



# Win Awenen Nisitotung

June 14, 2023  
Strawberry Moon • Ode'imín Giizis  
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Bahweting Bidajimowin • Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

## Board voids 2023 Special Advisory Election

At its May 31 special meeting, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors approved resolution 2023-190, voiding the 2023 Special Advisory Election held March 20, 2023. The board directed the Election Committee to issue a Notice of Election within 30 days for a new Special Advisory Election to fill the current vacant Unit I board of directors seat.

Resolution 2023-190 states: **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of

Directors amends Tribal Code Chapter 10 Election Ordinance at Section 10.108(1) as follows:

### 10.108 Tribal Election Committee.

(1) All elections held pursuant to this Chapter shall be administered by the Election Committee subject to review of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall appoint each member of the Election Committee. The Election Committee shall consist of thirteen (13) members. The Board of Directors shall appoint a chair-

person of the Election Committee from the Committee's own membership. No person shall be appointed who is currently holding elective office. Any member of the Election Committee shall be ineligible for tribal elective office unless he resigns from the Election Committee at least six (6) months before the election deadline. The Election Committee shall establish its own administrative procedures subject to the approval of the Board of Directors and may not delegate its authority. The Committee may

assign specific tasks or duties as necessary to carry out ministerial tasks or duties, consistent with the Constitution and this Chapter.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Directors hereby declares the ongoing 2023 Special Election to be void and orders the Election Committee to within thirty days post a Notice of Election for a subsequent Special Election to fill the current vacant Unit I Board of Directors seat.

The motion to approve the resolution was made by Unit I

Director Betty Freiheit, seconded by Unit I Director Robert McRorie. Directors voting "yes" were Freiheit and McRorie, Unit II Director Kimberly Lee, Unit III Director Shawn Borowicz, Unit IV Director Kimberly Hampton and Unit V Director Tyler LaPlaunt. Voting "no" were Unit I Director Michael McKerchie, Unit II Director Lana Causley-Smith, Unit III Director Bridgett Sorenson, and Unit IV Director Darcy Morrow. Unit I Director Isaac McKechnie abstained.

## Tribal fisherman spears 106 pound sturgeon



BY SCOTT BRAND

With only six permits available through the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) sturgeon lottery, Sault Tribe member Jason Grondin was facing long odds when he applied for the 2023 season.

"It was the first time I ever applied," said Grondin. "I was very lucky to get it."

A hectic schedule prevented Grondin from trying to spear a sturgeon while the ice was on Black Lake, but he wasn't too concerned about missing out on the hard water season.

"I knew there would be an opportunity in the spring," he said, having accompanied others on their spearing runs in what seems to be a staging area for the large fish. "There's quite a few guys who have done it that way."

His long-time fishing buddy, James Gahn, and his son, Michael Gahn, provided the boat and they

were joined by a second CORA permit holder for the evening.

"We've done a lot of spearing together over the years," said Grondin of spearing after sunset. "It's a little bit easier with wall-eye with their glowing eye."

With two permit holders in one boat, the two men took turns on the spear.

"He got his first," said Grondin, estimating the other fish was about 5 feet long and tipped the scales around 50 pounds.

"We kept trolling around the same area," said Grondin, before spotting his fish in roughly 15 feet of water. "It was moving away, but doubled back."

Grondin said the fish did not put up much of a struggle as the spear hit it perfectly behind the head. That's not to say it was easy, muscling more than 6 feet of fish to the boat. Grondin's first sturgeon officially measured 72.5 inches in length and weighed in

at 106 pounds, including 27 raw pounds of roe, which yielded 17 pounds of caviar once it was properly cleaned and brined.

"I have tried every caviar and it is probably one of the better ones I've had," said Grondin.

The sturgeon meat Grondin described as similar to pork.

"It's excellent," he said. "If you clean and trim it, it's delicious."

Grondin was quick to add that the trimming is important. "You can't leave any fat on it, the fat is really fishy tasting," he said.

Grondin said it is illegal to sell the caviar or meat from a sturgeon and he plans to share his harvest with friends and family within the tribal community.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources lists the state record lake sturgeon as an 88-inch fish, weighing 193 pounds harvested at Cheboygan County's Mullet Lake in 1974.

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

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Photo by Brenda Austin

**WELCOME ABOARD** — Sault Tribe Chairman Austin Lowes (center) welcomed 2023 Summer Interns June 5. The tribe has a 10-week internship program, where students are placed in various departments according to their interests. Interns will have opportunities to learn about tribal government, Anishnaabe language and culture, and take part in activities like the 2023 Grand Assembly.



# Sault Tribe hosting grand assembly, powwow and Billy Mills Fun Run June 29-July 2

## #1 New York Times bestselling author Angeline Bouley to speak

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors invites all tribal members to a Tribal Grand Assembly Thursday, June 29, and Friday, June 30, to celebrate the tribe's 50th anniversary since federal recognition. The Grand Assembly will be held on the Sault Tribe reservation at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building on Ice Circle Drive.

All Sault Tribe members are encouraged to attend. Many events are planned to offer tribal members an educational and enjoyable experience, culminating with the tribe's annual summer powwow June 30-July 2. The powwow begins on June 29 with a spiritual gathering.

"Our tribe has been a sovereign nation since time immemorial, but federal recognition by the United States government has been a significant part of our ongoing journey as a people. It has helped continue our fight for land and resources for the betterment and perpetuation of our nation and our way of life," said Austin Lowes, chairman of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. "We look forward to joining together as a community to celebrate our sovereignty and culture."

Keynote speaker for the event is bestselling author and Sault Tribe member Angeline Bouley, who will speak Thursday at 1 p.m. She will also be holding book signings at the assembly and powwow for her new book, *Warrior Girl Unearthed*. Bouley's debut novel,

*Firekeeper's Daughter*, is a #1 New York Times bestseller, was named a Time Magazine Best YA Book of All Time, and has been optioned by the Obamas' production company to be adapted into a Netflix series.

On both June 29 and 30, a community breakfast and lunch will be served at the grand assembly. Food and craft vendors setting up on the powwow grounds will also be available. Each day will begin with a sunrise ceremony. Archival elder interviews will be shown, and the Language and Culture program will be set up to record new elder interviews.

Other planned activities include Indigenous games, Sault Tribe program booths and presentations, tribal member vendor booths and door prizes, including a pair of Kane Brown tickets. For kids, there will be movies, crafts and games. For families, Big Bear Arena activities will be offered Thursday evening. Friday night is the opening Grand Entry for the powwow.

The evening of June 30, a special show is coming to the Sault Kewadin Casino, the Rez Comedy Tour, with Tonia Jo Hall "Auntie Beachress" and Rob Fairbanks' "The Rez Reporter" is getting reddy on the Dreammakers stage at Kewadin Casino Sault Ste. Marie on June 30 for only \$10. Doors open at 8 p.m., show starts at 9 p.m.

Following the grand assembly, the JKL School will host the Billy Mills Fun Run and Walk. The Billy Mills Fun Run, a road race designed to promote a healthy

lifestyle, will be held on Saturday, July 1. The tot-trot will start at 8:30 a.m. followed by the 1 mile, and then the 5K events. The race will be held at JKL Bahweting School,

1301 Marquette Avenue, just around the corner from the powwow.

Register at <https://rebrand.ly/BMillsFunRun2023>.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

### 50th Anniversary Grand Assembly

Thursday & Friday, June 29-30  
Ice Circle Dr., Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Keynote Speaker: Best Selling Author and Sault Tribe Member Angeline Bouley



#### Thursday, June 29 —

6 a.m. .... Sunrise Ceremony  
7-9 a.m. .... Community Breakfast  
10 a.m. .... Chairman's Welcome, Eagle Staff & Drum  
12-1 p.m. .... Community Lunch  
1 p.m. .... Keynote Speaker Angeline Bouley  
Afternoon .... Department Presentations, Tribal Program Booths, Kid's Crafts, Games & Teachings, Native Films  
4 p.m. .... Eagle Staff Retirement & Drum  
7-9 p.m. .... Big Bear Recreation Center Open House

Indigenous Games!  
Door Prizes!

Native Foods & Crafts Vendors!  
Archival Elders Video Screenings!  
Recording Our Elders!  
Community Black Ash Basket Build!

For schedule updates,  
visit [saulttribe.com](http://saulttribe.com)

#### Friday, June 30 —

6 a.m. .... Sunrise Ceremony  
7-9 a.m. .... Community Breakfast  
10 a.m. .... Welcome & Eagle Staff  
12-1 p.m. .... Community Lunch  
Mid-Morning .... Kid's Crafts, Games & Teachings, Native Films, & Afternoon Homecoming & History Presentation  
Afternoon .... Department Presentations, Program Booths  
4 p.m. .... Eagle Staff Retirement & Drum  
6 p.m. .... Powwow Begins



June 30, 9 p.m., \$10  
Kewadin Sault DreamMakers Theater



## 2023 Sault Tribe powwows

### 41st Annual Baaweting Homecoming Powwow

**June 30-July 2**—Sault Tribe Language and Culture Division Baaweting Homecoming Powwow June 30-July 2, 2023, at the tribe's powwow grounds off of Shunk Road on Ice Circle in Sault Ste. Marie. Thursday, June 29 and Friday, June 30 Summer Ceremonial Gathering with Sunrise Ceremony and Tribal Assembly. Grand entry Friday, June 30 at 6 p.m. Grand entries on Saturday, July 1, at 1 and 7 p.m. Grand entry on Sunday, July 2, is at noon. This year's celebration features singing and dancing contests, authentic food and craft vendors. Everyone Welcome. No drugs, alcohol, politics, or dogs allowed. If you have any questions, please call Sault Tribe Language and Culture Division at (906) 635-6050. For vendor application, call (906) 203-6085, or (906) 203-6382.

and vendors, please call Nicole Maudrie at (906) 293-8181 or Barb Sharp at (906) 287-1951.

### 29th Annual Gathering of the Eagles Hessel Powwow

**Aug. 18-20**—The Gathering of the Eagles Hessel Powwow is Friday through Sunday, Aug. 18-20, at the Hessel powwow grounds, next to Kewadin Hessel Casino. Please save the date and look for more information soon!

### Sugar Island Powwow July 15-16

**July 15-16**—Save the Date: Sugar Island Powwow July 15-16, Sugar Island.

### 15th Annual Rendezvous at the Straits Powwow

**Aug. 25-26**—The 15th annual Rendezvous at the Straits Powwow is Aug. 25-26 at the New France Discovery Center at the Father Marquette National Memorial, St. Ignace. Blessing of the grounds is Friday, Aug. 25. The Rendezvous is open to the public.

Admission by donation. This traditional Native American Powwow features traditional dancing, drumming and singing. Enjoy vendor demonstrations, authentic hand-made arts & crafts and traditional Native American food.

This family event is alcohol and drug free. It is sponsored by the St. Ignace Events Committee, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and Kewadin Casinos.

For more information, contact Darryl Brown at (906) 984-2083, [turtlesback@charter.net](mailto:turtlesback@charter.net) or the St. Ignace Events Committee at (906) 643-8717.

Vendor information: Ron Daniels (906) 430-7735.

### 18th annual Youth Empowerment Powwow

**July 29**—The 18th Annual Youth Empowerment Powwow is Saturday, July 29, at the Newberry Powwow grounds in Newberry, Mich. Sponsored by the Youth Education and Activities Program. Grand entry at 1 p.m. Honored positions TBA. For more information contact Lisa Burnside at (906) 635-4944 ext. 26314 or the YEA Coordinator in your area.

### Honoring the Waters Newberry Powwow Aug. 12

**Aug. 12**—Honoring the Waters Newberry Powwow at Newberry Powwow Grounds, 4935 Zee Ba Tik Lane. Grand Entry: 1 p.m. Feast: 5 p.m. Bring a dish to pass, if able. All dancers and drummers: TBA. Open to public. No drugs, alcohol or dogs. For information

## 41st Annual Baaweting Homecoming Powwow June 30-July 2 at the tribe's powwow grounds off of Shunk Rd on Ice Circle in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Thursday, June 29 and Friday, June 30 Summer Ceremonial Gathering with Sunrise Ceremony and Tribal Assembly.

Grand entry Friday, June 30 at 6 p.m. Grand entries on Saturday, July 1, at 1 and 7 p.m. Grand entry on Sunday, July 2, is at noon.

Emcee: Beedahsiga Elliott  
Head Veteran: Nick VanAlstine  
Arena Director: Jefferson Ballew  
Dance Judges: Julie Whitepigeon & Ray Cadotte  
Drum Judge: Keith Smith  
Host Drum & Head Dancers: Picked each session.



**DANCE SPECIALS:**  
Adult Traditional, Fancy, Grass and Jingle.  
Teen and juniors-combined category.  
Combined style categories for golden age, teens, and juniors.  
Tiny tots special-all are winners.

Honorarium for dancers in full regalia.

Spot dances and dance specials announced throughout weekend.

**DRUM COMPETITION:**  
Must have five singers present at all sessions.  
Registration \$10 per singer.  
Drum Split for non-competing drums.  
Registration opens Friday, closes at 12 on Saturday  
Contestant fee - adults \$10, teen/junior \$5.

**Biindigek - Everyone Welcome - Niimdaa!**  
No drugs, alcohol, politics, or dogs allowed.

Vendors: For application, call 906-203-6085 or 906-203-6382 and it will be emailed to you.



# Kewadin announces major upgrades

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Kewadin Casinos will begin work on a multi-million-dollar upgrade project of the Kewadin Casino Hotel in Sault Ste. Marie this year with the property seeing substantial modernization.

These improvements will start with an all-new exterior and windows. “Our guest experience is of the utmost importance to us, and Kewadin Casinos is revitalizing it with this project as well as several other upgrades at all five Kewadin Casinos,” Kewadin Casinos CEO Allen Kerridge said.

To minimize the impact the project will have on hotel guests, the renovations will be completed in phases. Exterior renovations are expected to take just over a year to complete and will begin in the Summer/Fall of 2023 and ending in Winter of 2024. Kewadin Casino Sault Ste. Marie will remain open for the duration of the project.

“We’re proud to be one of the first casinos in Michigan to open and to be celebrating our 38-year anniversary in 2023. We’ve seen many great changes over those years, and now it’s time for new look and feel throughout the property that will elevate the guest experience,” Kewadin Sault General Manager Dana Schlehuber said.

Located in one of the most scenic regions of North America, Kewadin Casinos offers over 2,000 slot machines, 26 table games, hotels, dining, and other amenities at five properties in Michigan’s eastern and central Upper Peninsula. Owned and operated by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Kewadin Casinos are the premier gaming destinations for people who live in and visit the Upper Peninsula, which is bordered on the south by Lake Michigan and Lake Huron, on the west by Wisconsin, and on the north by



Artist renderings of the front (above) and back of the casino upgrades.



Lake Superior and Canada.

For more information about the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, visit [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

saulttribe.com.

For more information about Kewadin Casinos, visit [www.kewadin.com](http://www.kewadin.com).

# Elder Scholarship Program offers \$500

Applications are being solicited for four one-time \$500 scholarships from the Sault Tribe elders for qualified freshmen enrolled in public colleges, universities or trade schools.

All applicants must be registered Sault Tribe members with the following qualifications:

- Graduated from an accredited high school with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50. Or successfully completed and passed all five General

Education Development (GED) equivalency tests with a minimum score of 40 and an average score of 45 and must possess a GED certificate.

- Accepted or enrolled in any two- or four-year public college, university or trade school in any field as a full-time student.

Applicants must submit letters of application that include:

- Cover page that includes name, address, telephone number, email address, proof of tribal enrollment

and academic major or course of study to be pursued.

- Transcript from the applicant’s high school verifying the cumulative grade point average. Or, proof of achieving GED requirements stated above.

- Letter from the college, university or trade school, showing acceptance for the 2023-2024 school year.

- Essay of 300-500 words describing how you feel a college education will benefit you and

your career objectives and why this scholarship will help you achieve your goal.

Deadline for applications is June 30, at 5 p.m. All requirements must be received by the Elder Service Division, ATTN Elder Scholarship, 2076 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Questions? Contact Holly Kibble, Elder Service Division Director, at (906) 635-4971.

# Sault Tribal committee vacancies announced

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 Jessica Dumback at 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, or call (906) 635-6050 with questions.

**Anishinaabe Cultural Committee** - Ten vacancies - five males (4-year term), five females

(4-year term)  
**Child Welfare Committee** - Four vacancies (4-year term)  
**Election Committee** - Five vacancies (4-year term)  
**Health Board** - Two vacancies (4-year term)  
**Housing/Utility Authority** - One vacancy (4-year term)  
**Special Needs/Enrollment Committee** - Unit I - Three vacancies  
 Unit II - Two vacancies

Unit III - Two vacancies  
**Elder Advisory Committee**  
 Unit I - Sault - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)  
 Unit II - Hessel - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)  
 Unit II - Naubinway - One regular vacancy (4-year term)  
 Unit III - St. Ignace - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)  
 Unit V - Munising - One regular vacancy (4-year term)  
 Unit V - Marquette - One alternate

vacancy (4-year term)  
**Elder Subcommittees**  
 Unit I - Sault - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)  
 Unit II - Hessel - One regular vacancy, one alternate vacancy (4-year term)  
 Unit III - St. Ignace - One regular vacancy (4-year term)  
 Unit IV - Escanaba - Two alternate vacancies (4-year term)  
 Unit V - Munising - One regular, two alternate vacancies (4-years)

## Tribal members: need assistance?

Three membership liaisons work with the chairperson’s office on membership issues and concerns across the service area. The liaisons respond to membership issues and follow up to ensure they are resolved. Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact the liaisons when they need help with tribal issues by emailing them at [membersconcerns@saulttribe.net](mailto:membersconcerns@saulttribe.net).

net or contacting them individually at: Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, Mich., (906) 643-2124, [chudak@saulttribe.net](mailto:chudak@saulttribe.net). Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469; Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, [mjenerou@saulttribe.net](mailto:mjenerou@saulttribe.net). Michelle Moore at (906) 635-6050, [mmoore@saulttribe.net](mailto:mmoore@saulttribe.net).

## GAS & CIGARETTE DISCOUNTS

**TRIBALLY OWNED OFFERING GAS AND CIGARETTE DISCOUNTS**  
**MidJim** Convenience Store, 2205 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie  
**MidJim** Convenience Store II, 3045 Mackinac Trail, St. Ignace  
**TRIBALLY OWNED OFFERING GAS DISCOUNT ONLY**  
**White Pine Lodge**, 7889 E. W. M-28, Christmas  
**University BP** at 301 W. Fair Ave., Marquette

**NON-TRIBAL OWNED STATIONS OFFERING GAS DISCOUNT ONLY**  
**Newberry Sunoco Gas Station**, 13975 M-28, Newberry  
**Manistique Oil company**, 216 Deer St., Manistique  
**Carnes BP**, 2300 Ludington St., Escanaba  
**Kinross BP Local Express**, 4440 Tone Rd., Kincheloe  
**Cedar Pantry**, 159 W M-134, Cedarville

## Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

June 14, 2023  
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Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor  
 Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary  
 Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer  
 Scott Brand.....Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Subscriptions:** \$18 per year, \$11 for senior citizens and \$30 to Canada. Call for other foreign countries.

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

**Advertising:** \$8.50/column inch. (Paid advertising with editorial content will be treated as editorial content.)

**Submission and Subscriptions:**  
 Win Awenen Nisitotung  
 Attn: Communications Dept.  
 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783; (906) 632-6398  
 Email: [slucas@saulttribe.net](mailto:slucas@saulttribe.net) or [jdale-burton@saulttribe.net](mailto:jdale-burton@saulttribe.net)

# Senior Employment Positions available in Escanaba, Marquette

Two Senior Employment jobs are available. If interested in either position, reply to the Elder Employment Program, Attn: Brenda Cadreau, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or call (906) 635-4767. Applicants must be a Sault Tribe member age 60 or over and reside within the seven county service area. The jobs are 14 hours per week at \$13.072 per hour.

A part-time Youth Elder Worker is needed for the Escanaba YEA Program to assist YEA staff with ensuring youth are in a safe environment and providing cultural enrichment support in activities with our youth. Youth, parents, team members, community agencies and the general public.

A Community Health Program Clerk is needed for the Marquette Tribal Community Health Center. The Community Health Program Clerk will be responsible for providing clerical support and program resource, consultation and coordination services to the Community Health Program and staff located at the center.

# WIOA funding for on-the-job training

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 Big Bear Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., or call Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767 for more information.

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# Odenaang housing project, building for the future

BY VERONICA BEAUMONT, SAULT TRIBE HOUSING AUTHORITY OPERATIONS MANAGER

On December 10, 2019 the Sault Tribe Housing Authority was awarded a \$5,000,000.00 competitive grant (Indian Housing Block Grant Competitive Program Grant 2018/2019) towards funding 40 news homes up at the Odenaang housing site. The Sault Tribe was given five years to complete the project.

Moving a project of this caliber forward through all of the hurdles of the COVID-19 Pandemic was very difficult, to say the least. The original project was written for the majority of units to be manufactured homes and only a limited number to be stick built homes. With the limited availability of manufactured homes, the housing authority had to look at other options. That is when the housing authority went back to HUD and amended the grant to build more stick-built homes in place of manufactured homes. This would add a year to our original schedule but we would still be within our allotted five years.

We are now in year four (4) and we have 26 of the 40 units complete. The 26 units consist of fifteen (15) two-bedroom units for families, four (4) elder quad units that are ADA/Handicapped accessible, and Six (6) three-bedroom family units. This year we are building five (5) two-bedroom elderly ADA/Handicapped

accessible single-family units and for the first time, housing is building three (3) three-bedroom single-family ADA/Handicapped accessible units for our tribal families that have that need. The final six (6) units will be built in 2024 and they will consist of two-bedroom units both elderly and family units.

The construction of the homes is credited to the Sault Tribes Housings Force Account Construction Crew under the direction and leadership of our Field Superintendent who has his Michigan Builders License. Specialty areas such as; plumbing/heating, electrical, foundation and infrastructure and utilities are sub-contracted out using federal procurement regulations giving tribal member owned companies a preference.

On Jan. 3, 2023, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors passed Resolution 2023-024 placing the management of the Odenaang Homes Tribal Enterprise under the Sault Tribe Housing Authority. There are currently 20 modular homes that are going in on the Odenaang Housing Site that are under this enterprise that was created with the ARPA Funds. The first 14 units are being set. The engineering for the utilities for those units and the location of the other six units is being completed and that project will be put out for bids soon. The goal is to have all 20 units ready for occupancy in late 2023, pending construc-



An ADA/handicapped accessible elder quad unit, above, was recently completed and ready for occupants. Sault Tribe's Force Account construction crew, below, working on one of the new homes.



tion, costs and many variables. Further details will be shared on the tribe's website, and Facebook page.

Sault Tribe Housing Authority Director Joni

Talentino said, "There remains a boundless need for safe, affordable housing for our tribal members. This competitive grant award along with the matching funds enabled the Housing

Authority to make a positive impact at the Odenaang community. Our members deserve quality, safe, affordable housing and this project is producing just that."

SATURDAYS IN JULY \$ ALL SITES



**SIZZLING**  
*Summer*  
**CASH**

WIN YOUR SHARE OF OVER  
**\$85,000 CASH AND CREDITS**

Hot Seat Draws Starting at 5 p.m.

Win Up To \$200 Kewadin Credits or \$500 CASH



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

MANISTIQUE \$ ST.IGNACE \$ SAULT MARIE \$ HESSEL \$ CHRISTMAS

**Blooming Bucks**  
All Sites | Saturdays in June

Win Your Share of over \$76,000 CASH and Credits!



**FATHER'S DAY**  
All Sites | June 18

Men Receive \$10 Kewadin Credits

**CAN-AM DAYS**  
All Sites | July 1 & July 4

All Customers Receive \$10 Kewadin Credits

**YOOPER SLOT TOURNAMENTS**  
Christmas & Hessel | Mondays & Tuesdays | 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
Manistique | Wednesdays & Thursdays | 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.  
Daily Prize Pool of 25,000 Bonus Points!

**SPIN TO WIN**  
Sault Ste. Marie | June 23-25

Up to \$15,000 CASH/Bonus Points + Call 906-632-0530 Ext. 54958

**RV FREE PLAY BONUS**  
Manistique & Christmas  
Recieve \$5 Kewadin Credits per Night Stay

**RESTAURANT SPECIALS**  
DreamCatchers and Horseshoe Bay Restaurants | July Feature  
Full-Rack BBQ Pork Ribs, Grilled Corn on the Cob, French Fries,  
Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Cornbread, & Peach Cobbler.

**Father's Day Specials**  
Join us for Father's Day dining specials on June 18. Find more information at kewadin.com/dining.

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



KEWADIN  
EVENTS



KEWADIN  
DINING

1-800-KEWADIN | KEWADIN.COM

MANISTIQUE · ST.IGNACE · SAULT MARIE · HESSEL · CHRISTMAS



# Mackinac Bridge toll collector Pat Rickley retires

COURTESY OF MACKINAC BRIDGE AUTHORITY

**ST. IGNACE, Mich.** - Pat Rickley, perhaps the most-recognized toll collector at the Mackinac Bridge, has retired.

For just short of 30 years, Rickley has served as an ambassador of sorts at the Mackinac Bridge, often the first - and sometimes the only - employee customers interact with as they pass through the toll booths.

Over that time, he's made thousands of acquaintances, people he's "kept in touch with" at the bridge through the years.

Rickley's made it his habit to make eye contact with each driver he meets, and mention things he notices about them or their vehicle - where their license plate is from, what they have in their car - and make small conversations in the 10 seconds or so that he has with them. Most have seemed appreciative of the effort he's made.

"Generally, they're just happy there's a positive person in their face," he says. "I get to meet so many different people, see so many different personalities. It's been a good time."

And Rickley's fast, too, as you might expect. He usually

processes eight or nine cars per minute, including chatting time, and holds the record for most vehicles processed in an hour: 489.

Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) Chairman Patrick "Shorty" Gleason was a customer of the Mackinac Bridge before he became an Authority member, and his interactions with Rickley - albeit brief - have always been pleasant.

"Whether we're talking about hunting, fishing, golfing, or quads, Pat has always been very welcoming and friendly," Gleason said. "His dedication to greeting motorists is second to none."

Rickley grew up in a family of eight just up the road from St. Ignace on Chain Lake. As kids, he and his siblings would jump on trains as they passed by for a ride into town.

After graduating from St. Ignace LaSalle High School, he joined the Army and served in artillery as part of the 1st Infantry Division, the "Big Red One." He was stationed in Kansas and Alaska: four years on active duty and four years in the reserves.

When Rickley returned



Photo by Mackinac Bridge Authority Pat Rickley collected the toll when 2012 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series champion Brad Keselowski drove his No. 2 Miller Lite Ford across the Mackinac Bridge in 2013.

home to St. Ignace, he worked a variety of construction jobs, paving roads, roofing houses, working on pipelines, and fishing commercially before joining the MBA as a toll collector.

Outside of work, he was elected to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, of which he is a member, to serve four years on the board of directors.

Aside from a two-year stint on the Mighty Mac's bridge patrol, escorting placarded loads and high-profile vehicles during

high winds, he's been in the toll booths the rest of his time at the bridge.

When Rickley started at the bridge, he considered himself an introvert. Over time, he's developed his ready banter with customers and an apparent comfort in his role. However, he says, "I'm still an introvert."

Rickley said that while the overwhelming majority of customers are happy as they come through the tolls, not everyone is. "Not too many are *really* angry. Some think it's my fault because I'm holding them up."

It's also unpleasant when the bridge needs to close for high winds or falling ice, which happens a few times each year, on average. What's the most common question after a complaint about a closure?

"They ask, 'When will the bridge reopen?' I'm a toll collector, not a damned weatherman," he jokes. "It's done for the safety of the people. You look out for other people like that."

Rickley says many days feel like the movie "Groundhog Day" in that many days seem very much like the one before,

but there are certainly times that stand out. Some he'll keep to himself to avoid any copycats, and there's no book in the works, though he has plenty of stories he'll share with friends over a drink.

"They do what they think is funny, and they think everyone else thinks it's funny, too," he explains vaguely. "You just see a lot of things."

Now, despite enjoying his job for many years, Rickley says it's time to go. When his daughter was young, he worked evening shifts, which cut down on time spent with her. Now he has grandchildren and wants to attend soccer games, skating, and gymnastics. He also enjoys traveling, both close to home and farther afield.

Every morning, Rickley gets up early and walks the St. Ignace boardwalk, beginning when the stars are still out sometimes, and finishing up as the sun is rising. That'll continue in retirement, as he enjoys being out in nature and listening to its sounds, and he's got a brand-new canoe in storage that will start seeing some use in the area he's still grateful to call home.

# Board passes resolutions at February 21 meeting

## February 21

A meeting of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors was held Feb. 21, 2023, in Sault Ste. Marie at the Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center. Ten resolutions were unanimously approved.

Resolution #2023-076: Cultural, after school Native language, FY 2023 budget modification - Approved for an increase in Federal HHS revenue monies of \$22,412.37, to make changes to the personnel sheet and reallocated expenses.

#077: Health Division, ITC Emergency Response to Suicide Prevention, FY 2023 budget modification - Approved for an increase in Other Revenue ITC monies of \$11,751.32.

#078: Tribal Court, Judicial Services, establishment of FY 2023 budget - Approved with BIA monies of \$638,422, and Tribal Support monies of \$208,705.15, with a transfer out of \$20,943.84.

#079: Interns, establishment of FY 2023 budget - Approved with Tribal Support monies of \$61,438.00.

#80: Michigan Indian Elders Association, tribal elder delegate appointments - The board appointed Lou Anne Bush of Sault Ste. Marie, and Dianne Compo of Brimley as delegates and Anita Nelson of Munising as the alternate delegate for a two-year period, expiring in February, 2025.

#081: Bureau of Indian

Affairs (BIA) Indian Highway Safety Program - The BIA Office of Justice Service administers the Indian Highway Safety Program and the tribe has the opportunity to submit an application to receive travel and training support through the program for staff to attend the Lifesavers Conference. The board authorized Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes, or his designee, to submit or amend any grant documents on the tribe's behalf.

#082: Tribal Transportation Program, award contract Payne & Dolan, Inc., tribal roads paving project - A contract between the Sault Tribe and Payne & Dolan, Inc., for general contracting services for the paving project was approved, and expenditures from Tribal Transportation Program funds, Cost Center's# 2932 and# 29310 were authorized.

#083: Rescinding Resolution 2022-237 - Rescinded

#084: Settling Juul litigation

- The board accepted the settlement offer.

#085: Sonosky, Chambers, Sachase, Miller & Monkman, LLP - The board authorized the chairman, or his designee, to execute any and all agreements retaining Sonosky, Chambers, Sachase, Miller & Monkman, LLP.

To view these and prior approved resolutions in their entirety, visit the board downloads section located at: [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

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# Anishinaabemowin 2023

Some people want it to happen, some people wish it would happen, others make it happen.—*Michael Jordan*. Make Anishinaabemowin part of your story, even if just a little of it. You are part of us all. Will it be *one day* for you, or *day one*?!



## Dewmin Giizis Strawberry Moon

by Susan Askwith

**Nwiindamaa.** It is deep.  
(Average 483 feet and 1,333 feet at maximum depth.)

Lake Superior's water is so clean and cold, there isn't much food for fish, so it has fewer fish than other Great Lakes. There are still a lot!

St. Mary's River (70 miles long) is the main way water leaves Lake Superior. It takes the water to Lake Huron and Lake Michigan.

**Bagamad wewiip.**  
A storm comes quickly.

**Minadendan Gchi-gamiing.**  
Respect Lake Superior.

## G'chi gamiing Lake Superior

It is about 10,000 years old, being formed as the last glacier melted. That's very young in Earth's history.

It would take all the water from the other 4 Great Lakes, plus 3 more Lake Erie's, to fill up Lake Superior.

If Lake Superior's shoreline was unravelled, it would stretch from Duluth, Minnesota to the Bahamas.

About 200 rivers and streams feed their waters into Lake Superior.

Waves over 40 feet in height have been recorded.

**Gidbiik** - on the surface  
The surface area is more than 31,000 square miles.

**Nibi** - water 'in the wild'  
**Nibiish\*** - an amount of water  
\*So close: but *nibiish* says 'leaf'

**Dadibew** - shoreline

**Ziibi(in)** - river(s)  
**Ziibiinhs(an)** - stream(s)

**Naangodnong anwaatin nibi.**  
*Sometimes* the water is calm.

**Pii nchiwak, dgowak mindidwag.**  
When it's stormy the *waves* are big.

## More Lake Words

**Minis(an)** island(s)  
**Wiikwed** bay  
**Negweki** sand  
**Zaagigan** typical lake  
**Dakaaboo** cold water  
**Siniikaa** It is rocky/stony.  
**Waaseyaagami** The water is clear.

## Make it a comment!

**Nishke! \_\_\_\_\_ te!**  
Look! There is \_\_\_\_.  
This works for everything but waves which use *biwag* instead of *te*.

\_\_\_\_\_ **maanda.\***  
This is a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ **wi.\***  
That is a \_\_\_\_\_

\* Once again, waves are an exception. Use **Dgowak gewe.** to say "Those are waves".

*Examples:*

**Nishke! Minis te!**  
Look! There's an island!  
**Negweki maanda.**  
This is sand.  
**Nibi wi.**  
That is water.

**Pronunciation??** You'll find the Anishinaabemowin words in this lesson pronounced at this Facebook link:  
[www.facebook.com/SaultTribeLanguageAndCulture](https://www.facebook.com/SaultTribeLanguageAndCulture)  
The words in the calendar on the page facing this one are there too. Or you can use the guide below!

**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 *Ed*                      **g** sounds only like it does in *go*

We underlined the syllables that get the emphasis.

Pronounce all the letters. Big deal: if n has an H or S after it, the n 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.

My phone is syncing since I dropped it in the lake. And did you hear the joke about 3 holes in the ground? Well, well, well. And all you have to know about celery is it's 95 percent water and 100 percent not pizza.

**Can you do it? Test your coordination.**

1. Sit on a chair.
2. Lift your right foot off the floor.
3. Swing that right foot in a clock-wise circle in the air above the floor.
4. While doing that, draw the number 6 in the air with your right hand.
5. You're likely to have a bit of trouble!
6. See if your friends and family can do it better! Have some fun!



# The Anishinaabe symbolism of our tribe's flag

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians flag was designed by tribal member Karen Lee well over 40 years ago and is brimming with the symbolism of our Anishinaabe culture. The flag depicts the four directions, six of our original clans, the four seasons, our lives, our medicines, our Creator ...

**The Center**

The turtle in the center of the flag symbolizes Mother Earth sustaining us with constancy and generosity. Long ago, turtle emerged from the water with earth on its back, providing a living place for human beings and all creatures between sky and water — Turtle Island. The turtle is the medium of communication, the emissary of beings of this world and time and beings of another world and dimension of

time. The turtle represents clarity of communication between beings. The turtle is the head of the fish clans. The color aqua symbolizes plant life and growing things. As the spokesperson for all the clans, the crane represents eloquence of leadership and direction. The voice of the crane is unique and infrequent — when crane speaks, all listen. The Mountain Ash tree is the sacred tree of the Anishinaabeg. Its leaves, berries and bark are used for medicines. The tree is able to survive in places where other trees cannot. The Mountain Ash is an example of strength, durability and strong character.

**The Eastern Direction**

East, the direction of the rising sun, is thought of as a grandfather personifying the winds and natural phenomena of that direc-

tion. East is the direction of the physical body. It symbolizes all that is new in the creation, like all newborn creatures, including man. Like the rising sun, a new day is brought to light. Knowledge is brought to consciousness and like the circling of the sun, the seasons change. The east is the time of change. It is the spring, the time of change from blackness to beauty. It is the sun breaking over the horizon. The rabbit represents Nanaboozhoo, a messenger of G'tchi Manitou, an intermediary on earth among different species of beings and an advocate for the Anishinaabeg, to whom the Creator imparted the gift of knowledge. From the east leading to the west is a yellow path. Our elders say this is the path of life, the path of the great warrior, the sun. We give thanks to our eastern grandfather.

**The Southern Direction**

In the circle of life, the southern direction represents maturing life, like young men and women. It is the time of year we call summer, the time we call mid-day, the time of day the eagle soars. South is the direction of full understanding. From G'tchi Manitou, the eagle received the gifts of strong wings, keen sight and proud bearing. The head of the Bird Clan, the eagle symbolizes courage and pre-knowledge. His sphere is the mountains and the heights. Red symbolizes earth and fire. We give thanks to our southern grandfather.

**The Western Direction**

West is the direction of the setting sun, the time of gradual change as from daylight to darkness and from life to death. It is evening, the change of life in middle age. It is change like the leaves or the hair on our heads from natural color to the likes of autumn frost. The west is the time of full maturity. It is the time of insight. West is



the direction of the emotional part of ourselves. From G'tchi Manitou, the deer received the gift of grace. The deer symbolizes love. The deer was once one of the Anishinaabeg clans. Black symbolizes change from this life. We give thanks to our western grandfather.

**The Northern Direction**

North is the time of our elders, our old people. It is a time of wisdom, so much like the answers found in our dreams. It represents the night, as a time called midnight, and a time called winter when things are as unpredictable as our dreams. The north is representative of those things that are positive, a time of snow and purity. The bear received the gift of courage and strength from G'tchi Manitou. Another of the Anishinaabeg clans, the bear is representative of all medicine powers in creation. Claws dig medicine roots. Bear passes knowledge on through dreams and visions. White symbolizes spirituality. We give thanks to our northern

grandfather.

**The Sky, the Earth, the Universe**

The rainbow around the edge of the circle is the beautiful bridge to the spirit world and the colors of the universe. Red is symbolic of earth and fire. Yellow is the path the sun takes across the sky. Blue is symbolic of sky and waters. From wherever we stand upon our Earth mother, we have companionship of these four directions. Our Earth mother with her blessings of food, clothing, shelter and medicine cares for us. We give thanks to our Earth mother, the direction below us. The direction above recognizes the daytime and nighttime skies of our creation. This is where we look to acknowledge G'tchi Manitou — the great mystery — the Creator. The Creator gives us everything we know, like the rainbow, a beautiful bridge to the spirit world and colors of the universe. Therefore, our greatest acknowledgement is to the Creator of the entire universe.

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Any Questions, or to Book an Appointment Please  
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## MIIN GIIZIS - BLUEBERRY MOON - JULY 2023

NIIZHWAASO GIIZHIGAT	NTAM GIIZHIGAT	NIIZHO GIIZHIGAT	NSWO GIIZHIGAT	NIIWO GIIZHIGAT	NAANO GIIZHIGAT	NGODWAASWO GIIZHIGAT
2 Niimidaa! (Let's dance!)	3 Mooshkaneshin Dibiki Giizis (It is a full moon.)	4 Bmaawnidwak. (They have a parade.)	5 wiingaashk (sweetgrass)	6 mkomi maagan (ice cream)	7 ookaanak (farm animals)	8 mooshwen (shawl)
9 Giizhaate giizhigad. (It is a hot day.)	10 dewe'gan (drum)	11 zaasagokwaan bkwezhigan (fry bread)	12 waawaatesi (firefly/lightning bug)	13 enagoonhsag (ants)	14 miinkaa (lots of blueberries)	15 jiingtamok (powwow)
16 Nchiiwat. (It is stormy weather.)	17 bashkwaanaajinh (bat)	18 naanooshkeshiinh (hummingbird)	19 Miinkedaa! (Let's pick blueberries!)	20 jiigbiik (at/to the beach/shoreline)	21 Chi-noodin. (It is very windy.)	22 niibin (summer)
23 eshkdmoonh (watermelon)	24 zhoonyaa (money)	25 oboodashkwaanishiinh (dragonflies)	26 waasnoode (Northern lights)	27 Gojing wiisinidaa. (Let's have a picnic/eat outside.)	28 Googii. (S/he dives.)	29 endzhi-waabnda'ding (county fair)
30 memengwaan (butterfly)	31 Bigiza. (S/he is swimming.)					



# Great Lakes commercial fisherman turned author

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The LaBlance family has the waters of the Great Lakes running through their veins. They began commercial fishing in the early 1800s on the Great Lakes off Scotts Point, south of Gould City, in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Their business eventually moved to St. James on Beaver Island, located several miles west of Charlevoix in Lake Michigan.

Peter LaBlance was born in Charlevoix in October of 1948, and was one of 10 children; eight boys and two girls. Their father was Emerald Paul LaBlance, who was born on Beaver Island in 1916. He and his family moved to Charlevoix in the late 1920s, where it was less expensive to get needed supplies and sell their fish.

LaBlance, a member of the Sault Tribe, is telling his families 'fish tales' in his two books titled LaBlance Fish Tales and LaBlance Fish Tales Two.

He was encouraged to write the books by his wife and Sault Tribe member Deborah LaBlance, Professor Helen Deaton and several of their friends. "They all heard my stories and encouraged me to put them on paper," he said. "I have been invited to schools, museums and churches to share my experiences as a commercial fisherman. My books

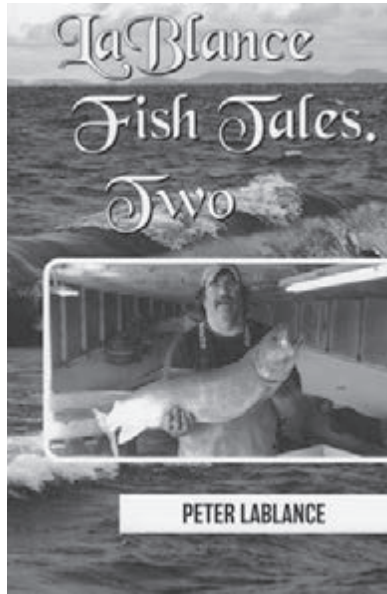


Peter LaBlance

are really a history of my family, so that my children, grandchildren and extended family will have an idea of what their ancestors went through to provide for their families."

LaBlance said each book took him between two and three years to write and he enlisted the help of his family for the second book, including their stories in it. He said there are stories about Great Lakes ship captains, mail carrier ice walkers, ship builders, water search and rescues, the fight for treaty rights by Big Abe LeBlanc and knowing where and when to catch different species – all coming from records that were kept by the LaBlance's for over 100 years.

"All nine of my siblings and I have worked on the fish tugs, from the age of 10," he said. "Our first job was learning to care for



and repair the gill nets. Our summer vacations were spent working on the fish tugs, lifting nets, picking fish from the nets, with the older brothers setting back the nets. During the summer, we worked seven days a week alongside our dad where we learned the value of good, hard work. My brothers have carried on the tradition to this day. One brother still works on a commercial fishing tug," he said.

As they were growing up, the siblings were expected to learn everything about the family commercial fishing business. "I truly wanted to work on my father's fishing tugs," LaBlance said. "Our move to fish Lake Superior was by far a time that I ques-

tioned my commitment to stay working on the tugs. I quit three or four times due to some health problems, but dad always let me come back. He expected all his sons to stay in the business. I finally made the decision in 1989 to move on from commercial fishing, mainly due to health problems."

He said the family fished in Charlevoix until June of 1960, when the city decided they wanted more tourism in their harbor, instead of commercial fisheries. From there they moved to Harrisville on Lake Huron and after one year there, moved to Tawas to be closer to Saginaw Bay for perch fishing.

In 1968 he was drafted into

the Army where he served in Vietnam. "When I returned home in January of 1969, our fishing business had been regulated out of business by the DNR, which left us no way to support our family," he said. "We were offered fishing licenses on Lake Superior by the Prime Minister of Ontario in 1970. Thirty-two members of our immediate family loaded all their possessions on our fishing tug, the Marie M, and several U-Hauls, and moved to Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada, where we fished out of Mamainse Harbour, 60 miles north of the Sault. My main jobs were to put the nets in the boxes as they were being lifted, picking fish out of the nets and setting the nets back in the water for the next day's catch."

He fished until 1989, when his health forced him to find another profession and he moved his wife and children back to Michigan. Peter and Deborah have three children, Emerald, Janet and Edward, who he said are very successful in their chosen fields. "I never encouraged them to follow in my footsteps, because they had opportunities I didn't have," he said.

Peter LaBlance's books can be found by doing a search on Amazon.com. You can also email him at: peterlablance@gmail.com.

# Matt Bartolowits receives MOSPA Outstanding Professional Award, honored during ceremony

Sault Tribe member Matt Bartolowits is a third-year electronics teacher at the Tuscola

County Tech Center in Caro, Mich., and was recently presented with the 2022-2023

Michigan Occupational Special Populations Association (MOSPA) teacher of the year award.

His mother, Tina Cole, said he was chosen from many candidates throughout the state and was the only teacher awarded this year.

His nomination letter, written by Keri Severt, Tuscola Technology Center Counselor, stated, "After hiring Matt as our electronics instructor in 2020, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, we quickly saw his ingenuity and fresh perspective. He has written and received

thousands of dollars in grants to purchase equipment that improve his ever-evolving curriculum. Now, students gain experience with drones, robotics equipment, and mechatronics. His instruction has helped deliver top tier career and technical education (CTE) instruction and allows us to remain at the forefront in the ever-changing electrical industry."

In addition to teaching in their secondary CTE program, Bartolowits is also an adjunct instructor at Delta Community College.

"Sometimes having many

years of experience is not necessary for you to be an exceptional teacher, Matt Bartolowits is a clear example of this. His character exemplifies integrity and kindness and we are fortunate to have him as TTC's Electronics Instructor," Severt said.

The MOSPA works to improve opportunities while giving support to career technical students with special needs.

A goal of the organization and the state conference is to enhance the professional development of educators and paraprofessionals working with special population students.



Matt Bartolowits and Tuscola Technology Center Counselor Keri Severt, who nominated him for the award. Bartolowits is a third-year electronics teacher at Tuscola County Tech Center in Caro, Mich., and was recently presented with the 2022-2023 Michigan Occupational Special Populations Association teacher of the year award.

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## LEGAL NOTICE

### **IF YOU, A CHILD IN YOUR CARE, OR ANOTHER LOVED ONE WERE HARMED BY ENDO OR A RELATED COMPANY, INCLUDING PAR OR AMS, OR THEIR PRODUCTS INCLUDING OPIOIDS, RANITIDINE, OR TRANSVAGINAL MESH, YOUR RIGHTS MAY BE AFFECTED BY DEADLINES IN THE ENDO BANKRUPTCY.**

**The deadline to file a claim in the bankruptcy is July 7, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time).  
The deadline to object to Endo's sale is July 7, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time).**

#### **WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?**

On August 16, 2022, Endo International plc and certain of its affiliates filed for chapter 11 bankruptcy in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York. Certain Endo affiliates manufactured and/or sold, among other things, branded opioid medications (including but not limited to OPANA<sup>®</sup> (oxymorphone hydrochloride), OPANA<sup>®</sup> ER (oxymorphone hydrochloride extended release), and PERCOCET<sup>®</sup> (oxycodone and acetaminophen tablets)), generic opioid medications, generic ranitidine medications, and transvaginal mesh. **This notice is intended to inform you of your rights in this bankruptcy regarding the bar date and proof of claim process and Endo's proposed sale of substantially all of its assets.**

#### **WHAT IS A CLAIM?**

A "claim" means a right to seek payment or other compensation. If you, a child in your care, or another loved one were harmed by Endo or a related company, including Par or American Medical Systems (AMS), or their products, including opioids, ranitidine, or transvaginal mesh, you may have a claim against one or more of these entities. To make a claim, you will need to submit a proof of claim in the bankruptcy case. You may file a claim on behalf of yourself, a child in your care (including a child exposed to opioids in the womb), or a deceased or disabled relative. Examples of claims that may be filed in the Endo bankruptcy include but are not limited to:

- > **Opioid Claims:** Claims for death, addiction or dependence, lost wages, loss of consortium, or neonatal abstinence syndrome (sometimes referred to as "NAS"), among others.
- > **Ranitidine claims:** Claims for cancer, including bladder, esophageal, pancreatic, stomach, and liver cancer, among others.
- > **Transvaginal mesh claims:** Claims for pelvic pain, infection, bleeding, among others.

#### **WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE BAR DATE AND PROOF OF CLAIM PROCESS?**

**The deadline to submit your proof of claim is called a bar date. The bar date, or the deadline to submit your proof of claim, is July 7, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time).** If you do not submit a proof of claim by the deadline, you will lose any rights you may have had to seek payment or compensation. You must file a proof of claim form so that it is actually received by the bar date. A proof of claim form can be filed by you, a legal guardian, survivors, or relatives of people who have died or are disabled. You do not need an attorney to file a proof of claim for you.

For a more complete list of relevant companies and products manufactured and/or sold by Endo and its related companies, including full prescribing information and BOXED WARNINGS for OPANA<sup>®</sup> (oxymorphone hydrochloride), OPANA<sup>®</sup> ER (oxymorphone hydrochloride extended release), and PERCOCET<sup>®</sup> (oxycodone and acetaminophen tablets), and for more complete details about the bar date and instructions on how to file a confidential personal injury claim, visit [EndoClaims.com](https://EndoClaims.com) or call **877.542.1878 (Toll-Free)** or **929.284.1688 (International)**.

#### **WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE SALE?**

Endo intends to sell substantially all of its assets in an auction and sale process in the bankruptcy case and subject to approval by the bankruptcy court. **Endo is seeking relief that the sale will be free and clear of all claims, liens, and encumbrances.**

If you disagree with the proposed sale, you must object to the sale in writing, so that your objection is received on or before **July 7, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time)**. **Any party in interest who fails to properly file and serve its objection by the objection deadline may lose its claim against Endo's assets if the sale is approved.** Objections not filed and served properly may not be considered by the bankruptcy court.

Complete details about the proposed sale, including any auction for Endo's assets, the date of the hearing to consider the sale, and instructions on how to file an objection, are available at [EndoClaims.com](https://EndoClaims.com) or by calling **877.542.1878 (Toll-Free)** or **929.284.1688 (International)**.

#### **IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

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929.284.1688 (International)

**VISIT:** [EndoClaims.com](https://EndoClaims.com)

**EMAIL:** [EndoInquiries@ra.kroll.com](mailto:EndoInquiries@ra.kroll.com)

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# Local student places first in national competition

BY JEFF HAGAN

Sixteen students from Sault Area High School (SAHS) and Career Center competed at the Business Professionals of America (BPA) National Leadership Conference in Anaheim, Calif., on April 26-30, 2023.

SAHS senior Kenedy Hagan, a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe Indians (Health Admin Procedures) competed and represented Sault Area Career Center's BPA Chapter at the National Leadership Conference.

During the grand awards session on April 30, Hagan placed first in the nation in Medical Terminology, competing against over 250 students nationally, and was among six students who received honors for placing in the top 10 at the National Leadership Conference.

Hagan said, "going to BPA

nationals in California was such a great experience, to meet so many people with similar interests as you, and just getting to explore someplace new. BPA has allowed me to gain more knowledge in something I was interested in and compete with others, and then winning the national title in the Medical Terminology Concepts competition, it capped off an amazing experience. Thanks to the JKL fiduciary and the Chippewa County Community Foundation for their support, because of all the fundraising we did, we were able to go to some cool places, like Huntington Beach and Knott's Berry Farm. This was definitely an experience I will never forget."

The Sault Area Career Center BPA Chapter provides students in grades 10-12 and enrolled in a CTE business course the opportunity to compete at the regional,

state, and national levels.

Students participate in many chapter activities including fundraising efforts, service projects, and competitions.

BPA is the nation's leading career and technical student organization for students pursuing careers in business management, information technology, finance, accounting office administration, and other business-related career fields.

**Going places — SAHS senior Kenedy Hagan, a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe Indians (Health Admin Procedures) competed and represented Sault Area Career Center's BPA Chapter at the National Leadership Conference. Hagan placed first in the nation in Medical Terminology, competing against over 250 students nationally.**



## Positive Action in area schools program

HEATHER M. LIPPONEN, PREVENTION SPECIALIST, SAULT TRIBE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Sault Tribe Behavioral Health's Prevention Specialist will be bringing the Positive Action curriculum into area schools this year.

Positive Action is a social emotional learning curriculum aimed at school aged children K-12 grade. Currently the program will target grades 3-5. Positive Action is an evidence-based program. Two trials have confirmed Positive Action is simultaneously effective for mental health and academic achievement among other things including preventing bullying, substance abuse and violence. Positive Action is a nationally-recognized, proven program, so we're excited about the positive results we'll be seeing soon.

Positive Action gives all students

the motivation and skills to be happy and successful in school and in life. Below is an excerpt from the Positive Action letter for parents.

### 1st Principle

*The first principle is the intuitive philosophy that we feel good about ourselves when we do positive actions. The opposite is also true: We feel negative about ourselves when we do negative actions. Positive Action brings this truism to a conscious level so we can be intentional in our behaviors and experience the benefits of being positive.*

The Thoughts-Actions-Feelings Circle depicts the philosophy by showing how our thoughts lead to our actions, our actions lead to feelings about ourselves, and our feelings lead

See "Positive Action," page 11

## Scholarship - wooden boat building in France

Sault Tribe members have access to a very exciting opportunity with Skol ar Mar, a vocational training school for traditional wooden boat building located in Southern Brittany, France. Skol ar Mar is offering a full scholarship for up to two years of instruction for qualifying candidates. Candidate must be a Sault Tribe member over the

age of 18 with the ability to travel to France. The candidate will work with Mike Newmeyer, of Skol ar Mar, and the Sault Tribe education director, to complete the details.

Maritime culture or boating skills are not necessary.

For more information, contact the Education Division at (906) 632-6798.

### 2023 tribal scholarship applications now being accepted

There are over 20 scholarships available.

You only need to fill out the application once to be entered for all scholarships you are eligible for.

The deadline is July 3. No late applications will be accepted.

More information can be found at [Saulttribe.com](http://Saulttribe.com), or by calling (906) 635-7784.



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# Lynda Gregorini takes dentistry on the road

Sault Tribe Member Lynda Gregorini has taken dental hygiene on the road.

In 2020, she left her position as a registered dental hygienist at the Sault Tribal Health Center in the Sault, and started up a mobile dental hygiene business.

After obtaining all the necessary requirements for her venture, Gregorini was awarded a mobile dental permit from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

She purchased mobile dental

equipment thru a loan from the Lake Superior Development Corporation and began offering services to children residing in Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac Counties.

She provides dental assessments, cleanings, fluoride treatment, dental sealants, and early cavity stopping medication. If a cavity is suspected, the child is referred to a dental home for further care.

Her care is provided to children in schools with at least 50%

free or reduced lunches. While her services are free, Gregorini will bill Medicaid to recoup costs of providing services.

Gregorini says the job is very rewarding, and children are very accepting of the care while at school.

While some are afraid, she tries to make the visit pleasant. Some children are worried she will pull a tooth. To that she replies "I clean em, not pull em." They usually laugh after that and she knows everything will be ok.

After the visit, they are given a goody bag of dental supplies, plus a toy and a sticker. A dental report card is sent home notifying the parents of the services provided.

Gregorini has visited Whitefish, Rudyard, DeTour, Drummond Island, Washington, Lincoln, Malcolm, Sault Middle and High School, Ojibwa Charter School, Tahquamenon and Engadine Schools.

She also is a contracted employee with the Chippewa

County Health Department to provide children going into kindergarten with a dental assessment. Like hearing and vision, dental is now a requirement prior to going into kindergarten.

She also visits daycares to provide classroom dental education for the smaller children and is currently waiting on a grant that would allow her to work with WIC families at the health department and provide them with oral health services free of charge.

## Mouth guards protect against physical injuries

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA A. RICKERT, DDS, ANISHINAABE DENTAL OUTREACH

Mouth guards are recommended for people of all ages who participate in any activity or sport that poses a risk of damaging the face. The American Dental Association recommends the use of a mouth guard to protect against injury to the teeth, gums, soft tissues and face from physical injuries.

Contact sports include, but are not limited to, football, soccer, boxing, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, volleyball, boxing, and wrestling. Sports mouthguards can also be used for other non-contact sports and activities that may cause damage to the mouth, such as gymnastics, biking, skateboarding, and ice and roller skating.

Types of sports mouth guards: Stock mouth guards are ready-made and are available at some big box and sporting goods stores. These come in a range of sizes and are not personalized for each individual mouth. These are

the least expensive.

Boil and Bite mouth guards soften when placed in hot water. These are then adapted to the wearer's individual mouth through bite pressure and manipulation of fingers and tongue. These types of mouth guards are found at some big box and sporting goods stores.

Custom Mouth Guards are fabricated in a dental office from a patient's mouth impressions. A custom mouth guard provides the best fit, comfort, and efficiency. The dentist can determine which athlete requires a custom mouth guard. Comfort is an important aspect to keep in mind during the selection process because a mouth guard only works if it is worn. This option requires a dental office visit and is more expensive.

Frequently asked questions: Do mouthguards prevent injuries?

Yes! Numerous studies show that a mouth guard provides a cushioning effect between teeth and redistributes the forces of

any damaging impact. Mouth guards can help prevent serious dental injuries, like broken and knocked out teeth and jaw fractures, as well as injuries to your lips, tongue, cheeks, jaws, temporomandibular joints and face. A mouth guard also helps prevent the teeth from cutting through the soft tissues of the oral cavity. Broken or knocked-out teeth do not grow back. Protect that perfect smile and wear a mouth guard.

If I have braces, can I wear a sports mouth guard?

Yes! It is particularly important to wear a mouth guard if you play sports and wear braces. Mouth guards will not only protect your teeth, but also prevent the braces from accidentally tearing your lips, cheeks, and tongue. The braces themselves will less likely be damaged because of the protection a mouth guard provides.

Most orthodontists will recommend a custom-made guard. These mouth guards will need adjustments as the braces begin to change the teeth alignment and will need adjustments over time. It's important to protect the substantial investment orthodontic treatment is making in long-term oral health.

How to care for a mouth guard?

It is important to take care of your sports mouthguard by cleaning it with soap and warm water after each use and soaking it in alcohol-free mouthwash. You can also prevent bacteria from growing by always storing it in a ventilated case when not in use so that it stays dry.

You should also avoid leaving your mouth guard in direct sunlight or in a hot car. Be mindful of not ruining the mouth guard carelessly. Examples are dropping the mouthguard and stepping on it; forgetting where the mouth guard is and running it through the laundry; or wrapping the mouthguard in a napkin and throwing it into the garbage at a restaurant (YIKES!!).

Mouth guards can wear out,

so it is important to regularly check for wear and tear. We recommend bringing the mouth guard to dental appointments so the dentist can check it for fit and wear in order to determine if it needs replacement. The dentist can also clean and sanitize mouth guards.

Is a mouth guard only for upper teeth?

Typically, a mouth guard only covers the upper teeth. However, in some situations, the dentist may suggest a mouth guard for the lower teeth as well. If you wear braces, have a protruding jaw, wear other dental appliances, have experienced a broken jaw in the past, have had implants restored, or have had complicated restorations, then your dentist may recommend a mouth guard for lower teeth.

## Positive Action in area schools program

From "Positive Action," page 10 to more thoughts. This explanation of the whole behavior process helps us to stop and think before taking action, then take the action, and after experiencing the reaction or feeling we have about ourselves, have another similar thought. The circle can be positive or negative, and the lessons demonstrate the benefits of choosing the positive Thoughts-Actions-Feelings Circle.

2nd Principle

The second principle is there is always a positive way to do everything. Key skills for developing greatness in the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional areas of the whole self are taught through six units:

Unit 1—Philosophy and Thoughts-Actions-Feelings Circle

Unit 2—Physical and Intellectual Positive Actions for Your Body and Mind (Physical and Intellectual)

Unit 3—Social and Emotional Positive Actions for Managing Yourself (Being Responsible for Your Resources)

Unit 4—Social and Emotional Positive Actions for Treating Others the Way You Like to Be Treated (Getting Along with Others)

Unit 5—Social and Emotional

Positive Actions for Telling Yourself the Truth (Being Honest with Yourself and Others by Taking Responsibility for Your Actions)

Unit 6—Social and Emotional Positive Actions for Improving Yourself Continually (Reaching Goals)

Unit 7—Review of the Positive Actions to Feel Good about Yourself

These principles are the foundation of whole program. However, in the classroom curriculum, each grade has unique, age-appropriate activities, stories, projects, and discussions designed to help them get the most of the concepts.

The Program will start in July with JKL summer school and will be offered in at least three other area schools at the beginning of the school year. Schools and dates are yet to be determined. Covid has been a barrier for scheduling with some schools and others are short on time to fit it into the curriculum.

If you are interested in getting this program into your school, please reach out to your elementary school principal and have them contact Heather Lipponen at hlipponen@saulttribe.net.

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### JKL Bahweting Anishnabe Public School Academy

Do you have an interest working in an educational setting or looking to build your career in the field of education? JKL School is accepting applications for qualified candidates for the 2023-2024 school year. JKL School offers a benefit package that includes:

- Michigan Public School Retirement System – Pension and 401(k) offered
- BC/BS Health Insurance – 80% employer paid premium which includes Health, Vision, Dental, and Prescription
- Life Insurance – Employer paid
- Long-term and short-term disability
- Optional life insurance
- PTO and sick time

#### OPEN POSITIONS

**Principal** - Master's Degree or Educational Administration. Valid MI School Administrator Certificate

**Middle School Teacher (1)** - Valid Teaching Certificate

**Elementary School Teacher (Multiple)** - Valid Teaching Certificate

**Special Education Teacher (Multiple)** - Valid Michigan Special Education Teaching Certificate.

**Special Education Paraprofessional (1)** - Minimum 60 College/University credits or passing of Work Keys/ETS.

**School Social Worker (1)** - MA

**Anishinaabemowin Language and Culture Teacher (1)** - Completion of, or enrollment in, Anishinaabe language program.

**Ojibwe Culture and Language Teacher (1)** - BS, Valid Teaching Certificate or Permit

**Playground Assistant (1)** - Must demonstrate a strong desire to help children.

APPLY ONLINE: JKL School website at [www.jklschool.org](http://www.jklschool.org)

Click on the employment opportunities link on the home page.

Employment at JKL is considered "at-will." JKL is an equal opportunity employer.



# Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and Conservation

BY CHIEF OF POLICE ROBERT MARCHAND

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, Fishing, and Gathering

The Bear and Elk application period ended May 31, 2023. Any applications received after this date and time will be returned to sender. Every year the official application period is May 1 – May 31, however we started accepting applications as soon as they were placed in the tribal newspaper and on the website at the end of April. The Natural Resources Department has advised that the lottery drawing is scheduled to be held June 19, 2023 at the conservation committee meeting. Please feel free to contact Sault Tribe Law



Enforcement to find out if you are drawn for a bear tag any time after the drawing.

If you are drawn for a bear tag, you are required to have your hunting harvest license before you are issued the bear permit. If you are drawn for an Elk tag, you will be contacted directly by the Natural Resource Department as there is a required orientation for the elk tag winners that is coordinated by Natural Resources. Spring turkey season ends on June 15, 2023.

If you have never held an Inland Harvest license with Sault Tribe, 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 no longer 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.

Chapter 21 of 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 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

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 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. These reports are required whether you catch any fish or get out to fish. If you fax in your reports, please make sure to call STLE about 10-15 minutes after you faxed it to ensure we received it. 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 commercial, subsistence and subsistence netting 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 and ask to speak with a conservation officer.

## BMIC receives EPA grant for Chippewa Landing cleanup

BAY MILLS — Chippewa Landing contamination cleanup efforts have received a boost in federal funding. Bay Mills Indian Community was recently awarded an EPA grant for \$330,000 to clean up the petroleum contamination from the former fuel pumps and the asbestos and lead paint in the buildings.

BMIC acquired the 25-acre property in 2021. Since that date, no changes have been made other than to apply institutional controls, including monitoring and site security. The property includes five buildings on site with a septic system and drinking water well.

"This EPA Cleanup Grant funding will allow BMIC to clean up the soil, groundwater contamination, and petroleum contamination associated with the property to the fullest extent allowing for a site that is safe for reuse," said BMIC President Whitney Gravelle. "In the near future, the

tribe plans to develop Chippewa Landing as an outdoor recreation destination as part of our economic diversification strategy. It is extremely important we build on land and near water that is clean and safe for future generations to swim, play, and relax at."

Work is slated to begin this fall, once the ground freezes. It is estimated it will take up to two years to remove all the petroleum contamination from the area.

Revitalization plans include a store, small restaurant, outfitter, and camping cabins. Boat launches and a marina for motorized boats, canoes, and kayaks will be restored and made available to the public. Once complete, the new business will create at least 15 permanent jobs for community members.

EPA selected seven communities in Michigan to receive seven grants totaling almost \$5 million in competitive EPA Brownfields funding through

the Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (MARC) Grant programs. Thanks to the historic boost from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, this is the largest ever funding awarded in the history of the EPA's Brownfields MARC Grant programs.

**Chippewa Landing contamination cleanup efforts - Bay Mills Indian Community was recently awarded an EPA grant for \$330,000 to clean up petroleum contamination from former fuel pumps and asbestos and lead paint in the buildings.**



### 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.

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# AmeriCorps NCCC helping with infestation

**FROM SAULT TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT**

As many of you know, in 2021 a huge infestation of wild parsnip, an invasive species, was found on the south side of the Odenaang housing complex. Wild parsnip is an extremely dangerous invasive species due to its photo sensitive sap that enhances a person's ability to develop a sunburn. The sap is so dangerous that it can even cause blindness if it comes in contact with someone's eyes.

To further complicate parsnip removals, wild parsnip develops on a two-year cycle. The first year the plant is a small rosette and can be very hard to see, the second year it grows into a tall flowering plant. Fully grown wild parsnip is around six feet tall and has thousands of tiny yellow flowers that develop into seeds to

restart the two-year cycle. Due to the severity of the infestation and dangers associated with wild parsnip, an AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) team was welcomed into our community to hand pull the wild parsnip in 2022.

In their time here, the seven-person AmeriCorps NCCC team pulled over 6,000 pounds of wild parsnip and assisted in several other invasive species removals. While here, the team discovered the infestation, originally estimated to cover 5 acres, was spread over 14 acres and was much more extensive than previously thought. Although the team did remove all the visible wild parsnip, it is known that with the two-year growth cycle more plants are emerging in 2023.

To adequately treat this infestation for a second year, we are lucky enough to be welcoming a second AmeriCorps NCCC team towards the end of June. Over a six-week period, the AmeriCorps NCCC team will continue the work begun by last year's team to completely interrupt the wild parsnip growth cycle.

In addition to removing the remaining wild parsnip at the Odenaang housing complex, this year's AmeriCorps NCCC team will participate in several other community projects and events.

Additional invasive species removals will include European frog-bit, purple loosestrife, narrowleaf cattail, and spotted knapweed along with community development projects such as repairing the Environmental Department's greenhouse and



The tribe will be welcoming a second AmeriCorps NCCC team towards the end of June to continue the work begun by last year's team to completely interrupt the wild parsnip growth cycle on the south side of the Odenaang housing complex. Shown above is the 2022 NCCC team.

general maintenance and upkeep at Niigaanagiizhik.

If you would like to meet the team or are interested in how to join AmeriCorps NCCC

feel free to stop by their booth at Engineers Day (June 30 on Portage Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.) or send an email to [hreed@saulttribe.net](mailto:hreed@saulttribe.net).

# Wildfire smoke - significant threat to health

**ROBIN BOUSCHOR, ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST, SAULT TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT**

Wildfires are a natural part of many ecosystems, but they can also pose a significant threat to public health. One of the most significant health risks associated with wildfires is the smoke they produce.

Wildfire smoke contains a complex mixture of gases and particles that can have a range of health effects, including respiratory and cardiovascular problems.

People with preexisting respiratory conditions, such as asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), are particularly vulnerable to the effects of wildfire smoke. Wildfire smoke can also have significant cardiovascular effects, including increased heart rate, blood pressure, and risk of heart attack. Exposure to wildfire smoke can also increase the risk of stroke and other cardiovascular events. Exposure to wildfire smoke can have other health effects, including eye and throat irritation, headaches, and

fatigue. Experts recommend several measures that individuals can take during a wildfire smoke event to minimize their exposure to smoke. These measures include staying indoors as much as possible, closing windows and doors, and using air conditioning or air purifiers to filter the air. When outside, individuals should wear masks that are designed to filter out smoke particles.

It is also important for community members to pay attention to local air quality reports and take appropriate precautions. For example, if air quality is particularly poor, individuals should avoid outdoor activities and limit physical exertion. In addition to these measures, individuals can take steps to prepare their homes for a smoke event. This may include sealing gaps and cracks in windows and doors, installing air filters, and creating a clean air room where individuals can seek refuge during a smoke event.

A great tool to utilize to monitor local conditions air quality is The Purple Air Network, which

is a global network of air quality monitors that provides real-time air quality data to individuals and communities. The network was founded in 2015 by Adrian Dybwad and has since grown to include thousands of sensors located around the world.

The sensors used by the Purple Air Network are small, low-cost devices that measure particulate matter (PM) in the air. PM is a type of air pollution that can have significant health impacts on individuals, particularly those with respiratory or cardiovascular conditions. The data collected by the Purple

Air Network is displayed on an interactive map that allows users to view real-time air quality data for their area. The map uses a color-coded system to indicate air quality levels, with green indicating good air quality and purple indicating very poor air quality.

The Purple Air Network has faced some criticism over the accuracy of its data. Some experts have raised concerns about the reliability of low-cost air quality sensors and the potential for inaccurate readings. Despite these concerns, the Purple Air Network remains a

valuable tool for monitoring air quality and raising awareness about the impacts of air pollution on health and the environment.

As the network continues to grow and evolve, it has the potential to play an increasingly important role in efforts to address air pollution and improve public health.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Sault tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575.

To learn more and explore the Purple Air network please visit: <https://map.purpleair.com>.

## Elder Sub-Committee Meeting Dates 2023

**Unit I – Sault Ste. Marie** - 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the Month - 12:00 pm - Elder Building

January 4	July 5
February 1	August 2
March 1	September 6
April 5	October 4
May 3	November 1
June 7	December 6

**Unit IV – Manistique** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month - 12:00 pm - Manistique Tribal Center

January 11	July 12
February 8	August 9
March 8	September 13
April 12	October 11
May 10	November 8
June 14	December 13

**Unit II – Hessel** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the Month 12:00 pm - Hessel Tribal Center

January 16	July 17
February 20	August 21
March 20	September 18
April 17	October 16
May 15	November 20
June 19	December 18

**Unit IV – Escanaba** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the Month - 5:30 pm - Delta Co. Chamber Building (Fair Grounds)

January 11	July 12
February 8	August 9
March 8	September 13
April 12	October 11
May 10	November 8
June 14	December 13

**Unit II – Naubinway** - Last Wednesday of the Month - 5:30 pm - Naubinway Pavilion (No Meetings January, February, March)

April 26	July 26
May 31	August 30
June 28	September 27
	October 25
	November 29
	December 27

**Unit V – Munising** - 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month - 11:00 am - Munising Tribal Center

January 5	July 6
February 2	August 3
March 2	September 7
April 6	October 5
May 4	November 2
June 1	December 7

**Unit II – Newberry** - 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month - 10:30 am - Zellar's Restaurant

January 20	July 21
February 17	August 18
March 17	September 15
April 21	October 20
May 19	November 17
June 16	December 15

**Unit V – Marquette** - 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month - 6:00 pm – Holiday Inn Marquette

January 5	July 6
February 2	August 3
March 2	September 7
April 6	October 5
May 4	November 2
June 1	December 7

**Unit III – St. Ignace** - 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month - 12:00 pm - Elder Complex

January 12	July 13
February 9	August 10
March 9	September 14
April 13	October 12
May 11	November 9
June 8	December 14

**ALL UNITS – Elder Advisory Committee**

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the Month - 1:00 pm - Newberry Tribal Center (No Meetings November - February)

March 17	July 21
April 21	August 18
May 19	September 15
June 16	October 20



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# StrongHearts raises elder abuse awareness

## FROM STRONGHEARTS

Despite the horror of being physically hurt, and having their money or medication stolen, elders who are abused or neglected often endure the abuse without calling for help. As life-long caregivers and protectors, many elders suffer in silence to maintain the well-being of their family and that may include their abuser.

June 15 is World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD), a day to raise awareness and prevent elder abuse. It's a day to reflect on what it's like to become an Elder and the many challenges they are facing, such as losing strength, muscle and bone mass. Mental clarity can deteriorate and lead to memory loss. These inevitable vulnerabilities leave our elders at risk of being abused.

According to the National Council on Aging, most abuse occurs in the home and at the hands of family members.

"It's unacceptable when elders silently suffer abuse and neglect at the hands of those who should be protecting them," said CEO Lori Jump, StrongHearts Native Helpline. "Many elders refuse to report their abusers because they are closely related and want to protect their family, but there are so many more reasons that most people can't imagine."

— Love: Despite the abuse or neglect, victims continue to love their abusive partner or relative.

— Fear: Elders may fear retaliation if they report the abuse.

— Embarrassment: Worrying about what others might think or do to make matters worse.

— Lack of Resources: Many elders live on fixed incomes and may depend on their abuser for shelter.

— Accessibility: Elders may not be able to report if they do not have access to cell phones, internet or transportation.

— Polyvictimization and

Normalization: For generations, Native people have endured multiple types of abuse at the hands of non-Natives, so much so that abuse seems normal.

### Types of abuse

Elder abuse is an intentional act or failure to act that causes or creates a risk of harm to an older adult. The abuser can be a family member, caretaker or another person that the elder trusts. Types of abuse can include:

— Emotional abuse: causes mental pain, fear and/or distress.

— Physical abuse: the use of force to cause pain, injury, etc.

— Financial abuse: improper use of an elder's money, property or assets.

— Caregiver neglect: a failure to meet basic needs (food, water, medical care).

— Sexual abuse: forced or unwanted sexual interactions of any kind.

— Cultural and spiritual abuse.

### Learn the signs of abuse

The signs of elder abuse may be difficult to spot as they could sometimes be the result of disease, side effects from medications or similar reasons. However, if you suspect that an Elder is being abused, be patient, talk and listen to them. Be aware that they may say that they are being "disrespected" rather than abused. Other signs of abuse may include:

— Unexplained bruising or injury,

— Changes in behavior,

— Lack of interest in family or social events,

— Loss of weight, or

— Not having necessary medical aids (glasses, walkers, teeth, etc.) or adequate food, water, shelter.

### How can you help?

Education is always the first step. Understand the warning signs of elder abuse and pay attention to the elders in your

life. Ensuring that our elders are properly cared for can include:

— Offering to help those in your family that might be feeling burdened with the care of a loved one.

— Spending time with an elder and planning a rotating schedule if you have multiple caregivers.

— Bringing them nutritional foods like baked goods or even better frybread.

— Talking and listening to their stories because elders have a lot of wisdom to share and appreciate.

Every state has an Adult Protective Services division for those wishing to report abuse at [www.napsa-now.org/help-in-your-area](http://www.napsa-now.org/help-in-your-area). StrongHearts can help. Advocates are available 24/7 to provide support and advocacy, make referrals to Native centered service providers and connect our relatives to regionally available resources. We are here 24/7/365.

## June - focusing on the prevention of elder abuse

### JESS GILLOTTE-KING, COMMUNITY EDUCATOR, ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER

Our elders are one of our most precious resources. Elders are the connection to our past and hold stories and facts of our family's history. Elders should always be treated with kindness and the utmost respect. Sadly, this is not the case for many of our loved ones.

An elder is legally defined as a person 65 and older. However, in Native American communities, becoming an elder is not typically reaching a specific age but a distinct cultural status earned from wisdom, knowledge, and responsibility to others. Being an elder is different from being elderly.

"Elderly" is associated with age and the ability to care for oneself. Elder and elderly status varies from tribe to tribe. Out of respect, the term elder will be used here.

The World Health Organization defines elder abuse as "a single or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship with an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to an older person. This type of violence constitutes a violation of human rights and includes physical, sexual, psychological, and emotional abuse; financial and material abuse; abandonment; neglect; and serious loss of dignity and respect."

Such abuse can include physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse, financial or material exploitation, neglect, self-neglect, abandonment, and spiritual abuse. Our elders are at a greater risk for abuse due to an increase in elder population and limited caregiving services and support.

The World Health Organization reports that the global population of people aged 60 years and older will more than double, from 900 million in 2015 to about 2 billion in 2050.

Elder abuse is one of the least investigated forms of abuse and

does not get addressed as frequently as other social issues. Research suggests that four-to-six percent of older people suffer from abuse, most of which go unreported. It is reported that elder abuse instances happen primarily in the home of the elder, and a family member commits ninety percent of abuse and neglect incidents.

Elders may not always feel comfortable reporting such abuse. Therefore, we must advocate for our seniors and give them a voice. Often, seniors fear repercussions for reporting the abuse or are too frail to do so. It is crucial for us to be aware of signs of abuse and to report the abuse to the proper authorities. Adult Protective Services for Michigan can be contacted at 1-855-444-3911. Anishnaabek Community and Family Services provides adult protective services and may be reached at (906) 632-5250 or (906) 495-1232.

Warning signs for caregivers and family members of elders to watch for are: Pain that is "new" or different; fear or anxiety; depression or becoming aggressive; isolated or not responsive; difficulty sleeping; cuts, sores, or burns; broken bones, bruises, or welts; untreated bed sores; torn, stained clothing or blood on undergarments; dirty, unkempt hygiene; hazardous or poor living conditions; lack of or broken medical aids; glasses, walker, dentures, hearing aids, medication; sudden change in function or mobility; unusual weight loss, poor nutrition, dehydration; change in overall mood or demeanor; bills not paid or utilities turned off; significant changes in finances.

There are many forms of abuse against older people, including:

Physical - hitting, shoving, restraining, or confining; anything causing physical pain or impairment.

Emotional - intimidation, humiliation, routine blaming, ignoring, isolating, causing

anguish or distress, degrading, ridiculing, insults, using silence or profanity.

Sexual abuse - sexual harassment, sexual activity without consent (rape), forcing elders to watch sexual acts or to undress.

Financial abuse - stealing money, property titles, or possessions; taking over accounts or bills; spending without permission; abusing the power of attorney privilege; scamming/lying.

Financial neglect - allowing essential bills such as mortgages, utilities, insurance, medical bills, or property taxes to go unpaid, resulting in shut-off notices, eviction, foreclosure, or not having insurance coverage.

Financial exploitation - misusing or exploiting property, belongings, or assets. For example, using an elder's money, credit cards, or property without consent, under false pretenses, or through intimidation and manipulation.

Health care fraud - healthcare professionals overcharging or billing twice for services, falsifying claims, or charging for services not rendered.

Elder Internet, mail, and phone scams - elders are often victims of significant financial loss due to scams disguised as charity donations, investment opportunities, lottery winnings, sweepstakes, or making wire transfers to thieves imitating a family member.

Spiritual and/or moral abuse - denies access to religious services or leaders, makes fun of victim's values or religion, ignores or ridicules cultural or religious traditions, intimidates and threatens for practicing beliefs.

Neglect - failure to fulfill duties or obligations for elders, not caring for hygiene or condition of the home, poor nutrition, bed sores, soiled undergarments, medical neglect-missed appointments, not reporting medical issues.

Self-Neglect - refusal by elder to care for themselves; inadequate nutrition, improper clothing,

lack of or unkempt shelter, poor hygiene, not taking medication, and not following safety precautions.

Sault Tribe Elder Services consists of many programs that can assist with elder's needs. The Elder In-Home Services program provides services that give frail and homebound elders the ability to stay in their homes, maintain a good quality of life, and age in place.

In-Home Care Services consist mainly of personal care, home-making, and respite care.

The Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Program provides rides to medical appointments.

This program is to assist elders who, for a variety of factors, have difficulty using conventional means of transportation to reach medical health care services. There are wide varieties of appointments, from routine medical care to chemotherapy and radiation therapy for cancer patients and scheduled dialysis for those requiring ongoing care. Rides are provided to tribal health clinics, hospitals, and medical buildings in several areas, including Petoskey and Gaylord, Mich.

The Elder Health Fund provides payment on various services for duly enrolled tribal elders age 60 and over living in the United States and as certified by the tribal registrar. The fund assists with partial payment for dentures, eyeglasses, and other items deemed "medically necessary" by a physician and compliant with Medicare standards.

The Elder Meal Program provides congregate meals at meal sites throughout the tribal service area. Daily meal programs operate in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel and Manistique. Three sites provide home-delivered meals (Meals-on-Wheels) to homebound elders and their caregivers.

Sault Tribe's Elder Outreach Service program is designed to establish critical relationships

with tribal elders and families in their homes. The Elder Outreach Worker coordinates programs and services to help tribal elders maintain a good quality of life and age in place. Outreach Workers travel to tribal elders' homes to assess and identify elders' and family needs and find resources to meet those needs. They also organize and promote elder involvement in aging programs. Outreach workers will assist in the coordination of home care services and provide assistance to tribal elders in completing applications for tribal service programs and assist in the coordination of meals-on-wheels services, transportation, and any other service needs of tribal elders.

Areas of assistance may include physical, mental, psychological, and social aging-related needs. Four full-time elder outreach workers cover the seven-county service areas at each end of the Upper Peninsula.

Let us celebrate our elders and show them the honor and respect they deserve. Please make a point to stop and visit your elders and let them know you are there for them. If they are able, go for a walk or play a game. Please encourage them to share stories about your family. With their permission, record their stories via audio or video to cherish the memories when they walk on. Bring their favorite snacks or treats to lift their spirits. Play their favorite music, brush or comb their hair, help clean their home or bedroom, or make a phone call to let them know you are thinking of them. Your kindness can truly make a difference.

The Sault Tribe's Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) offers elder related victim services such as advocacy and financial services. Advocates may be reached at (906) 632-1808.

For more information, visit [www.arcsaulttribe.com](http://www.arcsaulttribe.com) or our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC](http://www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC).



# DeTour Health Center holds ceremonial opening

By Scott Brand

More than 60 people converged on a former beauty salon for an open house ceremony celebrating the opening of the DeTour Health Center on May 19.

“There are many individuals and departments that worked diligently to bring this project to life said Sault Tribe Health Director Dr. Leo Chugunov identifying some by name including Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes, Unit II Directors Catherine Hollowell, Lana Causley-Smith and Kimberly Lee, the full Tribal Boards of Directors and Executive Director Christine McPherson as well as Chief Financial officer Robert Schulte. “I would like to express my deep gratitude to Assistant Health Director Joel Lumsden



**This former beauty salon, located at 200 St. Mary's Street in DeTour Village, has been converted to the DeTour Tribal Health Center which officially opened on May 19.**

and Community Health Nursing Supervisor Jenni O'Dell for the careful planning of major remodeling.”

The new facility, located at 200 St. Mary's Street in DeTour will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

A wide range of services will be offered by the staff including lab work, immunizations, prescription medicine pick-ups and appointments with registered dietitians and Diabetes nurses.

While the facility is up and running, Dr. Chugunov noted there are technological improvements underway to provide additional services in the coming months with an eye towards the connection of the fiber optic network opening the doors to telemedicine in the fall.

“I am confident that this new facility will improve access and the quality of care for Tribal Patients and will be a good place

to work for Health Division's Team Members both in the immediate future and in the years to come,” concluded Dr. Chugunov.

Opening ceremonies were conducted by Traditional Medicine and Prayer from George Gogleye and Lori Gambardella with drummers Valjean LaTour, Chuck Sumner, Sam Doyle and Joe Causley.

Keynote speakers, giving brief introductory remarks included Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes, Unit II Director Kimberly Lee and Community Health Supervisor Jenni O'Dell.

Lunch followed the opening ceremonies with guests touring the new health center, its lab and examination room before departing the historical event with their gift bags.



**George Gogleye and Lori Gambardella open the ceremony.**



**Drummers, from left to right, Chuck Sumner, Joe Causley, Sam Doyle and Valjean LaTour performed at the Grand Opening.**



**Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes addresses the crowd.**



**Lori Gambardella, Unit II Director Kimberly Lee and Dr. Leo Chugunov on the porch of the new facility.**



**Dr. Lowell Styer and TAP Coordinator Patrick McCoy pose with the dispenser which provides a counteractive nasal spray in the event of an opiate overdose.**



**Above, Community Health Nurse Tami Duncan prepares to use the centrifuge, just one of the new pieces of equipment available at the DeTour Health Clinic. At right, Nursing Supervisor Jenni O'Dell, Receptionist Cassandra McGruther, Community Health Technician Kristin Potoczaz and Community Health Nurse Tami Duncan are ready to meet patients Monday through Friday.**



**Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes visits the exam room on a tour with Sault Tribe Health Director Dr. Leo Chugunov.**



**Top, Carole Hiney and Nan Carter depart the event with their gift bags, while below guests enjoy the provided lunches.**



*Photos by Scott Brand*



# From minnows to fish tacos - JKL School sixth graders participate in Boat2School program

BY SCOTT BRAND AND BRENDA AUSTIN

The sixth-grade students at JKL Bahweting had a memorable week in May as the Boat2School Program provided hands-on experience introducing those involved to Eastern Upper Peninsula fish from the tiniest little minnow measured in millimeters to the final product served in the form of a fish taco.

"About half the kids aren't getting any fish to eat," said Michigan Sea Grant Extension Educator Elliot Nelson underscoring the importance of this program over the years.

Staff at the Sault Tribe Fish Hatchery, located off of Shunk Road near Barbeau, hosted dozens of students on day one. Arriving by bus and immediately separated into groups, the students had various stations to visit during their tour.

"In the spring we go out and collect walleyes when the ice leaves Munuscong Bay," explained Matt Allard of the process involved in shocking the fish as they come in to spawn. "We get males and females."

The average female walleye can have between 150,000-300,000 eggs and the 2023 effort delivered more than 5 million eggs to the facility. After an incubation period of three weeks, the hatchery produced roughly 1.7 million fry leaving the hatchery and going into the nearby rearing pond where they feed on various planktons.

"We're not feeding the walleye were feeding the plankton," said Allard.

Fellow Sault Tribe Fisheries Technician Dave Pine explained to the students that they grow zooplankton in the pond by stimulating algae growth by adding nutrients to the water.

"Walleye have an optimal temperature of 70 degrees," said Pine.

At this station students were invited to throw nets capturing a half-dozen walleye fry for measurement. While they were only in the 21-to-25-millimeter range at the end of May, the fish were growing rapidly. The exact timeline for their release had not yet been set, but Allard indicated it would be relatively soon.

"At about 1 3/4 to 2 inches long

they start eating each other," he said.

Ron McKechnie, another member of the Sault Tribal Fisheries team, said the walleyes are destined for Cheboygan, Epoufette, St. Martin's Bay and five different locations on the St. Mary's River once they have reached optimum length.

"Fifty-two percent of the fish in the St. Mary's River are stocked fish," said Allard of the success associated with this program.

Other stops on the hatchery tour included microscope work focusing on the plankton and other tiny items pulled from the pond with Sault Tribal Fish Hatchery Manager Rusty Aikens and a tour of the specialized equipment needed for this operation before the students got back on the bus and returned to school.

The following day Aikens and Nelson visited the classroom of Science Teacher Jacob Thomann bearing a most unusual gift in the form of more than a dozen lake trout gullets. The eager students dissected the bellies extracting round gobies, smelt and even a mussel, while the squeamish ones

made gagging noises and opted to limit their assistance to writing down the findings for the group.

Amanda Stoneman, assistant biologist for the sault tribe fisheries management program, said the stomach dissections gives them an insight into the overall health of the fish.

Sixth grader Levi Hudson said, "It's a little bit gross and fun at the same time. I like dissecting stuff. It makes me realize what they eat, their prey, and their digestive system and how it's different and what their liver and heart look like." He likes to fish and said he has caught mainly rainbow trout, whitefish and walleye.

Jaymin Lay said he had fun dissecting the stomachs and seeing what was in them. "We learned about what fish eat and how it can be different from what other kinds of fish eat," he said.

Stoneman said they have been partnering with Elliot Nelson from Michigan Sea Grant to bring the Boat2School project to JKL students since 2018. "The processing of predator fish stomachs is a fun way to teach the students about

the food web. We also use the time to discuss invasive species as many of the prey found in the lake trout are non-native. The majority of the prey found were rainbow smelt and round goby. Another skill covered in stomach dissection is proper data collection techniques. The data collected will be entered into our database and shared with other partner agencies. We like to make sure the students know that they have now become a part of our scientific process," she said. "While we do hear a lot of 'eewww' and 'gross' during dissections, the majority of students are super excited. A few future biologists even went so far as to dissect the prey fish they found in the lake trout stomachs to find out what the prey were eating."

Nelson said the sixth graders were also going to tour the Massey Fish Company in St. Ignace to see what goes on inside a wholesale fish processing facility culminating in the final Boat2School Project where they would dine on fish tacos courtesy of MSU Extension Health Educator Cody McLaren.



Under the supervision of Michigan Sea Grant Extension Educator Elliot Nelson, student volunteers tossed out a seine net, collecting samples that they later viewed under a microscope.

## From hatchery to classroom - dissecting fish stomachs



Jaymin Lay and Levi Hudson working together.



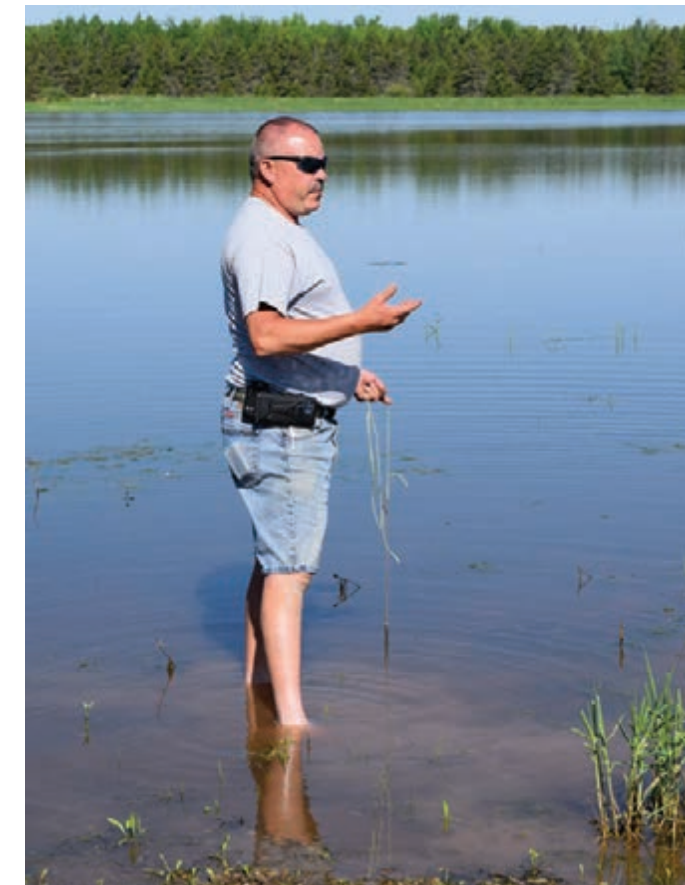
Rowan Carter and Alana Williams prepare to dissect a fish stomach.



Uriah Johnson, Levi Jones and Tristan Naumburg with Assistant Biologist Amanda Stoneman.



Evalyn Coon (left) and Kylee Meehan were a bit squeamish about the smell and having to dissect fish stomachs.



Sault Tribe Fisheries Technician Dave Pine checks the temperature of the water in the pond to make sure it's in the correct range for the stocked fish.



Emery McKelvie (left) and Adelyn Perry with Michigan Sea Grant Extension Educator Elliot Nelson



Above: Matt Allard explained how the hatchery works to the sixth graders visiting that day. Below: Hatchery Manager Rusty Aikens showing the kids pond water under a microscope.



Above: Sault Tribe Fisheries Technician Dave Pine enlists the help of Killion Yonkers to hold one end of the net as he works to collect a fish sample from the rearing pond at the hatchery. Below: Pine shows students how much the fish have grown since their release in the pond.





# Native Steel Welding & Fab offers mobile services

By Scott Brand

Dirty hands, clean money. That motto has led to much success for Sault Tribe member Trystan Ferris and a lot of unique experiences.

Native Steel Welding and Fab in 2019, Ferris took the skills he learned in the construction field, iron work and local manufacturing and created his own business with his wife, Patience.

“I’ll go anywhere, the north-

ern Lower Peninsula, the Eastern Upper Peninsula as far as Iron Mountain,” said Trystan relying on a specially-modified, heavy-duty truck to carry his welding equipment.

Patience handles the phone calls and paperwork while Trystan is on the road.

Those travels have taken him to a lot of interesting places. He has worked on the Biscayne Bay, a U.S. Coast Guard Vessel, equipment vital to the Soo Locks Construction Project, the airport expansion in St. Ignace and even to the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. Some of the visits, however, are more harrowing than glamorous including crawling into culverts for the Michigan Department of Transportation or hanging hundreds of feet in the air to complete a task.

Trystan explained that his work is not a seasonal, and he stays busy throughout the year.

“I’m the only licensed applicator for Woolwax undercoating north of Traverse City,” he said of the work he does rustproofing vehicles and his custom bumpers and flatbeds have proven popular.

“Those I do in-house,” he said of the work he can do at the shop.

Trystan is certified in MIG, TIG and Stick welding.



Trystan Ferris and his customized truck are ready to hit the road providing emergency welding services. The front of his truck sports one of his hand-made bumpers tipping the scales in excess of 600 pounds.

“I take a lot of time to make it look good,” he said.

“He owns everything outright, he has done this all on his own,” said Patience, noting there is no credit card debt or outstanding loans. “He has done this all independently, He is 26-years-old and has done all this, he works hard in order to get it. I think it is phenomenal.”

Native Steel and Fab is locat-

ed at W3388 Kenneth Road in Moran, Mich.

Regular business hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and Trystan is available for emergency services after hours by calling (906) 430-7816.

Trystan traces his Native American roots to his great-grandmother, Aletha Orr from Newberry.



Above, Patience and Trystan Ferris with their seven-year-old son, A.J. Below, welding inside his shop.



## Cousins in top 24 forwards in Michigan

Treyce Moran and Luke Menard, both 16 years old, cousins and Sault Tribe members had two very successful hockey weekends at the MAHA (Michigan Amateur Hockey Association) Player Selection Camps. MAHA holds its Player Selection Camps which takes place first at the district level and then at the state wide level to evaluate and identify the top players in the state, as selected by a panel of coaches. The district level competition was held in Marquette, Mich. where both players made the cut to then compete in Taylor, Mich. at the state level. From there they were both selected to play in the All-Star Game to close the weekend of games which then listed them



Cousins Treyce Moran and Luke Menard, 16.

both in the top 24 forwards in the State of Michigan. This is a huge accomplishment. Treyce plays for the Soo Indians U18 AAA team

and Luke plays for the Oakland Grizzlies U16 AAA team. Parents are Lisa and Eric Moran and Katie and Josh Menard.

## Elder center gets new sign



In October 2022, Bud Biron presented a plan to the Elder Committee for a new sign at the Nokomis-Mishomis Building. It was installed in May.

## Henry Anthony Reed born in Escanaba

We are very happy to announce and welcome Henry Anthony Reed. Born May 15, 2023, during the flower moon, Waskoone Giizis, to proud parents Travis and Sarah Reed. His grandparents Robert Reed, Eve Reed, Julie and Bob Knaus are so very happy about Henry's arrival. Henry was born at the OSF St. Francis Hospital in Escanaba, Mich.



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# Program helps Michiganders maintain their water services

DETROIT – The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) has announced a new program for Michigan residents: MI-Water. The program, Water Assistance Through Efficiency and Repairs, supports healthy housing for financially insecure Michigan residents by maintaining water services.

The program is funded by a Michigan State Housing Development Authority grant using funds from the U.S. Department of the Treasury American Rescue Plan to assist those adversely affected by COVID.

“THAW has worked for 38 years to help keep families safe and warm through utility assistance,” said Saunteel Jenkins, THAW CEO. “Water is essential to keep people healthy and we want to make sure no one is left in a home without it. This

program will help stabilize and empower Michiganders through bill payment assistance, and by providing services that increase water conservation, energy efficiency and reduces the cost for families. We are so grateful to Governor Whitmer, Speaker Tate and the State Legislature for their generous support that made this program possible.”

“MI-Water ensures that low-income families will continue to have access to the most basic resource: fresh and clean water,” said Speaker Joe Tate. “I commend MSHDA and THAW for using these funds for this important program.”

The statewide program has four components:

— Water bill payments for residential customers in Michigan who have a past due water bill, up to \$2500 per household;

— Water conservation including a home water conservation audit, conservation education and training, and water efficiency supplies;

— Remediation, including minor plumbing repairs designed to reduce water consumption (in Wayne, Oakland and Macomb Counties only); and

— Supportive services, including case management services and internal and external linkages to resources.

To qualify, Michigan residents must have an income at or below 300% of the federal poverty level, proof that they are responsible for paying the water bill, and a past-due water bill.

For details about MI-Water, visit [www.thawfund.org](http://www.thawfund.org) or telephone THAW at 1-800-866-8429.

# Pride Month celebrates LGBTQ+ culture

BY GREY SHEA, ARC

Pride Month is celebrated every June to honor the movement for LGBTQ+ rights and celebrate LGBTQ+ culture. According to the Library of Congress, the concept of Pride Month began with the Stonewall Riots in Manhattan in 1969. These riots started after a police raid at a gay bar called the Stonewall Inn and took place over several days beginning June 28, 1969. Activists Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, and Stormé DeLarverie are known for inciting the uprising. These events were a huge turning point for the Gay Liberation Movement. The first Pride March was held in New York on the first anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, estimated to have been attended by between 3,000 to 5,000 marchers. New York's Pride March now has attendance in the millions.

The intent of the original Pride March planners was to bring the community together to “...commemorate the Christopher Street Uprisings [Stonewall Uprising] of last summer in which thousands of homosexuals went to the streets to demonstrate against centuries of abuse... from government hostility to employment and housing discrimination, Mafia control of gay bars, and anti-homosexual laws.” Pride Month is not just rainbows; it also serves as a political movement (the ACLU is currently tracking 491 anti-LGBTQ bills in the U.S.) and as a remembrance for members of the community who have been lost to things like hate crimes and HIV/AIDS.

Although LGBTQ+ history is often spoken of in recent terms, LGBTQ+ people have always been here. Two-Spirit is a contemporary term some Native American and First Nations lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer+ people use to identify with traditional and cultural understandings of gender roles and identity. This term was adopted in 1990 at the third International Native Gay & Lesbian Gathering in Winnipeg, Canada.

Traditionally, each Native

nation has its own understanding of two-spiritedness and terms in its own language. Many two-spirit Anishinaabe people identify with the term “niizh manidoog,” translating literally to “two spirits” in the Anishinaabe language and often interpreted as “someone who embodies both the masculine and feminine spirit.” Not all LGBTQ+ Indigenous people identify with the term two-Spirit. LGBTQ+ identities communicate sexual preferences and gender while being two-spirit encompasses social and spiritual responsibilities.

In his book *Assassination of Hole in the Day*, Ojibwe author Anton Treuer wrote that in Ojibwe culture “[biological sex] usually determined one’s gender, and therefore one’s work, but the Ojibwe accepted variation. Men who chose to function as women were called ikwekaazo meaning ‘one who endeavors to be like a woman.’ Women who functioned as men were called iniikaazo, meaning ‘one who endeavors to be like a man.’ Both were considered to be strong spiritually, and they were always honored.” Ozaawindib (Yellow Head) was an early 19th-century Ojibwe warrior who was gender non-conforming and described as an agokwe, a person who was assigned male at birth but who lived as a woman within Ojibwe society.

2SLGBTQ+ people face higher rates of poverty, stigma, marginalization, hate-motivated violence, hypersexualization, and racism causing them to be at a higher risk of experiencing sexual assault. Sexual violence against 2SLGBTQ+ people is often a violent attempt to oppress those challenging societal norms. “Corrective rape” is a hate crime perpetrated by a predator trying to punish and “correct” or “cure” the victim’s sexual orientation or gender. According to the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Projects (NCAVP), studies suggest transgender people and bisexual women face the most alarming rates of sexual violence within the

LGBTQ+ community, with one in two experiencing sexual violence at some point in their life. Among both of these populations, sexual violence begins early, often in childhood.

NCAVP also estimates that nearly one in 10 LGBTQ+ survivors of intimate partner violence (IPV) has experienced sexual assault from those partners. The 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey found that 47% of transgender people are sexually assaulted at some point in their lifetime, and 65% of Native American respondents had been sexually assaulted in their lifetime. Post-assault, many 2SLGBTQ+ people encounter barriers to reporting their assault. Homophobia, transphobia, and bias in the criminal justice system are factors that may cause survivors to be uncomfortable reporting.

If you have been impacted by any sexual violence, the Advocacy Resource Center can help. We have a variety of inclusive, supportive services available to all. For more information, contact the Advocacy Resource Center at (906) 632-1808, toll-free at (877) 639-7820, or visit our website at [www.arcsaulttribe.com](http://www.arcsaulttribe.com). Remember — you are not alone, you are not to blame, and help is available.

How can you celebrate Pride Month? Be an ally by supporting our 2SLGBTQ+ relatives — listen to their stories, confront societal problems like heterosexism, homophobia, and transphobia, and create safe spaces modeling inclusion. Educate yourself and stay informed on 2SLGBTQ+ history and the current issues 2SLGBTQ+ people face, like the current rise in anti-transgender violence in the United States. Donate to 2SLGBTQ+ organizations like the Trevor Project, Trans Lifeline, The Okra Project, or The Marsha P. Johnson Institute, among many others.

Keep an eye on the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Advocacy Resource Center Facebook page for further 2SLGBTQ+ education and resources.

# Clark, Andrews wed at Brimley lighthouse May 15



Photo by Kyle Radle Photography

Dana Andrews, daughter of Pauline Andrews, married Justin Clark, son of David Clark. Dana’s sister of the heart, Barbara Smutek, officiated the ceremony that was held at the lighthouse in Brimley, Mich., on May 15, 2023. Matron of honor was Stacie Ahtila, bridesmaids were Claire Leighton and Adriana Smutek. Best man was Andy Ocko, groomsmen were Mark Meiners and the groom’s step-brother, Corey Stoneman.

# Engagement announcement — Bishop & Burkmire



Sault Tribe member Sharon L. Bosley announces the engagement of her daughter, also of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Carolyn R. Bishop to Douglas M. Burkmire.

The bride to be is a 2008 graduate of Peru High School, Peru, Ind., and has been a cosmetologist for over a decade. Douglas is a 2004 graduate of Taylor High School, Kokomo, Ind., and is the son of Julie Brubaker and Mike Burkmire. Douglas is currently a professional tattoo artist at Bohemian Tattoo Club of Kokomo, Ind.

The wedding is set for Oct. 14, 2023.



# Walking on...

## MARGARET ANN SCOTT

Margaret Ann Scott, 72, of Sugar Island, Mich., passed away on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at home.

Margaret was born Nov. 15, 1950, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. to Alex and Nancy (Paquette) Pine. Margaret graduated from Sault High School. She was a Bay Mills Indian Community member and was a former Sugar Island Lioness Club member. She loved arts and crafts, cooking, attending powwows, shopping, taking trips, and going to the casino. She also loved her grandbabies.

Margaret is survived by her two sons John E. White, Jr., of Orlando, Fla.; and Alex J. White of Indiana; three grandchildren Sophie McAdams, Ashley Renee White, and Karlene Sulser, and six great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her sisters Mary Shipp of Sault Ste. Marie.; Chiquita "Keeta" Alred of North Carolina; and Harriette "Princess" Pine of Sault Ste. Marie; and a brother Norman (Debbie) Pine of Sault Ste. Marie.

Margaret was preceded in death by her parents; by her sisters Sophie Kizor and LaVina Mikolay; and by her brothers Alex, James, Robert, Peter, and Albert Pine.

Visitation was held at the Sault Tribe Cultural Center on May 12, with the service held on Saturday, May 13.

Arrangements are in the care of C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Condolences may be left online at <https://www.csmulder.com>.

## GLENN GARY PAYMENT

Glenn Gary Payment, 63, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on May 10, 2023, at his home.

Glenn was born on Dec. 31, 1959, to the late Leo and Betty (Bottrell) Payment. He attended Sault High School, with the class of 1978. Glenn was a member of

the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He attended the New York Culinary School. He enjoyed four wheeling, flying drones, and watching the "Walking Dead." Glenn especially enjoyed hanging out with his grandchildren.

Glenn is survived by his children: Jeremy (Laura) Paradowski of Indiana, and Sarah (Daniel) Whelpley, Roy (Avery Mitchell) McClard, Lisa Payment, Mikey Payment, and Zach (Maryssa Kronemeyer) Payment all of Michigan; his grandchildren: Joey and Mike Riethmeier, Brayden Morgan and Christian Nolan. Glenn is also survived by his siblings: Jack Payment, Carol Starnes, JoAnn Mason, Leo Payment, and Pat (Gene) Latour.

Glenn was preceded in death by his parents and two sisters: Cindy Payment and Franny Prater.

Visitation was held at the Niigaanagizhik Cultural Center on May 17, 2023, and continued until the time of the service on May 18, 2023.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to help with funeral expenses.

Arrangements are in the care of C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Condolences may be left online at <https://www.csmulder.com/obituary/glenn-payment>.

## LISA ANN ROGERS

Lisa Ann Rogers, 57, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday May 23, 2023 at her home.

She was born August 23, 1965 in Holland, Mich. to Robert K. VanHeuvelen and Geraldine VanHeuvelen (Anthony).

Lisa worked many years at Kewadin Casino in St. Ignace, Mich. She also worked as an Optician. Lisa's main love in



life was her two sons. She also loved to plant her flowers every spring and she spent most summer days at the beach which was one of her favorite places. Lisa loved to cook and bring family and friends together to enjoy a meal. She had a huge heart and you could see it every time with her beautiful smile. Lisa also enjoyed talking on the phone and reaching out to friends and family. Lisa was so proud, happy, and excited as she was going to become a grandma in August of 2023.

Lisa will be lovingly remembered and deeply missed by her two sons, Joshua Yost of Gaylord, Mich. and Matthew Rogers of Sault Ste. Marie; siblings, Robert (Kelly) VanHeuvelen of St. Ignace, Michael VanHeuvelen of Traverse City, Mich., and Kathy (Scott) Dale of Grand Haven, Mich.; wonderful friend, Paul Rogers of Sault Ste. Marie; and several nieces and nephews.

Lisa was preceded in death by her parents; siblings, Donald McLeod and Debbie McLeod. Visitation was held May 31, 2023 followed by Traditional Native Services at the Sault Tribe Cultural Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

Final resting place will be Wequayoc Cemetery in St. Ignace Twp.

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

## IN MEMORY OF CHRISTINE MCDONALD

It has been 28 years since you left this Earth and went onto Heaven.

I miss you always and wish we had more time together. Even though I was adopted out to another family, I am so thankful that I got to know you during my childhood and beyond.

Love, your son,  
John



# Tanis donates baby items to tribe's ACFS



Pam Tanis has been donating handmade baby items to various organizations for quite some time. Her most recent visit to the Upper Peninsula, to spend time with family, included a stop at the Anishnaabek Community and Family Services where she delivered hats, sweater sets and blankets. "Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will definitely keep the baby warm," said Office Supervisor Teri Romano after taking in the crocheted donations. "Thank you, Pam!"

## You can make a difference in the life of a child

Consider being a foster care/ adoptive home provider. Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) is in need of caring individuals who can provide a safe and nurturing home environment for children who have been placed out of their home due to abuse or neglect.

Foster care is founded on the premise that all children have the right to physical care, educational, emotional, and cultural nurturance. The family foster care program is designed to provide a substitute family life experience for a child in a household that has been approved and licensed. A relative may become licensed or may be unlicensed. ACFS makes every effort to place children with a relative if possible.

Children may need foster care for a temporary or extended period of time. The primary goal during foster care is to reunite the child with his or her parents. The foster family plays an important role in the treatment plan for the child and family. Under the team approach, foster parents or relatives, together with the worker, attempt to provide the specific kind of help a child and their family need for reuniting the child with their parents.

When the child cannot be reunited with their parents, the

children are prepared for permanent placement, with relatives or non-related adoptive families.

The majority of adoptions done by ACFS are with relatives or other Native American families. Under certain circumstances, a foster family may adopt children in their care. When adoption is not possible for older youth, the goal is to prepare the youth for independent living.

Foster care is seen as a short-term solution to an emergency situation. Anishnaabek Community and Family Services needs committed individuals who are willing to work with the child's birth parents, supportive of efforts to return the child home and able to encourage teens toward independent living.

You are not required to own your own home, be married, or give up your job and stay home full time in order to foster children. You may be renting an apartment or be single. You may apply for day care payments for the time that you are working or continuing your education. You will work with the agency to determine what type of placement works best for you and your family.

For information on becoming a foster parent please contact ACFS at (906) 632-5250, toll-free (800) 726-0093, or by email at [acfs-fosterhomes@saulttribe.net](mailto:acfs-fosterhomes@saulttribe.net).

## Advocacy Resource Center is seeking information about Missing and Murdered Sault Tribe Members:

In an effort to maintain the Sault Tribe MMIP database for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP), the Advocacy Resource Center is seeking information regarding missing and murdered individuals who are members of the **Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians**. Please message or call the ARC at 906-632-1808 with information that can be entered into the database. The information provided does not have to be current information. The ARC is seeking information for ALL missing or murdered tribal members including the seven county service areas 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, please leave the following information:

First/Middle/Last Name  
Date of Birth  
Date of Death  
Murdered/When/Where  
Perpetrator Name if known:

If Missing:  
Nickname/Alias  
Date Last Seen/Went Missing  
Physical Description  
Distinctive Physical Features  
Vehicle Information

Any information would be appreciated.

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



## Foster parent recipe

4 cups courage  
1 large heart  
1 heaping scoop of a nurturing environment  
1 or 2 mentors optional  
Equal parts of love, empathy and understanding, add 1 or more Child(ren).  
Sprinkle all ingredients within your home, stir to combine. When complete,

open door of home and accept child(ren).

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, and making a difference in the life of a child please contact Anishnaabek Community and Family Services at (906) 632-5250, toll free at (800) 726-0093 or by email at [acfs-fosterhomes@saulttribe.net](mailto:acfs-fosterhomes@saulttribe.net).

## Peer-led sexual assault support group

Peer-led support group providing survivors a safe space for discussion and crafting. Group does not provide professional counseling or therapy. Open to sexual assault and abuse survivors 18+ years of age. Drop-ins welcome.

1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, 5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center,

1860 16th Ave. East, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Topics of discussion: Power and control; shame and self-blame; PTSD and impacts of sexual trauma; body image and self-esteem; healing and self-care; and healthy relationships.

Call Grey Shea at (906) 632-1808.





# SAULT TRIBE thrive

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

This business directory is intended to foster an empowered economy between Sault Tribe citizen-owned business, Sault Tribe enterprises, tribal businesses, and the global economy.

Sault Tribe Thrive's Business Directory is open to all Native/Indigenous entrepreneurs, artists, nonprofits, tribal governments, tribal colleges, and tribal enterprises throughout the Sault Tribe

service area and at large. Sault Tribe Thrive is proud to offer free basic business listings for all Sault Tribe citizen-owned businesses and Sault Tribe divisions, sub-divisions, and enterprises.

Sault Tribe Thrive reserves the right to review applications, request additional information before listing, and to refuse applications if they cannot be verified.

To be listed in the directory as a Native-owned business, you will be required to complete an intake form and provide the tribal file number from your tribal identification card. The intake form can be found by selecting "More Info" at [www.saulttribe-thrive.com/business-development-2/](http://www.saulttribe-thrive.com/business-development-2/).

Sault Tribe Thrive is an MBDA AIANNH Project estab-

lished in 2019, funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency, with administrative support from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Sault Tribe Thrive provides business support to Sault Tribe citizen-owned businesses through outreach, advocacy, and business consultation initiatives.

To view the online business

directory, go to: [www.saulttribe-thrive.com/business-directory/](http://www.saulttribe-thrive.com/business-directory/).

Connect with us in person at the Tamarack Business Center in Downtown Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Find us online at Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube, or by email at [info@saulttribethrive.com](mailto:info@saulttribethrive.com), or phone (906) 635-6050, ext. 26121.

Let's Connect!

<p><b>Brimley 49715</b> Innes Welding &amp; Repair David Innes Brimley, MI 49715 (906) 440-5364 <a href="mailto:thepropmaster@hotmail.com">thepropmaster@hotmail.com</a> Manufacturing</p>	<p><a href="mailto:shop@bloomcosault.com">shop@bloomcosault.com</a> <a href="http://bloomcosault.com">bloomcosault.com</a> Retail</p>	<p>Flowers Automotive James Flowers Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-8074 <a href="mailto:flowersautoservice@gmail.com">flowersautoservice@gmail.com</a> N/A Transportation</p>	<p><a href="mailto:itsf1@yahoo.com">itsf1@yahoo.com</a> <a href="https://facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088037838388">facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088037838388</a> Transportation</p>	<p><a href="http://nationalpaintingcontractors.business.site">nationalpaintingcontractors.business.site</a> Construction</p>
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Environmental

Woody’s One Stop  
Nick Lourcias  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-7361  
nlourcias@hotmail.com  
Retail

Y & R Complete Outdoor  
Services  
Ron Baird  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 203-7388  
yolandanolanbaird@gmail.com  
Environmental

**Cedarville 49719**  
Hakola Porta John Service and  
Rental  
Tony Hakola  
Cedarville, MI 49719  
906-430-8058  
tonyhakola@hotmail.com  
Hakolaportajohn.com  
Environmental

The Ice Cream Shoppe  
Jill Mcleod  
Cedarville, MI 49719  
(906) 484-5525  
jmcleod@eupschools.org  
facebook.com/The-Ice-Cream-  
Shoppe-175540842574683  
Food & Beverage

**Curtis 49820**  
Above The Bridge Outdoors  
Morgan Gelinax  
Curtis, MI 49820  
(906) 287-0903  
abovethebridgeoutdoors@gmail.  
com  
abovethebridgeoutdoors.com  
Other

**DeTour Village 49725**  
Barbeaux Fisheries  
Paul Barbeaux  
DeTour Village, MI 49725  
(906) 297-5969  
barbeauxfish@gmail.com  
Farming/Fishing

Timberdoodle  
Janelle Gross Dudeck  
DeTour, MI 49725  
(906) 297-1011  
timberdoodle.mercantile@gmail.  
com  
facebook.com/shoptimberdoodle  
Retail

**Germfask 49836**  
Superior Satellite Solutions  
Gary Talarico  
Germfask, MI 49836  
(906) 450-7675  
chieffishfinder1@att.net  
Telecommunications

**Gould City 49838**  
Peninsula Shores Gallery  
Eirnella O Neil  
Gould City, MI 49838  
(906) 477-6303  
eirnella.oneil@gmail.com  
Arts/Culture

**Hessel 49745**  
Burnside Creations  
Lisa Burnside  
Hessel, MI 49745  
(906) 430-7323  
burnsidecreations1@gmail.com  
Retail

**McMillian 49853**  
Thermal Kernels  
Cathy Baker

McMillian, MI 49853  
(231) 675 1060  
lovethermalkernels@gmail.com  
facebook.com/cornybusiness  
Personal Care Services

**Naubinway 49762**  
Kings Fish Market  
Sally Schultz  
Naubinway, MI 49762  
(906) 477-6311  
benschultz3134@gmail.com  
Farming/Fishing

Moofinfries  
Laura Flatt  
Naubinway, MI 49762  
(906) 630-6932  
moofinfries@gmail.com  
facebook.com/moofinfries  
Food & Beverage

**Newberry 49868**  
Gitche Gume Handcrafted  
Jewelry  
Gina Harman  
Newberry, MI 49868  
(906)293-3625  
ginavgc@gmail.com  
lakesuperiorpendants.com/index.  
php?page=Home  
Arts/Culture

Northern Wings  
David Goudreau  
Newberry, MI 49868-8170  
(906) 477-6176 Ext. 101  
dave@northernwings.com  
northernwings.com  
Aerospace & Defense

Superior Web  
Gina Harman  
Newberry, MI 49868  
(906) 293-3625  
ginavgc@gmail.com  
superiorweb.net  
Media/Entertainment

**Rudyard 49780**  
Hakola Logging  
Tate Hakola  
Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 440-0842  
hakolaj@michigan.gov  
Environmental

Hucks Pub  
Tate Hakola  
Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 442-1042  
hakolaj@michigan.gov  
hucks-pub-grill.business.site  
Food & Beverage

Surface Tech Applicators  
Nathan Cremeans  
Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 203-9397  
nscremeans@gmail.com  
surface-tech-applicators.com  
Construction

The Brickyard Bar and Grill  
Tate Hakola  
Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 442-1099  
hakolaj@michigan.gov  
facebook.com/pages/catego-  
ry/Bar/The-Brickyard-Bar-  
Grill-1017733485083023  
Food & Beverage

**Moran 49760**  
Native Steel Welding & Fab  
Trystan Ferris  
Moran, MI 49760  
(906) 430-7816  
nativesteelwelding@gmail.com  
Manufacturing

T & K King Fisheries  
Theron King  
Moran, MI 49760  
(906) 643-1068  
kingsfishmarket@gmail.com  
facebook.com/kingsfishmarketan-

drestaurant  
Farming/Fishing

**St. Ignace 49781**  
Bay Pharmacy  
Douglas Goudreau  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-7725  
bayrxsi@gmail.com  
mygnp.com/pharmacies/bay-phar-  
macy-st-ignace-mi-49781  
Healthcare

Belonga’s Plumbing and Heating  
Steven Paquin  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-9595  
spaquinbph18@gmail.com  
Utilities

Cottage UP  
Thomas Clark  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 298-2298  
cottageup@outlook.com  
www.cottageup.org  
Retail

Eversons Furnishings  
Jimmy Everson  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-7751  
info@eversonsfurniture.com  
eversonsfurniture.com  
Retail

Horn’s Odds & Ends  
Irene Horn  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 984-2189  
mhorn517@gmail.com  
facebook.com/hornsoddsnends  
Retail

Jose’s Cantina  
Allecia Gallo  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 984-2212  
galloscantina906@gmail.com  
joses-cantina.business.site  
Food & Beverage

M&M Fisheries  
Lynn Rickley  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(734) 516-6536  
lynnrickley63@gmail.com  
Farming/Fishing

Manleys Famous Smoked Fish  
Don Wright  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-8930  
dwright@clmcaa.com  
facebook.com/Manleysfishmarket  
Farming/Fishing

Mark & Sons Plumbing and  
Heating  
Lewis Mullins  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-9597  
markandsonsp@gmail.com  
Utilities

Massey Fish Company  
Jamie Massey Sr.  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 984-2148  
masseysfish@gmail.com  
masseyfish.com  
Farming/Fishing

Molly’s Nest  
Robin Pavia  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 298-1633  
gardensbymollysnest@yahoo.com  
Farming/Fishing

Ron’s Birchbark Studio  
Ron Paquin  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(231) 420-3518  
mollyronpaquin@gmail.com  
Arts/Culture

Ruddles Native Painting  
Carol Ruddle  
Mackinac Island, MI 49781  
(906) 430-1728  
nativepaintingmack@gmail.com  
Arts/Culture

St. Ignace in Bloom  
Alex Belonga  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(616) 644-4214  
greenhouse@stignaceinbloom.  
com  
stignaceinbloom.com  
Retail

Weddings By Judy in Northern  
Michigan  
Judy St. Louis-Scott  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
9066437064  
stlouis92@yahoo.com  
facebook.com/weddingsbyjudyin-  
northernmichigan  
Hospitality

Zodiac Party Store/Taste of the  
Upper Peninsula  
Keith Massaway  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-8643  
kmassaway@msn.com  
facebook.com/zodiacpartystore  
Retail

**Escanaba 49829-49837**  
Benoit’s Glass and Lock  
Rick Benoit  
Escanaba, MI 49829  
(906) 786-5281  
benoitglass@gmail.com  
facebook.com/pages/Benoits-  
Glass-Lock/126579080731438  
Construction

Dress up and Tuxedo  
Jody Bugay  
Escanaba, MI 49829  
(906) 789-9796  
jody@dressup906.com  
dressup906.com  
Retail

Feathers Upholstery  
Emily McGeary  
Escanaba, MI 49829  
(906) 446-3406  
mcmilly451@gmail.com  
Apparel

Ojibwe Hazardous Abatement  
Rob Arndt  
Escanaba, MI 49829  
(906) 786-3001  
robarndt95@gmail.com  
ojibwehazardous.com  
Environmental

Pink Giraffe Beauty Products  
Maddi Lynch  
Escanaba, MI 49837  
(906) 280-6994  
pinkgiraffebeautyproducts@  
gmail.com  
pinkgiraffeproducts.com  
Retail

Rock Road Masonry &  
Construction  
Brandon Deno  
Escanaba, MI 49829  
(906) 789-7892  
scs@chartermi.net  
Construction

UpCycled Hippie  
Jessica Shields  
Escanaba, MI  
(906) 553-8430  
jessicaloushields@gmail.com  
facebook.com/upcycledhippie  
Retail

**Garden 49835**  
Eagle HVAC Services  
Bryan Goudreau



**From “Directory,” page 22**

Garden, MI 49835  
(906) 450-0408  
groundsourcehtg@gmail.com  
eaglehvacservices.com  
Construction

Pederson Lawn & Landscape  
Heather Pederson  
Garden, MI 49835  
(906) 644-2150  
dr.pederson@hotmail.com  
Environmental

**Gwinn 49841**  
Sawyer Village  
Joy Page  
Gwinn, MI 49841  
(906) 346-3919  
sawyervillage@saulttribe.net  
sawyervillage.com  
Real Estate

Sore Arm’s Fishing Charters  
Aaron Hendrickson  
Gwinn, MI 49841  
(906) 360-6035  
sorearmscharters@gmail.com  
sorearmscharters.com  
Recreation

**Manistique 49854-49660**  
Creative Change Associates  
Alan Barr  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(906) 286-1922  
alanb@creativechange.org  
creativechange.org  
Consulting

Gus’ Gourmet Nuts  
Dustin Denkins  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(906) 644-2548  
dustin@denkins.net  
dustindenkins.com  
Food & Beverage

Peterson Building & Contracting  
Kenneth Peterson  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(989) 329-2139  
herbstsg@gmail.com  
Construction

Seriously SEO  
Dustin Denkins  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(906) 644-2548  
dustin@denkins.net  
seriouslyseo.com  
Business Services

Shampine Hardwood Floors  
Andrew Shampine  
Manistique, MI 49660  
(231)510-1493  
facebook.com/shampine.hardwoodfloors  
Construction

The Bostique  
Cindy King  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(906) 286-4374  
bostiquemstq@gmail.com  
shopbostique.com  
Retail

**Negaunee 49866**  
TickledPinkAntiques  
Carole Prisk  
Negaunee, MI 49866  
(906) 475-4810  
caroleprisk@yahoo.com  
facebook.com/Tickled-Pink-Antiques-183263778383419  
Retail

**Rapid River 49878**  
Wicked Walleye Tackle  
Melinda Kolbus  
Rapid River, MI 49878  
(906) 286-1886  
wickedwalleyet@yahoo.com  
wickedwalleyetackle.com  
Retail

**Christmas 49862**  
White Pine Lodge  
Jaime MacDonald  
Christmas, MI 49862  
(906) 387-1111  
info@whitepinelodgeonline.com  
whitepinelodgeonline.com  
Hospitality

**Marquette 49855**  
Blondeau Construction  
Matt Blondeau  
Marquette, MI 49855  
(906) 362-6288  
mattblondeau@gmail.com  
blondeauconstruction.com  
Construction

Blondeau Properties  
Matthew Blondeau  
Marquette, MI 49855  
(906) 362-6288  
mattblondeau@gmail.com  
Real Estate

Dance of the Sun Day Spa  
Dawn Cremeans  
Marquette, MI 49855  
(906) 249-9084  
hello@danceofthesun.com  
danceofthesun.com  
Hospitality

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

Sacred Tattoo Studio  
Danielle Pemble  
Marquette, MI 49855  
(906) 273-0800  
sacredtattoostudio.com  
Personal Care Services

TriMedia Environmental and  
Engineering Services  
Robert Lehto  
Marquette, MI 49855  
(906) 228-5125  
hello@trimediaee.com  
trimediaee.com  
Environmental

**Munising 49862**  
Iversons Outdoors  
Jim Baker  
Munising, MI 49862  
(906) 452-6370  
orders@iversonssnowshoes.com  
iversonssnowshoes.com  
Retail

Matsons Fisheries  
Katy Matson  
Munising, MI 49862  
(906) 202-0025  
matsonfish@yahoo.com  
Farming/Fishing

**Wetmore 49895**  
Midway General Store  
Erica Kemeny  
Wetmore, MI 49895  
(919) 621-8998  
kemenyerica@gmail.com  
Retail

**Located in the U.P. outside the service area**

**Trout Creek 49967**  
Calderwood Enterprises  
Fred Sliger  
Trout Creek, MI 49967  
(906) 852-3232  
fredsliger@jamadots.com  
calderwoodenterprises.com  
Manufacturing

UPPER MITTEN  
**Boyne Falls 49713**  
Mountainside Apartments

Marijo Beckman  
Boyne Falls, MI 49713  
(231) 330-1992  
mjbeckman1@gmail.com  
mountainsidegrille-boyne.com  
Real Estate

Mountainside Grille  
Marijo Beckman  
Boyne Falls, MI 49713  
(231) 330-1992  
mountainsidegrille@hotmail.com  
mountainsidegrille-boyne.com  
Food & Beverage

**Buckley 49620**  
The Buckley General Store  
Carl Brasseur  
Buckley, MI 49620  
(231) 342-4245  
Retail

**Farwell 48622**  
Carrow Super Market  
Eddie Carrow  
Farwell, MI 48622  
(989) 588-2965  
carrowsmkt@hotmail.com  
carrowsmarket.com  
Retail

**Gaylord 49735**  
Snowbelt Brewing Company  
Angielena Muellenberg  
Gaylord, MI 49735  
(989) 448-7077  
drinklocal@snowbeltbrewery.com  
snowbelt.beer  
Food & Beverage

**Interlochen 49683**  
Bay Area Demolition  
Kris Wood  
Interlochen, MI 49683  
(231) 709-5895  
bayareademopros@gmail.com  
northernmichigandemolition.com  
Construction

**Levering 49755**  
Marshalls Income Tax Service  
Stan Marshall  
Levering, MI 49755  
(231) 537-4822  
stantmarshall@gmail.com  
Financial Services

**Ludington 49431**  
Ludington Outdoor Services  
Caleb Bowman  
Ludington, MI 49431  
(231) 690-1002  
calebbowman1982@gmail.com  
Environmental

**Mesick 49668**  
Mesick Market  
Carl Brasseur  
Mesick, MI 49668  
(231) 342-4245  
Retail

**Petoskey 49770**  
Herbal Lodge  
Nathan Wright  
Petoskey, MI 49770  
(231) 622-9063  
native14u@yahoo.com  
herballodge.com  
Retail

Mackinaw Trail Winery &  
Brewery  
Laurie Stabile  
Petoskey, MI 49770  
(231) 487-1910  
stabilelaurie@gmail.com  
mackinawtrailwinery.com  
Food & Beverage

Muscotts Painting  
James Muscott  
Petoskey, MI 49770  
(231) 342-7055  
jamesmuscott@hotmail.com  
muscottspainting.com

Construction

**Traverse City 49686**  
Allegra Printing  
Roger Leask  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
(231) 632-4448  
roger@allegratc.com  
allegramarketingprint.com/locations/traverse-city-mi  
Marketing/Advertising

**Tustin 49688**  
Windy Hills Bison Farms  
Carl Brasseur  
Tustin, MI 49688  
(231) 342-4245, (231) 388-3556  
Farming/Fishing

**LOWER MITTEN**

**Cedar Springs 49319**  
Natures Cure  
Joel Halloran  
Cedar Springs, MI 49319  
(616) 970-8016  
sales@naturescurekratom.com  
naturescurestore.com  
Personal Care Services

**Detroit 48227**  
Eagle Specialties  
Taryn Sulkes  
Detroit, MI 48227  
(313) 638-6640 Ext 1  
taryn@es-us.com  
es-us.com  
Construction

**Durand 48429**  
East Michigan Native Plants,  
LLC  
Angela Nelson  
Durand, MI 48429  
(810) 333-7501  
info@eastmichnatives.com  
eastmichnatives.com  
Farming/Fishing

**East Lansing 48823-48826**  
Above The Roots  
Melanie Spencley  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
(517) 803-5105  
atootsmi@gmail.com  
abovetherootsmi.com  
Retail

Good Fruit Video  
Justin Caine  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
(517) 708-3809  
justin@goodfruitvideo.com  
goodfruitvideo.com/about  
Media/Entertainment

Irwin Group  
Mitch Irwin  
East Lansing, MI 48826  
(517) 896 6875  
irwinmitch@gmail.com  
Real Estate

**Galesburg 49053**  
Great Lakes Flooring Specialists  
Julie Roberts  
Galesburg, MI 49053  
(269) 207-2340  
julie@greatlakesflooring.net  
Construction

**Grand Rapids 49525**  
Coonen Law  
Rose Coonen  
Grand Rapids, MI 49525  
(616) 951-1531  
rcoonen@coonen-law.com  
coonen-law.com  
Business Services

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

Construction

Ogitchidaa  
Ann Dailey  
Holt, MI 48842  
(906) 322-2716  
ann@companyk.us  
Security

**Ithaca 48847**  
The Pink Cactus  
Laura Cook  
Ithaca, MI 48847  
(989) 264-2050  
lannecook@gmail.com  
Retail

**Jenisen 49428**  
MI Playground  
Nick Behling  
Jenisen, MI 49428  
(616) 201-8731  
nick@enjoymiplayground.com  
enjoymiplayground.com  
Media/Entertainment

**Kalamazoo 49009**  
American Dream Builders  
Gary Valier  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
(269) 365-1969  
garyadbslm@hotmail.com  
Construction

Tinger Investments, LLC  
Alex Ermatinger  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
(269) 303-1339  
tingerguideservice@gmail.com  
tingerguideservice.com  
Recreation

Walsh Service Solutions  
Lawrence (Rich) Walsh  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
(866) 977-3835  
rich@walsh-ss.com  
walshservicesolutions.com  
Environmental

**Lansing 48911-48821**  
517 Coffee Company  
Jaime Ladronka  
Lansing, MI 48911  
(517) 574-5573  
the517coffeeco@gmail.com  
517coffeecompany.com  
Food & Beverage

Great Lakes Drone Service  
Kyle McPhee  
Lansing, MI 48821  
(517) 819-5542  
greatlakesdroneservice@gmail.com  
greatlakesdroneservice.com  
Media/Entertainment

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

**Macomb 48044**  
Say It With Swag  
Cassandra Pasque  
Macomb, MI 48044  
(248) 953-1933  
sayitwithswagllc@gmail.com  
sayitwithswag.net  
Retail

**Milford 48380**  
Masta Performance  
Daniel Masta  
Milford, MI 48380  
(248) 685-8710  
mastaperformance@gmail.com  
mastaperformance.com  
Manufacturing

See “Directory,” page 24



# Sault Tribe Thrive business directory continued

## From "Directory," page 23 Pontiac 48340

Fast & Secure Towing & Recovery  
Ronald McClusky Jr.  
Pontiac, MI 48340  
(248) 993-3632  
ronaldalcar@gmail.com  
Transportation

## Swartz Creek 48473

Premier Learning  
Colleen Grace Ford  
Swartz Creek, MI 48473  
(810) 732-6493  
cgkford@comcast.net  
Education

## Williamston 48895

Dream Catchers Consulting  
Bill Pemble  
Williamston, MI 48895  
(517) 243-2877  
pemblew@gmail.com  
dreamcatchers.tech  
Consulting

## OUT OF STATE

### Alabama

Revenue Return Specialists  
Craig King  
Guntersville, AL 35976  
(706) 218-2250  
craig@revenuereturnspecialists.com  
RevenueReturnSpecialists.com  
Business Services

### Arizona

AZ Fresh Start Cleaning  
Richard Oran III  
Yuma, AZ 85565  
(928) 304-6632  
azfreshstartcleaning@gmail.com  
facebook.com/profile.

php?id=100033470683369  
Janitorial Services

### California

Native American Church of Turtle Island  
David Gaskin  
Redding, CA 96001  
52 (984) 114-2145  
davidgaskin4@gmail.com  
nacturtleisland.org  
Not For Profit

### Colorado

REO Consulting, LLC  
Barbara Pemble, MS, SHRM-CP  
Denver, CO 80206  
(303) 808-1146  
bpemble@reoconsulting.org  
reoconsulting.org  
Consulting

### Synchronized Networking Solutions

Robert (Bob) Gonczy  
Penrose, CO 81240  
(719) 371-2315  
rgonczy@syncns.com  
syncns.com  
InformationTechnology

### Tadpole Press

Amber Byers  
Lafayette, CO 80026  
(303) 668-8812  
amber@tadpolepress.com  
tadpolepress.com  
Communications

Tipping Point Solutions  
Rick Schmidt  
Centennial, CO 80112  
(303) 353-0440 EXT 301  
info@tp-solutions.com  
tippingpointcorp.net

### Media/Entertainment

### Florida

IvyTek  
Michael Griggs  
St. Johns, FL 32259-4453  
(337) 212-0994  
sandy@ivytek.com  
ivytek.com  
InformationTechnology

### Seniors Helping Seniors

Chad Lawson  
Jacksonville, FL 32258  
(904) 716-5680  
clawson5454@yahoo.com  
seniorshelpingseniors.com  
Healthcare

### North Carolina

Eagle's Dream  
Rachel Mandelstamm  
Greensboro, NC 47406  
(989) 385-2129  
eaglesdream2@yahoo.com  
facebook.com/eaglesdream2  
Arts/Culture

### Ohio

Mullenbrock & Associates  
Craig Mullenbrock  
Piqua, OH 45356  
(937) 773-8500  
cmullenbrock@woh.rr.com  
mullenbrockassociates.com  
Financial Services

### Oklahoma

Nontrivial Solutions  
James Bearden  
Oklahoma City, OK 73137  
(405) 698-3702  
james@nontrivial.net  
nontrivial.net  
InformationTechnology

### Texas

14 PEWS  
Cressandra Thibodeaux  
Houston, TX 77009  
(310) 880-3907  
info@14pews.com  
14pews.org/pages/home.asp  
Media/Entertainment

### 3rd Run Delivery

Jennifer Anderson  
Austin, TX 78240  
(847) 525-0197  
jenn.anderson@3rdrun.com  
Food & Beverage

### CompHoppers

Vickie Griggs  
Livingston, TX  
(337) 739-3664  
comphoppers@comphoppers.com  
comphoppers.com  
Recreation

### Hand Trucking

Andrew Garvin  
Mount Pleasant, TX 75455  
(469) 403-5930  
persevere12@yahoo.com  
Transportation

### Project Pomona

Meghan Roberts  
Driftwood, TX 78619  
(281) 248-7406  
meghan2roberts@gmail.com  
projectpomona.com  
Retail

### TX Pro

Tracy Prout  
Hutto, TX 78634  
(512) 630-8848  
tracy@txprollc.com  
facebook.com/txprollc

### Retail

### Virginia

ISHPI  
Earl Bowers  
Suffolk, VA 23435  
(757) 809-2302  
info@ishpi.net  
ishpi.net  
InformationTechnology

### Wisconsin

Blue Harbor Fish & Seafood  
Lori Parkinson  
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### Derusha Construction

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Construction

### JETA Corporation

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Shipping/Distribution

### Ontario, Canada

Credence HR  
Michael DiAngelo  
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A5A8  
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michael@credencehr.ca  
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# Election Committee must be held accountable



**AUSTIN LOWES**  
**TRIBAL CHAIRMAN**

Aaniin,

I will begin my report by discussing the recently conducted Special Advisory Election. This election was to fill my Unit I seat, which was vacated when I was elected chairman. During this election, the Election Committee broke several election codes, which undeniably tainted the election. This included not following the election timeline, intentionally sending ballots early, and allowing an immediate family member of a candidate to serve on the Election Committee and participate in that family member's election. Section 10.108 of our Election Ordinance states the following: "If an Immediate Family Member of an Election Committee member files as a Candidate, that Committee member shall be disqualified from participating in ANY ACTION of the Election Committee relating to the office for which the Immediate Family Member has filed."

Due to these violations, the board voted to void this Special Advisory Election, which is something I support. If we are going to hold candidates accountable for following our Election Code, then we need to expect the same from our Election Committee.

Regarding our elections, I support major reforms for the simple fact that things haven't been working. We rely on a volunteer Election Committee to conduct our elections. As evidenced by the last election, this committee doesn't consistently follow code, they don't recuse themselves when their family is running, and they don't follow election time-

lines. In addition to this, many people in our tribal community feel they've become weaponized to go after individuals critical of them.

I'll give you examples. In the 2022 General Election, the Election Committee requested extensive financial information from candidates that included bank statements. The Election Committee did so without probable cause and only requested it from certain individuals. Why didn't they request it from all candidates, including DJ Hoffman? Was it because he had a family member serving on the Election Committee? Regardless, there is nothing in our code that allows the Election Committee to gain access to the personal finances of candidates. Nothing. This information isn't even required to run for President of the United States. Furthermore, our Appellate Court recently issued the following ruling: "The exercise of unauthorized authority constitutes an abuse of discretion by the Election Committee. The court finds no basis in law and the issuance of the addendum was arbitrary and an unconstitutional abuse of the Election Committee's authority." Let me repeat that: our highest court found the Election Committee guilty of an **UNCONSTITUTIONAL ABUSE OF AUTHORITY**.

There is also the topic of fines. When the Election Committee "investigates" candidates, they don't provide due process. Candidates aren't informed that they're under investigation and given the opportunity to defend themselves. As a result, the Election Committee, which has no one qualified to even conduct investigations, serves as judge and jury with no checks and balances. There is an appeal process; however, the way candidates are informed of penalties is grossly insufficient. Rather than being served or provided notification via certified mail, candidates are simply mailed the committee's decision with a five-day window to appeal. If candidates are out of town or unavailable to check their mail, then this window is missed and they cannot appeal.

Imagine if our criminal cases were handled this way. How



**Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes congratulates Sault Tribe Administration Receptionist Sandy Graham on 20 years of service at the Employee Recognition Luncheon recently held for Sault Tribe employees.**

would you feel if the tribe investigated you for a crime and didn't provide you with due process? How would you feel if the tribe reached its verdict without contacting you so you could defend yourself? What if you only had five days to find an attorney to appeal the decision, which is difficult to accomplish in our rural community with limited legal resources? The answer is simple: you'd be angry, and rightfully so, because your constitutional rights would be violated. This is what is happening with our elections.

I propose that we contract our elections to a professional company that will ensure that our Election Code and timelines are followed. I believe that all allegations of Election Code violations should be referred to our prosecutor to investigate. Our prosecutor is a licensed attorney who understands probable cause, due process, our codes, and Constitution. If the prosecutor can impose penalties for violating our Criminal Code, then he can do the same for Election Code violations. Since the prosecutor is no longer a key employee that reports to the board, there is no longer a conflict

of interest with this arrangement. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results. Unless we make changes, our elections will continue to be dysfunctional.

I would now like to make a request to the membership: expect more from certain board members. Darcy Morrow from Unit IV is a prime example. She does not attend CORA meetings in person to advocate for our commercial fishermen, despite most of them residing in her unit. She votes against every budget modification presented to the board to fairly compensate our employees. She's voted no on every resolution pertaining to our homeless shelter. She refuses to participate in workshop polls to give our staff direction. She recently voted against applying for a grant that is expected to provide the tribe with roughly \$7 million. It's beginning to seem like she has a personal vendetta against the tribe for the membership voting her mother out of office during the 2022 election.

We are approaching the one-year mark that the new board has been in office. I'd therefore like

to conclude this unit report by highlighting the accomplishments we've made in the last year. This list includes, but is not limited, to the following:

- Successfully negotiated the JLLJ lawsuit from \$88 million to \$25-30 million. This was done without laying off a single employee. This lawsuit was due to disastrous business decisions the tribe made roughly 15 years ago. This, combined with the \$70 million the tribe paid for the Greektown bankruptcy, accounts for roughly \$100 million previous boards have lost our tribe.

- Ended sole source contracting for construction projects so all contractors could have an equal opportunity to be awarded jobs.

- Abolished the board of director pension, which no one besides Board members received.

- Abolished political appointments.

- Created a Food Sovereignty Committee so the tribe can provide indigenous food sources to our membership.

- Supplemented the Elder Meal program with bison meat to make the meals more nutritional and cultural.

- Begun the process to implement Medical Assisted Treatment for patients suffering from substance abuse disorders. This treatment is evidenced based and is the standard of care.

- Rebuilt the tribe's Legal department so we no longer have to rely on expensive, out-of-state law firms.

- Expanded medical services with telehealth.

- Created workplace accommodations such as our Remote Work Policy.

- Committed the Juul settlement, which is expected to be \$3.5 million, into the Land Claims Fund, better known as the elder fund. This will increase elder checks.

- Created the only tribally-owned homeless shelter in the state of Michigan.

- Increased the tribe's land base by purchasing 560 acres on Sugar Island for tribal members to hunt, fish and gather.

I'm excited for our year two accomplishments!

Austin Lowes  
Chairman

# Election Committee must be held accountable



**KIMBERLY LEE,**  
**DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

I hope this message finds you enjoying the sunshine and warmer weather. I will start my report with a controversial topic—the special election. I supported and

voted yes to void on May 31. I value the argument of members who believe this is not in the best interest of the tribe. However, many factors deemed this election unlawful, unfair, and not honest.

The board must correct the long-time problems within our codes to halt these issues. It is hard to see beyond how things have "always" been. I invite you to look at things with a different mindset. As for myself, I believe this is a step in reviving democracy for our people. To stop unjust conduct and do right by all members. Just because something has been permitted doesn't make it right. We may differ in our feelings about that because our values, morals, and even our seven grandfather teachings are looked at differently. However, I hope we can all agree that we want what is in the best interest of our tribe for the next seven generations and

beyond. How we get there will vary in different areas.

Respect for one another is crucial on our journey. Belligerence has no place at the board table. Sometimes we must do things that make people uncomfortable. I will do my best to stand up for what benefits most members. I will clarify when I say I am in favor of or if that is my plan. At any time, if I find something that isn't in the best interest of our tribe and members, my mind may change. I will support the necessary actions to correct the issue.

I spent two days in Kalamazoo on May 24 and 25 for fishing consent decree hearings. It was intriguing to listen in on the perspectives of all five Michigan tribes, the state of Michigan representatives, and the federal government. Seven sovereigns made cases to a District Judge on why each believes their priorities

and areas are superior to another and why they each feel the consent decree should or shouldn't be approved. With our tribe being left out of the latter part of the meetings, it doesn't serve the next 24 years of our members' future to agree to the as-is decree. Our attorneys made valid arguments and points about our future. At the same time, they were reminding the court that we were not the defendants in the case. That needs to be respected. We, as tribes, made agreements, and every 24 years, those agreements need to be evaluated to ensure that it is in the best interest of all Michigan tribes not to lose more or to fight harder for our rights. Instead, it allows us to decide what will be best for our people while preserving the resource for seven generations and beyond. The judge will evaluate all information, and then we will know more.

Our Hessel Elder men hosted a Mother's Day breakfast for all moms. They prepared a lovely display of delicious foods and decorated the center. It was an excellent start to a beautiful day. Chi Miigwech to everyone involved.

I accepted the invitation to the Grand opening of the DeTour health clinic. The health team assembled a marvelous gathering filled with inspiration, hope, and devotion to members. You inspire all in what the future beholds in our health field. This will create tremendous options for members in this rural area. To the individuals that made this establishment a reality, you are cherished.

In closing, be well and enjoy one another this season.

Miigwech for your time.  
Klee@saulttribe.net  
(906)379-8965  
Kimberly Lee



# Board is not honoring the will of the people



**MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,**  
**DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

At our May 31 Special Meeting, the board of directors enacted a law that stated, “All elections held pursuant to this Chapter shall be administrated by the Election Committee **subject** to review of the Board of Directors.” The new language “subject to review of the Board of

Directors” is the worst overstep a governing body can do. It means that they alone can determine what elections they will follow and what elections they won’t. The board then “voided” the recent special advisory election. Then rescinded their authority to review, so that part of the law was for one-night only. But it shows what this board is willing to do.

This is not democracy, and the will of the people is not being honored. At the time of this writing, and at the time the board enacted this law, there were no findings from our court, and an appeal was still pending. So, with no finding of facts, no violation by our court, the board and the board alone can “void” an election because they deem it invalid. Several leaders claimed “corruption” or that too many mistakes were made, but with no court opinion and no due process;

the board simply chose to void it. This is not progress. If a governing body wants to make all elections “subject to review” by themselves, what stops them from doing the same thing the next election and so on.

In addition to giving the board ultimate authority to review “any election,” the board also voted to do away with “positive majority” voting on previously passed resolutions. What does that mean? It means what used to take the majority of the board to change established law now only takes a simple majority vote. “Positive Majority” is a well-established rule of governing, not only with our own tribe for the last 30 plus years but also with many democratic governments throughout the world that use parliamentary rules to help them govern. Now our tribe is one that does not. It means anything previously established by law can now be

overturned with very few board members; example, if only seven were at a meeting and they voted 4-3, four members of the board can effectively change any previous law. This is a step backwards and very dangerous territory that our tribe is in.

Several board members will spend a considerable amount of time saying they are “cleaning up” past mistakes, but no past boards have engaged in what just occurred. We have made mistakes and may have made unpopular decisions but we were lawful. We never had to change the law to give ourselves absolute authority — in what I believe is a blatant abuse of power. That’s not leadership, that is dictatorship. This is their mess, their chaos.

I usually try to find the positive in our legislation but cannot in this case. They weakened our tribal government and set a precedence to ignore the will of the

people. I would like to thank the many tribal members that showed up in-person as well as online to voice their concerns. It is much appreciated and needed in our community right now to hold elected officials accountable and to have your voices heard.

With that being said, our great nation still has great people and great things happening with our many programs and services. Our Grand Assembly is coming up soon and our annual powwows are happening all summer long. I look forward to seeing the membership out at these events and chi miigwech to the dedicated staff that we have making sure everything goes smoothly at these events.

As always, please reach out to me (906) 440-7768, if you’d like to discuss any of these issues further or just have some ideas you would like to share to help our tribe move forward.

## Director Hampton reports to Unit IV members



**KIMBERLY HAMPTON,**  
**DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Aniin kina waya (Hello everybody).

As I am writing this month’s update, I have been busy preparing for the first Niiwin Noodin Powwow, which is only five days away. By the time this report is out, the powwow will be but a memory, so I would like to thank everyone in advance for all of the help in organizing and help the day of the powwow.

Summer is upon us and as you all are out enjoying the warm weather, I would like to remind you all to be aware of the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion and heat stroke, which can include dizziness, headache, nau-

sea, vomiting, muscle cramps and more. Be wary of the heat, stay hydrated and use plenty of sunscreen.

### Katchup with Kim

During the end of February 2023, I started holding Zoom meetings called “Katchup with Kim” as an avenue for our tribal membership, within Unit IV as well as any of our units including at-large members, to converse with myself and hold discussions regarding upcoming resolutions, ideas members have for our tribe, and current issues. I openly welcome anyone to attend these Zoom meetings as change will take a tribe. Below is the Zoom meeting schedule with Meeting ID and Password:

Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 7pm EST; Meeting ID: 906 440 8138; Password: KimHampton

Wednesday, July 5, 2023 at 7pm EST; Meeting ID: 906 440 8138; Password: KimHampton

### Powwow Meetings

Throughout the upcoming year, there will be regularly scheduled monthly powwow meetings to keep the committee on task. Once these meetings are scheduled, I will provide the schedule to allow anyone to attend who wishes to do so. I also encourage everyone to “like”

the “Niiwin Noodin Powwow” Facebook page to keep updated on meetings, etc. Meetings, **open to the public**, scheduled for the Niiwin Noodin Powwow Committee, will be located at the Manistique Tribal Health Center, 5698W US Highway 2, Manistique, MI.

### Unit IV Elder Meetings

I encourage our tribal elders to attend elder meetings to become involved as well as stay updated on what our elder committees are working on.

The next meeting in Marquette, which is a combination of Units IV and V, will be Thursday, July 6, 2023, 5:30 p.m. EST at the Holiday Inn in Marquette.

The next meeting in Manistique will be held July 12, 2023, 12 p.m. EST at the Manistique Tribal Center.

The next meeting in Escanaba will be held July 12, 2023, at 5 p.m. at the Delta County Chamber Building.

### May Activities

Resolution to Urge an Amendment to the Immigration and Nationality Act: I sponsored a resolution in May to urge Congress to pass a technical amendment to the Immigration and Nationality Act that recogniz-

es tribal citizenship identification cards rather than proving one’s blood quantum for purposes of the Jay Treaty. This would help tribal members to enter the United States and Canada using their tribal citizen identification cards instead of showing they are at least 50% blood quantum, which is currently a requirement. This resolution passed unanimously.

New Mechanism Creation In Progress: On March 14, 2023, I had an item on our workshop agenda regarding mechanisms to provide employees a means of having a process for complaints against board of directors. Board members are elected officials, so currently there is nothing in place to allow an employee, or key employee, the ability to file a complaint against a director. The necessary resolutions, policies and procedures for such a mechanism will take some time to develop and get approved at a board of directors meeting. I want our membership to be assured that I will continue the creation and implementation of such a mechanism in order to provide due process for employees as well as Board members. I will provide updates throughout this process.

Tribal Homeland Security

Advisory Council (THSAC): Myself and the rest of THSAC are working on creating collaborative work groups to begin addressing the issues that affect Indian Country. There is information I am not authorized to release regarding the THSAC at this time, but what I can share is that we are working as a collaborative group of various tribal leaders on priorities to help protect and advocate for all tribal nations. I will provide updates and share information as I am able to.

Manistique Fitness Center and Escanaba Community Center: The Manistique Fitness Center project has broken ground and construction is beginning. The Escanaba Community Center project has made a lot of progress. Throughout the month of May there were regular progress meetings between all parties involved in both projects. I look forward to seeing these projects move toward completion.

Chi Miigwech for allowing me to represent and advocate for our members. I am always available for questions, comments, and ideas for growth. My number is (906) 440-8138, email is KHampton@saulttribe.net.

Kimberly Hampton,  
Unit 4 Representative

## Disappointed in decision to vacate tribal election



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

It is with great disappointment that the board of directors took the action to void the recent special election to seat the tribal

member for the vacant position in Unit I. It was a hard discussion with this being the only time in our history that such an absurd, damaging decision like this has been made.

This last year has been difficult, to say the least, but this action is so devastating to our sovereignty (tribal member volunteers make up the Election Committee, which has the full authority to run our election without any interference from the board) all the past boards made sure to insulate that and take steps to prevent the board having any role.

I’m sincerely sorry to all the members who took the time in our democratic process to put pen to paper and use the only

voice they have to vote and it was simply tossed away. Let me say — we had a process and it was being followed at the Appellate Court level — this board did not even wait for that to be completed. The vote was not close as just four incumbent board members voted NO on this outcome — Directors McKerchie, Sorenson, Morrow and myself. We simply tried reasoning, added history and precedence info and ultimately I felt like I even begged a little not to void the election.

It’s four days later from the action taking place that I write this unit report and it’s heavy and so completely unfair to our people. I’m sorry to all of you and I’m sorry to all the candidates. There are many outstanding ques-

tions and complaints filed with the 2022 elections but there was zero talk about that one being so easily voided. I will do all I can to right this wrong and go in a direction that stabilizes our tribe again as this is clearly not happening. During the meeting that this took place all were not present for the meeting — just the four incumbents above showed up in person to a very angry crowd of tribal members that knew the action that was being presented would be devastating. The rest of the board were online on video. I’ve seen a lot of things in my time but this quickly raised to the top of unacceptable.

The majority of the board also put resolutions on to lower the number of votes it takes to pass

certain legislation — this, too, has never happened in the history of my time and tenure. It’s unstable and at whim what we see, when we see it and what it will entail. The most important items are not even workshopped anymore in entirety. I apologize for the frank unit report this time and only hope next month can include some movement and stability. Right now, I think everything is up in the air.

If you would like to meet or discuss anything please contact me at (906) 322-3818 or lcausley@saulttribe.net.

Baamaapii,  
Lana Causley-Smith  
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of  
Chippewa Indians  
Board of Directors



# Declaring ICWA unconstitutional is an attack



**ROBERT MCRORIE**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Aaniin, Boozhoo, to all of my fellow Sault Tribe members.

I hope my monthly report finds you well, in both health and spirit. As many of us work very hard to provide a higher quality of life for our families, I always find it important to remind people to take some time away from your work to enjoy priceless moments with those who matter most. Take care of yourselves. In order to help others, we must first make sure we are physically and mentally well. Always find time for self care.

In this month's report, I will highlight a few of the key items I have been working on as well as some events coming up within our sovereign nation. Many of our departments and committees are working on some exciting events to continue celebrating our 50th Anniversary of federal recognition. Although it is very important to celebrate the recognition status that our elders and ancestors fought for, I think it is equally important to remember that this does not reflect the age of our tribe. We were a strong sovereign nation for thousands of years prior to European contact. That is something we cannot lose sight of.

In the last month, I have been working closely with the Sault

Tribe Child Welfare Committee and reviewing the Tribal Codes within Chapter 30, which regulates jurisdiction in child welfare cases. The Supreme Court is set to issue an official ruling in the Healand v. Brackeen case this week. In this case the states of Texas, Louisiana, Indiana, and individual plaintiffs seek to urge the Supreme Court to declare the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) unconstitutional. This is a direct attack to our sovereignty as well as an attack on every other sovereign nation within the United States.

Although we have fought hard and prayed to Creator to preserve the sovereign right to protect Native children by keeping them within their sovereign communities, we must be prepared for any possible outcome of this case. The Child Welfare Committee will be meeting with the tribe's legal team and Sault Tribe judicial officials to address any code changes that are needed to respond to the Supreme Court ruling. We must strengthen the Tribal Code to ensure the highest protections are in place within our jurisdiction. Code revisions will then be brought to the board of directors for review and approval.

This month, I will be bringing forward a resolution to establish a Sault Tribe Environmental Protection Committee. I have written about this in previous reports; however, I felt that more information and membership input was needed to determine what the functions of this committee shall entail. After many conversations with members who brought this idea forward and guidance from environmental specialist, I believe a solid framework can be established.

This committee will be comprised of members who specialize in and are passionate about protecting Aki (Mother Earth) to

address areas of concern in which Sault Tribe can make improvements to further protect the environment. This committee will also work closely with the Sault Tribe Environmental Department to develop responsive policies to fluctuations in water and air quality. A perfect example is the tribes lack of response to the CDC and EPA's air quality ratings and suggested safety precautions. In the absence of policy to address these concerns, there will certainly be a lapse of effective response time. These policies must be in place to protect our citizens, employees, youth, and elders who could be at risk during these events. Along with water and air quality issues, the Sault Tribe Environmental Protection Committee would bring recommendations to the board of directors to ensure each of our entities is recycling as much as we possibly can.

I will also ask this committee to identify any Sault Tribe entity or subsidiary that openly supports companies like Enbridge or any other company that poses an immediate threat to our natural resources and Mother Earth. It is unacceptable for any Sault Tribe affiliate to be doing business with these corporations. As a sovereign Indigenous nation, I believe we have a duty, above all other things, to protect and preserve the environment and earth for future generations of our people. This committee will be tasked with making sure the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians upholds that duty with honor.

Although I am rather tired of reporting on the Special Advisory Election, I do believe it is important to update members on the status of this issue and where I stand on it. On Wednesday, May 31, 2023, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors held a special meeting at which the Special Advisory Election was voided,

thankfully. This was necessary, as there were multiple code violations and ballots were mailed weeks earlier than originally scheduled, creating a very unfair process.

Some argued that they believe the board has no business stepping into the election process; I completely disagree. Each member of the board of directors takes an oath of office in which they swear to uphold our Constitution, codes and laws. When these are violated by a subordinate committee, the board should and is constitutionally obligated to intervene. Tribal Code Chapter 10, the Election Ordinance, clearly states that this chapter is subordinate to the Constitution, and the Constitution under Article VII Powers, Section (n), clearly states the board shall reserve the right to review any action taken by virtue of such delegated power or to CANCEL ANY DELEGATION.

Yes, we are sovereign nation of democracy; however, when codes are violated that impose on members' right to a fair democratic process, the governing body must intervene to ensure these rights are protected. I fully anticipate being attacked by those who wanted to see this fraudulent election upheld; that is fine. At the end of the day, I fully believe the board took the correct action by voiding this election.

As it stands, there is another advisory election set to begin within 30 days. However, I will be introducing a resolution to amend code to run special advisory elections within the following general election, when vacancies occur within a certain timeframe of the next general election. This will save money, as elections are expensive. Since the day this seat was declared vacant, I objected to this election, as I believe we must focus on code

revisions within the Election Ordinance. I have not and will not support moving forward with this election, until our election code is fixed and we have a fair unbiased process in place.

I would like to send a shout-out of appreciation to our Powwow Committee and Language and Culture Department staff for the amazing work they are doing to ensure that our 2023 powwow is both a success and upholds our ancestors teachings and ceremonial significance. They have really been putting in some great effort to build the lodges, organize all of the events, and preparing our sacred grounds for a celebration of our culture. I believe it is important to recognize the work they are doing as a lot more goes into this than most powwow attendees realize, so Chi Miigwech to the Sault Tribe Language and Culture Department for your dedication to our people and our ceremonies. You guys are amazing!

I would also like to invite all members to participate in the 2023 Sobriety Challenge. This is a commitment to remain clean and sober for 30 days, from June 29 - July 28. Please join me in accepting this challenge. A celebration will be held at the Big Bear Arena from 5 to 10 p.m. on July 28, with certificates for all participants. Miigwech to our TAP Program for promoting healing through sobriety within our communities.

Like always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or ideas you may have to improve governmental functions within our Sovereign Nation. I wish all of our members and Sault Tribe families the very best in the coming month and beyond. It is an honor to serve in this capacity.

Chi Miigwech,  
Director McRorie

# Director makes his deepest apologies to members



**ISAAC MCKECHNIE**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Dear members,

I humbly write to express my deepest apologies for my misjudgment during the special meeting on May 31, 2023. I know some boundaries may have been crossed, resulting in some members being disappointed. For that, I am genuinely sorry.

Regrettably, political awareness, anxiety, division, and deflection have reached immense peaks in our community. As much as we would like to ignore

these political tactics and focus on addressing the larger issues that plague our tribe, we cannot afford that luxury.

It is apparent that these discussions are making their way into the workplace and are showing to have an effect on our services and businesses. I believe you will be seeing a multitude of referendums over the next few months in an effort to deflect and further divide our community as a result. This begs the question – what can we do as members and leaders to prevent these inevitable discussions from derailing our productivity, and unity?

Be Proactive

Since it has started to become a concern in the workplace, we need to get ahead of it. We need to create and implement strategies to keep the workplace harmonious. Too often, we see leaders take the passive approach and hope that everything will work itself out. Everything can be okay, but that doesn't happen without us working together to achieve that

standard. As leaders, we need to be intentional about creating strategies that ensure everyone maintains the requisite level of professional decorum and that starts with me.

Election Processes

The Special Advisory Election was stricken for a multitude of errors. The Election Committee chose not to follow the mandated schedule set forth in the Election Code, which included missing critical deadlines. I believe this was a deliberate act.

During the 2022 election cycle, the committee weaponized itself by issuing a number of unprecedented judgments and fines without due process, and these "violations" were then leaked on social media. To date, we still do not know how many election complaints were filed during this election cycle, just that a majority of those complaints were filed by one individual.

Additionally, many of the historical election records are missing or destroyed, which

is another concern that needs to be addressed. In 2005, the board passed a resolution stating that the Election Committee shall have no adverse actions of any kind until such time as the board of directors approves said rules. I have searched hundreds of resolutions and cannot find where the board officially approved these rules.

The committee's actions led to our Appellate Court describing these actions as "arbitrary and capricious abuse," yet there is still no legal definition by the Appellate Court on what constitutes an adequate "financial report" for candidates. Many of the committee members have since resigned.

Clearly, more work needs to be done to clean up our election processes. Unfortunately, until these improvements can be made to guarantee fair and honest elections, I will pledge support for a private firm to oversee future elections, with oversight from the tribe.

JLLJ Settlement

As many have already

heard, the Sault Tribe Gaming Authority agreed to settle the \$88 million judgment for \$30 million. Many don't know that we could have filed an appeal, but it would have required us to submit a bond for 110% of the \$88 million. Since we could not secure a bond, the court would have frozen our bank accounts and JLLJ group could have fleeced these funds. So, anytime we were to transfer funds for payroll purposes, these funds would be opened to JLLJ group.

If we were successful and won the appeal, this case would have ended up back in the same judge's court who ruled against us in the beginning. I believe we could have won an appeal, but the toll on our staff, the promissory notes, the aforementioned fees, and time would have been just as costly, if not more than the agreed settled amount.

Sincerely,  
Isaac McKechnie, Unit I  
Director  
imckechnie@saulttribe.net or  
(906) 203-4787



# We need independent unbiased election firm



**TYLER LAPLAUNT**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Aanii, Boozhoo!

I'd like to start out by thanking our Unit V Elders for coming out strong this past month. Attendance at the Elder meetings and meals has slowly been increasing and I absolutely love seeing the new faces, having conversations, and learning from all of you. Keep spreading the word for the new Elders and re-engaging those who have been hesitant due to the pandemic. The last few years have been odd, to say the least, but getting our community back together with our Elders at the foundation is extremely important.

The next Elder Meeting and meal for Munising will be held on July 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Munising will host the second Elder meal on July 20 from 12 to 1 pm. Both will be held at the Munising Tribal Community Center. The next Elder Meeting and meal for Marquette will be on July 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Marquette.

The Unit V Elders also host a summer picnic in both Munising and Marquette. The Munising Elders will be hosting their summer picnic on Thursday, Aug. 17, at noon, location is yet to be determined. Munising is an Elder only picnic. The Marquette Elders will be hosting their summer picnic on Thursday, Aug. 3, from 4:30 to 8 p.m. at the Presque Isle Pavilion in Marquette. The Teal Lake Drum group will be present and bison burgers will be on the menu thanks to Chairman Lowes and Holly Kibble. The Marquette Elders are doing it a bit differently this year and making it a community event where all Sault Tribe are welcome. Mark your calendars for both events!

Beyond that, our Elders have taken on quite a bit of responsibility in re-invigorating our culture in Unit V post-pandemic. We are looking at a winter powwow in Marquette and getting back to Munising next summer as well. The Elder committees in Marquette and Munising have been working together to do their best to bring these events back to our communities and bring everyone together. I absolutely love it! Chi Miigwech to all of our Nokomis and Mishomis.

The Teal Lake drum group will continue to practice on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in the Citizens Forum at Lakeview Arena in Marquette. We are hopeful that work will soon begin on the Marquette Community Center, but until that begins, we will have a safe place to continue to gather, share teachings and culture, and just be together. It's nothing short of amazing seeing how this event has developed and I cannot thank T.J. Derwin enough for reaching out and getting this started. Chi miigwech to everyone who has participated and made this event such a pillar of our community.

The flyer for the 50th Anniversary Grand Assembly scheduled for June 29 and 30 is now posted on Sault Tribe's web page. If you are able to get there, you don't want to miss out, there are a ton of activities planned, Sault Tribe Author Angeline Boulley will be there, Tonia Jo Hall (Auntie Beachress) will be at the DreamMakers Theater on the evening of the 30, and it heads right into a powwow from June 30 – July 2. Yes, it's our 51st year as a federally recognized tribe, but the pandemic slowed things down a bit. Better late than never, plus, we've always been a tribe, since time immemorial.

On the government side, I've been working with Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) for quite a few years now. HIMSS is the largest Health IT and management systems organization in the world with over 40,000 people attending the annual U.S. event in Chicago this year from April 17-21. Since being elected last year, I began working with their Government Relations team to create a stronger Native American presence at their con-

ference. This year, we were successful in doing so by creating the first ever Native American and Indigenous Peoples Community.

With the kickoff of the Indigenous Peoples Community, I sat on two panels, and helped spread the word with my AI/AN colleagues across the United States. Why is this important? Oftentimes Natives are left out of the conversation. By creating a space for us in the largest health IT and management systems group in the world, it will better position all of our people to meet and discuss topics that impact us directly. HIMSS also has a strong presence in D.C. and actively and effectively advocates for policy change. Having our voices heard within this type of community will better position us for future funding and modernization projects.

HIMSS National conference in April was just the beginning and we are actively looking to grow the community so that we can effectuate change. If you or anyone you know works in health, IT, management systems, or even with medical devices or consulting services, please look into joining here [www.himsschapter.org/updates/native-american-and-indigenous-peoples-community](http://www.himsschapter.org/updates/native-american-and-indigenous-peoples-community) or help us by spreading this to all of our relatives. For those living in Michigan, you can also join our Michigan chapter here <https://michigan.himsschapter.org/>. These are great networking opportunities and an even better way to drive ideas forward with like minded individuals. Normally, I wouldn't even address this, but my trip to Chicago was 100% paid for by HIMSS due to the work committed to creating the group and speaking on the panels.

We should have some updates on the Consent Decree shortly. We just had our Hearings a few weeks ago and it went as well as it could have gone. Due to the nature of the discussions, there isn't much more we can or should say until the Judge rules. Either way, we are continuing the push for self-regulation.

The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is currently in the hands of the Supreme Court and should be ruled on by the end of June. Chairman Lowes and I lobbied many Congressional

Representatives and U.S. Senators to move for further protection if ICWA is overturned. We will continue to advocate for this as it is extremely important to our people and the only piece of legislation that set to undo the traumas of the Boarding School era. All we can do now, is wait. Please put your asemaa down and prayers up that ICWA will be protected and remain in place.

Chairman Lowes called a special meeting for May 31 and two important pieces of legislation were passed during that meeting. The first was an amendment to our amendment process and the second was to cancel the Unit 1 Special Advisory Election due to code violations. The other two Resolutions were tabled for further discussion.

Removing the requirement for a positive majority was passed and we believe that this will help expedite certain amendments, and especially budget modifications. The language that was changed was "Except as may be otherwise required in the Tribal Constitution and ByLaws, a Simple Majority vote is required for passage. The motions are debatable, but not amendable, and a negative vote on these motions can be reconsidered, but an affirmative vote cannot be reconsidered." Ultimately, we changed the voting requirements from a positive majority, which would be a majority of all Board members, whether or not they were present and voted, abstained, or absent, ie. a yes vote of seven, to a vote of a simple majority. By changing it to a simple majority, this allows for an amendment by a majority vote of the Board of Directors. What that means is that as long as there is one more yes vote than no vote, an item will pass as proposed ie. four yes votes and three no votes, as long as it's not in the Constitution or ByLaws.

Why is this so important? We have professionals trying to do their jobs by requesting amendments to previously adopted resolutions and budgets (which are done through resolutions) and getting held up on a simple project or hiring process for months because they cannot get seven votes from the Board to make a change. We shouldn't even be involved in the day-to-day operations, at least this will make

voting a little more efficient and cause less delays for hiring, project changes, and policy.

Voiding the Special Election was more controversial, but still the right choice. We are either a tribe that follows laws and code, or we are not. Let it be known that none of the candidates that were running cheated or violated any code that we know of. The codes that were violated were done so by the Election Committee itself, and confirmed by the Election Committee attorney in the appeal hearing. From an error in timeline for announcements to a phone call to send the ballots early to a relative being on the counting floor, zero errors are acceptable, let alone this many "harmless" violations.

Some may argue that the codes that were violated were harmless, but we don't get to pick and choose what is harmless and what is not. Just because a volunteer group is well-meaning, doesn't mean that we should turn a blind eye to what is happening. The election process needs to be cleaned up in it's entirety and held to a consistent standard. We have a volunteer committee that has somehow gone beyond monitoring an election and have instead become private investigators, judge, and jury. That is not acceptable.

I have pushed for it in the past and I'll continue to push even harder now, we need an independent unbiased election firm. Someone that can be held accountable so that people aren't attacking volunteers that mean well but are in over their heads. We need to put investigative duties in the hands of our own Judicial system and delegate the authority for them to make judgments while maintaining duties of a just and unbiased election firm to ensure that timelines are adhered to and that code is being followed. It is not on the individual to investigate. It never should have been. "Changes, they are a comin" – Bob Dylan

Hope everyone has a safe a fun June. Get outside and enjoy the weather!

Chi Miigwech,  
Tyler Migizii Migwan  
LaPlaut

Vice-Chairman, Unit V  
Director  
tlaplaunt@saulttribe.net  
(906) 440-8294

## Striving to change mismanagment, infighting



**SHAWN BOROWICZ,**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

Boozhoo,  
Hope all is well in your neck of the woods and this report finds you and your family happy and healthy.

This last month has had its ups and downs in tribal operations and politics. On every one's mind is the recent cancellation/voiding of the special advisory election. This should have been done when the election process first started and the process became tainted so all candidates did not have the same opportunity. We had many workshops and discussions about this issue. My decisions were based

on the above factors as well as several factors that, according to our Legal department, I am not able to speak about as yet. But rest assured all candidates will be paid back for their out of pocket campaign expenses, the Election Committee has been notified and a new election will begin. I still do not feel good about this but under the circumstances I feel it will benefit all involved.

I have made several contacts on Mackinac Island in an attempt to shuttle cruise ship passengers to the Shores Casino and in the last couple of weeks

had to get our EDC director involved to fine tune more details. More to come on this issue and if it comes to evolve I believe this will be a great revenue generator for the shores as well as a great experience for the guest.

Our tribe should be way ahead of where it is at today. The mismanagement of our resources over the years, the infighting of the various tribal boards and the good ole boy system needs to go so we can move forward to make us more prosperous for the future generations. I truly believe this board

is going to make sound decisions and hire the correct people to do this. Certain members need to quit micro managing our department heads that are in place and let them do the job they were hired to do. At times these issues are very frustrating and a lot of things get placed on the back burner and never materialize and this we are striving to change.

Hope to see all at the various gatherings throughout the summer months. Baamaapii.

Any concerns, I can be reached at sborowicz@saulttribe.net or (906) 379-8511.



# Director Freiheit says: Change can be hard



**BETTY FREIHEIT,**  
**DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello Tribal Members,

Change is hard. And it often generates conflict and discord. There is always a group that resists change and tries to block the efforts of those working

towards it.

When members begin electing new people to the board, they indicate they wanted change. And one of the things this new board is committed to is ensuring that codes are followed.

So, in that light, the new board members made the difficult, but necessary decisions to vacate the recent Special Election. There were simply too many tribal code violations. So, I placed a resolution on the agenda for the 5-31 board meeting and it passed. It was the right thing to do, as we could not simply brush an illegal election under the rug. There has been too much turning away from things that should have been corrected. The resolution also mandates that the candidates in the Special Election be reimbursed for their campaign costs.

It was a difficult meeting with

the old board members opposing this action. I am proud that our new board stood firm and together. I do not think anyone feels good at having to take this action. And it certainly was no reflection at all on Joanne Carr who was the winner in the Special Election. It was one of the difficult decisions that boards sometimes have to make.

I appreciate Chairman Lowes for taking action to control the disruptions of the audience. He called for orders several times, and gave members numerous chances to stop disruptions. But several members clearly came to the meeting to disrupt and were not going to stop. So they had to be removed. I am sure this was not an easy task for the Chairman but it had to be done. Our board meetings cannot be turned into mob scenes.

We do need to continue to move forward and make changes in our Election Code to ensure member rights of due process are protected.

In a recent Court of Appeals ruling it was noted that member due process rights were violated and fines assigned were arbitrary. And it was noted in the hearing that the Election Committee had never promulgated administrative rules governing the hearings to ensure a fair process.

No one on the board wants to govern the Election Committee. However as a Board, we have an obligation to provide oversight to ensure they comply with Tribal codes and conduct fair hearings.

I am hopeful that we, as a Board can work together to come up with a process to ensure fair and impartial hearings for Election Code violations. I pro-

pose that all citations that require investigations, hearings, and possible fines be conducted by our tribal prosecutor.

This would ensure that standard due process procedures were followed. I do feel that this is the best path forward, and I will continue to work towards this outcome. Volunteers are important and the backbone of our community. However, when it comes to judicial processes and ensuring constitutional rights are upheld, we need people who are properly educated, and trained to conduct these proceedings.

Please keep yourself and family safe, help your neighbors anytime you can, and look out for any Elders.

Betty F. Freiheit  
Unit 1 Director  
bfreiheit@saulttribe.net  
(906) 379-8745

## May 31 special meeting came out of nowhere



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,**  
**DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

In my 11 years of being on the board, I never felt so hopeless and honestly could have cried during the special meeting called for May 31. Out of nowhere, at least to myself Mike, Darcy and Lana, came an email last Friday afternoon, May 26, stating there was going to be a special meeting. To call a special meeting, there needs to be a poll with the agenda items sent to the board, otherwise the chair can call it. After several emails, it was stated that Austin had called the meeting. All agenda items were sponsored by Betty Freiheit, including removing the requirement for a positive majority, voiding the special election, forgiving fines and transferring investigative authority from the Election Committee to the prosecutor's office.

The next email we received was calling for a zoom only meeting. That didn't get settled until the day before the meeting at the workshop, with legal stating the meeting had to be open to the membership.

On the night of the meeting the only board members in attendance were Darcy, Lana, Mike and myself along with the fill in board administrator and 54 people in the audience. The Chair and the other board members were on zoom. The only one that I knew was out of town was Austin for United Tribes. The audience was furious about them not being in person. Many times, even with this board they have allowed membership participation during a special meeting but not this time.

Darcy and I had motioned and seconded to conflict 5 of them from voting on the agenda but that didn't happen and they quickly called for a recess where our legal staff was on the phone with Austin. The reason for calling them a conflict is because several of them have been fined by the election committee and some even failed to show up for their hearing.

During a discussion of a resolution, Darcy was talking and Betty started to say, "I'll call her back," then "Nancy what do you want me to amend?" Austin says Betty your mic is on. The audience did get fired up since Betty was in the middle of the meeting on the phone being coached on what to do. We all know that she didn't write the resolutions because she was asked to explain them and refused to. She wanted legal to.

One time while I had the floor I had reminded them of some of their previous actions and they did not like that so Kim Lee motioned to censure me and Austin says well how much Kim, \$1000? \$5000? Clearly encouraging it. Surprisingly the vote did not pass. Later, Kim Hampton tried to have Darcy removed from the meeting for also calling them out, she then resorted to calling for a \$1000 censure which did not pass.

I will admit that I could have spoke better but it needs to be fair for all and Austin constantly allows his Aunt Betty to say anything. When Austin and I were both running for chair, I said to him, if you win I will accept that but no matter who wins, that person will need to pull this tribe together. Six months later and this tribe has been further divided.

The results of the meeting were: they voted to change the positive majority to a simple majority so they have the votes. They voided the special advisory election in Unit 1. They tried to forgive their own fines even though, they didn't admit to having had any, but election committee members said otherwise as well as fines posted on the tribe's page. They decided to table the resolution giving the prosecutor investigative authority over the election

committee. Mike, Lana, Darcy and myself did not support changing the positive majority nor voiding the election.

I still cannot understand why anyone would vote to void the election. Joanne Carr won by 379 votes. She had no election violations. The ballots did go out a few days early but does that give any candidate an advantage? To me it allows more time for more people to vote, especially at large. Why wouldn't we want every person that receives a ballot to vote? Not only did they void the election but paid all the candidates back. I would guess that is probably a complete waste of \$30,000 or more. The Appellate Court has not even made their decision in the case so that is actually a removable offense by those board members interfering.

Now, if they want to do another election there will be another waste of money for the entire tribe and a lot of money for a candidate that will be lucky to get a few months in because the 2024 election will begin at the end of January.

In my 11 years serving the tribe, there has always been members that are going to disagree with you, call you out, post on social media. We have never discussed doing a zoom only meeting, censoring board members calling out board actions, kicking out members, etc. I will say it again, if you can't take the heat than resign. Not everyone will like you or agree with you. Follow the laws and do things ethically and at least people will respect you.

We currently have board members dictating to our team members, hiring their relatives, giving them raises, hiring political allies, striking deals so when they are off the board they can be a subcontractor. ROGUE!

Last year the prosecutor did not want to prosecute the board members that had election violations and asked the board to hire a special prosecutor and they would not. Now they want to change the code so the election committee doesn't do the investigating. Funny thing is they voted to not renew the last attorney's contract and hired the firm from

Minnesota and guess what? They find fault with them too. This form of government is so dictatorship! Even if the board could interfere doesn't mean it should. These actions are immoral.

Six board members and the chair went down to our court hearing in Kalamazoo on the consent decree on May 24-25 along with our legal staff as well as six fishermen and the conservation chair. Each day began at 9 a.m. and ran until about 5 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday.

The second day our legal presented our issues with the current negotiated decree. We took lunch and Betty, Rob, Isaac, Kim and Austin never came back to the meeting. The second day was the most important as Darcy and I stayed with staff and the fishermen until the hearing was over. They must have been planning the special meeting since it was called 16 hours after they left.

Congratulations to all the high

school graduates! This year I awarded personal scholarships to Haleigh Mattson and Kassandra Gugin. Good Luck ladies!

We had a nice turnout and great weather for this year's Wequayoc Cemetery cleanup. Thanks to all that came and helped and thank you for the tribal staff that cut the grass.

The Native American Festival in St. Ignace went great. This year was probably the biggest crowd I had seen in attendance. Thank you to all that helped put on a great event!

Hope to see lots of members for the Grand Assembly (June 28-29) and Sault Powwow (July 1-2).

Meetings are now recorded and able to be viewed after the meeting on the official sault tribe Facebook page. Feel free to also register to meetings on zoom.

Any questions or concerns please contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.com, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

**COMMIT TO 30 DAYS CLEAN AND SOBER  
TO SUPPORT A HEALTHY COMMUNITY**

**SOBRIETY CHALLENGE  
JUNE 29- JULY 28**



TO REGISTER SCAN THE QR CODE OR EMAIL  
PMCCOY@SAULTTRIBE.NET

**CELEBRATION, JULY 28, CHI MUKWA ARENA, 5-10PM**

**5PM CELEBRATION STARTS  
6PM DINNER  
7PM SPEAKER  
8-10PM DANCE**

SPONSORED BY SAULT TRIBE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (SAMSHA #H79T1003217),  
TRIBAL ACTION PLAN, SAULT TRIBE HOUSING, SAULT TRIBE RECOVERY  
HOSPITAL CAMPUS, AND SAULT TRIBE CULTURAL DEPARTMENT



# Director Morrow discusses special meeting



**DARCY MORROW,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Congratulations to all the graduates — some of you will go on for more education and others will go right into the work force. Whatever you decide to do, make the best of your life — there are many opportunities out there!

Thank you to everyone who help at our annual Indian Point Cemetery clean up. (See photos on the next page.) Judy Hansen, Monica and Emery Rochefort, Isaac Rochefort, Pam and Ernest Demmon, Betty Majestic, Tess Brazeau, Beau Rochefort, Brandon Brown and Christian Lawrence. I would also like to thank Zackary Hardwick-Sergeant at Arms of Post 301 for helping with early clean-up and Post 301 for the Veterans Ceremony they held the night before Memorial Day. Our group would also like to thank the Manistique Kewadin Casino for providing our lunch and sending team members to help, we really appreciate it!

I also attended the Employee of the Year at the Manistique Kewadin Casino. I would like to congratulate Samantha Moore for doing a great job and being selected for employee of the year!

I would like to announce the Housing Division has a new program, COVID-19 Homeowner Assistance Fund to help members. Members must reside within the 7-county service area, own their own home, be delinquent in utilities and mortgage and be income eligible for Homeownership Assistance. Members may be eligible for up to 90 days of utilities (water, sewer, electric, heating and internet), homeowners property insurance, property taxes and up to 6 months of mortgage payments. There is a maximum benefit of \$20,000 per household. The income guidelines are very liberal, for example one person can make up to \$96,2000 a year. Please call and get an application to see if you qualify.

Contact Natalie Shaw, Housing Project Specialist, at (906) 495-1454 for an application and any questions.

This new board continues to play games. A special meeting was called and when asked who called the meeting, we couldn't even get a response. So, either Austin called a special meeting for his Aunt Betty to do her resolutions, so their fines were forgiven or seven of the new board members called it so some of their fines were forgiven. Either

way, it is a waste of staffs' time and tribal dollars to call meetings for your aunt's whims. This is the way our tribe is governed now?

Once again, the new board keeps looking out for themselves. They are not here for you, the members, and a lot of you are seeing it now. See the resolution below Forgiving Fines sponsored by Betty Freiheit. This new board has decided they will make a resolution to mask under 10.108 Tribal Election Committee. They added that the elections held will be subject to review of the Board of Directors. So now the Election Committee can be manipulated by certain board members. They didn't get the candidate they wanted in the last special election so now they will be able to control the election.

I would like everyone to pay attention to the line below — BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby declares that all fines levied by the Election Committee that are currently and or allegedly owed are waived. This is the most self-serving board; they were trying to waive their own fines levied by the Election Committee. As you see, the vote below the board members who voted YES were voting to take away either their own fines or their buddy board members fines for violating our election laws. They are not looking out for members but themselves.

Betty made the motion and Tyler LaPlaunt seconded it. The YES votes were Tyler Laplaunt, Issac McKecknie, Betty Frehiet, Kim Hampton and Rob McRorie. The NO votes were Darcy Morrow, Michael McKerchie, Lana Causley-Smith, Bridgett Sorenson, Shawn Borowicz & Kimberly Lee. The resolution failed to pass because six of us voted "no" on this self-serving resolution. They should be ashamed of themselves. I also tried to conflict Austin Lowes, Betty Freheit, Kim Hampton, Issac McKecknie and Rob McRorie out of voting on this resolution because it was a self-serving resolution, but unfortunately, they control the table and the attorney and as you can see they voted YES on the resolution to forgive their election law violations. There are a lot of tribal members who have been charged and fined in tribal court throughout the years and they had to pay their fines in tribal court. But the chair and these board members are above our laws!

#### **FORGIVING FINES**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors amends Tribal Code Chapter 10 Election Ordinance at Section 10.108(1) as follows:**  
**10.108 Tribal Election Committee.**

**(1) All elections held pursuant to this Chapter shall be administered by the Election Committee subject to review of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall appoint each member of the Election Committee. The Election Committee shall con-**

**sist of thirteen (13) members. The Board of Directors shall appoint a chairperson of the Election Committee from the Committee's own membership. No person shall be appointed who is currently holding elective office. Any member of the Election Committee shall be ineligible for tribal elective office unless he resigns from the Election Committee at least six (6) months before the election deadline. The Election Committee shall establish its own administrative procedures subject to the approval of the Board of Directors and may not delegate its authority. The Committee may assign specific tasks or duties as necessary to carry out ministerial tasks or duties, consistent with the Constitution and this Chapter.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby declares that all fines levied by the Election Committee that are currently and or allegedly owed are waived.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above amendment to Chapter 10 shall expire immediately after its enactment.**

Now for some more disturbing things that happened at the special meeting. During the meeting Betty Freheit was on Zoom, not in person. She obviously didn't realize she still had her Zoom microphone on, and she was on the phone with Nancy. It is on video all over FB and on our own Sault Tribe site. Betty said, "Hey Nancy how — what am I going to say to motion to amend?" If you listen, you can hear Nancy on the phone directing Betty. Then, her nephew Austin Lowes immediately cuts off his Aunt Betty so members couldn't hear her being coached by Nancy. He was too late — everyone in the packed audience and everyone on Zoom heard exactly what happened.

Unfortunately, Unit I members voted for someone who can't even do a motion without being coached and you have the chair her nephew who covered it up. I believe that is removable. During this meeting the members of the audience were very upset about what they heard and saw. Austin and the new crew had tribal police kick out several members from the meeting that night, that is also on video.

Another resolution Betty had on the agenda was titled VOIDING SPECIAL ELECTION. The wording was BE IT FURTHER REOLVED, that the Board of Directors declare the ongoing 2023 Special Election to be void and orders the Election Committee to within 30 days post a Notice of Election for a subsequent Special Election to fill the current vacant Unit 1 Board of Directors seat.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the above amendment to Chapter 10 shall expire immediately after its enactment.**

You can see from the above verbiage they prevented Joanne Carr from legally being seated in the open board seat for Unit

I. This is just another illegal act they have done. They manipulate Tribal Code Chapter 10 Election Ordinance because they DO NOT want Joanne Carr at the table; she wouldn't be another bobble head for them. They didn't get their candidate in the seat, so they VOID it and try again!

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that all candidates that participated in the ongoing 2023 Special Election shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred based upon their submitted receipts.**

**VOIDING SPECIAL ELECTION** was motioned by Betty Freiheit and seconded by Rob McRorie. The YES votes were Betty Frehiet, Rob McRorie, Kim Lee, Shawn Borowicz, Kim Hampton and Tyler LaPlaunt, and Issac McKecknie abstained! The NO votes were Michael McKerchie, Lana Causley-Smith, Bridgett Sorenson and Darcy Morrow. So, you can see this resolution passed and Joanne Carr is no longer to be seated in the Unit I seat she won fairly! I find all of this so disturbing and so should all the members!

Can you believe this, they didn't get their buddy elected in the Unit I seat, so now they are having the tribe reimburse them! I know Joanne Carr doesn't want her money reimbursed, she wants to be placed in the board seat she won fair and square!

Bridgett Sorenson and I are the two who have no problem calling them out when they are making illegal and self-serving resolutions. And, we have no problem arguing the facts at the table. They do not like it when we throw all the facts and truth on the table. So, we had Kim Lee find her voice or was she coached, too? She tried to censure Bridgett in the meeting and charge her \$1000 for telling the truth! This is how dirty it is getting, and it will get worse unless members start holding them accountable.

Then you have Kim Hampton. She tried to do the same thing to me. She tried to kick me out of the meeting and charge me \$1000. They are doing this to kick us out of the meeting and shut us up. If I have to pay \$1000 a meeting to speak the

truth for the members I will! I have no problem standing up to these bullies who are running our tribe into the ground for their own personal and family gains.

On May 24 and 25, we had court in Kalamazoo with Judge Maloney on our consent decree. I would like to report Mason Morisset and Thane Somerville did a great job explaining a majority of the reason Sault Tribe will not sign on to the document. What I found disturbing is that the feds and other four tribes were helping the state against us in court! The feds job is to help us, not help the state take away our rights. The other four tribes should be ashamed of themselves, they sold out their 1836 waters for a sliver of their treaty rights! I want to thank all the fishers, staff, and Director Sorenson for attending both full days with me, it was very much appreciated! It was important that the judge saw a good showing of Sault Tribe in the courtroom. Nothing is more important to me then our treaty rights!

I encourage each Sault Tribe member to start attending board workshops and meetings either in person or via zoom. Here is the link: <https://zoom.us/j/83640619761> to attend via Zoom. You just need to fill out the form and verify you are a Sault Tribe member, and they will email you the meeting link. You can use the same link each time to attend the workshops and meetings. I think if more members were aware of what is really going on you would be more vocal and start asking hard questions. Don't leave it up to the few tribal members that have been vocal and critical all along, please get involved.

To sign up to participate go to the Sault Tribe's website ([www.saulttribe.com/membership-services/membership-assistance](http://www.saulttribe.com/membership-services/membership-assistance)), sign up for the Zoom link and then you will receive the invitation to board workshops and meetings.

As always, if you have any questions, or just want to chat feel free to call me.

Thank you,  
Darcy Morrow  
Unit IV Representative  
[dmorrow@saulttribe.net](mailto:dmorrow@saulttribe.net)  
(906) 298-1888



## **JKL Bahweting Anishnabe Public School Academy**

Do you have an interest working in an educational setting or looking to build your career in the field of education? JKL School is accepting applications for qualified candidates for the 2023-2024 school year. JKL School offers a benefit package that includes:

- Michigan Public School Retirement System – Pension and 401(k) offered
- BC/BS Health Insurance – 80% employer paid premium which includes Health, Vision, Dental, and Prescription
- Life Insurance – Employer paid
- Long-term and short-term disability
- Optional life insurance
- PTO and sick time

#### **OPEN POSITIONS**

**Principal** - Master's Degree or Educational Administration. Valid MI School Administrator Certificate  
**Middle School Teacher (1)** - Valid Teaching Certificate  
**Elementary School Teacher (Multiple)** - Valid Teaching Certificate  
**Special Education Teacher (Multiple)** - Valid Michigan Special Education Teaching Certificate.  
**Special Education Paraprofessional (1)** - Minimum 60 College/University credits or passing of Work Keys/ETS.  
**School Social Worker (1)** - MA  
**Anishinaabemowin Language and Culture Teacher (1)** - Completion of, or enrollment in, Anishinaabe language program.  
**Ojibwe Culture and Language Teacher (1)** - BS, Valid Teaching Certificate or Permit  
**Playground Assistant (1)** - Must demonstrate a strong desire to help children.

APPLY ONLINE: JKL School website at [www.jklschool.org](http://www.jklschool.org)

Click on the employment opportunities link on the home page.

Employment at JKL is considered "at-will." JKL is an equal opportunity employer.



# Indian Point Cemetery Clean Up 2023 ...



Photos submitted by Darcy Morrow  
Volunteers showed up at Indian Point Cemetery for their annual clean up after a long winter. In the photo below, volunteers stop to pose for a group shot. Pictured L-R are (back row) Brandon Brown, Christian Lawrence, Isaac Rochefort, Beau Rochefort, Board Member Darcy Morrow, Betty Majestic, Judy Hansen, Pam and Ernest Demmon (front row) Emeric and Monica Rochefort.



5.5  
BILLION  
vaccinated from  
COVID-19

## Have more questions? We've got answers.

As a parent you want to help protect your child. The COVID-19 vaccine helps prevent kids from getting severely ill, and helps protect them from long-term complications. Children 6 months and up can get vaccinated and age-appropriate boosters are available when eligible. To learn more, talk to your health care provider or visit [Michigan.gov/KidsCOVIDvaccine](https://Michigan.gov/KidsCOVIDvaccine).







# KEWADIN CASINOS ENTERTAINMENT



[tickets.kewadin.com](http://tickets.kewadin.com)  
1-800-KEWADIN

**THE REZ COMEDY TOUR**  
**JUNE 30**  
 DOORS 8 P.M. | SHOW 9 P.M.  
**TICKETS \$10**

**TONIA JO HALL**  
"HUNTIE BEACHRESS"

**ROB FAIRBANKS**  
"THE REZ REPORTER"

**DREAMMAKERS THEATER**

# DUSTIN LYNCH

WITH SPECIAL GUEST **SPENCER CRANDALL**

**DREAMMAKERS THEATER**  
**FRIDAY, JUNE 16 - 8 P.M.**  
**TICKETS \$65**  
 HOTEL PACKAGES AVAILABLE

STANDING ROOM ONLY SHOW

# NIGHT OF DESTRUCTION

**SATURDAY, JULY 15 • 8 P.M.**  
 REGULAR (13 & UP): \$20 USD\* | CHILD (3 - 12): \$10 USD\* | 2 & UNDER: FREE  
**FAMILY PACK (2 ADULTS & 2 KIDS): \$50 USD\***  
\*TICKET FEE INCLUDED IN PRICE

# MONSTER TRUCK THROWDOWN

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16**  
 TICKETS \$38\* | CHILDREN 5-12 \$22\* | 4 AND UNDER FREE  
\*TICKET FEE INCLUDED IN PRICE

**THE GANG'S ALL HERE TOUR**

# SKID ROW

**OCTOBER 28 | 8 P.M.**  
**DREAMMAKERS THEATER**  
 TICKETS START AT \$45

# Buckcherry

WITH SPECIAL GUEST **Britny Fox**

PRESENTED BY SCOTT COOK'S HAIR SCARE  
[SKIDROW.COM](http://SKIDROW.COM)  
[BUCKCHERRY.COM](http://BUCKCHERRY.COM)

# JUNE 23

**WIN YOUR SHARE OF UP TO \$5,800 IN PRIZES**

Hors D'oeuvres Served at 6:30 p.m.\*  
 Entertainment 9 p.m. - 12 a.m.

**29TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION**

See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details. Must earn base 50 points to qualify for promotion. \*While supplies last.

# JULY 21

**Win Your Share of up to \$18,200 CASH in the Money Machine**

Hot Seat Draws start at 5 p.m. for your chance to WIN

# 29TH ANNIVERSARY

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