

Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

Mskominike Giizis
Raspberry-Picking Moon

August 7, 2015 • Vol. 36, No. 8



Photo by Josh Homminga

INVASION — Josh Homminga and Sara Bedell were fishing on the Waishkey River on the evening of July 16 when they caught a strange looking fish, pictured above, about four inches long. It proved to be a Eurasian ruffe, as confirmed by ITFAP Director Tom Gorenflo. To identify a ruffe, see the photo with distinguishing characteristics below.

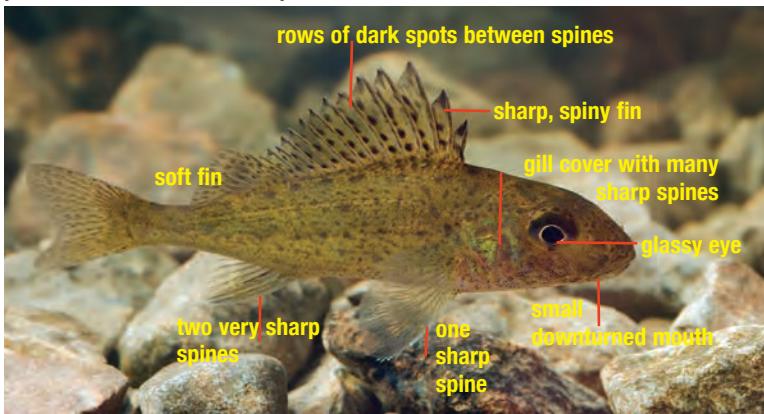
Ruffe caught in Back Bay

The Eurasian ruffe is an alien invader that came to Lake Superior's Duluth area in the early 1980s, most likely via a ship's ballast water from southern Europe. The ruffe quickly became established and are now the dominant species in the Duluth Harbor and St. Louis River estuary.

Researchers have been following the ruffe expansion eastward. A 2006 survey of the St. Mary's River system yielded no ruffe. But last year,

a ruffe was collected just west of Brimley's Back Bay on Lake Superior, according to InterTribal Fishery and Assessment Director Tom Gorenflo. July 16, Josh Homminga and Sarah Bedell pulled a ruffe out of the Waishkey River on Waishkey Bay, Lake Superior.

Ruffe are very aggressive fish that out-compete native fish for food. Anyone who finds a ruffe is asked to kill it, freeze it, and call their nearest conservation office.



Ruffe image From Wikimedia Commons, by Tiit Hunt

National Wildlife Federation to sue Dept. of Transportation over oil pipeline oversight failures

FROM THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION

The National Wildlife Federation on July 28 filed a notice of intent to sue the U.S. Department of Transportation for the agency's failure for more than 20 years to protect people, fish, wildlife and communities from oil pipelines in the nation's inland waters, from the Great Lakes to the Yellowstone River. The legal action carries nationwide implications: Due to the agency's decades-long oversight failures, every U.S. oil pipeline that intersects a navigable water is operating illegally. The National Wildlife Federation is asking the U.S. Department of Transportation to abide by the law, issue regulations for oil pipelines in water, and require every owner and operator of an oil pipeline in a navigable water to submit a safety response plan that

needs to be approved.

"We hope today's action will be a catalyst for long-overdue protections that benefit people, communities, and wildlife," said Mike Shriberg, regional executive director of the National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes Regional Center. "The federal government needs to enforce the law to prevent oil pipeline disasters from fouling our water and threatening our communities and iconic places."

The notice of intent to sue is the first legal action in the effort to protect the Great Lakes from two pipelines under the Straits of Mackinac where Lakes Michigan and Huron meet—and sheds light on the oversight failures by the Department of Transportation across the United States. The National Wildlife Federation has led the effort to highlight the risk posed by pipelines under the

Great Lakes, including filming underwater footage of the pipelines in 2013 that showed them suspended over the lakebed, some original supports broken away (indicating the presence of corrosion), and some sections of the suspended pipelines covered in large piles of unknown debris—a wakeup call illustrating the urgent threat such oil pipelines pose in waters across the country.

Oil Pipeline Safety Law Ignored

The National Wildlife Federation is filing the intent to sue notice against the Department of Transportation for failing to meet its obligations under the Oil Pollution Act. Enacted in 1990 following the Exxon Valdez oil spill disaster, the act prohibits the transportation of oil through pipelines on land or in the water, unless oil pipeline owners or opera

See "NWF Lawsuit," page 2



Submitted by Jenny Sebastian

BELOVED WIDOW OF LEO MENDOSKIN AND NOKOMIS TO MANY TRIBAL MEMBERS, Dorothy Mendoskin turned 90 on July 25. She was born in Sault Ste. Marie in 1925 and lived in the area all her life. Family and friends celebrated at the Sugar Island Community Center on July 9, including (back, from left) Rashard Minnis, MaKenzie Sebastian, Dorothy (Sebastian) Mendoskin, Johnny Sebastian, Cheryl Adkins, Madison Sebastian, MaryEllen (Sebastian) Dillon, Troy Sebastian, Jenny Sebastian, (front, from left) Haley Sebastian holding Malakai Minnis, Emerald, Tiffany Sebastian is holding Izeyah Medrano, Cheyenne Sebastian, Nanhi Medrano and Jahnessa Soring. (See story and pictures on page 10; see Nanhi and Haley on Page 12.)

Congressional bills would exempt Indian funding from sequestration

BY RICK SMITH

Bills introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives on July 14 and the U.S. Senate on June 3 would protect federal programs for American Indians from sequestration.

According to a Senate definition, sequestration is a process of automatic, usually across-the-board spending reductions under which budgetary resources are permanently cancelled to enforce

specific budget policy goals.

House representatives Don Young of Alaska and Raul Ruiz of California sponsored the House bill, H.R. 3063. Young is chairman of the Subcommittee on Indian, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs; Ruiz is a member of that panel. The subcommittee is part of the Committee on Natural Resources and oversees all matters regarding American Indians.

Senator Jon Tester of Montana

sponsored the Senate legislation, S.1497. Tester is vice chair on the Senate Indian Affairs Committee.

The House bill, H.R. 3063, bearing the short title Honoring Our Trust Responsibilities Act of 2015 (HOT-R Act), and officially titled To amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to exempt Alaska Native and American Indian programs from sequestra

See "Exemption," page 14

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

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

www.saulttribe.com

Find us on
Facebook

23RD GATHERING OF THE EAGLES HESSEL POW WOW

Friday, Saturday & Sunday Aug. 14-16

HELD AT THE HESSEL POW WOW GROUNDS
NEXT TO KEWADIN HESSEL CASINO



SPIRITUAL GATHERING & POTLUCK

Friday Evening

GRAND ENTRY:

Saturday 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Sunday 1 p.m.

FEAST MEAL:

Saturday 5 p.m.

Bring a dish to pass

HEAD VETERAN: Tracy Heath

SPIRITUAL HELPER: John Causley

ARENA DIRECTOR: Butch Van Ellen

EMCEE: Calvin Burnside

HEAD DANCERS: TBA

HOST DRUM: Mukkwa Giizhik

ALL DRUMS & DANCERS WELCOME!

VENDORS WELCOME!

VENDORS MUST BE A MEMBER OF A FEDERALLY RECOGNIZED TRIBE.

VENDING SPACES FREE TO SAULT TRIBE ELDERS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Lisa Burnside at lburnside@saulttribe.net

906-484-2298 or 906-440-7666

Lana Causley at lcausley@saulttribe.net

906-322-3818



From "NFW Lawsuit," page 1

-tors receive government approval that they have safety plans that are adequate to respond to a worst-case oil spill.

But the U.S. Department of Transportation has never established requirements for—and has never given approval of—spill response plans for pipelines that that travel in, on, or under rivers, lakes, and other inland navigable waters, allowing oil pipeline owners and operators to operate without approved safety plans. The Department of Transportation's failure to issue regulations implementing the oil spill response requirement has led to a state of affairs nationwide in which:

- oil pipeline owners and operators are not required to prepare or submit for approval oil spill response plans for pipelines in, on, or under rivers, lakes, or other inland navigable waters;

- even if an oil spill response plan is voluntarily prepared and submitted, the Department of Transportation has no regulations in effect for reviewing or approving the plan, and the owner or operator therefore has no obligation to comply with it; and,

- oil pipeline owners and operators are allowed to transport oil without a plan or, if a voluntary plan exists, without following it.

"The law does not allow oil to flow through a pipeline running through an inland navigable waterway unless the U.S. Department of Transportation first approves an oil spill response plan. The Department of Transportation's failure to even require such plans therefore is a huge oversight," said Neil Kagan, senior counsel for the National Wildlife Federation. "The U.S. Department of Transportation needs to act with urgency and purpose to provide the long-overdue protection of our country's rivers and lakes mandated by the Oil Pollution Act."

Pipeline disasters devastate our wildlife and communities

Pipeline spills, leaks, and ruptures are a serious concern across the nation. Between 1995 and 2014 there have been 10,844 pipeline incidents causing 371 fatalities and 1,395 injuries and more than \$6.3 billion in property damage, according to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. Accident statistics include pipelines transporting oil, gas, natural gas, liquid natural gas and other hazardous materials. Just one company, Enbridge Energy, has been responsible for 1,100 pipeline spills between 1999 and 2013, according to the company's own records.

Pipelines through waterways present their own set of challenges. Rivers especially have a penchant for scouring, which can uncover pipelines buried beneath the riverbed and expose them to forces that cause spills and leaks. Oil pipeline spills in waterways can be hard to clean up due to water currents, ice cover and debris. Oil spills are also devastating to fish and wildlife and their habitat. Oil can contaminate the food chain from top to bottom—harming and even killing organisms from algae and plankton to fish, birds and reptiles. Oil contamination can also damage fish and wildlife habitat for decades following a spill.

Oil pipeline spills national problem

The vast network of domestic oil pipelines cross inland bodies of water with a width of at least 100 feet (and thus likely navigable) at 5,110 locations in the United States, according to the Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. The pipeline safety administration has identified 20 accidents occurring at inland water crossings between 1991 and October 2012, not including the rupture of an oil pipeline under the Yellowstone River in 2015. That 2015 incident, together with a 2011 spill elsewhere in the Yellowstone River, spilled more than 100,000 gallons of oil into a river that supports endangered and threatened species, as well as fishing and rafting.

Significant spills occurred in rivers and waters across the country, according to the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, including:

- California: Fresno County, Calif.

- Iowa: Big Sioux River and Missouri River

- Kansas: Hafner Run Creek, Kan.

- Kentucky: Kentucky River

- Louisiana: Atchafalya

- Louisiana: Levee and Red River

- Montana: Yellowstone

- Montana: Yellowstone River

- Nebraska: Missouri River

- Oklahoma: Cotton Creek,

- Oklahoma: Pawnee Creek and Pole Cat

- Oklahoma: Pole Cat Creek

- South Dakota: Big Sioux

- South Dakota: Big Sioux River

- Texas: Red River and San

- Texas: Red River and San

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

- Texas: San Jacinto River

BUY HERE

PAY HERE

Bad Credit, Bankruptcies, Repos Okay.
Bank financing available as low as 2.5%!

Easy Terms — Low Downpayments.
Most monthly payments under \$200.

24-Month Warranties Available on All Vehicles!
100s of Vehicles and 1000s of Happy Customers!

FREE GAS!

Call Rich Foley, 989-306-3656

Informative notices and community events

Notice of public comment

Exercise your voice — the 2015-16 Anishinaabek Community and Family Services Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program is available for review.

This program is designed to offset heating costs for tribal households in the tribe's service area. How we administer this program is partly determined by your input.

If you have questions, please contact the Direct Service case manager in your area or call (800) 726-0093.

The plan is available Aug. 10-14 for comment in Sault Ste. Marie at 2218 Shunk Road; St. Ignace at 1140 North State Street; Manistique at 5698 West U.S. Highway 2; and Munising at 622 West Superior.

Old medications drop spot

The Michigan State Police Post in the Sault Ste. Marie now has a medication drop off and collection bin in the front lobby. It is open to the public during normal business hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., excluding state holidays. Patches, liquids, syringes or needles not accepted.

Committee Vacancies

The following committees have vacant seats. Sault Tribe members interested in filling these vacancies should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other members to Joanne Carr, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie. Email jcarr@saulttribe.net or call 635-6050 for any ques-

tions.

- Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - Two vacancies (men, four-year term)
- Health Board - One vacancy (four-year term)
- Inland Conservation Committee - One vacancy (four-year term)
- Election Committee - Three vacancies (four-year term)
- Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - Six vacancies (two-year term)
- Wequayoc Cemetery Committee - Five vacancies (two and 4-year terms – varied, must have family member interred at Wequayoc Cemetery)
- Unit I Sault Ste. Marie Elder Subcommittee - One regular seat vacancy (four-year term)
- Unit II Newberry Elders Subcommittee - Two regular seat vacancies (four-year term)
- Unit III Hessel Elders Subcommittee - Two alternate

- seat vacancies (four-year term)
- Unit IV Escanaba Elders Subcommittee - One regular seat vacancy and two alternate seat vacancies (four-year term)
- Unit V Munising Elders Subcommittee - One regular seat vacancy (four-year term) and alternate seat vacancies (four-year term)
- Unit 5 Marquette Elders Subcommittee - One alternate seat vacancy (four-year term)

Traditional healer hours

Keith Smith in Sault Ste. Marie Aug. 3,4,5,6 and 13, 632-5210 or (877) 256-0009. Schedule for Munising on Aug. 10, 387-4721 or (866) 401-0043; Escanaba on Aug. 11, 786-2636; and Hessel on Aug. 12, 484-2727. For more information, call Peggy Holappa, Anthony Abramson Jr. or Kim Vallier at

632-5268.

Harlan Downwind, traditional medicine practitioner has office hours in Sault Ste. Marie on Aug. 24-26. Call Kim Vallier at 632-5268 or Peggy Holappa at 632-0220 for appointment.

Liaisons for members' concerns

Membership liaisons respond to membership issues to ensure they are resolved. Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact them when they need help with tribal issues by email to membersconcerns@saulttribe.net or individually: For units II and III, Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net or for units IV and V, Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, 341-8469 or Munising, 450-7011 or email to mjenerou@saulttribe.net.

Hogs for Hope and support groups

Families Against Narcotics (FAN) sponsors the third annual fundraising pig roast on Saturday, Sept. 19, from 1-7 p.m. at the Sault Armory in Sault Ste. Marie.

Tickets are \$8 in advance (from any FAN member) until Aug. 31 or \$10 at the door. Featuring pulled pork dinner with side dishes, live bands, silent auction, bake sale, pie contest and a 50/50 draw.

Kids 6 and under eat free. All proceeds go to FAN of Chippewa County.

For more information, email chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org or visit www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org or www.facebook.com/fanchipp.

FAN meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 5:30 p.m., at the Huntington Bank meeting room in Sault Ste. Marie.

The Prescription Drug Abuse Support Group helps those who have experienced loss, heart-break or diminished relationships due to someone else's use of prescription drugs. The group meets on the first and third Mondays of each month, 6 p.m., at the Huntington Bank in Sault Ste. Marie. Coming meetings take place on Aug. 3, Aug. 17, Sept. 8 (Tuesday due to Labor Day) and Sept. 21.

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

Newberry: Learn how to make pasties

The Newberry area cooking class scheduled for July 24 was canceled, but the August and September classes are still on for Aug. 28 and Sept. 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Newberry.

The class will be making pasties Aug. 28!

Call 293-8181 today to reserve your spot, only 10 slots available.

Bring an apron and a take-

home carrier — everything else is provided.

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

Classes are courtesy of Sault Tribe Nutrition and Diabetes along with Sault Tribe USDA Food Distribution Program.

For more information, call Gail at 341-9525.

Recycle mercury - free shipping!

US Ecology, Inc. has partnered with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Mercury Collection Program for a third year to collect and properly recycle mercury. The program is free to anyone located in Michigan.

The program is easy. Upon request, US Ecology will send a free collection bucket with a shipping box to your door via common carrier. Each bucket will contain easy-to-follow return instructions. Once the bucket is filled with the mercury containing device(s), just apply the

return label (provided with your bucket), securely tape the box, and place it where the designated shipper normally picks up your packages. US Ecology will facilitate the recycling of the mercury containing device(s).

Most mercury items can be returned through this mail-back program. Some examples of eligible mercury containing devices include: thermometers, thermostats, gauges with silver colored liquid inside, dental amalgam, hydrometers, etc. The program does NOT include fluorescent bulbs.

US Ecology will ensure proper

recycling methods, which will reduce the amount of mercury from entering the earth's environment. What a way to celebrate the Great Lakes! The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative was launched in 2010 to accelerate efforts to protect and restore the largest system of fresh surface water in the world — the Great Lakes.

To place an order contact us at (877) 960-2025 or by e-mail at mercurybucket@usecology.com.

More information on the Mercury Collection Program can be found: <http://greatlakesrestoration.us>.

Feedback wanted on transportation needs

The Tribal Transportation Program and Opus International Consultants Inc. are still working together to develop our Tribal Transportation Safety Plan. We are reaching out again to ensure your concerns are included and addressed in the plan. Recently, we had several meetings across the service area for members, staff and public to share thoughts and insights with us.

We've also developed an online survey to build on this information. Now, we would like to encourage everyone to please take a few moments to complete the online survey at www.surveymonkey.com/s/zhv7gj2. We encourage everyone to take this opportunity to complete the survey and anticipate the information gathered will provide us with the knowledge we need to strategically

plan our safety funding and address safety issues for the near future and for future generations.

We encourage everyone to work collaboratively with us as we strive to protect our most vulnerable members and encourage safe available transportation networks for everyone.

This project is funded through a grant received from the Federal Highways Administration Safety Program. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Wendy Hoffman, transportation planner, at (906) 635-6050 or by email at whoffman@saulttribe.net.

Sault Tribe job postings...

Sault Ste. Marie and Kincheloe: Diabetes program manager – full time; Staff pharmacist – full time; Project coordinator – full time; Cook (Elder Services) – part time; Event coordinator – part time; Data analyst – full time; Economic Development director – full time; Inland Fish & Wildlife assessment biologist – full time; Assistant Membership and Internal Services executive director.

Hessel, St. Ignace, Escanaba, Manistique, Munising and Newberry: Community Health nurse (St. Ignace) part time; Staff dentist (St. Ignace) – full time; Dietician (St. Ignace) – full time.

Sault Kewadin Casino openings: Marketing director – full time; Website administrator – full time.

Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

August 7, 2015
Mskominike Giizis
Raspberry-Picking Moon
Vol. 36, No. 8

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"For All Your Tire Needs"



U.P. TIRE

Complete Tire Sales & Service

BRIDGESTONE Firestone

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

1129 E. Easterday Ave., Sault, MI 49783

Tribe lauds state Pipeline Task Force Report

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians expressed its appreciation July 15 for the hard work accomplished by the Michigan Petroleum Pipelines Task Force, but is discouraged that it did not recommend the immediate decommissioning of Line 5.

“We believe a catastrophic spill is imminent as long as that line is pumping a million gallons a day under the Mighty Mac,” said Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment. “As stewards of our natural resources, Sault Tribe stood on the front lines with various friends to call for Line 5 to be shut down, due to the disaster

looming over what are not only the tribe’s homelands, but also the largest freshwater system in the world.

Payment said he is encouraged that the report recommends some strong measures, including an independent review of the risks and costs that would be incurred in the event of a spill, and measures to force Enbridge to carry sufficient liability insurance or other fund guarantees to cover likely cleanup costs.

“This is perhaps the strongest recommendation, and the most likely to lead to decommissioning Line 5,” Payment added. “Decommissioning pipelines under the Great Lakes Basin is

most important to protect the tribes’ right to fish and to keep Pure Michigan pure for tribal members and others living and visiting the Great Lakes.”

The tribe supports the task force’s recommendations and urges Governor Snyder to implement the recommendations without delay, specifically:

- Prevent any future shipment of heavy crude oil through the Line 5 pipelines underwater in the Straits of Mackinac. This recommendation begs the question, however, if a leak is feared, why didn’t the task force recommend Line 5 closure?

- Disclose Line 5 pipelines safety inspection information.

Sault Tribe supports this recommendation, having made a similar one. Without full disclosure, no one can have confidence in any safety claims made by Enbridge.

- Order an independent analysis of the worst case spill risks, costs to clean up, and adequacy of response planning and resources available at the Straits of Mackinac. The tribe supports this recommendation as one of its own, and is confident once this analysis is complete, it will lead to the decommissioning of Line 5.

- Order an independent analysis of alternatives to transporting oil through the Line 5

pipeline. The tribe supports this recommendation. There should be no petroleum product pipeline under the Great Lakes Basin, now or in the future. But this recommendation must go further to take climate change into account.

One of the major weaknesses of the Task Force report is that it considers it as a given that petroleum transportation will continue to increase. This is the past, not the future, and is shortsighted and not sustainable.

In order to keep “Pure Michigan Pure,” Chairperson Payment urges Michigan citizens to demand that the State, “Decommission that pipeline, before it is too late!”

SURVIVE Act would help Indian Country crime victims

BY RICK SMITH

Members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs recently introduced S. 1704, the Securing Urgent Resources Vital to Indian Victim Empowerment (SURVIVE) Act, which would improve access to Indian Country services for American Indian crime victims. The bill was introduced on the Senate floor on July 7.

The bill notes the SURVIVE Act would amend the Indian Tribal Justice Act “to secure urgent resources vital to Indian victims of crime and for other purposes.”

According to the committee, the SURVIVE Act requires the U.S. Department of the Interior

to finance and administer a competitive tribal grant program for crime victim services and assistance. Funding for the program would come from an established source, the Crime Victims Fund, which was established in 1984 by the Victims of Crime Act to support services for victims of crime. American Indian tribes have only received about seven tenths of a percent of the total amount available through the Crime Victims Fund even though federal statistics reveal some Indian communities have higher needs.

One of the two sponsors of the bill, committee Chairman John Barrasso (R-Wyo.), indicated the measure would ensure tribes have

the flexibility to develop programs to meet the needs of their communities.

“I am pleased that this bill is cosponsored by so many members of the committee and look forward to advancing it as soon as possible,” he said. Seven other senators on the committee cosponsor the bill.

“It is critical that folks in Indian Country have the tools they need to keep their communities and families safe,” said Vice-Chairman Jon Tester (D-Mont.) the other sponsor of the bill.

“The SURVIVE Act will improve public safety in Native American communities by increasing resources for local law enforce-

ment and expanding services for crime victims. I will continue to seek input directly from tribes to ensure this bill addresses the public safety concerns facing Indian Country.”

Along with allowing tribes to have competitive access to the Crime Victims Fund grants, the SURVIVE Act benefits tribes and Indian victims by helping tribes to develop programs for specific types of crimes, build capacity and increase funding without increasing spending.

Tribal members can contact their senator to support these bills. You can find your senator at: www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm.

Violence destroys.



Keep our families sacred.



It takes teamwork to quit smoking.

It's hard to quit smoking all by yourself. You need the support of friends and family. And we give you the added support of a professional Quit Coach for free. We'll customize a quitting strategy around you. To get your own FREE Quit Coach, call **1-800-QUIT-NOW** (1-800-784-8669).

Church calls for NFL team name change, boycott

CLEVELAND, Ohio – The United Church of Christ recently passed a resolution calling for the National Football League and the Washington Redskins franchise to change the team name and refrain from the use of any images or mascots that could be harmful or demeaning to the American Indian community. The resolution also calls on the denomination's nearly 1 million members to boycott all team games and merchandise until the name changes. The decision was made on Monday, June 29, during the denomination's biennial General Synod gathering June 26-30 at the Cleveland Convention Center.

"I am not a Redskin, I am not a mascot, that is not an honor," said Toni Buffalo, chairperson of the UCC Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM), whose Native American name is Brave

Flying Women. "I am a survivor of the genocide that has been committed against my people in the United States of America for the last 500 years. Do not tell me you're honoring me when you're cheering for that team."

"Today, the United Church of Christ General Synod passed a resolution calling upon the National Football League's Washington franchise to change its team name and to refrain from the use of any images, mascots or behaviors that are harmful or demeaning to American Indian cultures or peoples," said the Rev. Linda Jaramillo, a national officer of the UCC. "The use of the term 'Redskins' for the team mascot and nickname of the Washington football team is offensive and causes direct harmful effects to the public health and well-being of the American

Indian population."

The resolution was supported by the Oneida Indian Nation, the federally-recognized tribe of the Oneida people headquartered in central New York, and the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), the oldest and largest organization representing more than 80 Native American tribes throughout the United States.

In a joint statement about the resolution, Oneida Indian Nation Representative Ray Halbritter and NCAI Executive Director Jackie Pata noted, "We are honored to partner with the United Church of Christ in their effort to help relegate this offensive and outdated slur to the dustbin of history. An honorable organization with a historic track record of standing up for civil rights, the UCC has an important role to

play in helping to bring this issue to the forefront of social consciousness and making a change for the good of all."

Since 1991, the UCC has publicly condemned the use of American Indian imagery for sports team mascots, names and logos, and has called on leadership of the Cleveland Indians Major League Baseball team to also change its team name and Chief Wahoo logo.

On Tuesday, June 30, General Synod attendees walked from the Cleveland Convention Center to the Indians' team offices at Progressive field to hand-deliver a petition to team leadership calling for the name and logo change. The action took place in partnership with the UCC Council for American Indian Ministries and the Cleveland Committee of 500 Years.

The United Church of Christ is a mainline Protestant denomination with nearly 1 million members and more than 5,000 congregations nationwide. Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, the UCC is a church of

many firsts, including the first mainline denomination to ordain a woman, the first to ordain an openly-gay man and the first predominantly white denomination to ordain an African American.

The UCC and its members are tireless advocates for social issues such as immigration reform, racial equality, LGBT rights, marriage equality, environmental protection and economic justice.

The Oneida Indian Nation is a federally recognized Indian nation in central New York. It is a member of the Haudenosaunee, known in English as the Six Nations or Iroquois Confederacy. The Oneida operate a variety of businesses to fund its government programs. The nation is headed by Oneida Indian Nation Representative Ray Halbritter.

The National Congress of American Indians, founded in 1944, is the oldest, largest, and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization serving the broad interests of tribal governments and communities.

Amended tribal marriage ordinance adopted on July 7

BY RICK SMITH

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors approved *Resolution 2015-147* on July 7, adopting an amended *Tribal Code Chapter 31: Marriage Ordinance*. According to the primary sponsor, board member DJ Hoffman, the new code makes two key changes: it exercises tribal sovereignty and establishes equality for all.

The new ordinance exercises sovereignty by eliminating a requirement that couples wishing to wed must first obtain marriage licenses from the State of Michigan, and it establishes equality by removing gender-specific language in the ordinance.

"Section 31.106, as well as other sections of the new code, was changed to remove the requirement for persons seeking to be married to obtain a valid license to marry from the State of Michigan or any other state requirements," Hoffman noted. "We are a sovereign nation and, as such, should not be requiring a state license to

marry within our Tribal Code. Article IV, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution provides for 'full faith and credit' in relation to our actions in accordance with federal law."

On establishing equality, Section 102 of the ordinance now reads, "The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians shall recognize as a valid and binding marriage any marriage between two persons formalized or solemnized in compliance with the laws of the place of formalization or solemnization."

Hoffman indicated the new code was developed in collaboration with the tribal court and the tribe's legal department over many months along with going through multiple board workshop sessions prior to approval.

"With the recent Supreme Court ruling on June 26, 2015, and the tribal board's actions of July 7, 2015, these changes now allow all couples to enjoy the same legal rights and benefits," Hoffman noted. He added that his feelings on the

matter are reflected in a friend's statement he cited, "Marriage equality strikes at the very idea of fairness and equal protection enshrined in our constitution. The love that two people share, their desire to spend their lives together, to care for one another, these are things that should be celebrated."

Other requirements for marriages are identified in Section 104 of the code. It requires the free consent of both parties to the marriages, have the mental capacity to marry and at least one of the individuals must be a Sault Tribe member. Further, both parties must be at least 18 years of age or older, or at least 16 years with notarized consent of parent or legal guardian or proof of emancipation by a court or competent jurisdiction.

Marriages will not be granted to those who have an existing spouse nor may individuals marry certain relatives such as immediate family, grandparents or grandchildren, aunts and uncles or first cousins.

Judge affirms cancelation of NFL franchise trademarks

BY RICK SMITH

U.S. District Judge Gerald Lee recently affirmed an earlier decision by the U.S. Trademark Office to cancel trademark protections for the National Football League's Washington Redskins franchise. The 70-page decision was given on July 8 in Alexandria, Va.

Federal law prohibits trademarks that could be disparaging, causing contempt or harm to reputations. The federal judge found, without any doubt, the team's name is disparaging.

While the ruling does not prohibit the team from continuing to use the name, it does remove copyright and marketing protections, which means marketing merchandise on the name is open

to anyone, leaving the team's marketing vulnerable to withering sales.

The judgment stems from a 2006 case brought by a small group of American Indians who sought nullification of six of the franchise's trademarks using the term "Redskins" or variations of the term, such as "Redskinettes," the team cheerleaders.

This is the latest in a long list of measures taken by many in opposition to the team's name who see it as a derogatory throw-back from an earlier, more narrow-minded time. One example of measures taken to dissuade the franchise from using the name is losing stadium and practice facilities inside the city limits of Washington, D.C., until the

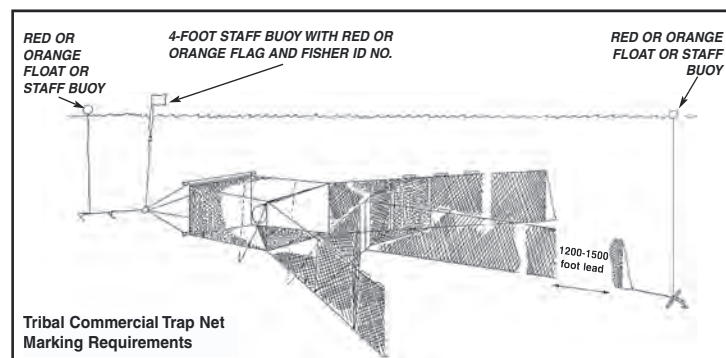
name is changed to something more respectable. The National Congress of American Indians petitioned for a name change back in 1972. The franchise name has been the subject of many books and other literature featuring opposition to its continued use.

Amanda Blackhorse, a Navajo woman from Kayenta, Ariz., led the group who filed the original complaint. Kayenta is a township of about 5,000 people on the reservation of the Navajo Nation in northeastern Arizona.

No word is out yet if Pro-Football Inc., the team's corporate owner, will take any further legal action, but reports indicate it is most likely they will appeal.

NOTICE TO BOATERS

COMMERCIAL TRAP NETS in northern Lakes Michigan & Huron



See <www.1836cora.org> under net marking for maps and other information.

- Vessel Operators should NAVIGATE AWAY from all markers and REMAIN 1,500 FEET AWAY from any staff buoy or jug markers.
- Please EXERCISE CAUTION while boating in these areas. Visibility will be limited during low-light or bad weather conditions.
- WARNING: Tampering with these or any other legally set nets is a violation of State and Federal law.

For more information contact:	Report unmarked nets:
CHIPPEWA OTTAWA RESOURCE AUTHORITY 179 W. Three Mile, Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783 906-632-0043	LOCAL, STATE or TRIBAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS or Michigan DNR RAP Hotline 1-800-292-7800

Save the Date!



Sault Tribe's Diabetes Day 2015
ACTIVITY IS THE BEST MEDICINE!

- Sept. 24, 10 to 3 — Hessel Tribal Health Center
- Sept. 29, 10 to 3 — Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health Center
- Sept. 30, 10 to 3 — Kewadin Shores Casino, Events Center

Door Prizes • Snacks • Screenings • Demos • Flu Shots

RADIO STREAMING OPPORTUNITY

Radio Stations – Schools – Churches – DJs

SPECIAL OFFER!!

FREE iPhone App & FREE Android App

FREE Sponsors & Earn Revenue

No Contracts & No Set up Fees!

SecureNet Systems – Streaming Provider Since 1997

Gary Lee (Tribal Member)

Mention Promo Code: **SaultTribe2015**

954-481-9402 ext 243 - glee@securenetsystems.net

Get rid of “Michigan bamboo” without charge

FROM EUPCWMA STAFF

Not all invasive species arrive accidentally. In fact, a large majority of invasive plants were introduced as a garden ornamental. This is the case with a species called Japanese knotweed, also known as “Michigan Bamboo.”

Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*), is an aggressive invader of roadsides, stream banks, wetlands, woodland edges and urban backyards. This species, which originates in the volcanic ecosystems of eastern Asia, was brought to the states in the 1800s. Gardeners and homeowners observed how quickly the plant grew and spread that it became a common species used as a privacy barrier. Nurseries and garden centers sold the plant and encouraged it to be used for erosion control due to its powerful root structure. But like most invasive plants, knotweed escaped gardens and backyards and threatens our native ecosystems.

Knotweed has severe ecological and economical effects that landowners should be concerned about. It spreads quickly (growing up to one foot per week) and forms dense jungles that exclude native vegetation and greatly alter natural and sensitive ecosystems. The species provides little to no benefit to wildlife. Once established, populations are extremely persistent and difficult to remove. Knotweed roots have adapted to break through volcanic rock in Asia, so one could imagine how easy they could burrow along homes and destroy concrete foundations or water lines.

This perennial shrub has sub-species reaching heights over 20 feet tall. It is identifiable by hollow stems (resembling bamboo) that are often mottled with purple and zigzag from one leaf to the next. Its leaves have smooth edges, pointed tips and



Photo by Sabrina Neveu

EUPCWMA coordinator Nick Cassel stands in Sault Ste. Marie with giant knotweed towering over him.

are flattened at the base. The lacy white flowers, generally seen in August, are replaced by small off white papery winged seeds.

The Eastern Upper Peninsula Cooperative Weed Management Area (EUPCWMA) is asking landowners to report infestations of Michigan bamboo on their property. The opportunity for landowners to receive free herbicide treatment for this invasive species has recently become available through the DNR’s Michigan Invasive Species Grant

Program. Herbicide control is the most common method used for knotweed, due to its persistency. A systemic herbicide applied to the leaves or hollow stem at the right time and rate will move through the plant, killing it from the roots up. The EUPCWMA will work with landowners on mapping and treating infestations, as well as follow up visits to ensure successful treatment.

“This is an on-going removal program,” EUPCWMA coordinator Nick Cassel said. “Treatment of knotweed can take several



Photo by Nick Cassel

Japanese knotweed breaking through the foundation of a home in Sault Ste. Marie.

years. Persistence is key. Please attend one of the upcoming public workshops to learn more.”

Treatment occurs towards the end of August and into September. The following public workshops have been scheduled for landowners to attend and learn about knotweed and proper management:

- Newberry: Tuesday July 28, 6:30pm, Tahquamenon Area Public Library, 700 Newberry Avenue, Newberry, MI 49868
- St. Ignace: Wednesday July 29, 6:30pm, St. Ignace Public

Library, 110 W. Spruce Street, St. Ignace, MI 49781

• Sault Ste. Marie: Thursday July 30th – 6:30 pm, USDA Service Center, 2847 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

If you have Japanese knotweed and would like advice on removal and possible treatment or have questions about one of the public workshops, please contact Nick Cassel of the Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation District at (906) 635-1278 or nick.cassel@macd.org.

DOI raises Cobell scholarship fund to nearly \$20 million

WASHINGTON, D.C. – As the White House Tribal Youth Gathering commences in Washington, the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) today announced an additional \$2 million was transferred to the Cobell Education Scholarship Fund, bringing the total amount contributed so far to \$19.5 million. The scholarship fund – funded in part by the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations (Buy-Back Program) and authorized by the “Cobell” settlement – provides financial assistance through scholarships to American Indian students wishing to pursue post-secondary and graduate education and training.

Providing Native youth with increased access to higher education opportunities supports the Obama Administration’s Generation Indigenous (Gen-I) initiative to remove barriers to Native youth success. In conjunction with the transfer, the White House hosted its first-ever tribal youth gathering. The gathering provides Native youth from across the country the opportunity to interact directly with senior administration officials and the White House Council on

Native American Affairs, chaired by U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell.

“These additional funds for the Cobell Education Scholarship Fund will help put Native youth on the path to pursuing their dreams and achieving their career goals,” said Interior Solicitor Hilary Tompkins, who negotiated the “Cobell” Settlement for the DOI. “The fund is an important tool to unlock the doors of higher education and assist the next generation of Native American leaders in gaining valuable skills for today’s competitive workforce.”

Interior makes quarterly transfers to the scholarship fund as a result of Buy-Back Program sales, up to a total of \$60 million. The amount contributed is based on a formula put forth in the “Cobell” settlement that sets aside a certain amount of funding depending on the value of the fractionated interests sold. These contributions do not reduce the amount that an owner will receive for voluntarily consolidating their interests.

The scholarship fund is administered by the American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC)

in Albuquerque, N.M. A five-member Cobell Board is responsible for the oversight and supervision of the activities of the fund’s administering organization. Applications for scholarships for the 2015-16 academic year were accepted through June 1 and are currently being reviewed. The first round of annual scholarship recipients will be notified mid-August.

“AIGC is pleased to have received more than 2,700 applications as of the June 1 deadline, and we encourage all applicants to continue to send in required tribal documentation and financial needs forms by July 17 for continued eligibility,” said Joan V. Currier, chief operating officer of the AIGC. “This will be a highly competitive awarding process, but we look forward to announcing the first cohort of Cobell Scholars this summer.”

Alex Pearl, chairman of the Cobell Board of Trustees, added, “We are pleased by the DOI’s recent transfer of funds as part of a continuing effort to create a perpetual scholarship fund designed to make additional funding for higher education available to Native American youth. The

scholarship applications that we have already received for the coming academic year indicate that the need is enormous. Our board continues to work on growing our fund and building the important relationship with the Cobell Scholarship Program administrator, the AIGC. The Cobell Board is grateful for the leadership demonstrated by Solicitor Hilary Tompkins and looks forward to continue working with her and the DOI in this unique shared effort to minimize the barriers faced by Native students in accomplishing their educational goals.”

The Buy-Back Program was created to implement the land consolidation component of the “Cobell” settlement, which provided \$1.9 billion to purchase fractionated interests in trust or restricted land from willing landowners. Consolidated interests are transferred to tribal government ownership for uses benefiting the reservation community and tribal members.

So far, the Buy-Back Program has paid more than \$550 million to individual landowners and restored the equivalent of approximately one billion acres of land to tribal governments.

Advertise with us!

Best rates!

Print and online editions!

Call

906-632-6398

or email

jdburton@saulttrbe.net

Boulley accepts position at boat building school

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Assistant Executive Director Angeline Boulley stepped down from her position and accepted a new job as the director of development for the Great Lakes Boat Building School in Cedarville, Mich.

As director of development, she is coordinating the school's Capital Campaign to raise funds for sustainability. She is also working on getting the school accredited, which will allow students to apply for federal financial aid.

Boulley said fundraising is something new to her and she and is excited to develop a new skill. "I submitted my resume and they were really happy when they saw my qualifications," she said.

Boulley worked for the tribe for nine years in a number of different positions; first, as the education director then as the interim executive director for six months before she became assistant executive director. "I wanted a position where I could have a more flexible schedule and work on something new and exciting. I



wanted to do more grant writing and special projects, and my position with the tribe didn't allow me to do that as much as I wanted," she explained.

Boulley said she will be commuting from her home in the Sault to Cedarville every day to get to know the staff at the school and the local community. She is also looking forward to meeting the newest group of students to go through the program this fall. "Once the weather starts turning

bad this winter, I will be able to work from home a few days a week," she said. "That was important to me. My daughter goes to high school in Marquette and I wanted to have a flexible schedule to be able to attend her gymnastics meets."

Boulley also has two sons, ages 20 and 21, who she said she would love to see enrolled in the boat building school.

"Some people were surprised I left my position with the tribe, it was a very prestigious position. But I think sometimes that you get so busy working to make a living that you forget to make a life. I would rather have a position where I can have some flexibility to spend time with my kids while I am young and healthy and my daughter is still in high school. There were a lot of years I worked 12-hour days and long nights to write grants on top of my full-time executive position," she said. "I feel that at the school I can make a difference there with the skills that I have."

Boulley said the school opened eight years ago and has graduated

97 students ranging in age from 20 to 78. The boat building programs are a full-time endeavor with mornings spent in the classroom and afternoons in the shop. The school has an articulation agreement with North Central Michigan College (NCMC) in Petoskey, which allows interested students to pursue an NCMC associate's of applied science degree in wooden boat building through a combination of the school's nine-month program and classes offered by NCMC. A Bachelor of Science degree in applied technology from Eastern Michigan University is also available to students and is developed to best fit the student's career goals. The school also offers a two-year career program and a one-year comprehensive program with financial aid and student loans available as well.

Summer months are busy with "Artisan" and "Build Your Own Boat" workshops in addition to fundraising events such as their annual brat and beer fest. Boulley said the fundraising campaign they are calling the

Capitol Campaign kicks off this month and has a goal of raising \$1.3 million over the next three years. Those funds, she said, will be used to pay off the school mortgage and focus on gaining accreditation and to stabilize the long-term finances of the school.

"In one year, students can learn a new skill and be employed for the rest of their lives," Boulley said. "Phone calls come into the school every week from employers looking to hire anyone who has graduated from the program. Basically, anyone who wants a job after graduation has his or her pick. Every new student has to build a wooden toolbox, step stool and an oar to develop basic woodworking skills prior to working on any boats. And just to see the quality of work the beginning students are learning is inspiring."

Call the Great Lakes Boat Building School at (906) 484-1081, or visit them online at glbbs.org. The school is located at 485 South Meridian Road in Cedarville, Mich. Tours are available daily at 2 p.m.

White House: "A historic time for tribal youth"

BY RICK SMITH

The inaugural White House Tribal Youth Gathering took place on July 9 with over 1,000 young American Indians representing over 230 tribes from 42 states. Seven young people of Sault Tribe attended the event, Matt Wyers, Olivia Wyers, Brianna Lyons, Morgan Osborn, Derek Bouschor Jr., Eric McKerchie Jr. and Holli Carrick.

According to the White House, the youngsters came face-to-face with first lady Michelle Obama, Cabinet officials as well as senior representatives from the White House Council on Native American Affairs and non-government collaborators in cultural protection and revitalization, education, health and wellness, climate change, natural resources, justice and economic opportunities.

The White House along with the Department of Justice, Department of Health and the United National Indian Tribal Youth organization jointly sponsored the conference. The conference builds on the president's Generation Indigenous, or Gen-I, initiative to help improve the lives of Indian Country youngsters and prepare them as responsible and effective leaders of Indian Country. "Native youth were encouraged to take action and to value their voices and perspective," according to the White House.

Michelle Obama spoke about their potential and prospective

important roles as leaders. She also made sure they understood they have allies at the highest levels of the federal government. "Everyone in this room has your back," Obama told the assemblage. "Everyone who's speaking at this summit — all those Cabinet secretaries, all those powerful people who have come here for you — they have your back. And you definitely have a president and a first lady who have your back."

Others speakers included U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Burwell, Department of the Interior Secretary Sally Jewell, Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Gina McCarthy, White House Domestic Policy Council Director Cecilia Munoz and Senator Heidi Heitkamp.

The White House indicated the gathering wasn't just a captive audience listening to the speakers, discussions also took place between speakers and the assembled youth. It also "spurred action and change" in that every one of the participants completed the White House Youth Challenge issued last February. The challenge was to form networks to develop positive changes in their communities, select some form of action and follow through.

The young were encouraged to use the networks they built with peers to better their local communities and connect with each other through the National Native Youth Network — a White House project in partnership with the Aspen Institute's Center for Native American Youth and the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The White House noted the gathering was "planned and implemented with the help and input of Native students — and



it showed. The discussions were honest and substantive. Students were engaged and eager to offer their thoughts. Friendships were made and bonds forged. And a federal commitment to Native youth was renewed."

On the day after the gathering, the White House indicated, the National Lieutenant Governors Association resolved to support the White House's recently launched Gen-I State Challenge to Support Native Youth. Lieutenant governors of eight states, including Michigan, sponsored the resolution. It asks state leaders to meet with tribal leaders and others to discuss possible partnerships to improve the lives of American Indian youth, report on recommendations for expanding opportunities for Indian youth and announce intentions to implement at least one recommendation in the report.

Further, the White House summoned all governors and lieutenant governors to take the president's State Challenge to join the administration in continuing work to expand opportunity for all young people across the country.



Photos courtesy of the White House
Left, First Lady Michelle Obama. Above, the first lady greets Elizabeth Ferguson, 21, of Kotzebue, Alaska, following her remarks at the White House Tribal Youth Gathering in support of the Generation Indigenous and Reach Higher initiatives in Washington, D.C., on July 9.

Roy Electric Co. Inc.

INDUSTRIAL * COMMERCIAL * RESIDENTIAL

www.royelectric.us

2901 Ashmun St. (M-129)
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Bus. (906) 632-8878
Fax. (906) 632-4447



Arthur J. Gallagher & Co.
BUSINESS WITHOUT BARRIERS

Employee Benefits Consulting
Strategic Planning
Regulatory Compliance
Wellness Program Design

Cory J. Sober

Corey_Sober@AJG.com
(906) 635-5238

2956 Ashmun St. Suite C, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

2 Rivers

2681 Ashmun St. (M-129)
Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783
906-253-1904

NuStar
INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

Call for a
FREE Insurance
Quote!

- Auto
- Commercial
- Speciality
- Home
- Ask about our Life Insurance Program

**Tribal Members!
Keep Your Address
Up to Date: Call
1-800-251-6597**

Annual Project Backpack distribution Aug. 14

On Friday, Aug. 14, the Salvation Army, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and United Way of the EUP are hosting the fifth annual Project Backpack at VanCitter's Field in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Over 1,000 attendees are expected and the partners expect to distribute 600 backpacks, based on previous year figures.

Any family that may be struggling with a financial hardship is able to receive a free backpack for their child in pre-kindergarten through eighth grade. No income requirements are necessary, just a statement of need.

Bring the kids! This event is not just for adults, but a way to kick off the new school year in

a positive fashion with free hot-dogs, bounce houses, balloons, face painting and more!

In past years we have appreciated the community's help in gathering supplies and hosting bus boxes. You will see boxes out this year at both main Soo Coop Credit Union branches, Central Savings Bank, Vision Center at Walmart, Sault Tribe, U.S. Coast Guard, J.C. Penny, Michigan Department of Corrections, Check 'n' Cash and War Memorial Hospital.

Volunteers also pour out for this event which actually consists of three mini-events culminating at the large distribution day. Our first event is with our cohort, Soo Motors. This year it will be exciting as they have



Kids will get new backpacks stuffed with supplies and have great fun at the backpack distribution. Above, kids get their faces painted at the 2014 event.

moved into their new location on Three Mile Road and will also be at sidewalk sales on Aug. 7-8. Every year Andy Haapala is happy to help students in need and acts as a drop off site. Their goal is to fill the back of a Ford pick-up truck. Mr. Haapala also posts our event signs and flyers during sidewalk sales.

Our second event is with our long standing partner, Walmart. They allow us to host a Stuff the Bus event each year at their store and we gather funds and supplies

outside the store on Saturday, Aug. 8 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This not only allows the community to drop off supplies, but also brings awareness to folks who may not have heard about Project Backpack.

Then on Thursday, Aug. 13, from 2-4 p.m. at Salvation Army, we stuff all the backpacks. How do we do it that quick? We have many people who come and help. This year, we are once again looking for youth groups and families to wear the backpacks "backwards" and stuff them with all our donated supplies.

Then, finally, on Friday, Aug. 14, the big day arrives and it is very busy. We do not anticipate running out this year, so we have removed "first come, first served" off of our flyers.

"We could not host this event without our partners," said Tracey Laitinen, director of UWEUP. "We hold meetings from April through September to get things right and it takes a village."

Special thank you to our longstanding partners including:

Lake Superior State University for parking enforcement, City of Sault Ste. Marie Auxiliary Police for line control and safety measures, War Memorial Hospital, Department of Natural Resources and Smokey the Bear, Students United and Tracy Menard, YooperDogs, U.S. Coast Guard, The Eagle 95.1, U.S. Border Patrol, Customs and Border Protection, Anytime Fitness, Sault Ste. Marie Fire Department, EUP Great Start Collaborative, J.C. Penny, Hiawatha Shore-to-Shore, Dafter Lion's Club, Masonic Lodge of the Sault, Instigators Robotics Team, Pickford Presbyterian Church, Rotary Club of the Sault, and many other youth groups, individuals and families.

Join us leading up to Aug. 14 or on that day. This event is great for youth as you are able to see donations go full circle.

For information on hosting a booth at this event, call Tracey at 632-3700, extension 2. For information on volunteering, call Steve at 632-3700, extension 2. Follow the event on Facebook at UnitedWayEUP.

Tribe's Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry elected Rotary president



PRESIDENT FABRY — At a recent Rotary meeting at the home of Dr. Tom and Teresa Pleger on the campus of Lake Superior State University, President Dan Dasho, CEO of Cloverland Electric Cooperative, handed the gavel over to incoming President Jocelyn Fabry, honorable chief judge for Sault Tribe. Dasho reminisced about the fun he had serving as the club's president in the past year and handed the ceremonial bottle of Turning Leaf wine to Ms. Fabry with a chuckle about how it was found by Phil Becker at Project Playground back in 2004. Lastly, Ms. Fabry presented Mr. Dasho with his past presidency pin and plaque. Fabry will serve as president July 2015-16.

Greektown bankruptcy judge denies motion for reconsideration

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians received some good news on July 23. United States Bankruptcy Judge Walter Shapero rejected the efforts of Diane Adams to disrupt the resolution of the Greektown Holdings litigation.

Adams filed a motion for reconsideration. The Court flatly rejected that motion, saying, "(a) Movants lack standing, (b) the Motion is inexcusably untimely, and (c) the Motion requests relief beyond the jurisdiction of this Court; furthermore, even if the Court were to consider the substance of Movants' allegations, as was further elaborated upon in various procedurally deficient filings (Dkt. 3837, 3838, 3904), such would not alter the result; the Court therefore

finding that the Motion does not demonstrate a palpable defect by which the Court and the parties have been misled or that a different disposition of the matter must result from a correction thereof, as required by E.D. Mich. LBR 9024-1(a)(3); NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT the Motion is denied."

Sault Tribe General Counsel John Wernet said, "Many thanks to Sault Tribe Attorney Courtney Kachur and to the tribe's outside legal team at Frost Brown and at Plunkett for their efforts in again defending this frustrating and utterly baffling challenge, which seems to be based upon a completely erroneous understanding of both the facts and of the law."

Adams has until Aug. 5 to file a further appeal.

Rotary Club takes care of Rotary Park, buys new grills for island

A group of Rotarians, and their family members, gathered at Rotary Island Park for an evening work bee on July 21. Volunteers replaced the white limestone that had eroded away along the edge of the fishing platform to make

the surface level and repaired a section of pavers that had loosened.

The Rotary Club of Sault Ste. Marie plans to continue to maintain and repair the park and recently allocated funding for the

City to purchase eight grills to be installed at the park for public use.

For more information about Rotary, please contact our club secretary at rotaryclub.ssm@gmail.com.



Rotarians and family had a work bee at Rotary Park on the St. Marys River on July 21. From left, Tom McDonoff, Phil Becker, Craig Flickinger, Emerée Fabry and her mother Jocelyn Fabry, Dave Finley and daughter Anna Findley, Betsy Hugget, Tom and Teresa Pleger, Steve Gregory and Jennifer Dunton.

HHS launches website on resources for older folks and caregivers: aging.gov

BY RICK SMITH

U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) recently announced the launch of aging.gov, calling it "a springboard to all of the federal government resources related to aging." But the site isn't just for elders, it's for anyone who cares about an older relative, friend or neighbor as well.

Site visitors will find tips, ideas and links for older folks to live in health, comfort and safety and financial securi-

ty as well as having contact with state resources along with federal resources such as Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid.

The web page itself is easy to understand and navigate. A search bar at the top of the home page allows visitors to look for particular subjects of interest. General information buttons lead to information about HHS, programs and services, grants and contracts along with laws and regulations. A menu on the

left side of the page invites visitors to delve into healthy aging, health issues, long-term care, elder justice, retirement planning and security as well as state resources.

The page also has links to file for Social Security benefits, enroll in Medicare and apply for Medicaid.

Text size on the page can be enlarged for visitors, printed or shared through 290 options. One may also sign up for email updates.

Ferguson competes in international championship

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member Erin Demmon Ferguson, the daughter of Ernest and Pamela Demmon of Gladstone, Mich., qualified for and ran in the 2015 Motala ITU Long Distance Triathlon World Championships in Motala, Sweden on June 27 with Team USA. She finished the grueling course in 35th place out of about 60 women she was competing against in her age group.

Ferguson qualified for the race at the USA Triathlon 2014 National Championships in Grand Rapids. The triathlon consisted of swimming, biking and running, in that order. "To qualify to race in the world competition on Team USA, I had to finish in the top 20 in my age group. I was competing against women ages 35-39," she said. "I finished 17th, and my time for that race - which was a 1.2 mile swim, a 56 mile bike and a half marathon, or 13.1 miles - was just under 6.5 hours."

Athletic by nature, at the age of 27 Ferguson was feeling the competitive itch and began running with a friend she met at work who races in triathlons. She had just taken a new job with North Flight on a ground ambu-



lance in Traverse City. Becoming enthusiastic about competitive running, she trained using online training programs and information. "I read a lot of articles and educated myself about it," she

said. "I met a few other friends locally who also do races and took some of their advice and trained with them. I have done five or six races a year since that time, and race frequently

throughout the summer season. My swimming has also improved greatly. In my first race I was almost the last person out of the water, and now I can exit the water in the swim portion with the lead group of ladies."

She started her competitive running career with a few 5k runs before taking on a marathon nine months later. Two months after running the marathon, she completed her first triathlon in Mackinac City, where she finished almost in last place. She said she was unprepared and undertrained and didn't really know what she was getting into. "That embarrassed me a bit and I ended up training and working hard knowing I could do better than that. It fueled the fire and went from there. I just jumped in with both feet and went for it," she said.

Ferguson graduated from Lake Superior State University in 2002 as a paramedic. She worked in Cheboygan for three years after graduation before moving to Traverse City to work for North Flight.

Now at the age of 36, she works out twice a day, seven days a week and hired a personal train-

er in January. Since then, she has taken almost a minute off her mile pace. Every ten or 11 days she takes a day off to rest.

She also recently competed in the Inter-Rockin sprint triathlon, held July 12 in Interlochen, Mich., (a 500m swim, 20k bike race, and 3.1 mile run), where she won in her age group. "I have several other local races on the calendar for the rest of this summer, and may travel to the U.S. Nationals again this year, which are being held in Oklahoma City at the end of September," she said.

Ferguson believes endurance sports have a lot to do with mindset. "If you think you can do it, you absolutely can," she said. "I heard someone say sports are 90 percent mental, that's certainly more than true for what this is. I am still getting faster in all of my paces. I have noticed that the most competitive age groups are the 40 year olds for both the men and women. They are the fastest group, and generally the winners."

Erin is married to Bryon Ferguson, a fireman/paramedic with the Glen Arbor Fire Department and they reside in Lake Ann, Mich.

Brendan Forrest receives eagle scout designation

BAY CITY, Mich. – Brendan Aris Forrest of Bay City Troop 111 (Corpus Christie Parish), received his Eagle Scout designation on May 31 at a court of honor conducted at the Pere Marquette Depot in downtown Bay City. Friends, family and troop leaders attended the celebration, including his parents, Alan and Lisa Forrest.

Forrest, aged 17, just completed his junior year at Bay City Central High School and is a member of Troop 111 of the Michigan Water and Woods Field Service Council, Boy Scouts of America, led by Adam Wilcox.

During his scouting career, he has served as troop senior patrol leader, earned 39 merit badges, placed memorial flags at Floral Gardens Cemetery, volunteered as an honor guard for many Memorial Day services and Flag Day celebrations and attended summer camp at

Camp Rotary for several years.

Forrest's Eagle Scout project was a conservation effort to benefit the Saginaw Bay Watershed and Bay County. The project was sponsored by Bay Sail and supplemented financially by the Bay County Drain Commission and the Saginaw Bay Watershed Initiative. During the summer of 2014, Forrest organized and coordinated crews of workers to paint no dumping signs next to 1,000 storm drains in Bay City and distributed educational materials to residents to help prevent further pollution to the Saginaw Bay.

Forrest is also a member of the Order of the Arrow and will attend the National Order of The Arrow Conference at Michigan State University in August of 2015. He is also a student at the Bay-Arenac ISD Career Center in the electronics program and a member of Skills USA. Brendan

plans to enter a certificate program in the fall of 2016 to become a railroad conductor.

Forrest is a Sault Tribe member as are his grandmother, Linda Currie Forrest; father, Alan Forrest; and uncle, Stephen Forrest.

Eagle Scout is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouting program. Over 2,000,000 boys have earned the eagle designation since the first Boy Scout did 103 years ago in 1912.

Requirements include earning at least 21 merit badges and demonstrating ideals of service and leadership, including organizing and leading an extensive service project. Fewer than five percent of Boy Scouts nationwide attain this illustrious rank. Boy Scouts of America provides a variety of youth development and camping programs that promote character, leadership and life skills.

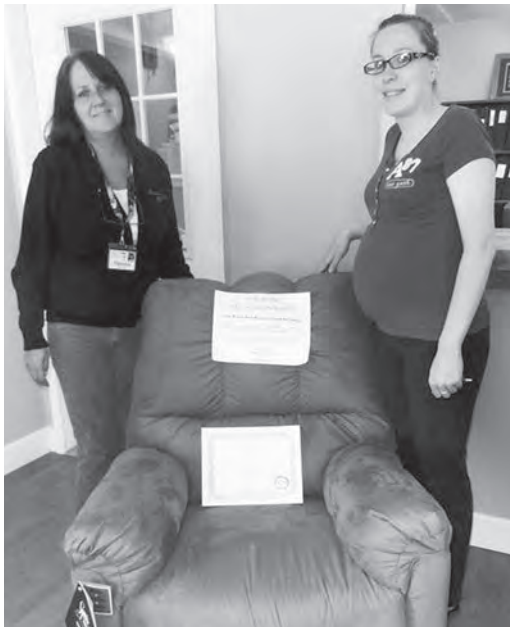


Brendan Aris Forrest of Bay City Troop 111 (Corpus Christie Parish), received his Eagle Scout designation on May 31.

Incentive winners



Above left, DeMawating Development's Pay-On-Time incentive winner for May 2015 is Jerid Norris, pictured above with Rental Manager Theresa Germain. Norris received a \$50 credit toward his water bill. Above right, Germain with second quarter's winner Ashley Paquin, who won a recliner from Northern Hospitality.



MY LIFE IS MOBILE.
SO IS MY CREDIT UNION.

"I love my life. Always on the go. My life is mobile. And so is my credit union. With a mobile website that lets me pay bills, check my balance, even find the nearest ATM. All designed to fit my phone. My tablet. And my life."



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

Visit our mobile site at m.soocoop.com

NCUA Insured

Introducing the home health staff for elders

BY RICK SMITH

Among the options available through Sault Tribe Elder Services is the In-Home Service, which provides an array of help for members aged 60 and over who have been assessed by a staff nurse to have limited physical functions and live in the tribe's service area. Priority is given to those with disabilities and other health concerns.

Elders enrolled in the program rely on a knowledgeable team to help them with an array of tasks to live safe, secure and comfortable lives. The team provides personal care, respite service, homemaking help, outreach and advocacy for their clients. This is an introduction to those folks currently on the home health team who bring care to elders in the comfort of their own homes.

Mark Willis, RN, BSN, graduated from the Lake Superior State University nursing program and came to his current post in 2012 from a position with Sault Tribe Community Health. Currently, Willis is the registered nurse for Elder Services serving the seven counties of the tribe's service area and lives in Goetzville.

Dave Lewton is a certified nurse's aide and has been in his current position as a home health technician since 1993. Dave covers clients from DeTour to the Sault, including Sugar Island. He lives in Sault Ste. Marie.

Heidi Aikens is a certified nurse's aide and started in her current position in 2013 after many years of service with Chippewa County Health Department. She is a home health technician covering clients from Sault Ste. Marie to Drummond Island and St. Ignace. She lives in Sault Ste. Marie.

Jennifer Burton, a certified nurse's aide based in Manistique, is a home health technician who covers Naubinway to Escanaba. She came to Elder Services in 2014 and lives in Curtis.

Mary Swyers, a certified nurse's aide who works for Elders Services as a homemaker aide. She has many years of experience from working as an aide at Hearthside Assisted Living in Sault Ste. Marie. She began working for Elder Services in 2015 and lives in Dafter.

In days of yore, doctors, midwives and others made house



Back row, from left, Certified Nurses Aide (CNA) Dave Lewton, CNA Heidi Aikens, Mark Willis, RN, BSN. Front, from left, CNA Jennifer Burton and CNA Mary Swyers.

calls. Patients or clients could get needed help in their own homes, and the In-Home Service team

delivers their services and care in that same old forgotten way.

Sault Tribe Elder Services can

be reached at the main office in Sault Ste. Marie by calling 635-4971 or toll free (888) 711-7356.

Dorothy Mendoskin celebrates 90th birthday

Proof that things get better with age, Dorothy Mendoskin turned 90! The former 50th national president of the Blue Star Mothers celebrated this milestone in style with family and friends from as far as New Mexico at the Sugar Island Community Center on July 9.

Dorothy was born in Sault Ste. Marie on July 25, 1925.

A native of Sugar Island, she left the area temporarily to accompany her husband, Oliver "Duke" Sebastian, whom she married on Dec. 13, 1950. They were married for 43 years when Duke passed away in June 1993.

In addition to raising her family, Dorothy committed an enormous amount of her time and efforts to volunteering. She

was a past commander of the DAV and a lifetime member of both the VFW and DAV. Dorothy was also the hospital chair of Amvets and a charter member of the Lioness, and Noble Grand at Rebekah Lodge. Dorothy performed over 8,000 hours of service at the Iron Mountain Veterans Administration hospital.

After the losing her husband, Dorothy rekindled her romance with her teenage sweetheart, Leo Mendoskin. On Feb. 29, 1996, they were married in Florida. Sadly, Leo passed away Dec. 20, 1997.

Between the two families, they produced 12 children, 27 grandchildren and were great-grandparents to 18. July

23, Dorothy became a great-great-grandmother to Amelia, and is expecting another great-great grandbaby in January 2016.

Dorothy stays busy shopping at yard sales, doing arts and crafts and spending time with her cat, Cindy. She also makes sure the birds and squirrels are well fed. *See photo on page 1*



Dorothy with great niece Denise McIntosh.



Dorothy with niece Lois Hagan and her husband Chet.



Danielle Baker Donnay made Dorothy's cake.



Niece Joann Sebastian-Morris and Dorothy.

Prescription drug tips — take your medicine

Medicine is prescribed to help you. But it can hurt if you take too much or mix medicines that do not go together. Help yourself by doing a few simple things before you take that pill. Make a list. Write down all the medications you take, including vitamins, supplements and aspirin. Make sure everyone involved in your health care (nurse, doctor, and pharmacist) sees the list before they give you a prescription.

- Why should I take this medicine?
- What is the brand name and generic name of this medicine?
- Can I take a generic version of this medicine?
- Does this new prescription mean I should stop taking other medicines?
- How much of the medicine should I take and how often do I

take it?

- If I take it three times a day, does that mean at breakfast, lunch, and dinner or every eight hours?
 - Do I need to wake up in the middle of the night and take it?
 - Should I take it with or without food?
 - What if I miss a dose?
 - Do I need to take it all or should I stop when I feel better?
 - How long should I take it? Can I get a refill? How often can I get a refill?
 - How should I store my medication? Do I need to keep it in the refrigerator?
 - Are there any tests I need while I'm on this medicine?
 - When should the medicine start working? How will I know if it's working?
- Follow the directions. Do not share your medications with any-

one. Do not use someone else's medication.

You can help yourself get the best results by being part of your "health care team." Asking questions before you take that pill will prevent problems later and help you gain the best results from your medication.

- Monitor — know what you have and how much you have.
 - Secure — control who has access, lock up your medications.
 - Dispose — return unused meds to the pharmacy (if participating); throw away leftover meds with coffee grounds or kitty litter; pills left in your pill bottle, fill container with water, let it gel up, put lid back on the pill bottle and dispose in garage can.
- Contact your local sheriff's department for disposal information.

Rose family expresses thanks

To everyone who made my 91st birthday special thank you. Thank you to Ken and Sue Lively, the cooks for the delicious meal and the cards and gifts. Thank you to the VFW for the plaque and, to the veterans who attended, thank you for your services.

— Don Rose, Clement and Lyla Rose, Vern and Ruth Johnson and Virginia DeLong

Your COMPLETE Underground Utility Contractor Over 30 - Years Experience

SEPTIC SYSTEMS
SEPTIC TANKS & DRAINFIELD
WATER & SEWER INSTALLATIONS
 COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL

Belongga
 Plumbing & Heating
 Master Plumber
 License #6078

115 Elliot Street
 St. Ignace
 (906) 643-9595
 Monday - Friday 8 to 5

GAO: BIA, IHS need better understanding of Buy Indian Act

BY RICK SMITH

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), the investigative agency of the U.S. Congress, recently reported the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and the Indian Health Service (IHS) have “limited insight” in implementing the Buy Indian Act of 1910, which guides the agencies to award a small percentage of federal contracts to Indian-owned businesses without using the standard competitive process. Consequently, both agencies “may be missing opportunities to maximize the intended benefits of the act in terms of growth and development of Indian firms.”

According to the GAO, one example of the limited insight found is that officials at both BIA and IHS headquarters and regional offices have limited knowledge about administering the Buy Indian program, conducting reviews and collecting information.

Both agencies agreed with the GAO recommendations for enhancing oversight of the program through reviews of key requirements and procedures of procurements with respect to the Buy Indian Act.

American Indians have three categories under the act that could improve chances of winning contracts or employment

opportunities through the program requirements.

The first category is preferences for businesses with at least 51 percent Indian ownership.

The second category requires contractors to give preference to Indians in employment and training opportunities.

The third requires contractors to give preference to Indian firms in awarding subcontracts.

According to the GAO, about 35 percent of the total BIA contract obligations went to Indian interests in 2014, the figure was at about 12 percent for IHS in the same year.



Superior Fest set for Aug. 8

The Superior Fest outdoor concert brings multiple rock music groups to Aune-Osborn Park in Sault Ste. Marie on Aug. 8, noon to about 11 p.m.

Appearances scheduled for the event include Saving Abel, Integrated System Of Machines, Lights Out Paris, Voodoo Theory, Tantrym Tyme, Power Slug, Hero's of Charlotte, Terry Talentino and Retro Troop.

The concert coincides with the weekend of the annual

Downtown Sidewalk Sales, fishing tournament and car show.

Tickets available at the Kewadin Casino box office and www.Kewadin.com. Tickets are: adult general admission \$25 and kids 15 and under \$10.

If 1,000 tickets are sold, a 2001 Honda Shadow 750 motorcycle will be given away by drawing show ticket stubs!

Bring your own lawn chairs.

For more information, call Robin Cook at (906) 430-5242.

5th Annual Gumball Rally coming to Sault Kewadin Casino August 22-23

Spots are still available for the 5th annual Michigan Gumball Rally that is being held at the Sault Kewadin Casino Aug. 22-23. Over 150 rally vehicles are expected, from classic cars, trucks, jeeps, to motorcycles and 1000hp super cars! The \$499 registration fee includes hotel, track time, prizes and more!

Fans of the gumball rally are welcome to meet the teams as they arrive Saturday evening. For more information on signing up or sponsoring the rally please visit www.americangumballrally.com or “like” the Michigan Gumball Rally on Facebook.



Kewadin CASINOS
1-800-KEWADIN | kewadin.com

TOURNAMENTS

Blackjack - ST. IGNACE
August 21-23

Spin to Win - SAULT STE. MARIE
August 28-30

Spin to Win - HESSEL
September 11-13

Video Poker - SAULT STE. MARIE
September 18-20

Exclusive VIP Slot Tournaments
KEWADIN SAULT STE. MARIE
Sundays beginning July 5 at noon

Can't Beat the Heat Spin to Win
KEWADIN HESSEL, MANISTIQUE, CHRISTMAS
July through September

ALL SITES - EVERY TUESDAY DURING AUGUST 2015 - 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

TRIPLE Tuesdays

EARN 3X THE POINTS
NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

ALL SITES

\$150,000

FREE & PRIZE PLAY & BONANZA

August 1 - October 3
We're giving away up to \$150,000 in Free Slot Play & Prizes!
OVER 900 WINNERS!

ALL SITES - EVERY FRIDAY DURING AUGUST 2015 - 3:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

FUN DAY FRIDAYS HOT SEAT DRAWS

WE'RE GIVING AWAY UP TO \$30,000 IN KEWADIN CREDITS!

REGISTER AT THE NORTHERN REWARDS CLUB. MUST HAVE AT LEAST 25 BASE POINTS AT TIMES OF DRAW.
THE MORE YOU PLAY THE MORE YOU CAN WIN IN KEWADIN CREDITS.

ALL CANADIAN MONDAY
SAULT STE. MARIE
Mondays 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Canadian gamers will receive \$20 in Kewadin Credits!
(after earning at least 50 base points)
Hot seat draws!

ALL AMERICAN WEDNESDAY
ALL SITES
Wednesdays 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
American gamers will be eligible for Hot Seat Draws & receive \$20 in Kewadin Credits!
(after earning at least 50 base points)

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

THURSDAY IS SENIOR DAY
ALL SITES
Seniors (50 & older) will receive \$5 in Kewadin Credits!
(after earning at least 10 base points)
An Additional \$5 in Kewadin Credits may be earned at every other Kewadin location!
(after earning 10 base points at that facility)
Complementary Danish/muffins & coffee.

Must Register at Northern Rewards Club to participate in the weekly events.
Club hours vary by site.



Above, veterans were invited into the dance arena for an honor song during Sunday afternoon's grand entry after which everyone was invited to shake their hands.

34th Annual Sault Tribe Traditional Powwow and Summer Gathering

Photos by Brenda Austin



A young dancer enjoying the beautiful weather and participating in activities with her friends.



Abigail Jenks, 2, in the arms of her mom



Men's fancy dancer



Jingle dress and fancy shawl dancers



Left to right, Hanna Harvala from Ishpeming, Madison Bartol and Gegek Webkamigab from the Sault.



Above, Jasmine Nickaboine, 8, with her little sister Bii-daa-bin Susan Kay Nickaboine, 1. Below, posting the colors at the end of grand entry.



From left, Nanhi Medrano, 9, and her mom, Haley Sebastian, who enlisted in the Marine Corps and is stationed in South Carolina. They came home to attend the powwow and Sebastian's grandmother's (Dorothy Mendoskin) 90th birthday. (See group photo on front page).



Women's traditional dancer, Becky Parish



Above, Nimkii L. Ailing, 2, and Lauren Olivia Clor, 2, with Nicole Causley. Below, dancers during grand entry.



Rob Capriccioso elected to NAJA board

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member Rob Capriccioso grew up in Michigan's Upper Peninsula where both his parents worked for the Sault Tribe in various health, legal and economic development capacities.

Capriccioso joined *Indian Country Today* in 2008 as a general assignment reporter and was promoted to Washington, D.C. bureau chief for the publication when it became Indian Country Today Media Network in 2011. During his time with ICTMN, he has become a leading writer on tribal-federal relations, scoring several scoops, including a Q&A with President Barack Obama on Native issues and interviews with top political leaders, such as former Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, multiple Cabinet leaders, many members of Congress from both sides of the aisle, former White House Chief of Staff Pete Rouse and Bolivian President Evo Morales. He also recently led reporting of the White House's plan to avoid paying a substantial amount of contract support costs owed to tribes. The ensuing controversy eventually led the Obama administration to fully reverse course.

Capriccioso's reporting was recognized by the Native American Journalists Association (NAJA) in 2005 and has been awarded every year since 2009, including a beat award in 2015 for general excellence in coverage of Washington, D.C.

Capriccioso recently sat down to answer some questions posed to him by *Win Awenen Nisitotung* about his recent election to NAJA's Board of Directors.

Sault Tribe: How do you feel about being elected to the NAJA Board?

R.C.: It was a difficult decision to put my name up for consideration. The deadline for entering came just a few weeks after my mom, the late-great Marcy Capriccioso, passed away in mid-May this year after a 15-month battle against pancreatic cancer. I seriously didn't know if I was prepared to go forward with a new, important duty like this one, but I had discussed the election with mom prior to her untimely passing - and she encouraged me to run. I kept hearing her encouragement run through my mind as I decided to enter my name. I definitely feel like she played a spiritual role in helping me decide to run and become elected to the NAJA Board of Directors at this time.

Sault Tribe: Have you attend-



Rob Capriccioso, Washington, D.C. bureau chief at Indian Country Today Media Network, with his family at NAJA.

ed the National Native Media Conference in the past?

R.C.: I have attended several National Native Media Conferences since becoming a member of NAJA soon after graduating from the University of Michigan in the early 2000s. I actually ran for the NAJA board once before at one of the first conferences I attended, fresh out of college, and I narrowly lost. Back then, I printed up campaign buttons and fliers and I was so disappointed not to win, as I felt it was important to get a younger perspective on the board in the age of a rapidly changing media landscape. I think my added experience in the journalism industry greatly helped my run this time around. And I didn't waste time with buttons and fliers - I just shook hands, met with folks one-on-one, and stood on my journalistic record and my platform for the future of the organization. I feel wiser about journalism in many respects since my first run, yet I also try to maintain a youthful optimism and ideology about the field.

Sault Tribe: How often does the board meet and what does being a board member mean to you?

R.C.: I am still learning all the details on meetings and tasks involved with this role, although

I do already know that we have a few yearly meetings, including an annual retreat. Far beyond helping with fundraising, I ran for this position mainly to help improve Native press access in D.C. (and everywhere else) and to make sure we support fearless, factual Native-focused journalism as we continue to foster young Native journalists and inspire and grow the NAJA membership through innovation. It means the world to me to advocate for my profession in these ways.

Sault Tribe: What is your vision, and what strengths do you hope to bring to the board?

R.C.: I certainly want to be a driving force within NAJA in getting the Native press better recognized on the national level by the White House, Congress, the federal courts and mainstream political campaigns and organizations. We always need to be invited and supported in our efforts to cover politics and policy that impact American Indians, yet Indian journalists who have tried to receive congressional press credentials and other federal credentials have often faced unnecessary obstacles. In turn, our interview requests have often gone unheeded, our ability to cover tribal-federal meetings has been hampered and Indian country has generally received less attention than it

should. There is no reason that tribal newspaper reporters and journalists for national Indian-focused publications should be limited in their access, yet this injustice still happens to this very day. I believe that my position in D.C. and close familiarity with these problems will help NAJA to better advocate for improved access to policymakers, and that can only be good for Indian country.

Sault Tribe: ICTMN encouraged you...?

R.C.: I currently serve as the Washington, D.C. Bureau Chief for Indian Country Today Media Network, having started with Indian Country Today in early 2007 as a general assignment reporter. My bosses and colleagues were quite enthusiastic in supporting my run for the NAJA board. Like I do, they want to broadly increase visibility of Native journalism. Before working for Indian Country Today, I was a contributing writer to *American Indian Report*, *News From Indian Country* and *Cultural Survival Quarterly*. Along the way, I have been fortunate to collaborate with several mainstream media outlets, including NPR, PBS, *Smithsonian Magazine*, and *The New York Times*.

Sault Tribe: Your family attended the conference with you, how did they feel about seeing you elected to the board?

R.C.: My wonderful wife, Katrina, and my awesome kids, Bella and Loretto (who is named after my dad's old school in the Sault), are proud of me, and they let me feel it every day. I am so fortunate to have them on my side. They all know my mom wanted this election to happen for me, so they supported me with all their hearts. One thing that gets us all very excited and maybe even a little nervous is that Katrina is expecting twins later this year -- two more Sault tribal citizens! So we all know that there will be much more work for all of us to do in every aspect of our lives and we are preparing ourselves for the challenge. My mom learned that Katrina was pregnant on Mother's Day, a few days before her passing, and she was overjoyed--she was so looking forward to having another grandchild to love and pamper. We did not know that we would be having twins when we told her of the pregnancy, so I can't help but think that she and my dad in heaven might have played a role in helping give us that extra,

happy surprise once they were reunited.

Sault Tribe: You were born and raised in the U.P. and are a Sault Tribe member. There are many other leaders in Washington, D.C. that are tribal members. Do you feel you are a strong group?

R.C.: I always miss being home in the Sault, because living in the D.C. area can often be complicated, expensive, and sometimes frustrating, especially when sitting for hours in traffic. But I am so happy that my work gives me the opportunity to meet with and cover Native Americans from all over the country, including many friends from the Sault Tribe. I see more and more Sault Tribe leaders and citizens visiting and also advocating from Washington for our tribe, helping our tribe gain access to federal dollars and nurturing important tribal-federal trust relationships. I am honored to be one of them. The Sault tribal leadership has held a couple of meetings with Sault tribal citizens living in the D.C. area in recent years, and I was fortunate to attend one of those gatherings with my kids, who loved learning more about their Sault Tribe roots. I look forward to many more such meetings to come, so that our collective Sault Tribe voice can grow even stronger in Washington in years to come.

Sault Tribe: In what ways has growing up in the U.P. as a tribal member influenced who you are today?

R.C.: My mom and dad were both strongly involved with the Sault Tribe, and they were always so happy and content being with their friends from home. As many people know, my mom worked for the tribe for many years in the substance abuse department and at the pharmacy, and my dad helped the tribe with legal and economic development issues before his much-too-early passing in 1992. Both of my parents taught me how important my tribal and familial roots are in every decision I make in life. When I was younger, I didn't always realize what my parents were trying to instill in me, but now that I am a little older, I see that they were trying to help me never forget who I am and where I come from. That is important because now I can share my experiences and hopes with more people, including my children, family, friends, colleagues, and policymakers to ultimately try to make this world, including the Sault, a better place.

Write your representatives in support of bills S.1497 and H.R. 3603 to keep federal Indian funding from budget reductions

From "Exemption," Page 1
tion, was referred to the House Committee on the Budget.

The Senate proposal, S.1497, A bill to exempt the Indian Health Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and certain other programs for Indians from sequestration.

Currently, according to official federal documents, only certain tribal and Indian trust accounts

are wholly protected from budgetary reductions. Exemptions are provided for the Veterans Administration, Social Security, certain medical and nutrition programs along with other unspecified taxation and debt obligations.

Both bills propose to amend Section 255 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 905) by adding a new subsec-

tion titled "American Indian And Alaska Native Programs," which lists programs that primarily serve American Indian concerns that shall be exempt from reduction under any order. The programs listed are all programs administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Indian Education, Indian Health Service, Office of Indian Education of the Department of Education and

all programs authorized under Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.), Office of Native American Programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, all tribal justice and safety programs administered by the Department of Justice and all programs administered by the Administration for Native Americans of the Department of

Health and Human Services.

Tribal members can contact their representatives to support these bills.

You can find your senator at: http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm.

You can find your Representative to Congress at: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/find/>

Scholarship recipients for 2015-16 announced

FROM SAULT TRIBE HIGHER EDUCATION

Sault Tribe Higher Education is pleased to name the 2015-16 scholarship recipients.

Bernard Bouschor Honorary Scholarship – Chelsea Freele, freshman at Northern Michigan University, nursing major.

Pamela Cable Gershon Scholarship – Kimberly Jodoin, freshman at Michigan State University, animal science major.

John P. Carr Scholarship – Casey Vadnais, freshman at Michigan Technological University, engineering major.

Don Corp Scholarship – Kayla Baker, student at Grand Valley State University, history major.

June Curran Porcaro Scholarship – Elizabeth Wayne, senior at Northern Michigan University, social work major.

Fred L. Hatch Memorial Teacher Education Scholarship – Daraka McLeod, senior at Northern Michigan University, elementary education major.

Lori Jump Survivor Honorary Scholarship – Hillary Hengesbach, senior at Michigan State University, social work major.

Joseph K. Lumsden Memorial Scholarship – Brandi MacArthur, senior at Lake Superior State University, fisheries and wildlife management major.

Vic Matson Sr. Tributary Scholarship – Cody Jodoin, senior at Lake Superior State University, fisheries and wildlife management major.

Ken McCoy GED College Scholarship – Justin Lindsay, sophomore at Bay Mills Community College, general studies major.

Mary and Harold “Cub” McKerchie Tributary Scholarship – Marianne McCreight, junior at Eastern Michigan University, written communications major.

Martha Miller Tributary Scholarship – Cole Contois, freshman at Northern Michigan University, majoring in human services.

George K. Nolan Tribal Judicial Scholarship – Kevin Sweeney, graduate from Michigan State University, criminal justice major.

Barb and Ed “Pie” Pine Tributary Scholarship – Riane Greene, freshman at Michigan Technological University, engineering major.

Wright-Hatch Journalism Scholarship – Sarah Andrews, senior at Virginia Commonwealth University, communication arts major.

The Nokimos Scholarship – Mary Sabina Osagwin and Christine Muscoe Anderson – Carrie Gable, sophomore at Central Michigan University, psychology major.

Donald “Duck” Andress Honoree Tributary Scholarship – Taylor Becker, senior at Grand Valley State University, nursing major.

Martha “Marty” Snyder Honoree Tributary Scholarship – Ryan Barton, freshman at Michigan Tech. University, computer science major.

Anita Nelson Honoree Tributary Scholarship – Karlee Decet, freshman at Central

Michigan University, business administration major.

Noah T. Leask Family Scholarship recipients:

1. Samantha Hillock, senior at Ferris State University, graphic media management major.

2. Noah Brooks, sophomore at University of New Mexico, economics major.

3. Elizabeth Arnold, senior at Davenport University, business management major.

4. Lauren Cvengros, freshman at Michigan State University, finance/business major.

5. Nicholas Cushman, University of Michigan graduate, pharmaceutical pharmacy major.

6. Natasha Myhal, University of Kansas graduate, indigenous law major.

7. Thomas Janetos, freshman at Louisiana State University, natural resource management.

8. Jessica Mitchell, senior at Florida State University, exercise science major.

9. David Decet, senior at the University of Michigan, business administration major.

10. Molly Matson, junior at Grand Valley State University, nursing major.

11. Joshua Elliot, senior at Northwood University, entertainment, sports and promotion major.

12. Alexandra Myhal, Medical Student at Ohio State University, veterinarian major.

13. John Goetz, freshman at Northern Michigan University, art and design major.

14. Marissa Huffman, sophomore at Radford University, psychology major.

15. Rachel Ross, junior at the University of Michigan, biomedical engineering major.

16. Morgan MacArthur, senior at University of Michigan, psychology major.

17. Erica Kodramaz, graduate from the University of Michigan, physical therapy major.

18. Ann DeRusha, junior at Virginia Commonwealth University, marketing major.

19. Hannah Blanchard, sophomore at Delta College, dental assistant major.

20. Cole Ives, freshman at Central Michigan University, mechanical engineering major.

21. Jacob Driedric, sophomore at Lake Superior State University, criminal justice major.

22. Anna Harrington, freshman at Central Michigan University, purchasing and supply management major.

23. Stefan Saffian, senior at Central Michigan University, sociology major.

24. Cristina Savaglio, junior at Loyola University, sociology major.

25. Rochelle McFarlane, sophomore at Bay Mills Community College, business administration major.

26. Marylou Hengesbach, freshman at Lansing Community College, business major.

27. Isabel Reid, sophomore at the University of North Carolina, English and psychology major.

28. Nicholas Lamantia, freshman at Saginaw Valley State University, athletic training major.

29. Courtney Kirby, sophomore at Walters State Community College, business major.

30. Andreaka Jump, sophomore

at Northern Michigan University, general studies major.

31. Aaron Vandenberg, junior at Grand Valley State University.

32. Laura Porterfield, senior at Central Michigan University, political science major.

33. Stephen Weesies, junior at Muskegon Community College, criminal justice major.

34. Andrew Johnston, sophomore at Alpena Community College, business administration major.

35. Adam Povey, junior at Lake Superior State University, mathematics major.

Four Special Needs Scholarships were awarded to two students who were under the age of 18 and to two students who were over 18. These students were awarded \$1,000 for the coming academic year to assist with direct educational expenses.

This year the Sault Tribe Higher Education Scholarships Committee reviewed essays from 87 applicants. The task of judging the essays was not easy as every applicant seemed so deserving.

The essays were competitively evaluated and selections were made accordingly.

Our scholarships would not be possible without the hard work of organizations such as the Sault Tribe Golf Scholarship Fundraiser Committee, our generous vendors and other contributors who have made donations toward our program to make our scholarships available for our students. Due to a special donation made by Sault Tribe member Noah Leask, owner of ISHPI Information Technology, Inc. the Sault Tribe Higher Education Department was able to offer 35 Noah T. Leask Family Scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each.

Our Scholarship Program will be offered again next year between April 1 and June 1, 2016. The application packet, scholarship essay topic and a list of scholarships will be available on April 1, 2016.

For more information, contact Brandi MacArthur, administrative assistant, Sault Tribe Higher Education at bmacArthur@

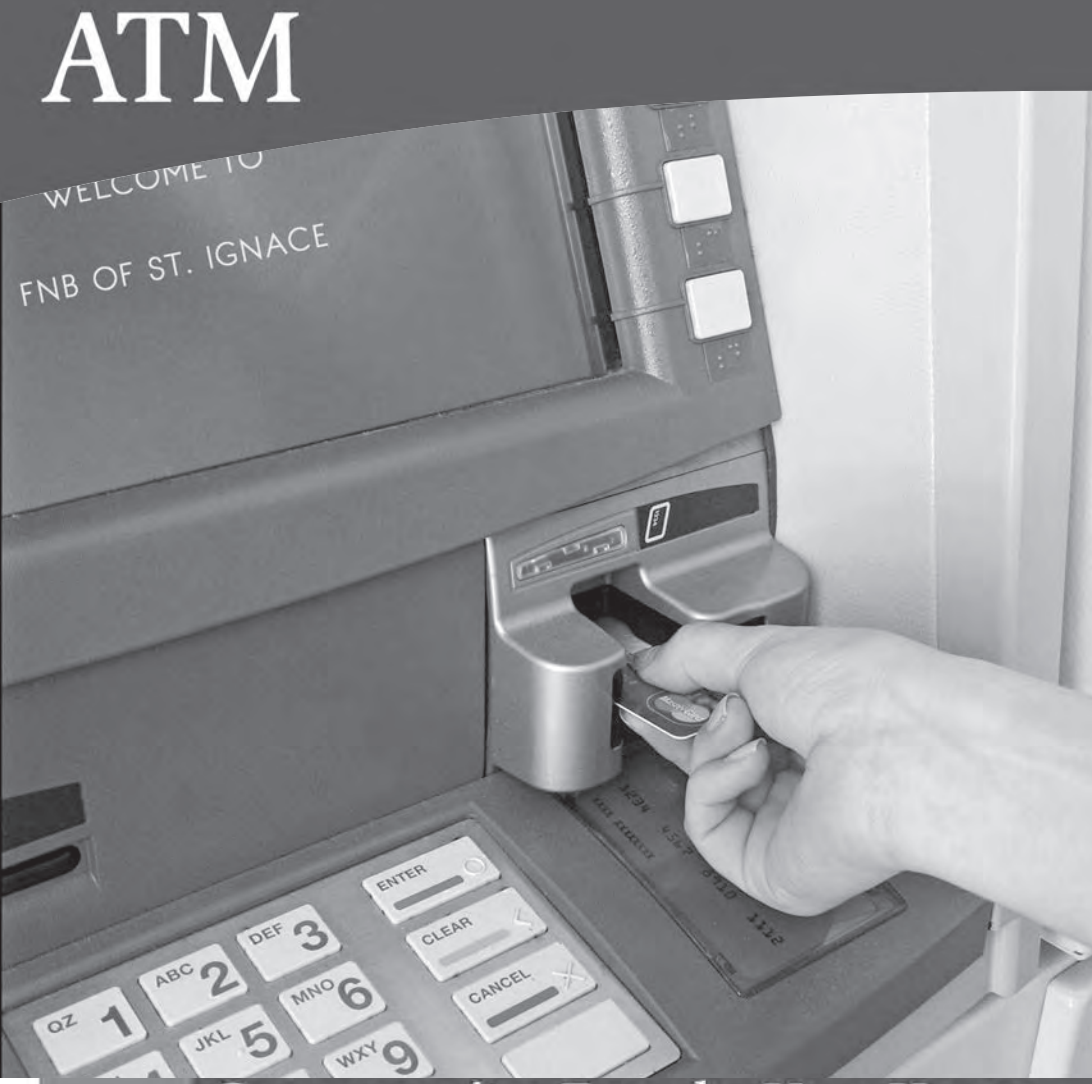
saulttribe.net or (906) 635-6050, extension 26312.

GED on summer break

Congratulations to our 2015 adult education graduates! Classes will resume for the 2015-16 school year on Sept. 14, 2015.

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 MI eLibrary at 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, or call the Consolidated Community School Services at (906) 495-7305.



ATM

WELCOME TO
FNB OF ST. IGNACE

Community People You Know™

The ATM has become a part of our culture. Need cash? Use your ATM. Need to check a balance? Use your ATM. ATM's are just one of many services we offer for your convenience. See us today.

Open your account today by stopping at one of our 7 local banking offices!



“We’re Right Here at Home”

Branch Offices at:
NORTH BAY & MORAN TOWNSHIP, ST. IGNACE
CEDARVILLE • MACKINAC ISLAND
NAUBINWAY • NEWBERRY

Member FDIC



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

Visit us online at
www.fnbsi.com

Trust the Eastern Upper Peninsula's
oldest community bank,
celebrating 127 years of
continuous service to the area.



Member FDIC

Join the tribe's third Let's Get Local Challenge

The food in the accompanying photo, sent by a 2013 participant, shows how beautiful a simple meal can be when it is made from fresh local ingredients! What are some other benefits of eating local? Consider these points adapted from Rita Klavinski's (Michigan State University Extension) April 2013 post on seven benefits of eating local foods:

- **Locally grown food is full of flavor.** Many times produce at local markets has been picked within 24 hours of your purchase.

- **Eating local food is eating seasonally.** Local foods are in-season foods and this is when they taste the best!

- **Local foods have more nutrients.** Local food has a shorter time between harvest and your table, and it is less likely that the nutrient value has decreased.

- **Local food supports the local economy.** The money that is spent with local farmers and growers all stays close to home.

- **Local food benefits the environment.** By purchasing locally grown foods you help maintain farmland and green or open space in your community.

- **Local foods promote a safer food supply.** The more steps there are between you and your food's source the more chances



there are for contamination.

- **Local growers can tell you how the food was grown.** You can ask what practices they use to raise and harvest the crops. When you know where your food comes from and who grew it, you know a lot more about that food.

This August, join the Chippewa County Healthy Food Access Committee and the Tribal Food Sovereignty Collaborative in putting some of your grocery budget back into your community while putting healthy local foods on your table. Both groups work to further objectives of the Health and Wellness in Indian Country and Partnerships to Improve

Community Health grants funded through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The goal of the challenge is for participants to pledge to eat at least one meal per week made of local foods. Everyone defines "local" a little differently. Try to work your way through this priority list:

- Food grown, raised or produced in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, or better-yet, your hometown.

- Foods grown, raised or produced in Michigan.

- If all else fails, look for minimally processed foods grown, produced or raised in the U.S.!

Sign up through www.chal-

lengerunner.com where you will see options to upload pictures and stories of your local meals. Submit up to four pictures (one per week) or stories throughout the month to be entered up to four times for a prize drawing at the end of the challenge.

Your best bet for local produce is still the Farmers Market (check below for your area), but local foods are popping up everywhere. Be sure to let us know if we are missing your favorite local foods vendor.

- **Curtis Farmers Market** at Lion's Pavilion on Wednesdays, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. through September.

- **DeTour Village Farmers Market** next to the Fire Hall on Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. through September.

- **Engadine Farmers Market** at Township Pavilion on Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon through September.

- **Les Cheneaux Farmers Market** at 2900 W. M-134 on Fridays, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. through October.

- **Manistique Farmers Market** at Little Bear West Arena on Wednesdays, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. through September.

- **Munising Farmers and Artisans Market** at Bayshore Park on Tuesdays, from 4 p.m. to

7 p.m. through mid-October.

- **Newberry Farmers and Artisans Market** on Newberry Avenue on Thursdays, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. through early October.

- **Pickford Farmers Market at Township Hall** on Thursdays, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. through October.

- **Sault Ste. Marie Farmers Market** at Ashmun and Portage on Wednesdays, from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. through October.

- **St. Ignace Bayside Farmers Market** at St. Ignace Marina on Thursdays, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. through September.

In addition, don't forget to check roadside farm stands, "mom and pop" stores and local health food stores. Join a CSA (community supported agriculture group where, for a fee, you'll get a weekly box of fresh produce from local farm). Check www.upfoodexchange.com for more information. Also check www.greatlakeswhitefish.com/index.php/retail-list for a list of places to buy local whitefish (not a complete list).

Check out www.healthysault-tribe.com and www.up4health.org for more on the local food challenge, local foods in general, healthful eating and healthful living.

Families learn benefits of having home gardens

BY COMMUNITY HEALTH STAFF

Local children and their parents learned about health promoting eating habits and the benefits of shopping locally during a gardening workshop sponsored by Sault Tribe Early Childhood Education Programs and Sault Tribe Community Health.

During the hands-on workshop, children learned how to safely cut vegetables and hand assembled their own vegetable pitas and roll-ups. All participants received seed packets, starter plants, planting pots, soil, chopping boards and Curious Chef Knives for kids. Kathryn O'Donnell of the MSU-Food Corps led the workshop and Sault Tribe member Nancy Griffin of Sweet Grass Farms donated small gloves and watering pails for the event.

O'Donnell and Griffin talked about the food chain and the importance of knowing where food comes from. They provided helpful tips and demonstrations to attendees about how easy planting and growing a small garden can be and involved the children in their demonstrations.

Andrea Matson and her son, Easton, attended the event. "As soon as we got home that night, Easton made us put our garden together," Matson said. "He told his dad about his gloves that he won and wore his gloves all night. He was so excited about the gloves he even put them back on after the bath and slept with them."

The Sault Tribe Early Childhood Education Programs is now accepting applications for the 2015-16 program year. If you are interested in an application for Early Head Start, Head Start or child care, please call (906) 632-5258 or 635-7722.

This event was made possible

by the Sault Tribe Community Health Partnerships to Improve Community Health grant funded through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The partnerships support farm to pre-

school activities and encourage families to eat healthfully and shop locally.

For more information, visit www.UP4health.org or email communityhealth@saulttribe.net.



Andrea Matson and her son, Easton, who loved the event.



Samantha Esson and her daughter, Gracie, attended.



Amy Nolan shows her niece, Allie Nolan, how to safely cut carrots.



Nancy Griffin helps Easton Hendrick, Bentley Parker and Ella Esson with the gardening buckets and gloves she donated.

August recognized as *Kids Eat Right* month

With childhood obesity on the rise, making sure kids eat right and get plenty of exercise is vital.

Parents and caregivers can play a big role in children's nutrition and health, teaching kids about healthful foods, acting as a good role model and making sure physical activity is incorporated into each day.

August, which is Kids Eat Right Month, is a great time for families to focus on the importance of healthful eating and active lifestyles. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics is encouraging families to take the following steps:

- Shop smart. To encourage healthful living, get your children involved in selecting the food that will appear at the breakfast, lunch or dinner table.

- Cook healthfully. Involve your child in the cutting, mixing and preparation of meals. They will learn about food and may even be enticed to try new foods they helped prepare.

- Eat right. Sit down together

as a family to enjoy a wonderful meal and the opportunity to share the day's experiences with one another. Research indicates that those families who eat together have a stronger bond, and children have higher self-confidence and perform better in school.

- Healthful habits. You can help kids form great, healthful habits by setting a good example. Fill half your plate with fruits and vegetables, choose lower-sodium options and make at least half the grains your family eats whole grains. For beverages, choose water over sugary drinks, and opt for fat-free or low-fat milk.

- Get moving. Aside from being a great way to spend time together, regular physical activity is vital to strengthen muscle and bones, promote a healthy body weight, support learning, develop social skills and build self-esteem. Kids are encouraged to be active for 60 minutes per day.

Getting kids to eat right can sometimes be a challenge, particularly if they are picky eaters. But



Making wraps together can be a fun and healthy family activity.

experts say that a conversation can help.

"Talk to your children. Learn the foods they like. Teach them about the foods they need for their growing bodies. Find ways together to make sure they have the knowledge and ability to eat healthful and tasty foods at every meal," says Angela Lemond, registered dietitian nutritionist and Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics spokesperson.

It may help to consult a reg-

istered dietitian nutritionist in your area to ensure your family is getting the nutrients it needs with a meal plan tailored to your lifestyle and busy schedule.

For more healthful eating tips, recipes, videos and to learn more about Kids Eat Right Month, visit www.KidsEatRight.org.

This August, reevaluate your family's eating and exercise habits, and take steps to make positive, healthful changes. Contact your tribal health center for help:

- Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health Center, 2864 Ashmun, Sault Ste. Marie, 632-5200 or (877) 256-0009.

- Sault Tribal Health and Human Services Center, 1140 N. State St. Suite 2805, St. Ignace, 643-8689 or (877) 256-0135.

- Munising Tribal Community Center, 622 West Superior St., Munising, 387-4614 or (800) 236-4705.

- Manistique Tribal Center, 5698W Hwy US-2, Manistique, 341-8469 or (866) 401-0043.

- Newberry Community Health Center, 4935 Zee Ba Tik Lane, Newberry, 293-8181.

- Hessel Community Health Center, 3355 N. 3 Mile Rd., Hessel, 484-2727.

- Escanaba Tribal Health Center (Penstar office building), 1401 North 26th St., Suite 105, Escanaba, 786-2636.

- Marquette area (Mondays only), 1414 West Fair Avenue, Suite 108, Marquette, (387-4614, calls routed via Munising health services).

Michigan Breast Density Law is now in effect

LANSING — Earlier this summer, the Michigan Breast Density Notification Law went into effect as a result of Public Act 517 of 2014. Because of the law, all women who undergo mammography in Michigan will receive a letter from the facility where they received their mammogram describing their breast density and mammogram results in order to raise awareness of breast cancer risks.

While mammograms remain the gold standard for detecting breast tumors, they're less reli-

able in women with dense breast tissue. Dense or fibrous tissue shows up as splotches of white on a mammogram, as do tumors.

Breast density is reported in a way that ensures consistency and ranges from least dense, almost entirely fatty, to extremely dense, which is considered the most thick with very little fat. Greater density on a mammogram makes it more difficult to detect a breast cancer due to cancer being potentially masked by dense breast tissue. The expanse of dense white tissue is more likely

to obscure cancer than a fatty, less dense background.

In addition to raising awareness, the law also urges patients to discuss their mammogram results with their primary care provider. This is to decide if supplemental imaging, in addition to the mammogram, should be considered based on their individual risk.

To assist with these discussions, an online education resource has been created for physicians by the University of Michigan Health System in

conjunction with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. It is designed to improve understanding of the Michigan Breast Density Notification Law and how it can be used to help Michigan residents.

The new website and educational resources will help primary care physicians become familiar with the law as well as the screening guidelines for the early detection of breast cancer. There are six continuing education modules in which physicians

have the opportunity to receive continuing medical education credit.

The modules will cover: additional information about breast density; breast cancer screening guidelines; risk assessment and patient counseling; supplemental screening; educational materials; and online resources for providers.

For more information about the Michigan Breast Density Notification Law and to view the online educational resources, visit www.midensebreasts.org.

Project Fresh programs — what, how and why

Why are there two different programs?

Women and children up to age 5 (excluding infants) currently enrolled in the WIC program can get coupons for fresh fruits and vegetables. Women who are either pregnant or breastfeeding are targeted to help meet their special nutritional needs.

Senior Project FRESH/Market FRESH originates from U.S. Department of Agriculture funding. It is part of the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program and these federal dollars come out of the federal Farm Bill. The program was designed to benefit both farmers and seniors.

To qualify, and older adult must be aged 60 years or older, have a total household income of 185 percent of poverty or less and live in the county where the coupons are issued.

You may also receive coupons if you are a participant in the MDCH Wisewoman program.

How are coupons distributed to these two populations?

Coupons are distributed differently to these two populations as well as each county differs. How do seniors learn they may be eligible for the coupons? A notice goes out in the newspaper that they are available and the consumers must call the offices below and ask to be put on the list. No extra books will be distributed until after the IN PERSON training is held (see below).

WIC clients are directly targeted at their WIC appointments.

For seniors, booklets come in 10 \$20 coupons. Each client is given a list of the farmers markets in all three counties that accept these coupons. They receive the coupons from the county they live in, but can use them anywhere. For example someone who lives in Curtis would get the coupons from the Mackinac County contact (below) but could use them in Newberry

or any other location. You can use your coupons from May 1 until Oct. 31.

For WIC clients, each client receives a \$20 booklet of 10 \$2 coupons to be used June 1 through Oct. 31. The health department has until Sept. 30 to distribute these coupons. The program ends Oct. 31.

Clients DO NOT receive change from the coupons when they buy something, but they can put money with it. For example, if they are buying \$3 worth of fruit, they may use a \$2 coupon and a \$1 bill.

Chippewa and Mackinac County senior coupons — Michelle Jarvie, MSU extension educator, 749 Hombach Street in St. Ignace, (906) 643-7307, extension 2 or jarviem1@anr.msu.edu.

Luce County senior coupons — Steve Taylor, Community Action, 207 Newberry Avenue in Newberry, 293-5621 or taylor@clmcaa.com.

Chippewa County WIC coupons — Chippewa County Health Department,

Renee Tschirhart, 253-3184.

Luce County and Mackinac County WIC coupons — LMAS District Health Department, Babette Harris, 387-2297 or bharris@lmasdhd.org.

What education do coupon recipients receive?

The coupons are initially handed out at an in-person meeting. The information is put in the newspaper but they can call the respective location. For Chippewa County, the session is at Bayliss Public Library and in Mackinac County it is usually at the senior lunch sites in Cedarville, St. Ignace and Engadine. A nutrition program is presented and then the coupons are distributed. Participants are given materials from the nutrition program, a handout of what can be purchased and a copy of the list of farmers markets where the coupons can be used.

WIC clients see their caseworker at each local health department.

Diabetes Day 2015: Exercise is the best medicine

Do you think treating diabetes is all about pills or shots, doctor visits and diet food? Come to the 2015 annual Sault Tribe Diabetes Day to find exciting new ways to improve your health and diabetes management. Learn how to find a fun activity and make it a regular part of your life, no matter what your circumstances. Now that's a prescription you can get excited to fill!

As always, stop in to get your flu vaccine, as well as glucose

and blood pressure screenings. Watch a cooking demonstration or take part in food sampling at 11 a.m. An exercise demonstration, which may include yoga or Pilates, will take place at 1 p.m. Stop in anytime during the event to visit our experts in nutrition, diabetes, health education, smoking cessation, traditional medicine, dentistry, optometry and behavioral health. As a bonus, visit representatives from the North Country Trail group to find out local out-

door activity opportunities. There may also be a VA representative at certain locations to answer questions.

Sample healthy snacks, pick up great freebies from the health booths and get all your questions answered! Don't forget to enter at the registration table for our grand prize drawing: a Fit Bit One, wearable technology that tracks exercise, calories burned and sleep.

Hear Kelli Verdecchia, RN,

MSN and assistant professor of nursing at Lake Superior State University School of Nursing, an expert in the field of kidney health, talk about managing diabetes to prevent kidney damage.

Take part in an interactive food demonstration led by Marlene Porcaro, nutrition educator for the United States Department of Agriculture Commodity Food Distribution Program.

Open to the public and everyone is welcome!

Check out Diabetes Day at these locations:

- Hessel Tribal Health Center, Hessel, Thursday, Sept. 24, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

- Sault Tribe Health Center auditorium, Sault Ste. Marie, Tuesday, Sept. 29, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

- Kewadin Shores Casino, Events Center, St. Ignace, Sept. 30, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Inspiring words, essential information and fun giveaways — don't miss it!

Birth announcement . . .

PARKER J. VANDERMATE

Parker Jeffrey Vandermate was born on May 11, 2015, in Holland Hospital, to RJ and Jenna (nee Cairns) Vandermate of West Olive, Mich. He weighed 8 pounds, 8 ounces, and was 21 inches in length.

Parker joins big brother, Braden, and big sister, Adelyn.

His grandparents are Jeff and Kim Cairns of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and Randy and Carol Vandermate of Rudyard, Mich. Great-

grandparents are Wilma (late John) Cairns of Sugar Island, Clayton and Marna McGahey of Sault Ste. Marie, Chuck and Judy Vandermate of Grand Haven, Mich., and Bill and Tena Docter of Byron Center, Mich. His great-great-great aunt is Albertina Perry of Sault Ste. Marie. Uncles and aunts are Justin and Keane Cairns of Sault Ste. Marie, Ellie and William Vandermate of Rudyard, and Daniel and Erika Vandermate of Detroit, Mich.



Walking on . . .

SUSAN M. BASCOM

Susan M. Bascom, 60, of Williamsfield, Ohio, passed away on May 9, 2015, at Hillcrest Hospital in Mayfield Heights, Ohio. Born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on Feb. 11, 1955, she was the daughter of the late Bruce and Evelyn Osborne.

She is survived by her husband, Craig Bascom; son, Jacob; sisters, Kathleen Osborne (Bristol, Va.) Patricia Osborne (Eastlake, Ohio) Carolyn "Pawlo" Myhal (Parma Heights, Ohio); a brother, Bruce Thomas Osborne (Las Vegas, Nev.); nieces, Tonya, Kimmy, Kelly, Cole, Alexandra, and Natasha; nephews, Scotty and Bobby; great nephews, Zackery, Scotty, Zane Brandon, Maxwell, Maximus; and great niece, Nia.

A graveside service took place on May 16 at the Osborne Family Cemetery in Dungannon, Va. Pallbearers were Phil Owens, Samuel Owens, Randall Owens, Bobby Osborne, Jacob Osborne, Pawlo Myhal and Freddie Osborne.

Online condolences may be made to the Susan M. Bascom family by visiting the Colonial Funeral Home website at www.colonialfhscott.com. Colonial Funeral Home, Weber City, VA is honored to have served the family of Susan M. Bascom.

BRUCE BELLANT

A traditional Native American burial for Bruce Bellant was conducted on July 11, 2015, at Epoufette Cemetery with Les Ailing, pipe carrier, performing the ceremony. A luncheon followed the ceremony at the Hendricks Township Fire Hall in Epoufette.

Mr. Bellant died on April 10, 2015, at his home in Clarkston. He was born on Aug. 13, 1964, at Fort Riley, Kans., to Charles and Rosanna (nee Frank) Bellant and graduated from W.T.I. in Waterford.

Mr. Bellant was an avid Special Olympian and was a team member on the Holly Bronchos. He loved fishing, camping and bowling and traveled throughout the United States and Europe with his family.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by two brothers, Chip and Tony; two sisters-in-law, Pam and Jenny; his aunts and uncles, Carol Elkins, John Bellant, Jan Bellant, Sandy Blakely, Larry Frank and Sylvester Frank; and

many nieces and nephews.

LAWRENCE J. GALLAGHER

Lawrence James "Larry" Gallagher, aged 86, of Goetzville, Mich., died on July 11, 2015, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

He was born on Jan. 25, 1929, in Detroit, Mich., to Lawrence and Alice Mae (nee Abeer) Gallagher.

Larry lived in DeTour Village, Mich., until the age of 17 when he moved to Sault Ste. Marie and lived there until the age of 24. He married Luella Mae Leonard in Sault Ste. Marie on Feb. 25, 1950. In 1953, they moved to Flint, Mich., where Larry first worked in Grand Blanc and then began working for General Motors at their V-8 engine plant. He retired from General Motors in July of 1986 and he and Luella moved back to the DeTour Village/Goetzville area where he resided until his death.

Larry enjoyed hunting, fishing, outdoor activities, spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, reading, crossword puzzles and playing cribbage with friends at the senior citizens luncheons in Raber.

Larry is survived by his granddaughter, Brandei Benaye Besteman; and great-grandchildren, Devon James Hunt, Rebecca Marie Hunt and Madisyn Jewel Besteman.

Larry was preceded in death by his wife, Luella; son, Benjamin Jewel Gallagher; great-granddaughter, Hope Benaye Besteman; and brother, William Gallagher.

Services will be private. Inurnment will be in Lytle Cemetery in Goetzville, DeTour Township, Mich.

R. Galer Funeral Home in Pickford, Mich., served the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.rgalerfuneral-home.com.

DIANE M. GOETZ

Diane Marie Goetz, 67, passed away as a result of cancer on July 19, 2015. She was at the Hospice House of the EUP with her loving children by her side. Diane was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on Dec. 12, 1947. She was the oldest child of six to James and Eldrus (Annie) Cryderman Goetz of Dafter, Mich. She resided in Sault Ste. Marie most of her life.

Diane graduated from Sault Area High School. She waitressed for many years and raised her

four children. She taught each of them about always giving and loving each other as well as others. She loved to babysit her grandchildren as they were growing up. Her children and her grandchildren were the love of her life. She loved spending time with each one of them. She never missed a day calling on the phone to see what they were up to and to say, "I love you."

She also enjoyed playing cribbage and cards with anyone visiting her, especially her grandchildren, on the many overnight slumber parties. Diane was the most generous person. She gave endlessly, even when she really did not have it to give. She was an avid supporter of St. Jude's Hospital and many other charities that called upon her. She was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and a very devout Catholic. Diane had very dear friends; two especially, Faye Thompson and Peggy Conley, both of whom were faithfully there for her since the day they met.

Diane is survived by her daughters, Lisa Mattson (Ozzie Smith) of Dafter, Terri Rosebohm, Leann (Ben) Smith of Sault Ste. Marie and her only son, Rick (Tiffany) Escherich of Dafter; 11 grandchildren, Lindsey, Landon, Ozro, Lanie, Krystal, Cody, Cassidy, Haylie, Cayd, Molly and Jase; four great-grandchildren, Ryder, Bentlee, Keira and Nova; her mother, Eldrus Anne Goetz; four brothers and a sister, David (Beverly) Goetz, Terry (Marcia) Goetz, Debbie Ashetzie, Larry Goetz and Darryl Goetz; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Diane was preceded in death by her father, James Edward Goetz, in 1985.

A funeral mass took place St. Mary's ProCathedral Church in Sault Ste. Marie on July 27, 2015, with Father Sebastian Kavumkal as celebrant. Burial took place immediately following at Diane's final resting place, Oaklawn Chapel Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, please consider the needs of the family to help cover the cost of Diane's final services. Cards and donations may be sent to The family of Diane Goetz c/o Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home, 113 Maple Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Special thanks to Father Sebastian, Hospice House of the EUP, Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home and the American Legion and volunteers for all their assistance at this very sad time.

Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com.

HERBERT L. LEWIS

Herbert Leo Lewis, 84, of Kingsford, Mich., passed away on July 19, 2015, at his home. He was born on March 2, 1931, on Sugar Island, Mich., son of the late Hugh and Sophia (nee Baker) Lewis.

He attended school at Sugar Island and Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Upon graduating from high school, he enlisted in the United States Army, during which time he served in the Korean Conflict. Following his honorable discharge from the Army, he moved to Detroit where he worked as a foreman for General Motors. However, the call of the outdoors was too strong and he moved back to Michigan's Upper Peninsula where he pursued a career in forestry at Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Mich., opened a local business in Iron Mountain, Mich., and ultimately settled down to raise a family.

Herb was an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He loved playing music and is well known for the talent that he brought to many local bands. He made friends easily and was well liked in many circles. More than anything, he enjoyed hunting, fishing and being outdoors.

Herb is survived by his sons, Ryan Lewis of Phoenix, Ariz., and Randy Day of Detroit, Mich.; daughter, Renee Summers of Detroit; and many grandchildren. Herb is leaving behind a good number of family, friends and memories.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Eloyce (nee Walsh) Lewis; brothers and sisters, Milton, Edward, Herman, Louise, Della, Luella and Norma.

A memorial service to celebrate his life will be held at a later date.

DALE PETERSON

Dale Peterson, 54, of Stonington, Mich., passed away at his home on June 28, 2015. He was born on Dec. 5, 1960, in Escanaba, Mich., the son of Harriet Nelson and the late Gordon Peterson.

He was raised in Stonington and was a 1979 graduate of Rapid River High School. Following high school, he went to work at Riverside as a mechanic. In 1982, Dale began his employment at Mead Paper and worked there for 33 years. He was an avid stock



car driver and raced for 37 years.

He is survived by his wife, Jayne; mother, Harriet; three brothers, Craig of Wells, Mich., and Duane and Donald of Green Bay, Wisc.; sister, Theresa of DePere, Wisc.; and two step children.

Skradski Family Funeral Home was entrusted with Dale's remains. He was laid to rest at Bay De Noc Cememtry in Rapid River.

RICHARD A. SHAW

Richard Allen Shaw, aged 51, of Rudyard Mich., formerly of Pickford, Mich., died on July 7, 2015, in Pickford. He was born on Aug. 30, 1963, in Biddeford, Maine to Roger Owen and Lila June (nee Kelly) Shaw Sr.

Rick grew up in DeTour, Mich. After high school, he moved to Gillette, Wyo., and Oregon where he worked in the oil fields for several years before moving back to the eastern Upper Peninsula for work as a corrections officer. On Sept. 6, 2014, he married Sheri Frakes Royer. After working for the Department of Corrections for 26 years, Rick retired in December of 2014. He enjoyed the comradery he had with fellow corrections officers for many years in Kincheloe.

He loved to be outdoors, hunting, fishing and camping and liked to cook as well. He was an excellent handyman who could fix almost anything. He also enjoyed and cherished every minute he had with his family and was a great dad to his children. Rick and Sheri traveled to Jamaica, Mexico, and the Grand Cayman Islands to vacation in the time they had together.

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

Rick is survived by wife, Sheri Shaw; children, Trevor Owen and Taylor Dae Shaw of Pickford; step-daughters, Jamie Lee and Lauren Rae Royer of Rudyard; mother, Lila Shaw of Pickford; grandmother, Martha "Joan" Shaw of DeTour; brother, Roger Owen Shaw Jr. of Pickford; nieces, Natalie Ann and Tiffany Lee Shaw of Pickford; and nephew, Anthony Allen Babbich of Wyoming.

Rick was preceded in death by his grandfather Captain Glenn Shaw; and his father Roger Owen Shaw, Sr.

Visitation and services took place on July 14 at R. Galer Funeral Home in Pickford. Private interment will be at Maple Grove Cemetery.

PROMOTING YOUTH & EDUCATION EFFORTS



Photos clockwise from left: Picture of our Sault Tribe golf scholarship team including Tamara Roche, Jeff Holt, Jake Sillers and Jessica Dumback. Below: Our Youth Council (Holli Carrick, Eric McKerchie Jr., Derek Bouschor Jr.) from Malcolm school with Advisor Rob McRorie and chaperone Lisa McRorie. To the right top, Malcolm Youth Council in the front row waiting to meet Mrs. Obama. Bottom right, meeting Chickasaw Astronaut John Herrington.



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

Ahneen, Booze, Negee:
I was elated to be invited by the White House to participate in the first White House Native Youth Summit. Origin-

nally, it was planned that 500 youth from across the country would participate. Then, 850 confirmed to attend and over 1,000 showed up representing nearly 400 tribal nations. The Sault Tribe was represented by seven youth: Matt Wyers, Olivia Wyers, Brianna Lyons, Morgan Osborn, Derek

Bouschor Jr., Eric McKerchie Jr. and Holli Carrick. They did a wonderful job in representing us. I will request that the chaperones post additional pictures.
I also got to meet the first American Indian Astronaut John Herrington who is a citizen of the Chickasaw Na-

tion. This was so cool!
Finally, I was so inspired by our golf scholarship fundraising team's efforts this year, I had to give \$1,000 of my own funds. I was happy to do so to help get us past our annual goal of \$70,000.
Chi McGwitch,

STRIPPING CHAIRPERSON OF ALL AUTHORITY

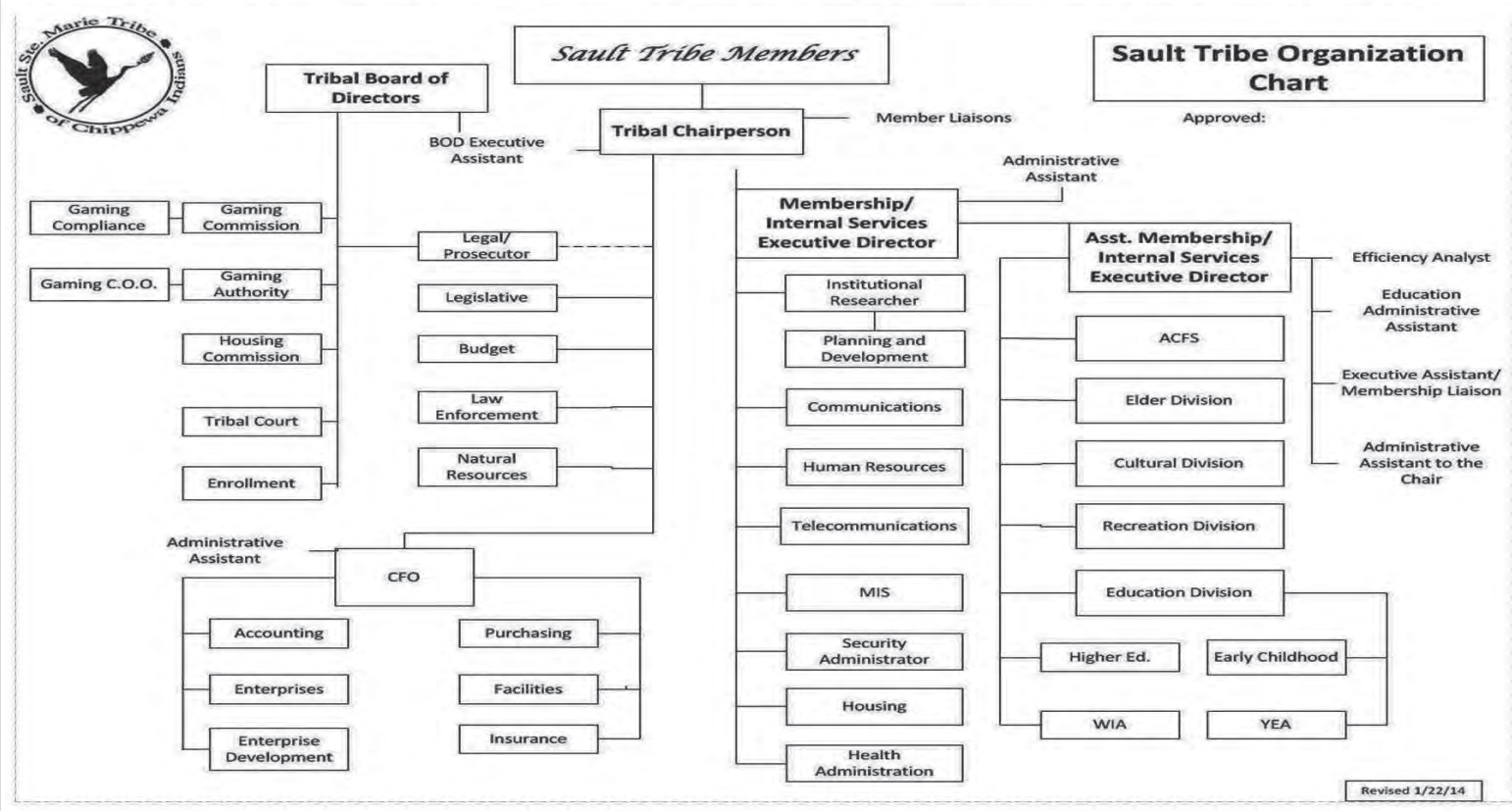
Once again there is a proposed resolution to strip the Chair of ALL authority and make the position nothing more than a figurehead. I think the members support more than a *Kaw-liga* Cigar Indian as their Chairperson. The hate and jealousy of some board members is so blatant, transparent and persistent. Isn't it time to get over their personal issues and get on with better governance?

Little has to be said about the draft new structure given only three or four board members are irresponsible enough to try to thwart the will of the people in their election choice by creating a micromanagement governmental structure that cannot possibly work.

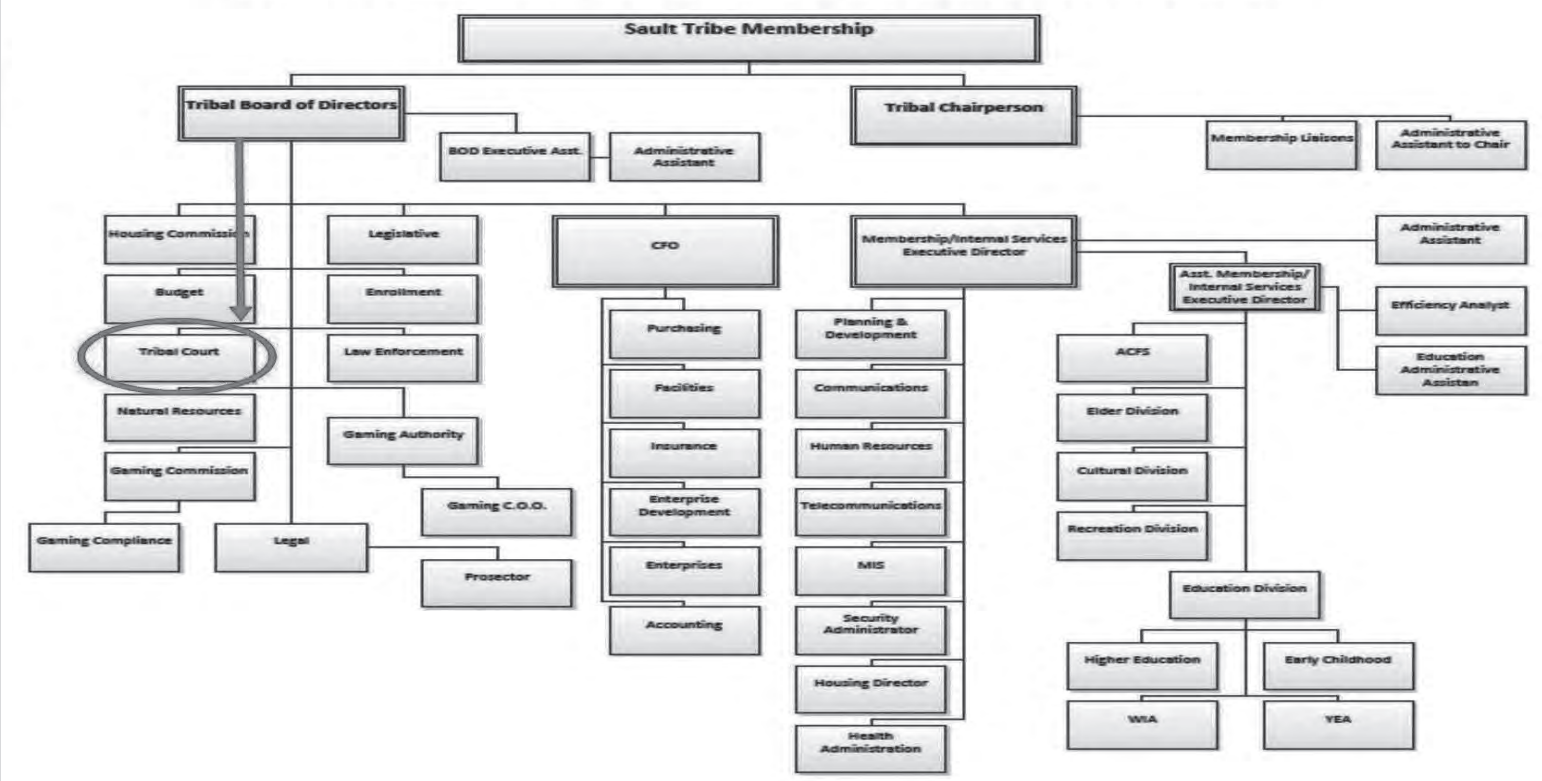
Director Jennifer McLeod has suggested that the proposed change is preferable because it eliminates a "politician" from the day-to-day operations. Her proposal, however, moves the oversight from the chairperson to all the board members. So reporting to 13 politicians is better? Given the factions or camps on the board prevent even scheduling to address the real issues facing the tribe, this proposal will simply not work.

Isn't it time to address real issues and real reform? Stay tuned, as Director McLeod has promised her supporters on the Bouschor Facebook page to keep bring the issue forward.

CURRENT ORG CHART WITH FUNCTIONAL SEPARATION OF POWER



PROPOSED MICROMANAGEMENT ORG CHART



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

WATCH SAULT TRIBE BOARD MEETINGS STREAMED LIVE: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/russmckerchie>

Tribe facing both obstacles and opportunities



DJ HOFFMAN
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

The tribe has many obstacles facing it in the near future, as well as many opportunities for growth and improvement

We need to make sure that we continue address our deficiencies and ignore our personal disagreements to move our tribe forward.

CASINOS

Kewadin Casinos current debt total is \$14,666,666.66 with a maturity date of 2017.

In an effort to ensure the financial stability of the tribe, the board will be considering extending the current note for a total of five years. This will allow the tribe to maintain its current funding levels for services and operation, while increasing the available cap ex for casino improvements.

It is important to note that if

the tribe does not refinance and extend out its current debt it will be forced to cut nearly \$3 million (annually) from governmental programming and services.

For those who continue to display fancy charts or state that our casino properties are performing well, the true measure of performance lays in the amount of actual revenues for tribal services.

If performance is as great as it is being portrayed, the tribe would not need to refinance to prevent cuts.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The board of directors approved resolution 2015-129, FY2015 *Economic Development Assistance Grant*, on June 9, 2015. This grant, if approved, will ensure stable and consistent funding for a period of three years for the economic development director position, as well as support staffing.

I am hopeful that this grant will be approved to shore up the economic development director position, currently posted.

As I have stated, it is my hope that the economic development director will be able to move our businesses in a more profitable manner, as well as lead the charge towards new business development and diversification.

I am also hopeful that our corporate charter, approved by

the BIA, will one day be utilized. This would afford our tribe with the opportunity to develop and maintain businesses free from the meddling of politics, thus ensuring they have a chance to be successful and provide revenues to tribal services.

JKL BAHWETING SCHOOL

The new school gymnasium project is underway. The tribal board of directors approved the loan funding, which will be paid for from the lease revenues of the current JKL facility lease, and selected the contractor for the project.

The new gymnasium facility will feature new opportunities for all of our children's academic and fitness needs. Soon, the 490-plus students will have an area for indoor activities in the winter months, space for athletic practices and a home venue for Christmas concerts and award ceremonies. The children will no longer need to be bussed back and forth to Big Bear for gym class and athletics and the school will no longer need to rent space at outside venues for its concerts and events.

I look forward to seeing the finished project and would like to say "thank you" to all that have made this possibility a reality.

TAXATION

In the past, I have referred to

the tax the tribe has added to its hotel rooms for the local chambers of commerce and CVBs. I have also mentioned the concept of a development tax to provide our tribe with the revenues to diversify our economic base. In the next month I drafted two proposed amendments to the tribe's tax code, development tax and sin tax, for consideration.

The development tax will levy a tax of 5 percent on the customer sales of hotel rooms at all Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority casinos. The proceeds of such tax shall be allocated in support of economic development and diversification projects for the tribe.

The sin tax will levy a tax of .05 cents on the sale of cigarettes and alcohol at all Midjim stores and at all Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority casinos. The proceeds of such tax shall be allocated equally in support of substance abuse and cultural programming.

The tribe, as a government, has the ability to tax and does so on its enterprises as well as hotels. Collectively, these taxes have the ability to generate hundreds of thousands of dollars annually for economic diversification, cultural programming and substance abuse. This will be on the next tribal board workshop to commence the process of consid-

eration.

In the following months, I will be asking for board support for the following:

- Revisiting the processes and procedures for the issuance of tribal license plates.
- Commence working on the provisions for a "right of recall."
- Working towards the enactment of the adopted tribal corporate charter, which can afford our tribe the ability to incorporate businesses and effectively separate governance from business operations.
- Push forward with a code of ethics.
- Work on legislation to allow the tribal membership to challenge the constitutionality of actions taken by the tribal board.

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 we become innovative in our approach to economic diversification, membership services and stepping out of the non-progressive box to which we appear to be confined.

Sincerely,
DJ Hoffman

Cell, (906) 203-0510

Personal e-mail, djwhoffman@hotmail.com

Tribal e-mail: djhoffman@saulttribe.net

Grappling with issues of marijuana policies



CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

The tribe is grappling with a number of recent incidents regarding marijuana use on tribal property. Marijuana in any form is illegal under federal law. However, a number of states, including Michigan, have legalized some forms of marijuana use. Michigan has legalized medical marijuana. This poses numerous issues and conflicts. So many that, although federal law has not changed, the Department of Justice issued a memorandum in December 2014 spelling out its guiding position when it comes to prosecution for Indian Country. Essentially, so long as tribal laws comport with state laws, the federal government will not be devoting resources to the prosecution of marijuana on Indian lands.

The office of U.S Housing and Urban Development followed suit in December 2014 with its own memorandum, clarifying compliance requirements for public assisted housing:

USE OF MARIJUANA INCLUDING MEDICAL MARIJUANA

Recently, a number of states have legalized the use of marijuana specifically for medicinal pur-

poses. Some states have legalized the use of marijuana for recreational purposes. Regardless of the purpose of legalization under state law, the use of marijuana in any form, is illegal under the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) and therefore is an illegal controlled substance under Section 577 of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (QHWRA). Based on federal law, new admissions of medical marijuana users are prohibited.

QHWRA requires that owner/agents establish lease standards that prohibit admission based on the illegal use of controlled substances including state legalized marijuana. State laws that legalize medical marijuana directly conflict with QHWRA and thus are subject to federal preemption.

Assistant Secretary of Public and Tribal Housing issued a memorandum in December 2014 that details how owners enforce the requirements found in the Controlled Substance Act and the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.

Please note the following quotes:

"Owners must deny admission to assisted housing for any household with a member determined to be illegally using a controlled substance (e.g. marijuana). Further, owners may not establish lease provisions or policies that affirmatively permit occupancy by any member of a household who uses marijuana. Owners must establish policies which allow the termination of tenancy of any household with a member who is illegally using marijuana or whose use interferes with the health, safety or right to peaceful enjoyment of the residents.

Section 577 of QHWRA affords owners the discretion to evict or not evict current tenants for their use of marijuana."

"Unlike the prescribed admission standards which prohibit admission to federally assisted housing for any household with a member who the owner determines is illegally using a controlled substance (e.g. marijuana) or the owner has reasonable cause to believe that the illegal use may interfere with the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents, the continued occupancy standards 'allow' termination by the owner. In other words, QHWRA provides owners with

the discretion to determine, on a case-by-case basis, when it is appropriate to terminate the tenancy of the household."

The challenge for our tribe is to ensure our housing policies comply with these guidelines. Otherwise, we risk losing the federal monies that make assisted housing possible. But, as noted above, we do have discretion on how we enforce or comply with these policies. After speaking with numerous residents of our tribal reservation housing communities, I think there is a need to reform or fine-tune our house rules.

First and foremost, we must protect the health, safety and

right to the peaceful enjoyment of the premises by all residents of community. At the same time, I've heard of law enforcement practices that appear to go far beyond those requirements. Some of our most vulnerable population resides in our tribal housing communities. With medical marijuana being legal in the state of Michigan, I am uncomfortable with an overemphasis of medical marijuana use—especially since the abuse of prescription drugs seems to be the real gateway drugs leading to hard-core street drugs in our tribal communities.

Please call me with questions and concerns any time at (906) 430-5551 or 483-6821.

Contact your board representative

Aaron Payment, Chairperson
1716 Shunk Road
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
aaronpayment@saulttribe.net or
906-440-5937

Cathy Abramson, Unit I
3875 S. Nicolet
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
cabramson@saulttribe.net or
906-322-3823

Kimberle Gravelle, Unit I
1607 W. 4th Avenue
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
kkgravelle@saulttribe.net or
906-203-6083

DJ Hoffman, Unit I
1309 Park Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
djwhoffman@saulttribe.net or
906-203-0510

Dennis McKelvie, Unit I
Treasurer
7496 S. Homestead Road

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
dmckelvie@saulttribe.net or
906-203-6698

Jennifer McLeod, Unit I
8900 E. Willow Lane
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
Jmcleod1@saulttribe.net or
906-440-9151

Lana Causley, Unit II
PO BOX 531
Hessel, MI 49745
lcausley@saulttribe.net or
906-484-2954

Catherine Hollowell, Unit II
1125 S Tassier Road
Cedarville, MI 49719
chollowell@saulttribe.net or
906-430-5551

Keith Massaway, Unit III
702 Hazelton Street
St. Ignace, MI 49781
kmassaway@saulttribe.net or
906-643-6981

Bridgett Sorenson, Unit III
Secretary
2334 Shore Drive
St. Ignace, MI 49781
bsorenson@saulttribe.net or
906-430-0536

Denise Chase, Unit IV
Vice chairperson
PO BOX 161
Manistique, MI 49854
dchase@saulttribe.net or
906-203-2471

Darcy Morrow, Unit IV
PO BOX 441
Manistique, MI 49854
dmorrow@saulttribe.net or
906-298-1888

Rita Glyptis, Unit V
PO Box 160
Autrain, MI 49806
rglyptis@saulttribe.net or
906-202-3224

Tribe should strive to provide better services



DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

This past Saturday, Director Chase and I attended the Escanaba elders' picnic held at Gladstone Park. It was a beauti-

ful day for a cookout, thank you to everyone who attended.

The Marquette elders' picnic is on Aug. 8 at Beaver Grove starting at noon. The Manistique elders will have a picnic on Aug. 19 at the Manistique Tribal Center starting at noon.

I do not think I would be doing any justice if I didn't let tribal members know that they are not really a concern for certain board members. As it gets closer to election time only certain tribal members or communities matter.

The board makeup is really interesting — you have individuals making financial decisions that couldn't even balance their own checkbook. I am not say-

ing this to be rude — this is our tribe's reality and unless tribal members start being heard and not allowing this to continue, it will. Don't just take their word for everything, do your homework.

I have sat at this board table for three years and I continue to be amazed how they pack up to ensure their communities are always ahead of all other members throughout the seven-county service area. When the western end speaks up for equal services for Units IV and V, we are told we are greedy. If looking out for the members who have many obstacles to get services (for example, long distances to the nearest health

center, no transportation, no gas money, etc.) is considered greedy by other board members, then I guess I am. All we are asking is that all members in the seven-county services area be considered when funding comes available.

The tribe is moving at a snail's pace to make progressive changes where we need to. I have watched no one being held accountable in top management from governmental to Kewadin Casinos — this disturbs me. As board members, we should want the best treatment and services for our members. We should be striving to provide them the easiest way to receive services instead of making it harder for

them. I have been with the tribe for over 20 years and I can't believe we have allowed our members to be treated the way they are treated when it comes to seeking out services. This is our tribe — we should be getting better at taking care of our own instead of worse. If board members don't care how the members are treated then why are they there? I hope this doesn't disturb you too much but it's a reality Unit IV deals with every day.

Thank you, feel free to contact me.

Darcy Morrow
(906) 298-1888
dmorrow@saulttribe.net
P.O. Box 441, Manistique, MI 49854

Options needed for upcoming pharmacy regs



DENISE CHASE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

I brought the following information and concerns about the 340B Rx Drug Discount Program issue to the last adhoc committee meeting in Sault Ste. Marie. Unfortunately, the board members on the committee didn't attend other than Director Glyptis and myself (Director Morrow was out sick).

There were not enough committee members in attendance to even have a quorum to approve the minutes from the last meeting. But, we at least went through the agenda items and received updates from the staff. This was frustrating, especially after traveling over four hours round trip to attend this very important meeting; and not enough committee members showed up to have a discussion on the access to care agenda items, nor the 340B handout. I gave a copy of the 340B issue to the board secretary to distribute the following day to board members at the workshop and asked that these options and other options (including stats and costs) that Health Division comes up with be brought back to a workshop with the board of directors prior to the Oct. 1 implementation date and hopefully be scheduled sometime in August or September. As I stated, these options are only suggestions from talking to elders living in and outside the seven-county service area and (getting their prescriptions through the tribe) community members, staff and fellow board members. I would hope that our Health Division will bring forward more options and, of

course, include the financials cost and impact.

Staff have stated if we don't implement the changes we will be out of compliance and during audit findings we will be fined for each non-compliant prescription and could be ineligible to participate as an organization in the 340B program.

After fines or being kicked out of the program, or both, our increased cost for medications is estimated to be between a \$2-3 million increase to our pharmacy's budget. I asked to receive a breakdown of that \$2-3 million increase — show the actual dollar amount, percent of elders who are 60 and above, and what that cost would be out of the \$2-3 million.

When we were informed about the 340B Rx issue in St. Ignace, I thought it was an informational workshop and then there would be more discussion (options) and approval from the tribal board before being implemented. I am asking that the federal regulations be researched further and suggested options for elders, and then be provided to the full board before any further implementation of this occurs. I cannot sit by without doing my job by advocating for the neediest of the needy, our elders. I had many concerns when I found out it was being implemented Oct. 1, and after numerous lengthy conversations and phone calls, visits, and attending elder meetings and listening to their concerns, learned that this will be a hardship forced onto our most vulnerable and fragile elders.

There are some suggestions that would allow our most vulnerable elders to continue care with their non-tribal health center providers (or, as #4 option indicates, with the tribe) and allow them to avoid the restrictions being enforced on the tribe by the federal 340B prescriptions requirements.

1) As do other tribes, provide Medicare Part D prescription coverage paid for by the tribe. Research the cost for the tribe to provide the Medicare Part D for prescription coverage to all or at least, the most vulnerable at risk elders. Possibly a decision

for some sort of a means testing could be made on a select group of those elders within a certain age range (or for all elders over 60 years old) living within a certain range of poverty, living over our hour within the seven county service area from a tribal health center, etc. (options). Most of these elders are not currently coming to us (they are doctoring elsewhere) so the impact would not change the patient count numbers that we currently report to IHS.

2) Research the total prescription cost for the PRC (Contract Health Program) to continue to pay for the prescriptions that are not on our formulary at the pharmacies that are currently used by our Elders in the U.P. In addition, research and include the cost to pay for all of their prescriptions at the contracted pharmacies. Negotiate contracts at the local pharmacies to pay only the Medicare like rates or negotiate another lesser rate for all prescriptions provided. This could be costly, however this cost analysis will allow the decision to be made by the full board for all elders.

3) The most feasible and possibly the less costly could be to pay for the Medicare Part D for the highest at risk and vulnerable elders.

4) For those at risk elders living in the remote communities from the main four ambulatory care centers and who wish to transfer their care to a tribal provider (or who have a tribal provider but cannot easily travel) consider re-establishing monthly or bi-monthly wellness clinics as was done for many years prior to 2008 at the Community Health Program sites (Newberry, Escanaba, Marquette, Hessel). However this time the focus would be on the elders and be "well-elder clinics only for elders. The elders would still be seen by our providers, so would not be a problem meeting the 340B prescription restrictions.

5) If the elders choose to not come to the tribe as a result of no transportation, no money, no support system, they will stop taking their medications. I can't bear to think of the negative health related impact of this sce-

nario. If this happens, it could potentially result in a significant cost savings to the Health Division budget for prescriptions that the tribe would not be providing. (But at what cost to elders?) The savings could then be transferred to the PRC program to fund all of the prescriptions being filled for elders at the outside pharmacies.

6) Develop a program and transfer third party revenue income from our health centers into the PRC (contract health) program to purchase the prescriptions being filled for elders at outside pharmacies.

Here is a list of barriers and hardships for elders I compiled as reported to me by elders, their families, and staff (if we go through with requiring them back into our tribal facilities):

- Distance and transportation;
- Can't drive due to poor health/can't travel;
- Time consuming, long traveling distances 1-3 hours one way, 2-6 hours round trip;
- No money, limited financially;
- Crippling and poor health status;
- Roads closed down, unsafe winter travel;
- Adverse weather conditions;
- Disabled elders suffering from one or more chronic diseases;
- No family who care, or just no family;
- No phones;
- Mobile limitations;
- Having to travel to receive services places a burden on the elders;
- Physical limitations, acute conditions;
- Any delay in receiving care can have serious adverse consequences;
- Prevalence of functional limitations increases with age;
- Too proud to ask for help;
- Elders falling through the cracks;
- Frail and disabled;
- Our elders face some of the worst health disparities, like cardiovascular disease, cancers, diabetes, obesity, acute conditions, dialysis, etc.;
- Elders need providers with whom they can develop trust or providers they have

seen for years;

- Concerned about the number and type of providers in each facility; MDs versus PAs;
- Elders can't get in for appointments now
- Transportation is a challenge for our elders, especially in the rural communities;
- Survey their unmet health needs;
- Can be a life or death situation for some of our elders, identify our frail elders;
- The ability for elders to access a primary care provider in the community they identify as home is important;
- Services must be available, which can be accessed in a timely manner;
- Most elders don't have just routine medical needs, they must be able to have sufficient health care access at all times;
- We are putting undue emotional worries on our elders;
- An elder told me she is on over 20 medications and has many medical and mobility issues. Her words were cut off her meds and she will die.

I look forward to the Health Division staff bringing the requested options and cost (including theirs) back to a workshop for further discussion. We need to effectively address this challenge. Elders are one of the most valuable resources our tribe has.

Please contact me by calling (906) 203-2471 or dchase@saulttribe.net.

Thank you,
Denise Chase, vice-chair

Moving?

**Tribal members
remember to call
1-800-251-6597 or
email enrollment@
saulttribe.net when
you move.**

The separation of officiating authority is vital



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin Anishnaabek,

Last month, I spoke to you about the need to have our day-to-day operations handled by an **employee**, rather than an elected official. Currently, the top administrator of the tribe, who has the delegated authority from the board of directors to run the day-to-day operations (aka CEO duties) of our tribal government and enterprises is the chairman. I have worked hard to demonstrate why this is so important, and have refrained from using our current chairman as an example of why it is vital to follow the vote of our people, and separate those powers. However, his behavior does prove my point.

I fear that the current chairman's actions and behaviors as the "day-to-day" administrator are so egregious, and so completely unacceptable, that had he truly been an employee instead of an elected official, I am confident that he would have already been terminated. I will give you two examples: Recently, the chairman of our tribe publicly vilified in social media a current employee. This employee is under the chairman's chain of command, and was called out by name, and accused of committing criminal acts. Did I mention that this employee has been found not guilty in a court of law? There are many opinions about this case, and I truly appreciate the raw feelings of many who feel justice may not have been served. **HOWEVER**, any supervisor, working for our tribe, should certainly face serious disciplinary action, up to and including termination for publishing in social media a subordinate employee's name, and the details of what he was accused of. Yes, I understand that the court information could possibly be found in the public records, but my point is the unprofessional conduct of the chairman. He is the accused's top chain of command supervisor, and the fact is that nothing can be done to the chairman under tribal employee policy because, **THE CHAIRMAN IS NOT AN EMPLOYEE**. All of our employees deserve to work in an appropriate environment, free from fear of retaliations.

Another example: The chairman has directed staff to not attend an official committee meeting with board members, thus forcing the meeting to not take place. If an employee with CEO duties had directed an employee to not attend a legitimate, planned in advanced board of directors committee meeting, I am again confident that disci-

plinary action would have been pursued. But again, the chairman is **NOT** an employee. Failure by an employee to follow a direct order of the chairperson could result in termination.

These are but small instances where the behavior of the chairman acting as the day-to-day administrator (CEO duties) are detrimental to the health of our tribe, and provide perfect examples of why the separation needs to occur.

I still hold that as a matter of principal, and sound business practice, we must put our tribe into a position of operational strength by following the **WILL OF THE PEOPLE**, and separating the duties of the chairman of the tribe from the CEO. Our people voted for this separation! Our failure to do this is hurting our tribe. The day-to-day operation of the tribe needs someone there on a day to day basis. This is not happening.

The chairman is traveling, doing his chairman job, and is gone a large percent of the time. I have often said that he is doing **THAT** job rather well. Unfortunately, our government operations and enterprises need to be handled on a day-to-day basis, and by an **EMPLOYEE** (who can be held immediately accountable), not a **POLITICIAN** (who is accountable every four years).

Our tribe needs stability. The daily operation of our tribal government needs to be consistent from one election to another, and not subject to an upheaval every four years. I have brought the following resolutions to a board of directors workshop, and I will soon be putting it on the agenda for a vote by the board. It is the will of the people. As I said last month, be prepared, you will hear our current chairman accuse me of "stripping away the power of the chairman," and lots of personal attacks against me, and whoever supports this move. But, we've been there before, and I know that our people recognize it for what it is... high drama and politics.

RESOLUTION NO:

RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2012-146 LIMITED DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO THE CHAIRPERSON

WHEREAS, on March 20, 2010, the Tribe held a Secretarial election to amend its Constitution and Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to that election, the members of the Tribe amended Article II, Section 1 of the Bylaws entitled Duties of Officers by deleting language that had directed the Chairperson to "perform all duties consistent with the office as chief executive officer of the tribe;" and

WHEREAS, as so amended, Article II, Section 1 of the Bylaws now provides that the duties of the chairperson are to "preside over all meetings of the board of directors and exercise any other lawful authority delegated the chairperson by the board of directors" and to "vote only in the case of a tie unless otherwise provided by the tribe's constitution and bylaws"; and

WHEREAS, Article IV of the

Constitution provides that "[t]he governing body of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians shall consist of a board of directors"; and

WHEREAS, the effect of the amendment approved by the Secretarial election is to confirm that the authority to direct the operations of the Tribe is not vested independently in the office of the Chairperson but, rather, in the Board of Directors as provided in Article VII of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 1 of the Constitution assigns specific authority to the Board of Directors including the authority to "negotiate and consult with the Federal, State, and local governments"; "expend funds for the public purposes of the tribe"; "adopt resolutions, ordinances and a code" on various subjects within the jurisdiction of the tribe; "manage, lease, sell, acquire or otherwise deal with tribal lands ... or other tribal assets"; and to "manage any and all economic affairs and enterprises of the tribe"; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 1(n) of the Constitution expressly authorizes the Board of Directors to delegate powers and authority to a subordinate tribal officer, board, committee, or group, "reserving the right to review any action taken by virtue of such delegated power or to cancel any delegation;" and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to the efficient operation of the Tribe's governmental and business operations that a single person be delegated the authority to serve as the policy representative of the Board and to manage the day to day operations of the Tribe, subject to the authority of the Board of Directors to review and approve, modify, or rescind any such action and in furtherance of that Resolution No: 2012-146 was adopted on July 13, 2012, authorizing the Chairperson to perform duties generally consistent with the role of a chief executive officer; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that it is required to honor the March 20, 2010, amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws and desires to repeal the authorization given the office of the Chairperson in Resolution No: 2012-146

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby rescinds Resolution No: 2012-146.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors acknowledges those powers inherent in the office of the Chairperson such as serving as the spokesperson for the Tribe on issues requiring a singular voice and carrying out those duties specifically assigned in the Constitution and Bylaws.

Be it finally resolved that all organizational charts, employee policies shall be amended to reflect the reassignment of duties herein.

RESOLUTION NO:

CHANGE OF DUTIES- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR INTERNAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, on March 20,

2010, the Tribe held a Secretarial election to amend its Constitution and Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to that election, the members of the Tribe amended Article II, Section 1 of the Bylaws entitled Duties of Officers by deleting language that had directed the Chairperson to "perform all duties consistent with the office as chief executive officer of the tribe;" and

WHEREAS, as so amended, Article II, Section 1 of the Bylaws now provides that the duties of the chairperson are to "preside over all meetings of the board of directors and exercise any other lawful authority delegated the chairperson by the board of directors" and to "vote only in the case of a tie unless otherwise provided by the tribe's constitution and bylaws"; and

WHEREAS, Article IV of the Constitution provides that "[t]he governing body of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians shall consist of a board of directors"; and

WHEREAS, the effect of the amendment approved by the Secretarial election is to confirm that the authority to direct the operations of the Tribe is not vested independently in the office of the Chairperson but, rather, in the Board of Directors as provided in Article VII of the Constitution; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 1 of the Constitution assigns specific authority to the Board of Directors including the authority to "negotiate and consult with the Federal, State, and local governments"; "expend funds for the public purposes of the tribe"; "adopt resolutions, ordinances and a code" on various subjects within the jurisdiction of the tribe; "manage, lease, sell, acquire or otherwise deal with tribal lands ... or other tribal assets"; and to "manage any and all economic affairs and enterprises of the tribe"; and

WHEREAS, Article VII, Section 1(n) of the Constitution expressly authorizes the Board of Directors to delegate powers and authority to a subordinate tribal officer, board, committee, or group, "reserving the right to review any action taken by virtue of such delegated power or to cancel any delegation;" and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to the efficient operation of the Tribe's governmental and business operations that a single person be delegated the authority to serve as the policy representative of the Board and to manage the day to day operations of the Tribe, subject to the authority of the Board of Directors to review and approve, modify, or rescind any such action and in furtherance of that Resolution No: 2012-146 was adopted on July 13, 2012, authorizing the Chairperson to perform duties generally consistent with the role of a chief executive officer; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that it is required to honor the March 20, 2010, amendment to the Constitution and Bylaws and desires to repeal the authorization given the office of the Chairperson in Resolution No: 2012-146 by herein redistributing

those duties generally administered by a chief executive officer as identified below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors declares that until ordered otherwise by the Board of Directors, the Executive Director for Internal Services shall, in addition to exiting duties contained in the position's job description, perform the following duties:

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 2 below, the Executive Director of Internal Services is authorized and directed to manage and direct the day to day operations of the Tribe including but not limited to the following; guiding and directing tribal governmental and business operations to ensure operational efficiency, quality, service, and cost-effective management of resources and performing all administrative and management functions required to be performed pursuant to the current organizational chart; and

2. In the exercise of the authority delegated to the Executive Director of Internal Services by the Board of Directors in paragraph 1, the Executive Director of Internal Services shall consult with and shall be subject to the direction and review of the Board of Directors consistent with Article VII, Section 1(n) of the Constitution. All actions taken by the Executive Director of Internal Services pursuant to this delegated authority shall be subject to the authority of the Board of Directors and the Board may review, approve, modify, or rescind any such action. The Executive Director of Internal Services shall report to the Board of Directors at each regularly scheduled board workshop and shall provide an update of any activities, issues, decisions, or other matters requiring the attention of the board. In the event that the Executive Director of Internal Services is unable to attend any such workshop, the Executive Director of Internal Services shall assign a designee to provide that report.

3. All organizational charts, job descriptions and personnel policies shall be amended to reflect the reassignment of duties herein.

GOOD NEWS!

Thanks largely in part to the hard work of Director Hoffman, and to the unanimous votes of support from the tribal board of directors, the JKL Baweting School is on its way to having a new GYMNASIUM! In a school of nearly 500 students, the existing gym is rated for merely 53! It is an exciting time and things are moving forward quickly. I wish to thank everyone who is involved with this project, especially Director Hoffman, the charter school board, and my colleagues on the board of directors. I can hardly wait for the day when the kids come busting through the gym doors for the first time!

RUMOR CONTROL

There has been a persistent rumor floating around that I have never been a certified teacher. To set the record straight, I obtained

See "McLeod," page 27

Director Sorenson: Consistency is a must!



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

At the July 7 meeting, the board passed a resolution to amend Tribal Code Chp. 21: Marriage Ordinance. The changes were that a tribal member no longer needs a state of Michigan license to marry and marriage is between two persons instead of a man and woman.

The board voted to establish a 2015 budget for the Epoufette Harbor with the grant award of \$601,972.85 from the Great Lakes Fishery Trust. This will allow the tribe to move forward with the work to make this dock a place for our fisherman to launch into Lake Michigan, which is badly needed.

The Wequayoc Cemetery policy was also passed. There will be no fees for burial plots. Eligibility for burial is enrolled members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and their immediate family members, any other person who has family members already buried there, and repatriated human remains. For the complete policy please see saulttribe.com

There will be an honoring our veterans ceremony at the Wequayoc Cemetery on Aug. 3 at 3 p.m. to honor those veterans buried there.

At the July 21 meeting, the board voted to go forward with building a gymnasium for the JKL Bahweting School. This will allow for the children to have a place to play when the weather is bad instead of having to be bussed to the Big Bear. This will also increase the size of the caf-

eteria. The cost of the project is not to exceed \$1.2 million with the loan to be repaid with the lease payments the tribe charges the school.

It has been about a year-long process but everything is finally set to move forward with building bathrooms at the Hessel powwow grounds. The tribe received a \$10,000 grant from IHS and we will be paying \$6,835 out of tribal support. The board also voted to spend \$8,475 on repairs and maintenance to these grounds. With that vote, there will be \$16,340 spent on the Sault grounds and \$5,000 was added to spend on the Munising old tribal center grounds for their powwow.

The board also passed a budget for \$13,000 to have a new well at the site of the Wequayoc home. The tribe received a \$10,000 grant from IHS for this and will need to spend \$3,000 out of tribal support. Hopefully once the well is replaced, we can move forward with utilizing that property for cultural uses.

The health center advised the board of its plan for succession. The Health Division director will be retiring within the next year and other vital positions as well in the near future. All of our divisions and enterprises need to consider succession planning for the future benefit of the tribe. There were two votes taken at the July 21 meeting on whether to allow for an assistant health director position to be added and posted. The position was put in its 2016 budget and even if the board voted "no," the position probably would have went through later unless the board voted "no" on the whole budget. The first vote failed on hiring an assistant health director. After closed session, it was brought back for another vote and ended in a tie with the chair breaking the tie to hire that position. The position will be added to the list of key employees and will need seven votes of the board to hire and fire that person. I voted "no" on both votes because, as I said at the meeting, I think we are better off to post the health director position because it will

takes months to find someone and get them through the hiring process. The current health director would then be able to train the incoming director because there is no guarantee the assistant will become the director and then the new director could have input on who their assistant will be. You will hear all kinds of B.S. about why people voted the way they did as the vote is criticized. The chair threw a tantrum to make sure there was another vote.

At the July 7 meeting, Linda Knowing submitted a removal petition on Director Glyptis. The petitions were given to our executive secretary, Joanne Carr, and she gave copies to the tribal registrar, Julie Salo. Julie verified the petitions and the board was sent copies of the petitions. The board had 15 days to hold a public meeting to determine whether the petition, on its face, appears to meet the criteria of Tribal Code Chp. 16.

The July 21 meeting was within the 15 days so the board had to take action. Linda Knowing was allowed to present evidence at this meeting. She read the charges and statements from the police report and the court reports. The board then had the option to request the opinion of the legal department or outside counsel on the facial sufficiency of the petition. The board voted 6-5 to have an outside legal opinion. I voted "no" because we have had several investigations that have been conducted by our general counsel and when the petitions came forward on Director Hollowell last year, the general counsel advised the board.

The board can dismiss the petition if it is facially insufficient or they can decide that there is support for probable cause and set the date, time and place for an initial hearing and select a hearing officer and the hearing board, which is three outside attorneys who have no involvement with tribe, relationships with a member of the board or the petitioner and have never provided advice to the board in any capacity.

During the meeting the board heard from many members from Unit V that were very upset that there were no signatures from their unit. They felt that they elected the person and nobody else should be able to vote them out. During the Hollowell process, we were told by our general counsel that once you take the oath of office you represent the entire tribe and that a person maybe very well supported in their unit and the members may be too close to the situation to be able to make that decision.

The problem I have is that no matter what board member is subject to the removal process, the process should remain the same. During last year's removal, the chair called a special meeting to remove Director Hollowell, had a reporter from the *Sault Evening News* in the audience, had radio ads, etc. She was never given due process. Nobody should be treated this way. There needs to be consistency and not choosing sides.

There have been invitations to the board to send directors to meetings and nominations for committees or boards. Some board members have sent emails asking to be considered and are scoffed at because they don't see eye to eye with the chair. This is about the best interest of the tribe, not who you like or don't like. This prompted me to send a reply to the chair because he was acting like a high school drama queen. The chair turned around and posted on Facebook I called him a "queen." When asked by members to supply the email, it was deferred to a later date and then never did appear. All I can say is how many men do you know who post on Facebook that "so and so called me a name." I hate to waste my breathe or paper space but wanted to set the record straight on what I really said. After the July 21 meeting, myself and two directors carpooled to the meeting and he took a picture of me coming out of a gas station and put it on Facebook accusing us of voting the same because we rode together. This behavior is stalking and needs to stop. I will

continue to fight for what is right even under these circumstances.

I would like to thank Jeff Holt, Jake Sillers, Tamara Roche and Jessica Dumback for their hard work on this year's Sault Tribe Golf Scholarship fundraiser. This event usually raises about \$70,000.

I would like to wish all the high school seniors who will be leaving for college the best of luck. You are making your parents and tribe proud for taking the next step to self-sufficiency; study hard so you have choices and better opportunities.

The Rendezvous of the Straits PowWow will be held at the Father Marquette grounds in St. Ignace on Aug. 22 and 23.

I welcome comments or concerns at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

From "McLeod," page 26

my undergraduate degree in Elementary Education from Ferris State University, graduating summa cum laude, with a 4.0 GPA. I did take, and passed, the state of Michigan test for teacher certification. My permit is under "Jennifer McLeod Tyson, Elementary K-5 all subjects" (K-8 All Subjects Self Contained Classroom). I have renewed my permit once, however since I am working as a board member, instead of a teacher, I did not renew this year. According to the Michigan State Department of Education, I can renew whenever I choose, should I elect to return to the classroom. As an aside, I also have Master's degree classes in School Administration.

OUR YOUTH

I met with a young woman (just 17 years old!), and together we are going to hold a talking circle for the youth so they can tell me what is in their heart. They have much to share and I believe in them. Also, I will begin culture/language classes for young people, and eventually the youth will be the teachers... not me. They can DO THIS! I turned instruction over to students many times when I was still in the classroom, and it is an extraordinary learning experience for them. I am very excited to be back working with young people again!

CHI-MIIGWECH

I want to send out a heartfelt chi-miigwech to two women I have had the pleasure of working with over the past three years: Angeline Bulley and Tara McKelvie. You have both been a blessing to me, and to our tribe. Your hard work and dedication is acknowledged and will be missed. I wish you both the best as you embark on your new paths.

And, finally, miigwech to all who have contacted me, and shared your thoughts and perspectives. Working together, we will be strong.

Anishinaabe gagige
(Anishinaabe for always)

Jen
(906) 440-9151

JmcLeod1@saulttribe.net or
jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

Gravelle reviews board action items



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello, during our last board meeting we received a removal petition from the membership. The board voted to send it out for external legal review. This would remove any of the internal pol-

itics that may occur during this review and lets the public know this an unbiased opinion that is being submitted for board action.

The JKL School Board and JKL Fiduciary are moving forward with plans to build a new gym facility for the JKL School. We have been working closely with the JKL School Board based on a survey it completed. A new gym was the number one priority. The gym the school has now is not sufficient for the number of students who attend the school. This could promote healthier programs that would be readily available to the students right on campus and eliminate the need to bus students to the Big Bear for gym class. This would also encourage more students to stay for middle school because they will have the facility to promote

JKL team sports.

As a grantee of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Partnerships to Improve Community Health and Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country grants, the tribe works within the communities of the Eastern Upper Peninsula on policy, systems and environmental change, to reduce commercial tobacco use and increase access to physical activity, nutritious foods, and smoke-free environments.

Sault Tribe Community Health will host the "UP4Health Summit," its third conference on Mackinac Island at Mission Point Resort, Sept. 14-16. This summit will provide information, guidance and technical assistance to communities and others interested in promoting health and wellness

in schools, worksites and communities, enabling healthy choices and environments. For more information, please call Sault Tribe Community Health at (906) 632-5210.

Further, board member DJ Hoffman, submitted a request for an Economic Development Capacity (EDC) Building grant which will fund an EDC position and staffing. Our goal is to support diversification of businesses to help support our tribe into the future. Thank you for taking the initiative to get this project rolling. It has been left on the back burner for too long.

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

Thank you,
Kim Gravelle

SCARECROW

The Best of John 'Cougar' Mellencamp Live!!



Friday, August 21

Doors open at 7 p.m. - Show starts at 8 p.m.

Sunday, August 23

Doors open at 3 p.m. - Show starts at 4 p.m.

Tickets \$12.50

Kewadin
CASINOS
1-800-KEWADIN

KEWADIN SAULT STE. MARIE'S
DREAMMAKERS THEATER

KEWADIN.COM