



# Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

Ode'imín Giizis  
Strawberry Moon

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## Abramson to chair HHS Tribal Advisory Committee

WASHINGTON, D.C. — On June 2, Sault Tribe Unit I Director Cathy Abramson was unanimously elected as chair of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC), in which she and other tribal leaders meet directly with Secretary Sylvia Burwell on Indian health issues.

"This committee is a very hard working committee that strongly speaks up and gives input to the top administration staff and Secretary Burwell," Abramson said. "I'm very proud and honored to have the support of such great leaders from across Indian country."

Abramson is also STAC's first female chair.

In 2011, Abramson became one of 17 appointees to the inaugural federal advisory committee, established to reform and enhance how the HHS works with Indian Country. STAC consists of representatives from each of the 12 Indian Health Service administrative regions in the country and five national at-large representatives. Abramson is the primary representative for the Bemidji area, which covers Michigan,



Unit I Director Cathy Abramson and HHS Secretary Sylvia Burrell

Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana.

"We are honored that Cathy agreed to accept the nomination

as the HHS STAC Tribal Chair position. She has a strong background from her role with NIH on presiding over an advisory

committee representing the four corners of Indian Country. I'm confident she will provide strong, steady leadership as the tribal leader on the committee advocating for many interests from HHS," W. Ron Allen, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Chairman and CEO said.

Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment also serves on STAC as an at-large representative. "I was proud to advocate and entertain a motion for Cathy's appointment as chair of the STAC," he said. "When I returned to office, Cathy pulled me into national level advocacy for our people. I credit her leadership on Health and Human Services for advancing the lives of Indian people across the country."

Abramson is a nationally known and respected leader with regard to Indian health issues. Some of her extensive work includes the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Tribal Advisory Board and Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee-Bemidji Area Representative. She was appointed to the National Indian Health Board in 2009 and is a former chairperson of that board. Last year, she was honored

with the IHS Director's Special Recognition Award in Tribal Leadership and Partnership.

Regionally, Abramson is actively involved with United Tribes of Michigan and the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST). Within the tribe, some of her past and present work includes Sault Tribe Head Start Policy Council – board liaison, Sault Tribe Healthy Traditions Advisory Council, Sault Tribe Community Transformation Grant/Strategic Alliance for Health Leadership Team and advisor for the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Youth Council.

Abramson has a Bachelor of Science in business administration from Lake Superior State University and was honored with the LSSU Distinguished Business Alumna award in 2011.

She has been on the Sault Tribe Board of Directors since 1996. She and her husband, Tony Abramson, have three children, Lisa, Laura and Tony Jr., all with children of their own. She loves to hunt, fish and gather the indigenous foods of her area and enjoys camping, hiking, traveling and family gatherings.

## Read all about it: the truth about Line 5 under the Mackinac Straits

By KATHIE BROSEMER, SAULT TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGER

Enbridge Pipelines Inc. operates Line 5, a 645-mile, 30-inch-diameter pipeline built in 1953, that extends a distance of 4.6 miles beneath the Straits of Mackinac and transports a variety of petroleum products including light crude oil and natural gas liquids.

Line 5 runs across the northern portions of Wisconsin and Michigan, and as it reaches the Straits of Mackinac, the line splits into two, 20-inch-diameter, parallel pipelines buried onshore

and travelling deep underwater, crossing the Straits of Mackinac west of the Mackinac Bridge for a distance of 4.6 miles.

This pipeline at any given time contains nearly one million gallons of crude oil beneath the waters of the Straits of Mackinac. For four to six months of the year, the Straits are ice-covered, making spill response nearly impossible.

It is difficult to observe the condition of the pipeline under the Mackinac Straits. Enbridge states that it observes pipeline integrity from aircraft every few weeks — this would not be a

way to observe the line itself, but merely to spot a leak small enough to elude pressure sensors.

In 2013, National Wildlife Federation sent a team of divers to investigate conditions. They observed broken anchor supports, debris and fouling of the pipeline including encrustation with mussels, and long stretches of pipe suspended over the lake bottom without support, according to the investigation.

The twin oil Enbridge pipelines rely on 1950s technology and use outdated protective coating and welds connecting the 40-foot segments that make up the pipelines that run through the Straits of Mackinac, where Lake Michigan and Lake Huron meet. Shifting sand and gravel at the bottom likely causes friction that is accelerating pipeline wear after more than six decades of use. The presence of numerous broken anchor points indicates shifting of the lines.

Welds from 1953 are technically deficient and have become more so due to deterioration over time. Of the Enbridge pipeline spills reported from 2002 to 2010, 16 pipeline spills were caused either by weld failures or from the failure of coal tar enamel coating similar to the coating used on Line 5 through the straits, according to a study commissioned by For the Love of Water (FLOW) out of Traverse City.

According to the report, the pipelines were constructed prior

to the zebra mussel invasion of the Great Lakes and were not designed to withstand the corrosive impact of zebra mussels. The invasive species secretes an acidic waste that corrodes exposed steel. The steel pipes are coated with obsolete coal tar enamel that has failed elsewhere, including in 2009 with Enbridge's Line 2 near Odessa, Saskatchewan, which was constructed the same year as Enbridge's Line 5 through the Straits.

Furthermore, encrustation by zebra and quagga mussels adds significant weight to infrastructure, adding stresses to areas of the pipeline that are suspended, unsupported, over the lake bottom.

Line 5 is vulnerable to material, weld and equipment failures, which the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration identifies as the most common causes of pipeline ruptures. As discovered in the Kalamazoo River disaster, some protective pipeline coatings and wraps that were supposed to prevent corrosion actually contributed to the problem.

Line 5 traverses dramatically uneven terrain at the bottom of the Straits. The pipeline suspends over a 250-300 foot-deep, quarter-mile-wide, underwater canyon with steep walls, remnant topography from a former preglacial river. The tension and stresses on that section of the line are likely to be severe but neither Enbridge nor the government will release

any information about how, or whether, that segment of the pipeline is supported.

It would take at least three hours for Enbridge to dispatch cleanup crews to the Straits in the event of a spill. In that amount of time, oil would spread for miles into Lake Michigan and Lake Huron.

In 2013, Enbridge upgraded pumps along Line 5 and increased the oil flow under the Straits by 10 percent or 2.1 million gallons per day.

### Threat of a Spill

Enbridge Line 5 was designed for a 50-year life, and is now 12 years beyond its design life. Numerous small ruptures have already occurred on land portions of this line, including a spill in early December 2014 on the bank of the Manistique River just one mile from Lake Michigan. That spill occurred when the line was carrying natural gas liquids, which evaporated. Fortunately for Lake Michigan, it was not carrying crude oil at the time.

A spill at the Straits would require the oversight of the US Coast Guard as the lead federal agency. Sector Sault has been planning and conducting exercises to prepare for a spill, however the response to an oil spill at this location would be terribly inadequate. It is simply not possible to respond effectively to an oil spill in heavy currents, under ice, or in the high winds that are routinely experienced at the Straits of

See "Line 5," Page 20

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# United Way of the EUP contributes strong returns

**FROM EUP UNITED WAY**

United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula invests in critical programs and initiatives that demonstrate effectiveness, collaboration, leverage and impact to the community. Last year saw an impressive return on the community's investment as \$10.38 in services was provided for every single dollar donated.

A wide range of community members are involved in that annual process from beginning to end. "The volunteers take their role very seriously and expect accountability," said Tracey Laitinen, executive director of the United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula.

This year's Live United community drive was spearheaded by Dr. Shane and Betsy Woolever. "It has been a pleasure getting to know the Woolever family over the last two years," said Laitinen. "I was very excited when they joined our team and they have been great advocates. I don't know where they find the time to help us spread the United Way story."

A total of \$153,569 will be invested in a variety of services that will have a direct impact on the lives of thousands of Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac County residents, \$91,656 will support 17 programs of local organizations that submitted grant requests. The United Way board also set aside \$61,911 to continue to operate the full-time volunteer center, Removing Barriers to Education, Project Fresh, MIBridges, Project Backpack and many other programs and projects too numerous to list here (Please see table for the list of funded organizations).

United Way of the EUP's community investments went up seven percent from last year. "We are very pleased to be in a position to provide so much funding to such a wide variety of local programs," Laitinen said.

The funding announcement marked the end of a year-long process involving dozens of people and many steps.

Each year, non-profit agencies submit funding applications to the organization along with extensive information about their programs' impacts and finances. The community then reviews the applications and sets funding priorities.

According to Laitinen, volunteer panelists review applications, attend presentations from every applicant and make funding recommendations to ensure the highest return on investment of donors' dollars in the areas of education, financial stability and health.

The volunteer review panels met in February and submitted their recommendations to the United Way Board of Directors, which made final funding decisions on April 17.

Review panelist Paul Olson said that process gives the community a unique voice in how their money is spent. "Very few

nonprofits engage the public or allow the public to 'watch the sausage being made,' as much as United Way does," said Olson. "That transparency is unique and valuable."

Another panel member says the process is educational, showing "how passionate agency leaders are and just how important they are to maintaining a caring, compassionate society."

That kind of public outreach and engagement are important to the organization, whose mission is even broader than many people suspect. Not only do they fund agencies, they provide leadership and support for many other projects in the EUP.

Last year saw an impressive return on the community's investment, as \$10.38 in services were provided for every single dollar donated.

To assure results like that continue, the organization has become even more strategic about identifying priority needs and outcomes for funding.

The return on a donors' investment is mind boggling when you look at the 14-plus programs and projects the organization funds on top of the 17 agencies they support. Last year alone, the organization provided \$657,884 in services and support, which includes dollars brought in from outside the EUP.

Laitinen said none of their work would be possible without the support of the community. "We want to ensure our donors there is accountability in how we invest their funds to meet

community needs," she said.

United Way of the EUP has an open-book policy. Monthly statements compiled by Lori Langendorf CPA, and its annual audit is conducted by Anderson Tackman. The audit and federal 990 report are available online at [UnitedWayEUP.org](http://UnitedWayEUP.org).

Laitinen urges area residents to look for their personal invitations to the annual event to thank donors coming on Monday, June 8, at the Kewadin Convention Center.

For more information about how you can support your community through United Way, contact Tracey Laitinen, executive director of the United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula at (906) 632-3700, ext. 2, or via email at [tracey@unitedwayeup.org](mailto:tracey@unitedwayeup.org).

To be in the know, you can also become a fan of the agency's Facebook page — United Way of the EUP.



United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula



Community Partners: Susan James, Teresa Dwyer-Armstrong, Tracey Laitinen, Barb Reed, Dawn McKinney & Lisa Waskin

**United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula invests in critical programs and initiatives that demonstrate effectiveness, collaboration, leverage and impact to the community. Last year saw an impressive return on the community's investment as \$10.38 in services was provided for every dollar donated.**

Organization	Services	Award
Feeding America	Food Assistance	\$ 8441
Luce Co. Resource & Rec Center (LINK)	Food Program	\$ 3663
Hospice of the EUP	Patient Care & Bereavement	\$ 8034
Great Lakes Recovery Centers	Social Detox	\$13019
CLM Community Action Agency	Meals on Wheels	\$12113
Diane Pepler Resource Center	Food, Clothing & Shelter	\$ 6860
Sault Housing Commission/Safe Haven	Emergency Shelter	\$ 6231
Housing Opportunities Made Equal	Foreclosure Assistance	\$ 4650
Community Health Access Coalition	Healthcare Education & Enrollment	\$ 5509
Girl Scouts of the NW Great Lakes	Youth Leadership Experience	\$ 5684
Hearthside Assisted Living	Enrichment Activities for Residents	\$ 3101
NorthStar Habitat for Humanity	Habitat Restore-Basic Human Needs	\$ 3423
Boy Scouts Bay Lakes Council	Youth Programming	\$ 2904
Alzheimer's Association	Education & Outreach	\$ 4093
EUP Community Dispute Resolution Center	Education & Outreach	\$ 1090
Salvation Army	Soup Kitchen	\$ 2281
Child & Family Services of the EUP	Homeless Teen Program (SHYP)	\$ 560
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$91656</b>

## Investing in Our Community

**UNITED WAY OF THE EUP —**

- **\$10.38** in services provided for every dollar donated.
- **\$657,884** in services and support.
- **7% Increase** in Community Investments from the previous year.
- **\$153,569** for services that have a direct impact on Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac Counties' residents.
- **\$91,656** to support 17 local program grants.
- **\$61,911** to continue full-time volunteer center, Removing Barriers to Education, Project Fresh, MIBridges, Project Backpack and many other programs.



Project Backpack

For more information about how you can support your community through United Way, contact Tracey Laitinen at 906-632-3700, ext. 2, or [tracey@unitedwayeup.org](mailto:tracey@unitedwayeup.org).



United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula

Let's Live United.



# Let's Get Moving Community Challenge returns

The Partnerships to Improve Community Health Grant project is sponsoring the sixth annual Let's Get Moving Community Challenge. The challenge encourages people of all ages and backgrounds to live healthful lives through physical activity and eating healthful foods. The eight-week challenge runs from June 6 to Aug. 1, 2015.

All people from Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Munising, Manistique, Marquette, Kinross,

Cedarville and Nahma are invited to compete to build healthier communities.

On June 6, residents of those communities begin tracking progress: Physical activity measured in minutes, miles or pedometer steps, daily servings of fruits and vegetables, daily servings of water, eliminating tobacco use and shopping at local farmers' markets for fresh produce.

Weekly updates and team

standings are distributed through email notifications.

Residents of the participating towns can register at [www.up4health.org](http://www.up4health.org) and log activities in a user-friendly system, through [www.challengerunner.com](http://www.challengerunner.com).

The communities will earn \$2,000 in funding, which must be used to enhance physical activity or healthful eating opportunities in the community. The funding is for sustainable changes in the environment, such as for bicycles

and helmets for community bike rental programs, community gardens, enhancements to farmers' markets, fitness equipment for walking paths, bike route signs, and infrastructure improvements for biking and walking paths or other modes of non-motorized transportation.

The town with the highest average wellness points per person receive bragging rights and a community challenge plaque.

Manistique and Nahma took first place in last year's challenge. Collectively, folks in these two towns walked over 191,029.37 steps and earned over 840 points.

For more information on the Lets Get Moving Community Challenge or other events in the Upper Peninsula, go to [www.UP4health.org](http://www.UP4health.org), for any other questions, please email [communityhealth@saulttribe.net](mailto:communityhealth@saulttribe.net).

## Sault area children's powwow set for July 5

SUBMITTED BY CHARLES FORGRAVE

The 2015 Celebrating the Tribal Child Powwow is scheduled for 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, July 5, at 8 Mile Road between Seymour Road and M-129. I will build a fire and keep it going. If each of you bring a package of hotdogs and hotdog rolls, we will have something to eat. If a few others of you bring some mustard, Ketchup and hotdog relish, there something for us to put on them.

The fire will be in the center of the dance arena with room to cook around it and room for dancing and drumming. In the immediate area outside of the

dance arena, enjoy games and activities for all kids between the ages of 1 and 100. If you have a drumstick and would like to drum, please bring it. If you have a drum and would like to sing, please bring it.

Young people will be announcing the events with an erasable ink board. Those 12 and under are invited to sell their homemade art, crafts and baked items, etc. No alcohol or drugs allowed. No electricity available. You, your friends and the general public are invited and welcome to attend to eat, dance, sing and play games with us or to watch under the big wide open beautiful sprawling 80 acres of pure blue sky on 8 Mile.

## Antique appraiser coming to Sault Ste. Marie in August

In August, two Superior District libraries are hosting antique and collectible appraisal hours with appraiser Mark F. Moran of Iola, Wisc.

Mr. Moran has been an appraiser for more than 20 years, a guest expert on Public Broadcasting Service's *Antiques Roadshow*, a contributing editor to *Antique Trader Magazine* and he is the co-author of over 25 books on antiques and collectibles.

He will be at Les Cheneaux Community Library on Friday, Aug. 14, from noon to 4 p.m., and at Bayliss Public Library in Sault Ste. Marie on Saturday, Aug. 15, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mr. Moran will appraise most items, including fine art, furniture, ceramics, glassware, vintage photographs, advertising, folk art, assorted toys, metal wares, clocks and costume jewelry. Each library has a more detailed list of categories he can appraise.

The charge per item to be appraised is \$10. You must register and pay in advance. He

will appraise 40 items at each library. The appraisals will be verbal, not written. You may be part of the audience for his days of appraisals and watch him in action.

"We filled our 40 time slots for appointments in no time at all, and our three-hour event was a gratifying success," noted Bess Ameson, librarian of the L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library in Eau Claire, Wisc. "No matter the monetary value of each item, Mark made each person feel that the piece they brought in was special and interesting in some way. He's also very entertaining, his witty remarks kept us smiling and his sense of timing kept us in suspense as we waited for him to state the value of each piece." She commented on the website at [mark-moran.blogspot.com](http://mark-moran.blogspot.com).

For more information, see [www.markfmoran.com](http://www.markfmoran.com). Stop by your library to sign up, space is limited.

Questions? Call Bayliss Library Manager Susan James at (906) 632-9331.

### Free cooking classes offered in Newberry

Celebrate your inner chef at free cooking classes July 24, Aug. 28 and Sept. 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Newberry. Call 293-8181 today to reserve your spot, only 10 slots available. On July 24, the class makes pasties. Bring an apron and a take-home carrier — everything else is provided.

Participants will learn to use fresh foods like those provided by USDA to make delicious meals from scratch.

Classes courtesy of Sault Tribe Nutrition and Diabetes along with Sault Tribe USDA.

For more information, call Gail at 341-9525.

### Mercury collection program continues

US Ecology Inc. partnered with the State of Michigan for the third year to facilitate the collection of mercury through the Great Lakes Mercury Collection Program.

Any Michigan resident or business can contact US Ecology for a free collection bucket or box and instruction kit by calling (877) 960-2025, or by emailing [mercurybucket@usecology.com](mailto:mercurybucket@usecology.com). The container is delivered to residences or businesses with a return UPS label.

Mercury devices such as thermostats, thermometers, gauges, barometers, switches, relays, sensors, dental amalgam and much more can be placed in the bucket or box and returned to US Ecology for proper disposal using the UPS label. US Ecology will ensure proper recycling methods, which will reduce the amount of mercury from entering the earth's environment.

More information on the Mercury Collection Program can be found at <http://great-lakesrestoration.us> or the US Ecology website at [www.usecology.com](http://www.usecology.com).

## Grand Island National Recreation Area anniversary

GLADSTONE, Mich. — The Forest Service recently invited the public to join in celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Grand Island National Recreation Area.

The Forest Service has scheduled the special Grand Island Day celebration for August 8, 2015. The day will include a variety of special opportunities

and activities for those who visit the Island that day including entrance fee waiver, free ferry transportation, free tours, and a wide offering of educational activities around the island.

To learn more about what Grand Island National Recreation Area offers, visit the Hiawatha National Forest website.

## Nic Sheff to speak at LSSU

Families Against Narcotics (FAN) of Chippewa County is hosting accomplished author and recovering addict, Nicolas Sheff, on July 15, at 6 p.m., at the Lake Superior State University Cisler Center Crows Nest. Sheff was drunk for the first time at age 11. In the years that followed, he smoked pot regularly, used cocaine and ecstasy and developed addictions to methamphetamines and heroin. Even so, he felt he would always be able to quit and put his life together whenever he needed.

It took a violent relapse one summer in California to convince him otherwise. Now in his 20s, Sheff is a recovering drug addict and alcoholic who wrote two memoirs, *Tweak* and *We All Fall Down*, about his experiences. He was published in *Newsweek*, *Nerve* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

In a voice that is raw and honest, he spares no detail in telling the compelling, heartbreaking and true story of his relapse and the road to recovery. He plunges into the mental and physical depths of drug addiction, painting a picture of a person at odds with his past, his family, his substances and with himself. It's a harrowing portrait, but not one without hope.

In an extraordinary turn of events, his father, David Sheff, simultaneously wrote a *New York Times* best-selling memoir about their experiences, *Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey through His Son's Meth Addiction*.

Refreshments served and door prizes featured.

For more information, call 203-8959, email [chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org](mailto:chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org) or visit [www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org](http://www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org) or [www.facebook.com/fanchipp](http://www.facebook.com/fanchipp).

## Paquin presents workshops in Cheboygan this summer

Sault Tribe member and renowned craftsman of contemporary and traditional Anishinaabe works, Ron Paquin, is conducting workshops in Cheboygan from July 13 to Aug 10. The workshops focus on making small porcupine quill boxes, quilled birch bark wall pockets and quilled birch bark picture frames. All materials provided.

Paquin also has 12-foot birch bark canoes available for sale.

Those interested should call (231) 268-3344 for more information. Those wishing to register for a workshop should send check or money order for full amount payable to Ron Paquin, 2433 Polish Line Road, Cheboygan, MI 49721.

Reservations are confirmed upon receipt of payment. First come, first served. Payments refunded if classes are canceled.

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Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor  
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Rick Smith.....Staff Writer  
Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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# **To Native American Farmers or Ranchers or the heir of one who was denied a USDA farm loan or loan servicing between 1981 and late 1999**

Some funds paid in settlement of *Keepseagle v. Vilsack* remain unclaimed and will be distributed in accordance with a process established by the Court. The case claimed that USDA discriminated against Native Americans who applied for or tried to apply for farm loans or loan servicing. The Court seeks input from class members about how the remaining funds should be distributed. Of the \$680 million paid to settle the case, approximately \$380 million remains. The Settlement Agreement approved by the Court directs that unclaimed funds be given to non-profit organizations to serve Native American farmers and ranchers.

The deadline to file a claim has passed. **There is no new claims process.**

### **Who is included?**

The Class *includes* all Native American farmers and ranchers who:

- Farmed or ranched or attempted to do so between January 1, 1981 and November 24, 1999;
- Tried to get a farm loan or loan servicing from the USDA during that period; and
- Complained about discrimination to the USDA either on their own or through a representative during the time period.

The class *does not include* individuals who:

- Experienced discrimination only between January 1 and November 23 1997; or
- Complained of discrimination only between July 1 and November 23, 1997.

### **Proposed use of the Funds**

There are several competing options for how to distribute the funds.

*First*, Plaintiffs propose to modify the Settlement Agreement, subject to Court approval, to distribute the funds as follows:

- \$342 million distributed by a Trust, overseen by Native American leaders, to non-profit

groups to serve Native farmers & ranchers over a 20 year period.

- \$38 million be distributed quickly to non-profit organizations serving Native farmers & ranchers, identified by Class Counsel and approved by the Court.

The Trust would make grants to organizations providing business assistance, agricultural education, technical support, or advocacy services to Native American farmers and ranchers, including those seeking to become farmers or ranchers, to support and promote their continued engagement in agriculture. The USDA has agreed with this proposal.

*Second*, Marilyn Keepseagle proposes to distribute all remaining funds as additional damages paid to successful Track A claimants alone. The USDA opposes this proposal.

*Third*, other class members have asked to use the funds to pay claims that were initially denied or to permit new claims to be filed.

*Fourth*, the Choctaw Nation has argued that no changes should be made.

### **How can I share my views?**

If you want to tell the Court of your support of or opposition to any proposal for use of the remaining funds, you may submit written comments, postmarked no later than **June 15, 2015**, to:

Chambers of the Honorable Emmet G. Sullivan  
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia  
333 Constitution Avenue N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001

The Court will hold a hearing on **June 29, 2015** at **9:00 AM EDT** in Courtroom 24A at the address above. If you want to speak to the Court in person, you may attend the hearing. Your written comments will be considered by the Court even if you do not attend the hearing.

**For more detailed information call 1-888-233-5506 or see  
[www.IndianFarmClass.com](http://www.IndianFarmClass.com)**



# Project Jiingtamok: A call to action for youngsters and others

Sault Tribe seeks young members throughout the tribe's service area who have never danced at powwows in regalia of their own creation to take part in Project Jiingtamok. Further, the tribe seeks members well versed in making regalia and participating in powwows to mentor the young folks.

Jingtamok is the Anishinaabe word for "powwow."

Sault Tribe was awarded a \$2,400 grant from the state of Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs to implement the project. The grant was awarded through the council's peer review process and was one of 494 applications to compete the council's 2015 funding.

The original grant request was for \$4,000. While the grant for the lesser amount helps, it is anticipated the project will not be able to serve all the children as was originally hoped unless donations are received from the service area communities.

Organizations receiving the

grant awards are required to match those funds with other public and private dollars. Local support of the project included tribal funding. Sault Tribe also receives significant volunteer support from the community, especially from elders and adults who want to share knowledge about powwows with younger generations.

In acquiring the grant, Project Jiingtamok was proposed by Sault Tribe to engage at-risk youth with Anishinaabe art and culture by providing an opportunity for 64 youth to dance for the first time at local traditional powwows while wearing individually-designed regalia. At-risk youth will be paired with community helpers who will assist them in creating shawls or vests. Then the youth will be mentored by established dancers who will provide dance instruction at one of the eight local powwows in different locations across the eastern Upper Peninsula during the summer and early fall.

Powwows are an excellent opportunity to learn more about American Indian culture including drumming, dancing, food, art and crafts. Powwows take place annually in Sault Ste. Marie, Manistique, Sugar Island, St. Ignace, Hessel, Munising, Newberry and Rexton. Information about dates and locations of each powwow can be found on the Sault Tribe website, [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

Children wishing to participate in the Project Jiingtamok and those wishing to mentor or contribute fabric, supplies or money should contact their local Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities coordinators or the administrative assistant for the Education Department, Laura Porterfield, at (906) 635-6050 or email [lporterfield@saulttribe.net](mailto:lporterfield@saulttribe.net).

State Senator Wayne Schmidt, representing Michigan's 37th District, offered his congratulations to the tribe on winning the grant, "State support for arts and culture is important.

It is a great opportunity for young people to participate in meaningful and enriching arts and cultural experiences."

Tribal Chairperson Aaron Payment echoed Senator Schmidt's assertion. "Tribal youth are our greatest resource and our culture is our greatest strength," he said. "State funding for arts and culture, matched with tribal funding, will help us engage youth and promote our beautiful and resilient heritage."

The Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs peer review process allows for each grant application to be competitively considered by a panel of in-state and out-of-state arts and culture professionals. This ensures the taxpayers, who support this project through legislative appropriations, and all other visitors or residents in Michigan will have access to the highest quality arts and cultural experiences.

A complete list of grant awards around the state is

available by contacting the council at (517) 241-4011 or by visiting the council website at [www.michiganbusiness.org/community/council-arts-cultural-affairs/#MCACA](http://www.michiganbusiness.org/community/council-arts-cultural-affairs/#MCACA).

## Community meetings set

By Wendy Hoffman

The Sault Tribe Transportation Program working with Opus International Consultants Inc. over the coming months will develop a transportation safety plan for the tribe and the community is invited to get involved.

Funded through a grant from the Federal Highways Administration Safety Program, the development process will produce a series of region-wide safety strategies designed to address pressing issues in our communities throughout our seven-county service area. We begin with a presentation to the tribe's board of directors on Tuesday, June 16, to share about transportation safety planning, followed by community meetings in Sault Ste. Marie, Newberry, Munising, Manistique and St. Ignace to gather input and guidance from our members, board members and departments on safety concerns and issues.

The planning process includes collection and review of detailed historic crash data and feedback from community members. Local officials will guide the development process to help ensure local concerns and issues are addressed. Recommended treatments won't be limited to engineering improvements and could include initiatives with local law enforcement, public education campaigns and programs with emergency service providers.

The tribe's transportation planner is conducting several public meetings June 16-19 to collect public feedback and information for the project. The meeting schedule, including locations, is included below and we will have post cards printed and available at various tribal offices.

June 16, 4 p.m., Sault Kewadin Casino and Convention Center, 2186 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie.

June 17, 10 a.m., St. Ignace Tribal Health Clinic, board room, 1140 N. State Street, St. Ignace.

June 18, 10 a.m., Newberry Tribal Community Center, 4935 Zee-Ba-Tic Lane, Newberry.

June 18, 3 p.m., Munising Tribal Community Center, 622 W. Superior Street, Munising.

June 19, 12 p.m., Manistique-Tribal Community Center activities room, 5698 W US2, Manistique.

Anyone who is not able to attend the meetings may take a few moments and visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZHV7GJ2> and complete a short survey.

For more information, contact Wendy Hoffman, transportation planner, at [whoffman@sault-tribe.net](mailto:whoffman@sault-tribe.net) or (906) 635-6050 or Patrick Andridge, transportation engineer, at [Patrick.Andridge@Opusinternational.com](mailto:Patrick.Andridge@Opusinternational.com) or (248) 539-2222.

Wendy Hoffman is the transportation planner for Sault Tribe.

# U.P. Veterans Services



- ✓ Expanded Hours
- ✓ New Veteran Service Officer

**Working with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the American Legion Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation has secured space in tribal clinics in the eastern and central Upper Peninsula.**

**Josh Brewster, Air Force veteran who previously worked as the Schoolcraft County veterans service officer, will now be available eight days a month.**

**Watch for other announcements for the western and central areas of the U.P. coming very soon.**

EFFECTIVE MAY 14:

### 2nd Thursday of the Month

Starts May 14  
Escanaba Health Center  
1401 N. 26th St., Suite105, Escanaba  
(906) 786-2636

### 2nd Friday of the Month

Starts May 15  
Sault Tribal Health Center  
2864 Ashmun, Sault Ste. Marie  
(906) 632-5200

### 3rd Thursday of the Month

Starts May 21  
Newberry Tribal Health Center  
4935 Zeez-ba-tik Lane, Newberry  
(906) 293-8181

### 3rd Friday of the Month

Starts May 22  
Sault Outpatient Clinic  
509 Osborn Blvd, Sault Ste. Marie  
(906) 635-4447

### Fourth Thursday of the Month,

Starts May 28  
Munising Tribal Health Center  
622 W Superior, Munising  
(906) 387-4721

### 4th Friday of the Month

Starts May 29  
St. Ignace Tribal Health Center  
1140 N State, Suite 2805, St. Ignace  
(906) 643-8689

EFFECTIVE JUNE 4:

### 1st Thursday of the Month

Starts June 4  
Manistique Tribal Health Center  
5698 W Hwy US-2, Manistique  
(906) 341-8469

### 1st Friday of the Month

Starts June 5  
Sault Outpatient Clinic  
509 Osborn Blvd, Sault Ste. Marie  
(906) 635-4447

**To better serve our local veterans!**



# Bridge workers against repeal of prevailing wage law

SAINT IGNACE, Mich. — More than 75 workers in charge of repainting the Mackinac Bridge and local members of the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council gathered May 15 to urge state lawmakers to stop legislation to repeal the state's prevailing wage law, which is now in the Michigan House after being rushed through the Senate.

"Michigan's prevailing wage law has helped ensure quality construction of our state's critical infrastructure and fair wages

for the hard-working men and women who build them," said Mike Thibault, U.P. business representative for the Building and Construction Trades Council. "Doing away with prevailing wage will result in reduced income and health care coverage for working families. It will be a race to the bottom."

Prevailing wage laws guarantee a set wage for construction projects that use state taxpayer dollars. This creates a level playing field for contractors bidding on a project by ensuring contrac-

tors are selected based on competency and efficiency, not on the cheapest labor.

"When you're working on significant infrastructure projects like bridges and schools, you don't want fly-by-night operations that pay whoever they can find to do the work," said Steve Vlahakis, owner of Livonia-based Seaway Painting, which is repainting the Mackinac Bridge. "You want contractors who are going to do quality work on time and on budget."

Repealing the prevailing wage

law would also make it more difficult to find skilled workers, Vlahakis said.

"Michigan's building and construction industry is already struggling with a labor shortage that even worries Gov. Snyder, who talked about it in his State of the State speech this year. Driving down wages through the repeal of the prevailing wage law will only add to this problem and hold the industry back," said Vlahakis.

The skilled trades workers also took issue with a \$75,000

appropriation that was added to the bill to ensure the legislation could never be subject to a voter referendum.

"When they did that, it just added insult to injury," said Shorty Gleason, legislative director for the Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council. "On top of reducing our wages and benefits, now the bill also takes away our right to vote on the issue. The only reason they would do that is because they know these bills don't have the support of the people."

# Bill would expand Agent Orange coverage for "blue water" veterans

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Gary Peters of Michigan announced on May 7 he is cosponsoring the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2015, bipartisan legislation that would ensure Vietnam veterans who served aboard deep-water naval vessels, known as "blue water" veterans, are eligible to receive the disability and health care benefits they earned for diseases linked to exposure to Agent Orange. Under current law, only veterans who served on Vietnamese soil or aboard a craft in its rivers receive presumptive coverage of illnesses linked directly to Agent Orange exposure.

"Agent Orange has affected the health of thousands of servicemembers who fought in the Vietnam War, and it is unacceptable that some are being

denied health care and disability benefits for diseases resulting from their military service," said Senator Peters. "My office has heard from Michigan veterans affected by this issue, and I am proud to cosponsor this bipartisan, commonsense bill that will ensure Navy veterans who have fallen victim to Agent Orange-related conditions receive the long overdue care they have earned through their service."

In 1991, Congress passed a law requiring the VA to provide presumptive coverage to Vietnam veterans with illnesses that the Institute of Medicine has directly linked to Agent Orange exposure. However, in 2002 the VA determined that it would only cover veterans who could prove they had orders for "boots on the ground" during the Vietnam War, excluding

thousands of sailors who may have been exposed to Agent Orange while serving aboard Navy ships. The Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2015 would clarify existing law so that blue water veterans would be fully covered by the VA if they served within the "territorial seas," or approximately 12 miles offshore of Vietnam. The bill would make it easier for VA to process Vietnam War veterans' claims for service-connected conditions and alleviate a portion of the VA's backlog by extending presumptive coverage of Agent Orange benefits to these veterans.

A May 2011 report by the Institute of Medicine established several "plausible routes" for Agent Orange exposure through the water distillation process aboard Navy ships

and through the air. In 2010, a study by the Institute of Medicine cited exposure to Agent Orange resulted in an increased chance of developing serious heart problems and Parkinson's disease. A 1990 study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showed Vietnam veterans had a rate of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma 50 percent higher than the general population. Agent Orange is linked to a range of other diseases, including several blood and respiratory cancers, type II diabetes, prostate cancer and more.

In 2005, the VA's former Director of Environmental Agents Service Dr. Mark Brown publicly acknowledged that there was no scientific basis for the exclusion of blue water Vietnam veterans, but the VA

has continued to refuse these veterans presumptive benefits Congress initially intended. In his article in the *Journal of Law and Policy*, Dr. Brown wrote, "Science does not back up the VA's policy on the Navy."

Peters, a former lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve, previously co-sponsored similar legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives, and has been a strong voice for Michigan service members and veterans in Congress.

Earlier this year, Peters cosponsored the Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act, bipartisan legislation that was signed into law by the President earlier this year to provide additional resources to improve mental health care and suicide prevention programs for veterans.

## ACFS hires Mary Gilray

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) recently hired new caseworker Mary Gilray, based out of the Kinross office. Gilray came aboard on May 12. She works on prevention, child protective services and foster care. Her job is to work with families to resolve issues to help keep families intact.

Gilray, 46 and a Sault Tribe member, brings a plethora of experience from local agencies to her new position, including case manager, runaway homeless youth specialist and court-mandated youth surveillance.

At 36, she went back to LSSU for her bachelor's. It took five years going full time to earn her Bachelor of Science in human services in May of 2010, majoring in sociology and minoring in corrections. Gilray is grateful for the support of her



two boys, Christopher, 18, and Joseph, 20, she said.

Born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, Gilray's parents are John and Mary Noel Gilray and her great-grandmother was Mary Murray, the tribe's first registrar. She enjoys golfing and is substituting on a team at Tangelwood this summer. She also does cross-stitch and walks with her Australian shepard, Teagan.

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# St. Ignace clinic welcomes Dr. Amy Postma

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe health services in St. Ignace recently welcomed Dr. Amy Postma as the newest member of the medical staff.

Dr. Postma is an osteopathic physician who originally hails from Ida, Mich., and specializes in family medicine and primary care. She comes to Sault Tribe after practicing at War Memorial Hospital while affiliated with Riverside Medical Associates.

“I became a physician as a result of many life experiences,” said Postma. “As a child, I knew that I wanted to help people and felt a calling to health care.” She described her experience as a 10-year-old girl who helped her mother care for her father who slowly died from cancer over two and a half years.” Accompanying him to doctors’ appointments, and seeing the compassion and caring he received helped me to realize that was what I wanted to do, to help people in a caring, empathetic, understanding way. Being a family physician is where my heart truly is.”



Dr. Amy Postma

Postma noted she began her journey into the medical profession at Adrian College in Adrian, Mich., where she majored in biology and minored in chemistry and music. She moved on to receive a master’s degree in physiology – endocrinology through the Medical College of Ohio in Toledo. She transitioned to the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in East Lansing, Mich., and

completed her internship and residency at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, Mich., graduating from the residency program in 2008.

At this point, she joined Riverside Medical Associates and also worked at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie. She also gained experience in nursing home care as well as inpatient and outpatient care for folks from newborn to elderly.

“I am board certified in family medicine,” Postma pointed out. “I am also a member of many associations.” She mentioned a few such as the American Osteopathic Association, American Medical Association, Michigan Osteopathic Association, American Academy of Family Physicians.

She added that she performs many procedures including joint injections, lesion removals, coloscopies, trigger point injections, carpal tunnel injections, acne surgery, nail removals among others in addition to osteopathic

manipulation of all joints of the body and head. “I have special training in cranial manipulation in infants with misshaping of their head,” she said. “I have much experience and very much enjoy working with pediatrics from infants to teenagers. I am excited to have the opportunity to bring pediatric care back to the community. I am very excited to be a part of the Sault Tribe health care team. Having roots here definitely brings with it care and commitment to the community and families as a whole.”

Owing to years of research in the area, she also has an advanced understanding of endocrinology.

As a mother, Postma said she appreciates, understands and relates to details shared by parents and their children. “I feel it is very important to take time and truly listen to what is being shared by patients and families of all ages,” she said. “This ties in with my approach to medical care. The person is a whole — mind, body and

spirit are all connected and all impact a patient’s health and well being.” I also have advanced understanding of endocrinology thanks to my years of research in this area.

When she is not practicing medicine, Dr. Postma is an active participant in the melodious arts. “I enjoy singing, playing the piano and flute and composing music,” she said. “In addition, I feel family is extremely important and I spend as much time as possible sharing in family activities such as four-wheeling, music and our maple syrup business.”

She refers to Postma Brothers Maple Syrup of Rudyard, Mich., online at [www.postmabrosmaple.com](http://www.postmabrosmaple.com), whose products are available at eight outlets from Sault Ste. Marie to Grand Rapids, Mich.

Her husband, whom she met in 1996, is from Rudyard. Once she was finished with her education, she came to the area to join him. “That is how I began living in Rudyard and practicing in the eastern U.P.,” she noted.

## Scientific panel to examine Great Lakes net-pen aquaculture

State natural resource, agricultural and environment leaders have announced the appointment of a scientific advisory panel to evaluate proposals to allow commercial net-pen aquaculture in Michigan’s Great Lakes waters.

Net-pen aquaculture is named for the offshore floating enclosures capable of raising large numbers of fish. These operations take small fish from a hatchery and raise them to a harvestable size for the consumer food market.

The only commercial aquaculture net pens in the Great Lakes are in the Ontario waters of Lake Huron in the North Channel and in Georgian Bay. The state departments of Environmental Quality, Natural Resources and Agriculture and Rural Development are working jointly to review the concept and make policy recommendation to Gov. Rick Snyder. In addition to the work of this scientific advisory panel, the state will analyze the economic and legal implications of net-pen aquaculture in Michigan.

“The proposal to allow this activity in Michigan waters raises many questions about protecting the Great Lakes’ ecology and our fisheries,” said DEQ Director Dan Wyant. “We take seriously our charge to protect Michigan’s natural resources. These panelists were selected on the basis of their expertise in many key areas, and we look forward to their help considering some critical issues.” Panelists include:

- Dr. Eric Anderson, NOAA, Great Lakes Ecological Laboratory, Ann Arbor, Mich.
- Dr. John Dettmers, Great Lakes Fishery Commission, Ann Arbor, Mich.
- Dr. Jim Diana, Michigan Sea Grant director and University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.
- Keith McCormack, P.E., vice president, Hubbell, Roth and

Clark, Detroit.

- Dr. James Morris, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Coastal Aquaculture Planning and Environmental Sustainability, Beaufort, N.C.

- Dr. David Scarfe, OVA-CAP Veterinary and Consulting Services/Aquatic Veterinary Associates, Bartlett, Ill.

- Dr. Roy Stein, professor emeritus, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

- Dr. Craig Stow, NOAA, Great Lakes Ecological Laboratory, Ann Arbor, Mich.

The volunteer panelists have agreed to objectively assess the scientific information surrounding the issue of commercial aquaculture net pens in the Great Lakes. Dr. Stein will serve as chair of the panel, which expects to deliver a findings report in October of 2015 to the DNR, DEQ and MDARD directors.

The panel will work independently and seek information and input from other scientists as needed.

“It’s important that Michigan looks at the issue of commercial net pens with a critical, deliberate eye, given the wide range of issues and interests affected,” said DNR Director Keith Creagh. “We want to have a firm understanding about the impact of aquaculture net pens on water quality, health of fish populations and the Great Lakes ecosystem – things that greatly influence quality of life for residents in the Great Lakes region.”

MDARD Director Jamie Clover Adams described aquaculture as an “important industry” in Michigan, but agreed it’s one to be thoughtfully studied and evaluated

“While closed or recirculating systems or flow-through facilities are well supported, this new approach to raising fish in the U.S. waters of the Great

Lakes will need to be carefully considered.”

In late June, there will be an opportunity for the public to provide input to the panel

regarding commercial net-pen aquaculture issues and information. The three agencies will host a stakeholder workshop this fall for the purposes of

reviewing the information and providing comment and input toward the development of any future policies to govern this activity in the Great Lakes.

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## 2015 Junior Police Academy registration due by July 10

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Law Enforcement Department is now accepting applications for their 2015 Junior Police Academy.

Law enforcement training activities include physical fitness training, felony traffic stops, evidence collection, simunitions, taser training presentation, build-up entry, MLO simulator, report

writing, first aid training, water safety, swat team techniques, fingerprinting, K-9 unit presentation, fire safety and outdoor emergency preparedness.

Recreational activities include swimming and games.

Eligibility: Sault Tribe members aged 11 to 15 years. Where: Camp is at Boedne Bay near Moran, Mich. Dates: Monday-

Friday, Aug. 3-7, 2015. Cost: None.

Transportation may be provided if needed.

Contact: Robert Marchand, chief of police, (906) 635-6065.

Submit registration forms to the Sault Tribe Law Enforcement Department, P.O. Box 925, 2175 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

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PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN: \_\_\_\_\_

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CITY/STATE/ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ NIGHT TIME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

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SPACE IS LIMITED SO PLEASE RETURN FORMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

## JETA Corporation supports kids at American Horse School



President and CEO of the Wisconsin-based JETA Corporation Linda Grow (third from left) and employees of her company, supported fundraising efforts of students at the American Horse School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation by purchasing T-shirts in support of school activities. Grow also wrote the students a letter encouraging them to stand strong together in the face of racism.

By RICK SMITH

After reading a report in *Win Awenen Nisototung* about the Jan. 24 incident at a minor league hockey game in South Dakota where 57 children from the American Horse School of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation were callously accosted by one or more adults from the mainstream population, Linda Grow of Neenah, Wis., a Sault Tribe member, president and CEO of the Wisconsin-based JETA Corporation, said the story brought back memories of harshness she endured in her early years and she felt compelled to stand in support of the children of the American Horse School.

She wrote to them expressing encouragement to

not let those types of attitudes hamper their progress in educating themselves and the public and to stand strong together.

In addition, Grow and most of her employees rallied around the school in one of the school's fundraising efforts by buying T-shirts in support of school activities. Each shirt has the American Horse School logo framed by the words, "I support AMERICAN HORSE students and staff — Together we stand against RACISM."

Grow, appearing in the front row, third from left, with some of her employees, founded JETA Corporation in 2004 and, these days, her \$20 million company supplies over 50,000 specialty hardware items to energy companies.

## DOJ proposes improvements to American Indian voting access

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Department of Justice recently proposed legislation that would require states or localities whose territory includes part or all of Indian reservations, Alaska Native villages or other tribal lands to put at least one polling place on a site selected by the tribal government.

"The Department of Justice is deeply committed to ensuring that every eligible individual is able to exercise his or her fundamental right to vote," said Attorney General Loretta E. Lynch. "That's why I am calling on Congress to help remove the significant and unnecessary barriers that for too long have confronted American Indians and Alaska Natives attempting to cast their ballots. The legislation we recommend today will make this nation stronger by extending meaningful voting opportunities to native populations, by encouraging full participation in our democratic institutions, and by bringing us closer to our most cherished ideals."

"As citizens of a nation founded upon the principles of liberty and equality, Native Americans have faced unacceptable barriers to participating in the franchise, a situation aggravated by a history of discrimination, poverty and — significantly — great distances from polling places," said Acting Associate Attorney General Stuart Delery. "In spite of many reforms made possible by the Voting Rights Act and

other measures, voting rates among Native Americans remain disproportionately low. The legislation proposed today would address this unacceptable gap and we look forward to working with Congress to see it enacted."

American Indians and Alaska Natives have faced significant obstacles that have prevented them from enjoying equal access to polling places and equal opportunities to cast a ballot. In addition to suffering from a long history of discrimination, the distance many American Indian and Alaska Native citizens must travel to reach a polling place presents a substantial and ongoing barrier to full voter participation. Following formal consultations with Indian tribes, the Department of Justice believes there is a pressing need for federal legislation to ensure equal access to voting by Native American voters.

The Department of Justice recently sent a letter to Congress with a legislative proposal, which would ensure American Indian and Alaska Natives have access to at least one polling place in their communities to cast their ballots and require a number of additional obligations to ensure parity with other polling places.

This legislative proposal, a stand-alone bill, would:

- Enable Native Americans to vote on or near tribal lands by requiring any state or local election administrator whose territory includes part or all of an Indian reservation, an Alaska

Native village or other tribal lands to locate at least one polling place in a venue selected, and made available for the purpose of conducting elections, by the tribal government.

- Require states to make voting machines, ballots and other voting materials and equipment available at these tribally located polling places to the same extent that they are available at other polling places in the state.

- Require states to provide compensation and other benefits to election officials and poll workers at these polling places to the same extent as at other polling places in the state.

- Require states to use the same voting procedures at these polling places as at other polling places in the state — potentially including election-day voting, early voting, the hours during which polling places are open, the operation of voting mechanisms or systems, and same-day registration.

- Allow states to meet their obligations by either creating new polling places or relocating existing ones.

- Allow tribes with larger populations or land bases to request more than one polling place.

- Make the states' obligations contingent on the tribe filing a timely request and certifying that it has arranged for access to, and appropriate staffing for, the polling facility.

- Require the tribe to ensure the staffers for the polling place

are properly trained.

- Require the tribe to ensure the polling place will be open and accessible to all eligible citizens who reside in the precinct, regardless of whether they are Indians or others.

The Department of Justice is committed to ensuring equal access to voting for Native American voters. This proposal would address serious voting obstacles faced by citizens who are members of Indian tribes and Alaska Native villages; provide equal access to polling places for all eligible citizens, including members of tribes and villages; reinforce our nation's commitment to the fundamental right to vote; and strengthen the government-to-government relationship between the United States and tribal nations.

In 1975, recognizing the barriers to full participation Native Americans continued to confront, Congress expressly included American Indians and Alaska Natives as protected groups under the special provisions of the Voting Rights Act. Sections 4 and 5 of the Voting Rights Act prohibited many jurisdictions with large American Indian or Alaska Native populations from changing their voting laws until they could prove that the change would not create new barriers to effective participation. A number of jurisdictions with large Native American populations that have limited English proficiency — in six states, including Alaska

— are also covered by Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act, which requires bilingual election materials and assistance.

Despite these reforms, participation rates among American Indians and Alaska Natives continue to lag behind turnout rates among other voters. For example, in Alaska, turnout among Alaska Natives often falls 15 to 20 or more percentage points below the turnout rate for other voters. The causes of these disparities are complex, but the reality is that political participation by Native Americans consistently trails that of others and unequal access to polling places is a significant contributing factor.

Review the legislation at [www.justice.gov/tribal/departments-justice-proposes-legislation-improve-access-voting-american-indians-and-alaska](http://www.justice.gov/tribal/departments-justice-proposes-legislation-improve-access-voting-american-indians-and-alaska).

## Moving ?



**TRIBAL MEMBERS!**  
When you move, let tribal enrollment know where you are headed!

(800) 251-6597  
[enrollment@saulttribe.net](mailto:enrollment@saulttribe.net)



# Walking on

## MARCELLA CAPRICCIOSO

*The road is long, there are mountains in our way, But we climb them a step every day*

*Love lift us up where we belong Where the eagles cry on a mountain high*

*Love lift us up where we belong Far from the worlds we know Up where the clear winds blow*

—Buffy Sainte-Marie, Will Jennings, Jack Nitzsche

Marcella “Marcy” Jane Capriccioso, 62, passed away at Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, Va., on May 12, 2015, after a valiant 15-month battle against pancreatic cancer. A long-time resident of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., she was receiving intensive treatments at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md., and at Hematology-Oncology Associates of Fredericksburg. During her journey, she was proud to participate in studies aimed at improving the mortality rate of this particularly difficult cancer. In an effort to increase pancreatic cancer science focused on eradicating this disease, she encouraged support for the Sol Goldman Pancreatic Cancer Research Center at Johns Hopkins.

“Sweet” is a word people often used to describe Marcy, but it does not do her justice. She was a strong, loving, funny and compassionate mother, wife, partner, daughter, sister, aunt, friend and grandmother. She was a fighter and her doctors in her final months and weeks often expressed amazement at her determination and progress in combating her disease. Throughout her life, she touched the lives of so many in a myriad of positive ways. The loved ones she left behind were truly blessed to know her, although for much too short a time.

Marcy was born on May 25, 1952, in Detroit, Mich., to Toivo Rautanen and Evelyn Sooks (nee LaPointe), who both preceded her in death, as did her brother, Melvin Rautanen. She graduated from Sault Area High School in 1970 after moving as a teenager to the Sault from Chicago, Ill., with her mother, whose family was from Drummond Island, Mich. She later attended Lake Superior State University in the Sault, taking classes in business administration.

Marcy formerly worked for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians as an administrative assistant in the substance abuse department and as a pharmacy technician, a position she retired from in 2012. She was previously a licensed cosmetologist; an administrative assistant for Sault alternative education; a fill-in assistant at her late husband’s law firm; and a dedicated homemaker for much of the 1980s and 1990s. Her earnings

as a nurse technician at South Chicago Community Hospital in the 1970s helped put her late husband through law school. While raising her family, she belonged to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Christopher Columbus Hall in the Sault, and she took part in various quilting, knitting, crafting, genealogy and gardening clubs over the years. She was a citizen of the Sault Tribe and took much pride in her Native American heritage. Her Anishinaabe name was Awangkwe, which means “Woman of the Fog.” It was a name that delighted her, partly for its mysterious connotations.

She is survived by her long-time partner, Daniel Harwood, sister, Melva Payment, both of the Sault as well as several nieces and nephews. Her husband, the late Robert Capriccioso of the Sault, whom she met at a Sherman Park dance in 1968 and married in 1973, passed away in 1992. With Robert, she had three children who survive her: Robert Capriccioso II, married to Katrina Morgan in Fredericksburg, Va.; David Capriccioso, married to Samantha Sawruk in Bowie, Md.; and Jena Capriccioso of Traverse City, Mich. At the time of her passing, she had four grandchildren: Robert and Katrina’s children, Bella Grace and Loretto Arthur; and David and Samantha’s children, Olesia Mae and Audrey June.

She alternated between her sons’ homes during the early stages of her treatment, and she resided with her son Robert and his family during her final months. One of her greatest sources of joy was spending time with her grandchildren.

Visitation took place at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home in the Sault on May 22. Services were conducted at St. Joseph’s Church, where she was a long-time parishioner, on May 23. Burial followed at Riverside Cemetery where she was laid to rest next to her late husband, in fulfillment of her wishes. The observances were followed by a luncheon at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building in celebration of her life, graciously hosted by the Payment family as well as Kris Harwood-Causley, daughter of Daniel Harwood, and her family.

Condolences may be shared with the family by contacting the funeral home at [clarkbaileynewhouse.com](http://clarkbaileynewhouse.com).

## JOSEPH S. JONES

Joseph Semion “Casey” Jones, 65, died on May 12, 2015, at McLaren Northern Michigan in Petoskey, Mich. He was born on Sept. 13, 1949, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Joseph Semion Jones II and Violet Kelly Jones.

As an infant on Lime Island, Casey became very ill and his

doctor recommended he be taken to live on the mainland so Marion and Doris Houston cared for him in Stalwart. He later attended school in Pickford, Raber and Sault Ste. Marie. Casey joined the United States Army and proudly served his country in Vietnam. He was awarded numerous medals for his service, including the Bronze Star. Upon returning to Sault Ste. Marie, Casey tackled life head on, both in his work and having fun. He worked at Soo Building Supply, Three Mile Auto Salvage and Hillock Farms. Casey loved operating heavy equipment and worked for various contractors including Les Cheneaux Contracting and Norris Contracting where he made many good friends. He also enjoyed working with his trucking friends, Artie Lavigne, Bill Dowd, Ron Stubelton, and Gene McKechnie. With the catastrophic storm Katrina, Casey formed his own business, Goetzville Auto, and headed to the Gulf to work disaster relief in Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi. He truly enjoyed the South. Casey was a hard worker and a good friend to all. His final conscious minutes were at the wheel of his quad doing what he loved to do.

Casey leaves behind his wife, Rose Anna (nee Weston) Jones, whom he married on Oct. 4, 2002; children, Robert (Brenda) McKerchie, Joseph S. (Tammy Renard) McKerchie, Amy (Richard) Drilling and Jason (Amanda) Jones; adoptive son, Jonathon Kott; grandchildren, Mathew Smith, Andrew Smith, Krista McKerchie, Jocelyn (Cam) Hoy, Brandon (Emily Smith) McKerchie, Tia Drilling, Sequoya Drilling, Richie Drilling, Caden Jones and Carlee Jo Jones; great-grandson, Holden Hoy; step-children, Donald R. Crawford II, Jeremy (Jean) Crawford, Joseph E. Smith, Melissa M. Smith and Rose J. Smith; step-grandchildren, Donna Crawford Adams (fiancé Robert Stronge), Tessa Crawford, Samantha Crawford, Heidi Crawford, Christopher Crawford, Eathon Crawford, Ebey Crawford, Reid Crawford, Jerry Crawford, Madeline Crawford, Kota Kott, Cory Smith, Cheyene Schuetter, Charles Schuetter and Michelle Smith; and siblings, Roberta (Michael) Paquette, Mary Jones Douglas, David (Marion) Jones, Marie (Brian) McConkey and Maureen (Doug) Eglund.

Casey was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Violet Jones and Marion and Doris Houston; brothers, Juan Paul “J.P.” Jones, Daniel Jones and George “Skip” Hudson; and sister and brother-in-law, Joanne and James Parr.

A gathering to honor Casey’s life took place on May 20 at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building, in Sault Ste. Marie followed by services conducted by Brother John Hascall. Interment will be in Fairview Cemetery in Pickford Township at a later date.

R. Galer Funeral Home, 24549 S. M-129 in Pickford,

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

## THOMAS J. SHAMPINE

Thomas J. Shampine, 79, of Manistique, Mich., died on May 10, 2015, at the Schoolcraft Medical Care Facility in Manistique. He was born on May 11, 1935, in Manistique, the son of Thomas F. and Margaret L. (nee Stone) Shampine and attended Manistique area schools. He was a graduate of Manistique High School and later served in the Michigan National Guard.

On Sept. 3, 1955, he married the former Shirley M. DesJarden in Manistique, where they made their home and raised their children.

Tom was formerly employed at Manistique Tool and Die, the Fisher Body Company in Pontiac, Mich., and lastly at Manistique Papers, Inc. until his retirement.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Manistique, an elders committee of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the Stump Jumpers Club and formerly served on the Manistique Housing Commission Board. He enjoyed the outdoors, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, cribbage and wood working.

Tom is survived by his wife, Shirley M. Shampine of Manistique; son, Thomas R. Shampine of Manistique; grandchildren, Jake Shampine of Marquette and Kelly Knoll of Rochester Hills, Mich.; step-granddaughters, Julie Popour Olso of Lapeer, Mich., and Jill Popour Tracy of Clarkston; three great-grandchildren; sister, Colleen Cody of Manistique; nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his daughter, Laurie A. Shampine in 1999.

Visitation and services took place on May 15 at the First Baptist Church in Manistique with Reverend Jay Martin officiating. Burial will be in the Inwood Township Cemetery at Cooks.

The Messier-Broullire Funeral Home of Manistique assisted the family with the arrangements. Online condolences may be expressed at [www.mbfuneral.com](http://www.mbfuneral.com).

## GRACE M. WISNISKI

Grace Marie (nee McCormick) Wisniski, aged 91, of Manistee, Mich., died on April 24, 2015, at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, Mich. She was born on Sept. 9, 1923, in Northport, Mich., daughter



of the late James and Mary (nee Wachter) McCormick.

Grace married James “Slug” Wisniski on Dec. 12, 1942, at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee. He preceded her in death on Dec. 21, 1957.

Grace was an artistic person and as a young lady took singing lesson and loved to sing all of her life, she was also talented at playing the piano by ear. She had a green thumb when it came to growing flowers and enjoyed tending to her flower gardens. In her younger years, one of her favorite pastimes was bowling, having been active in the Manistee area bowling leagues. She was a member of the Catholic community of Manistee (Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Shrine Church), a Gold Star Wife and a past member of the Sweet Adelines.

Grace is survived by her son and daughter-in-law; James “Nipper” and Yolanda Wisniski of Onkama, Mich.; two daughters and a son-in-law, Kathe and David Cabot and Rita Ballard all of Manistee, Mich.; nine grandchildren, Jami and Susie Wisniski, Jeff and Heidi Wisniski, Kirsten Wisniski, Stacy and Leah Peterson, Tiffany and John Schneider, Heather and Mike Chmielewski, Randi and Justin Dickerson, Ryan Ballard and Brodie Ballard; 17 great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by five sisters, Violet, Justine, Janet, Margaret and Bette; and six brothers, Joseph at birth, Willie at the age of one, James, Donald, Douglas and Leon.

According to Grace’s wishes, she was cremated and a celebration of her life took place on May 1 at the Herbert Funeral Home in Manistee with Reverend John McCracken officiating. Private family services and interment will take place at Mount Carmel Cemetery also in Manistee at a later date.

A memorial in Grace’s name will be established for the Grand Traverse Lighthouse Museum. Envelopes are available at the funeral home. Grace was a child of the lake. She was raised in the Grand Traverse Lighthouse. Grace’s father was a lighthouse keeper there. Since the closure of the lighthouse, it has been turned into a museum in honor of the McCormick family.

Grace was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She was the youngest of her 12 siblings and loved all animals, always trying to save them or nurse them back to health. Being raised on the lake all of her life, she enjoyed walking on the beach, swimming and collecting colored glass. She married her one true love, Aloizie James Wisniski. Grace was widowed when she was only 34 and never remarried. She is now wrapped in God’s arms along with her husband, brothers, sisters and her parents.



# Sault Tribe members' birth announcements

## TUCKER D. BACHORSKI

Tucker Daniel Bachorski was born on May 17, 2015, to Lindsay Shawano Cadreau and Matthew Bachorski of Yale,



Mich. He weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces.

Tucker was born in Petoskey, Mich., and has two half-brothers, Brody and Mason Bachorski of lower Michigan. He is also the nephew of Cheyenne Cadreau of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Tucker is the grandson of Kathy and George Alexander of Yale and the grandson of Clarence "Bouncer" and Christine Cadreau of Sault Ste. Marie.

The new boy is also named Gii'waadenung Nodin by his Miishoo Cadreau.

## BRENNA R. STOREY

Matt and Stacy Storey of Stalwart, Mich., are the parents of a daughter, Brenna Rae Storey, born on May 12, 2015, at McLaren Northern Michigan hospital in Petoskey. She weighed 7



pounds, 7 ounces, and measured 20.5 inches in length.

She joins sisters Aubrey and Meredith Storey at home.

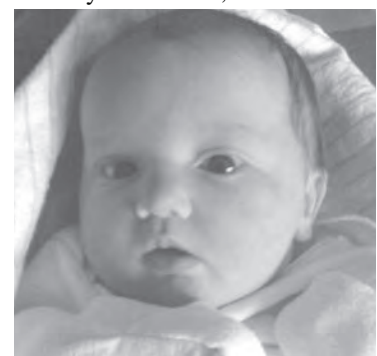
Grandparents are Richard and Mary Storey of Pickford, Ron and Kathy Maleport of Sault Ste. Marie and Marty and Sharon LaJoie of Pickford.

## ADELAIDE M. WHITE

Adelaide Marie White was born to proud parents Kevin and Shannon White of Milford, Ohio, on April 13, 2015. She weighed 8 pounds, one ounce and measured

20 inches in length.

Grandparents are Mark and Fran White of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and Nick and Shirley Cherney of Milford, Ohio.



# NCAI on Tribal Equal Access to Voting Act of 2015

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Justice recently proposed legislation (www.justice.gov/opa/pr/department-justice-proposes-legislation-improve-access-voting-american-indians-and-alaska) to Congress designed to

guarantee equal voting rights for Native Americans. Many Indian reservations and Alaska Native villages are located great distances from polling locations, which contributes to low voter participation rates among American Indians and Alaska

Natives.

DOJ Assistant Attorney General Peter Kadzik stated in a letter transmitting the proposed bill, "The Department of Justice is committed to ensuring equal access to voting for Native American voters. We believe the enclosed proposal would address serious voting obstacles faced by citizens who are members of Indian tribes."

The following are a few examples of the tremendous distances that Native voters encounter when attempting to vote:

- Duck Valley Reservation — 104 miles from the nearest polling place in Elko, Nev., a two-hour, seven-minute drive).
- Goshute Reservation — 163 miles from the nearest polling

place in Erda, Utah, a two-hour, 47-minute drive).

- Hopi Tribe — 90 miles from the nearest polling place in Joseph City, Ariz., one-hour, 43-minute drive.

- Navajo Nation (New Mexico) — Newcomb is 34 miles from Tohatchi polling place and 58 miles from the nearest early voting location in Gallup.

- Navajo Nation (Arizona) — The nearest polling place is in Kayenta, 44 miles (50 minutes) from Shonto.

The legislation would require states whose territory contains Indian reservations or Alaska Native villages to provide a minimum of one polling place for each Indian tribe in a location of its own choosing.

States also must make voting materials available and provide the same hours of operation and payment to poll workers at those locations as it does with all of its other locations. The obligation to provide polling places is contingent on an Indian tribe filing a timely formal request.

"The right to vote is the bedrock of our democracy and must be ensured for Native people living on Indian reservations or in Alaska Native villages," said Brian Cladoosby, President of the National Congress of American Indians. "We are very supportive of this legislation because it comes directly from discussions with tribal leadership."

**SPIN TO WIN - ST. IGNACE**  
July 10-12

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**VIDEO POKER - HESSEL**  
July 11

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**SPIN TO WIN - MANISTIQUE**  
July 18

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**Video Poker - SAULT STE. MARIE**  
July 17-19

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**Poker Blast - SAULT STE. MARIE**  
July 31-August 2

Kewadin Manistique  
**21st Anniversary**  
Saturday, June 20  
We're Giving Away up to  
**\$17,000 in Cash & Credits!**

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Kewadin Christmas  
**21st Anniversary**  
Saturday, June 27  
We're Giving Away up to  
**\$10,000 in Cash & Credits!**

---

Kewadin Hessel  
**21st Anniversary**  
Saturday, July 18  
We're Giving Away up to  
**\$8,000 in Cash & Credits!**

**KEWADIN KLASSEFIEDS**  
CASINOS  
1-800-KEWADIN | KEWADIN.COM

---

**Sizzling SUMMER Sundays**  
Get 3x the points every Sunday in JUNE!  
EVERY SUNDAY IN JUNE  
ALL SITES - 1:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.  
1-800-KEWADIN  
www.kewadin.com

---

**TWISTED Tuesdays**  
75c OFF 24oz  
TWISTED TEA & HALF & HALF  
EVERY TUESDAY DURING JUNE 2015  
WIN UP TO \$150 IN KEWADIN CREDITS  
ALL SITES 1-8P.M.  
THE MORE YOU PLAY THE MORE YOU CAN WIN IN KEWADIN CREDITS  
REGISTER AT THE NORTHERN REWARDS CLUB

---

**FREE PLAY FRIDAYS**  
ALL SITES 1-8P.M.  
EVERY FRIDAY DURING JUNE 2015  
THE MORE YOU PLAY THE MORE YOU CAN WIN IN KEWADIN CREDITS  
REGISTER AT THE NORTHERN REWARDS CLUB

**4TH OF JULY ALL SITES**  
4x the points  
between 2-6 p.m.

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**STAR SPANGLED BLOWOUT ALL SITES**  
Saturday, July 25  
Hot seat draws 2-10 p.m.  
Grand prize draws 10-11 p.m.  
We're giving away over \$30,000 in Cash, Kewadin credits & prizes!

---

**SUNDAY FUNDAY ALL SITES**  
Every Sunday during July 2015  
1-8 p.m. earn up to 5x the points!

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**PATRIOTIC TUESDAYS ALL SITES**  
Every Tuesday in July 2015  
from 2-10 p.m.  
Hot Seat Draws for Kewadin Credits!

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**WACKY WHEEL WEDNESDAYS ALL SITES**  
Wednesdays in July & August 2015  
between 5 & 10 p.m.  
Hot Seat Draws to spin our prize wheel!

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**TGI FRIDAYS ALL SITES**  
Every Friday in July 2015  
from 1-8 p.m.  
Hot Seat Draws for Kewadin Credits!

Register at Northern Rewards Club to participate.  
Club hours vary by site.



# Community Health's "Chopped Challenge" a big hit

The Sault Tribe Youth Education Activities (YEA) members and tribal board of directors had a blast recently competing in a Chopped Challenge, the purpose of which was for all to interact in the preparation of healthful meals while creating awareness for more healthful and tasty school lunches.

Teams were challenged to create meals in one hour and 15 minutes, using four mystery box ingredients and unlimited supplemental pantry items. The group creations were judged based on presentation of meals, ingredients used, taste, nutritional quality and sportsmanship. Challenges such as this can help students understand how to prepare meals and to make positive food selections in the future.



**Chopped Challenge participants display their winning meal after the event. Taking first place were tribal board members Catherine Hollowell and Darcey Morrow and YEA members Morgan McQuiston, James Emrich, Savannah Hyde, Brittany Rzanca, Sara Weber and Aurora Kelly.**

"I couldn't be happier with the outcome! Both the tribal board and YEA members really got into it. It made me proud to see the enthusiasm they had for the competition," said Jill Lawson, YEA



**Focused on more healthful and tasteful school lunches.**

coordinator. "We made sandwiches to be on the safe side, but the students chose to eat the meals they created. This must mean the event was a success."

This Chopped Challenge was

made possible by the Sault Tribe Community Health Partnerships to Improve Community Health grant. For more information, visit [www.UP4health.org](http://www.UP4health.org) or email [communityhealth@saulttribe.net](mailto:communityhealth@saulttribe.net).

## Looking for former youth council members

Calling all current and former youth council members from Youth Education and Activities.

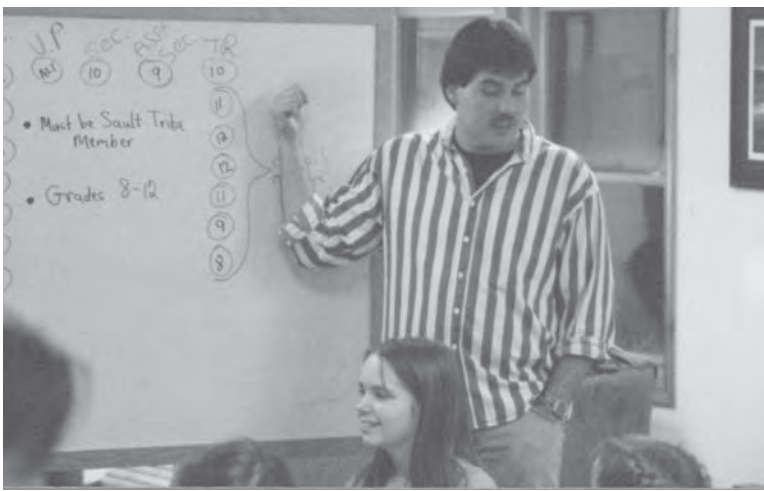
The passage of 2015 marks 20 years of the Sault Tribe youth council and we want you to help us celebrate.

Please friend us on Facebook (STtribalyouthcouncil or Celebrating 20 Years of TYC) to be part of the coming events and memories that 20 years of youth leading the way has done for us.

Save the date — on Sept. 19, we will be having a TYC 20-year celebration feast. We invite current, former council and community members to join us in an evening of good memories, good stories and good times.

For more information, please call Dee Eggert at the Youth Education and Activities main office at (906) 635-7010.

*Calling all current and former youth council members from YEA!*



**Alan Rabideau led future council members in creating the council bylaws.**



**From left, Jeremy Snider, Karen S., and Barb Gravelle.**

## McLean graduates from Escanaba high school

The family of Mitchell McLean proudly announces his graduation from Escanaba High School. Mitchell plans to attend college in the fall for his general education classes before deciding on his career goals. Congratulations, Mitchell!



**McLean as a high school grad...**



**... and as an infant.**

## Patricia Walker earns EMT basic certification

The family of Patricia Walker announces the completion of her EMT basic certification from Bay Mills Community College. Patricia plans to pursue her EMT advanced certification and continue into a paramedic program. Congratulations, Patty!

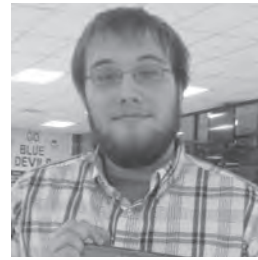


**Walker as a graduate of BMCC ...**



**... and as a young girl.**

## Killips wins award



Hunter Killips was the outstanding drafting student of the third quarter at Sault High Career Center. He was also the 2015 Outstanding Student in Drafting and Design Technology at the Career Center awards on May 18.

## OJIBWE LANGUAGE & CULTURE TEACHER

INDIAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL  
FRANKLIN, WISCONSIN

The Indian Community School has an opening for an Ojibwe Language and Culture Teacher to instruct Native American students in K4 through 8th grade. The position is located in Franklin, Wisconsin, on a 100+ acre campus including prairies, forest and naturally landscaped grounds. The school is a modern and unique building designed to honor Native American culture and values.

This position is responsible for:

- Teaching Ojibwe language and culture in a classroom setting
- Assisting in the development of Native Language curriculum
- Collaborating with teachers in planning and implementing cultural activities
- Providing translation of words, phrases, commands and other written material
- Providing Ojibwe resources and to locate guest speakers for cultural instruction
- Collaborates with students and teachers to integrate Native Language and Culture throughout the school environment.
- Participates in the school-wide student mentor program creating a community that embraces each one of its children with love, care and respect while teaching traditional values.

Qualifications for this position include:

- Knowledge of Ojibwe Language is essential to teach children and adults.
- Fluency preferred but not required.
- Experience is preferred, but not necessary for hiring.
- Knowledge of and/or experience working with urban children and/or American Indian cultures, communities, and students preferred.
- Evidence of current certification by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction is preferred but not required

The Indian Community School offers competitive wages and an excellent benefits package including an attractive 401(k). Relocation benefits may be available. Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to:

Bonnie Thielecke  
HR Director  
Indian Community School  
10405 West St. Martins Road  
Franklin, WI 53132  
[Thielecke\\_b@ics-milw.org](mailto:Thielecke_b@ics-milw.org)

ICS is an Equal Opportunity Employer



# White House honors foster care "Champions of Change"

WASHINGTON, D.C. – On Tuesday, May 19, the White House honored 12 former foster youth as "Champions of Change" who are making a difference in their communities. In addition to honoring these young people for their courage, resilience and contributions, the event will also highlight their commitment to furthering their education. The event will showcase the stories and work of these inspirational leaders as a part of National Foster Care Month. The program will feature remarks by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and Deputy Assistant to

the President for Urban Affairs, Justice and Opportunity Roy L. Austin Jr.

The Champions of Change ([www.whitehouse.gov/champions](http://www.whitehouse.gov/champions)) program was created as an opportunity for the White House to feature individuals doing extraordinary things to empower and inspire members of their communities. The event was streamed on the White House website. To learn more about the White House Champions of Change program, visit [www.whitehouse.gov/champions](http://www.whitehouse.gov/champions).

Among the young men and women of all ancestries named

Champions of Change were Daryle Conquering Bear Crow and Eriq Swiftwater of the Oglala Sioux from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation.

Crow is the Healthy Living Program assistant at the Denver Indian Family Resource Center and is in his senior year of college, on his way to receiving a bachelor's in human development and sports. A proud member of the Oglala Sioux, he speaks nationwide about Native youth who experience the child welfare system and advocates for the enforcement of the Indian Child Welfare Act. Crow served on

advisory boards for the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the National Resource Center for Tribes and Casey Family Programs. He collaborates and has interned with the National Indian Child Welfare Association and currently sits on the North American Council on Adoptable Children board of directors. Daryle Conquering Bear Crow is a senior at Oregon State University.

Swiftwater is 19 years old and a freshman in college studying business education and plays on his university's football team. A graduate of Oelrichs High School

in Oelrichs, South Dakota, he served as class president, set records in football, basketball and track, and graduated as class salutatorian, receiving three academic scholarships and one athletic scholarship to play football Black Hills State University. At the age of 12, Swiftwater and his five siblings were placed in foster care, and separated into two different homes. He is currently involved with the South Dakota Gear Up program as a youth guest speaker, sharing his story and mentoring students in high schools across the reservation.

## GED program takes summer break

Congratulations to our 2015 adult education graduates! The GED program began summer break on May 22, 2015. GED classes will resume for the 2015-16 school year on Sept. 14, 2015.

For those students continuing or enrolling in an adult education program this fall, please consider

setting time aside this summer to improve your math and language arts skills. An excellent resource is the Michigan eLibrary at [mel.org](http://mel.org). Selecting "practice tests" from the home page will take you to the Learning Express Library where you can create a free account and access GED study

and practice resources (inside the "High School Equivalency Center").

For more information, contact Tanya Pages at (906) 632-6098 or [tpages@eup.k12.mi.us](mailto:tpages@eup.k12.mi.us). You may also call the Consolidated Community School Services main office at (906) 495-7305.

## Sault support group meeting times

Families Against Narcotics meetings —FAN meets on the third Wednesdays of every month at 5:30 p.m. at the Huntington Bank meeting room in Sault Ste. Marie.

For more information, call 203-8959, email [chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org](mailto:chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org) or visit

[www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org](http://www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org). The next meeting is June 17.

Prescription Drug Abuse Support Group — Have you experienced loss, heartbreak or diminished relationships due to someone else's use of prescription drugs? The Prescription Drug Abuse Support Group meets

on the first and third Mondays of each month at 6 p.m. at the Huntington Bank in Sault Ste. Marie.

Coming meetings are on June 15, July 6 and July 20.

Please call Linda at (906) 440-7252 or Suzy at 248-3545 for more information.

## Medical transportation for elders provided

Medical appointment transportation for elders does not include emergency and surgical transportation. Call in advance to reserve transportation at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

How does one use the Transportation Program? Call Elder Services at 635-4971 or toll free (888) 711-7356, ask for transportation and the appropriate fee schedule. Call as far in advance as possible to reserve

your transportation. You will need to provide the date, time and place of your medical appointment as well as your physician's name, address and phone number.

Applicable fees: Local destinations, \$5 round-trip; out of town, 1-hour destinations, \$10 round-trip; out of town, 1.5-hour destinations, \$15 round trip; out of town, 2-hour destinations, \$20 round trip.

## Wood takes the wheel for Elder Services in west end

Sault Tribe Elder Service welcomes Mary Wood as our new driver for the west end. She looks forward to working with our elders.

Ms. Wood joined the tribe's team 12 years ago. She worked at the hotel in Manistique until it closed and started a 10-year career in food and beverage management with Kewadin Casinos in Christmas, then St Ignace and Manistique in July of 2014.

Ms. Wood is a lifelong resident of Manistique with three children and five grandchildren.

She looks forward to helping elders who need assistance with transportation for medical appointments.

Information is available through Sault Tribe Elder Services at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.



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# Spring cleaning at the Wequayoc Cemetery



Otto Hyslop scrubs accumulations of grime off of grave stones with the help of his granddaughter, Mary Jane Cadotte.



Photos by Rick Smith

In spite of a threat of rain on May 15, a crew of folks brought lawn care implements and cleaning supplies to the cemetery in St. Ignace Township near Pontchartrain Shores, Mich., to tidy the grounds after a long winter. Above, Ms. Phyllis Colegrove hard at work hand trimming the growth around a veteran's grave marker. Pontchartrain Shores is on Saint Martin Bay, about eight miles west northwest of Hessel, Mich. The cemetery is on the north side of M-134, 3.7 miles east of the intersection with I-75. The cemetery was passed from private ownership to Sault Tribe in 2013. It was also known as the Bishop Baraga Cemetery and the Indian Village Cemetery before it became the Wequayoc Cemetery.

## Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Jobs

If, interested in any of the positions, call toll free at (866) 635-7032, email [stemployment@saulttribe.net](mailto:stemployment@saulttribe.net) or apply online at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

### Governmental openings in Sault Ste. Marie and Kincheloc:

Diabetes program manager, full time/regular, open until filled.

Staff pharmacist, full time/regular, open until filled.

Budget analyst, full time/regular, open until filled.

Cook (Elder Services), part time/regular, open until filled.

### Governmental openings in Manistique:

Police officer, full time/regular, open until filled.

Community health educator, full

time/regular, open until filled.

### Kewadin Casinos openings in Sault Ste. Marie:

Electrician, full time/regular, open until filled.

Marketing director, full time/regular, open until filled.

Website administrator, full time/regular, open until filled.

Restaurant manager I, full time/regular, open until filled.



Sault Tribe Board Unit III Director Bridgett Sorenson pauses to speak with Dell Powers as Sault Tribe Associate Executive Director Angeline Boulley and Dell's wife, Pam Powers, continue with their tasks.



More of the crew cleaning the Wequayoc Cemetery.

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# Students at JKL Bahweting School display imaginative works at *Evening of the Arts*



Above, colorful masks. Above right, a sculpture created from adhesive tape and other materials.



Deer hide pouches and arrow heads.

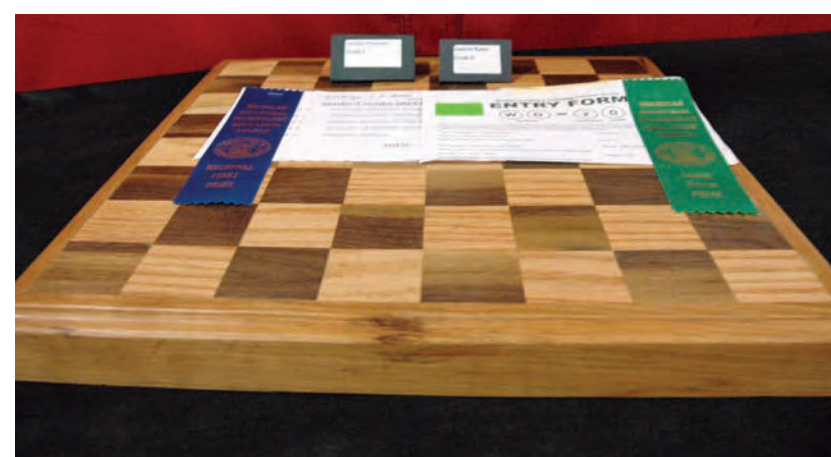
The labors of students in all grades at JKL Bahweting School in Sault Ste. Marie was seen, heard and enjoyed by all attending the 2015 *Evening at the Arts* at the school on May 21. Students produced fascinating paintings, sculptures, carvings, ceramics, mobiles and music and other works. From modern materials and methods displayed left and below to the traditional American Indian arts and crafts displayed above, above right and right, it is obvious a lot of time and effort went into making all of the pieces from deer hide suspended on a student-made rack to sculptures made from adhesive tape. Some of the items at the art show conveyed wimsical cheer while others were more like construction projects serving specific purposes.



Above, display of works from the ehzhigeying classes where students learn about ways of making traditional American Indian items such as snowsnakes, flutes and other artifacts. Below, cattail dolls.



Photos by Rick Smith



A handsome chessboard.



Unusual plush dolls. Below, sculptures of unusual creatures.



Colorful suspended paper fish and equally colorful sculptures.



**9th Annual Sault Tribe Manistique Area Gathering of the Clans**

# POW-WOW



**HOST DRUM:** Bahweting Singers  
**CO-HOST DRUM:** Four Thunders  
**INVITED DRUM:** Muklewa Giizhik  
**HEAD VETERAN:** Tracy Heath  
**HEAD MALE DANCER:** Donald Shelfoe Jr.  
**HEAD FEMALE DANCER:** Rita Bouley  
**MASTER OF CEREMONY:** Timothy Derwin, Sr.  
**ARENA DIRECTOR:** Timothy (TJ) Derwin  
**FIREKEEPER:** Joe Wallace

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 Please bring a dish to pass for the feast meal on Saturday

Crazy Auction: Saturday  
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Head Dancers to be selected for each session on site.

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**Saturday Grand Entry 1 & 7 p.m. Feast 5 p.m.**  
**Sunday Grand Entry 1 p.m.**  
**Registration Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.**

Blessing of the Powwow Grounds on Tuesday, July 8 at 11 a.m.  
**Summer Gathering on Thursday, July 9** - Sunrise Ceremony & continue throughout the day at the Wabeno Lodge on Powwow Grounds  
**Kids' Carnival Friday, July 10 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
 Visit [www.saulttribe.net](http://www.saulttribe.net) or Find our Event on Facebook  
 GENERAL INFORMATION, DRUMS, DANCERS: Jackie Minton, Powwow Chairwoman 906-203-4977  
 VENDOR INFORMATION: Linda Grossett 906-440-1470  
 SUMMER GATHERING: Les Ailing 906-203-5521

NATIVE DANCERS, SINGERS AND VENDORS ONLY. Singers, Dancers and Vendors must show proof of tribal affiliation at registration, or upon request of the Powwow Committee. NO DOGS ON POWWOW GROUNDS. NO OUTSIDE RAFFLES. Electricity is limited. Vendors are encouraged to use generators if they have them. Generators must be buffered!

**Absolutely No Drugs, Alcohol or Politics.**

**HOST DRUM:** Eyabay - Red Lake, MN  
**Battle River -** Red Lake, MN  
**HEAD OGITCHIDAA:** TBA

**CO-EMCEES:** Josh Homminga - Sault Ste. Marie, MI  
 Joe Medicine - Harbor Springs, MI

**ARENA DIRECTOR:** Keith Smith - Red Lake, MN

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 6-12 - \$100

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 2nd Place - \$200  
 3rd Place - \$100

**WOMEN**  
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 13-17 - \$200  
 6-12 - \$100

**Two-Step Contest**  
 1st Place - \$75  
 2nd Place - \$50  
 3rd Place - \$25



# JKL students learn about knapping and tanning

By Rick Smith

Nope, it's not what it sounds like. The kids are not snoozing in the sun. They are learning to make things much in the way of the ancients.

At JKL Bahweting School in Sault Ste. Marie, middle school students can elect to take classes in ezhichigeying (Ojibwe for, roughly paraphrasing, "the way we do or make something"). One of those ways is flint knapping, a technique of chipping stone to produce tools and other useful items. Students in grades six through eight have the opportunity each year to learn and hone a craft originating from the Stone Age. Another of the old ways is tanning deer hides.

"Flint knapping is done every year. Hide tanning has only been done a few times, but this is the first time students are actually doing a complete start to finish hide," said Dr. Chris Gordon, who teaches Anishinaabe language and culture at the school. "In the past we have had students do a little work at each stage with a hide already prepared for each stage. Depending on how this works out, we may make this an every year project," he said.

Gordon teaches knapping throughout the school year and students have opportunities to make various items. "I have to credit Mr. Bill Morrison for bringing flint knapping to our school," Gordon noted, "and being my first teacher for the



Photo by Rick Smith  
A student knaps Keokuk flint with hammer fashioned from elk horn. Other chipping tools include copper tubing and rocks.

ancient skill. I took over teaching it when Mr. Morrison retired. He learned the skill from Tom Graham, an Anishinaabe elder from southern Ontario."

Gordon indicated the hide tanning instruction was brought to the school by an invitation to a good friend of his by the name of Jim Miller (Wyandot). Miller has tanned hides for a few decades and is a traditional skills instructor by trade at his Willow Winds workshops and camps in Mikado, Mich. "We were lucky enough to have Jim conduct a few workshops over the years as I certainly wasn't experienced enough to attempt

tanning by myself back then," Gordon explained. "I'm not sure if anyone before me did tanning workshops, but this is my sixteenth year and this will be the fourth or fifth time students will learn about tanning. It is definitely the first for the students doing nearly all the work from start to finish."

Many knowledgeable people have contributed to Gordon's skills in Anishinaabe techniques over the years, people such as the renowned traditional and contemporary craftsman Ron Paquin. "There are many others out there with traditional skills and knowledge that can't be replicated in a book," Gordon said, "and, unfortunately, there is little time to include them in our schools." But, he later added conversely, "We have a tremendous opportunity at our school for students to take part in traditional Anishinaabe life skills which they can take with them."

Historically, Gordon noted, some of the finished student knapping works are displayed in the school's annual year-end art show. While winning a competition to top off the sense of accomplishment in creating something is nice, "The real pride comes when students can see a finished product," said Gordon.

Other creative projects students might pursue while studying ezhichigeying could be snow snakes, cattail dolls, flutes, leather pouches and other items.



Photos by Rick Smith  
Above, Dr. Chris Gordon checks a student's work as others knap stones with elk horns, copper tipped dowels and rocks. Below, middle school students help Dr. Gordon stretch a deer hide as JKL elementary students observe.



Photo by Chris Gordon

Removing hair and other matter from a deer hide is one of the first of many steps in the tanning process.

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# Book puts Indian mascots into historical context

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — Twenty-first-century efforts to legitimize American Indian athletic team names and mascots miscast tribal history, argues the author of a book examining the history of American Indian imagery in college sports and exposing its ties to a crisis of identity among white, middle-class men.

Under pressure from the NCAA, American Indians and others, many colleges have dropped their use of American Indian team names and mascots. The National Collegiate Athletic Association granted waivers to a few schools, including Florida State University, which has the support of the Florida Seminole Tribe for its use of the Seminole nickname.

“There were no American Indian tribes involved in the creation of these identities, so why would colleges go to them for approval now?” said Jennifer Guiliano, assistant professor of history at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis and author of *Indian Spectacle: College Mascots and the Anxiety of Modern America*.

Contrary to popular thought, mascots do not represent the history of particular tribes, but

rather they commingle Native identities across historical periods and tribal lines, the professor said.

Guiliano said *Indian Spectacle* points out that “none of the mascots were created with accurate tribal representation.”

“The Illinois mascot isn’t an Illinois Indian, it’s a Sioux Indian,” she said. “The Florida State mascot takes elements of Seminole identity but also takes elements of Plains Indian identity, same with the Fighting Sioux in North Dakota. They don’t really represent the Lakota Indians, they represent this generic public idea of what an Indian was.”

In *Indian Spectacle*, Guiliano traces the origins of American Indian mascots to the creation of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign’s mascot Chief Illiniwek.

Representations of Indians became “tied to mascotry in the 1920s when the University of Illinois — in an attempt to create a half-time spectacle for its band performance — merges with Indian representation,” said Guiliano, who teaches in the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI.

Looking at the history of the creation and spread of American Indian mascots and imagery, one

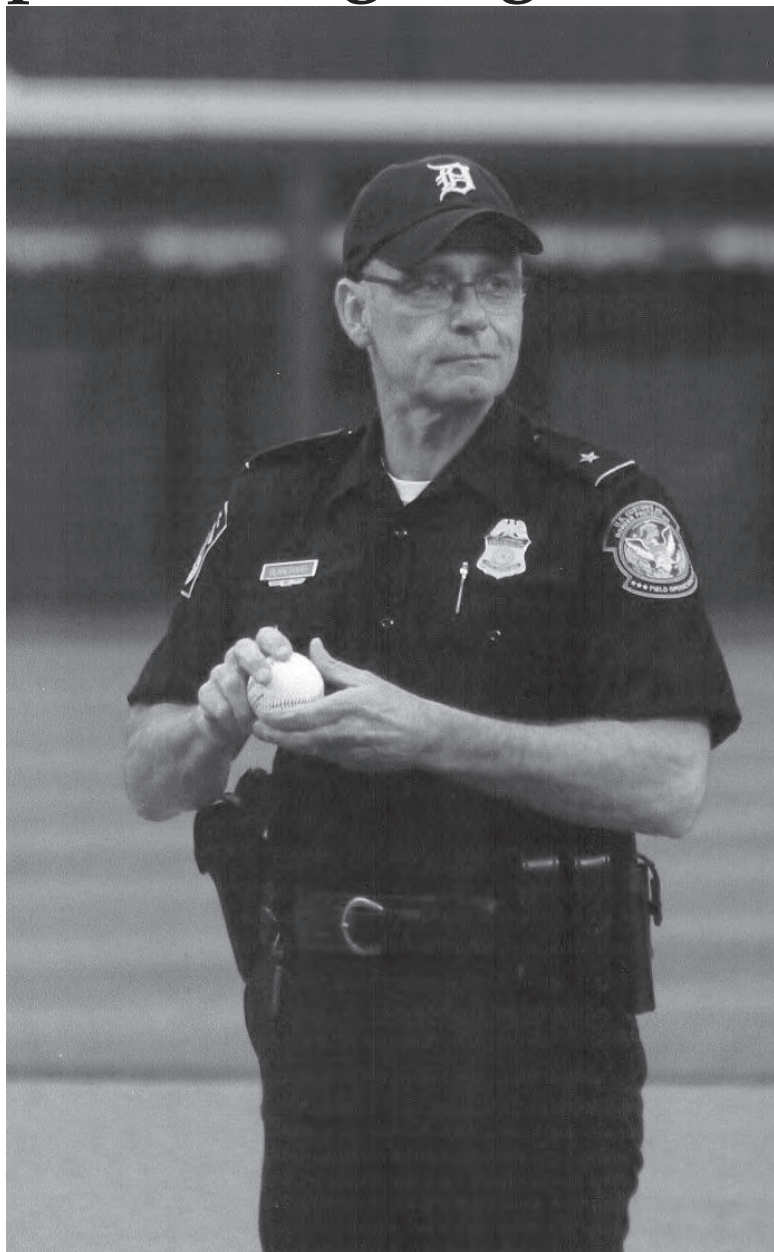
finds middle-class men who are facing identity issues, Guiliano said.

In the face of challenges to their identity — immigration, urbanization and industrialization — white middle-class men in the 1920s and 1930s used American Indian culture and imagery to reduce their anxiety about who they were and what mattered, according to Guiliano, who as a youth attended University of Illinois games and watched Chief Illiniwek perform. Competitive sports provided an arena in which men could legitimately act out their anxieties and celebrate their identity by cheering on misguided, narrow perceptions of American Indians as inherently violent, she said.

“Because it was a moment when they couldn’t test their masculinity on the battlefield — America wasn’t fighting a war — the sort of battle on the football field became a replacement on how you could prove your masculinity,” Guiliano said. Men who weren’t good enough to play chose to be in the band or to be ardent fans, and they adopted the Indian identity to alleviate their anxiety over societal changes, according to the professor.



## Blanchard throws first pitch at Tigers game



Sault Tribe member Rod Blanchard threw out the first pitch at a Detroit Tiger Game at Comerica Park on May 12. A native of Gould City and a graduate of Engadine High School and Northern Michigan University, Blanchard is the son of Vivian and the late Edmund Blanchard of Gould City and the Port Director of Customs and Border Protection at the Port of Detroit. A large group of family and friends including his 93-year-old mother and many from the Upper Peninsula attended the game. Blanchard lives in Allen Park, Mich. with his wife, Carol, and daughter, Megan.

### Barbecued pork loin

Ingredients:

3 lbs. boneless pork loin

Dry rub:

1 cup brown sugar

3 tbs. chili powder

1 tbs. granulated onion powder

2 tsp. granulated garlic powder

Filling:

½ cup apple butter

Wood chips (maple, birch, cherry, apple, tag-alder, oak, mesquite or hickory)

Start grill. Combine everything except pork, apple butter and wood chips in large bowl. Dry

roast with paper towels. Rub softened butter all over pork. Rub meat with dry rub mixture. To form a pocket for apple butter, cut a slit almost through roast lengthwise, leaving ends closed. Spread apple butter in pocket.

Enclose chips in packet made from aluminum foil. Poke holes in it to release smoke. Split coals into two piles or turn on outside burners of gas grill. Place chips on fire.

Make drip pan from heavy-duty foil folding the sides upward and crimping in corners. Fold top

edge downward to brace drip pan. Place between charcoal beds, add two cups water to pan. Place meat on grill between charcoal beds, cover, reduce heat or close vents halfway. Cook for half-hour. Check temperature in thickest part of roast, done at 145F, most people prefer about 150F.

Slice into half-inch thick rounds and serve on a platter surrounded by salad greens or flowering kale.

Enjoy.

From the kitchen of Bob Flowers.



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# New state program certifies experts to meet demand for wild mushrooms

BY RICK SMITH

Michigan recently started training and certifying approved wild mushroom experts so that grocers and restaurants can safely capitalize on a surge in the popularity of wild fungi.

Avid life-long wild food gatherer and editor of the Sault Tribe newspaper, Jennifer Dale-Burton was among the first to achieve state certification as a wild mushroom expert.

The burgeoning market for wild mushrooms, according to the state, was bypassing Michigan markets due to a standing state food code requiring buyers to buy the wild edibles exclusively from sources where the mushrooms have been inspected and deemed safe by state approved experts. But, just as it is difficult for the untrained eye to differentiate between a tasty wild mushroom and a deadly look-alike, so it

was that mushroom experts had no obvious signs to distinguish them from anyone else. Hence the state's new Wild-foraged Mushroom Identification Certification Program.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development worked with Midwest American Mycology Information (mycology is the study of fungi), the Institute for Sustainable Living, Art and Natural Design and the Michigan Farmers Market Association in developing the program to train and test wild mushroom experts.

The full-day training sessions focus on the biology and characteristics of mushrooms along with working hands-on with specimens under the guidance of mycologists (scientific specialists). Those wishing to become certified must pass a test with a minimum score of 80 percent or higher. Once certified, the credential is valid for five years.

So far, certification classes have taken place in Traverse City and Marquette. The classes are primarily for those pursuing commercial ends, but anyone interested enough to pay the fee is welcome. More information is available through Chris Wright of Midwest American Mycological Information at [chris@midwestmycology.org](mailto:chris@midwestmycology.org) or visit [www.midwestmycology.org](http://www.midwestmycology.org).

"Although the requirement for becoming an approved mushroom identification expert has been part of the Michigan Food Law for several years, our state has seen huge growth in both the demand for local products, including wild-foraged mushrooms, and the number of people interested in getting into mushroom harvesting and sales," said Kevin

Besey, director of the Food and Dairy Division of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in a release. "The new certification program will help provide proper training and approval, while assuring public health with regard to the identification, sale, purchase, preparation and service of wild-foraged mushrooms."

Dale-Burton, a Sault Tribe member, indicated wild mushroom experts are not mycologists, "This new program designates 20 wild fungi varieties as salable in Michigan," she noted. "You have to know those species inside and out, any poisonous 'look-alikes,' the poisonous mushrooms of Michigan in general and have a sound operating knowledge of the regulations."

She described the marketable

varieties as easily identifiable choice edibles that have no poisonous imitators. A list of the wild mushrooms allowed on the market in Michigan is at [www.midwestmycology.org](http://www.midwestmycology.org), under the Mushroom Study page.

Dale-Burton inherited foraging for nutrition in the forests from her mother, who started taking Dale-Burton along on gathering trips even before actually giving birth to her. "She grew up picking wild berries of all kinds, hazelnuts and so forth, as well as a lot of fishing," she said. "I have many happy memories of doing the same."

Dale-Burton admired wild mushrooms on her forays into the forests, but she never ate any until she met her husband about a decade ago. "His family gathered and ate a wide variety of wild mushrooms," she explained.

"We love to fish and hunt and to be in the woods, so we started gathering wild leeks, fiddleheads, hazelnuts and so forth, in addition to mushrooms. We are always interested in learning more and trying more. We gather in a sustainable, respectful way."

Dale-Burton indicated some of the main benefits of gathering wild fare are having free healthful gourmet "superfoods," security in knowing grocery stores are not absolute necessities and exercising complete control over how your food is handled and produced from harvest to fork. Besides that, she said, "It's also what you could call 'no money fun.' I would rather be out in the woods than anyplace else."

Dale-Burton has no immediate commercial plans for her new credential, but she is open to possibilities.



Jennifer Dale-Burton, among the first to receive state certification as an expert in wild mushrooms, as seen below.



## DNR map gives folks a hand in hunt for morels

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources produced an interactive map highlighting the state's 2014 wildfires and prescribed burns more than 10 acres in size to help mushroom hunters of morel mushrooms.

"Morels are often found where large fires occurred the previous year," explained Paul Kollmeyer, resource protection manager for the DNR. "Each spring we get calls from people seeking details on those sites to hunt morels. We created this map to give people the information they seek in a mobile-friendly, easily accessible package."

The interactive Mi-Morels map provides forest cover type information, latitudes and longitudes and state land boundary information.

Morels commonly sprout in places burned by wildfires or prescribed burns with a forested cover type, grass or sunlit open settings are less likely to produce the tasty fungi.

"While the map provides details on cover type burned,

it's up to the user to investigate whether morel mushrooms are growing any place on the map," Kollmeyer said. "Just because a spot is marked on the map doesn't mean morels will be growing at the area identified. We're providing a resource, but it's up to the hunters to head out to see what's available. Whether you find morels, a day spent in the woods enjoying the spring beauty is a day well spent."

The information in the map on burn locations, state forest cover type and state land boundaries are available for users to interact with and download via the DNR Open Data portal. This site gives the citizens and public land users of Michigan access to Michigan DNR spatial data and information.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is not responsible for the incorrect identification of morel mushrooms. For more information on safe mushroom hunting, visit the DNR's website.

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# Website supports local ecological activism

## From getting info to getting dollars, website points the way

BY RICK SMITH

Those who have a hankering to restore natural surroundings in their locales to healthy states should explore the options available at [www.epa.gov/communities](http://www.epa.gov/communities). Billed as “Resources for Local Officials and Community Members,” it is a one-stop directory for the convenience of local government officials and community members alike who want to tackle complex local environmental issues.

The site is brought to you by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Visitors will find three options on the main page, two for local officials and one for basic community residents. The first option for officials links visitors to the Local Government Environmental Assistance Network, which helps local governments with environmental management concerns. Another link fields questions for network and a third concerns financing opportunities. The second guides officials to the National Resource Network for information and technical help in support of economic growth and revitalization. Additional links are

available for a “cleaning house” for technical help.

The average citizen, however, would be interested in the Resources for Community Members section — it provides the tools and information to help local folks protect public health and environmental conditions. It also has a link to funding opportunities.

After entering the page, one finds four sections titled *Environmental Data on Your Community*, *Methods for Addressing Community Health Concerns*, *Environmental Health Issues and Solutions* as well as *Find Grants and Technical Assistance*.

*Environmental Data* allows one to explore a store of information about one’s locality. Going into the Envirofacts link brings up multiple search systems allowing exploration by facilities, geography, tribes, industrial classifications and pollutants. In addition, an assortment of tabs offer an array of search options and services. The section also has links for Toxics Release Inventory for Communities and More Environmental Data on Your Community.

*Sault Tribe member Betty Johnston Rohrlack celebrated her 90th birthday on June 11. She recently moved to Pine Crest Senior Living in Mackinac City after residing in New Port Richey, Fla., for the past 34 years.*  
*Happy birthday, Betty!*

## DNR lauds court on recent ruling

### Court of Appeals ruling protects state’s natural and agricultural resources from an invasive species

Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director Keith Creagh recently applauded a published decision from the Michigan Court of Appeals that upholds a 2011 Invasive Species Order issued by the department prohibiting Russian boar in Michigan.

“This decision provides important protections for natural and agricultural resources in Michigan,” said DNR Director Keith Creagh.

He added, “The ruling provides additional clarity around this issue and is a strong affirmation of DNR policies intended to protect the state’s forests, fields and farms from this invasive species.”

The Court of Appeals ruling overturns a March 2014 decision from the Marquette County Circuit Court. The 3-0 Appeals Court decision holds that the Invasive Species Order “meets constitutional standards in all respects” and remains in effect in Michigan.

In Michigan almost all feral swine — that is, swine outside of captivity — are Russian boar. Russian boar are not native to Michigan.

All Russian boar in the wild were either introduced intentionally into the wild or escaped from captivity.

The Invasive Species Order that declared Russian boar illegal

in Michigan was prompted by concerns that feral swine are significant disease carriers that can jeopardize domestic livestock and threaten wildlife and even humans, and that feral swine cause ecological and agricultural damage, ranging from rooting up farm fields and damaging crops to wallowing in rivers and destroying aquatic habitat.

The order was designed to prevent additional Russian boar from becoming feral.

“Feral swine have become established in other states and we know how costly and detrimental those populations are for those states,” said Creagh.

He further explained, “Once established, invasive species of all types pose a serious threat to our natural resources. It’s the goal of the department to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species. This ruling is a significant step in achieving that goal.”

More information regarding feral swine in Michigan can be found at [www.michigan.gov/feralswine](http://www.michigan.gov/feralswine).

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state’s natural and cultural resources for current and future generations. For more information, go to [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

Under *Methods for Addressing Community Health Concerns*, links entice visitors to examine guidelines and steps to renew and improve the environment and the health of communities. It also offers a model on solving problems through environmental justice collaboratives and offers ways to address community

health concerns.

The *Environmental Health Issues and Solutions* section has links to a resource guide, a list of frequently asked questions and answers and more on environmental issues and solutions.

The last section allows visitors to *Find Grants and Technical Assistance*. Links give you a grant competition forecast for

the current year and how to apply, information on a program for colleges and underserved communities and further grant information.

Searches can also be conducted by key words in a search bar and contact information for those who want to communicate with an appropriate individual with the Environmental Protection Agency.

## USFS: Managing vegetation is an ecosystem support tool

FROM THE USFS

Forestry is the science of managing trees. Not surprisingly, forestry often comes to mind when you mention the Forest Service. And rightly so: Since 1891, when Congress passed the Forest Reserve Act, the United States has been setting aside public lands as forest reserves designed to protect and improve forests while providing sustainable supplies of wood and water.

Today the Forest Service is a multi-faceted agency that sustains the health, diversity and productivity of 154 national forests and grasslands in 44 states and Puerto Rico and is the world’s largest forestry research organization. Locally, on the Hiawatha National Forest, forestry practices are part of our daily, on-the-ground work. While trees are an essential part of that work, sustainable management of national forest vegetation involves more than just cutting and re-planting trees. Forest management involves a set of versatile ecosystem management tools providing numerous benefits. What are these tools and how do they benefit people and the planet?

The vegetation management toolbox includes a variety of timber sale options, fire, and other vegetation treatments that increase the presence of native plants and/or decrease non-native invasive plants. How are these tools selected and implemented? Silviculture is the art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health and quality of forests and woodlands to meet the diverse needs and values of landowners and society on a sustainable basis. Forest Service silviculturists are specialized foresters trained and highly knowledgeable in the effects of specific treatments

on local forests in our specific habitat conditions (i.e. soil, moisture regime, aspect and climate). Guided by the Hiawatha’s Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan), these specialized foresters apply their knowledge as they develop treatment “prescriptions” for managed forest areas. They collaborate with other specialists (e.g. hydrologists, wildlife biologists, botanists, and engineers) to develop interdisciplinary prescriptions that address multiple resource needs.

Silvicultural prescriptions are as varied as the landscape and cover the range of potential management objectives, from timber production to wildlife habitat creation or maintenance; from scenery management to reduction of fire hazard. For example, if the objective in a particular area is to grow tall, straight pine trees for use as lumber or poles, a silviculturist might prescribe periodic light thinning of the trees, at 10-15 year intervals, to concentrate growth and quality on the best remaining trees. Each successive thinning would supply more desirable products than the previous thinning, up to a rotation age of 80 to 160 years (when the stand would be regenerated).

At another, sandier site where tall trees would not grow as well, objectives might instead focus on providing habitat for the endangered Kirtland’s warbler while also regenerating jack pine; the silviculturist might prescribe a short-rotation regeneration harvest for that location. In this case, the stand would be clearcut for pulpwood, leaving the topwood, branches, twigs and cones on the site, where the cones would open the next summer in the heat and spill seed on the exposed soil.

## DNR explores fishing in Lake Huron

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources issued a research permit to a Saginaw Bay commercial fisher to explore lake whitefish populations in southern Lake Huron. Beginning in June 2015, this fisher will be permitted to set large mesh trap nets on experimental fishing grounds located several miles south of Harbor Beach and north of Port Sanilac.

It is anticipated this research fishery will continue over the next three years while the DNR monitors and evaluates fish populations, as well as determines the long-term potential for a sustain-

able and profitable commercial lake whitefish fishery.

The Michigan waters of southern Lake Huron have not been commercially fished in five decades — although a substantial commercial fishery exists in Canadian waters of Lake Huron. Over the years, significant interest has developed to examine the health and productivity of lake whitefish stocks in Michigan waters of Lake Huron. The DNR’s Fisheries Division believes there could be an abundant stock of lake whitefish available for harvest.

“Southern Lake Huron presents

The seeds would then germinate and grow into seedlings, then saplings, and then mature trees, completing the cycle (a “rotation” in forestry terms). In this kind of project, the clearcut areas can be very large, sometimes exceeding 1,000 acres, because Kirtland’s warblers need large patches of young jack pine.

When a scenic view is the over-riding priority in the previous example, vegetation treatment might be modified to leave inclusions of uncut tree in the foreground, strategically placed, to provide a more pleasant scenic appearance for those driving by on an adjacent road. Or perhaps a trail or other recreation site lies in a stand of American beech trees dying of beech bark disease; a recreation specialist would work with the silviculturist to ensure recreation objectives were addressed, and a hydrologist might recommend measures to minimize impacts to a nearby stream.

How do we implement the above integrated vegetation management prescriptions? Forest Service experts such as foresters (who set up and oversee timber sales); fire management officers (who design and oversee prescribed burns); botanists (who select and oversee planting of native species); engineers (who identify and design access) and other resource specialists work together to implement management prescriptions. We’ll dig deeper into these resource specialties in future articles.

But first, we’ll focus on the “why” — Why should we use an integrated, multi-disciplinary approach to forest management?

Our next story will summarize some of the key benefits of the Forest Service’s multiple use mission.

a unique opportunity to explore an under-utilized commercial fishing opportunity in Michigan waters,” said the DNR’s Commercial Fishing Program administrator, Tom Goniea. “There are very few areas of the Great Lakes that can accommodate new commercial fishing and this is one. It is an excellent location to evaluate lake whitefish stocks with the possibility of expanding Michigan’s natural resources-based economy.”

It is expected the experimental commercial fishing will begin June 7 and continue through the remainder of 2015.



# State gets first case of CWD in free-ranging deer

The Michigan departments of Natural Resources (DNR) and Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) confirmed on May 26, 2015 that a free-ranging deer in Meridian Township (Ingham County) has tested positive for chronic wasting disease (CWD), a fatal neurological disease that affects white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk and moose.

This is the first time the disease has been found in Michigan's free-ranging deer population. In 2008 a white-tailed deer from a privately owned cervid (POC) facility in Kent County tested positive for CWD.

The animal was observed last month wandering around a Meridian Township residence and showing signs of illness. The homeowner contacted the Meridian Township Police Department, who then sent an officer to euthanize the animal. The deer was collected by a DNR wildlife biologist and delivered for initial testing to the DNR Wildlife Disease Laboratory at the Michigan State University Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health in Lansing, Michigan. After initial tests were positive, samples were forwarded to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa, for final confirmation.

To date, there is no evidence that chronic wasting disease presents any risk to non-cervids, including humans, either through contact with an infected animal or from handling contaminated venison. However, as a precaution, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization recommend that infected animals not be consumed as food by either humans or domestic animals.

"This is the first case of chronic wasting disease to be confirmed in a free-ranging Michigan white-tailed deer," said DNR Director Keith Creagh.

"While it is a disappointing



Photo by Kenneth Cole Schneider

## White-tailed doe running with tail flashing warning.

day for Michigan, the good news is that we are armed with a thoughtfully crafted response plan," Creagh said. "We are working with other wildlife experts at the local, regional, state and federal level, using every available resource, to determine the extent of this disease, respond appropriately to limit further transmission, and ultimately eradicate the disease in Michigan if possible."

The confirmed positive finding triggers several actions in the state's surveillance and response plan for chronic wasting disease. The plan was developed in 2002 through cooperation between the DNR and MDARD, and was updated in 2012. Actions the DNR will take include:

Completing a population survey in the area where the CWD-positive deer was found.

Establishing a Core CWD Area consisting of Alaedon, Delhi, Lansing, Meridian, Wheatfield and Williamstown townships in Ingham County; Bath and DeWitt townships in Clinton County; and Woodhull Township in Shiawassee County. Unlimited antlerless deer hunting licenses will be available. Mandatory checking of deer will be required in this area during hunting seasons and restrictions will apply to the movement of carcasses and parts of deer taken in this area.

Creating a CWD Management Zone, which will include Clinton,

Ingham and Shiawassee counties.

Implementing a deer and elk feeding and baiting ban, which will include the Core CWD Area and the larger three-county CWD Management Zone.

Prohibiting the possession or salvage of deer killed by collision with a motor vehicle within the Core CWD Area. Also, residents are asked to call in the locations of road-killed deer within this area so DNR staff can pick up for testing. Research shows CWD-infected deer are more likely to be hit by vehicles because of their illness.

DNR Director Creagh will issue an interim order approving immediate implementation of these actions.

"MDARD is working with the state's privately owned cervid facilities within a 15-mile surveillance zone to ensure compliance with CWD testing requirements," said MDARD State Veterinarian James Averill. "For POC facilities located outside of the surveillance zone, there will be no impact. We are, however, encouraging all POCs to continue to be our partners in the state's CWD testing program."

Chronic wasting disease is caused by the transmission of infectious, self-multiplying proteins (prions) contained in saliva and other body fluids of infected animals. Susceptible animals can acquire CWD by direct exposure to these fluids or from environments contaminated with

these fluids or the carcass of a diseased animal. Once contaminated, research shows that soil can remain a source of infection for long periods of time, making CWD a particularly difficult disease to eradicate.

Some chronically CWD-infected animals will display abnormal behaviors, progressive weight loss and physical debilitation. There is no cure; once a deer is infected with CWD, it will die.

Although this is the first positive CWD finding in the state's free-ranging deer population, it is important to note that from Jan. 1, 1998, through Dec. 31, 2014, tens of thousands of free-ranging Michigan deer were tested and no evidence was found of chronic wasting disease in this population. In fact, that testing included 34,207 deer, 1,607 elk and 70 moose – a large sample of animals with no positive finding.

In privately owned deer populations, approximately 21,000 samples have to date been tested for CWD. All of those have been negative as well, with the exception of the 2008 Kent County case. MDARD conducts ongoing surveillance of Michigan's 365 registered, privately owned cervid facilities.

## Public awareness, support

"Strong public awareness and cooperation from residents and hunters are critical for a rapid response to evaluate any deer suspected of having chronic wasting disease," said Steve Schmitt, veterinarian-in-charge at the DNR Wildlife Disease Lab. "We'd like to thank the resident who called local authorities, as well as the Meridian Township Police Department for its swift response."

The DNR asks help from the public and hunters in reporting deer that are:

Unusually thin.

Exhibiting unusual behavior (for example, acting tame around humans and allowing someone to approach).

To report a suspicious-looking deer, call the DNR Wildlife

Disease Lab at 517-336-5030 or fill out and submit the online observation report found on the DNR website.

To report road-kills found in the Core CWD Area call the Wildlife Disease Hotline at 517-614-9602 during office hours. Leave a voicemail with location information and staff will attempt to pick up carcasses on the next open business day.

Additionally, Schmitt said hunters will play a key role in helping the state manage this new wildlife challenge.

"Michigan has a long tradition of hunter support and conservation ethics. Now, with the CWD finding, that support is needed more than ever," Schmitt said. "Historically, areas where chronic wasting disease has been found have experienced a decline in hunter numbers. Because hunters are often familiar with the deer herd locally, one of the best things they can do to help manage this disease is to continue hunting and bring their deer to check stations this season."

Once the DNR has conducted targeted surveillance in the CWD Management Zone, staff will have a better understanding of needed changes in hunting regulations for upcoming deer hunting seasons.

Despite the CWD finding, Schmitt said there is reason for optimism.

"When it comes to chronic wasting disease, Michigan isn't alone. A total of 23 states and two Canadian provinces have found CWD in either free-ranging or privately owned cervids, or both," he said. "Michigan will take full advantage of the collective expertise and experience of those who have for years now dealt with chronic wasting disease on a daily basis."

Get more information on CWD – including Michigan's CWD surveillance and response plan, FAQs and a link to the CWD Alliance website where more photos and video are available – at [www.michigan.gov/cwd](http://www.michigan.gov/cwd).

## From Page 1, "Line 5" Enbridge record does not bode well for Mackinac Straits

Mackinac.

A July 2014 study by the University of Michigan called the Straits "the worst possible place for an oil spill in the Great Lakes." That study simulated the fate and transport of oil from a spill at three sites along the pipeline under the water, and concluded that a plume of oil would stretch 85 miles, from Beaver Island in the west to Mackinac Island and farther down the Lake Huron shore.

### The Enbridge Record

Enbridge's pipeline system in North America has racked up a record of notoriety that should embarrass the company and convey no credibility to their promises of safety and response.

Between 1999 and 2010, Enbridge pipes suffered more than 800 spills, dumping almost 7 million gallons of oil into the environment. Enbridge's Lakehead system has polluted the environment, forced evacuations and killed workers, according to accident reports ([www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/](http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/)

Pages/PAR1201.aspx).

Several of those spills occurred on Line 5, the pipeline that carries crude oil from northern Wisconsin, to Sarnia, Ontario. Line 5 runs along the northern edge of Lake Michigan before crossing the Straits of Mackinac; it also crosses some of the region's best trout streams, including the famed Au Sable River.

In 1999, in Crystal Falls, Mich., an Enbridge pipeline rupture resulted in a spill of 226,000 gallons of crude oil and natural gas liquids. The gas evaporated, and Enbridge deliberately ignited the gas cloud to prevent it dispersing and igniting elsewhere. The resulting fire burned for 36 hours over 8 acres. The Enbridge explanation for this breach is alarming to anyone who understands the conditions at the Mackinac Straits – that the pipeline was rubbing on a rock, which caused it to rupture.

The 2010 catastrophic spill at Marshall, Mich., is illustrative of Enbridge's lax pipeline integrity program. Line 6B was carrying

tar sands oil – diluted bitumen – yet Enbridge did not inform EPA, which was conducting the cleanup, of the nature of the product for many days after the spill. Enbridge's control center in Edmonton ignored pressure sensor alarms for more than 17 hours, thinking they were incorrect, and at some points even increasing pressure in the lines thinking there was an air bubble. After the alarms were finally acknowledged, it took a further hour to locate the spill, and then only when a local law enforcement official noticed it and reported it.

The NTSB investigation revealed that Enbridge had known of the cracks in that pipe since 2005, however, it had no way to determine the precision of its measurements and estimates of crack sizes. Furthermore, Enbridge made engineering assessments of pipeline integrity without knowing which cracks were occurring in areas of corrosion, or the depth of corrosion in the vicinity of cracks, according to accident reports ([\[www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Pages/PAR1201.aspx\]\(http://www.nts.gov/investigations/AccidentReports/Pages/PAR1201.aspx\)\).](http://</a></p>
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### The Tribe's Interest

The waters that would be impacted by any spilled petroleum from Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac would include the shoaling, spawning and nursery areas of Northern Lake Michigan and Northern Lake Huron that encompass the most productive fishing areas of the 1836 Treaty. It is estimated that more than half of the tribal fishing efforts and harvest occur in the waters likely to be impacted.

Unlike the oceans, the Great Lakes are a relatively confined ecosystem, meaning that they are ill equipped to digest or flush away oil. Oil spills in freshwater ecosystems cause a myriad of short term and long-term effects. Beyond the immediate threat to fish and wildlife, oil spills can also affect the spawning success of trout because the eggs of trout and other salmon species are "highly sensitive to oil toxins," according to the U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service. Small amounts of oil can kill fish eggs and oil toxicant that linger in sediment and aquatic vegetation long after a spill is "cleaned up" can harm aquatic ecosystems for decades after a spill occurs.

A catastrophic oil spill in the Straits of Mackinac would devastate the tribal fishing industry and shut down water intakes for numerous communities. It would devastate the shoreline, the island ecosystems and the tourist industry.

The tribe passed a resolution in February 2015, entreating any regulatory authority, be it federal, state, or other, to take all action toward requiring decommissioning of the Enbridge Line 5 pipeline at the Straits of Mackinac, and specifically requesting the Michigan Petroleum Pipelines Task Force to include in its recommendations the decommissioning of the Enbridge Line 5 pipeline at the Straits of Mackinac.

Time is of the essence.

Pump and pray is not a responsible management strategy.



# Anishinaabe Zaagi'idiwin, Anishinaabe love and early warning signs of abuse in relationships

By AMY MCCOY

Mii azhigwa da-mikaman ode'iminan! Now is the time you can find strawberries! Mii iw wenji-izhinikaazod "ode'imini-giizis" noongom a'aw giizis aginzod omaa Bawating. That's why it's called the "Strawberry Moon" now here in Sault Ste. Marie.

In our sacred language, the strawberry is the "heart" berry. Ode' means heart. You also hear "ode'" in the name for drum, although many times the initial "o" sound drops for some speakers, ode'we'igan, which literally means, the tool of the sound of the heart. Our first drum lives inside us as Anishinaabeg. When blessed with the gift of life, we were also given the sacred drum in rhythm of our heartbeat. Our heart center is known through our sacred teachings to be the place Gizhe Manidoo, the kind uncre-

ated spirit, hid wisdom such that we would have to look into the seventh direction, that is inside us, to find it. Gaining connection through our hearts, we can learn to love those around us in our families, friendships and intimate partnerships as well. Love involves the Ojibwe concept of true loving kindness that encompasses respect, gizhewaadiziwin, within which you can see the gizhe- from Gizhe-manidoo, the kind, uncreated spirit, whom is also centered in true loving kindness.

It's important to take the time to teach ourselves and our children about love. Anishinaabe love involves the Seven Grandfather teachings of respect, honesty, truth, humility, love, wisdom and bravery in totality. It's also important to build awareness of the warning signs of abuse in a relationship and get help if you

or a loved one suspect abuse in a relationship.

We are here for you at the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Advocacy Resource Center and want to help you. Call us at (906) 632-1808.

**Early warning signs of abuse**

- Excessive jealousy. Jealousy is a survival mechanism, but can easily become a relationship parasite. Jealousy is not love.
- Constantly checking in with you or making you check in with him or her.
- Attempts to isolate you from friends and family.
- Insulting or putting down people you care about.
- Does not take responsibility for own actions.
- Blames you when he or she treats you badly by telling you all of the ways you provoked him or her.
- Too serious about the rela-

tionship too quickly.

- Has had a lot of bad prior relationships and blames all of the problems on previous partners.
- Very controlling. This may include giving you orders, telling you what to wear and trying to make all of the decisions for you.
- "Blows up" a lot. Has an explosive temper.
- Pressures you into sexual activity with which you are not comfortable.
- Has a history of fighting, hurting animals or brags about mistreating other people.
- Believes strongly in stereotypical gender roles for males and females.
- You worry about how your partner will react to the things you say.
- You worry about "provoking" your partner.
- Refuses to let you to end the relationship.

What can you do if you notice these signs in your relationship?

Trust your intuition! If you believe there may be a problem in your relationship, you are probably right. Do not ignore the warning signs. Research has found that those who have a tendency to engage in relationship violence escalate their abuse over time. In other words, it gets worse over time, not better.

Spend time with people you care about other than your partner. Stay in touch with your friends. Keep up with activities you enjoy and that make you feel good about yourself.

Consider calling us here at the Advocacy Resource Center for more information before you experience a crisis.

Amy McCoy is the community educator with the Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center.

## Third women's health fair a wonderful experience

Our third annual women's health fair was a huge success with over 30 participants.

The day started out with a special welcome and opening song by Gennie Morgan with the Grandmother Moon Singers, who not only opened the day with a song of prayer and thanks, but taught us all about the medicine of music and provided materials to make a small rattle.

Linda Inhelder from Community Health provided instruction on the art of wonderful eating. This was the Linda's last day coming to Hessel as she is retiring from her position as a nutritionist with the Sault Tribe's

Community Health Program.

Then we learned how to take a 10-minute recess led by Tami Duncan, Community Health nurse, using the *Moving with Tradition* instant recess, 10-minute fitness break DVDs, which were donated by Journeyworks Publishing.

Participants left knowing relaxation techniques by using art with the teachings that were presented by Unit II Director Catherine Hollowell, who also shared the story of the cedar tree, which led us into the next session of cedar teachings with a cedar craft project presented by Unit II Director Lana Causley-Smith.

After learning about the protective qualities of cedar, relaxing through art, how to move with tradition, the wonderful art of eating and the medicine of music, I presented an exercise called the human barometer that sparked conversations on bullying behaviors and taught everyone involved with this activity that it is okay to agree to disagree.

Dr. Rebecca Warner held everyone's attentions while presenting on holistic medicine mind, body and spirit — this led us right into meditation using our traditional ceremonies provided by Peggy Holappa from the Traditional Medicine Program. Holappa has agreed to come back in July to provide more of the traditional women's and young lady's teachings.

Through out the day, participants enjoyed a relaxing massage provided by Helen Quigley, who also volunteered her time to present on the health benefits of massage therapy. Everyone also enjoyed making a hand scrub made of salt, oil and vanilla.

Door prizes donated by local businesses and journeyworks were given away throughout the day.

Out of the 30-plus participants, 15 evaluations was handed back. Thirteen of respondents said they look forward to participating in next year's event, one said she would participate if she was in

the area and one said no.

This event was coordinated by the Sault Tribe's Youth Education and Activities Program, Unit II and the Community Health Program.

I wish to say a special chi miigwech (big thank you) too all of our presenters! Your dedication to the health and well being of the Anishinabe kwe has a rippling

effect that will to touch others.

I also wish extend a special thank you to Kewadin Casinos, Journeyworks, Judy and Company, Side Street Salon, The Hair Loft, Lakeside Hair and Spa, Cutting Room, Bretts Repair.

Chi miigwech for your very generous donations!

Also chi miigwech to all participants!



Photo submitted by Lisa Burnside

Anishinaabe kwe young and old enjoyed a day of pampering and relaxation during the annual women's health fair at the Hessel Tribal Center.

## Get a Sault Tribe sweatshirt or hoody

Sault Tribe logo sweatshirts and hoodies are now on sale to benefit the Sault Ste. Marie Sault tribe gathering and powwow on July 10-12

Crew neck style — White logo

with fuchsia, turquoise, black, kiwi, orange or navy sweatshirt. Sizes small-3X. Sweatshirts are \$30, plus \$3 for 2X; \$4 for 3X sizes.

Hoodie style — White logo with red, navy, black, royal blue, purple and forest green. Sizes Small - 3X. Hoodies are \$40, plus \$3 for 2X; \$4 for 3X sizes.

Please add six percent sales tax. Add \$4.50 in shipping and handling for the first item, and \$1 for each additional item.

To order, please call (800) 793-0660 or 632-6398, Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

You can leave a message anytime or email [jminton@saulttribe.net](mailto:jminton@saulttribe.net).

### YEA back to Chi Mukwa

The Sault Youth Education and Activities after school and homework lab services moved from 2428 Shunk Road to the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center at 2 Ice Circle Drive.

The after-school program and homework lab keeps the same telephone number, (906) 253-1321.

## 2 Rivers

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# HONORING OUR PAST: PREPARING FOR OUR FUTURE

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

**Ahneen, Boozo, Negee:**

As I go about representing our Tribe by meeting with various State and Federal dignitaries, I have been a bit nostalgic about our past. Recently, I had the occasion to meet with U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow to advocate our issues. The next day, I was invited to a reception by the Chippewa County Democrats where the Senator shared issues in the U.S. Senate and pledge her support for Indian Country issues. The next day, I did a walk through at the Mackinac Straits hospital with the Senator and our Health Director Bonnie Culfa who has raised our third party revenues from \$1.5 million to and estimated \$8 million this year. The Senator found this amazing given our IHS allocation in our annual funding agreement is \$18 million. The Straits hospital and subsequent agreements came about under the leadership of Bonnie Culfa. The Senator was impressed given health care is a key issue for her.

I was also asked to address and issue of a grant received by the Chippewa Luce Mackinac Community Action Board. As you may know, I serve as the Vice Chair for the CLM Community Action Board. The Senator pledged to help resolve some bureaucracy to finalize this project.

Some may not know our history with the CLM Community Action Agency. Our long time friendship came



about when Rosemary Gaskin served as a cook for the agency along with working as an Indian Education worker at the Sault Schools. Rosemary's work at the agency led to the Director, Ron Calery,



Touring the joint Sault Tribe ~ Mackinac Straits Hospital in St. Ignace with U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow (Center) and from left to right, Rod Nelson, Hospital Administrator; Pat Shannon, Chair of the Mackinac Straits Hospital Board; and our own Bonnie Culfa, Sault Tribe Health Director.



understanding the blight in our community. In turn, Mr. Calery brought our first vaccinations to our community (before we had IHS funding) and orchestrated funding from the Sault Ste. Marie City Commission for a playground on Shunk Road.

Rosemary created a neighborhood association to bring attention to the conditions in our community including no indoor toilets. (She is pictured

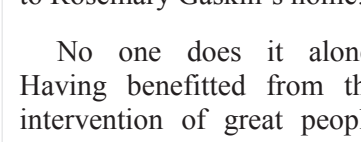
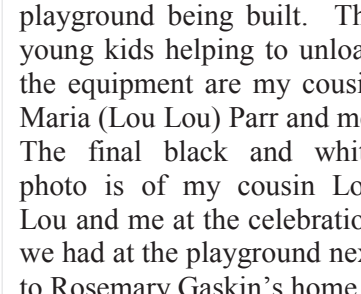
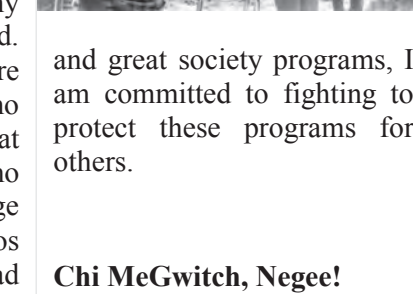
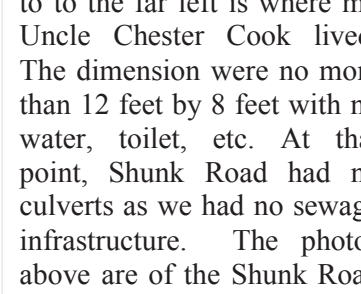
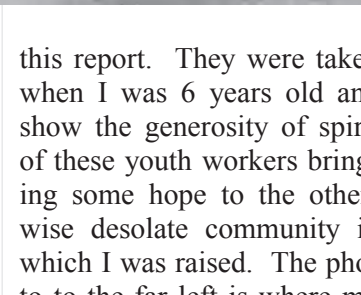


above in front of the Mar-Shunk Neighborhood Center.) Rosemary is one of my heroes. This is why I created the Rosemary Gaskin Memorial Scholarship. Please contact the Sault Tribe Education

Department, (906) 635-6080, for information on how to apply for this scholarship.

Born in 1965 and raised in poverty, I am grateful for the Great Society programs that created a pathway to opportunity for me. I credit my successes to the intervention in my life of the Upward Bound Program, Indian Education, federal programs that provide outreach through the Community Action Agency, and through the generous spirit of folks like Ron Calery. Still, the rhetoric at the national level to get the dead-beats off welfare is so mean spirited that it is endangering funding for the continuation of programs that reach through the poverty to lift folks up.

It is amazing to me how things come back around. When I first became Chair, a woman who was a Youth Corp Worker in 1972 sent me a compact disk with the black and white photos including in



this report. They were taken when I was 6 years old and show the generosity of spirit of these youth workers bringing some hope to the otherwise desolate community in which I was raised. The photo to the far left is where my Uncle Chester Cook lived. The dimension were no more than 12 feet by 8 feet with no water, toilet, etc. At that point, Shunk Road had no culverts as we had no sewage infrastructure. The photos above are of the Shunk Road playground being built. The young kids helping to unload the equipment are my cousin Maria (Lou Lou) Parr and me. The final black and white photo is of my cousin Lou Lou and me at the celebration we had at the playground next to Rosemary Gaskin's home.

No one does it alone. Having benefitted from the intervention of great people

and great society programs, I am committed to fighting to protect these programs for others.

**Chi McGwitch, Negee!**



Call: 800-793-0660 Cell: 906-440-5937 Email: [chairpersonpayment@saulttribe.net](mailto:chairpersonpayment@saulttribe.net) Facebook 'Aaron Payment'

WATCH SAULT TRIBE BOARD MEETINGS ON LIVESTREAM: <http://new.livestream.com/TOSSABCS2>



# Enbridge Line 5 a threat to Great Lakes and tribe



**DJ HOFFMAN**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

In the pages of this paper, I assume the membership will find and continue to find, the topic of Enbridge "Line 5." This pipeline, built in 1953, carries nearly 23 million gallons of crude oil and natural gas on a daily basis along the bottom of the Straits of Mackinac. This pipeline is a severe threat to our Great Lakes, and our tribal community. It has been a threat for over 60 years, and recently the tribe passed a resolution (2015-45) in support of decommissioning of the Enbridge Line 5 oil pipeline at the Straits of Mackinac.

Enbridge "Line 5" is a grave threat that has recently dominated the headlines; however, it should not overshadow other external threats to our environment, our treaty rights and our way of life. I understand that this is currently the most talked about issue and carries some serious political face time, which should be used to focus upon this issue as well as others that impact our tribal community and treaty rights.

While not as media "popular" in recent months, the issue of the Graymont limestone mine should not be forgotten. The tribe adopted Resolution 2013-256 on Dec. 3, 2013, Opposing Sale of Exchange of Public lands to Graymont. The following is an excerpt from that resolution:

WHEREAS, the proposed project will result in the closing of existing access roads and will otherwise restrict or eliminate access to large areas of land that are now open to

public use, thereby causing a substantial detrimental impact on the rights of tribal members to utilize these lands for treaty hunting, gathering, and recreation activities as provided by the 2007 Consent Decree in *United States v Michigan, WD Mich, File No 2: 73 CV 26*; and WHEREAS, in addition to the rights assured by the 2007 Consent Decree, the Tribe has the right to require consultation with the State pursuant to the 2002 Government to Government Accord signed by Governor Engler on December 13, 2002, and recently affirmed by Governor Snyder by Executive Directive 2012-2 (August 23, 2012);

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors hereby declares its opposition to the proposed transfer of public lands near Rexton in the Eastern; Upper Peninsula to Graymont; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Chairperson and/or appropriate staff are directed to seek formal consultation with the State with respect to this issue.

While the tribe has adopted its opposition to the Graymont limestone, it has not exercised its rights under the 2007 Inland Consent Decree. As you can see in the above excerpt, the tribe cites these rights assured by the 2007 decree and yet has not, to date, taken any action to exercise or protect these rights. It is time to stop talking and start acting. **CEO**

In the days prior to the May 19, 2015, board meeting, I was handed an anonymous letter written to Director Hoffman. In short, the letter stated that the individual did not agree with "your recommendations to remove the temporary casino executive from CEO." The temporary casino executive "does not have a personal agenda like yourself, he's here to make us money and he's already successful. I'm sure a petition can be circulated to remove you from the board." Since this letter was anonymous

I will answer it here:

My attempts to post the chief executive officer position are required by policy, it is not a personal agenda.

If one should create a removal petition for me for adhering to the tribes laws and policies (which are adopted by resolution) I would gladly sign it. Although pursuant to the Constitution, Article VI, Section 3, removal is limited to violations of the Constitution and bylaws or any duly enacted tribal ordinance or resolution.

I suspect that there are individuals with a personal agenda spreading gossip and rumor to justify their actions/inactions as members of the board of directors.

The board has adopted policies, rules and regulations for the tribe. As I have stated in the past, these are not optional guidelines for individuals to follow at their respective whims. Currently, these policies are being violated on a continual basis. The historical complaints of jobs being filled without posting and policies being ignored have been muted while history repeats itself. We, as a tribe, are on a very slippery slope which needs immediate corrective action. Those who politically championed against such activities are currently their primary enablers. I ask that any and all interested tribal members please feel free to contact your representatives and let them know that adopted policies apply to everyone, not just a select few. ALL jobs must be posted and filled in the appropriate manner. ALL policies must be adhered to by employees and the board.

For the May 19, 2015, meeting of the board of directors a resolution to post the position of chief executive officer of Kewadin Casinos was placed upon the agenda. I was not the sponsor of the resolution (this time) however I did support it.

The position is a key employment position, approved in the 2015 casino budgets. Hiring of this "key employee" requires seven votes of the board of

directors. Under the tribes adopted personnel policies, all positions must be posted.

Some members of the board have argued that the resolution would send the wrong message to the temporary casino executive officer. My concern continues to be the message of not following policy, adopted by tribal resolution, and what it conveys to the membership and our employees as a whole. In addition, policy also dictates that temporary positions shall not exceed six months; it has been nearly SEVEN months since the temporary position was hired.

In August (2014) a request for proposals (RFP) was distributed externally with the following as its premise:

Temporary overall management of gaming/hospitality operations with the ultimate goal of assisting with selection of a permanent chief executive officer of Kewadin Casinos.

This resolution to post the position not only complies with the policies and procedures of the tribe, it adheres to the intent of the RFP. The language in the resolution was derived from these policies. In addition, the casino FY2015 budgets for the temporary casino executive officer was for a period of three months. It has been nearly seven months.

## Economic development

In previous articles I discussed the taxes on patrons occurring in our tribal casino properties. For many years the tribe has added a tax to its hotel rooms of 7 percent for the local chambers of commerce and CVBs. This occurs at both our St. Ignace property and our Sault property. The collective annual amounts derived from this TAX are in excess of \$500,000 annually. While I have continued to ask for copies of all agreements to establish this tax, none can be found.

I propose we redefine this tax to generate revenues for economic development. I will be working on the creation of a "development tax" in lieu of the existing chamber/CVB tax. This

will enable the tribe to afford economic diversification while not spending existing revenues. At even half of the current 7 percent hotel tax, this creates over \$250,000 annually for diversification.

## JKL Bahweting School

The Tribe has approved a new version of the JKL Bahweting School lease with the PSA for a period of three years with an automatic rollover feature. The current lease was not expired but Northern Michigan University wanted a few items added to the lease to ensure the school reauthorization of charter. While many rumors were reported on social media regarding the lease, the facts are that the lease was approved with the same existing terms as dictated by the previous lease with the guideline recommendations from NMU incorporated.

I placed this in my previous reports, and I am continuing to restate it so that we can move this project forward.

The JKL Bahweting School is an excellent school that is in need of expansion. Currently, the school has over 490 students K-8. With this many students, it is shocking to find that the current capacity of the schools sole gymnasium is 51.

The timeframe for moving this project forward is closing to accomplish this prior to the next school year. Please contact your board members and give it the support it so desperately needs.

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

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

Sincerely,  
DJ Hoffman  
Cell: (906) 203-0510

Personal e-mail:  
djwhoffman@hotmail.com

Tribal e-mail: djhoffman@saulttribe.net

# Director Hollowell: "Sovereignty and governance"



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

## Graymont

As I write this unit report, it's been 74 days and counting since Director Creagh of the DNR made the decision to approve a purchase proposal from Graymont mining company of Canada. Our tribe is opposed to the sale. The sale is an assault to

our sovereignty as a tribal nation far beyond the actual loss of acreage. No public word has been issued by the chairman since the sale was approved. This is a very poor time for the chairman to go silent. He alone is empowered to speak "on behalf of the tribe as a whole" to its citizens and to other sovereign entities. The governing body has given him 'room to lead.' It is his duty to inform the tribal membership about important sovereign government matters.

## Belfy v Creagh

Meanwhile — this is a federal court case in the public domain (West District MI). The following comments are my own: A handful of individuals have filed a "motion for a temporary restraining order" enjoining the State of Michigan from approving the sale of state lands to

Graymont based on their inherent rights under the 1836 Treaty and the 2007 Consent Decree. This effort may be well intentioned, but it's surely ill-conceived and has resulted in the judge allowing submittal of briefs — giving the State of Michigan AND Graymont the opportunity to submit their "2 cents" in matters of our sovereign rights! Who are these self-appointed people who would rush to the steps of the courthouse willy-nilly and unprepared (the main plaintiff is not even a tribal citizen of the 1836 treaty). How ironic is it that those who claim to be protecting Anishnaabe inherent rights would run first to the courts for relief and fail to give their own tribal government notice (or if they did, the tribal governing body was not informed. I first learned of the court case on Facebook!). These

folks, no matter how virtuous their intentions, are not accountable to you, the citizens of this tribe. Nor are they accountable to tribal citizens of other 1836 treaty tribes. The chairman needs to address this publically to lend assurance and clarity for the people.

## April issue of Win Awenen Nisitotung (tribal newspaper)

A front-page article in the tribal newspaper talks about the above court case. I've heard from a number of members about the news article. I'm not sure who authored this piece or whose statement is cited. But I am concerned that language in the news article has led some readers to believe that our tribe signed on to Belfy v Creagh. That belief would be incorrect. The Sault Tribe has NOT signed on to this case.

Taking the above mentioned concerns in whole (silence from the chairman, the lawsuit and the easily misread article on the front page of the newspaper) it's hard not to conclude an element of political orchestration and manipulation going on here. Playing politics with our sovereignty is unacceptable.

**If your private information is compromised, the sooner you find out the better off you'll be. IdentityTheft.gov offers step-by-step checklists of what to do right away, and what to do next, depending on the information that's been stolen or exposed. Check out IdentityTheft.gov, as your first line of defense against identity theft.**



# Causley attends tribal self governance conference



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

I had the opportunity to attend this year's Tribal Self-Governance Consultation Conference Communication and Education Tribal Consortium with federal partners, the Department of Interior-Indian Affairs and the Department of Health and Human Services.

Throughout the conference we had the opportunity to witness presentations from Kevin Washburn, assistant secretary-Indian Affairs, Department of Interior; Lynn Malerba, the Mohegan Tribe of Connecticut, chief of her tribe and chairwoman of the IHS committee; Robert McSwain, acting director, Indian Health Services, and many others.

The theme for the conference began with updates with policies and best practices for tribes' strategic plans and priorities set forth for 2015-2017. We spoke about legislative items in the works and also the priority of contract support cost and our need to advocate for full funding with the president's 2016 budget proposal including language to make funds a mandatory appropriation. Throughout the conference we had the opportunity to attend trainings and presentations of best practices other tribes are using and strategic planning efforts. I've seen other tribes in the nation adopt comprehensive programs that target their most needy members and deliver services or programs that are of priority to the people in the community. We also had an opportunity to have a round table full discussion with Robert McSwain, acting director for Indian Health Services. Many tribes voiced their concerns with the director as I gave input and spoke about our tribal action plan.

I informed the department that we are the first in the nation to plan this program and we request that, when he sees this plan at the national level, that he really take notice of what is needed for tribes and the problems we face with limited funding. Although our problems are great here at home we are very fortunate that we have a smaller community to work with and many leaders face struggles that are inconceivable. For instance, one tribe has approximately 900 miles to travel for any kind of services and hardly any funding whatsoever. The chief of this tribe explained the drug abuse, diabetes and health concerns in his area. We are very fortunate to have the systems in place that we do and with continued focus and priority on them we can learn better ways to deliver services.

Having attended this conference and the others always inspires me to do better and gives me vision. Seeing other communities and leaders struggle with such little assistance is humbling and heartbreaking. It's really overwhelming to see the need many Indian communities face and it's just as overwhelming seeing tribal leaders planning and prioritizing for the people they represent. I'm fortunate to have attended and will use the things I learned at our own table with the discussions for our communities position here at home.

I want to give everyone an update on our casinos businesses since we filled the position of temporary CEO. This last month, we have been informed that the numbers are right on track with the budget after all the changes that have been made. I know this was a real struggle for our front line workers and customers. We had been simply giving away so many free items and money that attempting a different way was tough to say the least. It has paid off; we now are on target with the expected and can build from this point effectively and with our business in mind for better practices. We now are discussing the capitol items that our business need to upgrade and become a destination for customers that is more inviting and planned to be more profitable for us. We still meet each week with the CEO, we have opportunity to give input, become updated and ask questions. I want to assure everyone that although I felt the struggle during the change, it is well worth it and I'm confident that the end result will be what we have needed. I will continue to support the changes and direction that is needed for our northern casino properties. I'm assuring you I'm not...up in the air, on the fence post or wishy washy about the need for better direction. I'm solid on the new direction and confident that the team working toward these changes is becoming empowered and accountable. If this changes, I will recognize and address within my role. Always feel free to contact me about your input with this; speaking with you always gives me an advantage that is needed for insight to our problems or lack thereof.

The board has been discussing and requesting information and factual numbers about increasing wages for the team members (this is no promise). We have discussed the small amount of team members that had not even been making minimum wage within our casino operations. This is a very small amount and last week we made the change to increase those to the minimum wage amounts. The board now has asked that we gather all information on a fair, affordable amount that we can sustain for an increase to all team members. Everyone knows I'm frugal in our spending but with the proper planning and decrease to costs and better business practices, maybe at this time we can sustain an amount. Again, all the numbers and factual information needs to be presented and I look forward to having an outcome this year in the way of

an increase. I just want you to be aware that the request is made to have the information and the discussion, in order to support we need to have a sustainable plan and anyone that knows me, knows this is what will be expected. After seeing so many other tribes struggle, try and maintain, have no business profit or programs to speak of, it's humbling to be able to have a discussion so we can plan effectively and prioritize. That's the balance for me and sometimes it's difficult — we have so many areas that need upgrade, better policies and practices, more funding, etc. I just want the message sent that you probably already know, it's a big picture, and a balance that is not taken lightly.

Once again, I want to talk about one of my priorities. At the board level we have an item at every meeting described as "board concerns" as I've spoke about in previous reports. I brought forward a resolution to have those documented and become an official part of our minutes with each meeting (this was not supported by the majority of the board). Anyway, I use that avenue every single meeting to bring up your concerns and mine for representation. When the administration speaks, it's not always my position or its sometimes completely lacking my position stance.

The last three meeting I have brought up Graymont under my board concerns, as you all know I was opposed to the path that was taken by the state and supporting our efforts to oppose at the fullest. I was at the table when we met with the DNR and other officials and I voiced our position, since the outcome I have continually requested at every meeting that we make a factual statement from us as a tribe as to the outcome, what we did to oppose and our position now. I'm still awaiting that statement and hope that in this edition of the paper you will see comments made on our behalf as a tribe. Although I feel the outcome is unacceptable I want the facts of the decision, the facts of our position and the plans moving forward to be made

to our membership. A few of the other board concerns I've asked to be addressed the past few months are closed caption for the hearing impaired (we have no idea as to how many members have his disability but I've had the request from some), semi annual reviews from all programs and departments OPEN to membership (we had this structure in place before and it's non existent now), formal follow up procedure on board and memberships concerns (reports that it's still being worked on, that concern has been on since 2012), Health Board structure and admin assistance, Indian Energy face-to-face presentation, committees listed on website, wrap around services progress, consistent reports from programs under the chair's authority, disabilities committee, veterans programs for identifying veteran members and implementing a sustainable program, powwow grounds upgrades (all powwow grounds), sign up mailer to membership for receiving the tribal paper, educating and process for tribal legal liaisons for court-appointed assistance, and, lastly, numerous individual tribal members' concerns. Again, in the past these items had been listed in the board business meetings official minutes for accountability and progress. We do have to fill out a form for each, and, at this point I feel that I should announce the main ones each report, I will also update on the outcomes, if any.

One of the other highlights since my last report was the tribal youth council's challenge to the board of directors. We participated in a "Chopped challenge" cooking with them and being judged by staff on the outcome. I won't get into how we all placed, but, I will say that the time we spent with them in the kitchen was one of my favorites in a very long time. Our team (Director Gravelle and I) consisted of tribal youth from all units. It was nice to spend time with them and I even overheard one kid say, "Wow, look at the chicken, aren't you glad we picked her!" Cannot describe how that made me feel! For those youth to know

my name, have my number and invite to call me is exactly what we need for our ways. Director Abramson and I have long advocated for our board to interact with our tribal youth councils on at least a quarterly basis (like we use to do) and having that day them meant so much. Chi-miigwech to the YEA staff who organized it.

I had a very long couple of months and now we are gearing up for our unit's powwows in the communities. Hessel's powwow is Aug. 14-16 at the grounds next to the casino in Hessel, Newberry will host the Youth Empowerment Powwow on Aug. 1 at the Newberry Tribal Center, and the Newberry Community Powwow will be on Sept. 12. Looking forward to seeing everyone.

In closing, some true blessings have happened to me these past couple of months. (I'm going to get a little sappy here.) I have three individual elder's groups in my communities, some very close advisors, an amazing strong woman and friends that I made through my tenure as a board member. The support I get from all of you and my wonderful family members have seen me through struggles, obstacles and constant understanding with my role. I want to take a moment to express gratitude and let you know that throughout all this a balance has been my blessing in life, full circle is what we all strive for and in our teaching the support of family, elders and community is the most important . . . Steve and I finally married . . . I wanted to share this and say "miigwech" to all of you who helped me throughout my growing, constant understanding and learning in my position. We had a very special, private ceremony with just the two of us.

"Zaagiidiwin" is an Ojibwa word for love and I wanted to share that with you. Please contact me if you would like to discuss ideas, issues or meet.

Baamaapii,  
Lana Causley-Smith  
(906) 484-2954  
(906) 322-3818  
lcausley@saulttribe.net.

## Thank you Arlene King for 31 years of service to tribe



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello, I hope everyone is enjoying the spring weather. Before I go any further, I would like to congratulate Arlene King on her retirement and many years of

service to our tribe. Arlene retired from the USDA Commodity Program after almost 32 years. Thank you.

I attended the first round of the Intergovernmental Reentry Program at the Department of Justice in Columbia, S.C. We were tasked with listing issues and challenges facing tribal reentrants who will be returning to our communities after a period of secure confinement in federal, state or tribal facilities. We ended up with 29 issues/challenges but the top priorities were lack of transitional housing, no shared data between state/tribal/federal enforcement programs, buy-in to the program from tribal leaders, liaison for tribe to the Department of Corrections and Branch of Prisons, access to employment,

funding, insufficient sober/safe living and access to employment among other things.

Remember, school is out and it is time to be extra careful with children playing outside. Forty percent of all injury-related emergency room visits happen between May and August. We can prevent the majority of these mishaps by educating ourselves. The leading cause of summer accidents is drowning, fires, children being hit by cars, falls and bicycles and ATVs. With the Fourth of July coming up, please practice fireworks safety.

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

Thank You,  
Kim Gravelle



# Glyptis updates Unit V tribal membership



**RITA GLYPTIS**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Congratulations to Cimantha Veale, Sault Tribe member and graduating senior of the Munising Baptist High School. She was a four-year volleyball player and received many academic honors during her high school career. Cimantha has been accepted at Northern Michigan University and has plans to become a veterinarian. Best of luck to her!

On May 21, the Mather Elementary School held a kid's powwow in Munising for all students in grades K-5. Although a bit cold and windy, the sun was shining and it was a beautiful event. All of the kids with great enthusiasm and big smiles participated by dancing with their classmates

and the dancers to the beat of the Munising Youth Drum Group. Held annually, this powwow is structured to teach the children about Native American customs, dance and powwow etiquette. Thank you to all who volunteered and worked so hard to make this a big success. See you next year!

Welcome to Mary Jenerou, the new membership liaison for Units IV and V. Mary will split her time at her offices located at both the Munising and Manistique tribal centers. She can be reached at (906) 450-7011 or by email [mjenerou@saulttribe.net](mailto:mjenerou@saulttribe.net).

The Sault Tribe and our members continue to face many challenges in regards to sovereignty, protecting our rights, membership issues, employment, finances, diversification, cooperation and the list goes on and on. In the midst of all the chaos and struggle are many dedicated tribal members and employees who are lost in the shuffle. Those who continue to work hard and dedicate themselves to the improvement and evolution of services to our membership and to our communities. Those who in the face of negativity and adversity continue to hold us up and move our tribe forward. Those who are not recognized enough but continue to fight the good fight for our people. Those who continue each day to bring positive attitudes



**On May 21, the Mather Elementary School held a kid's powwow in Munising for all students in grades K-5. Rita Glyptis (center) enjoyed the activities with the kids.**

to the work place and give great service. Those who will not be brought down but will continue to rise above. Those who will not give up on our people, our purpose, our rights, our progress our future. The people I speak of, I honor you and I say thank you.

Each month in the tribal newspaper there are a lot of articles that talk about new programs, activities and services that are available as well as all the good things our tribe and its members are doing. If you know someone who is no longer receiving the newspaper,

please have them contact the Communications Department at (906) 632-6398 to renew their subscription. Our website [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) is another good resource for information on available services and contacts.

The Munising powwow will be held on Aug. 8 at the Bay Furnace Campground in Christmas, Mich. If you would like to help out with fundraising activities or need more information, contact powwow coordinator Katy Matson at (906) 202-0026.

A Diabetes Support Group

meeting will be held in Marquette on June 17 from 3 to 4 p.m. and in Munising on June 29, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. For more information, call Cassie or Karen at the Munising Tribal Center (906) 387-4721. This is a great opportunity as a diabetic to learn, support and share, please attend if you can.

Thank you to all who continue to support my position on the board and me as a person. You hold me up and I am grateful. As always feel free to call (906) 202-3224 or email me at [rglyptis@saulttribe.net](mailto:rglyptis@saulttribe.net). Sincerely, Rita Glyptis

# Sorenson - politics are taking a front row seat



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

As I stated in my May unit report that the St. Ignace Midjim issue was put on the May 5 agenda conveniently after I had asked my elders to support the feasibility study. During the workshop that day, I had asked who put it on the agenda and was told the chairman told budgets to place it on the agenda for a vote. The chairman claims there were not enough votes to do otherwise and staff needed to move forward since it was construction season. During the meeting the resolution to put a Band-Aid on the Midjim for \$266,522 was motioned by Director Chase (Manistique) and seconded by Director Morrow (Manistique). Normally when a resolution pertains to a particular unit the representatives from that unit move things forward. The vote ended in a tie with the chair breaking the tie to put the Band-Aid on. It is truly sad when politics take over common sense. The tanks were put in in 1991 and have a 30-year life expectancy. So, in a few years we will dig up all the concrete to replace them.

The chair decided to show up

at the Unit III elder's meeting that same week after a year-long hiatus and told our elders that he had gotten papers that morning from the general manager of the Midjim that it would take 35 years to pay off a new building. Now why would he get those numbers three days after the vote and the number we were given was 14 years. The next thing he said was that if there was going to be a Midjim built it should go to Manistique. Now people can see the true colors. I have never been opposed to a Midjim in Manistique or any other area but, like I said, when you have a business that is currently making money and needs a lot of improvements and possibly a new location, what is the priority? Politics!

During the May 5 meeting there were nine resolutions removed off the agenda. Once again politics is taking a front row seat. These items should not be placed on the agenda if there is no intent on voting on them. The membership continue to drive to these meetings and items are removed, they are limited to five minutes to address the board and board members are often told we are not going to respond during this time. If questions can be answered right then and there, they should be. Sometimes the membership issues start at 4 p.m., sometimes 5 p.m. It is no wonder the membership is frustrated.

On May 15 there was a clean-up day at the Wequayoc cemetery. There were about 15 members of Unit III who attended. The cemetery was in decent shape to begin with and just needed a little raking and cleaning up rocks. The rain began about 1.5 hours into the clean-up, but luckily we were just about done. Thank you to all those who helped! Russell Rickley has been approved as the temporary



**Director Sorenson and Unit III scholarship winner Madysin Lee**

volunteer sexton and will be seeking training in June.

The board voted to raise the minimum wage to match the state minimum wage of \$8.15 per hour effective June 19 at the May 19 meeting in Naubinway.

There was a vote for posting the CEO position at the May 5 meeting. The resolution did not pass. I do not think it is helping our business to continue to place this on the agenda. Team members wonder each time what is going on and what will happen if this passes? They continually ask if Fred Buro is being fired. This is not good for stability and morale. Changes have begun to take place mainly in our marketing areas and we will soon see how the numbers play out in the next few months. I know some people are not happy that things are not happening faster. I have some of those same thoughts, but I think that one person cannot change everything in a few months. He first needed to stop the financial bleeding, help current management with budgets, reorganize our marketing strategies and is trying to secure funding for many needed capital improvements.

I cannot believe how things have changed in the last 13 years. When I began working for the Human

Resource Department in 2002, they cared about our team members. If team members had any concerns, questions or issues, they could go to human resources and they would listen, answer questions and guide them. Thirteen years later team members have NOBODY to talk to!

Sometimes team members are having a bad day and just want to vent. Some days they are subjected to vindictive supervisors and need support or guidance. Sorry we can't help you. We can only give you the policy and you figure it out. We are not counselors. Well if this is the direction that human resources is going, then we need to hire advocates for our team members. Do people really believe managers and supervisors do not retaliate, harass or are vindictive to their subordinates? So I guess we are here to just protect certain classes of team members.

We have had team members who have dedicated their careers to the tribe to only be cut because their job was moved into a grant or because of restructuring. These same team members cannot even get a letter of recommendation even though their job was not cut for work performance reasons. We are doing absolutely nothing to train our team members to grow within the organization. We are not grooming people to take over when others retire or leave the company. We need a plan for tomorrow, for the future. Our workforce used to be happy and liked coming to work, now it is just a job and many are looking for new opportunities.

Until the board actually sits down and comes up with a strategic plan for the tribe and decides whether or not to treat our enterprises and government side differently, we will continue to spin our

wheels. I would have to believe the reason we opened up our businesses and casinos was for the intent of increased services and benefits to our membership. With that in mind, are we making decisions that allow our businesses to prosper? Are we taking every possible penny to provide current services with no room for capital improvements or expansions? Can we continue to take \$17 million from the casino side to fund the government side when the casino revenue is declining? Nobody wants to take money from services but where do we draw the line? Do we take less from the casinos now to prevent a larger decrease in service funding later? If we do not take care of our businesses how long will they be able to take care of us? We need to quit thinking about today and plan for tomorrow.

Whenever we talk about raises some think it needs to be the same across the board. All employees get an increase or no one does. It doesn't make sense to me if certain areas of the tribe can afford to give their team members raises then they should be able to. Many grants can absorb these costs. If the casinos start increasing their revenues, as well as our other businesses, then they should be able to provide raises. We have different benefit packages for government, casino and enterprise, so why not wage increases too?

I would like to congratulate Madysin Lee on receiving my Unit III Scholarship this year. Madysin has a 3.661 GPA and is attending Aquinas College in August to pursue a bachelor's degree in nursing through Detroit Mercy. Madysin has worked for the past few years as a student worker through the WIA program at the St. Ignace Health Center. Good Luck, Mady!



# Manistique's annual events, board business



**DENISE CHASE,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

On behalf of the powwow committee, I would like to invite you to our ninth annual "Gathering of the Clans"

powwow on Saturday and Sunday, June 13-14, behind the Manistique Tribal Community Center, 5698W highway U.S. 2, in Manistique.

Host drum: Bahweting Singers  
Co-host drum: Four Thunder  
Invited drum: Mukkwa Giizhik  
Head veteran: Tracy Heath  
Head male dancer: Donald Shelifoe Jr.

Head female dancer: Rita Bouley  
Master of ceremonies: Timothy Derwin Sr.

Arena director: Timothy (T.J.) Derwin

Fire keeper: Joe Wallace  
Grand entries: Saturday 1 and 7 p.m. and Sunday at noon.

Feast meal: Saturday at 5 p.m. (please bring a dish to pass).

Crazy auction: Saturday. Free admission. Rough camping is available. Vendors, traders or the public can call for information at Viola Neadow, 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137. Hope to see you there!

The Escanaba Unit IV Elders Committee organized their annual spring clean up of the Indian Pointe Cemetery in Nahma Township on May 9 (see photos on next page).

I would like to recognize and say miigwech to the following individuals who organized and those who volunteered for the cleanup and to Manistique Kewadin Casino for donating food, pop and water for the volunteers and also sending two maintenance workers to assist

with the clean up. Thanks to Mike Schuetter for cooking.

Volunteers: Larry Godfrey, Ron Nelson, Annette Powers, Nancy Flynn, Mike LaJoice, Betty Majestic, Ernie and Pam Demmon, Bill Hardwick, Connie Hardwick, Barry Hardwick, John Perkins, Ed Goudeau, Mike Schuetter, Levi Morrow and Darcy Marrow. A big thank you to Ron and Brenda Nelson for bringing their huge mulching tractor again this year.

Midjim St. Ignace: After much discussion at board workshops and a written opinion by the manager of Midjims stores that it would be better to maintain what we have rather than proceed with building a new facility in St. Ignace, the board of directors

approved a total of \$266,522 as the Midjim St. Ignace FY 2015 capital purchase budget. The resolution and budgeted amount will allow the manager of the Midjims to move forward with purchasing a new computer, replacing lines, dispenser sumps, tank sumps, concrete under the canopy, the parking lot and new wiring to the sign. This was a much easier and cost effective fix for the needed repairs. It made much more sense to repair and maintain the current Midjim that we owe nothing on than have to get a loan for \$1.2 million to build a new Midjim 500 feet away from the current one.

The Midjims have been supplemented in revenue by the  
*See "Chase report," pg. 27*

## Protecting the future for the seventh generation



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin Anishnaabek, last month I spoke to you about the need to focus on the future of our tribe. This month, I am reporting to you that the need to do this is greater than ever. There are three serious issues that pose potential threat to our safety in our homeland, the protection of our treaty rights and potentially even our existence as a tribe. These are 1) Enbridge oil pipeline, 2) State of Michigan surplus land sales (i.e. Graymont) and 3) congressional testimony regarding tribal recognition process.

The first is the Enbridge oil pipeline. Known as Line 5, this pipeline carries nearly 23 million gallons of crude oil and natural gas liquids through it every day. It is 62 years old. It is owned by the Canadian company Enbridge – the same company that had a NEWER pipeline rupture in 2010 spilling 1 million gallons of crude oil into the Kalamazoo River. It was the largest and most expensive onshore oil leak in U.S. history. Five years later, the clean-up continues. Our tribal board chairperson, Aaron Payment, was a speaker for the "Oil and Water Don't Mix" coalition. He stated that water is the lifeblood of our Mother Earth [and it] is our duty and responsibility as American Indians to protect the environment, so we take this threat that the Enbridge pipeline represents personally, ([huffingtonpost.com/2015/05/22/michigan-enbridge-pipeline\\_n\\_7308734.html](http://huffingtonpost.com/2015/05/22/michigan-enbridge-pipeline_n_7308734.html)). I couldn't agree with him more!

This pipeline runs underwater, parallel to the Mackinac Bridge. It is old. In 2013, Enbridge upgraded Line 5's

pumps, and increased oil flow by 10 percent, an additional 2.1 MILLION GALLONS per day! That amounts to nearly a million gallons per hour. What would a one hour leak look like? This aging pipeline is a potential threat to ALL life that depends on the Great Lakes. As protectors of the earth, we have a sacred responsibility to do all that we can to prevent a disaster.

The next serious issue is (simply put), the State of Michigan. We have a long-standing history of struggles with this government. While there have been some successes, in my opinion dealing with this state continues to be difficult at best. The continued attempts of actions that would diminish our rights as a sovereign nation, runs the gamut from casino gaming operations to tribal fishing operations. Consultations between the federal government and Indian tribes run fairly well, however it is a problematic issue in our relationship with the State of Michigan. What is so difficult about a government-to-government consultation? I do not consider inviting our tribe LAST MINUTE to a public hearing on the wolf hunt as a "consultation" with our tribe. True consultation between our tribe and the state would occur PRIOR to any decisions being made and would be conducted in a respectful manner that gives proper consideration of tribal input, opinion and acknowledgement of our governmental responsibility to our people. I have attended federal consultations, and the State of Michigan has a very long way to go to replicate such an effective model for consultations with sovereign Indian tribes. Currently, we have the State of Michigan selling thousands of acres of "surplus" land to private companies for their private exploitation of the natural resources, with negligible involvement/consultation with the tribes. In the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, the state has sold THOUSANDS of acres of land to the Graymont company so that it can conduct mining operations. It will become private land. Even if the Graymont company in its benevolence, allows tribal people on its newly acquired land, the mining operation will result in this land no longer being suitable for the exercise of tribal treaty rights (hunting, gathering etc).

Short story: State wins, Graymont wins, Indians lose.

The third issue is perhaps the worst. On April 22, 2015, at a federal oversight hearing on "the Obama administration's Part 83 revisions and how they may allow the Interior Department to create tribes, not recognize them," disturbing testimony was given by attorney Don Mitchell. In it, he mischaracterized the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) process of recognizing tribes as one designed to "CREATE" tribes where none have previously existed. This testimony has shocked Indian Country and could possibly affect many Indian tribes. Tribes are not "created" by the BIA, they are recognized by the Secretary through an arduous recognition process. However, when the nation's congressional decision makers do not understand that tribal sovereignty existed prior to the "creation of the United States," that the U.S. government does not GIVE tribes their sovereignty, but merely RECOGNIZES its existence, this lack of understanding could

bring in an era of great difficulty for many tribes. According to Chairman Payment, "if Mr. Mitchell has his way, we will have to face that battle [federal recognition as a tribe] all over again." Once more, I agree with Chairman Payment.

These three issues may have serious consequences to our tribe and I want you all to know that we are addressing them. Potential oil spills, land destruction and the worry over a possible new Indian termination era threaten us all. How can you help? Call, write or visit your state and federal representatives. Tell them this is not acceptable! I was told once, that in a congressional office, one or two phone calls or letters on an issue receives very little notice. HOWEVER, more than four really gets their attention! Your voice matters!

Help protect our water. Tell them "oil and water don't mix." Help protect the earth and the ability for your grandchildren and their grandchildren to go into the woods to hunt, fish or gather as our ancestors did. Tell your

state and federal representatives to STOP selling public lands for private profits. Help protect all tribes, and tell your federal representatives that the United States does not GIVE tribes their sovereignty, the United States merely RECOGNIZES it. Tell them that tribes are ancient people and new tribes cannot be CREATED by an act of government.

All of us working together can make a difference. We all have to stand up and SPEAK OUT so that they will hear, so that they will listen and so that they will understand. If I can be of any help to you in your efforts, please let me know. We must not forget that what we do now, or fail to do, will affect the next seven generations. Let our actions today be such that those future generations will look back upon us with honor.

Miigwetch to all of you!  
Anishnaabe gagige (Anishnaabe for always),  
Jen  
JMcleod1@saulttribe.net Or  
jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com  
(906) 440-9151

## Budgets: do more with less



**KEITH MASSAWAY,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

It is time again for the tribal administration to hand in the 2016 tribal budgets. Work on budgets starts now so we can work through the difficulties and challenges we know are coming. Even though our tribal casinos are very profitable, we have been seeing less and less revenue coming over to the governments side because business is down. It is not only our tribal casinos but all casinos everywhere are doing

less. I believe we have started to slow the bleeding and will turn the corner soon with hard work and a good looking future projection.

With the budgets now in front of us, we will have to do more with less. Priorities need to be set and taken care of. This is the board's biggest challenge. It seems each board member has a different list of priorities. If we are to move forward, some concessions and some compromises need to happen or stalemate will encompass the process. We do not need to follow the United States federal government way of budgeting and make it a political mad house. We need to work together and come to a compromise that will benefit all of our people.

The spring 2 percent cycle is now complete. This is one of my favorite parts of this job. We get to greatly impact our local units of government and help with projects that sometimes they find it impossible to be funded any other way. Helping schools with education and sports, gov-

ernmental units with roads and equipment, fire departments with training and life saving tools and many other items, this is how this money gets spent. The only sad part of this is that we usually get many more requests than we can possibly fulfill but we try our hardest.

The board has been working through many of the policies of our Human Resource Department. Right now, we have scheduled 15 policies to be reviewed and possibly amended. This can be a long and tedious business since every word is scrutinized and looked at from every angle to make sure what we are trying to say is clear and concise. We must also work hard to balance the business management side with the team members' rights and protections.

The powwow season is upon us. Check out the tribes website to find out when and where the powwows will be.

Thank you for all the e-mails and calls. Keith Massaway, 702 Hazelton St., St. Ignace MI 49781, [kmassaway@msn.com](mailto:kmassaway@msn.com), (906) 643-6981.



# Annual cemetery clean up draws volunteers



Photos submitted by Ernest Demmon

The Escanaba Unit IV Elders Committee organized the annual spring clean up of the Indian Pointe Cemetery in Nahma Township May 9. From left, Nancy Flynn, Ed Goudreau, Pam Demmon, Denise Chase, Larry Godfrey, Mike Schuetter, Annette Powers, Mike LaJoice, Betty Majestic, Darcy Morrow and Ron Nelson. Not pictured, John Perkins, Brenda Nelson, Ernest Demmon, Barry Hardwick and Bill and Connie Hardwick. Mike LaJoice donated a new tribal flag for the cemetery.

From "Chase Report," pg. 26  
casino comps since opening. Now with new casino management, the casino is changing the way comps are issued to customers and this will definitely impact the Midjims profits going forward. Once we hire an EDC director, I would definitely be supportive of traffic and feasibility studies to be done on any proposed future expansion of Midjim store sites in high traffic areas on current land the tribe owns or future parcels the tribe might acquire for business purposes.

Interviews were held with candidates applying for the Elder Division director. A recommendation to hire Sheryl Hammock was made and she is now working in that position, the interview panel consisted of assistant executive director, two representatives from the Elder Advisory Committee, one board member and one division director. Sheryl will be attending all the Elders Committee monthly meetings.

The board approved a resolution that will authorize the Sault Tribe Law Enforcement to apply for \$100,000 grant funding under the 2015 Rural Opioid Overdose Reversal Grant Program, through the Department of Health and Human Services. This grant will provide opioid overdose reversal kits and medications throughout the Sault Tribe seven-county service area and training to administer this medication. STLE will be the lead on this grant application, but is working with several community partners, which is encouraged in the grant solicitation. Partners include Sault Tribe Health Center and other law enforcement agencies that STLE has cross-deputized agreements within the seven county service area.

The current casino external debt as of the end of April 2015 was \$16,291,666.61 and the monthly payment to principal is \$541,666.67. The casino debt will be paid off in 2.5 years.

I would like to say congratulations to all of the high school and college graduates.

Thank you for all of your calls and emails, you can reach me at (906) 203-2471 or dchase@saulttribe.net.

Denise Chase, vice-chair

On May 9th Unit IV Escanaba Elders with help from Manistique and our Board members held our annual Indian Point Cemetery Clean up. The day turned into a beautiful sunny day and was enjoyed by all those involved with raking. We would like to thank all those whose help we so need each year, miigwech to Denise Chase and Darcy Morrow for seeing that we have something to eat and drink each year, to Ed Goudreau and Mike Schuetter for their help with the grill and raking, Ron and Brenda Nelson for the use of their yard Vac which saves us many hours of moving leaves. Mike LaJoice donated a new tribal flag for the cemetery. Chi-Miigwech.

— Unit IV Escanaba Elders



John Perkins wields the leaf blower.



The Nelson's mulching tractor came in handy.



Front, Levi Morrow on the rake detail. John Perkins



Taking a break.



# ENTERTAINMENT



**LOTUS LAND** **RUSH**  
TRIBUTE

Sunday, June 21

Doors Open at 6:00 p.m. Show Starts at 7:00 p.m. Ticket Price \$12.50

Kewadin St. Ignace  
Saturday, June 27  
7:00 pm



**MONSTER TRUCK THROWDOWN**

Adults \$20 / Children 5-12 \$5 / 5 & under FREE  
(Children must be accompanied by an adult)

Gates Open at 4:00 pm  
Pre-Race Pit Party  
5:30 pm-6:30 pm



**SUPERSTAR VOICES** Show starts at 4:00 p.m.

Tickets \$12.50 Sunday, June 28



1-800-KEWADIN | kewadin.com



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