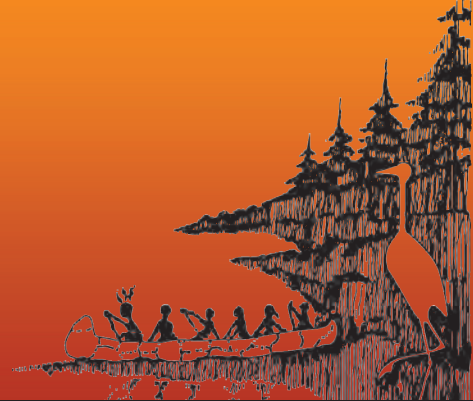




Win Awenen Nisitotung

March 23, 2022 • Vol. 43 No. 3
Sugar Making Moon
Ziisbaakdoke Giizis



Bahweting Bidajimowin • Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

JKL middle school team designs zero waste city

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON
Imagine a city of the future that produces no waste, locally grown food and locally produced energy, with all the jobs and recreation any citizen could want. Seems like paradise for humans and wildlife alike. Eleven JKL middle school students teamed up to design such a city, a city of the future, based on mino bimadza-win, the Anishinaabe good life. Their team essay starts out with this amazing vision:

The Place of the Rapids

“Boozhoo! Welcome to Bahweting, “The Place of the Rapids.” It is 2121 and life is great in our zero-waste city. Our city, formerly known as Sault Ste. Marie, has gone back to the name used by its original inhabitants, the Anishinaabe, who have resided on these lands for the past millennia and continue to do so today. Bahweting is on the St. Mary’s River near Lake Superior and flourishes with beautiful wildlife. The Great Lakes provides an enormous source of freshwater. Our soil is rich and allows for revitalized Anishinaabe food sustainability practices. There is an abundance of fish, wildlife and locally grown



Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton

Middle school students teamed up to create a city for the future to take second place: (from back to front, L-R) Clark Suggitt, Dean Roe, Emma Volrath-Bush, Caleb Daley, Lils Clark, Teacher Susan Solomon, Kamryn Corbiere, Andrew Aikens, Jay Johnson, Cole Gordon and Asia Jones.

food to support our population of 150,000. Our residents are a diverse group including Anishinaabe, people of European descent (who primarily migrated to the region during the 1800s to build Michigan’s infrastructure), and a mixture of people from across

the continent who discovered our geographical area provided comfort and protection from the 21st Century climate crisis.

Bahweting is a bustling city with citizens working in multiple roles. Engineers manage our renewable energy systems, workers install and maintain solar roads and paths, factory workers build household appliances. Additionally, people are working in healthcare, education, agriculture, construction, commerce, at the water plant, and as recycling center personnel, to name just a few of our jobs. For fun, you will find residents outdoors at one of our many green spaces, creating something new in our community Fab Lab, or immersed in a three-dimensional hologram theater.”

On Feb. 25, JKL Bahweting Anishinaabe School’s Future City Team won second place in the state’s Future City Engineering Competition. According to Gifted and Talented Teacher Susan Solomon, who led the team, Future City has teams of middle school students from around the world. “This is JKL’s first time competing in this competition,”

See “**Future Leaders,**” Page 22

EARN IT Act 2022 introduced to House, Senate

The EARN IT Act says tech companies should be held responsible for their complicity in the sexual abuse and exploitation of children when they refuse to report or remove images of these crimes on their platforms.

FROM SAULT TRIBE LAW ENFORCEMENT

The past few years has seen an increase of our culture’s online presence and with that increase, the child protection experts have seen an increase in possible crimes committed against children online.

According to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), by the end of December 2020, they saw a 97.5 percent increase of online enticement reports they received on their CyberTipline. Additionally, by the end of December 2021, the CyberTipline, which was founded in 1998, surpassed 100 million reports of suspected child sexual exploitation (www.missingkids.org/blog/2022/what-is-exploitation).

Some members of the House

of Representatives and Senate recognized this increase and on Feb. 2, 2022, introduced legislation to combat this issue. Congresswomen Ann Wagner (R-MO) and Sylvia Garcia (D-TX) have reintroduced the Elimination Abusive and Rampant Neglect of Interactive Technologies (EARN IT) Act of 2022. This is a companion bill to a Senate bill introduced by Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT).

In her press release, Congresswoman Wagner said, “There is nothing more horrific than the sexual abuse and exploitation of children. Predators are targeting young girls and boys in our community and across the country at unprecedented rates, explicit images and videos of these underage children are bought, sold and distributed over the Internet every day. I will not stand idly by while websites that facilitate this criminal behavior evade accountability.”

In a joint press release with Senator Graham, Senator Blumenthal also had this to say about the bill, “The EARN IT Act is very simply about whether tech companies should be held responsible for their complicity in the sexual abuse and exploitation of children when they refuse to report or remove images of these crimes hosted on their platforms.”

Blumenthal added, “Tech companies have long had ready access to low-cost, or even free tools

to combat the scourge of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) but have failed to act. Millions of these horrifying images go unidentified and unreported by tech platforms that host them because there are so few consequences when these companies look the other way. That ends with the EARN IT Act.”

Senator Graham’s website highlights the following three things in the EARN IT Act:

— Creates a strong incentive for the tech industry to take online child sexual exploitation seriously. The bill amends Section 230 of the Communication Decency Act to remove blanket immunity from federal civil, state criminal and state civil sexual abuse material laws entirely. Service providers will not be treated like everyone else when it comes to combating child sexual exploitations and eradicating CSAM, creating accountability.

— Establishes a National Commission on Online Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention that will be responsible for developing voluntary best practices. The commission consists of the heads of the DOJ, DHS and FTC, along with 16 other members appointed equally by congressional leadership, including representatives from law enforcement, survivors and victims’ services organizations, constitutional law experts, technical experts and industry.

— Recourse for survivors and

tools for enforcement. The bill bolsters enforcement of child sexual abuse material statutes and allow survivors civil recourse. According to Congress.gov, H.R.6544 - EARN IT Act of 2022 replaces statutory references to “child pornography” and “material that contains child pornography” with child sexual abuse material. This bill will also change the reporting requirements for both electronic communication service providers and remote computing service providers who report child sexual exploitation to NCMEC. The bill requires providers to report facts and circumstances sufficient to identify and locate all parties involved including the minor, and increases the time frame that providers must preserve the report information.

We as parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and other caregivers can also help in combating CSAM by visiting NCMEC at <https://www.missingkids.org> for educational materials and to stay informed on the current issues about child safety online. If you find any CSAM and/or suspect a child is being exploited online, go to NCMEC’s CyberTipline at www.missingkids.org/gethelpnow/cybertipline to report it.

If anyone has any questions about Sault Tribe’s sex offender registration and notification requirements, please contact Latisha Willette at (906) 635-6065 or at lwillette@saulttribe.net.

www.saulttribe.com

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Unit I tribal board members sponsor drum workshop

Sault Tribe member Bud Biron taught 16 class participants how to make a hand drum in a recent workshop at the Nokomis-Mishomis Elder Center.



Photos submitted by Bud Biron

Below, Grey Shea starts assembling her drum. At right a completed drum with wood, hide and leather.



Above, Court Morse begins the process of attaching the hide to the wood frame.

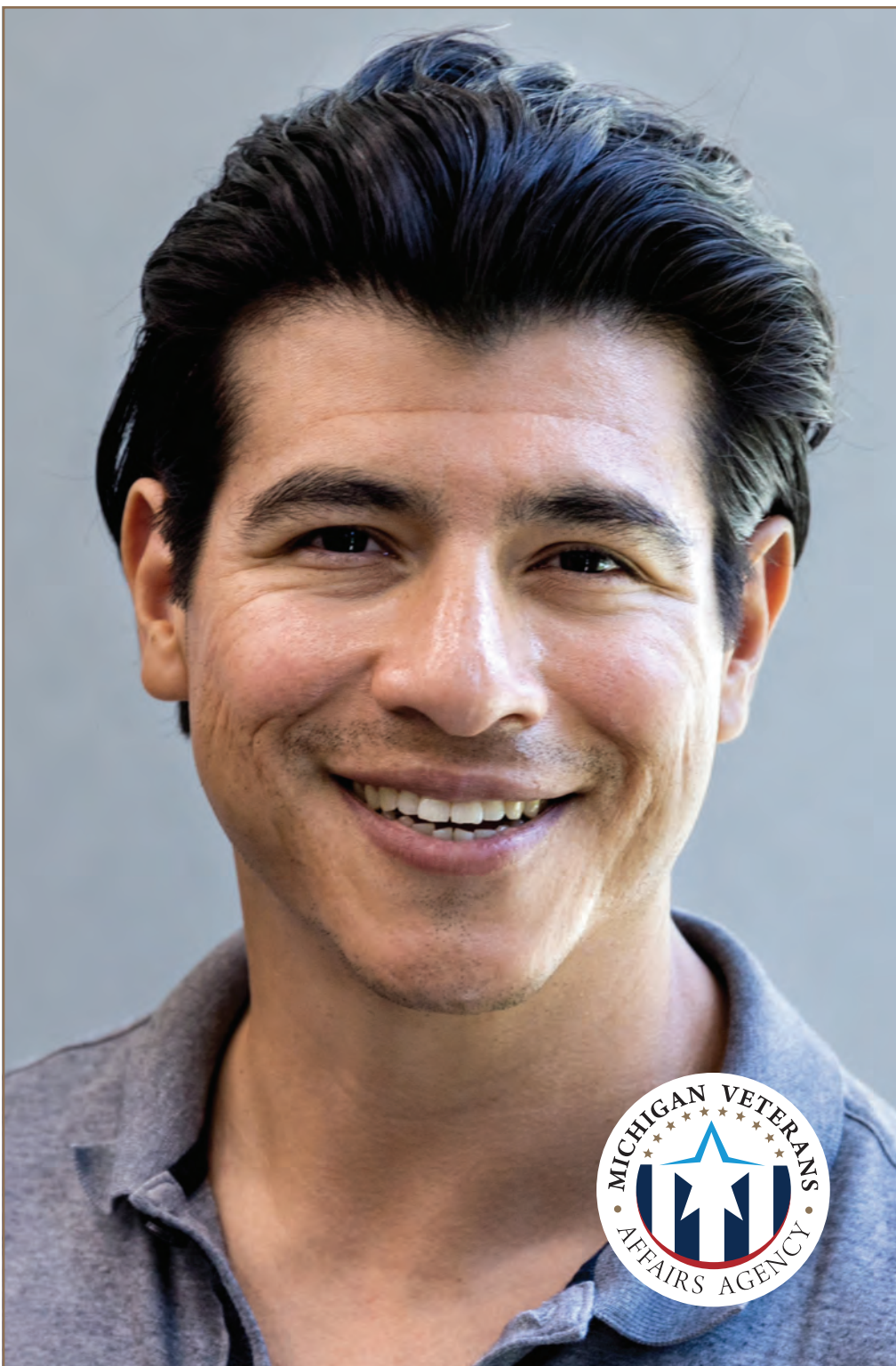



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Child Abuse Prevention Month drive thru event

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services is hosting a child abuse prevention month drive thru event APRIL 21 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Niigaanagizhik Cultural Building's parking lot, located at 11 Ice Circle in the Sault.

Free t-shirts and goodie bags!

Contact Ashley Morrow with any questions at (906) 495-1232.

Come show your support!

Elder Employment Program position announcement

Job title: Office support
 Location: ACFS, 60 Kincheloe, Kincheloe, Mich.
 Program: Elder Employment
 Classification: Part-time, regular (14 hours per week)

Position summary: Directly responsible for providing clerical support services to all Anishnaabek Community and Family Services staff in the areas of answering telephones, correspondence, typing, filing, organizing and other basic office tasks.

Job duties: Greet the public in a professional, courteous manner and assist clientele in receiving requested information and services. Answer phones and transfer to appropriate staff. Record and route messages. Process incoming/outgoing mail and sort/route to appropriate staff in a timely manner. Assist staff with various projects. File, copy, shred and use of fax machine. Typing and use of computer. Vacuum and light cleaning when needed. All other job-related duties as assigned.

Must be a Sault Tribe member age 60 or over and reside within the seven-county service area. Must have a basic knowledge of how to work all office equipment and able to lift up to 20 pounds. Must undergo a Criminal background investigation and complete and pass pre-employment drug testing.

\$13.072 per hour. Open until filled.

Reply to: WIOA Elder Employment, Brenda Cadreau, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Telephone: (906) 635-4767, fax: (906) 635-4981, email: BCadreau@saulttribe.net.

Seeking information about missing, murdered Sault Tribe members

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Any information would be appreciated.

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

Sault Tribe Committee Vacancies, apply today

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

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - Ten vacancies -

four males (4-year term), four female (4-year term)

Child Welfare Committee - Three vacancies (4-year term)

Election Committee - Five vacancies (4-year term)

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

Health Board - Three vacancies (4-year term)

Housing Commission - No Vacancy (4-year term)

Special Needs/Enrollment

Committee - Five vacancies (2-year term)

Unit I - Two vacancies, Unit II - One vacancy, Unit III - Two vacancies. In the event no interested parties are available, members will be appointed at large.

Elder Advisory Committee and Elder Subcommittee information is being updated at this time and will be posted upon availability.

MSUE offers Tai Chi for Diabetes online course free of charge

Michigan State University Extension once more is offering Tai Chi for Diabetes, a tai chi set specifically designed by Dr. Paul Lam, a retired family physician and tai chi master.

Dr. Lam led a team of tai chi and medical specialists to create this program with special features that make it easy to learn and is designed to prevent and improve the control of diabetes. The program will help minimize the risk of complications of diabetes by improving heart and lung function, muscular strength, flexibility, balance and stress reduction.

The Tai Chi for Diabetes program is based on Sun and

Yang style tai chi and incorporates basic and advanced moves, warm up, wind down and Qigong breathing exercises. For people with or without diabetes, Tai Chi for Diabetes is a good way to start your journey to better health. It is an enjoyable and safe set of forms that delivers many health benefits.

MSUE is offering Tai Chi for Diabetes each Monday starting March 14 and going through May 9, at 1 p.m. via Zoom. This online series is led by a certified instructor of Tai Chi for Diabetes and is free to all participants.

Participants will need to register and space is limited. To

register go to: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/taichiforddiabetes2022/>.

You will need video and audio capabilities on your device. **If you have questions or need help to register, contact Anita Carter at carte356@msu.edu or (906) 360-9732.**



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 FREE with proof of membership

Tribal members: need assistance?

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

The liaisons respond to membership issues and follow up to ensure they are resolved.

Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact the liaisons when they need help with

tribal issues by emailing membersconcerns@saulttribe.net or contacting them individually at:

Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, (906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net

Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469; Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, mjenerou@saulttribe.net.

Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

March 23, 2022
 Ziisbaakdoke Giizis
 Sugar Making Moon
 Vol. 43, No. 3

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Bill proposes lessons on Native American boarding schools in Michigan classrooms

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Michigan students in grades 8 through 12 might soon be learning about Native American boarding schools in history class.

Proposed Senate Bill 0876 would amend Michigan's school code to "strongly encourage" the lessons.

State Sen. Wayne Schmidt, R-Traverse City, introduced the bill on Feb. 16 and it was referred to the Committee on Education and Career Readiness that same day.

Indigenous children were often sent to boarding schools through the 19th and 20th centuries, where they were forced to learn English and practice Christianity, resulting in an extraordinary loss of their languages and cultures. The mostly forgotten history of what happened to those children and their families is what the bill aims to preserve.

"It is crucial that schools not only expose, but actively teach,

human travesties throughout the ages, including the Indigenous boarding school atrocities," JKL Middle School Principal Carolyn Dale said. "Young people are our future and it is vital they learn from the past to improve the future."

Dale said today's students are "shocked and appalled" to learn the travesties of the past, even more so when they realize human cruelty and corruption continues around the world to this day.

Boarding schools are defined in the bill as entities that were used for the "cultural assimilation of Indigenous children through the forceful relocation of these children from their families and communities to distant residential facilities where the children's American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian identities, language and beliefs were to be forcibly suppressed."

Children in boarding schools often suffered physical abuse at

the hands of their caregivers. There were at least three boarding schools that existed in Michigan: Mount Pleasant Industrial Boarding School, which closed in 1934; St. Joseph Orphanage and School in Assinins, north of Baraga County in the Upper Peninsula, which closed in the 1950s; and Holy Childhood of Jesus in Harbor Springs, which closed in 1983. Each of these schools had between 200-300 children attend per year and all of them have known cemeteries.

Several survivors of Holy Childhood joined Schmidt to introduce the bill at the State Capitol. One of them, Melissa Moses, who is a member of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, has a 4-year-old great-grandson who causes her to wonder what might happen if the history of the boarding school era is lost to his generation. "This is clearly a dark, tragic part of

our history," Schmidt said. "It's shameful many of the things that went on, and I think that more and more people recognize that."

Kim Fyke, a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, said, "There's only a few more years of us elders here to tell you the story. Otherwise, it's just going to be whatever is out there, whatever was left behind. We're trying to let you guys know what really happened to us."

The proposed bill Senate Bill 0876 can be viewed at <http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2022-SB-0876>.

In similar news, Michigan Governor Whitmer is calling for a study of the state's Indian Boarding Schools. Michigan's 2023 Budget Proposal calls for a one-time appropriation of \$500,000 to conduct the study.

Whitmer met with the state's 12 federally recognized tribes last

September, where all 12 tribal leaders expressed the need for such a study in Michigan.

The proposed appropriation reads, "a statewide study will be performed to research the number of Native American children forced to attend boarding schools in Michigan, the number of children who were abused, died, or went missing while at these schools and the long-term impacts on these children and the families of children forced to attend such schools."

The study is scheduled to be completed by Jan. 30, 2024, and will provide a report and recommendations that will be shared with the public and the State.

Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment, said, "This will be a challenging time requiring us to take a hard look at the stark history, but not for the purposes of blame, but instead to identify what is needed to heal."

Bill would allow Michigan tribes to sell and grow marijuana products

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

A new bill in Lansing would make the selling and growing of recreational marijuana possible on tribal lands.

The bill would create a compact between Michigan and its 12 Indigenous tribes that will allow the state to regulate the growth and sale of marijuana and allow it to be transported from reservations and back.

Rep. Roger Hauck of Union township, the bill's sponsor, said the marijuana industry should be a fair playing field for everyone.

If passed, the bill would allow Michigan's tribes to open up recreational marijuana businesses and receive a portion of the taxes levied on sales.

The House legislation would enable tribal members to get licensed to become growers, processors, transporters and

HOUSE LEGISLATION WOULD ENABLE TRIBAL MEMBERS TO GET LICENSED TO BECOME GROWERS, PROCESSORS, TRANSPORTERS AND TESTERS.

testers. They also would have access to the state's marijuana tracking system, called Metrc.

Whitney Gravelle, president of the executive council for Bay Mills Indian Community, said that when Michigan legalized cannabis in 2018, tribes were forgotten about and have since been playing catch-up.

Under the bill, tribal businesses would be subject to a 6 percent sales tax and 10 percent excise tax, the same rates as other recreational marijuana businesses in Michigan. Like other state municipalities, tribes would also receive a portion of the tax proceeds.

Getting their foot in the door, the Sault Tribe partnered with Lume Cannabis Co. and

in January 2021 began offering high-quality cannabis products for adult-use customers in Sault Ste. Marie and surrounding communities.

Doug Hellyar, president and COO of Lume, said the tribe

welcomed Lume with "open arms" in 2021, and they continue to look forward to serving the cannabis needs of the Sault Ste. Marie community.

Sault Tribe, Inc. CEO and former Sault Tribe Economic Development Executive Director Joel Schultz, said the tribe partnered with Lume

Cannabis Company in 2021 because they have the expertise, passion, values and philosophy to expand economic development on tribal land and bring a safe, high-quality product to the Sault community.

To view the bill, visit: <http://legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?2022-HB-5706>.



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PEST MANAGEMENT TIPS
SPRING 2022








Spring Pest Invaders

Spring is an extremely active season for pests here in Michigan. As the temperatures rise and the grass and trees start to wake up, pests begin waking up too. Unfortunately for us, our homes are the perfect place for these waking pests. With more than enough food and water along with protection from the elements, it's no wonder pests love to invade. To protect your home from an early infestation, here are a few Michigan spring pest control tips.

Know Your Opponent:

- ⇒ Spiders
- ⇒ Ants
- ⇒ Ticks
- ⇒ Stinging insects: Wasps, Bees, Hornets

What to do:

There are many things that can be done to keep pests out of your home. First and foremost sanitation is key with most every pest. Be sure yard debris is removed and away from the house. Place trash in cans with lids away from the structure. Inspect your home for openings around windows and doors – these small cracks and crevices are great entry points for pests. Inside, it's time for a little spring cleaning. Spring cleaning is a good way to eliminate the pests' easy sources of food and water, making your home inhospitable to them. Make sure to quickly clean up any crumbs and spills around the home and properly seal your food. Check for leaky pipes around your home and eliminate excess moisture in the attic or basement with a dehumidifier.

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Bay Mills Community College to honor students of the year at commencement ceremonies

BRIMLEY — Bay Mills Community College will honor two students at commencement ceremonies in May. Crimson Lewis has been selected as the American Indian College Fund's Student of the Year and Cole Brehm has been selected as BMCC's Student of the Year.

Both were nominated by their instructors based on their GPA, ability to overcome challenges and community involvement while attending BMCC.

Lewis, a Pickford resident, hopes to be a physician's assistant in the future. She attributes her success at BMCC to the small class sizes and instructors that are willing to go the extra mile to help students.

"My professors are always willing to help and stay late to make sure all of us as students



American Indian College Fund's Student of the Year Crimson Lewis

understand," said Lewis. "I feel confident in my skills acquired at Bay Mills Community College.



BMCC's Student of the Year Cole Brehm

I'm looking forward to continuing my education to reach my educational goals at a graduate

university."

Throughout her studies, Lewis has worked closely with Science Dept. Chair Diana Cryderman, who has no doubt Lewis will be successful.

"Crimson's dedication and perseverance has shown through in her academic work. She's unafraid to use campus resources and is a mentor to her peers," she said.

Brehm has also made a positive impression on BMCC staff.

Not only is Brehm studying at BMCC, but he has been employed as the student worker and administrative assistant in the president's office.

"Cole has been a pleasure to work with. He is driven, detail oriented, and always up to a challenge. Cole's determination to excel in his studies and the

workplace will allow him to succeed on any path he chooses," Samantha Schroeder, executive assistant to the president, said.

Brehm plans to transfer to a university, where he will major in liberal arts until he determines his career path. He spends his free time mentoring the high school robotics team, in addition to photography and writing.

"BMCC has helped me by offering online courses, which has enabled me to fit school around my schedule perfectly," Brehm said. "I also enjoyed the Native American-centric education given by BMCC, as it is very important and often glossed over in other classes."

BMCC commencement ceremonies are scheduled for May 13 on campus this year. Both students will be delivering remarks during the event.

Elder sub-committee meetings to resume in May

After two years of pandemic closures, the Elder Sub-Committee meetings are scheduled to restart in May. Elder committee members would like to personally invite elders age 60 years and older to attend any sub-committee meeting in their area.

It is a great time to socialize and fellowship with other elders. Elders play a most important role

in our communities. Attending the meetings keeps us informed about tribal programs and matters. If you are interested in attending, below is a list of areas and meeting days.

Unit I – Sault Ste. Marie - First Wednesday of the month - 12:30 p.m. – Elder Building 2076 Shunk Rd.

Unit II – Hessel – Third Monday of the month – 12:30

p.m. - Hessel Tribal Center

Unit II – Naubinway – Last Wednesday of the month – 6:30 p.m. Naubinway Pavilion

Unit II – Newberry – Third Friday of the month - 10:30 a.m. Zellars Restaurant

Unit III – St. Ignace – Second Thursday of the month - 12:30 p.m. – Elders Complex – 3017 Mackinac Trail

Unit IV – Manistique –

Second Wednesday of the month - 12:30 p.m. – Manistique Tribal Center

Unit IV – Escanaba – Second Wednesday of the month – 5:30 p.m. – Chamber of Commerce Building

Unit V – Munising – First Thursday of the month – 11 a.m. – Munising Tribal Center

Unit V – Marquette – First Thursday of the month – 6 p.m.

– Holiday Inn

Elder Advisory Council – Third Friday of the month – 1 p.m. Newberry Tribal Center

The Escanaba Elder meeting and the Elder Advisory Council Meeting day has been changed.

If you are interested in attending or have questions about the elder sub-committees, please contact Holly Kibble at (906) 635-4971.



Nichole M Causley, M.P.A.



Unit 1 Board of Director Candidate



Nichole M Causley, M.P.A.
Unit 1 Candidate
906.259.3792
Coffee w/ Causley
ZOOM- Sat. 10 a.m.
f Nichole M Causley
in CausleyNichole

Dear Tribal Community,
Aanin, boozhoo. Shaaniin Ndiznikaas. My name is Nichole Causley.
After careful consideration, support from Tribal Elders, Youth and Community Members, I have decided to enter the 2022 Sault Tribe Election Cycle. I am seeking your continued support, nomination and vote for a Unit 1 Board of Directors Seat.
My commitment and desire to serve our tribe for 20 years has been rewarding. I enjoy the team work it takes to serve our tribal community. I bring to the table an abundance of experience, education, compassion and a commitment to uphold our Anishinabe Biimaadziwin, something our ancestors sacrificed dearly for. I have a vision of unifying our Tribal Community to bring about the healing needed for our grandchildren and great grandchildren.
Miigwech!
Nichole M. Causley, M.P.A.

- Personal Accomplishments**
JKL School Board Trustee
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 - ✓ Employee Bonuses
 - ✓ Increased Enrollment
 - ✓ Increased NBC Teachers
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 - ✓ Tribal Action Plan Implementation
 - ✓ Recovery Hospital Development
 - ✓ Federal, State, Local project coordination & collaborations
- Community Servant**
 - ✓ SMHA Tournament Director
 - ✓ Cultural Enrichment, Expansion
 - ✓ Sault Tribe Housing Commissioner
 - ✓ Sault Tribe Head Start Policy
 - ✓ First Head Start Pow Wow



Paid for by The Committee to Elect Nichole Causley
Unit 1 Board of Director



Anishinaabemowin 2022

A bird sitting in a tree is never afraid of the branch breaking because its trust is not on the branch but on its own wings. Know yourself. Believe in yourself. Keep learning!

Minookami! It's springtime! (mi-*noo*-ka-mi)

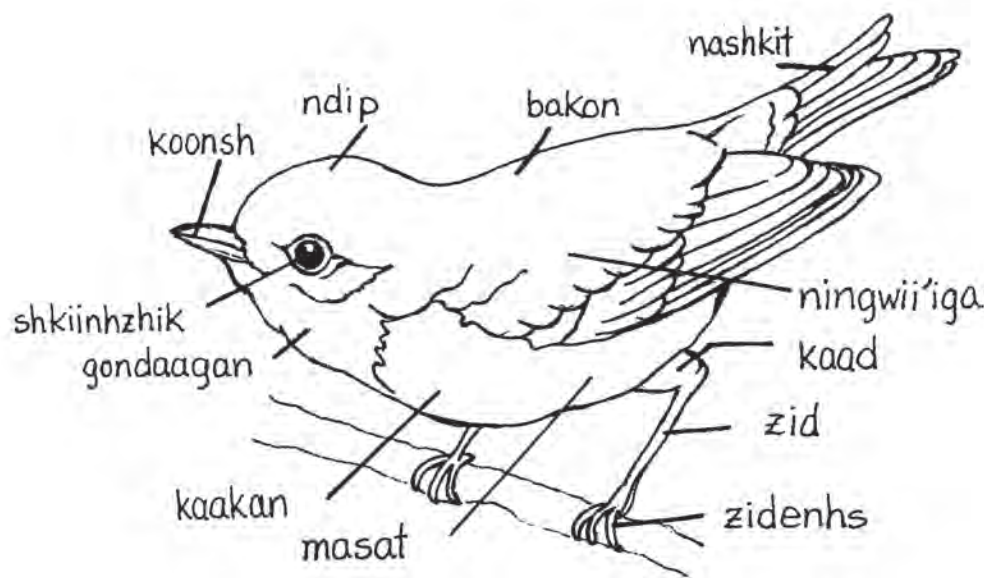
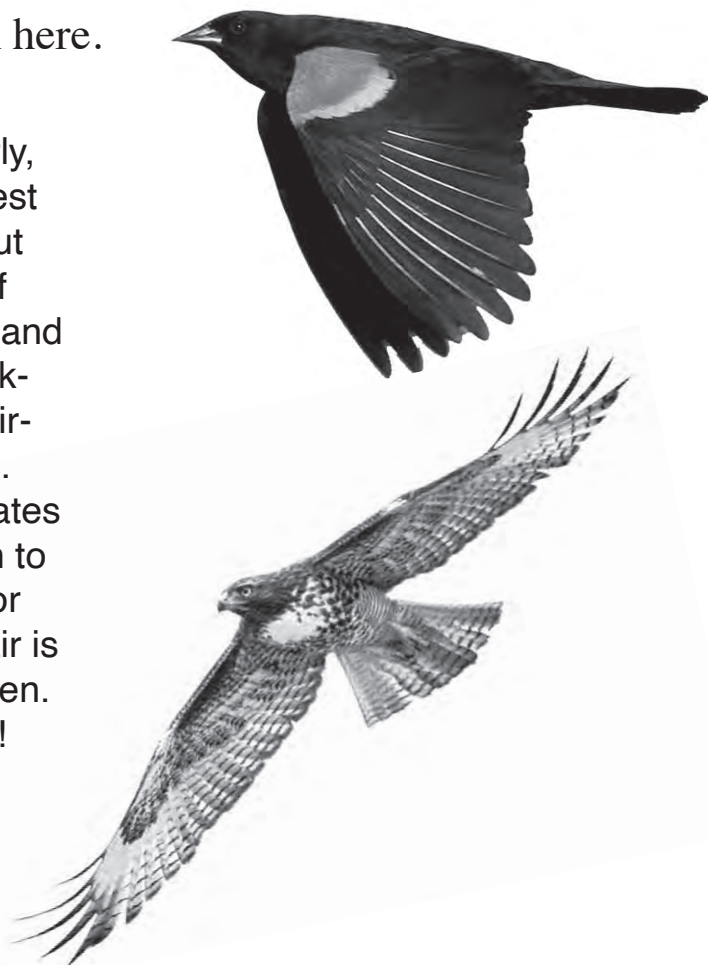
There are more daytime hours, so it's warmer and insects (**manidoonsak** man-i-*doo(nh)*-sak) become active. Small animals are more visible. And so many birds (**bineshiinyak** bi-*ne-shii(nh)*-yak) are returning (**bskaabiiwag** bi-*skaa*-bii-wag). Now food (**miijim** *mii*-jim) is available for them here.

Red-tailed hawks return early, too. They're one of the largest birds in North America: about 2 feet tall and a wingspan of more than 4 feet. They soar and circle high up in the sky, looking for prey like rabbits, squirrels, snakes and other birds. When their sharp vision locates one, they dive sharply down to make their kill. They mate for life, and when one of the pair is lost, another is quickly chosen. What magnificent creatures!

Gekek *ge-kek*

a general name for hawks

Only birds have feathers (**miigwaanhs**) and they have several kinds of those. Draw one here!



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

- aa** sounds like the a in *awesome* **a** sounds like the a in *about*
- ii** sounds like the e in *be* **i** sounds like the i in *dip*
- oo** sounds like the o in *go* **o** sounds like the oo's in *book*
- e** sounds like the e in *elephant* **g** sounds only like it does in *go*

Pronounce all the letters. *Underlined, italic type* will tell you which word-parts to stress. Long words are broken up with dashes (-); still, say each word smoothly. And notice "nh" has NO SOUND of its own. It's a sign to say the vowels just before it in a nasal way, as if you had a stuffed up nose from a cold.



Zisbaakodoke Giizis Sugar-making Moon

by Susan Askwith

Some of the earliest to return are the male red-winged blackbirds. They're sturdy, shiny black, and have bright red shoulder patches. They arrive a couple weeks before the females, to set up their territories. (Females are brown-striped with a tiny flash of red on their shoulders.) A cattail marsh is a perfect place for them. The males sing a loud "ooh ka reeeee" and aggressively defend their territory against all kinds of invaders — even people! When the females arrive, several may nest in each territory. Red-wings eat insects and seeds. So crop farmers aren't big fans of these birds but they do help control insects, and reduce weeds by eating their seeds. All Creator's creatures have a place in the choir.

Memeskniinsi Red-winged Blackbird *me-mes-ki-niin-si*

To identify birds, we can look at where they live, their behaviors, size and the features of their bodies. We also notice the colors and markings on their bodies. For these body parts, write in their Anishinaabe names from the chart. Put a star by body parts we humans have too.

- Back _____
- Throat _____
- Leg _____
- Chest _____
- Beak _____
- Belly _____
- Tail _____
- Head _____
- Wing _____
- Eye _____
- Foot _____
- Toe _____

Fun fact: All of a bird's feathers usually weigh more than all of its bones.

- How do crows stick together in a flock?
Velcrow.
- Why did the pelican get kicked out of the restaurant?
Because he had a very big bill.
- Why did Mozart sell his chickens?
Because they kept saying "bach, bach."
- What bird is helpful at dinner?
A swallow.
- What do you call a crate of ducks?
A box of quackers.

Our clan is with us from the day we are born

In our culture the oral tradition is important.

We learn and are taught through stories. An Anishinaabe teaching on the clan system is an example of this...

A long time ago, before humans inhabited this world, it is said that the clans were already here. Before the humans arrived, the animals, fish and birds were told by the Creator that humans were coming and that these humans wouldn't have anything and would be pitiful. So, each of the animals, fish and birds said, "We will take care of them and show them how to live in harmony with all of Creation. We will sacrifice ourselves as food so they won't starve and we will supply them with our skins so they will be warm. We will teach them what medicines and ceremonies to use to heal themselves."

These clans are still with Native people today.

Your clan is with you from the day you are born. It is said that your clan walks with you and looks after you. Your clan takes care of you so that you don't have to go through life without help and protection. The spirit of your clan is for you to use because you are a member of that clan; you always offer tobacco when you ask your clan for help.

The Mohawks' family-oriented culture is based on the clan structure. Within the clan structure of the Six Nations, the clan is passed down through the women. Among the Anishinaabe, the children of the family are of their father's clan. The clans of a Nation are often the animals and other creatures that inhabit the region. In the Great Lakes area, the wolf, bear, turtle and deer are common

clans. The Anishinaabe say that their clans may be almost any animal, fish or bird. Some of the clans of the Six Nations are the Turtle, Bear, Wolf, Rock, Snipe, Pipe of Peace and the Heron.

Within a clan there may be many different types of an animal, bird or fish. For example, the turtle clan includes different types of turtles, such as snapping turtles and painted turtles.

Each clan has its own duties and responsibilities. You can consult the elder clan members for the teachings of your clans.

Among the Anishinaabe, the Crane clan, for example, is involved in leadership and the sharing of knowledge, particularly the teachings. Their role is one of leadership because the cranes were instrumental in establishing the clan system for the Anishinaabe. It is said that the cranes have a loud voice that can be heard for miles. When the crane gives a teaching, it can be heard far away in other parts of the world; people listen and learn when a crane teaches.

The Eagle clan represents the family unit; both parents protect and bring food to the eaglets. The eagle also teaches about respect, hunting, being a warrior and being in balance with the environment.

The Bear clan are like the guardians of the communities. They are also the protectors and carriers of the medicines.

Learning your clan

If knowledge of your clan is lost to your family and if your search through family, church, treaty, band or school records does not reveal this information, you can offer tobacco and make the request to know what your clan is to a spiritual person who has the ability to find out what clan is watching over you.

Honoring your clan

To honor your clan is to be a brother, uncle, sister or aunt to all the people who are of your clan. When you meet someone of your clan who is younger than you, they are considered to be your nephew or niece. When you meet someone of your clan who is the same age, they are considered to be your brother or sister. It is your responsibility to take care of the relatives of your clan. When a clan member visits your community, you ensure that this person is taken care of. When you do this, you bring honor to your clan and yourself.

Depending on what clan you belong to, you may feast your clan monthly; once or twice a year; or four times a year at the change of the seasons. Many people will make their food and tobacco offering to their clan by leaving the offering outside on the ground or in the water. For example, a member of the Bullhead Fish clan puts their offering of tobacco and food on a raft which is sent onto the lake. In some communities all the members of a clan may gather to feast their clan and to hold clan ceremonies.

Many people put out a food offering for their clan in the fall, to give their clan strength and energy to survive the winter and in the spring to revitalize their clan's spirit after a hard winter.

Some Bear clan people feed their clan when the bear is going into hibernation and again in the spring when the cubs are born.

They might leave a food offering of strawberries, raspberries, salmon and other types of meats and berries a bear would like. Generally, a food offering will consist of any food your clan would eat. Members of the Bullhead Fish clan, the boss of all fish clans, feed the clan when the ice comes in and goes out.

In the past, clans were painted on warrior shields encircled with medicine bundles. Today clan markers, items which represent your clan such as antlers, skins, skulls, a painting or carving of the clan, may be hung in a respectful manner.

Referrals to Healers, Elders and Medicine People

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

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

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

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

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Traditional Medicine Program April Clinics

Please call for questions or to set up an appointment at 906-632-0236 or 906-632-0220.

GERARD SAGASSIGE

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center — April 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25 and 27 (906) 632-0236 Lori Gambardella

St. Ignace Health Center — April 5 (906) 643-8689 (877) 256-0135

Manistique Health Center — April 12 (906) 341-8469 (866) 401-0043

Munising Health Center — April 19 (906) 387-4721 (800) 236-4705

Hessel Community Center — April 26 (906) 484-2727



NAMEBINI GIIZIS - SUCKERFISH MOON - APRIL 2022

NIIZHWAASO GIIZHIGAT	NTAM GIIZHIGAT	NIIZHO GIIZHIGAT	NSWO GIIZHIGAT	NIIWO GIIZHIGAT	NAANO GIIZHIGAT	NGODWAASWO GIIZHIGAT
					1 Giibaastaagazin! (Say something silly!)	2 Maadagiza. (It is the beginning of the month.)
3 Nimkiikaa. (There are lots of thunders.)	4 Goon igizi. (The snow is melting.)	5 Giigoonhke. (S/he is fishing.)	6 Biikaa. (There are mud puddles.)	7 pichi (robin)	8 Minookimik. (It is Spring.)	9 shki bimaadiziwin (new life)
10 waabanang (in the East)	11 Biidaaban. (It is sunrise.)	12 namebini (suckerfish)	13 name (sturgeon)	14 Tisige. (S/he is coloring/dyeing.)	15 waaboozoonh (rabbit)	16 Mooshkaneshin Dibiki Giizis (It is a full moon.)
17 Baakoong (Easter)	18 kookibinaagan (basket)	19 baakaakwenh (chicken)	20 zhiishiibenhsag (ducklings)	21 waawaanoon (eggs)	22 Shkaakamakwe Giizhigad (Earth Day)	23 Gimiwan. (It is raining.)
24 Gchi noodin. (It is very windy.)	25 kibi (spring water)	26 bgoji zhigaangwizhiik (wild leek)	27 waawaaskoneng (flowers)	28 oziiisigobimizh or ziisgomizh (pussywillow)	29 kwe maangzinan (lady slippers)	30 zaaboonii (buds opening up)

Website helps keep Michigan's Native languages alive

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Ojibwe.net is an independently run non-profit website working to keep the Ojibwe language alive.

According to website co-founder and technical director Stacie Sheldon, Anishinaabemowin — the Ojibwe language — is endangered because Native communities are losing speakers faster than they are gaining them. She said the website

was created so that ancient sounds are not lost and can be connected to anyone willing to listen and learn.

“People are always interested in learning the language of a place, but I don’t think they often realize that Michigan has its own first language,” Sheldon said.

She said that in addition to teaching the language, they hope

to also educate people about Ojibwe culture by offering lessons and songs and cultural materials, and showing how those link to the language.

The website is a partnership between Sheldon and her friend and co-founder, content manager and contributor Margaret Noodin. “We met back in 2006 or so and we were both trying to learn the language. We were driving to places like Mt. Pleasant, Lansing and Grand Rapids to learn from different speakers and gather learning materials. Margaret had also organized a language table in Ann Arbor and we started storing files online to share with others. It started as simple file sharing, until finally it became a full-fledged website,” Sheldon said. “Over the years it has gone through several big redesigns - the most recent occurring late last year. The site is now used by many teachers and students in the Great Lakes and we are always looking for more ways to share and create material that sustains and celebrates Anishinaabemowin.”

A student of the language, Sheldon said she has had some opportunities for immersion over the years and can follow most conversations but is not a confident speaker. “I have great empathy for those who want to learn this language as adults. It is tough but it is so worthwhile. For example, I have learned that the north star is Giiwedanang. Giiwedon (Kewadin) is the word for north and it has embedded in it the word

for going home, giuwe. And in this part of the world the word for north and the idea of going home are one in the same. I love that. We often work closely with fluent speakers. We especially have appreciated the time and contributions of Alphonse Pitawanakwat (our main contributor who also teaches Anishinaabemowin at the University of Michigan), Howard Kimewon, Leonard Kimewon-ba, Michael Zimmerman Jr., Helen Fuhst Roy, Kenneth Peltier-ba and many more,” she said.

Sheldon said a lot of the website’s content is connected to classrooms or other community projects. “We loved the book Firekeeper’s Daughter by Angeline Boulley, and Margaret served as a translator for that book so we had fun building a webpage around it,” she said. “We have two scholars working on two community garden projects — one for the Burt Lake Band’s new Healing Garden and one for an Anishinaabe community garden in Lansing.”

The website offers a robust resource library that was curated by Anishinaabe scholars Ellie Mitchell and John-Paul Chalykoff. That project has been supported by the Wewaawiindamojig Advisory Board through a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and Michigan State University. The website has also partnered with Anishinaabe artists such as Zoey Wood-Salomon, Neebin Southall, Sam Zimmerman, Shannon Noori, and others, to bring the site alive and feature

their work.

Sheldon said both herself and Noodin have full time careers and the website is something they do as a labor of love. “We carve out time for it every week and are always working on something.”

“I am the author of a bilingual children’s book called *Bebikaan-ezhiwebiziwinan Nimkii: The Adventures of Nimkii*. Just like with Ojibwe.net, this was a project I did in partnership with Margaret and also a very talented Haudenosaunee artist named Rachel Butzin. The book is about my dog Nimkii. It tells the story of how Nimkii explores all four seasons with her adventures. She goes sugarbushing for maple syrup, she chases tennis balls and fireflies, and she even wears a zhigaag (skunk) costume for Halloween,” she said.

Bebikaan-ezhiwebiziwinan Nimkii: The Adventures of Nimkii is available on amazon.com, bookshop.org, barnesandnoble.com, target.com, bircbarkbooks.com and other places.

Stacie Sheldon is the co-founder and technical director at ojibwe.net, and a user experience strategist, researcher and designer at Slalom Consulting. She is also a published author.

Margaret Noodin, Ojibwe.net co-founder, content manager and contributor, is a professor and Associate Dean of the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. She is also an author and poet.

Visit the website at <https://ojibwe.net>.

Spring Ceremonies begin May 4, 2022

SAULT TRIBE TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PROGRAM

Spring Releasing Ceremony May 4-8, 2022

For more information, please call Lori Gambardella, (906) 632-0236, or Brendann Hissong, (906) 632-0220; Fax: (906) 632-5202.

Mary Murray Culture Camp, 266 Homestead Rd., Sugar Island, Mich.

*Please call Traditional Medicine to set up a consultation to register for ceremony.

Chi’ Miigwech for your interest and support in helping to bring wellness back into our Anishinaabek communities.

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Women’s Fast for Mother Earth Saturday, May 7, 2022

For details or to register, please call Lori Gambardella, (906) 632-0236, or Brendann Hissong, (906) 632-0220; Fax: (906) 632-5202

Please remember moon time teachings. Fasting begins at sunrise and ends at sunset, followed by sweat lodge and feast.

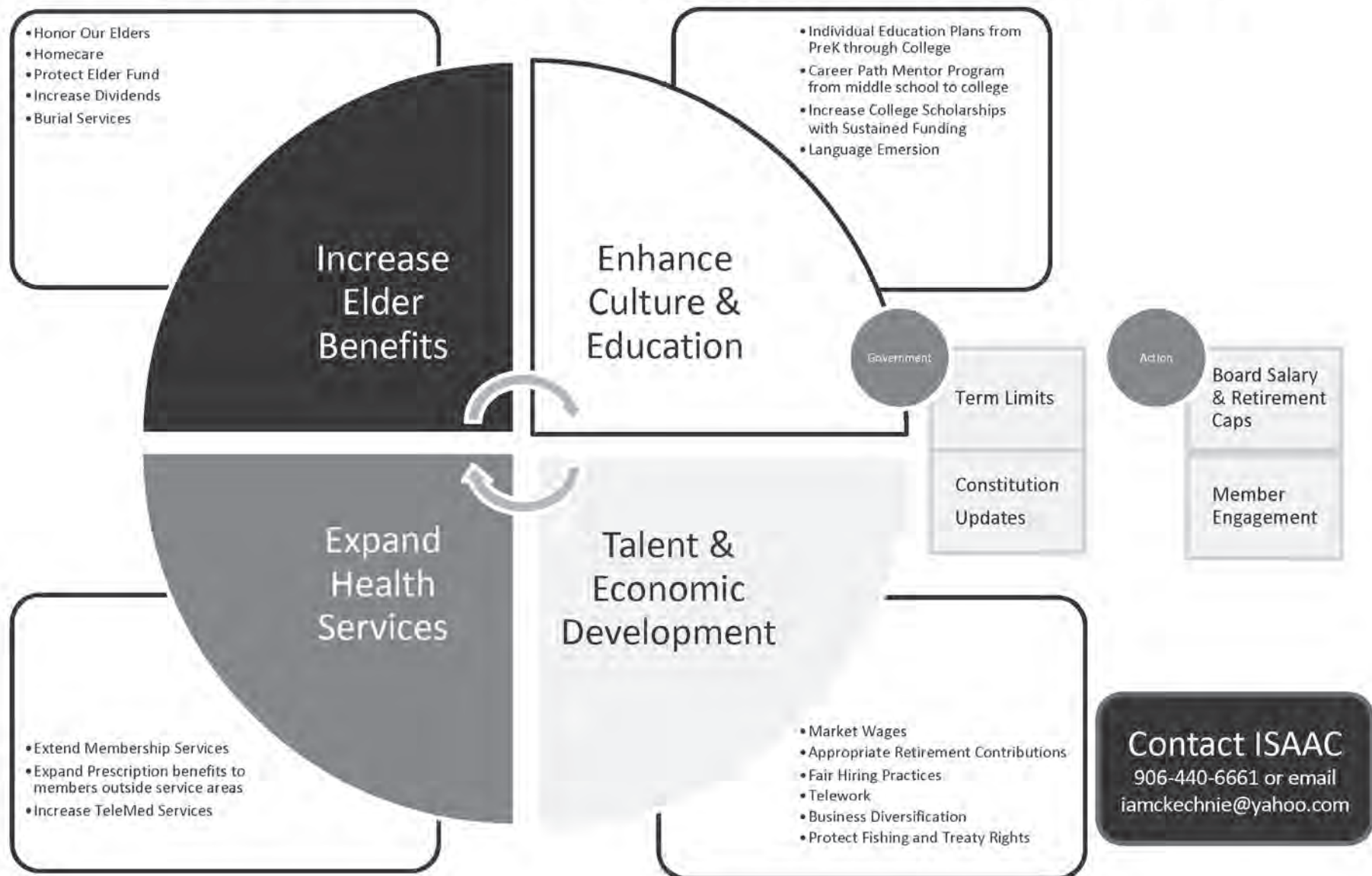
Mary Murray Culture Camp, 266 Homestead Rd., Sugar Island, Mich.

Spring Fasting Ceremony “Makade Kan” May 5-May 9, 2022

For more information, please call Lori Gambardella, (906) 632-0236, or Brendann Hissong, (906) 632-0220; Fax: (906) 632-5202

Vote ISAAC McKechnie to Sault Tribe BOD Unit 1

Our tribe is at a crossroads, the pandemic has serious impacted our businesses and their ability to generate income. We must work together to choose the right path. I pledge to engage our tribal community so they help leadership develop plans that will ensure our prosperity. Your voice counts and it needs to be heard.



Approved resolutions from February 22, March 1

A regular meeting of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors was held Feb. 22, 2022, in Sault Ste. Marie at the Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center. The board discussed and passed 17 resolutions by unanimous vote.

Resolution 2022-56: Governmental Schedule A and B, FY 2022 Budget Modifications for Pay Increase — Approved the budget modifications to those programs that are unable to find savings within their current budget to cover the \$3 wage increase. The increase in funds will be provided by increases in the following: Third Party Revenue monies \$722,312, Tribal Support monies \$141,706, Other Revenue - Grant Fund monies \$18,479, state of Michigan monies \$3,923, Other Revenue - Transfers \$3,923 and a decrease in Federal IHS monies \$30,340 for a total increase in Governmental FY 2022 Schedule A and B budgets of \$860,003.

#57: FY 2022 Enterprise Capital Outlays Budget Modification Sawyer Village — Gladstone Medical Facility — Approved to increase the expenses for Sawyer Village \$575,000.00 from fund balance.

#58: Establishment of FY 2022 Budget, Enterprise Sub Recipient — Emergency Housing — Approved with Other Revenue monies of \$93,222.00.

#59: FY 2022 Budget Modifications, Elder Service Division, Title VI 20-23 — Approved for a decrease in Federal HHS monies of \$35,599.37 and an increase in Other Revenue monies of \$2,450. This reflects changes to the personnel sheet and a reallocation of expenses.

#60: Establishment of FY 2022 Budget, ACFS Advocacy Resource Center — DTE Foundation — Approved with Other Revenue monies of \$6,500.

#61: Establishment of FY 2022 Budget, Natural Resources, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services — Approved with Federal USDA monies of \$312,090.

#62: Stonegarden Grant, Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with Federal Department of Homeland Security pass through from State of Michigan monies of \$62,841.88.

#63: Child Care Stabilization Grant, Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with State of Michigan monies of \$178,183.03.

#64: Medical Equipment COVID Funds, Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with Federal IHS monies of \$315,699.73.

#65: COVID Funds

Maintenance and Improvements, Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with Federal IHS monies of \$86,305.15.

#66: Purchased Referred Care COVID 19, FY 2022 Budget Modification — Approved for an increase in Federal IHS Covid monies of \$164,507.79.

#67: Emergency Preparedness and Third-Party Revenue, FY 2022 Budget Modification — Approved to increase expenses, increase state of Michigan monies \$13,831 and decrease Third Party Revenue monies \$4,118.58.

#68: Health Center Sault Administration and Third-Party Revenue, FY 2022 Budget Modifications — Approved to change the personnel sheet, increase expenses, and increase Third Party revenue \$98,232.87.

#69: Extending the COVID-19 Executive Task Force's Authority Under COVID-19 Federal Relief Funds and Authorizing the Tribe's Executive Task Force to Develop Fiscal Recovery Fund Expenditure Review Protocols — the board extended the Executive Task Force's (ETF) powers and authority previously provided under tribal law for CARES Act funding, excluding budget approvals, to all future projects that are to be funded with the tribe's COVID-19 federal relief funds. The board authorized the ETF to develop and implement COVID-19 federal relief fiscal recovery fund procedures and protocols as necessary to establish an internal tribal workflow process for the ETF to administer the tribe's COVID-19 federal relief funds to implement and carry forward COVID-19 federal relief funding expenditures approved by the board. The ETF's powers and authority are authorized to continue in the event the tribally declared state of emergency is terminated. The board retains its budget allocation authority over the tribe's COVID-19 federal relief funds and reserves the right to amend the terms of this resolution on an ongoing and as needed basis.

#70: Amending Letter of Credit with PNC Bank, Sault Tribe Self-Funded Unemployment Program, including a Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Tribal Court Jurisdiction — The board authorized and approved an amendment to the Letter of Credit with PNC Bank to increase the amount of credit to \$2,250,988.11. The board waived the tribe's sovereign immunity from suit in favor of PNC Bank only should an action be commenced under the PNC Bank contract referenced above, and the waiver. The board also waived

the exclusive jurisdiction of tribal court over any action arising under the Letter of Credit, the Amendment to Reimbursement and Security Agreement, the Pledge Agreement, or the Notification and Control Agreement, and authorized extensions of the Letter of Credit, without additional action of the board, for a two-year term.

#71: Amending Resolution No. 2021-247 COVID American Rescue Act Funds, Housing and Community Centers — The board amended its previously adopted budget of \$36 million to \$48 million from the American Recovery Act funds (currently received), of which: \$20 million is earmarked for Unit I, \$8 million is earmarked for Unit II, \$8 million earmarked for Unit III, \$8 million earmarked for Unit IV, and \$4 million for Unit V to address these future board actions. The terms of this resolution amend Resolution No. 2021-247.

#72: Amending Resolution No. 2021-295, ARPA Fund Appropriation, Unit I Elder Housing — The board has appropriated \$5 million of Unit 1 approved ARPA funds for Unit 1 Elder Housing construction. The board authorized the construction of the Unit 1 Elder Housing Unit to include all necessary and appropriate actions, including budgeting allocations for external construction management services as authorized by the Chief Financial Officer, for completion of the project. The board also authorized the tribe's Purchasing Department to create and execute the bidding process in collaboration with external construction management services, for the hiring of an external contractor(s) to construct the Unit 1 Elder Housing Unit based upon the Sault Tribe Housing Authority's Quad and Triplex building plans and designs. After completion of the construction, the board authorizes the Sault Tribe Housing Director to oversee, manage, and operate the Unit 1 Elder Housing Unit, including all associated buildings and inventory. The terms of this resolution amends Resolution No. 2021-295.

The following resolutions were approved at the March 1 board meeting, all by unanimous vote.

#73: FY 2022 Budget Document 003 — Approved to cover the expense of the \$3 salary increase for all team member wages.

#74: FY 2022 Governmental Capital Purchases Budget — The board appropriated a total of \$1,612,000, of which \$1,482,000 will come from Other Revenue/Fund Balance and \$130,000 from

Tribal Support, with ARPA funds used in areas that qualify.

#75: Recovery Facility ARPA Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — The board directed the Health Department to draft a detailed budget and plan for the Recovery Facility in accordance with the \$25 million authorized from ARPA funds. Health was directed to use the existing contractual budget of \$400,000 to help with the project.

#76: DeMawating Development, Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course, FY 2022 Budget Modification — Approved for changes to the personnel sheet and reallocation of expenses.

#77: Trust Land Status, Long Parcel, Mackinac County, Mich. — The board requests the Secretary of Interior accept title to three parcels of land situated in the Township of Clark, County of Mackinac, in trust, for the benefit of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, on behalf of the tribe.

#78: Trust Land Status, 199 W. 3 Mile Road, Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Mich. — The board requests that the Secretary of the Interior accept title to two parcels of land situated in the Township of Soo, County of Chippewa, Michigan, in trust, for the benefit of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, on behalf of the Tribe.

#79: Approve Application for USDA Rural Econnectivity Program Grant — The board supported and authorized the submission of a grant to the Rural Utilities Service Telecommunications Program within the U.S. Department of Agriculture, for the Rural eConnectivity ("ReConnect") Program, FOA 3.

#80: Approve Funding Request for Reconnect Grant — The board approved the USDA-RUS ReConnect "100 percent Grant for Tribal Governments and Socially Vulnerable Communities" class for up to the maximum amount of \$25 million.

#81: Network Neutrality Standards for Rural Utilities Service Reconnect Broadband Grant — If awarded, the board commits to faithfully comply with the requirements set forth in the RUS Reconnect program's eligibility requirements pertaining to network management and non-discriminatory practices.

#82: Sault Tribe Broadband Authority, Establishing Chapter 101: Sault Tribe Broadband Utility Authority — The board adopted and approved the Broadband Utility Authority Ordinance to be established as Chapter 101 of the Tribal Code.

The implementation of the Sault Tribe Broadband Utility Authority shall be effective upon the approval of federal funding to be granted to the Tribe associated with broadband utility services.

#83: BIA Request for Tribal Assistance — The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is a sovereign tribe and is not required to report its membership or the personal information regarding its members to the BIA or any other federal authority. However, the Michigan Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, by letter dated March 27, 2019, asked the tribe to voluntarily provide it with an updated tribal membership list arranged or sorted by date of birth and has asserted that this updated information will enable the BIA to accurately respond to Indian Child Welfare inquiries from outside agencies, help assure that the tribe is properly notified of the right to intervene in cases regarding its children, assist the BIA in conducting research for adult adoptees interested in researching Native background, and assist the BIA's Probate staff in locating heirs and tribal members who may have trust monies in Individual Indian Money accounts and the tribe is willing to voluntarily assist the BIA by providing a list of enrolled tribal members.

The board directs the Enrollment Department to prepare a full list of the names and dates of birth, sorted alphabetically and is directed that this list shall not include or release any designation of blood quantum.

#84: Amending ARPA Fund Appropriation, Unit I, Market Based Housing, DeMawating Development — The board authorizes DeMawating Development to execute the Market Based Housing Development provided to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in a workshop; the plan is expected to result in a minimum of 20 modular homes with associated land work and 35 trailer/manufactured homes (from Gitchi Enterprises) with associated infrastructure upgrades on tribal lands located in Chippewa County. The board amends its previous authorization of \$8 million and appropriates \$11 million of Unit 1 approved ARPA funds, to accomplish the Market Based Rental Plan purchases. The board authorizes the Economic Development director to administratively establish a budget for the amended DeMawating Development market-based Housing plan.

To view resolutions passed by the tribe's board of directors, go to www.saulttribe.com.



Paul Barbeaux For Sault Tribe Board of Directors Unit 2

- Treaty Rights and Sovereignty • Supporting Our Elders
- Supporting Our Youth • More Affordable Housing for Tribal Members

Successful local business owner for 30+ years
10+ years experience serving you on the Conservation Committee
Firm commitment to honesty, cooperation, and transparency
in tribal government

Feel free to contact me at:
VoteBarbeauxUnit2@gmail.com
(906) 440-1754

Opioids and opiates compared to other substances

BY LENA WALKER, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COUNSELOR

What is an opioid and is it the same as an opiate? The simple answer is no. Opioids and opiates, although similar and oftentimes used interchangeably, are chemically different. A key difference between the two is that opiates are chemical compounds that are extracted or refined from natural plant matter (poppy sap and fibers).

Examples of prescription or medically used opiates include medications like morphine and codeine and an example of an illicit opiate is heroin. Opioids are different because they are “synthesized,” which means that they are not derived from natural plant matter, with some exceptions. Examples of these are hydrocodone (e.g., Vicodin), hydromorphone



By Steve Heap/Shutterstock

(e.g., Dilaudid) and oxycodone (e.g., Oxycontin, Percocet). Other examples of opioids that are important to know are Methadone (e.g., Dolophine), Fentanyl/fentanil (e.g., Ultiva, Sublimaze, Duragesic patch), and Carfentanyl/carfentanil (e.g., Wildnil, for veterinary use). Although opiates and opioids are very similar and are both consid-

ered “narcotics,” they are chemically different in the way they are derived.

Opioids and opiates are different from other controlled substances in the way that they affect the brain. The human body naturally produces endogenous opioids; for example, endorphins are endogenous opioids. Opioid/opiate medications bind to opioid specific receptors in the brain. This can be simply explained by picturing a scoop of ice cream being placed into a cone, the cone being the receptor and the scoop of ice cream being the opioid. When opioids attach to these receptors, the interaction signals pleasure and pain relief to the rest of the body.

There are many reasons this information can be helpful; one is a person or someone they know can

be prescribed opioids or opiates for a multitude of medical reasons or they may misuse opioids or opiates. The second reason is because opioid and opiate overdoses can be reversed by Naloxone (commonly known as Narcan), an opioid overdose reversal medication. Although prescription opioids and opiates rates have decreased since their peak in 2012, the CDC still reports a rate of 54.4 prescriptions per 100 residents in Michigan in 2020. This means that prescription narcotics are still extremely common and they still have a high potential for misuse.

If you or someone you know is prescribed a narcotic, there are a few tips to help ensure safety and prevention of misuse. The first thing a person can do when prescribed a narcotic is to thoroughly

discuss the seriousness of properly using medications as prescribed with their healthcare provider. The second precaution a person can take is to place all medications in a medication lockbox, rather than in an easily accessible area like a medicine cabinet. Place lockboxes in a safe place and out of the reach of children and pets.

Naloxone can be kept in your home where it can be accessed in case of an emergency and you can carry Naloxone with you to ensure safety for yourself and others no matter where you go. Naloxone is often distributed as a Narcan Nasal Spray and is easy to use. To learn more about protecting yourself and those around you, and to receive Narcan Nasal spray free of charge, contact Sault Tribe Behavioral Health at (906) 635-6075.

Supporting LGBTQ+ families who want to adopt or foster

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) announced March 2 it is forming a task force within the department to support LGBTQ+ families who want to foster or adopt children.

The announcement comes as MDHHS signed a settlement agreement March 2 that ends a lawsuit filed by Catholic Charities West Michigan, a private

child welfare agency challenging the department’s non-discrimination policy. The settlement mirrors a settlement agreement in January with St. Vincent Catholic Charities of Lansing and comes following a unanimous Supreme Court decision.

“MDHHS recognizes, values, affirms and appreciates the significant contributions made by the LGBTQ+ families caring for children in foster care and those

choosing to adopt,” Children’s Services Agency Executive Director Demetrius Starling said. “We cannot do this work without them. For this reason, the department has begun creating the MiFamily Advancement and Leadership for LGBTQ+ Youth (ALLY) and families task force comprised of LGBTQ+ persons, allies and child welfare experts to determine how best to support LGBTQ+ families interested in becoming foster and adoptive parents.”

The task force will assess how

the child welfare system supports LGBTQ+ families, engage the LGBTQ+ community and learn from their perspectives and make recommendations for how the department can best serve these families.

Peter Spadafore and Dr. Stacie Gibson will co-chair the task force.

Spadafore serves on the Lansing City Council and is a member of the LGBTQ+ community.

Gibson is the director of the Office of Workforce Develop-

ment and Training for MDHHS. She is also a member of the LGBTQ+ community.

Other members of the task force will be announced soon. The task force’s work is expected to be completed by fall 2022.

MDHHS is committed to preserving families and reunifying them when it is safe.

About 10,500 children are in foster care in Michigan and approximately 2,100 have a goal of adoption, with about 220 children still waiting for an adoptive family to be identified.

March brings us National Parenting Awareness Month

March is National Parenting Awareness Month. The campaign reaches out to all parents no matter what stage of parenting they are in. Effective parenting is not easy and many call it “the hardest job on earth.” Children’s needs are constantly changing no matter what stage of parenting you’re in. The National Parenting Awareness campaign aims to help parents work through these changes and reminds parents that their role is vital. For free resources, tips, and parenting

stories visit <http://www.parenting.org>.

Stop in and check out the Parenting Awareness Month bulletin board at the Sault Ste. Marie Health Center for information and promotional items! If you are interested in making a difference in the life of a child and becoming a foster or adoptive parent please contact Anishnaabek Community and Family Services at (800) 726-0093 or by email at acfs-fosterhomes@saulttribe.net.




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I would like to announce I will be running for re-election in Unit 4 of the Sault Tribe Election.

Some Accomplishments – for Unit 4

- *Free transportation (shuttles) to and from Health Centers.
- *24-hour Urgent Care Access that includes: Manistique, Escanaba & Marquette County.
- *Expansion to the Elder meal program they now offer home delivery to homebound elders.
- *Purchased Pearson’s Asbestos Abatement company in Escanaba.
- *4 new homes built on the Escanaba reservation.
- *Elder outreach workers to do home visits and provide elders help.
- *Cares Act Funds - \$1000.00 to all members within the service area.
- *AARPA Funds - \$2,000.00 to all members no matter where you lived.
- *Gladstone medical building being purchased to include exercise facility.

PROJECTS COMING with Covid American Recovery Act Funds of \$8 Million Dollars

- *New Escanaba Community Center*
- *New exercise facility added to existing Manistique Tribal Center*

- *More housing across Unit 4*

With the 2020 Consent Decree expired and now on two extensions; it is time to guarantee a strong, persistent, and involved board member remains seated that has the historical knowledge of our Treaty Rights. I continue to attend weekly meetings.

From my heart, I would like to Thank You, the Unit 4 members for allowing me to serve and represent you. I will continue to work hard to represent your needs. I would appreciate your vote in the Primary Election.

Denise Chase endorses this ad.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Denisechaseforunit4@gmail.com

PHONE: (906) 286-0995

Recognizing the effects of family violence during parenting awareness month

March is Parenting Awareness Month, which typically means celebrating all things parenting, such as doing fun activities together as a family, working on crafts together, attending family gatherings and making happy memories. This month, the Advocacy Resource Center is focusing on parenting awareness of the effects of family violence on children, as some families are not so fortunate when family violence is present.

Family violence is a pattern of behaviors used to maintain power and control over a partner in an intimate relationship. Family violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, gender, sexual orientation, religion, socioeconomic background and education level.

The lasting impacts of family violence on children is multifaceted. Children who are exposed to family violence may experience behavioral issues, delayed brain development, difficulty in current and future relationships, dysregulated emotions (difficulty in managing emotions or keeping them in check), and it may also affect their physical health. Children may lose sleep, pay less attention in school, struggle with grades, make poor decisions



regarding their choice of friends and may use drugs and alcohol. These lasting impacts of family violence on children may be experienced long into adulthood.

Children who live in a home with family violence experience the same fears and threats to their personal safety the adult victim may experience. Children are resilient, but continued exposure to family violence may result in trauma that will never be forgotten.

There are many ways children experience family violence. Children may witness, be directly involved, or overhear the violence within the home. Too often children are believed to be unaffected if they were in another room or sleeping during the violence. Children know what is

happening within their home and when exposed to violence, and soon learn to adapt and adjust to the abuser's violence. Children may try to align their moods and behavior, such as "walking on eggshells" whenever they are around the abuser in an attempt to prevent outbursts. Children may feel it is their responsibility to comfort the adult victim, to clean up messes, or may take on the responsibility of having to protect their siblings or family pets during or after the violence.

The adult victim living in violence may have to develop survival strategies in order to keep themselves and their children safe. It is important to not judge the adult victim's survival strategies even if they appear unreasonable to outsiders. As

difficult as it may be to understand, the adult victim is the expert of the violence they have experienced and the adult victim knows what will enhance safety and what will escalate it.

It is important to talk with children about the violence and let them know that it is okay to express their feelings of discomfort, fear and worry. It is critical

to a child's healing process to give children an opportunity to express their feelings and to ask questions in a safe space. Talking with children helps them feel safer and may reassure them that the violence is NOT their fault.

Try to find ways to build emotional resilience with the children. Talk with them, build an emotional support connection, boost their self-esteem, be non-judgmental in regards to the child's thoughts and feelings and work on implementing healthy ways to manage stress.

Should you find yourself in a violent intimate partner relationship, the Advocacy Resource Center can offer assistance. Please contact an advocate at (906) 632-1808 or visit www.arcsaulttribe.com to learn more about family violence.

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~ Tyler LaPlaut (Migizii Migwan)

OUR TRIBAL MEMBER PLATORM:

- Improved Cultural/ Traditional Services
- Enhance/ Expand Elder Meals & Recreation
- Increase Housing to Include All ST Members
- Economic Diversification & Transparency
- Eliminate Board Pension & Social Security
- Referendum to Vote on Board & Chair Pay
- Separation of Powers ~ 3 Branch Government
- Independently Elected Judicial Branch
- Independent Inspector General to Investigate Corruption & Violations of our Tribal Democracy
- Commitment to Transparency ~ Open Meetings, Financials, Independent FOIA, BOD Expenses
- Equal COVID Relief & Rescue Act Funds
- Reinstate Chairperson Administrative Authority

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- Superior Health Foundation
- Marquette Area Public Schools Education Foundation
- UofM/ MDHHS Covid Research Study Advisory
- Practice Traditional *Anishinabe Biimaadziwin* Ways
- Active Advocacy for Tribal Members at all Levels
- Dedicated to ST Members ~ Inside, At Large & Beyond

* past position

Paid for by Unit 5 Members to Elect Tyler LaPlaut

FB page @TLaPlautUnit5 ~ or ~ Elect Tyler Migizii Migwan LaPlaut Sault Tribe Unit 5

Sault Tribe board sponsors LSSU's RobotX team

ENGINEERING AND ROBOTICS SENIOR STUDENTS HEADED TO INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION IN AUSTRALIA

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

A handful of students at Lake Superior State University (LSSU) will be taking a trip across the ocean to compete in the 2022 Maritime RobotX Challenge in Sydney, Australia this November.

Team Autonomous Maritime Operations and Robotics Engineering (AMORE), is a LSSU School of Science, Engineering, and Technology senior design team composed of six senior engineering students (Taylor Lamorie, Hannah Brood, Shaede Perzanowski, Anthony Paradine, Tom Muir and Brad Hacker) and students from the RobotX Club. The team's faculty advisor is Assistant Professor of Robotics Engineering, Edoardo Sarda, Ph.D.

Team AMORE are participating in the international competition as part of their senior project at LSSU, while some members of the RobotX club are helping them with the project to gain additional real-world experience.

Engineering and robotics students created the RobotX club that they hope will allow future students to participate in a competitive, educational experience ranging from marketing to systems engineering.

The RobotX competition requires that students design an autonomous maritime system (AMS) that can complete several tasks independent of their control. The two main portions of

the competition include a virtual RobotX competition, requiring the simulation of the AMS in a virtual environment. Then there is the physical competition held in Sydney. Students are currently working on installing and testing propulsion and navigation systems onto their Wave Adaptive Modular Vessel (WAM-V), which is a 16-foot-long catamaran-style unmanned surface vehicle weighing in at 485 pounds with payload.

The competition also requires the students to use an unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) along with their WAM-V. The two robots must work together as an autonomous maritime system to complete a series of tasks that involve navigation and object detection. Team AMORE is working with students from the Free University of Bozen-Bolzano in Italy to design and test propulsion, control and guidance systems in both the drone and "boat."

The first of three stages of the virtual RobotX competition was held in Dec. 2021, with the final two stages set to take place this month and in April. The physical competition takes place in Sydney beginning Nov. 17.

Hannah Brood is a senior mechanical engineering undergraduate student, with a concentration in robotics and minor in mathematics. Brood said the team was fortunate to be able to purchase the vehicle using grant

funding. "Our job is to take it from something that floats, to something that can move and complete tasks by itself." Brood is from Rudyard, and was home-schooled and participated in FIRST Robotics through Rudyard High School. For this project she is designing their guidance, navigation and control box containing the processor (like a mini computer), sensors (such as GPS) and electronics.

Bradley Hacker is a senior undergraduate student majoring in both mechanical and robotics engineering, with a minor in mathematics. He would like to pursue a career that furthers agricultural technology via mobile robotics using his programming and design skills. He assists his team in the design and application of its software, and helps service mechanical and electrical components. Hacker said making the platform autonomous is the most rewarding part of that project to him.

Taylor Lamorie, from Sault, Ontario, is a senior in computer engineering, specializing in language programming. He is experienced in digital design, micro-controllers and signal processing. He hopes to pursue a career in aviation engineering, maybe with Boeing or Airbus.

"This project involves a lot of coding," said Lamorie. "I'm surrounded by a bunch of mechanical engineers but I'm the only

computer engineer." He has been concentrating on the vision, or camera, for their project and the lidar, which determines distance between objects. The camera will detect the types of buoys in front of the boat and also the color of the buoys. "I went to Sault College in Ontario and took aviation for two years, but then decided that wasn't for me so I came here to pursue engineering. It's been a big learning curve for me because I have no experience with robotics."

Thomas Muir is a senior mechanical engineering undergraduate student with a minor in mathematics and concentration in robotics. Muir, who recently accepted a position in mobile robotics post-graduation as a controls engineer working on autonomous guided vehicles at Eckhart Automation in Grand Rapids, said he finds this project really interesting. "Robots and water are not associated together very often." Muir said the "boat" is being

used as a platform to integrate multiple technologies, such as the lidar and GPS, and the three-dimensional viewing stereo vision cameras.

Like many of his teammates, he also participated in FIRST Robotics in middle and high school for seven years.

Shaede Perzanowski is a senior undergraduate student working towards bachelor's degrees in mechanical engineering and robotics engineering. He specializes in mechanical design, robot operating systems and equipment troubleshooting. Perzanowski said the project features two mobile robots - the boat and drone. The boat will be almost like a mobile helicopter pad for the drone. He said the drone will be used to map out the field to determine obstacle types and locations. It will then relay that information back to the WAM-V, so it knows what is out there and what to expect. "This

See "LSSU," page 13

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Jackpot game \$7,500 CASH

EASTER RESTAURANT SPECIALS

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Sunday, April 17

Half Cornish Hen, Mashed Potatoes, Stuffing, Vegetable, Garden Salad & Pie

Mariner's Cove

Sunday, April 17

Baked Chicken, Choice of Potato, Green Beans, Garden Salad

TOURNAMENTS

SPRING FEVER

Sault Ste. Marie | April

Monday - Wednesday 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Daily Prize Pool 22,500 Bonus Points

KEWADIN YOOPER SLOT TOURNAMENT

Hessel | Christmas

Mondays & Tuesdays | April 4 - June 28 | 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Manistique

Wednesdays & Thursday | April 6 - June 30 | 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Daily Prize Pool 25,000 Bonus Points

SPIN TO WIN

St. Ignace | April 29 - May 1

Up to \$15,000 CASH / Bonus Points

Point requirements for all promotions. See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.

LSSU RobotX team headed to Australia for competition

From "LSSU," page 12

project is very open ended; we have a very small list of rules to follow and other than that its use whatever technology and theories available to you to get a task done. We get to do all the software and electrical and mechanical design, and we get to program, fabricate it, and put everything together," he said. Perzanowski is applying to grad school for a Ph.D. in mobile robotics. He said his dream job is being his own boss and doing robotics integration in non-standard work sectors, such as farming and construction, and search and rescue type applications that get him outdoors.

Anthony Paradine is a senior mechanical engineering undergraduate student, with concentration in vehicle systems. He said the fact that their senior project involves a boat is "really cool." He wants a career in an automotive related field.

Dillon Pohl, a junior majoring in mechanical engineering, said he became interested in RobotX club when Professor Sarda gave a talk about the club to the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. "Professor Sarda said they were looking for people to help with programming, fundraising, and design, and that we were welcome to come to their meeting to learn more about it. I went and now handle most of the fundraising for the project by calling and emailing businesses to see if they would be willing to donate.



Photo by Brenda Austin

Team AMORE students gathered at the LSSU Norris Center swimming pool to test the Wave Adaptive Modular Vessel (WAM-V), which is a 16-foot-long catamaran-style unmanned surface vehicle, in the water for the first time. See more photos on page 16.

"I thought about changing to a concentration of robotics because I find it interesting, but as of right now I don't have plans to work with robotics. I just like the project. I will probably stay with the club until I graduate, I think it's a really good effort," he said. Professor Sarda said that Tom Farnquist has been an excellent source of information and fundraising. "He brought the Sault Tribe in and exposed us to them. We are thankful to the tribe because they supported us and this project," he said.

Professor Sarda, said, "The fact that we have an international project is putting LSSU on the map. We are competing with

giants and are giving it our best shot."

Team AMORE has been fundraising to help pay for equipment and international transportation for the AMS. The estimated cost for LSSU to attend the competition is about \$80,000. If you would like to help support their efforts, visit their website at: <https://sites.google.com/lssu.edu/lssurobotx/>. Or contact the team at AMORE@LSSU.edu for more information.

You can watch Phase I of their virtual competition on YouTube here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hF0alNKbJVY>.

For information on the international competition in Sydney,

Australia, visit: <https://robotx.org/>

In similar news, Lake Superior State University (LSSU) Assistant Professor of Robotics Engineering Edoardo Sarda, Ph.D., participated recently on the Cooperative Institute for Great Lakes Research (CIGLR) steering committee for a discussion on "Oil Spills Under Ice – Challenges and Solutions." The interdisciplinary CIGLR work group explored six specific objectives: Identify the current state of preparation, response strategies, and the state of technologies available for detecting and remediating oil spills under ice. Identify knowledge gaps and technologies critical for designing

strategies to respond to potential spills.

Identify research needs and rank them in the order of priority. Publish a peer-reviewed paper with an emphasis on filling the gaps and recommended future actions. Assess current research capacity within the work group, identify expertise strengths and gaps, gauge them against research needs, engage external experts if warranted, and develop one or more research proposals to address research needs. Explore broader implications of challenges and solutions specific to the Great Lakes region for other areas and scenarios (e.g. Arctic region) where oil spills under ice are likely and identify broader networking opportunities for the proposed CIGLR work group. And integrate the challenges posed by oil spills under ice in the Great Lakes into the curricula at Michigan State University (undergraduate and graduate), and Lake Superior State University (undergraduate).

Sarda said that eventually the unmanned surface vessel the students are using in the competition will be housed at LSSU's Center for Freshwater Research and Education (CFRE), recently built near the St. Marys River.

The U.S. Coast Guard Center for Expertise in Oil Spill Response will be housed within LSSU's new CFRE building, and the vessel the students are building has the potential to enable research, detection and response to oil spills.

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Sault Tribe Language and Culture holds snow snake competition on a cold, sunny Saturday

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON

On a cold and sunny winter's day, Sault Tribe held its first snow snake tournament, sponsored by Sault Tribe Language and Culture, Sault Tribe HR Training and Sault Tribe Housing Authority. The track was laid down at the powwow grounds across from Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building on Ice Circle Rd., built by volunteers.

The Housing Authority provided funding and HR Training assisted. Over 20 competitors turned out for this first event. Along with spectators, over 40 people attended the event.

Snow snake is a winter game where competitors try to throw their wooden snow sticks the farthest down a prepared snow track. The game format and track can vary — there might be individuals or teams using various snow track designs. At the Sault, individuals competed throwing wooden, handmade snow snakes down a raised trough that was about 220 feet long, formed by dragging a heavy log back and forth to form a smooth, rounded surface. Categories were male and female children, male and female adults, and elders. Friends

and family crowded around the track to watch the players give it their best one out of two throws.

Tashina Elliot and her husband Dale, from Bay Mills, brought their two children, Shaylah and Zander, to the contest. "We go for the fun of it," she said. "Such a fun and exciting time!"

They all competed and Tashina won the women's category.

Snow sticks are handmade and vary in length according to the individual thrower. Some are decorated and polished. Everyone has their own throwing technique. On March 7, Language and Culture Director Cathy DeVoy and Bay Mills Indian Community's cultural director Jesse Bowen held a snow snake workshop for those who wanted to make their own.

DeVoy said the game goes back to the days the Anishinaabek hunted with spears. One winter, a hunter was tracking a rabbit to its den. The rabbits had been avoiding the snares, so he tried tying his spear to some cordage and throwing it as hard as he could into the den, using their tracks as a guide. He got his rabbit and passed on his hunting success. As more hunters used the technique, they began to talk about their

throws, and started competing. And the snow snake game was born. DeVoy said it is called snow snake because the way the stick wobbles on the track makes it look like a snake.

Following the contest, the crowd adjourned to Niigaanagizhik for hot chocolate, coffee and snacks while scores were tabulated and prizes handed out. First and second place in elder and adult categories won a black ash basket, wild rice and maple syrup. Third place took the rice and syrup. All kids won a two \$10 gift cards, one from MacDonald's and one from Little Caesars.

JKL School's Bill Morrison Shoshiimaan competition has been going on for years and carried on by Curriculum Director Chris Gordon after Morrison's retirement. But the game has been gradually slipping away in Anishinaabe communities. When Bowen, Traditional Medicine Supervisor Lori Gambardella and Sault Tribe Planner Larry Jacques went to Madeline Island to compete in a rare tournament earlier this winter, they were hooked, and went home determined to revive the game in their commu-

nities. Bowen held a Bay Mills tournament March 7. Many of the same players arrived at the Sault to compete.

First place in the Sault's mens category, Jacques has been interested in snow snakes for a while.

"I am looking forward to helping put the word out for next season, being involved in making more snakes, and seeing the event along with the participants and volunteers continue to grow," Jacques said. "I have been interested in snow snakes for the past few years as I am attempting to bring more traditional activities into our home life."

Jacques has been crafting snow sticks for himself and his family, and donated one to the tribe.

Gambardella loves the game. She came in first at Bay Mills and second at Sault Tribe. "It's fun and full of competitive spirit," she said. "It also brightens the mood of winter."

She also enjoys seeing the artistry of the individually crafted sticks.

DeVoy said next year a 100-foot children's track will be added.

CONTEST RESULTS (IN FEET AND INCHES)

BOYS
George Solomon, 81
Mezziniig Wassegijig, 76.5
Zander Elliot, 40
William Ruthruff, 36
Larry Jacques III, 19
Cooper MacDonald, 18.3
Jasper Dewey, 12.3

GIRLS
Shaylah Elliot, 92.2
Luna, 15.2
ELDERS
Justin Carrick, 203.8
Bud Biron, 69

WOMEN
Tashina Elliot, 176.1
Lori Gambardella, 152
Hayley Gambardella, 100
Victoria Albert Ruthruff, 61.4

MEN
Larry Jacques, 220-plus (off the track)
Jesse Bowen, 210.2
Dale Elliot, 152.1
Kalvin Hartwig, 152
Brock Dewey, 138.6
Dean Sayers, 98.2
Jon Ruthruff, 47.8



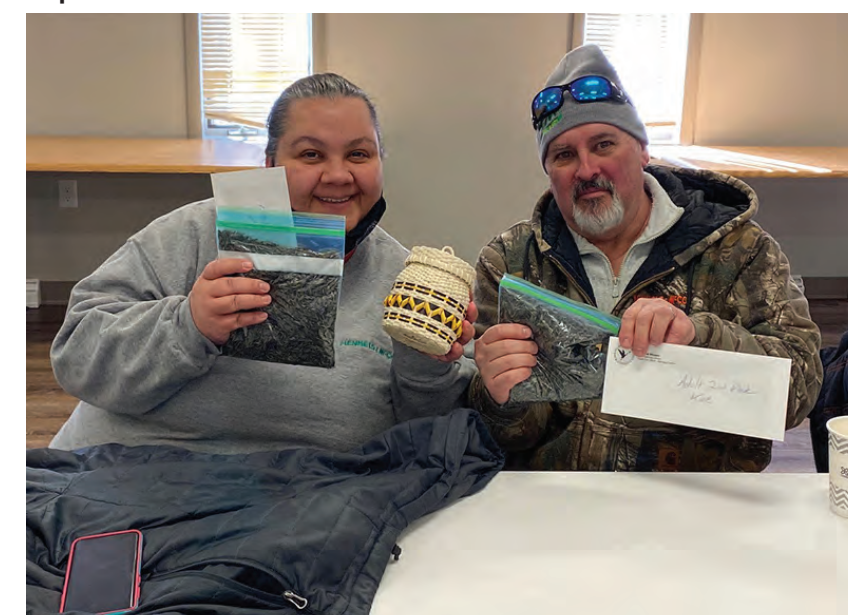
Straight down the track!



Robear Assinewe and Jeff Aikens (L-R) pull a heavy log to form the raised trough, Sault Tribe's track design, with Mike McKerchie helping.



Amy McCoy (right) with her children Drew and Giizhik (L-R), volunteered to help build the track.



Tashina Elliot took ladies' first and Dale Elliot took men's third.



Bay Mills' track was wide and on the ground.



The Carrick family and Bay Mills Chair Whitney Gravelle enjoying the Bay Mills contest.



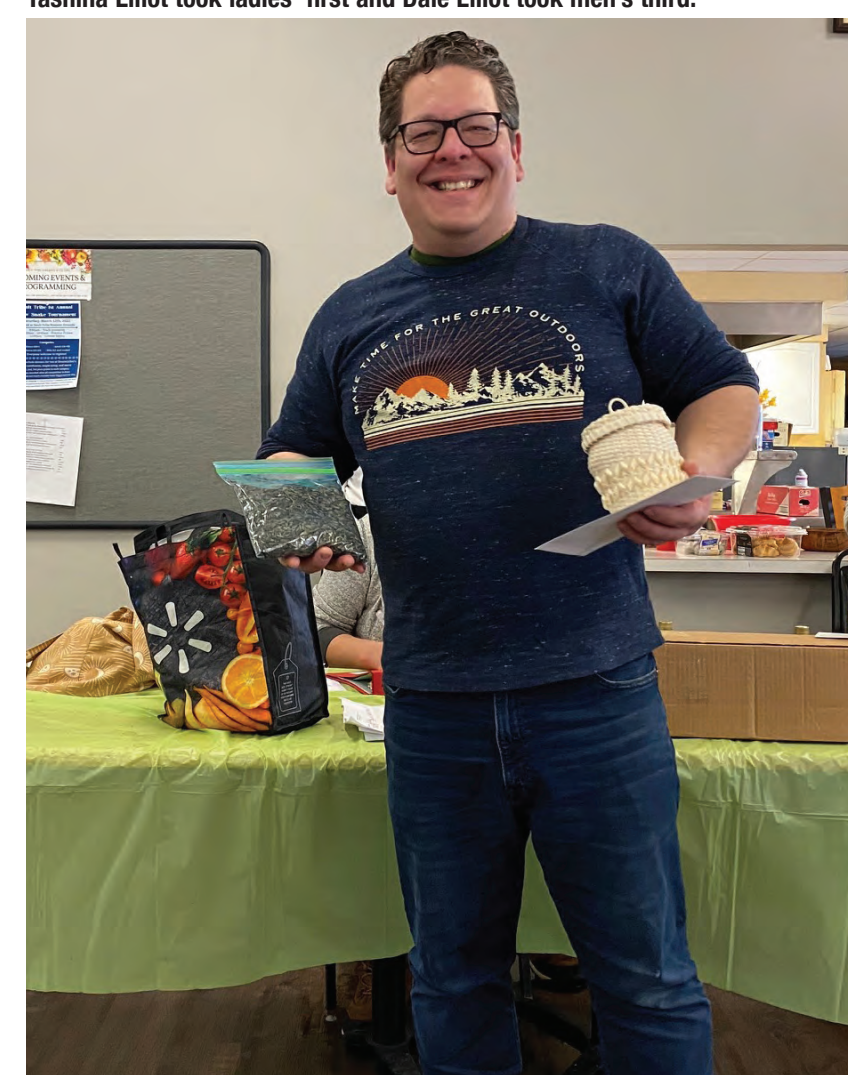
Holly and Bud Biron making snow sticks at the workshop.



Mike McKerchie puts his own touch on his snow stick.



Lori Gambardella took second place in the ladies category.



Larry Jacques took first in the mens.



Mezziniig Wassegijig took third.



Larry Jacques III throws.



Luna DeVoy throws.



Lori Gambardella makes her throw.



Jesse Bowen has his own technique.



Shaylah Elliot throws.

Sault Tribe board sponsors LSSU's RobotX team

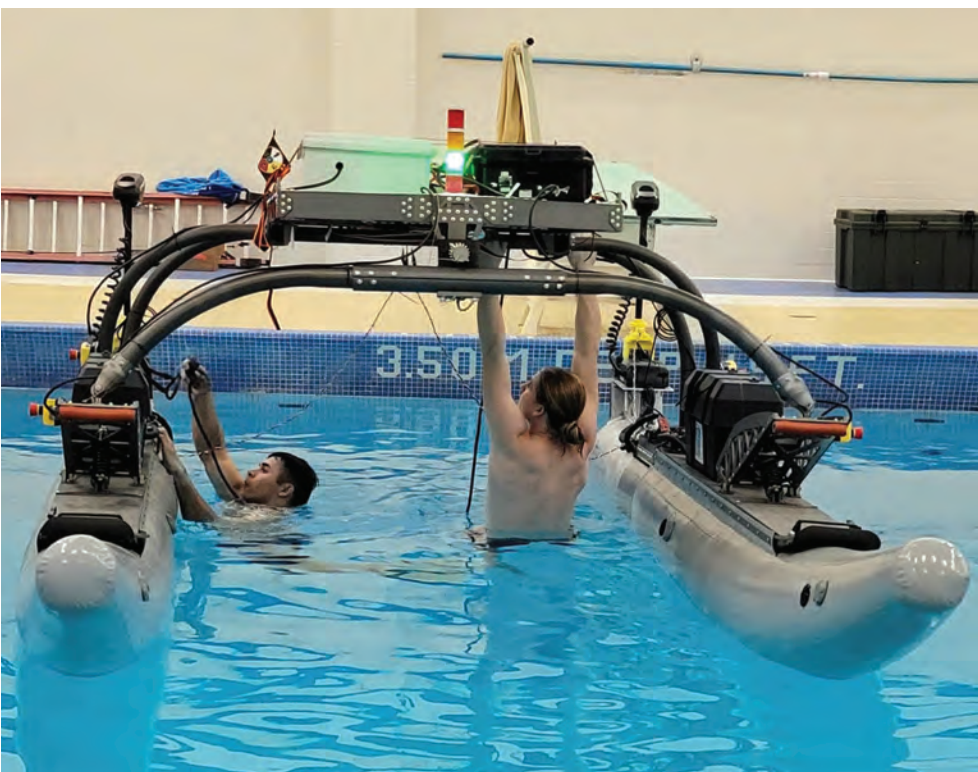
ENGINEERING AND ROBOTICS SENIOR STUDENTS HEADED TO INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION IN AUSTRALIA



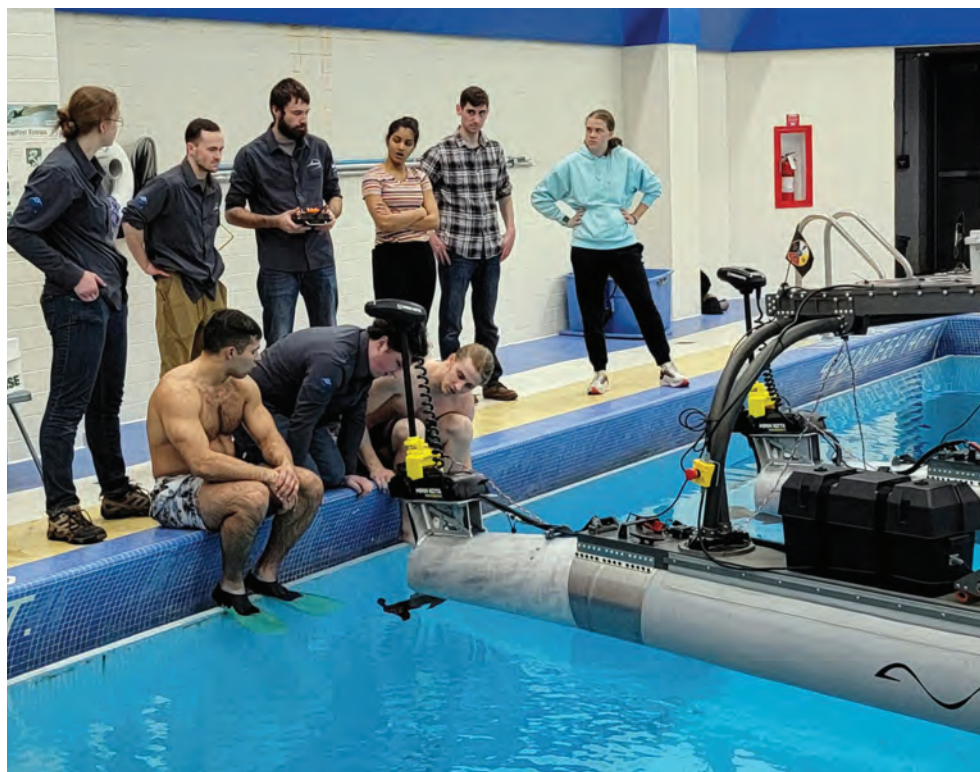
Students trying to figure out the best way to get the unmanned vehicle into the water for its first test run. See story on pages 12 and 13.



Assembling and checking all the parts and systems prior to launching.



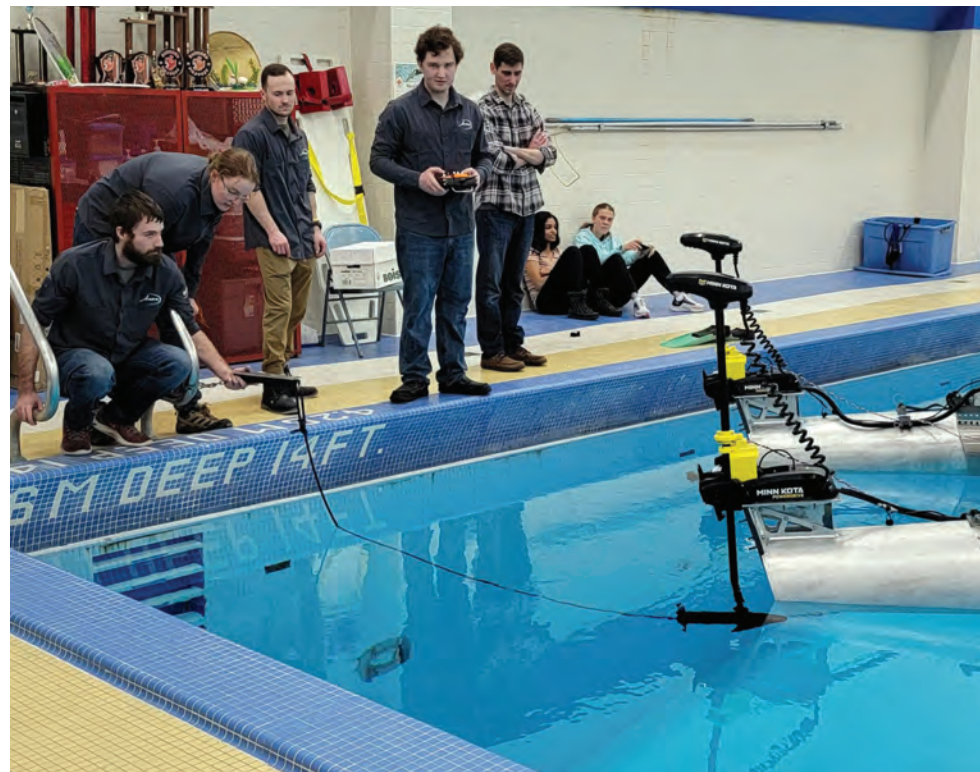
Shaede Perzanowski (left) and Bradley Hacker volunteered to take a dip in LSSU's pool to make adjustments to the "boat."



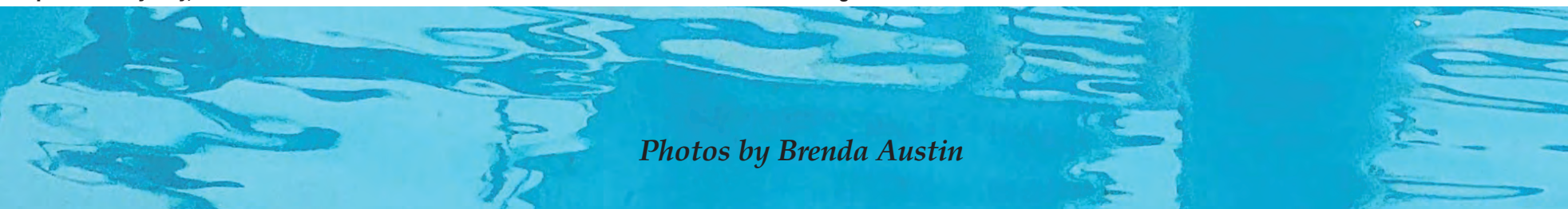
Team AMORE and RobotX Club members gather at the edge of LSSU's pool to make adjustments to their senior project.



Troubleshooting as a team to make sure they are ready for the upcoming international competition in Sydney, Australia.



Testing the propulsion system to see how much force it exerts and how quickly it moves through the water.



Photos by Brenda Austin

Walking on...

ADAM DAVIS

Adam "Teen Wolf" Davis, 48, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Feb. 8, 2022, at home. Adam was born on Dec. 22, 1973, in Sault Ste. Marie, to the late Valarie Ann Davis.

He graduated from Sault High School with the class of 1992. Adam was member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He enjoyed going to the casino, horror movies, going fishing at the cabin on Drummond Island and vacationing with his family in Phoenix, Ariz. He was a fan of Elvis Presley.

Adam is survived by his grandparents, Lorraine and Paul Cameron of Sault Ste. Marie, his daughter, Alice Virden of Phoenix; five aunts, Jeri (Buko) Vogel of Phoenix, Laurie (Chuck) Gustafson of Sault Ste. Marie, Nancy (Rick) Shields of Sault Ste. Marie, Donna (Steve) Goetz of Hasting, Mich., and Brenda (Jeff) King of Brimley, Mich.; and many cousins.

Adam was preceded in death by his mother, Valarie Davis; an aunt, Wanda Griffin; and his grandfather, Gerald Belleau.

No public services will be held at this time. Arrangements are in the care of C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

DONALD "DON" MURRAY HUDAK

Donald "Don" Murray Hudak, 64, passed peacefully away on March 7, 2022, at his home in DeTour Village, Mich., surrounded by his family after a long-time battle with cancer.

He was born on May 23, 1957, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to parents Ronald "Joe" and Ruth Ann (Fountain) Hudak.

Growing up with a father in the Coast Guard, Don spent this childhood all over the United States. He graduated in 1975 from Kodiak High School in Alaska. From there, Don went on to work for Tenneco Oil Company in Louisiana. He transported personnel and supplies to oil rigs in the Gulf of Mexico while earning his captain license before moving to DeTour. He worked for a brief time as a captain for the local ferry while attending the Michigan Department of Corrections academy. Upon completing his training, Don went on to work as a correctional officer at Kinross Correctional Facility (KCF) and raising his sons until his retirement in 2013. He met his wife, Deborah "Debbie" Marie (Adamo) Hudak in 2001 and spent 21 wonderful years together.

Don was a proud member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Don was someone who always kept himself busy; he could always find some work around the house that needed to be done or would offer his time to help his friends and family with anything they needed. He enjoyed motorcycle riding and loved animals. He was known as the "animal whisperer." He was an artist and enjoyed pen and ink drawings of local sceneries. Don made many friends over the years and will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him. Don is survived by his wife, Debbie, of DeTour; parents Ronald and Ruth Ann of DeTour; sons, Andon (Melissa) Hudak of N.J., Blaine (Alisha) Hudak of Florida, and Dustin (Nicole) Cruz of California; grandchildren, Austin, Ava, Andon, Minka, Ella and Jaxon; as well as many other beloved members of his family. Don was preceded in death by his grandparents, Louis and Leah Fountain; and his son, Donald "DJ" Hudak.

A memorial gathering will be held on May 28, 2022, at 11 a.m. with a luncheon to follow at the DeTour Union Presbyterian Church with Pastor Dave Henderson officiating.

Don will be buried at the Hudak family plot in Maple Grove Cemetery with his son, DJ.

Galer Funeral Homes and Cremation in Pickford, Mich., is serving the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.galerfuneralhomes.com.

JO ANN BROWN

Jo Ann Brown, 66, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away Feb. 12, 2022, in Sault Ste. Marie. She was born Nov. 20, 1955, in Sault Ste. Marie to Lawrence and Loretta (Mongene) Miller.

Jo Ann grew up in Dafter, Mich., and went to Brimley Schools. She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Jo Ann enjoyed camping, going to the casino, and playing cards with her family. She also loved to laugh and visit with Connie and Karen; they had a strong bond. She loved being a mom to Barbara, Steven and James "Chipper," and had a special nephew, Dawson.

Jo Ann is survived by her son, James "Chip" Miller of Brimley, Mich.; sisters, Connie Davis of Kincheloe, Mich., and Karen (Rod) Stevens of Rudyard, Mich.; brothers, Mike (Cheryl) Miller of Kincheloe, Frank Miller of Dafter, Ronnie Miller of West Branch, Mich., Alan (Tammy) Miller of Kincheloe and Larry (Robin) Miller of Kincheloe; special uncle, Oren Miller, and special aunt, Irene Mongene.

Jo Ann is preceded in death by her parents; daughter, Barbara; son, Steven; first husband, Ben; second husband, John; grandparents, Joe and Anna Mongene; and aunts, uncles and cousins. Jo Ann especially enjoyed visiting with Uncle Joe.

Visitation was Feb. 21, 2022, at the Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial

Building, 11 Ice Circle Chi Mukwa, Sault Ste. Marie.

Jo Ann's family would like to extend a special thank you to the staff at Medilodge and Dialysis of Sault Ste. Marie. Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.

JOHN A. SUKTA

John A. Sukta, 78, of Crown Point, formerly of Merrillville, passed away on May 26, 2021. He is survived by his wife of 54 years; Diana, son Joseph (Renee) Sukta, granddaughters, Hannah, Lexi, grandson Ryan, sister Barbara



O'Donnell, brother-in-law Richard (Ruth) Ramsey, and numerous nieces and nephews. John was preceded in death by his parents John and Lottie, son John Jr., and in-laws De and Maude Ramsey.

Funeral services were held on May 29, 2021 at St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church in Merrillville, Ind., with Fr. Michael Maginot celebrating. Cremation followed the service. John was an Army veteran and a retired firefighter with the city of East Chicago. He was a member of St. Stephen the Martyr Catholic Church.

John was an avid bowler, fisherman, and woodworker. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends. He will be missed by all those who knew and loved him.

White Funeral Home helped the family with arrangements, visit them at www.whitefuneral-homeofgriffith.com.

JOHN JOSEPH VILLEMURE

John Joseph Villemure, 61, of Manistique, Mich., died in the early morning of Jan. 31, 2022, at his home. John was born Dec. 31, 1960, in Manistique, the son of Philip and Mary Villemure. He graduated from St. Francis de Sales School and Manistique High School. He also attended Lake Superior State College. John worked at Manistique



See "Walking on," page 18

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Walking on continued

From "Walking on," page 17
Dimension for 12 years and then Kewadin Casino for 23 years. He was Johnny V. to coworkers and customers working as a dealer and up to shift manager.

John was an active Catholic, very involved at his home parish of St. Francis de Sales. Through the years he served on the Parish Council, was a Lector, Eucharistic Minister, leader of the Remnant of God Prayer Group, and lead many Bible Study Groups. He was involved in the Charismatic Renewal in local and state leadership. He worked at retreats such as Teens Encounter Christ and Koinonia at many places in Wisconsin and Michigan.

John enjoyed fishing year round. He was a bird and deer hunter. He enjoyed a good game of cards and dominoes with friends and family. He enjoyed Villemure gatherings here and at Newberry. He was a high school basketball fan and loved March Magic, making over 40 yearly trips to the state finals. John was loved by many for his gentle, good ways.

John is survived by his brothers, Philip (Jackie Casey) Villemure of Winter Haven, Fla., Paul (Ann Sangraw) Villemure of Manistique; sisters, Sister Jan Villemure of Green Bay, Wisc., and Joan (George) Ecclesine of Manistique; nephews, Kieran (Kristine Richey) Ecclesine and Brian Ecclesine. John was preceded in death by his parents and nephew, Matthew Villemure. John lost a long, hard battle of addiction. He told Fr. Ben two weeks ago, "I'm going to beat this." Our loving and merciful God had a home ready for him. Now he sees God face to face, free from suffering and whole again.

Visitation will be held July 6, 2022, at St. Francis de Sales, Manistique, Mich., followed by Mass of Christian Burial. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity, 2409 S. Alverno Rd., Manitowoc, Wisc., 54220 or made to a charity of your choice.

Fausett Family Funeral Homes of Manistique, Mich., assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be posted on their website at www.fausettfh.com.

RITA MARIE HOLTHAM

Rita Marie Holtham, 82, passed away March 10, 2022. She was born Aug. 6, 1939 in St. Ignace, Mich., to John and Margaret (Rapin) Robinson. Rita grew up in St. Ignace and graduated from LaSalle High School. She was a proud member of Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She was also a member of St. Ignatius of Loyola Church where she married the love of her life, David in 1960. Together they traveled to the Lower Peninsula to find work and start a family. Rita worked for Sparrow Hospital for over 20 years. She retired in 2003. Her and Dave spent their



winters in Arizona where they made many dear friends. Rita was a loyal friend who loved people. She enjoyed gardening, travel, dancing, and had a passion for genealogy.

She is preceded in death by her husband, David; parents, John and Margaret; and sister, Margaret (Muggs) Dodson. She is survived by her sons, Bob (Ronda) Holtham of Eaton Rapids, Chris (Kristine) Holtham of Lansing, Matt (Lynn) Holtham of Corunna, and Damon (Angie) Holtham of Muskegon; Grandchildren, Autumn, Matthew, Jamie (Connor), Joshua, Nicholas, Amanda, and Bailey; great grandkids, Raelynn, Benjamin, Jensen, Rylee, and Paige; siblings, John (Theresa) Robinson, Phillip (Bambi) Robinson; and lots of nieces and nephews.

A visitation was held at Gorsline Runciman Funeral Home in DeWitt, March 15, with a Funeral Service, March 16 at St. Therese of Lisieux Parish. A private burial service will be held later this summer in St. Ignace. Serving as pall bearers were Matthew Holtham, Joshua Holtham, Connor Bartlett, Luke Holtham, Lance Holtham, and Scott Bailey. Donations can be made in her name to the St. Vincents de Paul food pantry at St. Therese.

PAMELA A. SYNETT

Pamela Ann Synett passed away Feb. 16, 2022, surrounded by her children. Pam was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on Oct. 14, 1953, the daughter of the late John and Dorothy (LaFaver) Murphy.



She attended Sault High, was a parishioner of Saint Joseph's Catholic Church, and was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Pam married the love of her life, Peter Grant Synett, on Sept. 8, 1973. They were married just short of 40 years until his passing on Aug. 22, 2013. They had three children, John, Peter "PeeWee," and Caitlyn (Tanner Howland) Synett. She also leaves behind her beloved granddog, Remus.

To know Pam was to love her. Pam was always there to lend a nonjudgmental ear and had a positive outlook on life. Her gentle, selfless and giving nature is something she will always be remembered for.

Pam's family was her whole world. She was a stay-at-home mom dedicated to attending and volunteering at her kid's school and never missed a baseball or softball game.

Pam enjoyed attending Sewing Club meetings with her friends, watching her favorite TV shows and being a "sous chef" to her daughter. She also enjoyed crafting and crocheting. In her younger years, Pam was an avid bowler and spent many nights bowling at the Arcade Lanes and the Dondee.

Pam is survived by her three children; four sisters, Patricia (Michael) Deuman, Margaret "Peggy" (Kenneth) Maleport,

Teri (Michael) Romano and Lori Murphy; brothers-in-law, Richard Clerc and George (Bonnie) Synett; sisters-in-law Maxine Forsythe, June Landrum and Phyllis Synett; and many cherished nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and her sisters, Barbara (Richard) Christie and Sara Clerc; brothers-in-law, Duane, Gerald, Gary, Pat, Terry and Larry Synett; sisters-in-law, Janice Synett, Joan MacInnis, Mary Ellen Queen and Shirley Forrest.

A private service was held for family at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home Feb. 22. A more public memorial will be held in the summer. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to Hospice of the EUP or the Chippewa County Community Foundation c/o The Mike Ellis Memorial Scholarship.

PHILIP "JOE" MENARD

Philip "Joe" Menard, 74, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Sunday, March 13, 2022, at the Hospice of the EUP - Hospice House, surrounded by the love of his family.



Joe was born on Feb. 14, 1948, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to the late Philip and Lorraine (McCoy) Menard. He married Sharon M. Stafford on July 14, 1990, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. He served his country in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War on the USS Hopewell, and retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a maintenance lead with over 31 years at the Soo Locks. Joe was a lifetime member of the VFW, the American Legion, and a faithful parishioner as well as employee of St. Joseph Catholic Church. Joe is also a respected and cherished elder of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Joe is survived by his wife of 32 years, Sharon M. Menard, his children, Tracey Wood of Saginaw, Mich., William (Cindy) Geiger of Plainfield, CT, and Veronica (Peter) Anderson of Gwinn, Mich., his grandchildren, Levi (Joelene) Wood, Jessica Geiger, Anthony Troup, CJ Troup, Chelsea (Seth) Greenhalgh, Jordan (Cassandra) Jones, Chandler Jones, William Anderson and Weston Anderson, and six great-grandchildren. Joe is also survived by five siblings, Al (Joan) Menard of Sault Ste.

Marie, Dennis (Carol) Menard of Sugar Island, Mich., and Don (Joyce) Menard, Pat Rudis, Marie (Rick) Orsborne all of Sault Ste. Marie and sister-in-law, Deb Menard of Marquette, Mich., and numerous nieces and nephews. Joe was preceded in death by his parents, and his brothers Eugene Menard and William Menard, and grandchild Brian Geiger.

The family would like to thank the staff of the Hospice of the EUP for their selfless service and dedication to providing the utmost respect and care in his last days.

A Funeral Mass was held March 18, 2022, at St. Joseph Catholic Church with Father Romeo as Celebrant.

Burial will be at Riverside Cemetery in the spring.

RAND EMILE PAOLETTI

Rand Emile Paoletti, 78, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Jan. 29, 2022, in Ione, Calif. He was born July 22, 1943, in San Francisco, Calif., to the late Emilio and Florence (Bailey) Paoletti. Rand is survived by his wife, Esther Paoletti of Ione, Calif., stepson, John (Katherine) Knight of Petaluma, Calif., sister, and Gayle Harrigan, of Redding, Calif. He is also survived by grandchildren, Travis Knight, Mary (Phil) David, and Joe Suchenski, and great grandchildren Christian and Sierra. He is preceded in death by his grandson, Robert Knight.



Rand worked as a custodian for the Petaluma School District. In his spare time, he loved fishing and boating.

At the family's request there will be no services at this time.

JOYCE RANGUETTE

Joyce Ranguette, 85, of Marquette, Mich., was passed into the hands of the Lord on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, while in the tender care of Marquette County Medical Care Facility staff.



Joyce was born July 5, 1936, in Limestone, Mich., the first of six children born to Leonard and Florence (Storm) Methot. The family later relocated to Munising, where Joyce attended

school and was a graduate of Wm. G. Mather High School. Following graduation Joyce was employed as a secretary by the Kimberly-Clark paper mill in Munising. She also began dating a young handsome local lad named Del Mercier, and the two were married Aug. 25, 1956.

Joyce and Del raised a family of five children and resided in Marquette and surrounding areas throughout their years together. Joyce was primarily a stay-at-home mom with intermittent periods of part-time employment and assisting Del run several small businesses, including catering events during the 1980s.

After the passing of Del in 1998, Joyce kept herself busy with volunteer work at Marquette General Hospital and various church groups. Joyce enjoyed gardening and was passionate in caring for her M-28 home and large yard while maintaining a watchful eye on her adult children.

Joyce began dating Bob Ranguette and the two wed in 2004. Bob introduced a spry Joyce to the sport of golf, which became a treasured past time for her at Gentz's Homestead in Beaver Grove. In between bouts of laughter Joyce loved to "smack the ball." Bob passed in 2008 and Joyce relocated to Lost Creek where she enjoyed her golden years and neighbors until 2020, when health care needs resulted in her placement at the Marquette County Medical Care facility.

Joyce is survived by her children Leonard (Lori) Mercier of Marquette, Julie (Eric) Burkhart of Imperial Beach, Calif., Benny (Dawn) Mercier of Marquette, Kenneth (Sarah) Mercier of Neenah, Wisc., one sister Sally (John) Klosowski of Munising, numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Joyce is preceded in death by her parents, son Glen Mercier, sister Louis Bergstrom, sister Lorraine Ferguson, infant sister Carol Lee Methot and infant brother Leonard Jerome Methot.

Joyce's wishes for a private family ceremony will be honored.

Her obituary and online tribute wall may be viewed and signed at bowermanfuneralhome.net.

ROBERT J.MCKERCHIE JR.

Robert James McKerchie Jr. passed away at his family home on Sugar Island in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. on Sunday Feb. 13, 2022, at the age of 48.

He was born in Dearborn, See "Walking on," page 19

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 Mich., on March 18, 1973, to Anita McKerchie and Robert J. McKerchie Sr. and resided in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. for the majority of his life. He was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and worked in the dredging/marine construction field for the last 25 years. Four years ago he acquired his captain's license.

James was devoted to his family, friends, and his favorite place to be, Sugar Island. He was always ready to help and lend a hand whenever needed.

James is survived by his wife of 30 years: Jennifer "Jena" McKerchie, Nee Carr, his son: James McKerchie III. and his daughter: Emily McKerchie (David Seppala). He is also survived by his mother: Anita McKerchie; his siblings: Craig McKerchie (Tina Janiga), Tara McKelvie, Jason (Shavon) McKerchie, Brandon (Tracy) McKerchie, Tiffany Menard, and Stacy (Dave) Daley; and his sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, including his best friend: Dale Miller of Sugar Island.

Traditional visitation and services were held at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie on Feb. 16, with the final ceremony on Feb. 18. James was laid to rest at Maple Ridge Cemetery on Sugar Island following the ceremony.

RONALD D. GERMAINE

Ronald "Bo" Dale Germaine, 69, of Cottage Park, Mich., passed away Feb. 15, 2022, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., surrounded by his family and friends. He was born May 2, 1952, in Sault Ste. Marie, to Hoppy "Hoop" and Eleanor "Goose" (Mongene) Germaine.



Ronald loved fishing with his cousin, Ed Willis, and camping with friends and family. He also enjoyed playing the guitar and listening to Hank Williams and all classic country music. He loved playing horseshoes and was quite good as he was a Double A player. Ronald always liked to bet with his favorite Michigan sports teams.

Ronald is survived by his son, Michael McCloskey of Sault Ste. Marie; siblings, Sandy (Dwayne Lehn) Graham of Sault Ste. Marie, Janet "Ding" Germaine of Kinross, Mich., Linda "Bells" Germaine of Kincheloe, Bunz "Ben" Germaine of Sault Ste. Marie, Sharon "Boon" Oliver of Kincheloe,

Suzy "Gander" (Terry) Niemi of Cottage Park, Patti (Gary) Bosley of Sault Ste. Marie, Barb Parker of Kincheloe, John "Chick" Germaine of Sault Ste. Marie, and Bobby (Peggy) McKechnie of Sault Ste. Marie; grandchildren, Royce McCloskey and Kane McCloskey, both of Grand Rapids; sisters-in-law, Theresa Germaine, Holi Germaine and Pat Mongene; special niece, Chery "Hessel Girl" Plank of Hessel, Mich.; special cousin, Ed "Wardo" Willis; the love of his life, Jewels (Germaine) Hinton of Indiana; and many nieces and nephews especially special nephews, Deets, Bear, Critter, Joe and Andy.

Ronald was preceded in death by his parents; brothers, Larry "Lars" McKechnie, Weegie "Devil" Mongene, Butchie Germaine, Jackie Germaine and Richard "Ghost" Germaine; and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation and funeral services for Ronald were Feb. 22, 2022, at Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie, Father Romeo Cappella officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations be made to Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home, 113 Maple St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 to help defer the funeral expenses.

DAVID JAMES SHIELDS III

David James Shields III, 33, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away Feb. 27, 2022. On July 19, 1988, David was born in Phoenix, Ariz., to parents Robert "Rob" James Shields and Jacqueline "Jackie" Robin Perron.



David grew up in Phoenix, Ariz., Orlando, Fla., and Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., where he graduated with the Class of 2007 from Sault Area High School. After graduation, he made his family proud by joining the United States Marine Corps, which included a tour of duty to Iraq "Operation Iraqi Freedom" and a peacekeeping mission in South America.

David became a father in 2010 to James Michael Shields who was the light of his life.

After returning home from the Marine Corp., he began working at Mountain Stone constructing break walls and then construction with the Sault Tribe. Most recently, he had been working for Nomad Construction side by side with his father Rob and his brother Michael. David was also a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa

Indians.

David was a fun-loving guy who enjoyed socializing and always had a great story to share. He had an incredible smile that stole hearts and brought comfort around the world. Whenever David was around you were likely to be laughing and sure to be included. David always made everyone feel important. Any free time David had was spent at Sarna Obuz "Camp."

David enjoyed spending time outdoors snowshoeing, hunting, fishing and having huge bonfires. He enjoyed four wheeling, boating, snowmobiling and shooting skeet with his son, family and friends.

David was someone who would go out of his way for others, always willing to help in any situation, caring for everyone around him.

David is survived by his son, James Michael Shields; father, Rob (Andrea Kempf) Shields of Sault Ste. Marie; mother, Jackie (Rick) Perron of Orlando, Fla.; brothers, Robert "Robbie" (Amy) Shields of Sault Ste. Marie, Michael (Destiny McKechnie) Johanson of Sault Ste. Marie and Ricky "Kishka" Perron of Orlando, Fla.; sisters Lindsay Perron of Orlando and Shelby (CJ) Wilkins of Sault Ste. Marie; grandmother, Mildred "Gran" Krzycki of Sault Ste. Marie, niece, Kylee Shields, nephew, Jaxten Wilkins as well as many other beloved cousins including his good friends and cousins Dorothy and Steven Wilson. There are so many friends and family members near and far who love David that it would be impossible to list them all. David leaves behind many who will miss him, including his dogs Chevy Rhonda Shields II and Uncle Fester.

David was preceded in death by his grandparents, John Krzycki, David Shields, and Don and Mary (Shields) Theut.

A celebration of life for David took place March 13, 2022, at the Sault Tribe Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial and Cultural Building in Sault Ste. Marie. Galer

Funeral Homes and Cremation in Pickford, Mich., served the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.galerfuneralhomes.com.

WILLIAM H. O'NEIL JR.

William (Bill) Henry O'Neil Jr, 80, of Jacksonville, Fla., passed away Feb. 15, 2022. He was born in Manistique, Mich., on June 25, 1941.



In 1959, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy as an Aviation Boatswain's Mate onboard the USS SARATOGA (CVA-60) until December 1963. He then met his wife and they married July 11, 1964. He enjoyed racing cars, fixing and building anything, fishing, hunting and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his daughter, Helen Curry (Michael); son, William O'Neil III; granddaughter, Madilyn Curry; sister, Celia O'Neil; brother, Eugene O'Neil; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Brenda Ann O'Neil; his parents, William O'Neil Sr. and Eunice O'Neil; his brothers, Edward O'Neil and John O'Neil; and his sisters, Marilyn Hudman, Lorraine Jones and Darlene Barr.

Visitation was held Feb. 23 at Hardage-Giddens, Riverside Memorial Park & Funeral Home, in Jacksonville. A celebration of life graveside service for both Bill and Brenda was held at the Jacksonville National Cemetery Feb. 24 at Jacksonville National Cemetery in Jacksonville.

DONALD AUSTIN DUNNING

Donald Austin Dunning, 76, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022, at War Memorial Hospital.

Don was born on June 24, 1945, in Flint, Mich., to the late Elmer and Ruby (Austin) Dunning. He graduated from Beecher High School in Flint with the class of 1963. He attended Michigan State University and LSSU, earning his associates degree. On Aug. 8, 1964, he married Bonnie Beath in Flint, Mich. Don served in the United States Navy during the Vietnam war. He played trumpet in the Navy Band as part of the honor guard for President Kennedy's funeral service. Don was honored to play his trumpet with Doc Severinsen, Bob Crane and Stan Kenton.

He was part of the Big Brothers Organization and the Auxiliary Police in Howell, Mich. He was a past Commander of the American Legion with Post #3. Don helped start La Rendezvous da Sault. He enjoyed fishing, hunting, golfing, riding motorcycles and going to his daughter's camp. He was a Lions and Tigers fan.

Don is survived by his wife Bonnie J. Dunning; four children, Laura (Mike) Eastman, Linda (Dan) Dumas, Donnie (Jackie) Dunning, and Gail Wilson all of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; eight grandchildren, Greg (Courtney) Dunning, Trish Ann (Gene) Eastman, Steven Eastman, Christoffer Jacobsen, Matthew Jacobsen, Samantha (Terry) Wilson, Michael Wilson and Rebecca Cook; three great-grandchildren, Hanna Dunning, Keira Lovegrove and Adrienne Lovegrove; and a sister, Dorothy Isbell.

Don was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Gene Dunning and John "Jack" Dunning.

A memorial service was held Feb. 19, 2022, at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home.



NOTICE FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS

Tax xemption Certificates and Michigan Secretary of State appointments

Requests for Certificate of Exemptions require a 24-hr. notice prior to the SOS appointment.

The Tribal Tax Office staff may not be able to assist Resident Tribal Members, who are at a scheduled appointment and did not call the Tribal Tax Office in advance for the Certificate of Exemption.

The Tribal Tax Office is not responsible for a delay in obtaining the registration for vehicles, recreational vehicles, motor homes, etc., due to the Resident Tribal Member not requesting the Certificate of Exemption in a timely manner.

TRIBAL MEMBER REGISTRATION IN THE TAX AGREEMENT AREA

TRIBAL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

(Including the Issuance of Certificates of Exemptions)

INITIAL REGISTRATION AND OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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

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

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

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTIONS

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

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

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

January COVID lottery winners get \$5,000

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — January 2022 winners have been announced for Sault Tribe's COVID-19 Rescue Act Vaccination Lottery. Three team member drawings and three tribal member drawings were held, with each winner receiving \$5,000, for a total of \$30,000 in January vaccination lottery prizes.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors established the COVID-19 Rescue Act Vaccination Lottery, which will be held every month through April 2022, to encourage tribal members and team members to get vaccinated to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

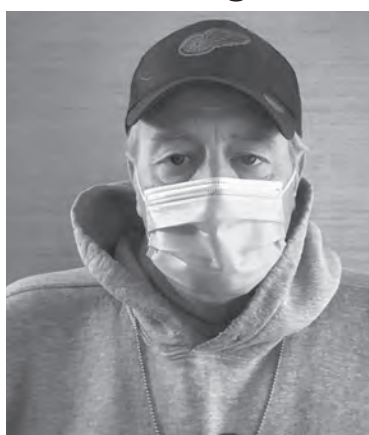
Winning team members for January were Annette Sheber, Michael Sauro and Julie Hagan. Kewadin Casino Conventions Sales Manager Annette Sheber had a phone message from CFO Executive Assistant Heather Weber. Returning what she



Team member Annette Sheber

thought was a work-related call, she found out she was a \$5,000 January vaccination lottery winner.

"I was very excited, in fact, she was not able to finish speaking," said Sheber. "Everyone in the office knew something exciting had just happened. I am elated, and very thankful our tribe decided to have a vaccination lottery."



Team member Michael Sauro

"I was really surprised they called me," said Sauro, a surveillance operator with Kewadin Casinos in Sault Ste. Marie. "My car had just blown a head gasket and I couldn't afford to fix it. Now I can get another car."

"I think if everyone sticks together, we can beat this virus," he said.

Julie Hagan, Sault Tribe Senior Accountant, said, "I was



Tribal member Carla Gieryk

excited and shocked that I won. I have never won anything like this."

Tribal member winners for January were Carla Gieryk of Gladstone, Joseph Krause of St. Ignace and John Moffat of California.

"When I got the phone call saying I won the COVID lottery, I was so surprised that I won," said Gieryk. "Living on Social

Security, winning that much money came in handy. Thank you very much."

To enter the vaccination lottery, participants must complete and submit only one entry form on the tribe's website, saulttribe.com. Eligible participants will automatically qualify for the next month's drawings if they did not win during the prior month.

To be eligible to participate, tribal members and team members must be 18 and older as of the entry date. Drawing winners must provide proof they received at least one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccination as of the date the entry form was submitted. Tribal member drawing winners must submit proof of their enrollment in the tribe as of their entry form submission date and winning date. Team member drawing winners must submit proof of their employment with the tribe as of their entry form submission date and winning date.

Tribal Health Center recognizes employees



Dr. Jessica Neuroth, November 2021 Employee of the Month.



Linda Hammonds, December 2021 Employee of the Month.



Rae Ann Brand, 2021 Employee of the Year.

Movement, food demonstration and craft party held in St. Ignace



Jennifer Schmidgall, dietician with St. Ignace Community Health, gave a food demonstration.



On Feb. 16 Sault Tribe Community Health and the Advocacy Resource Center held a movement, food demonstration and Native craft party at the St. Ignace Public Library. Delores Calcaterra (right) received some help from ACFS Community Educator Ashley Gravelle.



Nicolle Talley cutting some faux fur for her project.



Ashley Gravelle, Jennifer Schmidgall and Lyndee Zeigler gave demonstrations.



Patricia Bures preparing her faux fur.



Pamela Reese



St. Ignace resident and tribal member John Schieding during the craft demonstration.

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and Conservation

BY ROBERT MARCHAND,
CHIEF OF POLICE

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) issues treaty hunting and fishing licenses to Sault Tribe members to be utilized within the boundaries of the 1836 Treaty Area. If members have any questions regarding these licenses, the criteria for obtaining them, and/or the regulations governing their use, please contact our office at (906) 635-6065.

Inland Hunting and Fishing

STLE began issuing 2022 Inland Hunting and Fishing licenses as well as Non-Hunting Harvest cards on March 1, 2022. Please remember that if you held any of these licenses, regardless of activity, you are required to submit a 2021 harvest report. We cannot issue 2022 licenses without one submitted. The reports are provided each year at the time you receive your license, and they are available online or at our office if you are coming in person to obtain your licenses.

STLE has recently received a few harvest reports with a check or money order for the licenses. We must have the 2022 application with your payment for new licenses.

If you are requesting this license for the first time, you are required to provide a copy of your tribal card along with proof of hunter safety if you want to engage in treaty hunting rights.



STLE does administer a Youth Mentoring program that members under the age of 10 are able to participate in for a maximum period of two years; please note, however, that once the youth turn 10, they are not eligible for this program and will be required to provide proof of hunter safety. STLE recommends that they begin participation at 8 years of age so there is no lapse in licensing. Please contact our office for more information as there are other requirements to participate.

Spring turkey season starts April 15 and goes through June 15, 2022. You are able to harvest two bearded only turkeys during spring season. Small game season ends March 31, 2022.

If you participate in trapping activities, please remember that you have 14 days after the specific species season ends to get your animal sealed. Please contact Sault Tribe Natural Resources Department at (906) 632-6132 for

more information.

If walleye fishing with your Inland harvest card, you are authorized to harvest 10 per day, size limit is 14 inches.

March 31 is the last day for Upper Peninsula walleye inland fishing. The season will open again May 15 (closed April 1 – May 14, fishing is allowed with PERMIT ONLY during the closed season). Please contact Sault Tribe Natural Resources Department for closed season permits.

March 14 is the last day for Lower Peninsula walleye inland fishing. The season will open again April 29 (closed March 15 – the last Friday before the last Saturday in April, fishing allowed is allowed with PERMIT ONLY during the closed season). Please contact Sault Tribe Natural Resources Department for closed season permits.

Reminder that March 1 was the last day for walleye fishing in the Bay de Noc tributaries. The season will open again May 16. Permits are available through Sault Tribe Natural Resources Department during the closed season.

Bear and elk application period is May 1 – May 31, 2022. Please watch the next edition of the paper for the applications. They will also be available online in late April and at STLE's office in the Sault at the same time.

Chapter 21 of the Tribal Code regulates Inland licenses. Please remember that if you are using this license for fishing purposes, you are only authorized to fish inland lakes and streams within the boundaries of the 1836 Treaty Area. There are some exceptions on specific bodies of water that you can find more information about in the Tribal Code. All Tribal Codes may be found online at saulttribe.com, select Government at the top, select Tribal Code from the drop-down list and choose Chapter 21 for Inland rules and regulations.

Great Lakes Fishing – Subsistence/Netting and Commercial

If you have not yet renewed your Subsistence or Subsistence and Gillnet license for 2022, please make sure you are not engaging in any of the authorized activities for each license. Until you do renew, you are not required to submit monthly catch reports. Whatever month you obtain your subsistence or subsistence gillnet license, your reporting requirement begins.

Commercial licenses – captains and helpers – still have the requirement to schedule an appointment with STLE in order to renew each year. It is important that helpers and captains call to schedule their own appointments. STLE has to obtain specific personal information each year that

only the member themselves can provide.

If you hold a subsistence license or subsistence and netting licenses, please remember that you are required to turn in a monthly catch report by the 10th of each month. These reports are required whether you catch any fish or get out to fish. Please remember that these licenses are valid only on the Great Lakes within the boundaries of Sault Tribe's 1836 Treaty Area. Chapter 20 of tribal code and CORA code regulate both subsistence licenses. Both sets of regulations may be found online at saulttribe.com, select Government at the top, select tribal code from the drop down list, and choose either Chapter 20 or CORA code for Great Lakes rules and regulations.

As a reminder, you are authorized to recreationally fish in the Great Lakes within the boundaries of our 1836 Treaty Area with just your tribal membership card as long as you follow State of Michigan rules for the activity.

Members are encouraged to educate themselves on the various rules governing our Treaty rights; however, STLE is here to help members wade through the sometimes complex rules. If you cannot find the information you are looking for in tribal and/or CORA Code, please contact our office at (906) 6356065 and ask to speak with a conservation officer.

Oak wilt prevention starts now with pruning

BY RUTH DORANDO MARCY,
MSUE

Pruning oak trees during the wintertime helps avoid oak wilt infections during the growing season.

Oak wilt has become a serious disease across Michigan. Avoiding oak tree pruning at the high-risk period of the growing season is an important way to prevent oak wilt. If you need to prune your oaks, schedule tree work for winter months when oak wilt risk is lowest. Even during the winter, professional arborists are booking their work many weeks out. Schedule your tree work now to ensure it is completed before the high-risk period of spring.

One way oak wilt is spread is by small sap beetles attracted by the sap on tree wounds and pruning cuts. During the growing season, primarily spring and early summer, these beetles feed on fresh mycelial mats, or the "fruiting bodies" of the oak wilt fungus (*Bretziella fagacearum*) where they pick up spores on their bodies. The spores enter healthy oaks when a contaminated beetle feeds on a fresh oak tree wound. In the



Photo provided by Wisconsin DNR
Small beetles are attracted to the sweet smell of mycelial mats.

winter, beetles are less active, and mycelial mats with viable spores are not common, so risk of infection is low. Pruning between April 15 and July 15 should be strictly avoided, and wounds to oaks should be sealed with pruning sealer to prevent infection. Spring is when beetle activity and viable spores are highest, so risk of infection is at its peak.

Oak wilt can also be spread when wood from oaks killed by oak wilt is moved into new areas. It is best to avoid moving firewood to new locations. The mycelial mats can still attract

sap beetles on the firewood, risking spread of the fungus to new areas. To reduce this risk, dry and completely de-bark firewood, as it does not contain enough moisture for the oak wilt fungus. Seal freshly cut oak wood by covering completely with an intact tarp and burying the edges in the ground to ensure no access by sap beetles. The tarp should remain in place for at least a year, until wood is dry and debarked.

Another mode of oak wilt disease transmission is from tree-to-tree via shared tree roots. Once an oak tree is infected, it can pass the oak wilt to healthy oaks nearby. The most common and effective way to halt this kind of disease spread is to sever the root connections between infected and healthy oak trees. This is done by creating a deep trench with a vibratory plow, followed by removal of the infected trees. Sometimes a buffer of healthy oak trees will need to be removed as well.

Protecting healthy oaks in the infected root-zone area can be achieved with fungicide injections of propiconazole to the root flares. Note that this will have to

be repeated in 2 years and may not fully protect trees from above ground spread by beetles. Other methods of halting tree-to-tree infection are being explored and are used when trenching is not possible. It is important to have a professional arborist trained in oak wilt management draw up a management plan before any tree removal is done.

Be aware of what oak wilt looks like to help control disease spread. Oak trees in the red oak group will show leaf wilt symptoms often starting at the top of the tree, followed by rapid leaf loss. Symptomatic leaves can range in color from tan to green and trees die within weeks. A dead oak surrounded by oaks with these leaf symptoms may indicate that the disease has been spreading for 1 or more years.

Because several other pests and diseases can cause problems in oaks, it is critical to confirm that the symptoms are being caused by oak wilt and not something else. Confirmation of oak wilt disease requires a positive lab test unless a mycelial mat is located under the bark of a dead oak tree.

For information on how to collect a sample to test for oak wilt, read "The Best Sampling Procedures for Accurate Oak Wilt Testing" (<https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/the-best-sampling-procedures-for-accurate-oak-wilt-testing>). If oak wilt is confirmed, consult a qualified arborist with oak wilt management training.

The Michigan Oak Wilt Coalition maintains a directory of professionals experienced in the diagnosis and treatment of oak wilt disease and is available on their website www.michiganoak-wilt.org/resources.

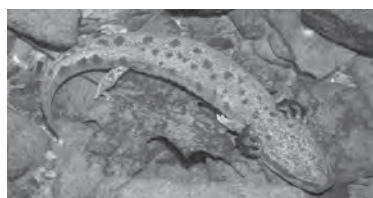
Know the signs of oak wilt and the steps to prevent it. These steps include avoiding pruning activity on oaks during high-risk periods, managing disease outbreaks effectively, and not moving firewood to new areas. These actions will help protect oak trees and the countless benefits they provide to people, wildlife, and our communities.

For more information, visit <https://extension.msu.edu>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <https://extension.msu.edu/experts>, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

Munuscong's mudpuppies eat round gobies, rusty crayfish

BY HADLEY REED, SAULT TRIBE
ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

Recently there have been reports of a re-emergence of mudpuppies in Munuscong Bay. This elusive amphibian is listed as a species of concern in the state of Michigan, but many people don't know a lot about them. Because they're closely related to salamanders, mudpuppies are considered amphibians, but they're fully



aquatic, meaning they spend their entire lives underwater and can't survive on land. Growing up to 18 inches long and living up to 20 years, a mudpuppy looks very

similar to a salamander with the exception of its bright red gills. A mudpuppy's gills look like finger-like projections with tiny fringe on them on either side of the amphibian's head. Although they have lungs and can gulp air, it isn't how they breathe; their lungs just help them swim!

Occasionally while fishing you may accidentally catch a mudpuppy and its odd slimy appearance

could be frightening, but they are harmless and should be returned to the water as soon as possible. Mudpuppies are a great indicator of water quality; they cannot live in heavily polluted waters and require a clean freshwater environment to thrive.

A common misconception about mudpuppies is that they only eat fish eggs when in fact they eat invertebrates and small

fish. This means mudpuppies help control invasive species such as rusty crayfish and round gobies.

If you have any questions or would like to report a mudpuppy sighting, please call the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575. We would like to know about them because of what they are telling us about water quality throughout the ceded territory.

Winter road salt ends up in our groundwater

By Crystal Falk, Sault Tribe Environmental Program

Here in Sault Ste. Marie, we are accustomed to long winters with a lot of snow and, over the years, we have learned how to cope with icy roads and walkways. Road salt is practically used everywhere because it really works when it comes to deicing. The use of salt as a deicer has expanded greatly in the last century with more than 10 million tons per year being spread over roadways in the U.S.

For safety purposes, road salt is definitely a great tool, but where does all that salt go? We have to keep in mind that everything we put on the ground will eventually end up in our water — the water that we use every day for drinking, bathing, swimming and so much more. Over the winter, the roads are salted often, we salt our driveways and walkways. When the snow melts, all of the salt is washed right into our waters.

Salt enters our water ways through direct runoff to our surface waters or by moving through soil and groundwater. The salt water threatens drinking water supplies and can harm fish, freshwater plants and other organisms, while putting at risk wildlife, birds, vegetation and soil organisms in the surrounding ecosystem.

Once salt enters our groundwater it typically takes decades for the salts to disappear due to the slow travel times in groundwater, this causes increased salt levels in our drinking water.

Salt impacts the ecosystem in many ways. Too much salt in soil inhibits plants from getting their water and nutrients from the soil, creating an inhabitable environment, decreasing food and habitat for animals. The high amounts of salt going into our environment can be very detri-



The United States puts down more than 10 million tons of rock salt per year to deice the winter roads.

mental to our whole ecosystem. Salt destroys soil structure by killing some soil bacteria. This allows more soil to erode into streams, taking the salt with it. Salt erosion contaminates drinking-water supplies to levels that exceed standards. Salt doesn't evaporate or otherwise get removed once it's applied, so it remains a persistent risk to aquatic ecosystems and to water quality. Salt slowly kills trees, especially white pines, along with other roadside plants. The loss of indigenous plants and trees on roadsides allows hardier salt-tolerant species to take over. Deer, elk, and moose eat road salt, which causes salt toxicosis; the animals lose their fear of vehicles and humans, causing many fatal encounters.

Salt also has an effect on our cars, buildings and roads, which is costly to everyone. Salt can penetrate concrete to corrode reinforcing rods, which can damage bridges as well as roads. Salt damage to vehicles includes corrosion of parts like bumpers, brake linings and frames as well as bodywork.

Salt also causes cracks in the paws of household pets like cats and dogs.

So how can you stop using salt around your home?

At this time, sodium chloride, also known as salt, is the cheapest and most effective way to de-ice our roads and walkways. There are other de-icers being developed but they are not as cost effective as salt. Make sure all salt is enclosed properly so not to use it unnecessarily. Encourage your city, county or township to properly house salt piles and look into other salt alternatives.

In your own home

— Mix your salt with sand so that you're not using as much salt.

— Try proactive shoveling to remove snow before it compacts and melts into ice.

— Planning to create or rework your driveway? Consider a porous surface that offers drainage and improves traction, such as gravel or interlocking

paving stones.

— Use sand. It's gritty, it's non-perishable, and it's natural.

— Use ashes. If you have a wood-burning fireplace, you need to do something with the ash. It's grippy and it's dark, so it heats up in the sun, melting ice!

— Use kitty litter

— Use a salt alternative such as EcoTraction, calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) or potassium acetate (KA).

CMA is harmless to plants and animals and not corrosive to metals or damaging to concrete. It works best when spread at the beginning of a snowstorm, before temperatures drop low enough to form ice, and on light, non-compacted snow. Disadvantages of CMA include its higher cost and a tendency to blow away and absorb moisture, clogging spreading machines.

Another alternative to salt that is noncorrosive is KA, which is

less harmful to steel structures like bridges. Sand, gravel, kitty litter and ashes spread on surfaces do not melt the ice, but give drivers and pedestrians extra traction. Buildup of materials that are easily washed away when the snow melts, such as sand, add to sediment in streams. If possible, try and cleanup sand when melting starts, by shoveling slush into the garbage or by sweeping up remnants as it continues to warm up. Earth-friendly ways to avoid using any materials to melt ice at home include wearing snow cleats on shoes and investing in a set of snow tires and a snow shovel.

Alfalfa meal is a natural fertilizer containing nitrogen, which melts ice. This type of alfalfa meal is available from local garden centers and increases traction for drivers and those on foot. Make sure it's not the kind sold in pellet form by feed stores.

JKL students pay tribute to Olympian Abby Roque



JKL School students stepped out to cheer on Abby Roque, an ice hockey forward. She is the first indigenous person to play for the U.S. women's Olympic hockey team, making her Olympic debut in Beijing 2022.

LSSU hires student support advisor Robear Assinewe

By BRENDA AUSTIN

Robear Assinewe-Beaupre has joined the staff of Lake Superior State University as the new Native American Center (Eskoonwid Endaad) student support advisor. He will help provide students with support, and connect them with campus resources such as supplemental instruction, academic counseling, and tutoring when requested.

Prior to accepting his current position, Beaupre served as the cultural coordinator for the Bay Mills Boys and Girls Club.

Beaupre will be coordinating campus events and cultural learning opportunities at Eskoonwid Endaad. The center offers support to Native American students throughout their time at LSSU, and serves as a resource in preserving and teaching Native American culture, history and traditions.

Lynn G. Gillette PhD, provost and vice president of academic affairs, said Beaupre is enthu-



siastic about the opportunity to expand programming from the Native American Center while working collaboratively with campus departments and local tribes to develop and provide historical and contemporary learning experiences unique to our region.

Beaupre is from Sagamok Anishnawbek First Nation, on the north shore of Lake Huron in Ontario, and lives in Bay Mills.

Students design zero waste city called Bahweting —

From "Future Leaders," Page 1 she said. The team members from grades 6 and 7: Cole Gordon, Asia Jones, Clark Suggitt, Dean Roe, Andrew Aikens, Andrew Kabelman, Kamryn Corbiere, Jay Johnson, Lils Clark, Caleb Daley and Emma (Spade) Volrath-Bush.

"They did an especially great job combining the requirements of the competition — designing a zero-waste city 100 years into the future — with the Anishnabe culture," said Solomon. The students studied ideas such as Mino Bimaadziwin, food sovereignty, the Land Back movement and reclaiming indigenous spaces, and incorporated them into their project.

Tribal member Charlee Brisette came in and talked about Mino Bimaadziwin. Isaac Murdoch talked about the Land Back movement and reclaiming Sault Ste. Marie as Bahweting.

They watched a video of "The Sioux Chef," Sean Sherman, talking about food sovereignty. "The vision is a change from capitalism to people," said Solomon.

The students spoke enthusiastically about their project. Student Jay Johnson talked about switching to a circular economy and Caleb Daley talked about high tech schools with hologram lessons, while Andrew Kabelman saving energy by covering the buildings in moss.

The students' team t-shirts were designed by Lils Clark. Everyone had a contribution.

Solomon said the Future City competition uses the "engineering design process as a framework to guide students through the creation of their cities." Within this framework, students apply specific project management methods to keep their projects on track. "This structure

gives students a real-world learning experience they can apply to future challenges in school, work and life," she added.

Students learn the "engineering design process," where they identify problems, brainstorm ideas, design solutions, test, retest and build, and share then their results. They learn to apply math and science concepts to real life; develop writing and public speaking skills; and learn project management and time management skills.

The team's future city is full of hope. "Everything belongs to everybody," they said. Utilities are shared, transportation is picked up and dropped off, appliances and other equipment are recycled well before breaking down, and citizens can share a maker space where they can create and repair through re-using and recycling, through shared expertise with other citizens.

Should unsubstantiated censure allegations undo your right to elect your tribal chairperson?



Chairman Payment is a dear friend and I have long been inspired by his leadership. [His] voice has been critical in testifying before Congress...I am so grateful for all [he] does for Indian Country" — Deb Haaland (2020)

**AARON A. PAYMENT, PH.D.,
Representing All Members
Everywhere**

Aaniin, boozhoo, nijii,
In 2020, I worked at the national, regional and inter-tribal levels through NCAI, MAST and UTM (1st VP/ Secretary, President/VP and President) with my fellow tribal leaders across the nation to secure over \$8 billion in pandemic relief for tribes in the Cares Act. In 2021, I collaborated to secure another \$30.5 billion in Rescue Act funds and \$14 billion more in infrastructure funds, which amounts to nearly \$53 billion for all tribes. So far, this has resulted in nearly \$400 million for our tribe alone.

This is where the \$2,000 per member (at large) and \$3,000 per service area member came from. Over \$106 million was paid out to Sault Tribe mem-



bers. Another large chunk went to "revenue replacement," which kept programs, services and jobs going. This didn't just happen and I am proud of my role in delivering these funds.

In 2021, I also played a primary role in securing \$300 million for tribal fishers across the country when Great Lakes tribes were left out in 2020. The \$300 million resulted in \$1.2 million for Sault Tribe fishers for which the board is yet to agree on a plan to distribute these funds. My desire is to pay out 100 percent of these funds. We are slated to receive up to another \$150 million in broadband and infrastructure dollars for a two-year total of over \$.5 billion for our tribe alone! This is not done and could be interrupted without the right leader-

ship. Congressional members, U.S. senators and the presidential administration can all attest to my direct involvement and influence along with a handful of tribal leaders from across the country like President Nez from Navajo, Cherokee Chief Chuck Hoskins and others.



I previously posted a video of VP Harris acknowledging my direct role in the \$1 + 2 billion for broadband for Indian Country. I also posted the NCAI video where I testified to our needs that led to the \$14 billion in infrastructure funds.

"Dr. Aaron Payment is a nationally respected champion for Native Women & Tribal issues like the Indian Child Welfare Act, Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women and other issues of importance to Tribal Nations. I know I can count on Dr. Payment's Leadership"
— Fawn Sharp (2020)

DOES YOUR VOTE MATTER?

In our last tribal election just over a year ago, Sault Tribe voters re-elected me with nearly 58 percent of the votes and almost a 16 percent margin over my opponent making this election the most decisive in over a quarter of a century. We won all units in the service area and posted huge margins in Unit IV (80 percent), Unit 5 (75 percent) and At Large (70 percent). We



saw huge margins for board members Betty Freiheit and Austin Lowes who have stuck by me through the efforts to undermine your elective choice for chairperson. The three of us garnered over 70 percent of the vote in Unit I, which means the members support us.

THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE

In 2020, the WILL OF THE PEOPLE — through the Sault Tribe voters — was decisive. However, some just can't or won't accept the outcome and are bitter, as demonstrated by calling my nephews who are in my foster care "poor orphans." Working to undermine our democratic process for electing our tribal chair is an act of sedition, violates our tribal Constitution and attacks the WILL OF THE PEOPLE. Making unsubstantiated allegations in a removal petition to try to undo your 2020 election for chairperson violates every principle of due process afforded to us as Sault Tribe and U.S. citizens.

HOW DO WE MAKE THINGS RIGHT?

While we don't yet have a separation of powers or standing in tribal court to challenge such seditious actions toward a political coup, we do have the right to vote in tribal elections. It is hard to imagine that after having such a strong showing of support by the Sault Tribe voters just a year and a half ago in all units and at large that voters would tolerate any action to undermine their democratic choice for chairperson. Members disagree with the censure. The outpouring of support from members everywhere is heartening. Chi Miigwech.

Registering to vote and

voting is our tribal and U.S. Constitutional right. FREE SPEECH to encourage voters to take matters into their own hands by voting is also a U.S. Constitutional right. Anyone who would act to violate these rights should NOT be entrusted to represent you. Please encourage fellow tribal members to register to vote to exercise their most fundamental Sault Tribe right.

IHS NOMINEE

One of the highest-level positions in honoring the treaty and trust obligation is the director of the Indian Health Services. Prior to Secretary Deb Haaland being nominated by President Biden and appointed by the Senate, the two highest level positions in the Presidential Administration were Indian Health Service director and Assistant Secretary of Interior.



After the 2020 Presidential election, I was originally vetted to be nominated as the national IHS director but declined given I was just re-elected. It is with great appreciation that we now have a nominee in Roselyn Tso (Navajo) as our next IHS Director. I've worked directly with Roselyn on the IHS Contract Support Cost Work Group and found her to be a strong advocate for Indian



County and skill to find practicable funding solutions that honor the treaty and trust obligation.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT JUST REAUTHORIZED!

National level tribal leaders, our two U.S. senators from Michigan and I successfully pushed to include protections of tribal children and tribal officers during domestic violence situations. I want to personally thank Jami Moran, Lori Jump, Rachel Carr with Uniting Three Fires and my former colleagues at the NCAI, MAST and UTM for our unified effort to push this legislation as it will have a meaningful impact on the lives of victims — primarily our Native women. I miss the work I did in leadership roles with NCAI, MAST, UTM and hope to return to these functions. Maybe we will end up seeing the value and seek to reinstate my leadership roles. Punishing me should never be at the expense of punishing our tribal reputation and political capital.

Over the years, I have worked hard to advocate for our people including supporting long-time friends when

they run for national office. Because they are friends, but also because they have been willing to listen and embrace my advocacy for you, our tribe, and all tribal nations. Senators Stabenow and Peters are two excellent examples. They have long championed our issues and I am proud to say I played a key role in shaping their tribal policy agenda.

CENSURE WASTING TRIBAL FUNDS

The frivolous election complaint in the censure has been dismissed by the Election Committee on July 15, 2021, and Appellate Court. This was the main allegation in the removal petition circulating based on the unsubstantiated allegations. The censure was REQUIRED by tribal law to be voted on by resolution so members could challenge and overturn it. Did the board vote by motion rather than resolution to violate your right of referendum?

AT THIS POINT, I BELIEVE THE PROCESS SHOULD BE TURNED OVER TO THE U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND TO INVESTIGATE ANYONE WHO MAY HAVE CONSPIRED WITH REMOVAL PETITIONERS TO UNDO YOUR ELECTIVE CHOICE FOR CHAIRPERSON.

Chi McGwitch, Negee!
Aaron



I have known Aaron from the time he was a young college student. I have always been impressed with his passion to empower the visions of the Elders and inspire the dreams of the youth. I have witness Aaron do this as Chairperson on a local and National level.
— Olympian Billy Mills (2020)

Compensation study to be presented to board soon



AUSTIN LOWES
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Aanii,
I'd like to begin this unit report by thanking our team members for their hard work. Our governmental, EDC, and casino employees are the backbone of our tribe. Although a permanent \$3 an hour raise was issued to all

team members several months ago, a compensation study will be presented to the board in the near future, which could impact salaries once again. If this study proposes increasing pay for our team members, I will support it 100%. As an organization, we should be proud of how we treat our workers. This can be expressed by paying them livable wages.

In addition to good paying jobs, our tribe also needs additional housing. A housing crisis has prevented many tribal members from acquiring decent and affordable housing. This has contributed to homelessness, couch surfing, and long waiting lists for our housing programs. I'm happy to announce that a resolution was recently passed that will authorize millions to be spent on housing within Unit I. This will be divided

between fair market, low-income, and elder housing.

I'd now like to discuss the tribe's COVID-19 programs. Vaccinations are being provided on the first and fourth Monday each month at the Tribal Health Center. To register, please call (906) 632-5259. The tribe continues to draw six winners each month in its vaccination lottery. Each winner receives \$5,000. To sign up, please visit <https://fs29.formsite.com/SaultT/bpxrit2ewm/index.html>. The tribe continues to provide paid leave for those impacted by COVID. In addition to this, the JKL Fiduciary Committee, which I am a member of, recently provided JKL employees with ten days of paid leave. This was done to offset the unpaid leave that many JKL employees have taken due to COVID expo-

sure.

I'd like to provide an update regarding the investigation into the chairperson, but I have little to share. I cannot disclose who the investigating firm is, how much they're being paid, what their investigative timeline is, or other significant details. I will say there are no criminal accusations. If there was, the investigation would be handled by law enforcement rather than an independent firm authorized by the Board of Directors. I sincerely hope this isn't what I suspect it is, which is political retribution to censor the chairperson less than a month before the notice of election, where half the board is up for re-election. The investigation will likely cost the tribe tens of thousands of dollars. I hope the membership is able to learn the

total cost one day.

I will conclude by reporting that Rosetta Stone has partnered with the Mille Lacs tribe of Minnesota to develop an Ojibwe language program. Members of any federally recognized tribe can receive this program for \$25. To sign up, please visit <https://www.culture.aanji.org/language/ojibwe-rosetta-stone/#top>. The JKL Fiduciary Committee authorized this to be offered to all JKL students, which I am quite proud of. If any tribal member is interested in this program but cannot afford it, please contact me. Our culture is priceless, and I will happily cover the cost.

As always, it's an honor to serve you.

Miigwetch!
Austin Lowes

Bill of Rights protections afforded to membership?



BETTY FREIHEIT,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Hello Tribal Members,
As a governing body we have an obligation to protect the rights of members, including the board of directors.

We need to ensure that members of our tribe do not experience lesser rights under our tribal government than they do under the U.S. government. Some suggest that has already happened.

Contained within our Tribal

Constitution Article VIII-Bill of Rights is the following statement: "No member shall be denied any of the rights or guarantees enjoyed by citizens under the Constitution of the United States, including but not limited to...the right to petition for action or the redress of grievances, and due process of law."

This sounds good. But if it is to be more than words on paper, the board has to write codes, or laws, to protect these rights. I have searched our tribal codes for these protecting laws and many seem to be missing.

The recent censure of our chairman by a select group of the tribal board provides some good examples of where we fall short in guaranteeing Bill of Rights protections to all members.

Currently, members do not have the right of redress of grievances against the board, or any tribal operations, within tribal court. In fact, members are denied standing for such grievances and attempts to bring forward griev-

ances have been dismissed due to "board sovereignty, or immunity," from member suits.

Our board controls the courts, writes the laws and informs the court which type of cases they may or may not handle. Our board does not allow the courts to take cases against the board. What about when the board does not follow Tribal code? How can members hold the board accountable for circumventing their rights? Such as when the board censored the chairman. The code required the board to censure by resolution.

But the board deliberately did not do that. They used a table motion to vote. Was this a deliberate act to avoid allowing members their right to referendum their action?

What about due process? Our Tribal Code does provide due process for those charged with criminal offenses, but what about other actions taken by the board?

Again, look at the censure

of the chairman. A coalition of the tribal board (minus Austin and me) developed a listing of charges and then essentially found the chairman guilty by voting to sanction him and strip him of his state and national committee assignments. What due process was he afforded? He was denied detail of the charges, as well as witness statements and evidence.

Why wasn't there a hearing? This board coalition, on its own volition, found him guilty and sentenced him. And then arranged for an investigation to find cause for its actions? How can any of this qualify as "due process?"

If the board is going to write codes giving it the authority to censure other board members, then we also need to have procedures in place to ensure that any censures are based on concrete evidence, with witnesses, and that the accused has a fair hearing and the opportunity to defend him or her self. And,

most importantly, that guilt or innocence is determined by an impartial body. Otherwise, we run the risk of the board creating political hit jobs.

Because our board has unlimited power, we need to ensure there are laws and structures in place to prevent arbitrary and even ruthless board actions.

It is time we re-examine our Tribal Code and our government structure to correct and change areas in which we fall short of our own Constitutional Bill of Rights.

Otherwise, we could run the risk of having a lawless board who could use its unchecked power to literally annihilate its enemies.

As always, please take care of yourself and family. Help your neighbors any time you can. Please help take care of our elders!

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

Renovations and maintenance needed on casinos



CHARLES MATSON SR.
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Aanii,
We hope everyone is doing well as we go through this pandemic and the winter weather. This winter's weather has been more severe than recent ones and has just made it harder for everyday travel. Hopefully spring comes early but as we all know the weather is very unpredictable.

Our gaming establishments

are starting to gain on getting us back to pre-pandemic numbers. We have a struggle on our hands to get patrons back visiting our casinos, whether they are new or returning customers. We need to start renovations and major maintenance on our casinos.

Our buildings are in need of repair and upkeep that has just happening over time due to where our casinos are located. With our gaming establishments heavily dependent on tourism, we will need to do all that we can to get them in the door and keep them coming back. You never have a second chance to make a first impression. With the summer tourist season coming quickly we need to be prepared to take full advantage of it.

Starting an aggressive marketing campaign, drawings, merchandise giveaways and popular entertainment are just a few examples of things we can implement to increase patronage.

Our EDC businesses have been doing very well. The White Pine Hotel and convenience store's revenues were up compared to last year and is poised to do really well through the upcoming tourism season especially if the COVID restrictions keep going in the right direction. We need to keep diversifying our business portfolio. It is more important than ever that our EDC keeps investing in profitable businesses and keeping our current non-gaming businesses profitable.

As of March 1, the Forest Service will be charging a \$20 annual fee to visit the Pictured Rocks Lakeshore. We need to get a fee exemption for tribal members. I have reached out to the park service to discuss this. The Pictured Rocks and the Anishinaabe were here long before the federal government. Tribal members never paid a fee before the federal government was here and we should not have to pay a fee now that they

are.

Negotiations for the Great Lakes Consent Decree are still ongoing. The federal judge imposed an extension until July. We opposed this extension but the other parties agreed with it. Negotiations have been frustrating to say the least. The state seems dead set on not agreeing that we have the ability to manage the resource ourselves. I disagree. We have a strong biological staff, adequate law enforcement and a court system in place for those who commit

offenses. The other tribes seem to not want to stand up to them with us. I believe our trustee the federal government needs to take a stronger role and stand behind our positions. We will keep negotiating in good faith but the other parties need to also.

If you any concerns or questions you can contact me at (906) 450-5094 or cmatson@saulttribe.net.

Respectfully,
Charles J. Matson Sr.
Unit V Board Representative

Training opportunities available for eligible applicants

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) Program has funding available for on-the-job training and short-term occupational training opportunities.

The program may be able to provide tuition assistance for skills training if it leads to an industry-recognized certification or under OJT, the program may

reimburse an employer 50 percent of your wage for a specified training period.

Candidates must meet certain eligibility requirements and be a resident of the seven-county service area.

Please apply at WIOA at Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., or call Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767 for more information.

Tribe has lifted most mandatory mask mandates



**KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

The world is getting back to a new normal. The tribe has lifted most of its mask mandates. The clinics, elder centers and elder gatherings are still under a mask mandate but the casinos and other services of the tribe no longer have required mask mandates. If you so choose to wear a mask, that is ok, that is still the recommendation of the Health Division but not mandatory.

We are finally talking about reorganizing our schedules to accommodate a quicker review and completion of our budgets

for the tribe.

The tribe has three main budgets that we review at different times of the year. We always seem to have a continuing funding resolution because we cannot finish our review and accept the budgets before the previous one expires. I hope this new commitment to getting all the work done on time and passed by the board before the old budget is done works as it should.

The audit committee is now reviewing the most recent audit of the tribe. We have been told there are no major exceptions

of failings of the tribes accounting or spending. This is always great news and these audits are done by an outside accounting firm that we contract.

To make it even more secure we change firms every few years and every three years we bid out the process.

We are in search of an EDC director for the tribe and we hope to onboard a candidate soon.

The tribe's EDC has a lot of good things happening now and we cannot let things stand idle without proper guidance.

Our STI (Sault Tribe Inc.) division is moving ahead in the realm of 8a status.

We have started to acquire the experience and contracts needed to create a vibrant business model in many sectors.

Thank you for all the e-mails and phone calls.

Keith Massaway,
702 Hazelton St,
St. Ignace MI, 49781,
(906) 322 3802,
kmassaway@msn.com

Elder meal sites will re-open for indoor dining April 4



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Good news! Our tribal elder

meal sites will re-open with indoor dining Monday, April 4, 2022. Pick-up meals will still be available on a limited basis for those who can't make it to the luncheons.

— Lunch will be served in the dining room from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

— Elders who need to pick up a meal, packaged meals will be available at the drive-thru window from 12:30 to 1 p.m.

— Masks are still required at this time.

The elder sub-committees will begin May 4, 2022, directly after lunch. It will be good to see everyone again. We've

missed you!

If you need more information, please call Elder Service Division Director Holly Kibble at (906) 635-4971.

The board of directors is conducting tribal business as usual so we can ensure the budgets are approved in a timely manner. Our workshops consist of financial reviews, updates from our governmental, transportation, health, strategic planning and casino departments. We need to make sure the budgets are maintained and adhered to in order to maintain and improve membership services and programs.

Kudos to our CFO and Accounting team for keeping us on track, especially with the rising cost of doing business in the last couple of years.

In my December report, I mentioned each unit received money from the American Recovery Act Funds (ARAF). Housing shortage was the issue Unit I identified as a top priority. At that time, we passed a resolution to purchase 38 houses/elder quads, which will start arriving in the spring of 2022. During our March 1, 2022, meeting, we amended the resolution to purchase a minimum of 20 Modular homes and

35 trailer/manufactured homes with associated infrastructure upgrades on tribal lands located in Chippewa County.

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

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

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

Stay safe and healthy.

Thank You,
Kim

Remember to update address changes with tribal Tax Office



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

The best news I have for the month is that we are finally returning to business as usual for the most part after two years of a pandemic.

The health director has removed the mask mandate at our casinos, other businesses and other buildings for the guest and team member. The casinos will be bringing back 24 hours at the bigger sites and adding back promotions, concerts and events. Please continue to watch the website and Facebook for updates.

The St. Ignace lunch program will begin serving Monday, April 4, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Anyone wishing to pick up a meal can do so from 12:30-1 p.m. The meal program is Monday-Thursday at the elder complex lunchroom. The elder meeting will be Thursday, May 12, after lunch.

For any elder-related questions, please contact Elder Divi-

sion Director Holly Kibble at (906) 635-4971.

For anyone who lives in the service area and uses PRC (Purchase and Referred Care), now is a good time to update your application. You need to send in an application and include your annual 1040 tax form. Health has its own website, saulttribe-health.com. You can download the application there or request one by calling (906) 632-5200. This service is beneficial if you have to be sent to a specialist or have a medical emergency. Not all services may be covered so you need to be proactive and discuss with your worker and follow the guidelines.

Another thing to remember is to keep your address current with the tribal Tax Office. Even if you change your address at Enrollment or the Health Center does not mean it is updated at other offices. We do not have a central data mechanism. The Tax Office can provide a map of the agreement area if you are thinking of buying a home or moving to see if you will be in the area.

Please direct any questions you may have to Candace Blocher at (906) 632-6281. The information can also be found on saulttribe.com under the government tab, under Tribal Tax Agreement.

For anyone struggling with addiction, I would encourage you to attend a session of Russ Rickley and Tony Grondin's Wellbriety group held every Wednesday night at the McCann

The St. Ignace lunch program will begin serving Monday, April 4, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Anyone wishing to pick up a meal can do so from 12:30-1 p.m. The meal program is Monday-Thursday at the elder complex lunchroom.

The elder meeting will be Thursday, May 12, after lunch.

School in St. Ignace at 7 p.m.

This is a very welcoming group of people that will provide you with the support and encouragement you may need to get or remain sober.

The board continues to work on the critical housing shortage in each unit. Unit directors are working with housing, our real estate and EDC to be able to build or purchase homes in all areas with the money we set aside in each unit. This will take time with the supply chain, the shortage of workers and in some areas purchasing or preparing land and infrastructure.

I also encourage anyone that is looking to sell their vacant land to contact Housing, the EDC, or a unit director.

The board of directors did vote to purchase two golf courses last year — Tanglewood in the Sault and Hessel Ridge in Hessel. These purchases were not made with COVID relief or ARPA funds. One important fact is that we are a very land-poor tribe. Both of these purchases

allowed us to gain over 300 acres of land. We have posted employment opportunities to open both properties this season as golf courses. The casino will be working with the courses to market them as other casinos have golf courses.

We will be offering payroll deduct opportunities for team members as well as discounts for tribal members and hopefully opportunities for our youth to be involved. At the end of the day, we own the land and can use it to build housing, recreation complexes, community centers or other opportunities as arises.

The investigation into the censure of the chairman is still ongoing. The board, executive staff and chairman have been given the opportunity to meet with the firm. I believe the firm is under contract for 90 days, so hopefully the information will be ready for review in May or sooner. This process is provided through our legal counsel.

The election process is under way and a list candidates and petitions will be out by the end of March.

I see many candidates posting platforms and videos. It is very frustrating to hear or see incorrect information being provided. I encourage anyone who wants to get involved in leadership to do so. This position can be very rewarding but also is highly scrutinized. You definitely need a thick skin and know that constructive criticism is healthy for good government.

Hate, lies and negative campaigning is not helpful.

Everyone needs to realize that each candidate is one vote of 12. This means they have to work as a majority consensus to get items moved at the table. Good luck to all candidates!

There are social media posts out there calling agencies to intervene in our tribe and investigate. This is pure drama since Sault Tribe is a sovereign nation and many government boards and councils make decisions or take action to operate in the best interest of the people. Members may not at the time think it is the best decision, but after gathering more information, members can make their own decision. Sometimes you believe in a person or thing so much you can't see the reality.

College graduates, we have many job openings for you to get that experience and work for your tribe. We have opportunities for internships and many jobs with better pay and a benefit package for anyone looking for a new job. Please visit saulttribe.com for more information. Anyone having any questions or concerns, please contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

Text messages or emails have faster response time as it allows for response during meetings.

Please continue to pray for Ukraine, our country and our women and men serving our country.

Unit IV projects coming soon from COVID funding



**DENISE CHASE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Unit IV projects coming soon from Covid American Recovery Act Funds of \$8 million dollars

I'm happy to report that Director Morrow, staff and myself have been meeting on our pri-

oritized project list for our unit. In following with the resolution language in which the Sault Tribe Board of Directors had identified housing and community centers as essential to the health and wellness of its membership, the three main projects we've selected are:

1). Escanaba — New build Community Center with commercial kitchen for elder meal program, space for community events such as Christmas parties, USDA distribution, office space and a traditional healer room.

2). Manistique — New 24-hour access exercise fitness center addition to existing Manistique Community Center.

3). More housing across Unit IV, allowing us to add additional housing, which is a huge unmet need across our unit.

I will keep you updated on these

long-awaited projects in the future newspaper issues.

The resolution "Opposition of Senate Bill 251" is on the table to be voted on at the March 15, 2022, board meeting. With the 2000 Consent Decree on the second extension and the weekly ongoing negotiations, this bill, which amends Part 473 (commercial fishing) of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA) and revision of certain Commercial Fishing Regulations, would negatively impact our tribal treaty fishing rights and negotiations and should be opposed.

Please remember if you are in need of any of the tribal emergency programs or heating assistance, stop in at your local tribal center for an application or call and ask for one to be mailed to you by a Direct Services worker.

Outlying area worker contact information:

Heidi Cotey, Direct Services worker – Munising/Marquette county areas, Munising ACFS office, (906) 387-3906 or (800) 236-4705.

Viola Neadow, Direct Services worker – Schoolcraft/Delta county areas, Manistique Tribal Center, ACFS, (906) 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137.

Director Morrow and I continue to receive inquiries on Yooper Fitness Center access by tribal members. It's unfortunate that Yooper Fitness owners decided to not sign the renewal contract with the Sault Tribe to provide this service, so tribal members wouldn't have to pay out of pocket upfront.

So, going forward, the Sault Tribe Health program will reimburse members who pay for their

access to Yooper Fitness. This will be a temporary solution for our members to continue to access exercise opportunities at Yooper Fitness until our new work out fitness center addition is built on the Manistique Tribal Center.

The information flyer and forms for reimbursement are printed below, and are available at the Manistique Tribal Center, Health and ACFS window.

Please see other Health and Wellness opportunities across Unit IV in Director Morrow's article, as I have a 500-word unit report limit during election cycle.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (906) 203-2471 or dchase@sault-tribe.net.

Thank you
Denise Chase
Unit IV Board Representative

Update on Manistique Yooper Fitness facility memberships



**DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

I am sure everyone is sick of the snow and ready for spring as much I am! Unfortunately, COVID has made winter seem extra long because we have had to stay cooped up to ensure the spread of COVID was slowed down. It has been a long two years for all of us! And if you have a compromised immune system, then it has been even harder for you.

Update on the Manistique Yooper Fitness facility. The Health Division had a contract the last

2 years with Yooper Fitness for member to exercise for free, but unfortunately the owners did not want to resign the contract this year. This caused a stop in exercise services until the Health Division could come up with a solution for reimbursement. To continue to use Yooper Fitness you will need to pay for your service, get a receipt and then apply to the Health Division for reimbursement. The flyer and application are posted in this paper.

This is a reminder of the other services available for fitness in Unit IV. Tribal members and their families can use the YMCA of Marquette County at no cost to them. The Marquette County YMCA is located at 350 Iron St. in downtown Negaunee, Mich.

Tribal members who wish to use the services of the Marquette County YMCA must bring their tribal card with them on their first visit and fill out a day pass registration form that includes the names of all the members of their household. Once that is on file, members and their dependents can check in with their tribal card, or by letting staff know they are a registered

user of the facility.

Tribal members and their households can also use all the free services at the NMU fitness center. This includes open recreation hours in the PEIF Building, Superior Dome and Berry Events Center, along with a 5,700 sq ft fitness center, lap pool, saunas, etc.

Tribal members and their households can also access Sullivan's Health & Fitness located at 1605 Sheridan Road, Escanaba, Mich.

Tribal members residing in the Unit IV area can call or email Sullivan's for an appointment, (906) 217-2011, to fill out membership paperwork, tour the facility and have a membership swipe card

programmed. You will need your tribal card and a photo ID at this appointment.

Tribal members who register with Sullivan's can access the gym Monday through Friday from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. and have 24-hour access on weekends. An adult must accompany youth under the age of 17, and guests who have not filled out proper paperwork are not permitted in the gym. Gym membership also includes the use of shower facilities and a small locker area.

Please check out these services in each of the Unit IV areas, there is a lot to do!

Director Chase and I continue to attend weekly meetings on our fishing consent decree, which is currently on its second extension. We need to be involved to ensure we don't lose out like we did in the 2000 Consent Decree or the 2007 Inland Decree!

If you have any questions, please contact me at (906) 298-1888.

W-9 form:

<https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>

Thank you,
Darcy Morrow
Unit IV Representative
dmorrow@saulttribe.net

ATTENTION SAULT TRIBE MEMBERS IN THE MANISTIQUE AREA

FREE GYM MEMBERSHIP

Sault Tribe Community Health will reimburse up to \$35.00 per month for general membership fees to Yooper Fitness Gym (does not include fitness classes or other fees).

Eligibility: Sault Tribe Members

Members must submit the following paperwork monthly:

- Reimbursement Form
- Sault Tribe Membership Card
- Proof of Membership to Yooper Fitness
- Receipt of payment from Yooper Fitness
- W-9 (only need to submit one time)

Send all paperwork to - Dezia Weber @2864 Ashmun Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Questions - call 906-632-5210



Reimbursement Form for Yooper Fitness Membership

Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____
City: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____

Please attach the following paperwork to this paperwork:

- Proof of Sault Tribe Membership
- Proof of Membership to Yooper Fitness
- Proof of Receipt (reimburse up to \$35.00 monthly for gym membership) starting January 1, 2022.
- W-9 (only need to submit one time unless a change of address)

Reimbursement will not be processed without all paperwork attached.

Please send completed form and paper work attention to:

Dezia Weber
Sault Tribe Community Health Department
2864 Ashmun Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Questions - call 906-632-5210



McKerchie thanks Language and Culture Department



MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

I would like to thank the Sault Tribe Language and Cultural Department for hosting a snow snake tournament. Although I was unable to make it to the tournament, I thoroughly enjoyed helping make the track. I enjoyed

meeting LSSU's recently hired Native American Center Student Support Advisor, Robear Assinewe, as well as catching up with several cousins and community members. I was also fortunate enough to learn award winning Larry Jacque's technique. Miigwech to all those that helped build and take part in the tournament, I look forward to next year's event.

I was also able to help out with the recent community Drive-thru Mobil Pantry distribution. It was nice seeing several of the Native Youth Advisory members from the high school helping distribute food for those in need. The food banks are always looking for volunteers, and if you have the time, I recommend helping with the "Feeding America" food banks by calling Kristen

who helps organize the events in the Sault and local areas at (231) 622-5286.

Big shout out to Bud Biron and Jackie Minton for their continued dedication to holding workshops and helping keep our traditions alive. Our Language and Cultural Division always has a lot on its plate and has had several vacancies, so please be patient while it gears up for the fast-approaching summer and the beginning of powwow season. Many are already looking forward to our annual powwows, I believe this year powwows will be something special as we are a social people and need these events to celebrate who we are. I look forward to catching up with many of you this summer.

Several have asked for updates on the chair's censure; as it's

an ongoing investigation I will not comment other than to say the law firm hired to look into his actions recently conducted interviews with several people including myself. I found them to be very professional and well versed in Indian law and they were reviewing our laws carefully. As both of the lawyers were members of other tribes, they too are familiar with tribal laws, sovereignty, and the complexities in Indian country. I just ask the membership to be patient will we move forward.

I'm not on social media a lot. I'm sometimes made aware of comments made about me but many times I'm not. One could spend a lot of time trying to correct someone's portrayal of themselves online. But as an elected leader I'm not utilizing

my time well if I spend it all on social media; I am on several committees and the negotiation team for Great Lakes fishing and my time is better spent serving those endeavors. Speaking of which, there are several committee openings; I encourage those that want to become involved in our community to apply and help out. Visit the Sault Tribe webpage for all the openings.

Any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at (906) 440-7768.

Moving?

Contact Sault Tribe Enrollment Department to update your address at: (800) 251-6597, or (906) 635-3396.

Road to Wellness Program helps get you to your appointments

FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Have you missed an appointment in Behavioral Health because you didn't have a ride?

Did you know that Behavioral Health has a program called the Road to Wellness Program?

If you are 18 or older, give us a call for your medical, dental, optical, or, of course, your Behavioral Health appointments, and we can arrange a ride for you free of charge.

You don't have to miss those appointments. We are here to help.

For more information, call the Road to Wellness Program at (906) 635-6075 or (906) 259-3254.

We can arrange a ride for you free of charge! Did you know that Behavioral Health has a program called the Road to Wellness Program? See information above and give us a call today!

Extension Educators Wanted

MSU Extension is seeking candidates for three Extension Educator positions that will focus on Field Crops Production. Please visit <https://careers.msu.edu> and search for posting#764914 to learn how you can become the next SPARTAN WHO WILL! Two of these positions will be in the Upper Peninsula, one will be in Lower Michigan.

MSU is an affirmative-action, equal-opportunity employer, committed to achieving excellence through a diverse workforce and inclusive culture that encourages all people to reach their full potential. The university actively encourages applications and/or nominations of women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities.

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KEWADIN CASINOS ENTERTAINMENT

MAY

**Black Label Society with special guests
Nita Strauss & Jared James Nichols**

Friday | 6th | 7:30 p.m. | \$27.50 SRO
Sault Ste. Marie DreamMakers Theater

The Oak Ridge Boys

Saturday | 21st | 8 p.m. | Start at \$45
St. Ignace Event Center



JUNE

Trace Adkins with special guest Terri Clark

Friday | 10th | 8 p.m. | Start at \$50
St. Ignace Outdoor

Bone Thugs-N-Harmony

Saturday | 18th | 8 p.m. | Start at \$25
Sault Ste. Marie DreamMakers Theater



NOVEMBER

Aaron Lewis LIVE & Acoustic

Thursday | 3rd | 8 p.m. | Start at \$35
Sault Ste. Marie DreamMakers Theater

Grand Funk Railroad

Friday | 18th | 8 p.m. | Start at \$35
St. Ignace Event Center



**tickets.kewadin.com
1-800-KEWADIN**