.

There are also two other workshops scheduled: Jan. 28, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., drum making workshop put on by Bud Biron and also a birch bark wall pocket workshop put on by Ronald Paquin on Feb. 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The workshops are free and a free lunch is provided.

ed. There is also a powwow demonstration on Feb. 18 from 1 to 4 p.m.

If interested call Mary and Larry Godfrey at (906) 428-4622.

Membership to decide if defendants are eligible to run for tribal elections:

The referendum ballots were mailed out this week. The membership will vote and decide if any of the individuals who are currently defendants in litigation with the tribe are eligible to run for office.

Unit IV representatives will be holding office hours on:

Jan. 9 - Manistique Tribal Center - 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Jan. 11 - Escanaba Tribal Center - 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Jan. 25 - Sawyer Village community center - 5:30-7:30 p.m. at 269 Canberra St.

There is now a new human resources representative posted out of the Manistique Community Center, his name is Brian Barbeaux. Stop into his office anytime and he will be able to assist you in completing employment applications, or you can call him at 341-9561. Hopefully having a HR rep will now speed up the process of seeking employment, completing employment applications and applying for open positions with the tribe.

I can be contacted at (906) 341-6783 or 1-888-667-3809.

Unit I members should decide representation



Dennis McKelvie
Unit I Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

I would like to start off my unit report explaining my vote at a board meeting on whether or not tribe members who are litigants have the ability to run for tribal elections. I, for one, would have the biggest reason for them not to run for a board seat. No competition would make it easier. I also voted to allow removed board members to run, I could not violate their constitutional rights either way. This has not always been the case. I do not want to go back to the days of the requirements such as the quarter-blood rule. It was Rob Lambert and I who fought to abolish the un-constitutional quarter-blood requirement. I will not be a party to establishing yet another unconstitutional requirement.

Tribe members have a constitutional right to run in tribal elections. In this case, the litigants concerned are from Unit I. Unit I members should be the ones to decide whether or not these individuals represent them. Just because board members, or individuals from other units do not like them, is no justification for violating their Constitutional rights.

In the chairman's last report, the

chairman reported I was against the members' rights to vote. By not automatically registering everyone to vote, it in no way eliminates any member's opportunity to vote. I do not agree that we should just arbitrarily register everyone, and if they do not register on their own, we stick them in a unit where they may, or may not want to be, represented. The proposal would have forced individuals who did not voluntarily register to vote to be automatically registered in Unit I. The Constitution allows members outside the service area the choice in which unit they will cast their votes. I will not violate that Constitutional right.

I question the motives of the chairman and legal counsel in their actions regarding automatic registration. If you want to vote, you register. If you don't want to vote, then you do not. To ratify the new Constitution, it will take 30 percent of the registered voters. Taking a look at the last referendums voted on, this 30 percent threshold was met, but only marginally. Now imagine if everyone was automatically registered, including those who do not want to vote. How would we ever achieve the 30 percent threshold? Maybe that is the whole point. Are they trying to kill the changes that a Constitutional convention will recommend? Are they attempting to stop the separation of powers proposed? You decide!

I must now apologize to the tribal member workers from Unit I, as I am no longer able to sit on the appeals board to represent you. This was not a voluntary action. The chairman and human resources director have deemed it to be a "past policy," even though I, as well as other Unit I representatives, have served in this capacity on countless occasions over the past several years. Maybe we are being

removed from this board because we placed too many of you back into your positions after unjust firings? This will not change until the board over rules the human resources director. When asked at a board meeting, the human resources director stated that this has always been the policy. I asked for it in writing and it was not provided. This statement is not true. I have been sitting on appeals hearings for over the three past years.

In response to Director Gravelle's last report concerning myself, and the hiring process: If one person chooses the committee that sits in on hiring and sets the requirements for the position, that position is hand picked.

When a job description is written for a specific person, then the job is posted in-house, inter-department, then the position is hand-picked.

If only two applicants are allowed to interview for a KEY position, then it draws a question as to whether a position is HAND PICKED.

DIRECTOR GRAVELLE MUST ASK HIMSELF THIS QUESTION — WAS THE MOST QUALIFIED PERSON HIRED, NOT BY THE SMALL GROUP THAT THE JOB DESCRIPTIONS WERE TAILORED TO, BUT OUT OF THE ENTIRE MEMBERSHIP OF THE TRIBE?

Before I end this report I would like to touch on one more issue, budgets. I just received a glimpse of our new projected budget. While there are many cuts to areas that effect services, one budget stood out amongst the rest. The legal budget appears to be increasing by nearly 60 percent. We will tentatively be going from a \$3 million dollar budget, to one of over \$5 million dollars.

I realize that these expenses have a lot to do with lobbyists. But haven't we learned from past mis-

takes. Haven't we learned from the issues with the influence peddler Jack Abramoff? We cannot get into the practice of buying influence. We have seen what can happen with tribes who pay millions of dollars for lobbyists with little or no return. Maybe we need lobbyists, but can we outspend other tribes? The question is, how much are we going to spend and what is our

return? Maybe I live in a dream world, but I do not believe in paying people for doing jobs that they are already receiving compensation for. I do not believe in buying influence from any leader, including those on the tribal board of directors.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (906) 632-7267.

Holiday pampering



A-a-a-h-h . . . Certified massage therapist Brandy (nee Grogan) Carley administers a back massage to a 'holiday break station' patron on Dec. 20 in Sault Ste. Marie. Carely was one of several professionals on hand to treat Sault area tribal employees to an afternoon of soothing treatments at the Tribal Health and Human Services Center auditorium.

Photo by Rick Smith

Sault Tribe Community Health Services sponsored an opportunity for Sault area tribal employees to enjoy some free relaxation therapies from noon to 4 p.m. on Dec. 20. With help from the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center wellness staff, Looks Unlimited, Sugar Island Secrets and Mary Kay Cosmetics, employees were treated to massages for feet, hands, head or back along with aromatherapy, soothing music, lotions, soft lighting, refreshments, snacks and big doses of pampering.

Saints girls basketball team wins 2005 Cheboygan tournament



SUBMITTED BY DONNA LALONDE

The St. Ignace Saints eighth grade girls basketball team won the 2005 Cheboygan tournament. The Saints won over the Petoskey Northmen, Sault Blue Devils and Cheboygan Warriors to take first place with a final score of 34 to 20. The Saints season record was 11-2. The team was coached by Scott Clement. Back right is coach of the St. Ignace Saints eighth grade girls basketball team. Missing from photo is assistant coach Jimmy Clement. Six of the girls are Sault Tribe members. Team members are (not in order) Stephanie Damron, Kristen Olsen, Kali Jo Marshall, Holly Smith, Sam Radecki, Katie Garries, Christi Therrian, Dana Schieding, Ashley Kasper, Chelsea Swope, Mallory LaLonde and Sam Miller.

Stork report . . .



Issac Franklin Mattson was born Nov. 18, 2005, at Banner Good Samaritan Medical Center in Phoenix, Ariz. He weighed seven pounds, 10.8 ounces and was 18.75 inches in length.

Proud parents are Emil and Terri (nee Scott) Mattson of Mesa, Ariz. Issac joins a brother, Wyatt, at home.

Grandparents are Bob and Kathy (Gravelle) Moiles of Pensacola, Fla., Emil and Vera Mattson of Phoenix and the late Frank Scott.

Great-grandmother is Thelma Smart or Newberry, Mich.



Eugene Christopher Lawney was born on Nov. 16, 2005, to proud parents Eugene D. and Melissa Lawney.

He was born in Sunrise Hospital in Las Vegas, Nev., weighing eight pounds, two ounces and was 21 inches in length.

Grandparents are Cindy Gallo-way and Eugene P. Lawney. Great grandparents are Dolores Walsh and Billie and Rose Silberkleit.



New Year's Baby 2006

Avery James Wilson arrived on Jan. 1, 2006, at 11:02 am at War Memorial Hospital weighing seven pounds, 11.6 oz and 19.75 inches long.

Avery is the son of Cory and Jennifer Wilson of Sault Ste. Marie and the grandson to Dan Wilson, Laura Wilson, and Pat and Phil Andary all of the the Sault.

Avery is the great grandson to Julie Cryderman and Jerry and Irene Bonnee.

Avery was the first born the new year for the twin Saults.



Makenzie Lynne Doerner was the name given to a baby girl born to Amy Mortinsen and Doug Doerner of Perry, Mich. She was born at 7:51 p.m., Sept. 16, 2005, at Awoso Memorial Hospital weighing eight pounds, four ounces, and 21.75 inches in length. At home waiting to welcome her was big brother Owen.

Grandparents are Jerry and Pam Mortinsen, Barb and Wally Doerner, of Perry. Great grandparents are Myron and Delores Mortinsen and Rosetta Maleport, of the Sault, and Nancy Doerner of Isabella County, Mich.

Kyle Dowd receives drum



Kyle Dowd, 4, received this drum from Bud Biron at the Drum Feast held at the Sault Tribe Cultural Building. Kyle has been practicing with the Bawating Singers since October and has shown great promise as a drummer. His grandpa, Ted Holappa, and I (Kyle's mother) would like to thank Bud for making such a generous gift to Kyle and let him know how much we appreciate what he is doing to teach our American Indian culture to the next generation.

New assistant victims advocate



Tammy Nolan accepted a position with Anishnabek Community and Family Services as an assistant victims advocate based in Sault Ste. Marie on Dec. 14.

Nolan was born and raised in the Sault and attended LSSU after graduating from Sault Area High. She acquired a bachelor's degree in criminal justice when she graduated in May of 2004.

She relaxes by reading, traveling, gardening and spending time with family.

Marquette children's Christmas party



SUBMITTED BY GARY CARR

Mrs. and Mr. Santa Claus, Calleen Snyder and James Alderson, visited with children and handed out gifts at the tribe's Marquette children's Christmas party. The party was hosted by the Marquette Elder Board and was held at Northern Michigan University Center on Dec. 10, 2005. There were 233 children and parents who attended the party. Photo by Bob Kalbfleisch

Do you know these people?

Can you identify the family of Sault Tribe members?

Hint: Two children are missing from the photo and one in the photo is retiring from the Sault Tribe in 2006. Turn to page 10 for the answer.



Culture Camps

Winter survival Jan. 21

Flute camp Feb. 10-11

Drum camp Feb. 17-18

Mary Murray Cultural Camp on Sugar Island

Please contact Bud Biron, 632-7033

Walking On



Elizabeth "Betty" Blanchard of Lansing, Mich., was born Nov. 13, 1918, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and died Dec. 10, 2005.

A graduate of Loretto Academy, Western Michigan and Michigan State University, former Lansing Sexton High School teacher, Betty and her husband had a long and joy-filled retirement, traveling throughout the United States and touring Europe, Mexico and Australia.

Betty valued education and enjoyed the arts, literature and music, was active in the Lansing Women's Club and her college sorority, and treasured her family and friends and her heritage, including membership in the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Betty was preceded in death by her parents Stanley and Margaret Graham of Sault Ste. Marie and daughter-in-law Janice Blanchard.

She is survived by her husband, Harry; sons, Bill (Millie) and John (Joey); grandson, Tony (Layla) and two great-grandchildren.

There was a memorial service on Dec. 18 in the community room at Grandhaven Living Center in Lansing.

In lieu of flowers, friends may

make donations to Sparrow Hospice Services.

Arrangements by the Estes-Leadley Greater Lansing Chapel.

Virginia Mardell Bergeron, 78, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away Dec. 26, 2005, at Marquette General Hospital in Marquette, Mich. She was born Nov. 4, 1927, in Sault Ste. Marie to Arthur and Mary (nee Brooks) Harrington.

Virginia was a member of St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church in Sault Ste. Marie and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

She is survived by her son, Clifford M. "Skip" (Cheryl) Bergeron of Gowen, Mich.; daughters, Mary Ann "Molly" (Keith) Bumstead of Dafer, Mich., Tina (Michael) Britz of St. Clair, Mich., and Marti Jo (Andy) Fluery of Marysville, Mich.; grandchildren, Crystal (Don) Earl,

Nicole (Kirk) Steppig, Keith (Krista) Bumstead, Amii (Ryan) Hartman, Casey Bergeron, Melissa (David) Lutz, Amanda Redding, Mark Redding, Jessica Bergeron, Matthew Bergeron, Hannah Bergeron and Justin Britz; great-grandchildren, Zac and Luke Earl, Vanya, Anna and Kaelan Steppig, Ashely, Kyle and Kole Bumstead, Reese and Hayden Hartman, Wyatt Bergeron and Leah Lutz.

Virginia was preceded in death by her husband, Clifford J. Bergeron who passed away April 6, 1999; two infant children; brother, Frank Harrington; sisters, Charlotte Kibble and Lorraine Tadgerson; and her parents.

Visitation was Dec. 30 at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church. Funeral Mass followed at the church with Father John Hascall officiating. Burial was in Riverside Cemetery in Sault Ste. Marie.

Arrangements were in the care of Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home.

Thomas E. Lenhard, 58, born Jan. 22, 1947, died Dec. 23, 2005, loving father who will be greatly missed by his family.

He was born on Jan. 22, 1947, in Mishawaka, Ind., the son of Richard and Virginia (nee Watson) Lenhard.

Thomas had a heart transplant

21 years ago this last July.

He was an avid Wisconsin Badgers and Green Bay Packers fan.

Thomas was preceded in death by his parents, Virginia Smale and Richard Lenhard; father-in-law, Cecil Maleport; sister, Gail Hall (surviving are her children, Tim Hall and Jennifer Bartzak).

Surviving are his wife of 20 years, Linda; children, Kenneth "Pete" Lenhard and Kaitlin Lenhard of Ionia, and Tara Lenhard of New Port Richey, Fla.; brother, Jeff (Terry) Smale Cedarburg, Wisc., and their children, Ryan and Lindsay; mother-in-law, Rosetta Maleport of Sault Ste. Marie; sisters-in-law, Pamela (Jerry) Mortinsen of Perry, Brenda (Tom) Aldapa of Webberville and Patti Jo Maleport of Sugar Island; several nieces and nephews.

The funeral service was conducted by Rev. Kenneth Harger, Pastor of Shiloh Community Church on Dec. 27, 2005 at the Schrauben-Lehman Funeral Home in Ionia. Interment followed at Easton Township Cemetery.

Louis Paul (Louie) Paquin, Jr., 54, of Mottville passed away Dec. 13, 2005, at Three Rivers Health Hospital. He was born in Rexton, Mich., on March 25, 1951, son of the late Louis P. and Delores (nee Hood) Paquin, Sr.

He attended school in Newberry, and served in the U.S. Army from 1970 to 1972. He worked as a lift driver at Banks Hardwoods in Mottville for 10 years and was an avid outdoorsman who loved hunting and fishing.

Survivors include his life companion, Millie Sellers of Mottville; step-son, Rev. Anthony C. (Karen) Lamb of Burr Oak; one granddaughter; sisters, Lois (Fred) Bryant of Engadine, Sharon (Mike) Davis of Germfask, Kathy Smithson of Eastland, Texas, Vicky (Mike) Smithson of Kinross, Mich., Sandy (David) Gomez of Eastland, Elizabeth (Shawn) Reed of Frisco, Texas, Donna (Billy) Bell of Cross Plaines, Texas, and Deloryce (Don) Taft of Eastland; a brother, Joseph Paquin of Moran; and many nieces and nephews.

He is preceded in death by his parents; brother-in-law, Wesley Smithson; and nephew, Michael Smithson.

Cremation has taken place. Relatives and friends were received at the Eley Funeral Home in Constantine where a memorial service was held Dec. 16 with Reverend Anthony C. Lamb officiating. Interment of ashes will be in Eastland.

American Indians and HIV/AIDS: The expanding epidemic

Submitted by Larry Klein

What is the latest data regarding HIV/AIDS and the actual impact it is having on American Indians? I shall give a brief overview of the problem as recognized by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The primary statistical data is from 2003 and is the most recent collected from the CDC. It must be stressed here that most of the statistics are from a national perspective and do not reflect local conditions, local health care, STD rates, etceteras.

Overall, the data indicates that HIV/AIDS is a growing problem among American Indians. It shows more Indians, and we are no exception locally in Chippewa County, are engaging in high risk behaviors (unprotected sex and sharing needles) and then becoming infected with HIV. The problem is not going away. On the contrary, as the CDC has reported, we are still at the beginning stages of the disease process. For those who continue to live

according to myths, there are no cures and the medications are expensive and sometimes makes you sicker than the disease.

Now on to the data: An estimated 3,026 Indians have received a diagnosis of AIDS. Approximately 1,529 deaths have been reported. Of persons who had received a diagnosis of AIDS since 1995, Indians survived for a shorter time than any other race or ethnic group, except African-Americans. This usually shows that health care and other life experiences (higher unemployment) are inadequate or deprived compared to other races.

Even though the data, overall, are low actual numbers, according to the rates or percentage per population, there is a major and increasing problem. The estimated AIDS diagnosis rate among Indians adults and adolescents was 10.4 per 100,000, the third highest rate of all population groups, such as compared to the AIDS diagnosis rate of 7.2 per

100,000 for whites.

What are the risk factors for American Indians? First, the high rate of sexually transmitted diseases other than HIV such as chlamydia infection, gonorrhea and syphilis suggest the sexual behaviors that facilitate the spread of HIV are relatively common.

Second, the high rate of substance abuse. Casual and chronic substance users are more likely to engage in high risk behaviors, such as unprotected sex, when under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

Third, is what the CDC refers to as socio-economic factors. This relates to high unemployment, high poverty and lower educational levels. These factors usually impact access to quality health care and generally indicate the vulnerability of Indians to various diseases, including HIV infection.

We must remember the data here is only as good as what is actually being reported. There are indications that under reporting

and racial misclassifications are common problems that make much of the data suspect. So if anything the problem probably is worse than the figures show.

What do all these numbers mean to us? They show that HIV/AIDS is adversely impacting American Indians nationwide at a higher rate than the general population. It also shows the problem is increasing and is indicative of other problems such as access to health care, etc. From this information we need to do more HIV testing so American Indians can access medical care sooner if the result of the test is positive. We need to do more prevention services to inform Indian communities about the problem and assist in reducing high risk behaviors. The socio-economic factors are very important and must be addressed before we can eliminate this disease.

However other things in the short term can be done as we also work to solve the long term prob-

lems nationwide.

What can you do besides becoming informed and protecting yourself? This disease is 100 percent preventable.

The Sault Tribe health clinics have HIV testing available, both traditional testing using the OraSure device and the rapid test which can provide results in 20 minutes. Both tests are free, highly accurate and are performed with the flexibility of the patients' schedule in mind. We are aware of an individual's concern with confidentiality and do our utmost to resolve any apprehensions regarding the issue including doing an anonymous test.

Remember, this is a manageable disease and we need to do more to prevent it from spreading among the American Indian population.

Contact information for HIV testing and information, materials, etcetera, direct access Larry Klein at (906) 632-5265 or Stacey Willis at (906) 632-5255.

SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS COMMITTEE VACANCIES

JOM COMMITTEE

3 Vacancies (different units)

HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1 Vacancy

HOUSING COMMISSION

1 Vacancy

CHILD WELFARE

1 Vacancy

Send one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation (tribe members only) to:

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Board of Directors, Attn: Joanne Carr

523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

(906) 635-6050, toll free 800-793-0660, fax (906) 632-6696 or Email: jcarr@saulttribe.net

Moving? Don't forget to bring us along by contacting the Sault Tribe Enrollment Department and giving them your new address as soon as possible so that you won't miss a single issue of *The Sault Tribe News*. You can call enrollment at (906) 632-5221.

Submissions welcome — *The Sault Tribe News* welcomes submissions from our tribe members by mail c/o Communications, 531 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or via e-mail at communications@saulttribe.net. Please, do not send any submissions via fax as material sent that way is usually received in poor visual quality. Any questions concerning submissions can be answered by calling (906) 632-6398.

Do you know who these people are? Answer from page 9: Bottom row, from left to right Carol Pages-Montie, Peggy (Neal) Pavlat, Dan Pavlat, Diane Pavlat Daniels. Back Row, left to right: Cecil (Lit) Pavlat, Joanne Pavlat Carr, Gail Pavlat Carr, Lori Pavlat Jump. The two missing brothers are Merle Gurnoe and Duane Gurnoe.

Parenting classes offered by tribe

Active Parenting of Teens is designed to serve parents of teens and preteens in a six-week course that meets for three hours per week. (Week seven is graduation.) In this class parents are taught how to:

- Understand developmental changes in teens' bodies and minds, as shown through behaviors.
- Communicate effectively with teens.
- Discipline while teaching responsibility.
- Prevent and handle drug and alcohol use.
- Encourage toward better behavior.
- Learn teens' goals so you can redirect their behavior.

• Explore and encourage nonviolent conflict resolution inside the home and out.

- Deal with issues of sexuality.
- Teach your values to your teens.

Parents receive information through four mediums — group discussion, practice activities, video and a parent's guide.

Active Parenting NOW is designed to serve parents of children ages five to 12 years in a six-week course that meets for three hours per week. (Week seven is graduation.)

This class will show you effective ways to:

- Use non-violent discipline techniques that work.
- Improve communication with

your children.

- Teach responsibility and other important values.
- Handle problems as they come up.
- Cope with difficult topics such as drugs, violence and sex.
- Defuse power struggles with your children.
- Stimulate independence as your child grows older.
- Encourage your children to be their very best.

Parents receive information through four mediums — group discussion, practice activities, video and a parent's guide.

1234 Parenting is designed for parents of children from birth to four years of age. It is a three-week class that meets for two

hours each week.

This workshop will show you:

- Why your child acts like he does.

- How to keep your child safe.
- How to bond with your child.
- Why taking care of yourself is important.
- How to discipline your young child.

Parents receive information through four mediums — group discussion, practice activities, video and a parent's guide.

Class schedule:

Active Parenting NOW, parents of children ages five to 12 years:

- Seven-week class
Jan. 24 through March 7
- March 21 through May 2

May 16 through June 27

Active Parenting of TEENS:
Seven-week class

- Jan. 26 through March 9
- March 23 through May 4
- May 18 through June 29

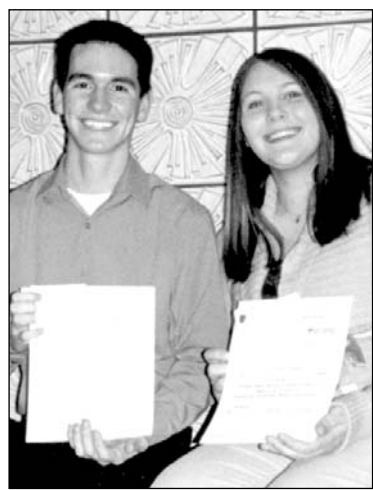
1234 Parenting
Three-week class

Classes will be scheduled as the need arises.

We accept both referrals from agencies and individuals. There are no charges for these classes. Classes will be scheduled in the location that best suits the majority of the class participants.

Call Joanne Umbrasas, (906) 635-7746 to register or for more information.

Simon and Hillyer inducted into the National Honor Society



Matt Hillyer and Kristen Simon

Sault Tribe member Kristen Simon, daughter of Lisa and Dave Simon of Dorr, Mich., and granddaughter of Sault Tribe member Raymond and Sharon Stafford of Byron Center, Mich., was inducted into the National Honor Society Nov. 8, 2005 at Wayland High School. Also inducted was her good friend and neighbor Matt Hillyer of Dorr. Matt's parents are Ed and Sue Hillyer and are members of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi.

Way to go!

Perry receives nursing degree



Sara Nicole Perry

Sara Nicole Perry recently received a degree in nursing from Delta College in Saginaw. She is the daughter of Sherri and Bruce Buckley, Sam and Marilyn Perry, and the granddaughter of Vivian Perry and the late Charles and Shirley Williams of Sault Ste. Marie.

She has accepted a position in the critical care unit at Covenant Health Care in Saginaw, Mich. She will continue her education at the University of Michigan in the fall.

Students make corn husk dolls

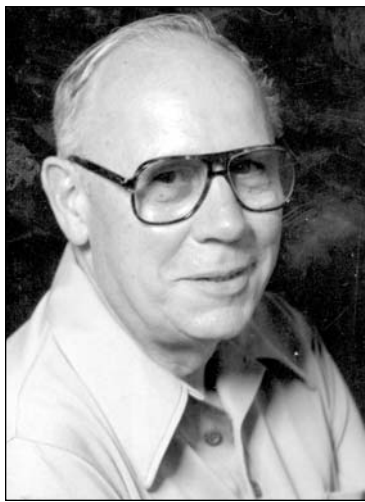


SUBMITTED BY PEG DERWIN,

TITLE VII TUTOR, NEGAUNEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Wendy Beacco's fourth grade students at Lakeview Elementary School in Negaunee listened to Jan St. Germain as she told the story of *The Corn Husk Doll*. Each student created their own corn husk dolls. Sault Tribe members Kassidy Vidlund, Jessamyn Oberstar-Orr and Austin Tadgerson show their creations.

A must for Northwoods history buffs



BY JOYCE LAABS

LAKELAND TIMES FEATURE EDITOR

For any of you who have an interest in the history of the Northwoods — "Northwoods Life — Growing Up At The State House" by the late John A. Christensen belongs in your library.

In the foreword, Christensen explained his writing.

"This book is a continuous (no chapters) account of the experiences and learning situations as events were in the early 1900s.

"Life was not interrupted by radio and television. Young folks learned by experience, examples of elders, and their own native intelligence. Medicines to control so-called "learning disabilities" were unheard of as were such

things as "traffic jams."

"Living in the northwoods in the early 1900s was a wonderful time to develop the mind without the pressures that are found in the life of our "modern times."

The book is his account of life at the State House (forestry headquarters) on Trout Lake from 1915-1942. He was born in this stately house on Jan. 3, 1915. A portion of the description in his words:

"State House was a beautiful log building with some 23 rooms. The basement was full size with one small room for canned goods; "canned goods" meaning food that had to be prepared and then put in Mason jars . . . State House was built with two different sides with a kitchen connecting them. One side was for the men and always referred to as the 'men's side.' The other, the west side, was for whomever was Head Honcho.

"This family side had a bathroom and four good-sized bedrooms. Our bathroom had one of those neat bathtubs with four paws for feet. Showers were unknown at that time and anyway, you only used the tub on Saturday night."

He spoke of visitors to the State House — governors who visited the State House — meals at the State House — hired help

at the State House — the State House Post Office — and the arrival of elk at the park adjacent to the State House.

Although the book is only 54 pages long, it is a wonderful account of those times, written with clarity and humor.

Christensen graduated from Minocqua High School and St. John's Military Academy, where he learned to fly. He served in the South Pacific Theater from 1942-45.

He married his wife, Dorothea, daughter of Fred L. Hatch, while he was in the service. After his discharge, they visited with his parents at the State House and then traveled to Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and settled on Sugar Island, and both continued their education.

When they returned to visit the State House in 1980, to their dismay, it was completely gone. It was as if the building had never existed.

Christensen passed away in 2003, and his wife remains in Sault Ste. Marie.

Those interested in purchasing a copy of the book may buy it directly from Dorothea Christensen. Enclose a check for \$10, plus \$3 for postage and handling, and send to: Dorothea Christensen, 2213 Riverside A-8, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Native Americans, Alaskan Natives honored

BY MIKE WALLACE
SKYWRIGHTER STAFF

The theme for November's American Indian/Alaskan Native Heritage Month was "Respecting Tradition, Embracing a Healthy Future."

This was also a time to honor American Indian military members as well, such as Senior Airman Nicole Woodford, Information Manager Journeyman and member of an Anishinaabe tribe. European settlers in Canada called the tribe "Ojibway" and in Michigan, where Airman Woodford grew up on a reservation in St. Ignace, they called the tribe "Chippewa." She is a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Assigned to the National Air and Space Intelligence Center, Airman Woodford signed up for the delayed enlistment program a month after Sept. 11 and entered the Air Force in August 2002 after completing high school. Also affecting her decision, she

said, was the fact that her father joined the Army when he was 17.

While growing up, Airman Woodford attended public schools as well as a culture class where her tribe taught her American Indian history and culture. During the summers, she attended retreats where she said she communed with nature, camped and sang along with tribal drummers. Airman Woodford said she also attended powwows, events in which participants "go back to their roots, and celebrate American Indian heritage." She credited the retreats and powwows with establishing her cultural foundation and values.

Airman Woodford has a tribal membership card that identifies her and her tribe and indicates her family's enrollment number. The number is used to trace American Indians in Michigan and log their tribal affiliations in a system, compiled in 1858 and 1910 by Horace Durant. Her great-great grandparents and great-grand-

mother are traced to number 47 on the Durant Roll, out of nearly 8,000 names. Today the Sault Tribe has about 29,000 members who can be traced to one or more of the 8,000 names.

American Indian culture is significant to Airman Woodford, and she said she and her family work to preserve their culture. Airman Woodford's great-grandmother was a full-blooded Chippewa, and she said her grandmother told stories about how her family struggled with the settler's way of life when they were faced with European cultures.

To help preserve her heritage, Airman Woodford's grandmother made a videotaped interview in which she talked about growing up as an American Indian.

Airman Woodford is the granddaughter of Philma Leazier and the daughter of Dale Woodford, both of St. Ignace.

Lengthy legal battle versus former chairman scheduled for trial in June

The following is a timeline pertaining the legal battle involving the Sault Tribe v. Bernard Bouschor, et al, jointly and severally, including seven former key employees.

The Sault Tribe filed a lawsuit to recoup a \$2.66 million dollar severance payout to seven key employees that was initiated by former Chairman Bernard Bouschor on June 9, 2004, prior to the election and then executed following the results of the 2004 election for tribal chairman.

The defendant in the case, Bernard Bouschor, was defeated in his re-election bid for tribal chairman on June 24, 2004.

May 19, 2004--Primary results announced: Primary election results were announced, showing approximately 60% of the tribal voters favored other chairman candidates over incumbent Chairman Bernard Bouschor.

June 9, 2004--Bouschor allegedly plots payouts: The Sault Tribe alleges former Chairman Bouschor initiated the cash payouts on this date in preparation of an unsuccessful re-election bid. These payments were to be issued to seven high ranking employees after the election results were announced and if Bouschor was found not re-elected.

June 24, 2004--Election results announced: The election results for the tribal chairman are released indicating Aaron Payment defeated incumbent Chairman Bernard Bouschor.

June 25, 2004--Bouschor takes action: On the morning of June 25th, seven key employees including General Counsel Dan Green, Chief Financial Officer Dan Weaver, Senior Staff Attorney Paul Shagen, Deputy Director James Jannetta, Executive Director Jolene Nertoli, Human Resources Director Dave Scott, and Special Projects Manager Joe Paczkowski, either resigned and/or were terminated. Each employee had in their possession severance checks issued to them by former Chairman Bernard Bouschor allegedly representing a severance payment owed under each employee's employment contract, and on that morning each employee cashed their severance check. The Sault Tribe was unable to stop payment of the checks because the payments were issued as cashier's checks.

June 25, 2004--Restraining order issued on Bouschor: In light of the events that took place on election night initiated by Bouschor, tribal Judge Kandra Robbins issued a temporary restraining order on Chairman Bouschor to hold him to his authorized \$50,000 spending limit to prevent further payouts.

July 11, 2004--Payment takes office: Chairman-Elect Aaron Payment officially takes his oath of office as new tribal chairperson.

August 3, 2004: Board seeks to recover money: The board of directors unanimously decided not to internally obligate tribal dollars

to cover the (\$2.66 million) contract liability because of its belief in the improper action of the employee severance checks, but rather seeks to eliminate the contract liability by recovering the funds actually expended to the employees in the employee severance checks.

August 8, 2004--Board takes action: The board of directors approved resolution 2004-81 by a seven to one vote, with one member abstaining. The resolution stated, "the board of directors specifically authorizes and directs the tribe, through its chairman, for and behalf of the Tribe, to take whatever action necessary, including, but not limited to, commencing legal action both civil and criminal, against the employees and former Chairman Bernard Bouschor, to recover the funds expended under the employee severance checks. The chairman is authorized and directed to execute and deliver such other agreements, certificates, documents or instruments, as may be required, or to take any and all such action which may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the foregoing on behalf of the tribe."

August 20, 2004--Tribe files lawsuit: The Sault Tribe files a lawsuit in Chippewa County Court against the former Chairman Bernard Bouschor and seven key employees.

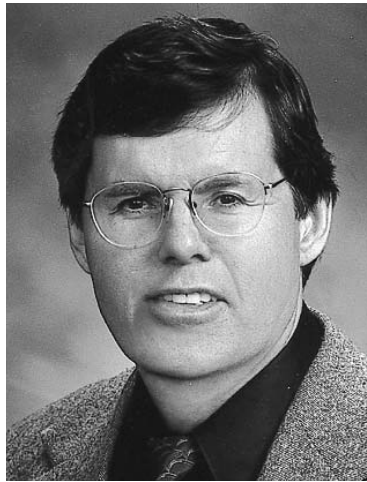
August 21, 2004--August 10, 2005--Pre-Trial Research: Both parties involved in the litigation engaged in pre-trial discovery and document exchanging.

August 11, 2005--Judge sides with tribe: Judge Johnson issued his written legal opinion regard the case, Sault Tribe v. Bernard Bouschor, et al, jointly and severally, including seven key employees. Visiting Chippewa Circuit Court Judge Charles W. Johnson refused to dismiss the Sault Tribe lawsuit seeking to recoup the payouts against Bouschor and the seven former employees.

According to the official court opinion issued by Judge Charles W. Johnson, "This suit is not about the employment agreement between the tribe and each key employee. It is about the severance agreements, which were executed on June 9, 2004 and became effective on June 24, 2004. To the extent that defendants say that the severance agreements simply implement provisions of the employment Agreements, this is clearly incorrect."

Judge Johnson states, "The unambiguous provisions of each severance agreement, as summarized (in the legal opinion), show clearly that each defendant key employee voluntarily resigned from his or her employment. Section 5 of the (employment) agreement says that the employer has the right to terminate the agreement upon 'The employee's voluntary resignation...' Thus, a voluntary resignation does not trigger any contractual obligation for the tribe to pay the severance amount."

"It is one thing to hire an employee and agree to pay for



Bernard Bouschor

services rendered in return. It is entirely another thing to agree that an employee may voluntarily quit and walk away with a large sum of the employer's money. While the chief executive officer generally has the authority to hire and fire, in this case the defendant (Bouschor) did not fire the key employees. He instead made agreements giving them the option to quit, and receive large payments for doing so. The court cannot conclude, from the face of the bylaws, that the Tribal Board intended to grant such authority," added Judge Johnson.

According to Chief Legal Counsel Steve Morello, "The bogus tort claims have been dismissed, and we plan to recoup all our costs including legal fees associated with this case. The court upheld our sovereign immunity. This is a win for the people."

The Sault Tribe had 14-days from Aug. 11, to prepare and submit a court order consistent with the court's opinion. In the next two to four weeks, oral testimony was taken regarding the individual contract payouts in preparation for trial, at which time the Sault Tribe anticipates the conclusion of the lawsuit.

(The complete court opinion is available online at the Sault Tribe's official web site www.saulttribe.com.)

August 16, 2005--Judge's opinion announced: Chief Legal Counsel Steve Morello, presented the written legal opinion dated Aug. 11, 2005, from Judge Charles W. Johnson to the Sault Tribe Board of Directors at a scheduled board meeting held in Newberry, Mich.

August 26, 2005--Tribe seeks court order: The Sault Tribe announced that it will ask the Chippewa County court to order seven former high-ranking tribal employees to repay \$2.66 million that former Chairman Bernard Bouschor improperly approved for them to collect the day after he was voted out of office in June 2004.

"In light of Judge Johnson's ruling (issued on Aug. 11), we intend to ask the court to order the defendants to pay the money back to our tribe and to the members of our tribe," said Sault Tribe Chief Legal Counsel Steve Morello.

Judge Johnson rejected requests to dismiss the case from Bouschor and the former employees, who argued that the payments were proper under sever-

ance agreements approved by Bouschor for each of the employees. The Sault Tribe contends that Bouschor had no authority to approve the payments, which the former employees must rightfully return to the tribe and its members.

"Defendant Bouschor's authority to hire employees, set compensation, fire employees and provide for severance pay upon an involuntary termination without cause does not compel the conclusion that he was authorized to make the severance agreements involved in this case," Judge Johnson wrote in his opinion.

The Sault Tribe announced it was in the process of preparing and submitting a court order consistent with Johnson's opinion. Both sides in the litigation met at a later date to discuss the terms of that order.

December 6, 2005--Tribe seeks membership input: The Sault Tribe Board of Directors passed a resolution for a referendum (2005-202), by a six to five vote, that will allow the tribal membership to decide if candidates who are in current litigation with the tribe will be allowed to run for elected office. Paul Shagen and Fred Paquin were absent from the meeting and did not vote.

The Sault Tribe is currently engaged in litigation, where the tribe alleges that the defendants, including former Chairperson Bernard Bouschor and Director Paul Shagen, committed fraud, breached fiduciary duties and wrongfully converted payments in excess of \$2.66 million from the tribe. During the course of the litigation, in an opinion dated Aug. 11, 2005, the court has ruled that former Chairperson Bouschor did not have the lawful authority to transfer the payments to the recipients, including Director Shagen.

According to Tribal Code Chapter 71: Criminal Offenses, Section 71.808, it is a crime to knowingly convert for his use, or the use of another, any of the monies or funds belonging to any tribal organization, or to receive or retain any such monies or funds.

Subsection 71.1002 also states it is a crime to obtain money from another by intentional misrepresentation or deceit.

According to the action, the board of directors desires to submit directly to popular referendum the question of eligibility for any of the defendants currently in litigation with the tribe intending to run for an elected office in any tribal election.

The referendum will ask the membership, "Do you approve or disapprove of the following new subsection to be added to Tribal Code Section 10.109, Candidates for Election: No individual may run for election to office, who is currently a defendant in Chippewa County Circuit Court Case No: 04-7606-CC, in which the Tribe is pursuing civil litigation against the defendants, including claims involving fraud, breach of lawful authority, breach of fiduciary duties owed to the

Tribe, and conversion of over \$2.66 million, until such litigation has been finally resolved."

December 19, 2005--Civil suit continues: A court hearing was held in 57th Circuit Court in Emmet County with the honorable Judge Charles W. Johnson presiding. The hearing focused on the tribe's request to grant partial summary judgment on the portion of the lawsuit dealing with breach of the employment contracts.

The Sault Tribe's legal team argued its motion before the court on the contract case. Rather than rule from the bench, the court opted to take the matter under advisement and issue a written opinion to be released at some-time in the near future (Editor's Note: At press time, the Judge's legal opinion is still pending.)

January 4, 2006--Membership to decide if defendants are eligible for tribal elections: Referendum 2005-202 was mailed to the membership.

January 25, 2006--Referendum ballots due: Ballots for Referendum 2005-202 must be received by the Tribal Election Committee by this date at 5:00 p.m. EST. or they will not be counted.

June 20, 2006--Trial date set: The case of Sault Tribe v. Bernard Bouschor, et al, jointly and severally is currently scheduled to go to trial on this date in Chippewa County Circuit Court.

Renovation brings "Scatter Buffet" to Dream Catchers Restaurant

Kewadin Casino's Dream Catcher Restaurant will be offering a temporary menu for casino guests as it is to undergo excessive renovations beginning Jan. 16, 2006.

"The renovations will offer our guests so much more," said Janice Frye, interim food & beverage director. "Not only will it give our guests a more comfortable dining experience with new flooring, seating, and decoration, but it will give our chefs some of the best food preparation equipment in the area."

The main feature of the project is a new scatter buffet with action stations behind the buffet lines. "The new stations will allow our chefs to prepare entrees as needed directly behind the buffet," said Frye.

A special ala carte menu featuring casino favorites will be offered for breakfast, lunch and dinner until the restaurant is reopened in April. During this time, patrons will be served in the Signatures Lounge and Woodlands convention room, which is located adjacent to the restaurant area. The casino's popular two for one breakfast and lunch buffets will still be available on Tuesday and Thursday, respectively.

Additionally, the weekend fish fry and seafood buffet will still be offered.

Tribe reiterates desire to work out issues with Bahweting School

SAULT STE. MARIE, MI—Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment addressed the JKL Bahweting School Board on Dec. 13, 2005, by issuing a written statement regarding the school's union concerns and the future of the charter school. Chairperson Payment was unable to address to board in person due to a scheduling conflict. The following statements were issued on behalf of the Chairperson Payment and the Sault Tribe:

Chairperson Payment started his statement by announcing he believed there was a break though discussion during a S.O.S. (Save our school) meeting on Dec. 12.

"It was important to clearly reiterate the tribe's position with regard to the union issue at the school and to offer my support for a mutually beneficial solution that will preserve the quality of education at the JKL Bahweting school, retain the NMU charter, retain the existing faculty, support staff, administration and school board - all while respecting the tribe's clear position on the union issue," stated Payment.

The following stipulations were voted upon by the tribal board of directors at the Sept. 30, 2005, special meeting to specifically address the union issue. The following was approved unanimously:

- To not enter or continue any lease for any Sault Tribe reservation property where unionization has occurred;

- To prohibit the expenditure of any tribal dollars or any funds for which the Sault Tribe serves as fiduciary for any entity where unionization has occurred;

- To cause an audit and financial separation of funds currently consolidated that originated as funds for which the Sault Tribe serves as fiduciary where unionization has occurred.

- To schedule a private discussion with affected personnel to explain the above actions taken by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe board of directors.

During the Dec. 11, 2005, meeting of the S.O.S. committee, some members of the tribal board chose to not attend this meeting out of principle. Nonetheless, the characterization that the meeting was not duly called or that we did not have quorum is simply false. To afford those absent at the Sept. 30, 2005, special meeting an opportunity to voice their opposition or rescind the previous action of the tribal board on Sept. 30, 2005, another special meeting duly noticed was scheduled for Oct. 26, 2005. The result was another unanimous vote to support the previous decision made on Sept. 30, 2005. Therefore, the above four items are representative of the tribal board by unanimous acclamation.

"Prior to the scheduled union vote, I offered to meet with the teachers to try to discern what prompted such a step. On Sept. 23, 2005, I met with representatives of the teaching faculty to hear their concerns and to reiterate my understandings of those benefits JKL teachers receive



J.K.L. Bahweting Public School Academy

Photo by Brenda Austin

which far exceed the public schools. This is not a criticism of the public schools, simply a statement of what J.K.L. has to offer because of our unique funding situation," stated Payment.

The chairperson further summarized his recollection of teacher benefits from his time serving on the JKL school board for several years with the last few as president

JKL School teacher benefits:

- Highest starting teacher salary in the area.
- Yearly step increase (based on years of service).
- Yearly base increase (COLA).
- School liability insurance.
- Three year contracts pending on satisfactory evaluation.
- Sick days, personal days paid.
- Grievance procedures that allow for binding arbitration.
- Funding for required endorsements.
- State retirement.
- Paraprofessional in every classroom K-5.
- Professional development - local, State, National.
- Comparable Health Insurance, LTD, and Life.
- Approximately 4 hours of paid planning time per week.
- School sponsored field trips (no fundraising).
- Classroom budget for supplies.
- Use of Walmart card for school related purchases.
- Release time for all meetings.
- Air conditioning for all classrooms.
- Technology support, laptops for teachers, free internet service, CD ROMs/ floppies, overhead projectors (equipment and supplies), TV/VCR/DVD in every classroom, cable for every classroom, powerpoint, projectors, screens, printers in every classroom, on-site tech support, e-mail service, telephones in all classrooms.

According to Payment, teachers in attendance on Sept. 23, 2005, praised the current school board and administration and made great efforts to iterate that Superintendent Nick Oshelski was an individual for whom the teachers had great respect and

trust.

"I didn't understand why the administration (led by Mr. Oshelski) was not given the opportunity to attempt to address whatever labor issues teachers had - to avoid creating a conflict situation," added Payment.

Since this time, the situation denigrated significantly.

According to the chairperson's statement, the action taken on Sept. 30, 2005, was not intended as an ultimatum, but to make it clear what the outcome would be for the tribe. Knowing that the tribe simply could not allow a union shop on reservation land, the tribe assumed the teachers would opt to work cooperatively with the school administration and school board and avoid the issue of unionization.

Upon weighing the tribe's options to submit for charter school funding without the current entity that is the JKL Bahweting School, Chairman Payment surveyed the teachers by replying to a mass mailing via e-mail.

"In my reply, I invited all JKL Bahweting teachers to state if they would be interested in working for a new entity that would bring together charter funds with BIA funds to operate a school with a very similar purpose and mission. I am happy to report that 18 teachers replied in the affirmative. Many reported having been misled when casting their vote the first time," stated Chairperson Payment.

The chairperson also stated he very encouraged from what he heard during the Dec. 11, 2005, S.O.S. meeting. He was pleased to hear the admission that not all the facts were known or represented truthfully by advocates of unionization before the teachers were asked to vote.

It appears like a solid majority would vote differently today (especially if an acceptable set of due process protections are put in place).

"I want to reiterate that the school board, the school administration and I have said all along that we were willing to work out whatever concerns the faculty may have in a cooperate manner that respects each other. Whether it was intended or not,

the decision to force upon the school administration, the school board, the parents of the children who attend the school, and the tribe - the intrusion of a union, did create a 'win/lose', 'us/them' situation. Again, based on our discussion at the Dec. 11, 2005, S.O.S. meeting, I am confident that all relevant parties will be able to resolve all matters cooperatively to everyone's satisfaction," stated Payment.

As stated during a Oct. 15, 2005, meeting with the teachers and parents at Dream Maker's Theater, the decision of the tribal board was stated as a conditional stance - that is to say - if there is no union, the tribe has no problem moving forward and would lend support in working cooperatively with the school board and administration to ensure employment due process is in place.

"This offer still holds," stated Payment.

Chairperson Payment reiterated his position on how to resolve all issues by outlining the following objectives:

- Advocate that the tribal board vote to extend the current building lease (which expires Dec. 31, 2005) through Dec. 31, 2006 conditional that after November 2006, there is no continuing union issue at the JKL Bahweting school;
- Advocate that the tribal board vote to enter a long term building lease beginning Dec. 1, 2006, on a 25 year basis with an automatic 25 year renewal with a 'waiver of sovereign immunity' for enforce-

ment purposes conditional on a continued non-union environment;

- Advocate that the school board agree to enter a provisional employment agreement through the end of November 2006 when the issue of the building lease is resolved; and

- Advocate that the school board enter an extended multi-year employment agreement after November 2006 for a longer duration based on some sort of tenure system;

"I understand that though the tribe could submit a separate individual application for a new charter and avoid entirely the current union issue with the legal entity that is the JKL Bahweting School. I also believe that the tribe could operate a 'tribal school' using only BIA funds. However, if the existing charter were to try to operate without BIA funds, or the tribe operate a school without charter funds, this would put both at a serious disadvantage for maintaining the current quality of operations. I also understand that though the tribe could fashion a teacher retirement that approximates the value of the current teacher retirement program, I am cognizant that the ideal situation is to maintain the teachers as school employees such that they can continue participation in their current retirement plan," added Payment.

Prior to the union issue developing, the chairperson was working with the school administration and representatives of the school board to craft a long term building lease with a 'waiver of sovereign immunity' to ensure the enforceability. Whether or not the governing body of the tribe will vote to authorize the chairperson to negotiate such a lease is not certain. Without an assurance of protection against the union issue rearing itself at some later date, the chairperson has indicated he is confident that the tribal board will not vote to continue a lease under such circumstances.

Chairperson Payment concluded his written statement by stating, "As I have said all along, I stand ready to work cooperatively to find a solution that respects the tribe's sovereignty while affording the teachers necessary employment protections without the intrusion of an unnecessary third party union.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Attention Sault Tribe Members:

The Grade A-I Stop gas station located at 1240 S. Front Street in Marquette, MI is no longer a participating station as it pertains to the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians tax agreement with the State of Michigan, which grants tribal members the benefit of tax exempt purchases of gasoline and tobacco products. The Grade A-I Stop station will no longer offer tax discounts to Sault Tribe members as of 12/22/05. The new participating gas station is:

FREEDOM VALUE CENTER
501 W. WASHINGTON ST., MARQUETTE, MI

Annual elder's Christmas dinner and health center food baskets brighten holiday



Dorothy Mendoskin won a pair of homemade Christmas stockings as a door prize. Administrative assistant for the Sault Tribe Elder Care Department, Carrie Gordon, delivered them to her.



Robert and Elaine Trestrail were served dinner by Associate Executive Director Kristi Little.



Back L to R: Merle Neumann and Santa Claus Jerry Causley. Front L to R: Zalia Frazier and Edward Causley.

Annual elder's dinner — Sault Tribe elders gathered at the Dream Maker's Theater on Dec. 13 for the annual elder's Christmas dinner. Volunteer staff, including some members of the board of directors and administrative staff, helped serve dinner to the elders. A traditional Christmas dinner was served while elders visited with Santa (Jerry Causley) and listened to music.

Photos and text by Brenda Austin

Holiday food baskets — Twenty-nine tribal health center employees who participated in dress down fund raising in 2005 raised \$3,000 to provide 30 needy tribal families with food baskets for the holidays. The baskets were prepared by volunteers on Dec. 21 and delivered that day along with Christmas cards. The baskets each had over \$100 worth of food including: ham, turkey, bacon and sausage with fruit, vegetables, dairy products and bread. Each basket also contained candy and two different kinds of pies. After volunteering her time for the past 20 years to oversee the health center dress down fund, Diane Moore is passing on the reins this year to Colleen Gagan.



Sault Tribe Health Center Administrative Assistant Diane Moore, checks food off her list as she adds it to a basket to be delivered to a local family to help brighten their Christmas holiday.



Dan Tadgerson, environmental specialist, grins as he offers a helping hand.



Rita Lewis from the tribe's billing department volunteered her time to help fill food baskets for needy families.

Sault Tribe's annual New Year's Sobriety Powwow — a sober alternative for all



L to R: Jingle dress dancers, Megisi Kwe Memegos and Meeshin Willis have fun dancing together.



Dan Bissell, head veteran at the New Year's powwow with R.C. Butch Elliot on right.

Photos by Nathan Wright



Jorja Skye Carrick, shawl dancer, participating in a dance around the drum.



Rita DeVoy, center, playing musical chairs to the beat of one of the drum groups.



Karen Howell and Edye Nichols enjoying a few laughs together.



L to R: Sophie Manitowabi, Jr. Miss Great Lakes of Hannhville Potawatomi from Wilson, MI., Richard Lee, powwow arena director, and Mabel Harvey of Thessalon First Nation in Thessalon, Ontario, Canada.

REVISED ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is given hereby that

SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

Will be accepting Bids for Construction / Renovation / Retrofit of the former Lincoln School for a:

NEW MUNISING TRIBAL COMMUNITY CENTER

According to drawings and specifications as prepared by the Architect, Goudreau & Associates, Inc., and described in general as:

I. DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK:

Renovation of an existing 21,000 GSF, 3 story early 1900 school building. Renovation to convert existing GSF into offices and services for Elder Services, Health Services, Medical Services, Social Services and Traditional Medicine on an existing site located at 615 W. Munising Avenue (M-28), Munising, Michigan. Work shall include site development, architectural, structural, mechanical, and electrical trades.

II. CONSTRUCTION PHASING: (Not Used)

III. TYPE OF PROPOSAL:

Proposal for the above work will be received for:

GC - General Contract Bid (Site Improvements, Architectural, Structural, Plumbing, Mechanical, Electrical) All Trades Proposal.

IV. ALTERNATE / ALLOWANCES:

All contractors, subcontractors, sub-subcontractors and suppliers shall acquaint themselves with Section 01021, Cash Allowances, and 01030, Alternates, under Division 1, General Requirements, of the Contract Documents.

V. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS:

The Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will receive sealed bid proposals until 2:00 p.m., local time, January 26, 2006 at the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Administration Building in Sault Ste Marie, Michigan at which time all proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Proposals received after the specified time will not be accepted and shall be returned to the bidder unopened.

Sealed bid proposals must be on the forms furnished by the Architect and be accompanied by a bid bond from an authorized surety company or certified check in the amount of 5% of the bid proposal submitted. Bid Breakdown and USDA Rural Development (RD) forms indicated in the specifications are also required with the submission of the bid.

VI. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS:

Contract Documents (Project Manual, Plans and Technical Specifications) may be obtained at the office of the Architect: Goudreau & Associates, Inc., 131 South Main Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858, and will be on file on and after December 22, 2005 and may be examined at the following locations:

Builders Exchange in Marquette, Escanaba, Iron Mountain, Grand Rapids, Saginaw, Lansing, & Traverse City, MI, and Green Bay & Appleton, WI.
Dodge Reports in Flint, Grand Rapids, & Lansing, MI and Milwaukee, WI.
Goudreau & Associates, Inc., 131 S. Main Street, Mt. Pleasant MI 48858
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Administration Building, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

A check in the amount of \$150.00 per set, payable to Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, must be submitted to Goudreau and Associates, Inc., 131 South Main Street, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858, by GC Bidders as a deposit for each set of plans and specifications, same to be refunded to GC Bidders submitting proposals upon return of plans and specifications in good condition within ten (10) days of the opening of bids. Maximum per GC - three (3) sets on a deposit basis.

Plans may be obtained by subcontractors, sub-sub contractors and suppliers at the cost of reproduction and handling, \$150.00 (non-refundable). GC Bidders may obtain sets beyond the third set at cost of reproduction and handling, \$150.00 (non-refundable).

VII. PRE-BID CONFERENCE:

A Pre-Bid Conference will be conducted at 1:30 p.m. on January 10, 2006 in the American Legion Building directly across from the site. Questions and discussions will be entertained regarding the bidding process, construction phasing, Owner occupancy, site conditions, and any other matters that are of interest. The Owner will also provide a tour of the existing site. It is highly recommended that any GC Bidder or subcontractor submitting a proposal or pricing attend. Failure to attend will constitute material non-compliance with the bid conditions.

VIII. ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSALS:

Substantial completion date for this project shall be as indicated on the bid form.

The Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians reserves the right to accept and/or reject any or all bid proposals and to waive any and all informalities and/or irregularities in bid proposal submitted. This right shall be exercised at the sole discretion of the Owner. The Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will make award as may appear to be in the best interest of the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

END OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Powwow exhibit and tour offered

The Bonifas Fine Arts Center has added a very special exhibit to their gallery tour offerings. *Together We Dance: Contemporary Great Lakes Pow Wow Regalia*, is a retired exhibit sponsored by the Michigan State University Museum and the Nokomis Learning Center. The exhibit will be on display in the main gallery of the arts center from Jan. 13 through Feb. 23.

This exhibit is made possible because of the joint two percent funding support generously provided by both the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the Hannahville Indian Community. We feel that this joint effort to provide such a wonderful opportunity to both Native and non-Native community members deserves our personal expression of gratitude and public recognition.

Exhibit tours have been set up for area school children from public, parochial, and home-schooled settings, including the Title VII Indian education programs. The youngsters will be guided through the exhibit by a volunteer docent, after which they will participate in a hands-on activity making a choker or dream catcher. In addition, they will have the opportunity to add their handprints to the Rapid River Powwow Learning Circle tipi, which will be in the process of being painted in our upstairs gallery.

There will be drum making workshop on Jan. 28 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. for ages 10 and older, presented by Bud Biron, Sault Tribe cultural director. Mr. Biron has been hand tying, making and teaching about the dew'gans (drums) for over 15 years. A birch bark wall pocket workshop is also scheduled for ages 12 and older on Feb. 4 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ron Paquin, a self-taught artist and elder of the Sault Tribe will teach participants how birch bark is used to make baskets, wall pockets and trays. These workshops are available free of charge and space is limited. Call the Bonifas Fine Arts Center at (906) 786-3833 to reserve space. These workshops are sponsored by the Rapid River Powwow Association Young People's Learning Center through funding support from the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

The William Bonifas Fine Arts Center is located in Escanaba, Mich., on 700 First Avenue South Street. For more information call (906) 786-3833 or visit the center's web site at www.bonifasarts.org.

Project Linus opens chapter in Sault Ste. Marie

Project Linus, an all-volunteer organization that provides comfort and security to seriously ill, traumatized children or otherwise in need children through handmade blankets, has created a new chapter in Sault Ste. Marie.

Colleen Sparks will serve as the chapter coordinator for the area. Individuals, churches, social groups, senior centers, clubs such as 4-H, boy and girl scouts and schools can coordinate projects to make blankets.

For more information call Colleen Sparks, (906) 635-9749 or visit www.projectlinus.org.

Jack Abramoff lobbying and corruption scandal revealed

WASHINGTON, DC—The Jack Abramoff lobbying and corruption scandal is a United States political scandal relating to the work performed by political lobbyists Jack Abramoff, Ralph E. Reed, Jr., Grover Norquist and Michael Scanlon on behalf of Indian casino gambling interests. The lobbyists are accused of orchestrating lobbying against their own clients in order to force them to pay for lobbying services. In the course of the scheme, the lobbyists are accused of illegally giving gifts and making campaign donations to legislators in return for votes or support of legislation. Politicians implicated include Tom DeLay, Conrad Burns, Tom Harkin and Bob Ney. Repercussions of the investigation caused Delay to decline to reseek his former position as House leader.

In addition to his involvement in the Indian gambling scandal, Abramoff is under investigation by a grand jury in Guam over possibly illegal contract payments and money laundering and was indicted on Aug. 11, 2005, by a third grand jury in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for a \$23 million bank fraud arising out of the purchase of the SunCruz Casinos boat company. Abramoff is also a 'person of interest' in the murder investigation of Konstantinos Boulis, the original owner of SunCruz.

On January 3, 2006, Abramoff pleaded guilty to three felony counts, conspiracy, fraud, and tax evasion, involving charges stemming principally from his lobbying activities in Washington on behalf of Native American tribes. In addition, Abramoff and other defendants must make restitution of at least \$25 million that was defrauded from clients, most notably the Native American tribes. Further, Abramoff owes the Internal Revenue Service \$1.7 million as a result of his guilty plea to the tax evasion charge.

Abramoff and his partner Scanlon are alleged to have engaged in a series of corrupt practices in connection to their lobbying work for various Indian Casino gambling tribes. The fees paid to Abramoff and Scanlon for this work are believed to exceed \$85 million.

In particular, Abramoff and Scanlon are alleged to have conspired with Washington power broker Norquist and Christian activist Reed to co-ordinate lobbying against his own clients and prospective clients with the objective of forcing them to engage Abramoff and Scanlon to lobby against their own covert operations. Reed was paid to campaign against gambling interests that competed with Abramoff clients. Norquist served as a go-between by funneling money to Reed.

Reed repeatedly denied knowing the source of the money used to fund his campaign against the casinos until prosecutors released emails exchanged between him and Abramoff. According to emails, Reed and Norquist contacted Abramoff separately in 1999 to say they wanted to do business. Norquist complained

about a "\$75K hole in my budget from last year." Reed said he was counting on Abramoff "to help me with some contacts."

On February 7, 2000, Abramoff warned Reed that an initial payment for anti-lottery radio spots and mailings would be less than Reed thought. "I need to give Grover something for helping, so the first transfer will be a bit lighter," Abramoff wrote. The transfer was apparently lighter than even Abramoff expected. In a note to himself on February 22, Abramoff wrote, "Grover kept another \$25K!" Norquist claims he had permission.

In 2000, Abramoff forced the Choctaws to give the Alabama Christian Coalition \$1.15 million in installments. Norquist agreed to pass the money on to the Coalition and another Alabama antigambling group, both of which Reed was mobilizing for the fight against a proposed Alabama state lottery. In 2002, after Abramoff worked with Reed to close the casino of the Tigua tribe, he persuaded the tribe to hire him to lobby Congress to reopen the casino.

Of the \$7.7 million Abramoff and Scanlon charged the Choctaw for projects in 2001, they spent \$1.2 million on their behalf and split the rest in a scheme they called "gimme five."

In 2004, Abramoff resigned from Greenberg Traurig amid a scandal related to spending irregularities in his work as a lobbyist for Native American tribes involved in gambling, namely The Mississippi Choctaw, the Louisiana Coushatta, the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Sandia Pueblo, the Saginaw Chippewa and the Tigua of Ysleta del Sur Pueblo.

The Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians paid \$15 million to Abramoff and Scanlon's organizations. The bills were heavily padded. For example, in April 2000 he padded 2 hours with over 60 hours to achieve a "\$150k minimum."

Abramoff's impact on the Sault Tribe

SAULT STE. MARIE, MI—Jack Abramoff may have infiltrated a handful of tribes across the country including the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe here in Michigan, however, sources have indicated Abramoff and his colleagues were not directly associated with the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

According to Sault Tribe Chief Legal Counsel Steve Morello, "To my knowledge we have never paid Jack Abramoff a penny for his services. Directly, he has not affected us. Indirectly, he potentially may have harmed us in some ways on some levels."

NIGA issues statement concerning Abramoff guilty plea

WASHINGTON, D.C.— The National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) issued a formal statement on January 4, 2006 regarding Jack Abramoff's guilty plea agreement on Federal

Charges of conspiracy, mail fraud and tax evasion.

"It is indeed sad and very wrong that Abramoff violated the trust of so many. He violated the trust of not only Indian tribes, but also politicians, banks and major corporations, charitable organizations, a Federal territory, his own law firm and the public. Tribal governments, like state and local governments, seek the assistance of lawyers and professionals to protect their government rights and further the legitimated goals of tribal communities. Mr. Abramoff was a member of a major national law firm, and his clients, both Indian and non-Indian, were entitled to the highest standard of professional conduct," said NIGA Chairman Ernest L. Stevens, Jr.

"The United States has a trust responsibility to protect Indian tribes. We are confident that the Justice Department will prosecute Mr. Abramoff and the other offenders like Mr. Scanlon, who knowingly conspired with him, to the full extent of the law, and we fully support the Department's efforts," said Stevens,

"Abramoff's conviction makes clear that there is a legal framework in place to protect Indian tribes from fraud. As the court ordered, the tribes that were injured by his fraud deserve to be compensated."

The National Indian Gaming Association is a non-profit trade association comprised of 184 American Indian Nations and other non-voting associate members. The mission of NIGA is to advance the lives of Indian people - economically, socially and politically. NIGA operates as a clearinghouse and educational, legislative and public policy resource for tribes, policy makers and the public on Indian gaming issues, sovereignty and tribal community development.

"Redskin" term did not begin as insult

WASHINGTON, DC — Smithsonian Institution linguist Ives Goddard spent seven months researching the history of the word "redskin." His conclusion — the word did not begin as an insult.

Redskin was first used by American Indians in the 18th century to distinguish themselves from whites encroaching on their lands and culture.

The earliest known use of "redskin" was in a 1789 statement made by Illinois tribal chiefs negotiating with the British to switch loyalties away from the French. "I shall be pleased to have you come to speak to me yourself," said one statement attributed to a chief named Mosquito. "And if any redskins do you harm, I shall be able to look out for you even at the peril of my life."

The French used the phrase "peaux rouges" — literally "red skins" — to translate the chief's words. When it first appeared as an English expression in the early 1800s, "it came in the most respectful context and at the highest level," Goddard said. ". . . white people and Indians talking together, with the white people trying to ingratiate themselves."

In July 22, 1815, "red skin"

first appeared in print in a Missouri Gazette news story. Government envoys were rebuking Midwestern tribes for refusing to yield territory claimed by the United States. Meskwaki chief Black Thunder was unimpressed, "Restrain your feelings and hear calmly what I say," he told the envoys. "I have never injured you, and innocence can feel no fear. I turn to all red skins and white skins, and challenge an accusation against me." Goddard admits it is impossible to know whether the chiefs said "redskin" in their own languages or were merely translated that way by interpreters. The same is true of "white-skin."

American Indian activist Susan Harjo is not impressed. "I'm very familiar with white men who uphold the judicious speech of white men," said the Cheyenne-Muscogee writer. "Europeans were not using high-minded language. (To them) we were only human when it came to territory, land cessions and whose side you were on." Harjo argues that the word "redskin" grew from the practice of offering bounties to anyone who killed Indians.

Bounty hunters "needed proof of kill, but they had a storage problem," she said, adding that instead of a body, they accepted scalps or other parts of a "redskin."

Linda Shoemaker, a University of Connecticut historian, weighed Goddard's research and Harjo's comments with her own studies. The final message, Shoemaker suggested, is that "even if the Indians were the first to use it, the origin has no relationship to later use. What happened at the beginning doesn't justify it today." Goddard's report appears in the European Review of Native American Studies.

— *Washington Post*

Week builds ties between blacks and American Indians

MICHIGAN — American Indian month at the University of Michigan included an entire week devoted to exploring the link between black and American Indian communities.

Put on by the Native American Student Association, several black student groups, and the Center for Afro-American and African Studies (CAAS), the events helped increase understanding about Native cultures. The histories of black and Native peoples are deeply connected, said CAAS Prof. Tiya Miles. About 30 percent of black Americans identify with indigenous cultures, either through ancestry or through cultural practices that draw elements from Native and black traditions. The two groups face many of the same problems and, by recognizing their shared heritage, this bond may help them form coalitions and gain greater political power, Miles said.

Currently, federal lawsuits have been filed by descendants of black Native Americans against tribes such as the Seminole and Cherokee over their status as members of the tribe. —

Michigan Daily

Veterans give history voice

OREGON — In honor of Veterans Day, Milwaukie High School students were joined by more than 500 U.S. veterans for the school's 10th annual Living History Day. The students met history face to face — a 107-year-old World War I veteran; a Navajo code talker; six members of the Tuskegee Airmen; a Holocaust survivor; and Adolf Hitler's last personal courier.

The veterans talked to excited and very respectful students. "Ten years ago, the concept that American high school students would dress up in their best to pay their respects to the veterans was unbelievable," said teacher Ken Buckles.

Students were honored by: An American Indian soldier who survived the Bataan death march and told of his experiences and survival; Tuskegee Airman Alex Jefferson, 84, who brought a replica P-51C Mustang flown by those highly decorated African-American pilots and support personnel; Richard and Jefferson Macon, 84, and their fellow airmen shared tales of firefights, crash landings, prisoner of war camps, segregation and racism. "I was treated better in a German prison camp than I was in Mississippi," Jefferson said, drawing gasps; and Armin Lehmann who, at age 16 was Hitler's courier, recounted the final days of the Third Reich.

— *Oregon Live*

Indians fear cultural loss in federal school

OKLAHOMA — Education Secretary Margaret Spellings defended the No Child Left Behind Act after American Indian leaders said it's too rigid and forces schools to cut tribal culture and language classes. Spelling said Indian children are making gains in reading and math under President Bush's school reform law.

"For the first time ever in the history of our country, we are holding ourselves accountable as a nation for closing the achievement gap between white and minority students within a decade," she said. But tribal leaders said the law does not address the needs of Native communities.

Tex Hall, former president of the National Congress of American Indians, said many tribes want programs that teach their language and culture. But schools struggling to meet No Child Left Behind are sometimes forced to cut those programs. Indian leaders are also concerned about mandates which make it difficult for rural school districts serving Indian children to recruit and retain qualified teachers. "You might have a major in music and a minor in special education," and teach both, said Hall. "But now, they're saying your minor isn't good enough. It's devastating for a rural school district to say you just lost your special ed teacher."

More than 90 percent of Indian children attend public schools. Only 12 percent of American Indians have a college diploma, compared to 33 percent of all Americans.

Bad address list — The following is a list of tribe members who need to update their current mailing address with the Enrollment Department. If you know the current address of anyone on this list, please contact the Enrollment Department at (800) 251-6597 or (906) 632-8552. Mailing address is Sault Tribe Enrollment Department, P.O. Box 1628, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. You may also e-mail us at lsmith@saulttribe.net or jyacuone@saulttribe.net.

Last names beginning with "A":

Becky K Abear, Jerome G Abear, Kevin E Abear, Steve M Achilles, Shawn M Adams, Craig P Adams, David L Jean M Adams, Mark W Adams, Mindi L Adams, Scott M Adams, Shawn E Adams, Troy T Adams, Wyaudtmoong L Adams Jr, Donald H Adamson, Kathy M Adkins, Alexis R Agawa, Thomas A Aikens, Lita M Aikens, Moses R Aikens, Robert R Aikens, Joshua S Alampi, Mary C Albee, Nicole R Albert, Annie Albert, Jacob R Albon, Christopher T Alexander, Donald W Alexander, Jon A Alexander, Laurie J Alexander, Mary B Alexander Jr, Glen E Allard, Adam M Allegretti, Erin R Allen, Katrina M Allen, Matthew J Allen, Nathan C Allen, Ronald J Allen Jr, William A Allerding, Larry J Allerding, Tyler J Alleyne, Doralee M Allison, Mark R Allison, Raymond D Alvarado, Chelsi G Ammann, Lesa M Amyotte, Michael P Anderson, Brian S Anderson, Charles F Anderson, Connie A Anderson, David S Anderson, Erica J Anderson, Julie L Anderson, Mark J Anderson, Melissa S Anderson, Mitchell E Anderson, Ryan E Anderson, Teresa L Anderson, Theran J Anderson, William A Andress, Carl J Andress, Travis L Andress, Zoann M Andress Jr, David J Andrews, Amy S Andrews, Julie A Andrews, Raymond D Andrus, Shawn P Anthony, John R Anthony, Kathryn Anthony, Stanley W Anthony Jr, Daniel R Anzalone Jr, James F Appleby, Aaron R Appleby, Barbara L Appleby, Benjamin L Arbour, Dale C Arbour, Pamela M Arbour, Timothy J Archambeau, Jon J Archer, Jessica C Ardoin, Samuel L Armentrout, Loren M Arndt, John H Arnold, Ruth A Arseneau, Lawrence R Ashmore, Melanie J Askwith, William J Aspinwall Jr, John W Atkins, Shirley J Atkinson, Edmund R Avila.

Last names beginning with "B":

Vickie L Bach, Ellen K Bacigalupi, Barry R Badder-Lavictor, Khailah A Bailey, Chris W Bailey, Clifford E Bailey, Della E Bailey, Donalee J Bailey, Marie E Bailey, Matthew T Bailey, Michael H Bailey, Seth T Baker, Angela J Baker, Bonnie L Baker, Brandon J Baker, Dannie R Baker, John P Baker, Kelli J Baker, Matthew J Baker, Mitchell L Baldwin, Jacquelyn J Baldwin, James T Banach, Nichole M Banks, Carrie L Barbeaux, Brian D Barber, Robert A Barber, Tina M Bard, Tara M Bard, Wilda A Barends, Charlene A Barends, Cheryl K Barends, Stephanie M Barker, LaVonne T Barnett, Kathleen E Barr, Brian J Barr, Douglas J Bartlett IV, Arthur D Basham, Angela D Bates, Derek J Bates, Robin A Batho, Randy A Baugh, Heather M Baugh, Jonathon R Baumia, David A Baumia, Richard J Baumia, Ryan P Baynton, Ella M Baynton, Kenneth J Bazinaw, Ashley N Bazinaw, Charles G Bazinaw, Haley N Bazinaw, Kenneth A Bazinaw, Michael C Beatty, Jennifer L Beauchamp, Elizabeth D Beaudoin, Seth E Beaudry, Anastasia Beaudry, Antionette Beaudry, Joel T Beaudry, Katie M Beaudry, Melissa L Beaudry Jr, Donald J Beaumont Jr, Neal J Beauvais, Angela B Beauvais, Melissa M Beaver, Laurel I Beck, Donald B Beckman, Jami L Beckman, Jason J Beckman, Kristin A Bedell, Joann Bedell, Lexi A Bedingfield, Brandy L Bedtelyon, Karen L Beigel, Leon J Belanger, Jerome F Belanger, Lyndon B Belanger Jr, Richard Belisle Jr, Frederick H Bell, Angela N Bell,

Bryon L Bell, Dorothy A Bellant, Brian L Bellant, Charles M Bellant, Ernest F Bellant, Jason R Bellant, Katherine M Bellant, Ryan R Beller, Kimberly M Bellore, Michael W Belonga, Eugene N Belonga, Gregory O Belonga, Holly L Belonga, Jeffery L Belonga, Johnny E Belonga, Justin D Belonga, Kristan J Belonga, Lawrence C Belonga, Lisa L Belonga, Ryan K Belonga, Stacie R Benedict, John A Benedict, Kristen N Benedict, Marcus A Benedict, Travis L Bennett, Brian G Bennett, Gregory L Bennett, Jackie W Bennett, Jessica A Bennett, Richard M Benoit, Brittany M Benoit, David A Benoit, Jamie L Benoit, Kristi L Benoit, Tamara L Bensinger, Alan E Bensinger, Heidi L Bensinger, Justin R Bensinger, Nathan J Benson, Leigh N Benson, Robin L Benson, Ryan C Bentley, Julie Benton Jr, Gerald D Berden, Peter D Bergeron, Amii B Bernard, Mary E Bernard, Paul T Bernard, Richard S Bernard, Wayne B Bernard Jr, Lawrence G Bernier, Paul J Bernstein, Lynda F Berry, Richard L Berube, Roni S Bezzina, Emmanuel F Bicknell, Marena M Bieber, Jamie L Bigelow, Gary F Bigelow, Marc D Biggerstaff, Janet A Billings, Brandie L Billings, Vickie L Bingaman, Carla L Bird, Jolene M Biron, Joshua J Biron, Paul A Bisbee, Benjamin R Bisbee, Elizabeth I Bishop III, James J Bishop Jr, James J Bizeau, Eric L Blackwell, John E Blake, Jeffrey V Blake, Shane M Blalock, Donald J Blalock, Dustin M Blanchard, Casey B Blanchard, Noah L Blank, Leland J Blay, Frederick A Blom, Michelle L Bloomer, Lori A Blosswick, Rebecca S Blowers, Shawn D Bluemlein Jr, Larry G Boahbedason, Francis J Bobee, Joseph F Bobee Jr, Peter J Boda, Alan J Boda, Robert C Boden, Fred A Bodwin, Benjamin P Bodwin, Kate A Bodwin, Rebecca A Bodziony, Mary A Bohn, Bethany A Bohn, Matthew C Bohrer, Michael G Bolton, Christopher B Bomia, Melanie L Bonneau, Lena H Bonnier, Kenneth R Bonno, Angel D Bonno, Barbara L Bonno, Brooke D Bonno, Jason F Bonno, Suzanne Bonno III, Joseph W Bonoite, Brandy J Booth, Trisha E Borke, John P Bosanic, Connie F Bosley, Samantha J Boston, Julie A Boucha, Michael J Bouchard, Katina M Bouchard, Woallen Bouchard 242078, Jerry A Boudreau, Melody V Bouley, Allan M Bourasaw, Angela R Bourasaw, Peter J Bourasaw, Troy A Bourasaw Jr, Bernard J Bourne, Roy L Bourque, Leo S Boursaw, Andrew J Boursaw, Dale C Boursaw, Donald C Boursaw, John J Boursaw, Matthew D Boursaw, Ronald L Boursaw, Rose M Boursaw, Wilfred J Boursaw Jr, Lloyd G Bouschor, Helen L Bouschor, Jennifer L Bouschor, Keith W Bouschor, Robert G Bowen, Cathline R Bowen, Jennifer M Bowen, Joseph H Bowerman, Dale E Bowers, Neal J Bowie, Johanna C Box, Shontea M Boyd, Donna J Boyd, Tina M Boyer, Cassie J Boyer, Tyler J Brabrant, Robert A Bradbury, Spring M Bradley, Christoph M Bradley, Denton J Bradley, Leslie A Brady, Karri E Brady, Kelly P Brady, Kimberly A Brady, Mary E Brady, Scott A Brady Jr, John F Brainerd, Kris Brainerd, Ryan A Brainerd, Scott A Braley, Sharon L Brasseur, Angela M Brauer, David T Brauer, Edward A Breakie, Heather S Breakie, Hope M Bremer, James A Bremer III, James A Brewer, Karen Brewster, Jeremy A Brewster, Kollett Brewster, Wayde A Brewster, Wendy

S Briggs, Andy C Brigman, Heather R Brimm, Malisa R Brimm, Robert Brimmer, Samuel L Brodeur, Alicen M Brodeur, Jonathan M Brody, Gene K Brody, Susan L Brooks, Martin A Brown, Bertha Brown, Bryan J Brown, Cassie J Brown, Franklin L Brown, Gregory Brown, Hans G Brown, Kathleen J Brown, Kimberly I Brown, Lloyd Brown, Mallissa A Brown, Michael W Brown, Missy J Brown, Ronald M Brown, Thomas L Brown III, Benjamin J Browning, Michelle Browning, Samantha Bruce, James R Bruce, Scott L Bruder, Marty D Brunet, John T Brussveen, Jennifer H Brussveen, Sherri E Brussveen, Stacy M Bryant, Violet A Bryce, Michael T Buck, Molly E Bumstead, Keith S Bunce, Foster F Burcham, David Burdo, Chad M Burfield, Michael D Burgess, Quintin D Burgess, Taylor K Burke, Salarina R Burks, Carrie H Burling, Lon C Burling, Roger C Burling, Susan M Burnett, Danielle R Burnett, Misti D Burr, Marleea J Burroughs, Debra P Burton, William G Buswa, Agashimainga F Butera, Brianna M Butler, Keianna M Butzin.

Last names beginning with "C":

Timothy R Cabe, Justin R Cadotte, Amber L Cadotte, Angela K Cadotte, Clarence Cadotte, Darrell D Cadotte, Jerry Cadotte, Justin D Cadreau, Amanda M Cadreau, Apryl M Cadreau, Erica L Cadreau, Erik G Cadreau, James R Cadreau, Jason M Cadreau, Margaret Cadreau, Marlene M Cadreau, Michael D Cadreau, Michael D Cadreau, Rodney J Cadreau, Teresa A Cahill, Brian W Cain, Fred B Cain, William E Cairns, David R Cairns, Todd R Cairns, Wayne J Caldwell, Genevieve L Caldwell, James Caldwell, Nancy M Caldwell, Rachel Caldwell Jr, Leland S Calkins, Robbie E Callaghan III, William J Callaghan IV, William J Callahan, Benjamin J Callahan, Janice M Callahan, Joshua D Cameron, Jeremy Camp, Alexander Campbell, Adam L Campbell, Shawna M Campo, Bonita M Campos, Miguel G Canterbury, Lorna M Cantrell, Kandy M Capriccioso II, Robert J Captain, Chad M Captain, Edward H Cardiff, Roberta J Carl, Dustin L Carlisle, Michelle M Carlson, Cheryl A Carlson, Karen L Carlton, Audree R Carnes, Guy R Carpentier, Duane K Carpentier, Michael R Carr, Brenda A Carr, Christopher D Carr, Darrin R Carr, Patricia M Carroll, Bethany J Carrothers, Michelle C Carson, Bethany M Carson, James P Carson, Jason L Carson, David J Carter Jr, Donell L Carter Jr, Wade A Carty, John W Cary, Peter M Case, Joseph R Casebolt, Caitlin R Casebolt, Shawn E Casebolt II, Shawn E Casey, Jamie P Casey, Kenneth B Casey, Susannah J Caskey, Michelle D Cassaday, Mary H Cassler, Lori A Casterton, Virginia M Causley, Andrew R Causley, April M Causley, Christopher P Causley, Darian L Causley, David L Causley, Debra S Causley, James M Causley, Jane M Causley, Jeffery D Causley, Mary S Causley, Theresa L Causley Jr, Eugene A Chaffer, Jason R Chambers, Erin N Chaplause, John A Chapman, Craig E Childers, Sheryl G Chingwa, Michael L Chippewa, Onalee M Chippewa Jr, Marvin J Chmielewski, Heather L Choi, Melissa A Christe, Brette S Christensen, Cheryl S Christensen, Robert O Christopher, Adam D Christopher, Victoria L Church, Mickey L Cicalo, James Q Cicalo, James T Clark, Christopher J Clark, Dawn M Clark, Diane M Clark,

Joseph C Clark, Joshua P Clark, Ricky M Clark, Robert H Clark, Robert J Clark, Scott O Clement, Lindel L Clement, Marshall L Cline, Casey J Closs, Joel R Closs, Justin L Closs, Lee A Cobb, James H Cody, Bryan J Cody, Gregory L Cody, Joseph W Cody, Ryan G Coffman, Holly L Cole, Danielle M Collard, Cathleen Collard, Sean Collard Jr, Keith Collelo, Cindy Collins, Brian A Collins, Christian M Collins, Michelle G Colton, Michelle S Combs Jr, David L Conrad, Brent A Cook, Desiree D Coombs, Tara L Coons, Ashley N Cooper, Andrew W Cooper, Charlotte A Corbiere, Donald T Corbiere III, Emery J Corbisier, Christopher Corbisier, Megan M Corp, Heather M Corp, Isaac L Corp, Nathan R Corp, Sam R Corp, Sarah R Cortinas, Amanda J Cortinas, John B Cortinas, Samuel A Corwin, Mary M Corwin, Michael T Cosens, Travis D Coughlin, Francis R Cournaya, Anna M Cournaya, Jerry L Courtney, Terri M Cousino, Russell J Couture, Melissa A Cox, Tina M Cox Jr, Albert N Crandell Jr, Mark A Crane, Curtis A Crane, Kari A Cregar, Sonya M Crites, Shawn M Croad, Brandon J Croad, Kendra R Crook, Daniel A Crook, David W Crook, Kellie M Cross, Carrie L Cross, Heather M Crothers, Brandi J Crowder-Simmons, Laura J Cruz, Helen S Cryderman, Dawn K Cummings, Dennis J Currie, Charles L Currie, John D Currie, Joseph L Currie, Lori A Currie, Susan A Curry, Christopher J Curry, Janine M Curry, Matthew J Curtis, Andrew N Curtis, Benjamin Z Curtis, James E Curtis, Jason A Curtis, Jodicy R Curtis, Renee L Curtis, Roberta R Curtis, Sally A Cuty II, Joseph P Cvengros, Jason S Cvengros.

Last names beginning with "D":

Cory D Dale, Melissa M Dale, Joni M Dale, Robert C Dandy, Phyllis J Daniels, Amber A Daniels, Andrew R Daniels, Raymond K Danielski, Juanita M D'autremont, Mark A Davenport, Lorrie A Davenport, Robert J David, Abbygayle L David, Alan A David, Dawn M David, Michelle S David, Trudy K Davis, Candace L Davis, Carly R Davis, Christopher L Davis, Sierra D Davis, Trisha C Davis, Scott B Davis, George A Davis, Larry F Davis Jr, Larry F Decker, Brian S Decker, Gloria J Decker, James A Decker, Laura L Decker, Sherri L Deel, Skylar R Dekeyser, Brent J Dekreek, Marcie M Delgado, Christie L Deline, Brent G Delisle, David J Delpriore, Cheryl L Deluca, Patricia Deluca, Vincent V Demers, Nicole A Demmon, Robert C Demrose, Jennifer S Demrose, Samantha J Denkins, David M Denkins, Shannon L Denman, James H Dennis, Amanda C Dennis, Ernest T Dennis, John E Dennis, John J Dennis, Nicholas D Denstedt, Samantha M Denstedt, Savannah R Depew, James R Depew, Joel T Depriester, Bruce L DerHammer, Jossette L Derousha, Sean M Derusha, Jenna C Derusha, John H Derusha, Michael J DesArmo, Kimberly S Desarmo, Scott C Desarmo, Sonja M Desco, Michelle R Desormeaux, Marlies P Desormeaux, Tammy M Desrosiers, Arthur F Destramppe, Mona L Deverney Jr, Matthew M Dewar, Debra L Dewerd, Leslie A Dewitt, Matthew R Dickerson, Terry A Diedrich, Jeffrey S Diehr, Susan Dietz, David E Dietz, David M Dietz, Donald T Dietz, Jimmy M Dietz, Mark O Dietz, Randy E Dinnan, Charles J Dinnan, John P Dinnan, Mark A Dinter, Georgeann

K Ditlow, Angela R Dixon, Ann M Dixon, Clifford N Dixon, Jeffrey T Dixon, Randall W Dobos, Amy L Dodge, Ellarie R Doe, Donna M Doe, Joseph R Dollar, Suzanne M Donovan, Twinkle L Douglas, Lorissa M Douglas, Serena L Dow, Jason J Dow, Tracy R Dow, Valerie J Doyle, Kelly L Drobot, Stephan G DuBois, Krista M Duffiney, Brian O Duffiney, Pamela A Dufresne, Justin Dukett, Anthony D Dukett, Thomas E Dumbra, Corrine A Dunford, Sherri A Dunham, Gloria J Dunham, Mariah L Dunham, Tashina L Dunlap, Phillip K Dunleavy, Leah Dunn, Camille F Dunn, Melissa A Dunn, Sean C Dunn, Seanna M Dunn, Serena M Dupont, Joseph M Dupras, Cindy L Duran, Michelle A Durfee, Martin W Durfee, Sandra D Durham, Amy L Durnion, Jessica Dussell, Sharolyn Dutcher, Gwendolyn S Dutcher, Joann L Dutcher, Marlea A Dutcher, Michael A Dutcher Jr, John R Dyament, Ian A Dyament.

Last names beginning with "E":

Sean C Eagle, Dennis R Eames, Mary E Earls Jr, Leonard E Eckhart, Victoria Eckl, Velma Edenburn, Jeramie L Edgette, Dena M Edmonds, James B Edmonds, Joseph A Edmonds, Sherry A Edwards, Tina K Eggert, Travis J Eitrem, Brian L Eitrem, Joseph M Eldred, Kevin M Elkins, Anglea M Elliott, Allan R Elliott, Tiffany B Ellis, James R Elsass, Michael J Elsass, Scott D Emery, Wendy R Engman, Jennifer D Ermatinger, Jack Ermatinger, Kara L Erskine, Adam L Erskine, Trenton J Escalante, Martha L Escalante, Stephen V Eson, Steven M Essary, Christopher F Estes, Gregory A Ettawageshik, Joel Q Ettawageshik, John L Evans, Melynie J Evans, Michelle L Everhart, Jamie L Everson Jr.

Last names beginning with "F":

David E Fairbanks, Craig L Falkenberg, Amanda M Falkenberg, Brittany L Falkenberg, Kim P Falkenhagen, Scott E Fallstich, Jessica J Farley, Jacob D Farley, Kenneth W Farley, Stephanie E Farley, Steven W Faulkner, Sheena M Faustini, Randall J Feathers, Gregory A Feathers, Kerri A Feathers, Lola M Feathers, Mary E Feathers, Ricky L Feathers, Ronald W Feddersen, Barbara J Feijoo, Jannette M Fellenz, Chad A Ferguson, Rose L Ferree III, Richard A Ferris, Kelub E Ferris, Sumiko A Fetterhoff, Gerald T Fetterhoff, Rikki M Fetterhoff, Sherri J Fetterhoff, Sophia R Fields, Bradley J Fifield, Tami J File, William M Firth, Tanya C Fischer, Elizabeth A Fischer, Jeanie M Fischer, Steffan T Fischer Jr, John R Fish, Randy J Fish, William D Fish Jr, Clarence Fisher, Anna M Fisher, Crystal A Fisher, Debra A Fisher, Dennis M Fisher, Elizabeth M Fisher, Jennifer L Fisher, Kenneth P Fisher, Michele A Fisher Jr, Lawrence R Fleek, Brenda A Fleming, Anthony D Fleming, Christopher R Flick Jr, David L Flietstra, Isobel C Flinn, Jamie J Flinn, Justin T Florek, Geneive A Florek, Luke F Flowers, Michael S Flynn, Patrick Fochtman, Adam J Fochtman, Daniel T Fockler, Patricia A Foley, Jonathon R Foley, Lana T Foley, Thomas W Follbaum, Christy M Foote, John D Ford, Deborah M Forgrave, Cory J Forgrave, Heather L Forlines II, James D Formolo, Brandy K Formolo, Luke F Forrest, Karyn J Forsyth, Kelly J Fortin, Jeremy Fortin, Mark A Fortin, Noel F Forton, Roseanne M Fountaine Jr, Joseph L Fourment, Aaron M

—Continued on following page.

Meet the Kewadin Casino management team

In final segment of the Meet the Management, we review four highly qualified managers who have worked for Kewadin for a combined 57 years. These women bring talent, experience and positive direction to the management team and to the entire Kewadin organization.

Carol Eavou, V.P. hotel operations

Eavou has over 20 years of experience in the gaming industry. She started as a dealer with Kewadin Casinos in 1985 and then held several other positions including pit boss, gaming manager and assistant casino manager.

In 1992, Kewadin Casinos opened its first 52-room hotel for which Eavou became the hotel manager. In 1998, she was named vice president of hotel operations for all Kewadin Casino lodging properties.

Eavou is currently working on revamping and expanding the tribe's hospitality industry operations along with managing the daily



L to R: Carol Eavou, Sheryl McKerchie, Tanya MacDonald and Cheri Tannehill.

operations of the 318-room Sault Ste. Marie hotel. She is active in the tourism industry at the state and local levels. She has served two terms as president of the Sault Ste. Marie Convention and Visitors Bureau and is currently a member of the board of directors for the Michigan Hotel Motel and Resort Association. She also works with state and local tourism organizations to promote, research and develop projects that compliment our gaming and hospitality industries.

Eavou attended Lake Superior

State University and the University of Wisconsin and has also completed training through the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She is a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Sheryl McKerchie,

Casino manager — Manistique

McKerchie has 20 years of gaming experience with Kewadin Casinos. She began working with Kewadin in 1986 as a blackjack dealer and has since held a variety of management and supervisory positions including pit boss and shift manager.

In 2005, McKerchie accepted the position of casino manager for the Manistique casino. She now oversees the 25,000 square foot facility which employees nearly 150 team members and offers a restaurant, gift shop, Northern Rewards Club and sports bar along with slot and table games.

McKerchie is a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Tanya MacDonald, Assistant casino manager — Manistique

MacDonald has 11 years of experience in the gaming industry. She started her career with Kewadin Casinos in 1995 when she began working as a blackjack dealer in the Manistique Kewadin Casino. She later transferred to a housekeeping management position and held that post for two years.

In March of 2000, she was accepted as the assistant casino manager and remains in this role today. In this position, she works with the casino management and team members handling the day to

day casino operations and maintaining a well kept and efficient casino. MacDonald is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Cheri Tannehill, Casino manager — Christmas

Tannehill has two years of gaming experience with Kewadin Casinos, working in Kewadin St. Ignace as an executive assistant and in Kewadin Christmas as the assistant general manager.

She graduated from Grand Valley State University in 1998 with a bachelor's of science in hospitality and tourism and worked at the Boulder Resort in Arizona before moving back to her home state of Michigan.

As casino manager, Tannehill is responsible for the oversight of approximately 120 team members working in the 21,600 square foot facility. She works with various departmental managers at all casino sites ensuring the casino is running in a functional and effective manner.

Bay City woman wins snowmobile



Winners of the 2005 Polaris Indy 500 snowmobile were Kelly and Thomas Kozlowski who were celebrating their 22nd wedding anniversary at Kewadin Casino in the Sault. Above, left to right, is Kewadin COO Tony Goetz, Thomas and Kelly Kozlowski and Chairperson Aaron Payment.

SAULT STE. MARIE, MI. — Kelly Kozlowski of Kawkawlin, Mich., received an early Christmas present when she picked up her 2005 Polaris Indy 500 snowmobile from Kewadin Casinos. "It's so incredible!" said Kozlowski. "I can't believe we won!"

Kozlowski and husband, Thomas, visited Kewadin Casinos in

Sault Ste. Marie on Dec. 3-4 on the Northpoint Charities Bus Tour to celebrate their 22nd wedding anniversary. "We saw the snowmobile that was being raffled for the Kewadin employee charity and I told my husband that someone is going to have a nice Christmas winning that. I never thought I would win it!"

Kozlowski's husband pur-

chased a ticket for the drawing but did not tell her. "When we got the call, I thought it was a prank," she said.

Nearly 2,000 tickets were sold for the snowmobile raffle as part of the Kewadin Casinos and Sault Tribe employee emergency needs program, which assists employees when they need it most.

Team members share the holiday spirit

SAULT STE. MARIE, MI. — Twenty five bags of toys and gifts and six boxes of food all went to families throughout the eastern Upper Peninsula to make their holiday season brighter, thanks to the employees of Kewadin Casinos Hotel and Convention Center.

"All five of our casinos sponsored some type of giving program," said Tony Goetz, casino chief operating officer. "I'm so proud of all our team members. They really know what Christmas is all about."

Nearly every department at the Sault casino sponsored a family

through the Department of Social Services with 19 families including 65 people sponsored.

Kewadin's Manistique casino sponsored a can-a-thon and toys for tots drive, Kewadin Christmas adopted a family and Kewadin St. Ignace sponsored an employee food drive.

"Working together builds communities, friendships, and teaches our children the joy of giving," said Victoria Johndrow who coordinated the Sault Adopt a Family program. "We look forward to doing this again in the years to come."

Kewadin Casinos donates \$25,000 to I-500 snowmobile race



L to R: I-500 committee members Wes Jordan, "Bubba" Boucher, Kathy Good, Terry Joss and I-500 Co-Chair Burch Osterhout with Kewadin COO Tony Goetz, VP of Marketing and Sales Alan Bouschor, Marketing Director Bill Marsh and General Manager Steve Sprecker.

SAULT STE. MARIE, MI. — For the 13th year, Kewadin Casinos is proud to be the top sponsor of the 2006 I-500 Snowmobile Race donating \$25,000 to the event.

"Kewadin supports community events, which is why we have sponsored the I-500 for so many years," said Alan Bouschor, vice

president of marketing and sales. "Events like this help the entire area by attracting tourists and bringing additional dollars into the community."

In 2005, Kewadin donated over \$100,000 to sponsor events like the I-500 and over \$60,000 for smaller benefits and activities.

Bad addresses

— Continued from page 16.

Weeks, Lucia G Weeks, Shanelle N Weesies, Stephen C Weissgerber, Julia A Welch, Michael L Welden, Jason W Wemigwans, Arielle R Wemigwans, Jacqueline M Wemigwans, Mia A Werkheiser, Megan J Weseman, Cynthia M Weslock, Mona R West, Michael J Wester, David A Wheeler, Henry A Whisenant, Albert T White, Alfred R White, Amber L White, Angela B White, Christopher J White, Joshua C White, Michael J White, Nicholas A White, Timothy P White Jr, Lyonl J White Sr, Lyonl J Whitley, Kimberly A Whittemore, Debra A Wiartalla, Samantha M Wiertalla Jr, Daniel N Wiese, Francis H Wiese, Laura A Wiese, Michael M Wightman, Heather G Wile, Justin D Wilhelm, Kimberly A Wilhelm, Thomas J Wilkins, Thomas A Wilkinson, Sara J Willett, John A

Williams, Anthony H Williams, Anthony J Williams, Crystal R Williams, Gilberta S Williams, Iris D Williams, Jack G Williams, Jeremy J Williams, Lisa J Williams, Michael D Williams, Samantha M Williams, Stevie N Williams, Virgil A Willis, Cecelia M Willis, Crystal D Willis, Dawn M Willis, John A Willis, Joseph W Willis, Joshua R Willis, Kristina M Willis, Melissa A Willis Jr, Richard V Willson, Jennifer L Willson, Susan M Wilson, Adam R Wilson, Curtis S Wilson, Danielle M Wilson, Darlene M Wilson, David M Wilson, Julianna R Wilson, Kyle J Wilson, Michael E Wilson, Rachel K Wilson Jr, Craig E Wilton, Brent M Wilton, Bryan W Wilton, Leanna S Wines, Alison M Wines, Beverly J Wines, Bradford K Wingett, Joseph F Winnie, Barbara A Winters, Patricia M Wisniski, Brandon L Wisniski, Dakota J Wisniski, Kirsten

R Wisniski Jr, James L Wolfe, Erica J Wolfinger, Joseph M Wolfinger, Richard D Wolfinger, Shyla J Wood, George A Woodford, Michelle L Woodford, Raymond L Woodford, Theresa Woodie, Toni J Woodworth, Brendan S Woodworth, Cassidy R Woodworth, Dana B Woody, Barbara J Woody, Michael E Wozniak, Jennifer C Wright, Denise Wright, Stephanie K Wright, Timothy J Wright, Tommy L Wurm, Cynthia L Wurm, Lisa M Yaroch, Benjamin J Yell III, Francis H Yokeum, Stewart R Yon, Ticia M Yos, Benjamin L Yost, James R Yother, Polly A Young, Kristine A Yshinski, Christopher G Zanoni II, David P Zatorski, Todd R Zawacki, Julia A Zelenka, Marina S Zelenka, Michele L Zelenka, Tina A Zellweger, Aja E Zellweger, Shalene Zimmerman, Joan F Zimmermann, Paul D Zonca.

January 12 – February 23: Together We Dance: Contemporary Great Lakes Powwow Regalia opens at the William Bonifas Fine Arts Center; tours available Jan. 25 – Feb. 23. Sponsored by Hannahville Indian Community, Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Delta County Title VII, and Rapid River Powwow Learning Circle. Bonifas Arts Center gallery and office hours are Tuesday–Friday 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. For more information contact the William Bonifas Fine Arts Center, 700 First Avenue South, Escanaba, MI 49829 or call (906) 786-3833.

January 13: Opening reception for Together We Dance: 7 to 9 p.m. For information call (906) 786-3833.

January 13-15: SMHA Cabin Fever Tournament at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

January 13: The Unit III St. Ignace Elderly Committee will hold their monthly meeting the second Friday of every month after the noon meal at the McCann School. For any questions please call the Elder Services Division at (906) 635-4971 or 888-711-7356.

January 14 - 15: Don't miss out on the extreme action at Kewadin Sault as they present the Michigan Snow X Series Races! Visitors can hear the roar of the engines and feel the spray of the snow as sleds hit the track with the Michigan Snow X Racing Association's oldest and largest snowcross circuit. Call 1-800-KEWADIN for more information or visit www.snowx.com.

January 14: EUP Remote Car Races, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

January 14: The Unit IV Escanaba Elderly Committee will hold the monthly meeting and potluck lunch will be held the second Saturday of each month at 11 p.m. at the Escanaba Civic Center 225 No 21st Street, Escanaba, Mich. For any questions please call the Elder Services Division at (906) 635-4971 or 888-711-7356.

January 14: Northern Michigan Black Bears vs. Sudbury Northern Wolves, 7:30 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

January 14: Foghat and Rare Earth Concert, 7 p.m. Dream Maker's Theater at Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information call 1-800-KEWADIN. Tickets are on sale now, price is \$18.50.

January 15: Winter 2006 Adult Hockey League begins at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. Adult Hockey League games are on Tuesdays and Sundays. There is a 16 player limit, 12 player minimum per team. You must be 18 years and older. For more information contact Andrea or Zach at (906) 635-RINK.

January 16: The Unit II Hessel Elderly Committee will hold their monthly meeting the third Monday of every month after the noon meal at the Hessel Tribal Center. For any questions please call the Elder Services Division at (906) 635-4971 or 888-711-7356.

January 16: The Unit V Munising Elderly Committee will hold their monthly meetings at 4 p.m. at the Comfort Inn the first and third Monday of every month. For any questions please call the Elder Services Division at (906) 635-4971 or 888-711-7356.

January 17: "What Was Never Told" Maamwe Maaajtaaying (beginning together) orientation, Niigaanigizhik building, 12-1 p.m. Community members and team members are invited to an overview of the cultural training program "What Was Never Told." Guidelines, techniques, and processes will be presented by CHP team. There will be two lessons presented each month beginning February and running through July. Participants of the 12 lesson program series will experience native contemporary struggles, a closer look at our values and traditions, a native perspective of cultural loss and revival, use of cultural, social, and healing information. Contact Elaine Wright, cultural training specialist at (906) 632-7494 or ewright@saulttribe.net.

January 17: Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting, 6 p.m., at the Kinross Recreation Center in Kincheloe, Mich. Open community hour is from 5-6 p.m. For further information contact Joanne Carr at (906) 635-6050 ext. 26337.

January 18: "What Was Never Told" Maamwe Maaajtaaying (beginning together) orientation, Niigaanigizhik building, 12-1 p.m. Community members and team members are invited to an overview of the cultural training program "What Was Never Told." Contact Elaine Wright, cultural training specialist at (906) 632-7494 or ewright@saulttribe.net.

ed to an overview of the cultural training program "What Was Never Told." Contact Elaine Wright, cultural training specialist at (906) 632-7494 or ewright@saulttribe.net.

January 18: HUGS Lifestyle Program. Ten classes will teach you tools for making meaningful and permanent changes in your lifestyle. New session runs Jan. 18 to March 22 and meets weekly from 2-3 p.m. at the Sault Tribe Health Center Auditorium. Facilitators are Charla Gordon, RD and Betty Noland, RD Sault Tribe nutritionists. Please call (906) 632-5212 or (906) 632-5210 to sign up or for more information. There is no fee and the class is open to the community.

January 18: Voices to Choices adolescent group is held from 5:30-6:30 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of the month at the George K. Nolan Judicial Building 2175 Shunk Rd. Sault Ste. Marie, MI. For more information call Pat McKelvie at (906) 635-4963.

January 19: "What Was Never Told" Maamwe Maaajtaaying (beginning together) orientation, Niigaanigizhik building, 12-1 p.m. Community members and team members are invited to an overview of the cultural training program "What Was Never Told." Contact Elaine Wright, cultural training specialist at (906) 632-7494 or ewright@saulttribe.net.

January 20: Northern Michigan Black Bears vs. Manitoulin Islanders, 7:30 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

January 21: TotZone, "Fixin Fun" (dress your little ones like Bob or Wendy) 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. Special themed activities and snacks planned for each TotZone date. We encourage everyone to bring strollers, push toys, ride-on toys, walker and trikes. There is a \$3 fee per child to participate. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

January 21: Join your friends at Kewadin Casino Dream Maker's Theater for Wedding Expo 2006! Helping to make your wedding day even more special! At Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. For more information or vendor space, please contact Todd Olmstead at (906) 635-4762 or 1-800-KEWADIN.

January 21: Northern

Michigan Black Bears vs. Abitibi Eskimos, 7:30 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

January 23: The Elderly Advisory Board will meet the fourth Monday of every month at 12:30 p.m. at the Newberry Tribal Center. For any questions please call the Elder Services Division at (906) 635-4971 or 888-711-7356.

January 23 – 28: Harlan Downwind will be holding clinic hours at the Traditional Medicine Clinic in Sault Ste. Marie from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For appointments call (906) 632-5210.

January 24: The Sault Tribe News deadline is 9 a.m. If you have any questions please call the Communications Department at (906) 632-6398.

January 24: Kewadin Shores Casino Job Fair at Little Bear East, St. Ignace from Noon to 6 p.m. Nearly 90 full time and 45 seasonal team members are needed for the new St. Ignace Kewadin Casino facility which will open in the summer of 2006. For more information call Human Resource Recruiter, Lynn Trozzo at the Sault Tribe Employment Office at (906) 635-7032, 1-866-635-7032 or apply online at www.saulttribe.com.

January 24: Northern Michigan Black Bears vs. Soo Thunderbirds, 7:30 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

January 24 - March 7: Active Parenting NOW is designed to serve parents of children age's five to twelve. It's a six week course that meets for three hours per week. Week seven is graduation. We accept both referrals from agencies and individuals. Classes are free of charge and will be scheduled in the location that best suits the majority of the class participants. I.e. Kincheloe, Sault Ste. Marie or Hessel. Contact Joanne Umbrasas at (906) 635-7746 to register or for more information.

January 25: Kewadin Shores Casino Job Fair at Michigan Works!, Cheboygan, MI from Noon to 6 p.m. Nearly 90 full time and 45 seasonal team members are needed for the new St. Ignace Kewadin Casino facility which will open in the summer of 2006. For more information call Human Resource Recruiter, Lynn Trozzo at the Sault Tribe Employment Office at (906) 635-7032, 1-866-635-7032 or apply online at www.saulttribe.com.

January 25: Voices to Choices adult group is held the second and fourth Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at the George K. Nolan Judicial Building, 2175 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI. For more information call Pat McKelvie at (906) 635-4963.

January 25: The Chippewa County Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group will meet in the second floor conference room at the Avery Square Center, 510 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie, on the last Wednesday at 2 p.m. For more information please call (906) 632-3363.

January 26 – March 9: Active Parenting of TEENS is designed to serve parents of teens and preteens in a six week course that meets for three hours per week. We accept referrals from agencies and individuals. Classes are free and will be scheduled in the location that best suits the majority of the class participants. I.e. Kincheloe, Sault Ste. Marie or Hessel. Contact Joanne Umbrasas at (906) 635-7746 to register or for more information.

January 27: Unit II Newberry Elderly Committee will hold their monthly meeting the fourth Friday of every month after the noon meal at the Newberry Tribal Center. Questions please call the Elder Services Division at (906) 635-4971 or 888-711-7356.

January 28: EUP remote car races, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. at Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. For information call (906) 635-RINK.

January 28: Taylor Dayne Concert, 7 p.m. Dream Maker's Theater at Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie. For information call 1-800-KEWADIN. Tickets are \$22.50.

January 29: Pancake breakfast with whole wheat and white pancakes, ham, scrambled farm fresh eggs, pastries and beverages. St. Mary's school in the Sault from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., by donation. For information call Melissa LaPlaut at (906) 495-5485.

January 30 & 31: Harlan Downwind will be holding clinic hours at the Traditional Medicine Clinic in Manistique and Escanaba. Call (906) 341-8469 for Manistique and (906) 786-9211 for Escanaba.

January 28: drum making workshop at William Bonifas Fine Arts Center from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. presented by Bud Biron, Sault Tribe culture director. Call (906) 786-3833 for information.

Survey reveals good news for Indian Country

By RICK SMITH

Results of a survey conducted by the National Indian Gaming Association last October show some positive reflections from about 1,000 U.S. residents who are 18 years of age or older. The results were released last November.

Conclusions of the survey indicated Indian gaming has a strong base of support and is winning the battle of public opinion. In addition, the American public views gaming as a favorable way to make American Indian tribes more self-reliant.

Surprisingly, responses to one of the first survey questions suggest Americans are more positive

about the direction of American Indian gaming than they are about the where the United States is headed. When participants were asked if the country is headed in the wrong direction, 63 percent indicated they believe the U.S. is on the wrong track.

When asked if casinos on reservations were preferable to large, Las Vegas-style corporate-run casinos, 67 percent favored gaming on reservations.

About 69 percent of survey participants said American Indian tribes continue to deserve help, up from 56 percent in a survey conducted in 2002.

A whopping 77 percent of respondents agreed it is either

extremely important or, at least, very important to maintain American Indian culture.

An overwhelming 86 percent said they agree that Indian tribes benefit from having casinos that provide jobs for Indians and provide revenue that tribes can use to provide essential services to members.

About 72 percent agreed Indian gaming benefits states and local communities.

When asked if they believe Indian gaming allows Indians to break the cycle of poverty and welfare and become self-reliant, 70 percent gave nods.

On the statement that gambling is morally wrong and should not

be permitted anywhere in the country, not even on Indian reservations, 53 percent disagreed.

Currently, gambling is allowed on Indian lands and federal law recognizes the right of Indian tribes to offer a gambling facility, such as a casino on their reservation, when tribes have regulatory agreements with state governments that determine the rules of the games. Additionally, these agreements must be approved by both the Indian tribes and the states or a vote by the people in the form of a ballot initiative. A total of 76 percent of those questioned approved of the current level of regulation on Indian gaming and a majority felt that states

should not be allowed to renegotiate their contracts with Indian tribes.

Hovering around 80 percent, respondents agreed Indian tribes have sovereign authority that was established long before European settlers arrived in North America and treaties signed with European nations and, later, the United States guaranteed the tribes' control over their reservations. After hundreds of years of broken promises and genocide against Indian nations, most respondents affirmed Indians are owed the opportunity of Indian gaming and a chance at a better life.

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Community Leader

“ I would be proud
to serve you as
Mayor, together we
can accomplish
great things.”

Elizabeth Brown



Currently serving on the St. Ignace Business Association
(SIBA) and on the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Currently serving as President of the Michigan Upper
Peninsula Bed and Breakfast Association

Responsible for renovating the former V&S building into the
beautiful PAVILLION featuring six individual stores and
creating over 21 part and full time positions of employment.

Brief History

Elizabeth J. Brown was born raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She has however, spent the last (30) years in Michigan where she served as a Professor of Music at Central Michigan University. During her teaching career, Elizabeth was awarded the highest and most prestigious teaching award from the Michigan Governing Boards as the Outstanding Professor of the Year. At the same time, Elizabeth opened her first business in Mt. Pleasant and successfully operated the Dondero House for 20 years.

In 1988, Elizabeth purchased the Colonial House Inn Bed & Breakfast in St. Ignace and in 2001 she retired from teaching and moved to St. Ignace as a full time resident.

ELECT

Elizabeth Brown Mayor Of St. Ignace

OPEN FORUM TO THE MEMBERS

Ahnee Tribal Members, Family and Friends
I would like to start 2006 by wishing you all a
Happy New Year! I pray that for each of you,
2006 brings abundant blessings and happiness to
you and all your family. I hope that 2006 will be
an exciting and positive year for all of us.

Steve Morello - Tribal Attorney



Shagen's Plot To Oust General Council Morello Revealed

During the Christmas break when I was enjoying the company of family and friends, I was alerted to a very disturbing development.

As you may know, there were two significant events in December regarding our effort to recover the money that was improperly paid out by the former Chairman to 7 of his friends, including Director Paul Shagen.

First of all, the Board demonstrated a tremendous amount of courage by passing a resolution allowing the entire membership to determine if defendants Bouschor and Shagen should be allowed to run for office during the time we are in active litigation with them. Secondly, we met in Emmet County for the hearing on the Tribe's request to grant summary judgment on one portion of our case. The judge will issue a written opinion on that shortly. I'll inform you as soon as possible after we have the ruling.

As a result of our positive action, defendant Shagen initiated a plot with Directors McKelvie, Lambert, and Causley to remove me from my position as the Tribe's General Counsel and Chief Ethics Officer! Yes, as incredible as that may sound, defendant Shagen is apparently using his position as a member of our Board to try and get me removed. Why? Because he knows that's the only way he can hope to get the litigation stopped! This is not the first time this has happened. This same group of directors has conspired repeatedly to remove me from office on one bogus charge after another.

When I learned of this plot, I wrote to Director Causley to ask her how she could be a part of such a devastating plot to destroy our lawsuit. Interestingly enough, she never responded to me. Director Causley has never denied her part in this plot! Instead, Defendant Shagen sent me a shrill response.

In my email to Director Causley, I offered to apologize to her publicly if the information I have about her participation is in error. I renew my offer once again. Director Causley, if you are NOT associated with this plot, if you are not actively conspiring with defendant Shagen to undermine our lawsuit by attempting to remove the Tribe's lead counsel on this case, then say so in public. If you are NOT planning on voting to remove General Counsel Morello, then say so in public. I will apologize to you as soon as you issue your public denial. However, if you are a part of this plot, why?

MEMBERS: This is the kind of wrong doing that can occur when defendants in this lawsuit are allowed too also be members of the board that approves of the lawsuit. They can (and will) use their position of trust to undermine the quest by the board for justice. This is precisely why the Board authorized this latest Referendum, in my opinion.

MEMBERS: Each of you has the right to say whether or not defendants Shagen and Bouschor should be allowed to run for the Board while this case is still open. There is NO presumption of innocence in this case. That applies only in criminal cases. Whatever happened on election night in June 2004 and the days and weeks leading up to it will come out at the trial. You deserve the chance to have information before you are asked to return defendants Shagen and Bouschor to the Board.

As a Tribal member I know I want that information before I would ever vote for either of them again and I think you want that information as well.

I want to thank all of the other Board members for not throwing in with Defendant Shagen in this plot to remove me. They are courageous and simply want nothing more than to get to the truth about the taking of the money on election night 2004. I do too! So I am communicating to you in this manner. *At the suggestion of the Board, I have paid for this space in order to communicate this information to you because I believe so strongly in your right to know.*

I am communicating this message to you as an officer of the Tribe, seeking only to represent ALL of the Tribe and its members in seeing justice done. If you are as upset by this development as I am, call your Board members and let them know you do NOT support taking out General Counsel Morello in order to stop the lawsuit against defendants Shagen and Bouschor.

VOTE TO APPROVE THE REFERENDUM YOUR BOARD IS PRESENTING TO YOU.

It was mailed to you January 4th, 2006. It is YOUR way to insure justice is done.

Sincerely

Steve Morello

General Counsel Sault Ste. Marie Tribe Of Chippewa Indians



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DETROIT, Jan 7 / ROAD & TRAVEL Magazine announced its 10th Annual Car Of the Year Awards. A jury of 12 Nationally-renowned automotive journalists selected the Top 10 automobiles with ballots tabulated by J.D. Power and Associates.

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Excerpts From Business Week - Dec.,5 2005

Hyundai has grown faster than any other major auto maker, setting up factories world wide, including its first U.S. plant - in Alabama.

The new Azera sedan is expected to go head-to-head with Toyota's Avalon, Nissan's Maxima, and the Ford 500. With a sticker price of around \$30,000 the all new Azera will be Hyundai's most expensive automobile. The new Azera will come in anywhere from \$1,600 to \$4000 lower than its rivals. The new Azera has oodles of upscale extras and hopes to become the leading car for safety at the same time.

The Azera has a 3.8-liter aluminum V6 engine, which Hyundai says will rocket the sedan to 60 mph in 6.5 seconds. The Azera's cabin is roomier than the Avalon, the Mercedes Benz S-Class and BMW's 7 Series.

The base model Azera is equipped with eight air bags, electronic stability control, a traction control system, rain-sensing wipers, a six-CD changer and a power rear sunshade that retracts when the driver puts the car into reverse. Stop by World Cars today and see the all New Model Azera.

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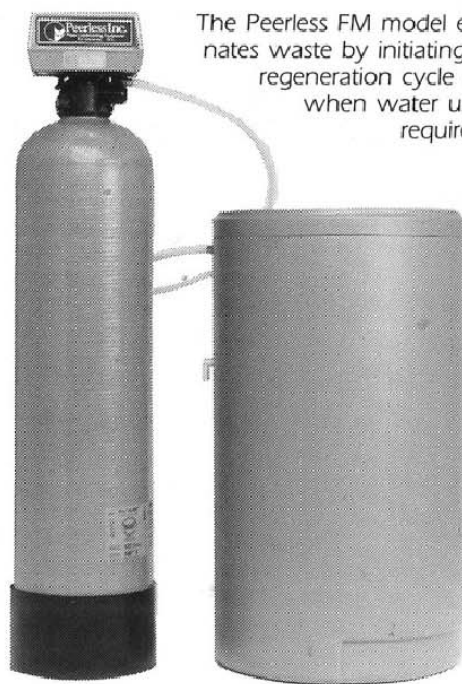
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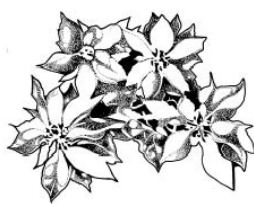
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