



Win Awenen Nisitotung

August 26, 2020 • Vol. 41 No. 8
Raspberry-Picking Moon
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2019 Annual Report Inside!

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

Win Awenen Nisitotung
531 Ashmun St.
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Gaylord, MI
49735

The Supreme Court's decision in *McGirt v. Oklahoma* paves the way for improved safety and prosperity

BY LAUREN KING AND
AARON PAYMENT

The Supreme Court's decision in *McGirt v. Oklahoma* affirmed far more than the boundaries of a reservation. For many of us in Indian Country, Justice Gorsuch's monumental ruling confirmed what we have always known to be true: Tribal nations are sovereign governments with the inherent right to govern our lands and ensure the public safety, health and prosperity of everyone within our territory.

While this may seem like a simple concept, it is a concept that is constantly under attack and subject to the ebbs and flows of public policy and legal challenges. For instance, in 1978, the Supreme Court declared that tribal nations cannot exercise criminal jurisdiction over non-Indians who come onto tribal lands and commit crimes (*Oliphant v. Suquamish Tribe*).

Today, tribal nations are the only governments in America whose authority to protect their communities from domestic and sexual violence, child abuse, stalking and trafficking is limited by the citizenship of the individual committing the crime. Today, Native women and children face the highest rates of domestic violence, sexual assault and murder in the United States. The majority



Photo by Brenda Austin

A double rainbow was seen recently over the St. Marys River in the Shallows area going from Canada to the U.S. side in two bright arches.

of these crimes are committed by non-Indians. Over the last hundred or so years, the court's systemic stripping of our sovereignty has had devastating consequences for our women and children.

But in *McGirt*, the court did not strip tribal sovereignty. Instead, the court confirmed it, in perhaps the strongest language of any Supreme Court decision regard-

ing tribal nations in history. Just weeks later, the Seventh Circuit cited *McGirt* in ruling that the Oneida Nation's reservation had not been disestablished. These decisions maintain legal stability and protect more than 100 tribes with similar land allotments. Other legal challenges like the Mashpee Wampanoag litigation continue.

To be sure, *McGirt* is fairly unremarkable when analyzed from a purely legal standpoint. For over a century, the Supreme Court has held that a reservation created by treaty can only be disestablished

by Congress alone. In determining that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Reservation still exists because Congress never disestablished it, the Supreme Court applied the law, plain and simple.

But when analyzed from the perspective of a tribal nation, the court's decision in *McGirt* is awe-inspiring. Far too often, courts have not upheld the promises in tribal treaties. Tribal peoples have repeatedly seen their lands and rights wrenched from them in a justice system that was anything but just when it came

to Native Americans. In holding the government to its word, *McGirt* marks a departure from a colonialist legal framework that, historically, sought to diminish or erase tribal sovereignty. It is the kind of Supreme Court case that tribal leaders dreamed they might someday read.

That day has finally come.

But the ink in *McGirt* was hardly dry when Oklahoma officials suddenly claimed that legislation is necessary to "fix" the court's decision. The decision, however, needs no "fixing." *McGirt* brought clarity to persistent jurisdictional disputes and affirmed the ability of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to exercise its sovereignty and work hand-in-hand with its governmental partners for the betterment of all within its borders. Oklahoma's assertion that *McGirt* requires a legislative fix is nothing more than a presumed "solution" in search of a problem that does not exist.

Some have speculated that the State of Oklahoma is now under immense pressure from oil and gas companies who seek to disestablish tribal reservations based on a desire to accumulate more corporate profits.

But the misinformed notion that the continued existence of a reservation is harmful to economic growth could not be further from the truth. Like any sovereign, tribal nations encourage and seek commerce through intergovernmental agreements that address any and all issues from taxation to

See "McGirt," page 11

Tribal members' marijuana convictions expunged

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — A resolution to expunge and set aside tribal members' marijuana offenses and past convictions passed unanimously by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors at an Aug. 11 special meeting.

The legalized personal use and possession of marijuana has become more accepted across the country, including Sault Tribe and the State of Michigan. The tribe has decriminalized marijuana for medical and recreational purposes and recently entered an agreement to sell marijuana for recreational purposes at various trust land locations.

Prior marijuana convictions can create obstacles for those seeking higher education assistance, housing and employment. "To allow convictions to remain on a tribal member's record for an act that has been legalized is not in anyone's best interests, neither the tribe nor its members," said board Chairperson Aaron Payment.

The Tribal Code only allowed members to apply for only one marijuana related offense to be expunged after five years, so the board decided to add expungement

of all such offenses to the Tribal Code.

The resolution adds expungement to Chapter 71 of the Tribal Code, which provides for setting aside past marijuana convictions. Tribal Code, Chapter 71, section 71.1617 Vacating Offenses, now reads: "*All past marijuana convictions authorized by these Sections shall be set aside and expunged from individual records for all convictions prior to Aug. 11, 2020. Future convictions may be set aside pursuant to Tribal Code Chapter 77.*"

In the coming weeks, Tribal Court will go through all previous criminal files and entering orders setting aside each marijuana conviction. A copy of the order setting aside the conviction will be sent to the affected defendants to their last known address in the next two months as the orders are completed. If anyone believes they have a previous marijuana conviction that will be set aside, and have moved or believe the address the court has may be out of date, they should contact the court at (906) 635-4963 or email tribalcourt@saulttribe.net with an updated address.

Sault Tribe Board approves hazard pay for eligible governmental employees

On July 29, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors approved hazard pay for eligible Sault Tribe governmental workers. Hazard pay is an extra \$2 per hour from March 17 through Dec. 30 for those who undertake additional risk related to COVID-19.

Kewadin Casinos and Sault Tribe enterprises are compensating their team members for their extra risk with appreciation pay.

Chairperson Aaron Payment said, "The Sault Tribe Board of Directors, our Executive Administration and I highly value our team members, your safety and your overall wellbeing. We appreciate your patience as we finalized the policy for providing hazard pay and appreciation pay for our governmental team members and Enterprise and Kewadin Casino team members."

Payment added, "Federal guidelines under the CARES Act are very strict and frustrating to

navigate. Your patience is appreciated. If you have any question of whether or not you qualify for this benefit, please check with your supervisor or contact Human Resources."

Governmental team members are eligible for hazard pay if their job duties are "substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency," according to the resolution approving the hazard pay. Time periods where the employee was working remotely, on paid leave or receiving unemployment benefits are excluded from hazard pay.

Eligible positions will be listed on a hazard pay schedule. There are two different categories of eligible positions—those who are directly responding to the COVID-19 public health crisis, and those whose regular job duties have been diverted to addressing COVID-19 related matters and experience increased exposure to COVID-19.

In the first category, all public safety, public health, health care, human services and similar governmental team members who are directly responding to the COVID-19 public health crisis are eligible for hazard pay. Some examples of eligible positions are team members in security and law enforcement, emergency management, medical services, tribal court, or sanitation and janitorial positions.

In the second category, team members whose normal job duties have been diverted to addressing COVID-19 related matters will be identified and selected by departmental directors, subject to review and approval by the Legal Department. Some examples of eligible positions are those in food distribution, IT, administration and accounting or public assistance programs.

Team members with any questions should contact their supervisor or Human Resources.

American Legion, Sault Tribe to distribute food boxes to Upper Peninsula veterans, seniors and families in need

SAULT STE. MARIE — The American Legion Department of Michigan Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation Committee along with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians have partnered with Gleaners Community Food Bank in Detroit to distribute food boxes to veterans, seniors or families in the community.

- Legionnaires, veterans and community volunteers will distribute 1,000 food boxes in Escanaba, Newberry, Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Manistique, Hessel, Munising and Marquette.
- Escanaba YEA Facility, Aug. 26, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Newberry Tribal Center, Aug. 26, 2-5 p.m.
- Big Bear Recreation Facility, Aug. 27, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- McCann Building, Aug. 27, 12-3 p.m.
- Manistique Health Facility, Aug. 27, 2-5 p.m.

- Hessel Elder Building, Aug. 28, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Munising Health Facility, Aug. 28, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Marquette American Legion, Aug. 29, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Since June 1, the American Legion has distributed more than 100,000 pounds of food to those in need in southeast Michigan.

The events are contactless distribution; drivers stay in their vehicle while volunteers load a 40-pound food box into the trunk or rear of the car. The American Legion and Sault Tribe have been working together for the past three years to help veterans apply for the benefits they have earned through the Tribal Veteran Services Program. The tribal veterans service officer is accredited with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the American Legion to file benefit claim applications

on behalf of veterans and their families at no cost.

Veterans do not have to face the VA alone.

The American Legion is the largest veterans service organization in the state, dedicated to veterans serving veterans since 1919. The Department of Michigan's membership is composed of 65,000 plus veterans who have served during conflicts since Dec. 7, 1941. To learn more about the American Legion Department of Michigan, visit michiganlegion.org.

To volunteer, contact Anna Lawless at (906) 632-0530, ext. 51041, or alawless1@saulttribe.net with the date and location you would be willing to volunteer.

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- ▶ Offering USDA's Section 502 Direct Home Loan Program with Payment Assistance
- ▶ Business Loans for Native Farmers and Ranchers!

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NIT Program aids pursuits in STEM related fields

The Nitaazhitoojik Industrial Training (NIT) Program provides direct assistance to students pursuing training in high demand STEM-related fields offered through North Central Michigan College (NCMC) and the Industrial Arts Institute (IAI). The program is administered by the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Niigaandiwin Education Department.

Nitaazhitoojik (pronounced Ni-taa-zhi-too-jik) translates as "those who are good at making things" or "the ones who are talented at making things" in Anishinaabemowin.

The NIT Program collaborates with the IAI, NCMC and leading manufacturers in northern Michigan to provide streamlined, intensive learning modules that will equip students with the skills necessary to increase their employability and earning potential in the manufacturing industry.

Program preference is given to indigenous students, veterans, high school students, individuals between the ages of 16 to 49 years old, students residing in

the tri-county area of Charlevoix, Cheboygan and Emmet counties and those who are underemployed, unemployed or belong to displaced households.

Below are the five programs students must be enrolled in to be eligible to receive assistance through the NIT Program.

- Industrial Arts Institute: Comprehensive industrial welding program
- Work-based welding program - cancelled for 2020
- North Central Michigan College: Computer numeric control (CNC) certificate
- Computer-aided drafting (CAD) certificate
- Mechatronics certificate – coming fall 2021

Students may be eligible to receive financial assistance for tuition, books, course and transportation fees, equipment and related training costs associated with their respective program.

Eligibility information and applications can be found on the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa's website under the Forms Directory "Education" tab.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS

- COMPUTER NUMERICAL CONTROL (CNC)**
 - Available Winter 2020
- COMPUTER - AIDED DESIGN (CAD)**
 - Available Fall 2020
- MECHATRONICS**
 - Available Fall 2021
- WELDING**
 - Available Fall 2020

The Nitaazhitoojik Industrial Training (NIT) Program provides financial assistance to eligible students pursuing education in the following STEM-related programs. Assistance can include, but is not limited to, tuition, course material, transportation, and training costs.

For more information, please contact the LTBB Niigaandiwin Education Department.
Phone: (231) 242-1485 Email: kbennington@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov

The production of this flyer was supported by Grant 90NA8359 from ACF. Its content solely the responsibility of Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa and not necessarily represent the official views of ACF.

FAMILY BONDING

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Communities that Care are partnering to bring you the following message:

"Simple everyday things parents do with their kids, like sharing a meal, playing a game, or asking about their day creates strong healthy relationships that can prevent drug abuse. Having a warm, supportive relationship with your child is linked to better judgment, increased self-control, resilience, and helps to reduce their risk for future drug use. Act now. The earlier you start connecting with your children the better. Simply being present with your child is doing something. It shows your child you are in their corner.

UP Coalition Network
Safer Communities | Healthier Youth
Making a difference one member at a time

www.UPCNetwork.org
Learn more or get involved in your community!

Count It! Lock It! Drop It!

Don't Be An Accidental Drug Dealer

Foster care and adoptive home providers needed

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.

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.

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 his family need for reuniting the child with the parents. When the child cannot be reunited with the 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.

ACFS needs committed individuals who are:

- Willing to work with the

child's birth parents

- Supportive of efforts to return the child home
- Able to work with children who have significant emotional and behavioral needs
- Able to encourage teens toward independent living.

For information on becoming a foster parent, call 632-5250 or toll free (800) 726-0093.

Senior job opening at Escanaba Health Center

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Senior Employment Program announces an employment opportunity in Escanaba for a part-time (14 hours per week) Community Health Program clerk at the Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center.

Position responsible for providing clerical support services to the Community Health Program, providing program resource, consultation and coordination services for program staff at the health center and direct clerical support services for the Community Health staff at the center.

Essentially functions include, but not limited to, greeting the public in a professional, courteous manner and assisting clientele in receiving requested information and services; answering all incoming calls and transfer to staff; record and route telephone messages; process all incoming and outgoing mail, sort and route to appropriate staff in a timely manner; receive, process and distribute medications from the pharmacy to clients; maintain filing systems consistent with federal guidelines and acceptable

office practices; schedule clinic appointments for services; coordinate mailing and appointment reminders about various program services to clients; prepare and process medical records for scheduled clinical services; process collections for services rendered according to the collections policy; coordinate processing of all program information through sorting, photocopying and routing to appropriate staff; collaborate with on-site staff to coordinate site performance improvement and safety issues; communicate closely with the health assistant and other staff to ensure effective, efficient program implementation and all other job-related duties as assigned.

Contacts include immediate peers, peers in other departments, immediate supervisor/manager, managers in other departments, executives, customers and outside vendors/service providers.

The position is sedentary, primarily sitting/lifting a maximum of 10 pounds. Physical factors include use of hearing and occasional typing; frequent walking, pushing/pulling, use of near/midrange/far vision, depth perception, and color/field of vision

and bending. Occasional carrying and unpacking of office supplies, lifting, pushing, pulling, stooping, reaching and use of smell, far vision and bending.

Working conditions include occasional exposure to weather, extreme heat/cold and wet/humidity. Potential hazards include computer use and occasional exposure to moving mechanical parts, electric shock, infectious exposure, patient contact and/or client contact and equipment.

Applicants must be Sault Tribe members aged 60 or over and reside in the seven-county service area. Must undergo criminal background investigations and pre-employment drug testing. Remuneration is \$9.65 per hour and the position remains open until filled.

Reply to Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center, Attention: Tara Duchene, 1401 N. 26th Street, Suite 105, Escanaba, MI 49829, phone (906) 341-1836 or to WIOA/Senior Employment Program, Attention: Brenda Cadreau, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, (906) 635-4767.

WIOA seeks applicants aged 16 to 21 for Work Experience Program

The Sault Tribe WIOA Department is currently accepting applications for the Work Experience Program.

Eligibility requirements: Must be Native American between the ages of 16 to 21, reside in the seven-county service area (Marquette, Alger, Chippewa,

Luce, Mackinaw, Delta and Schoolcraft counties), and either unemployed or low income.

If you are interested in applying for after school employment, please contact Brenda Cadreau, at (906) 635-4767 or BCadreau@saulttribe.net for an application.

Deadline to apply is Sept. 18.

Training opportunities available for eligible applicants

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

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

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

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

Apply at the WIOA office at the Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich, or call Brenda Cadreau at 635-4767 for more information.

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 membersconcerns@saulttribe.net or contacting them individually at:

Unit I — Sheila Berger,

Office of the Chairperson, Sault Ste. Marie, (906) 635-6050, (800) 793-0660, sberger@saulttribe.net

Units II and III — Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, (906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net

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

Sault Tribe Member Newspaper Subscription Form

To receive a FREE tribal newspaper subscription in the mail, tribal members under 60 are asked to complete the form below and send it to: Win Awenen Nisitotung, 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783, or email it to slucas@saulttribe.net. Those 60 and over do not have to fill out this form. Those who prefer to get their newspaper online do not have to complete this form.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State and Zip Code: _____
 Phone: _____ (optional)
 Email: _____ (optional)

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August 26, 2020
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Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor
 Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
 Rick Smith.....Staff Writer
 Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary

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

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

Win Awenen Nisitotung is fund-

ed 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 Anishnaabemowin, means, "One who understands," and is pronounced "Win Oh-weh-nin Nistoe-tuhng."

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

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

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

Advertising: \$8.50/column inch.

Submission and Subscriptions: Win Awenen Nisitotung Attn: Communications Dept. 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 Telephone: (906) 632-6398 Fax: (906) 632-6556 E-mail: slucas@saulttribe.net or jdale-burton@saulttribe.net.

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Summary of resolutions passed during board meetings on July 21, 28 and 29, Aug. 4 and 11

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors met on July 21 with all present except for Unit V Representative Charles Matson.

Resolution number 2020-164 – Environmental-GLRI Quality Establishment of FY 2021 Budget – Approved for Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Quality with Bureau of Indian Affairs funds of \$50,485.58 with no effect on tribal support.

165 – Environmental-Solid Waste Establishment of FY 2021 Budget – Approved for Indian Health Service funds of \$71,000 with no effect on tribal support.

166 – Environmental-Uranium Testing and Treatment Establishment of FY 2021 Budget – Approved for Indian Health Service funds of \$60,000 with no effect on tribal support.

167 – Governmental-Sault Tribe Thrive FY 2020 Budget Modification – Approved for an increase in Department of Commerce funds of \$37,137.95 with no effect on tribal support.

168 – Approving COVID-19 Disaster Relief Program – Approved for CARES Act funding of financial assistance to meet necessary and eligible expenses incurred as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency and resulting economic conditions.

169 – Amendment to Approval

and Authorization of Tribal Entity to Manage and Oversee Tribe's Internet Gaming and Sports Betting Operations – Approved revision to the Sault Tribe Online Gaming Term Sheet to set applicable terms for management and oversight of the tribe's Internet gaming and sports betting operations.

The board reconvened on July 28 with all present except for Unit III Representative Keith Massaway.

170 – Eagle Lending Sault Tribe Inc. Business Development – Authorized Eagle Lending to loan \$300,000 to Sault Tribe Inc., at a rate of four percent for one year for MGCB license application and issuance fees.

171 – Acceptance of the 2019 Governmental Audit – Accepted and approved as presented by Dennis, Gartland and Niergarth.

The board met again on July 29 with all present.

172 – Approval and Authorization of Sports Book Agreement and Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Consent to Waiver of Tribal Court Jurisdiction Therein – Authorized and approved an agreement between Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority and GAN Nevada, Inc.

173 – Federal CARES – Enterprise/Casino, Direct Services and Governmental

FY 2020 Budget Modifications – Rescinded resolutions 2020-145 and 2020-146, and amends Resolution 2020-168 COVID-19 Disaster Relief Program to correct a 19 to 25 percent reduction. Approved a FY 2020 budget modification to enterprise and casino budget for a decrease in CARES Act funds of \$7,026,500 with no effect on tribal support. Approved a FY 2020 budget modification to Direct Services for an increase in CARES Act funding of \$10,515,286.42 with no effect on tribal support and approves a FY 2020 governmental budget modification for a decrease of \$3,488,786.42 with no effect on tribal support.

174 – COVID-19 Emergency Leave Policy – Approved to protect team members, preserve life, protect the tribe's property and restoring operations as quickly as possible.

175 – Global Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Emergency Temporary Hazard Pay Policy – Approved to provide supplemental compensation to employees who undertake additional risk related to COVID-19 in carrying out their duties.

176 – Global Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic Emergency Temporary Appreciation Pay Policy – Approved to provide supplement

compensation to enterprise

employees who undertake additional risk related to COVID-19 in carrying out their duties.

The board reconvened on Aug. 4 with all present.

177 – ACFS – Michigan Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence Establishment of FY 2020 Budget – Approved with other revenue funding of \$13,950, no effect on tribal support.

178 – ACFS – Child Care Development Fund FY 2020 Budget Modification – Approved to increase federal Health and Human Service funds of \$150,000 and decrease tribal support of \$150,000.

179 – Appointing Broker of Record Property and Casualty Insurance – Authorized the tribe's insurance director to appoint the Mahoney Group as the broker of record for the tribe's property and casualty needs.

180 – Amending Resolution 2016-215 Trust Land Status Bonacci Parcels C and G Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa County Michigan – Withdrew parcels A and B from a trust land application.

181 – Trust Land Status Bonacci Parcels A and B Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa County Michigan – Authorized requesting Department of the Interior to declare parcels as part of the tribe's reservation.

182 – Lease Modification –

Authorized lease modification to add a co-lessee.

183 – Expungement For Marijuana Convictions For Sault Tribe Members – Amends Tribal Code, Chapter 71, Section 71.1617, to state, "All past marijuana convictions authorized by these sections shall be set aside and expunged from individual records for all convictions prior to August 11, 2020. Future convictions may be set aside pursuant to Tribal Code Chapter 77."

184 – Authorizing the Borrowing of \$2 Million For the Purpose of Issuing Loan to Lume or Its Designee – Authorized Eagle Lending to borrow \$2 million at an annual interest rate of 4.75 percent or less. The borrowed funds shall only be used to issue a \$2 million loan to Lume under repayment terms that include an annual interest rate of 5 percent or greater, which will create an immediate return on Eagle Lending's investment for the betterment of the tribe.

See resolutions and board representative voting grids in their entirety on the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians web site at www.saulttribe.com. Just follow the following menu selections - Government, Downloads, Board Meeting Votes and Approved Resolutions, select year and then choose from listed meeting dates.

BMIC to compete for marijuana market share

BAY MILLS — Bay Mills Indian Community will develop a community-owned marijuana business on its tribal lands across the state of Michigan. This venture will be a vertically-integrated "seed to sale" business, with locations throughout Michigan. The operation will be licensed and regulated under tribal law and proceeds will flow back to the BMIC to benefit tribal members and community residents.

The first phase of the project will involve the conversion of tribally owned land, located south of Sault Ste. Marie, into a marijuana grow, process and retail operation.

The parcel identified includes 110 acres of land that will be converted into a facility that can house upwards of 10,000 marijuana plants and will provide dozens of new jobs to the local com-

munity. It will take approximately one year for the initial planting to generate a product that can be brought to market.

"As product nears being ready for sale, the second phase of the operation will involve the development of several retail establishments around Chippewa County, including near Bay Mills Resort and Casino," said Aaron Schlehuber, BMIC in-house counsel.

As the community-owned business grows, Bay Mills intends to add new locations on its tribal lands throughout Michigan and promote individual and community empowerment.

Ultimately, Bay Mills will work to develop an intertribal cooperative, where marijuana products produced by Bay Mills are sold by other tribes at tribally-owned retail establishments

throughout the state of Michigan to benefit their tribal members and community residents.

Currently, there are no tribally-owned marijuana businesses operating in Michigan under tribal laws, although there are several instances of privately-owned, for-profit marijuana companies operating on tribal lands in Michigan under a license from the State of Michigan.

"Bay Mills Indian Community has developed businesses to generate revenues for our tribal government, and to benefit our citizens and community. The COVID-19 pandemic has increased the urgency for us to find new sources of economic opportunity for our people," said BMIC Council Chairman Bryan Newland. "We don't begrudge anyone else who has found a different way into this industry.

At the same time, Bay Mills has no interest in turning over our sovereign lands to private, for-profit corporations who are regulated and taxed by the State of Michigan."

The tribe intends to dismantle the social inequities that marijuana has placed on people of color for the decades by focusing on a business model that gives back to the surrounding communities. "Our operations will focus on marijuana that is community grown and community owned," added Newland.

In 2018, Michigan enacted the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act, which authorizes the growing and sale of marijuana products under a strict regulatory and licensing process.

The state's laws, regulations and tax structure do not apply to

activities on tribal lands.

In 2019, BMIC's tribal citizens enacted tribal laws and regulations to authorize personal and commercial marijuana use on tribal lands.

"The state limits growers and processors to a certain number of plants, places heavy taxes and fees on the product, and restricts the amount of product an individual can buy. These are all things that Bay Mills is not bound by and we are looking at each of these areas as a built in advantage against the large corporate interests that have set up shop in Indian Country," said Whitney Gravelle, BMIC in-house counsel.

Bay Mills will announce details about its opening dates and partners as it continues to develop this project.

Whitmer extends precautions against COVID-19 pandemic

LANSING, Mich. – The governor continued to protect Michigan's frontline workers in grocery stores, pharmacies and long-term care facilities by signing Executive Orders 2020-168 and 2020-169. The governor's orders extend existing safety measures, including two hours a week of reserved shopping time for vulnerable populations, to protect consumers and employees at grocery stores and pharmacies.

"For the past five months, Michiganders have stepped up and done their part to fight COVID-19, and frontline workers in our hospitals, grocery stores,

nursing homes and more have put their own lives on the line to protect our families," said Governor Whitmer. "Our fight is not over yet, and that is why I am extending these protections to ensure employees, residents and customers are able to work and live in a safe environment."

Executive Order 2020-169 maintains the strong infection control protocols in nursing homes the governor put in place at the outset of this crisis, and protects residents from eviction and employees from retaliatory action for staying home when exhibiting symptoms. From day one of the coronavirus pandem-

ic, Governor Whitmer has taken action to protect seniors. In addition to the executive orders implementing these protections, she pushed our inspectors to complete 100 percent of infection control surveys more than two months before the federal deadline, and they delivered. And she has worked tirelessly to procure tests and PPE to keep seniors safe, and to facilitate testing for all nursing home residents and staff, with little to no assistance from federal authorities. Executive Order 2020-169 extends through Sept. 7.

The health and safety of nursing home residents and

staff remains a top priority for Governor Whitmer. On June 26, she created the bipartisan Michigan Nursing Homes COVID-19 Preparedness Task Force in the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

She also signed Executive Order 2020-156 which continues the limited and temporary restrictions on the entry of individuals into health care facilities, residential care facilities, congregate care facilities and juvenile justice facilities in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 to vulnerable populations.

Executive Order 2020-168,

which continues through Sept. 7, extends the following health and safety rules for grocery stores and pharmacies, among others:

Grocery stores and pharmacies must allocate at least two hours per week of shopping time for vulnerable populations.

If an employee tests positive for COVID-19, the business must notify other employees without infringing on private health information.

Grocery stores and pharmacies must offer accommodations to vulnerable employees, such as low-risk assignments or a leave of absence.

First seven Indian Country cold case offices established

BLOOMINGTON, MINN. — U.S. Secretary of the Interior David L. Bernhardt, Advisor to the President Ivanka Trump and Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs Tara Katuk Sweeney recently established the first of seven offices dedicated to solving cold cases involving missing and murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives.

According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Crime Information Center, there are more than 1,400 unresolved American Indian and Alaska Native missing person cases in the U.S. Of that, 136 cases are in Minnesota.

To address this crisis, President Trump signed Executive Order 13898 on Nov. 26, 2019.

"President Trump created a task force to support tribal communities, reduce the staggering number of violent crimes committed against American Indians and Alaska Natives and close out hundreds of cold cases," said Secretary Bernhardt. "The Trump administration is committed to justice and working alongside these tribal communities to restore peace and prosperity."

"While visiting the great state of Minnesota with Secretary Bernhardt, we are advancing two top priorities for the administration: The Pledge to America's Workers and supporting American Indian and Alaska Native communities," said Advisor to the President Trump. "We are furthering President Trump's commitment to forgotten men and

women across our country and the administration's efforts to ensure that all Americans can live with dignity and the promise of a brighter future."

Trump's executive order established the Operation Lady Justice Task Force, a multi-agency effort co-chaired by Secretary Bernhardt and U.S. Attorney General William P. Barr. Its purpose is to enhance the operation of the criminal justice system and address the staggering number of missing and murdered American Indian and Alaska Natives in tribal communities.

"Today's opening of the first Missing and Murdered Native Americans Cold Case Office demonstrates the commitment of the Operation Lady Justice Task Force to achieving the mandate set out for it under President Trump's executive order," said Assistant Secretary - Indian Affairs Sweeney on July 27. "Cold cases in Indian Country will be addressed with determination and the understanding that the victims in these cases will be accorded some measure of dignity and compassion - not only for them, but for their survivors, as well."

The cold case task forces are in accordance with the president's executive order and will be staffed with law enforcement personnel and newly appointed special agents from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Justice Services (BIA-OJS), along with personnel from other Operation Lady Justice Task Force partners

including tribal law enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and offices of the U.S. Attorneys.

A way for top federal officials to engage, coordinate and work with tribal governments on developing strategies to address the crisis, the Operation Lady Justice Task Force is working to collect and manage data across jurisdictions, establish protocols for new and unsolved cases, establish multi-jurisdictional cold case teams, improve the response to investigative challenges and provide clarity on the roles, authorities and jurisdiction for those involved. It is also charged with providing a report to the president of its work and accomplishments in meeting the executive order's mandate.

Since 2019, the Department of the Interior and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) have undertaken a number of efforts to address the crisis, conducting criminal investigations, stopping illicit drug activity and solving missing and murdered cases.

The BIA-OJS and its partners have opened 200 percent more drug cases across Indian Country than in the last year of the Obama administration, and their tribal law enforcement officers have seized approximately 6,000 pounds of narcotics worth \$30 million in the past two years. Preventing further violence against American Indians and Alaska Natives is largely predicated on ending illicit drug activities and sex trafficking.

The BIA-OJS's partnership with the Department of Justice's Missing and Unidentified Persons System, known as NamUs, has led to the development and implementation of new tribal-affiliation data fields to assist law enforcement with capturing information to track missing and murdered persons in Indian Country. Since the addition of these new data fields last year, there has been

a 60 percent increase in Native-person entries into the system.

The opening will be followed by Cold Case Task Force office openings in the following cities:

- Rapid City, S.D. (Aug. 4);
- Billings, MT (Aug. 6);
- Nashville, Tenn. (Aug. 12);
- Albuquerque, N.M. (Aug. 18);
- Phoenix, Ariz. (Aug. 20); and
- Anchorage, Alaska (Aug. 27)

LSSU alumnus named by DOJ as Michigan MMIP coordinator

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Lake Superior State University alumnus Joel Postma has been appointed coordinator for missing and murdered indigenous persons for Michigan by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

Postma, a 1992 graduate of the criminal justice program and a veteran Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) agent out of Detroit, is one of only 10 coordinators named by the DOJ to investigate such cases involving Native Americans.

This new position is part of a DOJ effort to respond to missing and murdered Native Americans nationwide, in this case, spanning the 12 federally recognized tribes in Michigan.

Postma is tasked with identifying cases in Michigan

and collaborating with tribal communities and law enforcement.

Earlier in his career, Postma investigated missing children, runaways, drug crimes and deaths in Indian Country in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He also served on the Tribal Multi-disciplinary Team and Child Protection Team. Postma additionally created a ride-along program to facilitate relations between tribal law enforcement and the FBI.

LSSU President Dr. Rodney S. Hanley said, "Joel is a great example of the Superior Education here at LSSU. We are proud of the work that Joel has done, not only during his time at LSSU, but also into his new endeavor."

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St. Ignace - October 2 - 3
Sault Ste. Marie - October 16 - 18

REEL CLEAN FUN



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

Anishinaabemowin 2020

Think of giving not as a duty but as a privilege.

Miigwewin *Give-away*

After a powwow or ceremony to thank or honor someone, our culture and tradition is to have a give-away. We gather those who have participated, lay out a blanket and put some gifts on it. Someone speaks words of thanks that we could come together and celebrate in a good way. Then people are invited to come and take an item. Anyone being honored is first to choose, then elders, then the community in some orderly way. There is happy talking about the gifts, being together and well-wishing, then the gathering is closed.

At events sponsored by the tribe, organizers provide the gifts. In recent times special effort is made to have practical items such as socks and gloves or blankets or items to help people learn about our language and culture. At smaller more private ceremonies like naming someone, a family might provide gifts. Traditionally, everyone who attends would bring something to put on the blanket.

Our practice of giving to others is ancient and not limited to group events. Each of us offers food and drink and other necessities — even our time to listen — to visitors. In this way we live out our value that what the Creator has given is for all. We are less inclined to steal, to take more than what we need from our mother earth, or to be selfish. We know life isn't so much about possessions, but about relationships. A focus on giving reminds us we are part of the big circle of life and each day we intend to walk in a good way — generous and awake to the needs of others.

Here are some give-away items that might be on a blanket (**waaboowan**) after a celebration. For each item, write the Anishinaabemowin name and English name. Number the ones you'd choose: #1 favorite to #6 not so much . . .

| Clue | Anish word | English word | Choice |
|------------|------------|--------------|--------|
| Entertains | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Totes | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Shades | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Snips | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Warms | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Cleans | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Gziibiigigan



Midaasan



Sipinigan



Wiikwaan



Noopwaan
Mishkimod



Mazinigan



Pronunciation guide; how to sound really good:

Let's just stick with these basics: Letters sound like they do in reading English, except for these ones.

- a sounds like u in cup
- aa sounds like a in all
- o sounds like oo in book
- oo sounds like o in go
- i sounds like i in pin
- ii sounds like e in be
- e sounds like e in bed
- g sounds only like g in go

nh has no sound at all; it is only a SIGN that the vowel in front of it is said in a nasal way.

English has a lot of strange spellings. Our system of writing is easier. We pronounce all the letters shown, even if we say some of them pretty fast and some are pretty quiet.

Waabagaa Giizis *Leaves turning color Moon*

by Susan Askwith

Word relatives!

Miigwe says he or she is giving something.
Miigweshki says he or she is generous.
Miigwech has the meaning “I acknowledge that you gave me something” - which is to say “thank you.”

In this short prayer, the phrase **gii miizhiyaang** is used. It means: “that you gave us.”

(gii mii zhi yaang) *Emphasize the underlined part and of course use the pronunciation guide below.*

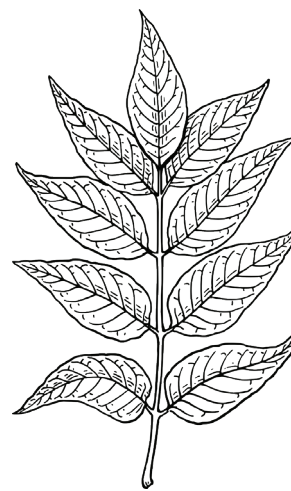
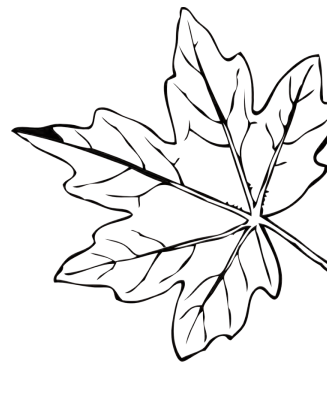
- Miigwech Gzhemanidoo Thank you Creator
- gii miizhiyaang** bimaadziwin, . . . life
(bi maad zi win)
- gii miizhiyaang** miijim, . . . food
(mii jim)
- gii miizhiyaang** nbiish, . . . water
(n biish)
- gii miizhiyaang** kina gegoo. . . everything
(kina ge goo)

Fun Fact: We have no word for, “You’re welcome.” When someone says “thanks,” you could say “Nahaaw” (na haaw), which means “okay,” or just give a quick nod. We are a humble people. There is no need to receive a response, really.

Tisigen nanda niibiishan!

tis-i-gen nan-da nii-biish-an
Color these leaves!

- Kiiaande** Brown **Miskwaa** Red
- Zaawmingaande** Orange **Zaawaa** Yellow



What did one fall leaf say to another?
I'm falling for you.
 What did the tree fighting with autumn say?
I can't take this anymore. I'm leaving.
 How do leaves get from place to place?
With the help of Autumn mobiles.
 Why do leaves fall off trees in the fall?
They're trying to get back to their roots.

Autumn: Dagwaagi Tree: Mitig

Suggitt retires from tribe's early childhood education services after span of 32 years

By RICK SMITH

Ending a 32-year career with Sault Tribe, Early Childhood Programs Manager Anne Suggitt visited with friends, colleagues and other well wishers in person and via Internet at an open house in her honor on July 31, her last day with the tribe.

Suggitt started her career in 1988 as a coordinator for the Little Friends Day Care, which was then housed in what is now the JKL Bahweting Anishinabe Public School Academy in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. In 1990, the tribe collaborated with the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan in using federal grant funding to open early childhood education services. It was at about that time Suggitt became head of Sault Tribe's Early Childhood Education programs. The arrangement with the Inter-Tribal Council lasted until 1994, when the tribe began receiving stand-alone grant funding.

According to the Michigan State University Tribal Early Childhood Research Center, the tribe's Head Start program collaborated with the center in community-based research projects under Suggitt's leadership. Sault Tribe's Head Start program was also involved in several pilot programs focused on enhancing teaching, learning and other facets.



Anne Suggitt

The tribe's Early Head Start program is equally remarkable for its contributions to studies, according to Suggitt. "The Early Childhood program has a dedicated group of team members who have participated in many pilot programs within the American Indian and Alaskan Natives Program branch and the program is highly regarded at the national level," she said.

Education/Disabilities Supervisor Laura McKechnie, who has 20 years in the tribe's early childhood programs, said Suggitt put her heart into her work and pursued goals with zeal. "Anne had a passion for Head Start and providing quality services to the children and families we serve," McKechnie said. "She was dedicated to continuous program improvement. Anne was

actively involved in the Head Start world both statewide and at a national level. She successfully completed a two-week rigorous fellowship program for managers. She also completed a four-year project with Special Quest, a training project for children with special needs. She currently serves on the planning committee for the new Early Childhood Center and has been instrumental with the design of it."

Suggitt was born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, the daughter of Annette Killips and the late Harry Killips, Sr. She married Alan Suggitt and has two children, Thomas and Kimberly, and seven grandchildren, Clark, Carter, Owen, Josephine, Kendall, Cora and Corrine. She said she plans on spending much of her time in retirement with her family and grandchildren.

Suggitt added she graduated from Lake Superior State University with a Bachelor of Science in business administration and an associate degree in early childhood education. She also attended UCLA's Management Institute as part of a Head Start fellowship, served on the National Head Start Collaboration Advisory Council for 15 years and serves on Bay Mills Community College's Education Advisory Committee. She was honored to receive the



Photos by Rick Smith


Early Childhood Programs Manager Anne Suggitt, left, in a discussion with one of the four original members of the Sault Tribe Head Start team, Nina Litzner, while observing pandemic safety propriety during an open house in Suggitt's honor in Sault Ste. Marie on July 31.

Outstanding Community Service of Native American Students in 2003.






"I want to thank the tribe for the opportunity to work for such a wonderful organization," Suggitt said. "It has been an honor to serve our littlest members and their families and to be part of something that values their team members and whose main goal is to provide the best services to their members."

Sault Tribe's early childhood programs consist of the Child Care Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Early Head Start and Head Start. Details about the programs can be

found on the Internet at saulttribe.com/membership-services/education/early-childhood-programs.



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Project Backpack sets \$15,000 goal to help Chippewa County classrooms

CHIPPEWA COUNTY – Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, The Salvation Army – Sault Ste. Marie, and United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula work together every year to coordinate a distribution of backpacks and school supplies, helping 500 plus students in pre-school through eighth grade.

With schools readying for their fall start, and many still unsure what September may bring amid COVID-19 concerns and state issued guidelines, Chippewa County's Project Backpack will look very different says its planning committee.

Annually, the project relies on hundreds of volunteers helping with everything from a donation drive to sorting and distributing supplies to 500 plus Chippewa County students, with family members in tow, during a large-scale carnival type event.

With executive orders coming from the state government severely limiting indoor activities and a rise in Chippewa County COVID-19 cases, the event planning team opted to err on the side of caution cancelling the large distribution event in a year that has already seen a multitude of last minute cancellations and postponements.

"We want to keep our volunteers and community members safe and this is a project that thousands of people have their hands on from beginning to end.

"We didn't feel good about the potential of it being a footnote in Chippewa County's contact tracing if someone were to be asymptomatic or showing early symptoms that hadn't yet been identified while they were engaged in the project," says David Brey, United Way's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program and community engagement coordinator.

Brey, along with representatives of the Chippewa County Project Backpack committee have been monitoring regulations and changing course as needed since April to ensure that, while there may not be a carnival distribution this year, local students would still receive support as they begin the new school year.

"We've opted to work directly with the schools, making sure any donations received are put into the hands of the teachers who will be able to determine what their classroom needs the most – whether that's crayons or personal protection equipment this year," says Raulaniesa Aranda, United Way's CEO.

Students will still have the option of receiving a new backpack; that was one thing the committee wanted to make sure they did not stray from. Thanks to a grant from the Rotary Club of Sault Ste. Marie, backpacks will be purchased and distributed with help from Chippewa County school districts at a time yet to be determined.

With over 46 percent of Chippewa County households living in poverty, a higher number of unemployed parents and caregivers, and over 17 percent of Chippewa County students not graduating on time, it continues to be important to ensure children start the school year with supplies they'll need to help create an environment in which they can be successful.

Community members and businesses have been generous with donations over the last decade this project has been in existence. The committee is using historical data to set their goal of \$15,000 this year and says if those who normally would donate supplies were to donate \$25 or more (the average cost of each supply filled backpack) that they would be able to sponsor 30 classrooms at \$500 each. This equates to handing out 600 backpacks during a normal event year.

Anyone wishing to donate to help sponsor classrooms this year can do so online at www.paypal.me/uweup, by calling United Way at (906) 632-3700 extension 1 or by mailing a check to the United Way of the EUP (Project Backpack), PO Box 451, Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783.

To keep informed of United Way of the EUP news and activities, find them on Facebook or visit <https://www.unitedway.org/local/united-states/michigan/the-eastern-upper-peninsula>.

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Sault Tribe Thrive's directory of Sault Tribe member-owned businesses to shop 'n' support

To contact Sault Tribe Thrive, Business Support Coordinator Justin Emery, email jemery@saulttribe.net or call (906) 635-6050 ext. 26121, or (906) 203-2914.

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Business development, investment and consulting

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Cyber protection service company

Iversons Outdoors
Joel Schultz
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baker.jimr@gmail.com
Handcrafted traditional snowshoes

IvyTek Inc.
Sandy Griggs
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(337) 212-0994
sales@ivytek.com
Loan management software services

JETA Corporation
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Distribution specialist

Kings Fish Market
Sally Schultz
Naubinway, MI 49762
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Fish market

Kings Fish Market
Theron King
Moran, MI 49760
(906) 643-1068
Fish market

Kings Fish Wholesale
Robert King
Naubinway, MI 49762
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Wholesale of fish

Lajoie Trucking Service and Freight
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Trucking

See "Directory," page 12

Students learn teamwork through coding and robotics

Sault Area Middle School STEM teacher John Twichel chosen as Billy Mills Dreamstarter Teacher

By BRENDA AUSTIN

Olympic gold medalist Oglala Lakota (Sioux) runner Billy Mills, co-founder of Running Strong for American Indian Youth, recently announced the sixth class of Dreamstarter Teachers to receive grants supporting the educational needs of Native students. Nine educators were chosen from a large pool of applicants. The nine teachers selected span seven states and serve students from at least eight tribal nations.

One of those teachers is right here in the Sault community. John Twichel is a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) teacher at Sault Area Middle School who teaches his sixth and seventh grade Sault Tribe students teamwork through coding and robotics programming.

Dreamstarter Teacher provides grants to Native or non-Native educators and school support staff serving Native students. Grants are used for a wide variety of purposes, such as educational resource materials, supplies, equipment, professional develop-

ment, field trips or stipends for bringing community liaisons into the classroom.

Twichel's Dreamstarter Teacher project is to teach his students how to code and program a micro-controller called an Arduino to make a variety of projects, including how to pilot the underwater robots they made with his previous Dreamstarter Teacher grant using an analog joystick. "The power of coding has limitless learning opportunities," Twichel said. "Arduino is an open-source platform used for building electronic projects consisting of a physical programmable circuit board and student written computer code. The student writes and uploads the code and wire hardware to complete a project."

Twichel said students in the STEM lab have built 12 learning boards consisting of an Arduino, a breadboard, an electronic speed controller, a joystick and electric motors. They began writing their own code last year to accomplish a wide variety of activities, including coding mini traffic lights and LED bulbs. "They

have used diodes, potentiometers, resistors, photoresistors and more," he said. "Our overarching goal for this program will ultimately have students program pulse width modulation enabling teams to control their underwater robots with an Arduino. The level of student engagement has been outstanding." Twichel said students are learning things like grit, determination and perseverance, and "that's where the magic happens."

This is the second year Twichel has received a Dreamstarter grant. "Running Strong for American Indian Youth with Billy Mills supported our program last year with one thousand dollars toward our underwater robotics program, and this year they were gracious to provide another thousand to help us teach students to code using the Arduino micro-controllers," he said.

Twichel said his Blue Devil STEM students focus on teamwork and communication when working on their projects. Students are placed in groups and assign themselves jobs within the

team, including project manager, engineer, and scientist and logistics officer. Twichel said by using this format, it allows teams to be more prepared to compete in STEM challenges throughout the year.

STEM students build everything from scaled skyscrapers to bridges. "We start with the end in mind," he said. "For example, bridges must be constructed within weight, size and material parameters. Load testing, data collection, and analysis assist teams in rebuilding structures to withstand greater load capacities."

Twichel said educators have worked with industry leaders for decades tackling racial and gender disparities among young people in professional STEM fields. According to the U.S. Department of Education, half of Native American students do not have access to high school math and science classes needed to pursue STEM careers. "We need more opportunities for Native youth, and our STEM lab intends on being a part of this change,"

he said. "Education needs to create spaces that immerse students in content. I have found that hands-on projects mixed with content that can also build teamwork and communication skills and have an element of competition are not only rewarding, but have profound long-term effects on students over traditional "sit and get" education."

"Teachers and educators who inspire Native youth have chosen a sacred path. Especially now, we need creative, strong teachers for our youth to guide them through a school year like none other before. I'm proud to support their bright futures and dedication through Dreamstarter Teacher," Mills said.

The full list of Dreamstarter Teachers and their projects can be found on the Running Strong website: <https://indianyouth.org/2020-2021-dreamstarter-teachers/>.

John Twichel can be contacted by calling Sault Area Middle School at (906) 635-3839 ext. 5758.



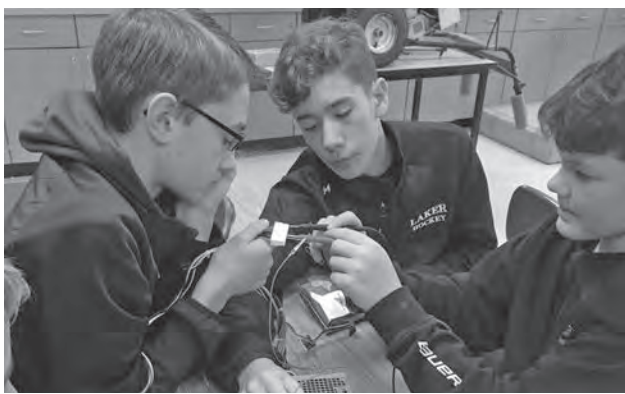
John Twichel is a teacher at Sault Area Middle School who teaches his sixth and seventh grade Sault Tribe students teamwork through coding and robotics programming.



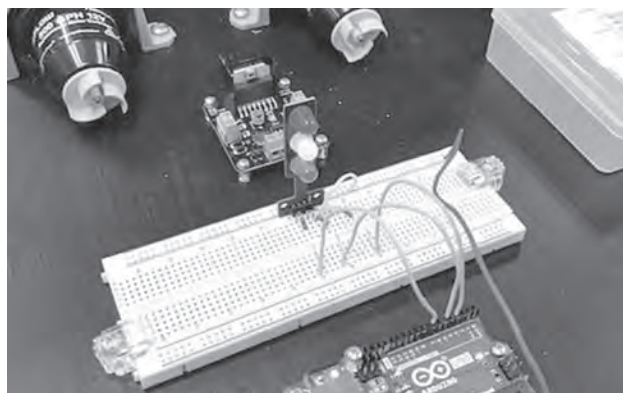
Photos by John Twichel
Students working on teams building skyscrapers to scale.



Students showcased an after school underwater robotics competition where family and friends attended in 2019.



Teams used multimeters to collect different voltages from a desktop computer power supply.



Arduino Learning Boards - These boards are used by students to wire up electronics projects.



Underwater Robotics - The 850 gallon competition tank where teams run their mission under limited time.

NAGPRA online conference goes worldwide Oct. 26-28

Planning and preparations continue for the sixth annual repatriation conference, *Growing Community and Moving Forward After 30 Years of NAGPRA*. We are committed to recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), and building opportunities to grow community to support human and civil rights in a healthy and safe environment, despite the coronavirus pandemic.

This year's all-virtu-

al community conference is online Oct. 26-28 and hosted by the Association on American Indian Affairs in partnership with the University of Denver Museum of Anthropology.

The conference will use virtual meeting tools so that tribes, institutions, federal agencies, attorneys, academics and other repatriation practitioners can safely meet from all over the country and the world.

Conference participants will attend workshops, plenary ses-

sions and small strategic sessions with experts in the NAGPRA, international repatriation, law and policy, consultation and collaboration. Together, we will create stronger implementation toolkits, communities of practice and a vision for how our work can support repatriation as a human rights practice.

Registration, scholarships and opportunities for sponsorship open soon. Learn more at <https://www.indian-affairs.org/6thannualconference.html>.

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Graham commits to Bay College Norse baseball

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member Dalton Graham recently committed to playing baseball for the Bay College Norse program. Graham has played ball since the age of five, and began travel ball with the Sault All-Star Little Leaguers, working hard to get where he is today.

He was the starting short-stop for Sault High as a junior, and was set for a breakthrough senior year before that was sidelined by the COVID-19 pandemic. Graham said, "Not getting to play my senior year of baseball was hard. I was really looking forward to my final season of high school ball. COVID made it a challenge with online learning, and I missed being in the classroom with my friends and teammates."



Front row, from left, Coach Kris Bontrager, Dalton Graham and Coach Ted Coneset. Back row, from left, Dalton's father, Doug Graham; his brother, Dayton Graham; and his mother, Tammy Graham.

Sault High Head Coach Kris Bontrager had Graham penciled in as the Blue Devils' ace pitcher, shortstop and number three hitter in the lineup for his

senior season. "Dalton has the athletic ability to play anywhere on the field," Bontrager said. "I think he could really excel on the pitcher's mound or on the

infield for Bay. Defensively the kid is smooth as silk at short-stop. On the mound he is free and easy and the ball just jumps out of his hand. At the plate you would never think of him as a power hitter, but his swing is so smooth and quick the ball explodes off his bat."

Graham said during his freshman year, his coaches talked to him about playing baseball at the next level. "They thought I had the skill set to play college baseball. I decided to attend some college clinics and ended up getting contacted by the coach at Bay College. Coach Pankow attended some of my games this summer, and after visiting the campus and talking with Bay's athletic department, I decided to commit to play ball there."

Sault High's Assistant Coach Ted Coneset said, "Dalton is a very quiet and humble young man that did everything a coach could ever ask for. So smooth on the field he could make anything look effortless. He dedicated his entire off-season to improving his game and becoming the team leader. He has incredible work ethic and a way about him that makes him a true leader."

The Bay College Norse are located in Escanaba, Mich., and compete in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division 2.

Dalton's parents are Big Bear Arena Recreation Facility Manager Tammy Graham, and retired Chippewa County Sheriff's Deputy Douglas Graham. He also has a brother, Dayton Graham.

Riley graduates, pursues professional designation

BY RICK SMITH

Betty Riley of Blind River, Ont., Canada, graduated from the Human Resources Practices Program at the Sault College of Applied Arts and Technology in March of 2020. More recently, she received her diploma from the college at the start of July 2020.

"I completed the two-year course completely online via

remote learning within one year of accelerated learning," Riley said. "I am now a member of the Human Resources Professional Association pursuing my Certified Human Resources



Professional designation. I still have a few professional exams and a law exam that I am required to write before I am entitled to my designation."

According to the Human Resources Professional Association, the Certified Human Resources Professional (CHRP) designation is the first step toward designation as a Certified Human Resources

Executive. The professional designation is also the best-known human resources designation in Canada and is only available through the Human Resources Professional Association. Designated professionals may function in a variety of administrative roles operating at different levels. They may have titles such as assistants, coordinators or clerks.

Additionally, the association regards the CHRP designation as a validation of knowledge and readiness in the human resources field as well as a sign of commitment to learning and ethical practice throughout one's career.

Riley said she elected to study at Sault College due to the local support and level of education the school offers.

Big Bear reopens after COVID-19 closure with limited activities

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

After closing July 5 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Big Bear reopened their doors Aug. 2 with limited events and activities. Their re-opening activities and guidelines were developed in conjunction with the tribe's Health and Legal divisions.

Activities and services currently available include ice and court rentals, meeting room rentals and the use of the walking track by appointment.

Only residents from Michigan's Regions 6 and 8 and Canada's Algoma District are allowed to use the facility at this time. Masks must be worn and patrons are

subject to temperature checks and screenings. Assistant Events Manager Destiny McKechnie, said, "I think customers are happy that Big Bear is doing this screening process and taking steps to keep the facility safe so everyone can get back on the ice and in the courts."

During their closure, Big Bear was professionally cleaned and precautions were put in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Staff has been trained on how to protect themselves, and minimize the risk of transmission to protect customers in the facility. Staff will be frequently disinfecting high-touch areas and all equipment

will be sanitized between each use, including pens, credit card machines, sporting equipment, etc.

In order to facilitate social distancing and facilitate screening, staff and customers will enter on the south side of the lobby (the doors to the left as you face the facility) and exit through the other sets of doors. Additional measures implemented by the facility include protective glass installed in the retail areas and skate rental, chairs and benches have been relocated throughout the facility and sanitizing stations have been installed. In the restroom areas, no-touch water faucets, soap dispensers, hand dryers and automatic flushers have been installed.

For those wishing to spend some time on the ice, there is a 30-person limit and spectators are not allowed. Player benches and locker rooms are not available; therefore, customers must dress at home and use the chairs inside the ice rinks to put on skates, helmets and gloves. Masks may be removed when entering the ice surface.

Court rentals include the basketball and volleyball courts, with a patron limit of 30 for basketball and 20 for volleyball. Again, no spectators are allowed and benches and locker rooms are not available. There are currently no equipment rentals, including the jumping house and ball cart. Masks can be removed in the courts, but face shields are recommended and are available on site.

The Hospitality Room is available for rentals with a patron limit of 10. Individually wrapped food items and disposable utensils are encouraged. Masks must be worn throughout the rental.

The following areas remain temporarily closed for safety of staff and customers: Fitness cen-

ter, locker rooms, saunas, drinking fountains, arcade games and vending machines, and lost and found.

Recreation Facility Manager Tammy Graham, said, "I am proud of our management and staff for adjusting to all the changes that we have made in order to offer recreational services. There is a lot of information to communicate to our customers and the staff have done a wonderful job letting them know what the expectations are for using the facility."

For information on re-opening dates or services available for departments located inside the Big Bear Arena, please call them at: Fitness Center: (906) 635-7711; Physical Therapy: (906) 635-4905; YEA/Youth Funding: (906) 440-9457; Health Education: (906) 635-4994; Education: (906) 635-7010; and WIOA (906) 635-4767.

Events Manager Logan Fletcher, said, "We are continuing to adapt and learn to provide the safest environment possible for



Teagan Greener gets ready for some ice time wearing a mandatory mask.



Events coordinator, Logan Roberts, does a temp check on assistant events manager, Destiny McKechnie.

Sault student receives excellence in a discipline award

ALLENDALE, Mich. – Brooklyn Lipponen of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., has been awarded the Excellence in a Discipline Award for Integrative Studies from Grand Valley State University. Lipponen is a graduate of Sault Area High School.

The Excellence in a Discipline Award honors one undergraduate student and one graduate student in each academic major. Faculty from each department selects the award recipient for their academic majors.

Caitlyn Koseba graduates cum laude

Caitlyn Koseba graduated cum laude from Grand Valley State University with a Bachelor of Science, double majoring in biology and biomedical sciences in April 2020.

She has been accepted to the Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine at Ohio University where she begins this fall.

She is the daughter of Grace and Leo Koseba, sister of John Koseba of Traverse City, granddaughter of the late Catherine and Elmer Janeski, and granddaughter of the late MaryJo and Leo Koseba.

She is an Alpena High School alumnus, class of 2016. She thanks Sault Tribe for several Self-Sufficiency Incentive Awards throughout her undergraduate years.



our team members and customers."

Visit their website at www.BigBearArena.com, or email bookthebear@saulttribe.net, or call (906) 635-RINK.

VA awards grants to end U.P. veteran homelessness

IRON MOUNTAIN, Mich. – The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced on Aug. 7 it awarded more than \$471,000 under the Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program (SSVF) to Alger Marquette Community Action Board serving all 15 coun-

ties in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. A list of grantees is available at www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp.

SSVF funding provides thousands of low-income veterans' families around the nation with access to case management and other assistance to rapidly re-house veterans who become

homeless or prevent veterans from becoming homeless.

"SSVF is a program that empowers our community-based partners to provide the mix of services needed to prevent veterans from becoming homeless and rapidly re-house those who become homeless," said Jim Rice, Iron Mountain VA Medical

Center.

This year, the VA's SSVF grants totaled over \$400 million and went to 266 nonprofits in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Through SSVF, the VA served more than 105,156 individuals, including 70,524 vet-

erans and 20,608 children nationally in Fiscal Year 2019. As a result of these and other efforts, veteran homelessness has been cut in half since the launch of the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in 2010.

Visit www.va.gov/homeless/ssvf.asp to learn more.

Are stay-at-home orders causing increase in mental health issues?

BY STRONGHEARTS NATIVE HELPLINE

The outbreak of coronavirus earlier this year left many mental health professionals concerned that stay-at-home orders and other safety measures designed to protect citizens from the pandemic could cause an increase in mental health issues. Unfortunately, mental health disorders and access to mental health care has been an ongoing struggle for Native Americans. With the additional mental drain resulting from the virus' spread, it's important now more than ever to support our relatives by understanding mental health and how it disproportionately impacts our communities.

Education

The first step in supporting people who struggle with their mental health is to educate yourself on how mental health disorders develop and how their development can impact every

facet of a person's life. Experts are not entirely sure what can cause mental health disorders. However, the consensus is that a mixture of genetics, environmental factors and traumas like war, intimate partner violence, or child sexual abuse can result in lifelong mental health struggles. Native American communities specifically have to contend with historical trauma, which is defined as cumulative emotional and psychological wounding over one's lifetime and from generation to generation following the loss of lives, land and vital aspects of culture. According to Mental Health America, over 21 percent of Native Americans had a diagnosable mental health disorder in the past year, totaling over 830,000.

Effects

The effects of these mental health disorders can be devastating to individuals and the Native

American community as a whole. Having a serious mental health disorder can reduce an individual's life expectancy by 10 to 20 years, as depression and high levels of psychological stress may result in increased rates of heart disease, diabetes and even an increased risk of cancer. Difficulty regulating emotional health can also destroy a person's ability to cope with the stresses of everyday life, including maintaining friendships and supporting a family.

Impact

The impact of fractured familial bonds on our communities has been and continues to be significant. For decades, our children were removed from their homes and stolen from their families to be re-educated at boarding schools. At these schools, many children were victims of institutional abuse, including regular beatings, sexual abuse and pun-

ishment for practicing any kind of activities that contributed to the survival of their own culture. This complete disruption of Native American family life and culture fostered the same kind of historical trauma that mass violence and persecution caused earlier generations. The separation of children from their families and their culture has lasting effects on the mental health of Native Americans to this day.

Resources

Now in this time of national crisis, these mental health struggles are even more important to highlight. Everyone — including our peoples — should be especially mindful of how the stresses of the pandemic could affect their mental well-being and the well-being of their communities. These resources are available for anyone struggling with their mental health:

National Suicide Prevention

Hotline

The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals. (800) 273-8255.

StrongHearts Native Helpline

StrongHearts is a safe, anonymous and confidential domestic, dating and sexual violence helpline that offers culturally-appropriate support and advocacy for American Indians and Alaska Natives. If you or someone you love is experiencing domestic, dating or sexual violence or if you have questions about your behavior, help is available. For one-on-one advocacy, click on the Chat Now icon at www.strongheartshelpline.org or call 1-844-7NATIVE (762-8483). Advocates are available daily from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. CT, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. ET.

Controlled Substance Committee's mission

The Sault Tribe Controlled Substance Committee's mission statement is "to apply a culturally sensitive standard using a multidisciplinary team approach to improve screening and assessment of controlled substance misuse, abuse and dependence coupled with alternative treatment plans for identified patients."

The Controlled Substance Committee provides assistance to health care providers in the prescribing, usage and interactions of controlled substance medication. It is also intended as an extra layer of safety for the patient, as some medications do not combine well with other medication, other substances or can cause life-threatening side-effects if used incorrectly.

The Controlled Substance Committee functions under the authority of Sault Tribe's medical

director and health director, providing advice to Sault Tribe providers and stepping in for the safety of the patient when necessary. It is comprised of the involved physician-nurse team, a clinical pharmacist, a behavioral health specialist, a Community Health nurse, Sault Tribe Health Center clinic director and the medical director. There must be a quorum of five to hold a committee meeting so that discussion and decision-making are never made unilaterally.

The Controlled Substance Committee is a multidisciplinary team that:

- Assists the organization and providers in the early identification of patients at risk for misuse or abuse outcomes regarding controlled substance use.

- Assists patients with an early intervention focused on teaching

and information regarding controlled substance use.

- Assists patients in the development of a culturally sensitive comprehensive care plan using the organization's resources as well as outside referrals and partnerships.

Whenever possible, the committee encourages non-narcotic treatment plans with an emphasis on coping skills and therapies to improve physical and mental outcomes.

The committee typically meets every two weeks, but will meet weekly if there is much to review or monthly if there is little to review.

A Controlled Substance Agreement is an agreement between patient and provider regarding proper use of controlled medication and responsibilities of the patient in the arrangement.

From "McGirt," Page 1

regulation. Tribal nations understand the importance of working with all public and private partners to ensure the shared prosperity of those who live and work within our borders.


As always, tribal nations stand ready to work with their state, federal, county, public and private partners and neighbors across the United States. Together, we can build a safer and more prosperous America. But we will never build prosperity for tomorrow if we remain stuck in the prejudice of the past.

Tribal nations care for their lands, people and resources to ensure the well-being of the next seven generations. McGirt gives us great hope that future generations will not live in a world where their own nations cannot protect them.

McGirt offers a new beginning. By affirming an age-old promise, it offers us a new one. It's up to us to take it.


Lauren King is a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and was recently appointed by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief David Hill to serve on the Mvskoke Reservation Protection Commission. She is a partner at the law firm Foster Garvey PC, where she chairs the Native American Law practice group.

Aaron Payment is the elected chairperson of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He also serves as the president of the United Tribes of Michigan, acting president of the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes and as first vice president of the National Congress of American Indians. Dr. Payment holds several graduate degrees including public administration and public policy.




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Sault Tribe Thrive directory of member-owned businesses

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Restaurant

Long Ships Motel
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scotty_joce@yahoo.com
Motel

Ludington Outdoor Services
Caleb Bownan
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(231) 690-1002
Calebbowman1982@gmail.com
Landscaping and tree removal

Mackinac Trail Storage
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Mackinaw Trail Winery
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Winery

Maghey Construction
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Construction

Manleys Famous Smoked Fish
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Fish market

Massey Fish Co.
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Fish market

Matson’s Fisheries
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matsonfish@yahoo.com
Fish market

McCabes Flooring
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Flooring

Medical Arts Optical
Melanie Cook
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melaniebea@aol.com
Glasses and hearing aids

MI Playground
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Jensen, MI 49428
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contact@enjoymiplayground.com
Digital media production

Mid American Title
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amy@mid-americanitle.com
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MidJim Convenience Store
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(906) 635-4782
jmacdonald@saulttribe.net.
Convenience store

MidJim Convenience Store
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Convenience store

Mike’s Garage
Mike Cook
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-5755
mikemike1962@hotmail.com
Vehicle repair shop

Moore Trosper
Ted Moore
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Construction

Mountainside Apartments
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mjobeckman1@gmail.com
Rental apartments

Mountainside Grille
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Restaurant

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A private wealth advisory
practice

Muscotts Painting
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(231) 342-7055
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Painting, residential and commercial

Nontrivial Solutions LLC
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Oklahoma City, OK 73137
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Health care system software
management

Northern Hospitality
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Flooring service and furniture
sales

Northern Wings Repair
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Odenaang Storage
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Storage units

Ogitchidaa LLC
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Military/law enforcement training
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Abestos removal and abatement

Pedersons Lawn and Landscape
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Lawn and landscaping service

Pennzoil
Tracy Smart or Mickey
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Oil change/car wash

Premier Learning
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cgkford@comcast.net
Tutoring and tutor training

Prescription Oxygen
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Durable medical equipment

Proline Auto
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Vehicle repair shop

Red Sky Woman Designs
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Handmade crafts
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Riverside Village
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Mobile home placement and
rentals

Roy Electric
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Electrical, mechanical and
maintenance business

Ruddles Native Painting
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Painting contractor

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Appraisals and rental properties

Sacred Tatoo Studio
Danielle Pemble
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 273-0800
sacredbooking@gmail.com

Salon C
Cathy McLellan
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-3964
cathyann906@gmail.com
Hair salon

Sault Printing
Ron Maleport
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-3369
ron@saultprinting.com
Printing and office supplies

Sawyer Village
Joy Page
Gwinn, MI 49841
(906) 346-3919
jpage@saulttribe.net
Rental apartments
Snowbelt Brewing Co.
Angielena Muellenberg
Gaylord, MI 49735
(989) 448-7077
drinklocal@snowbeltbrewery.com
Brewery

Soo Welding
Charles Fabry
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-8241
soowelding@outlook.com
Welding and metal working

Sore Arms Fishing
Aaron Hendrickson
Gwinn, MI 49841
(906) 360-6035
sorearmscharters@gmail.com
Fish Market

St. Igance in Bloom
Alex or Samantha Belonga
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-9480
greenhouse@stignaceinbloom.com
Flower and plant shop

State Farm Insurance Office
Kristi Harwood
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-5377
kristi.harwood-causley.ke8b@statefarm.com
Insurance agency

Sunset Motel
Armand Horn
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-8377
sunsetmotel786@gmail.com
Motel

Super 8 Motel
James Dekeyser
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643 7616
jmdeke@sbcglobal.net
Motel

Superior Custom Blinds
Jennifer Roy
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 630-6939
jennlroy209@gmail.com
Custom window blinds

The Bostique
Cindy King
Manistique, MI 49854
(906) 283-3245
Bohemian shop

The Brickyard
Tate Hakola
Rudyard, MI 49780
(906) 442-1099
Restaurant

The Bunker Bar and Grill
Helen Wilkins
Kincheloe, MI 49788

(906) 322-3369
hwilkins5@gmail.com
Golf course/restaurant

The Ice Cream Shoppe
Jill or Jeff McLeod
Cedarville, MI 49719
(906) 484-5525
jmcLeod@eupschools.org
Ice cream and treats

The Palace Saloon
Doreen Goetz
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-7721
palacesaloon1903@gmail.com
Restaurant

Thermal Kernels
Cathy Baker
McMillian, MI 49853
(231) 675-1060
lovethermalkernels@gmail.com
Therapeutic hot and cold pads,
wraps and more

Tickled Pink Antiques
Carole Prisk
Negaunee, MI 49866
(906) 475-4567
caroleprisk@yahoo.com
Antique shop

Timberdoodle
Janelle Gross Dudeck
DeTour, MI 49725
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Handmade crafts

Tipping Point Solutions
Rick Schmidt
Centennial, CO 80112
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Digital media production

Trim and Tan
Kelly Hatinger
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Hair salon with tanning beds

U.P. Auto Group
Gerald Jackson
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
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Used car sales/ car detailing

U.P. Carpet Mart LLC
Derrick Eitrem
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-1026
https://upcarpetmart.business.site/
Residential and commercial floor-
ing

Up Cycled Hippie
Jessica Shields
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Handmade hippie/bohohemium
clothing

Wicked Walleye Tackle
Mendy Kolbus
Rapid River, MI 49878
(906) 286-1886
wickedwalleyet@yahoo.com
Handmade lures for walleye fish-
ing

Zodiac Party Store, Taste of the
U.P.
Keith Massaway
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-8643
kmassaway@msn.com
Convenience store

The universities we paid for: The past and present impacts of the logging industry on forest health and treaty rights - Part III

By TYLER THEEL

Overview of the 1862 Morrill Act

The Morrill Act, signed into law by President Lincoln in 1862, is heralded as the first major federal action to expand access to higher education.

The Act authorized the federal government to grant between 90,000 to 990,000 acres of land to each state and territory based on the size of its Congressional delegation. States and territories were permitted to sell the granted land to establish public universities, such as Michigan State University, Ohio State University and Iowa State University.

Logging in ceded lands: Disregard of treaty rights

The land granted to universities was dispossessed from tribes through unfairly bargained treaty agreements or without any form of agreement with tribes. Tribes of the eastern Upper Peninsula and northern Michigan ceded lands to the federal government in the Treaty of 1836 in exchange for financial compensation and treaty rights. The treaty stipulates tribe members could continue hunting and fishing throughout the region and could only be excluded from hunting and fishing in areas “establishing settlements.”

The land granted to universities and sold for profit to the lumber and mining industries — not for establishing settlements. Further, these industries impacted hunting and fishing activity. Therefore, the implementation of the Morrill Act disregarded treaty rights.

In the Upper Peninsula, increased logging and hunting contributed to the local extinction and substantial population decline of wildlife species, including

wild game like moose and bison. Numerous species were commercially hunted and left exposed without sufficient tree coverage provided by white pines, hemlocks and other conifers due to rampant logging. According to the Michigan DNR, only 50 percent of the conifer forests remain after European settlement of Michigan — even after restoration efforts.

Who purchased land parcels?

Universities sold large clusters of land to individual entrepreneurs rather than small farmers and homesteaders. Below are two examples of entrepreneurs who purchased large acreage of land for logging.

William E. Dodge Sr., co-founder of the Phelps, Dodge and Company, a mining company headquartered in Arizona, purchased tens of thousands of acres of land in the Upper Peninsula for logging. Dodge was designated as one the “Merchant Princes” of Wall Street prior to the Civil War, becoming a top acquiring owner of lumber lands in the nation. Dodge purchased nearly 100,000 acres of land in the Upper Peninsula from the University of Connecticut.

Charles T. Harvey, the engineer who designed the Soo Locks, purchased tens of thousands of acres near Manistee, Mich. According to his biography, Harvey sought to encourage others in the area to purchase lumber and further development of the lumber industry in the Upper Peninsula.

The federal government’s response to deforestation

The federal government established the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to address deforestation resulting from the Morrill Act and Homestead Act. While the



Tyler Theel

reforesting policies have successfully increased tree coverage in the 20th Century, forests contain fewer large and matured trees.

The USFS, under the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), established a logging program post-World War II to provide economic stimulus. The program largely targets large and matured trees that were not initially cut down during the 19th Century logging rush. The BLM asserts that the logging program is designed to reduce forest fires and preserve the integrity of forests by removing large trees that “fuel” forest fires.

Tribes and environmental organizations have voiced concerns that the logging program does not adequately protect biodiversity and depletes forested areas of nutrients to sustain plant and wildlife. Again, the BLM lands are subject to treaty obligations, including the hunting and fishing rights of tribal members; these rights cannot be restricted unless the land is being developed to “establish settlements.”

What about the benefits of the logging program?

The federal government claims

there are economic benefits to the BLM’s logging program. However, in May 2019, the Center for Sustainable Economy reported that the federal logging program does not net a profit each year. In fact, the report documents that taxpayers pay nearly \$2 billion each year to subsidize the program to make up for commercial losses.

The federal government also claims that its logging program aids in forest fire management by “thinning” forests that fuel high-density forest fires. However, critics argue that the logging program (1) contradicts its mission to reduce the intensity of forest fires by logging large and matured trees, and (2) reduces the frequency of beneficial natural forest fires.

To the first point, logging mature trees actually increases the spread of human-created forest fires for the following reasons: (1) Mature trees are more fire-resistant and limit the spread of forest fires; (2) logging mature trees leaves behind highly combustible debris; (3) logging mature trees reduces canopy coverage which sustains cooler temperatures, moisture-levels and provides shade on the forest floor and inland waters.

While cutting down mature trees does not suppress fire intensity, the logging program has drastically reduced forest fires over time in the United States by cutting down swathes of small trees. According to the John Muir Project, the BLM’s logging program has drastically reduced high-density forest fires by indiscriminately cutting down all smaller trees en route to more profitable mature trees.

Chad Hanson, Ph.D, of the John Muir Project reports that

fire suppression in the United States has reduced the diversity of plants and wildlife that thrive in snag forests and fallen trees. Snag forests consist of standing dead or dying trees as well as dead fallen trees that remain after a forest fire which provide shelter necessary for numerous species such as woodpeckers, hares and other cavity-nesting species. Further, fire suppression policy decreases nutrients in the forest floor provided by fallen trees. This reduces the amount of wildlife and vegetation forests can sustain and, therefore, decreases the amount of carbon dioxide forests can absorb.

In sum, forest fires that do occur are mostly human caused (84 percent according to the University of Boulder, Earth Lab) and negatively impact the environment. Fires spread further and longer without adequately matured trees. For example, the underbrush fires occurring in Australia and California spread longer distances, last longer and emit substantially more carbon dioxide into the atmosphere than fires occurring in forests with sufficiently matured trees.

Despite the market-failure and environmental harms of the logging program, the Trump administration issued an executive order instructing the forest service to increase fire suppression logging by 30 percent.

All of these ecological impacts are directly at odds with tribal treaty rights and are not sufficiently addressing the negative impacts of the Morrill Act. Primarily, the logging program serves lucrative purposes for the logging industry and contributes to degradation of forests, wildlife and the climate.

Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Traditional Medicine Program Gerard Sagassige ~ Clinic Hours

September 2020

September 1, 8, 9, 14, 15, 21, 22nd

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center
(906) 632-0236 Lori Gambardella
(906) 632-0220
(906) 632-5268 Laura Collins-Downwind

September 16th
St. Ignace Health Center
906-643-8689
877-256-0135

September 2nd
Manistique Health Center
906-341-8469
866-401-0043

September 23rd
Munising Health Center
906-387-4721
800-236-4705



SAULT TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

Traditional Medicine Program Joe Syrette ~ Clinic Hours

September 2020

September 2, 3, 4, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24th

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center
(906) 632-0236 Lori Gambardella
(906) 632-0220 Annie Thibert
(906) 632-5268 Laura Collins-Downwind

September 30th
St. Ignace Health Center
906-643-8689
877-256-0135

September 9th
Munising Health Center
906-387-4721
800-236-4705

September * No Dates at this time
Newberry Health Center
906-293-8181

September * No Dates at this time
Hessel Health Center
906-484-2727



Please call for questions or to schedule an appointment; at this time we are unable to accommodate Walk-Ins.

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Sault Tribe Internship Program provides students an opportunity to learn about tribe and gain experience

BY JUDAH PEMBLE

The Sault Tribe Internship Program is an eight-week experience intended to provide Sault Tribe member college students with an opportunity to learn more about the Sault Tribe and gain practical experience in their chosen field of study.

Andrew Innerebner

Innerebner has been interning with the Economic Development



Center, which advocates for Sault Tribe businesses at the local, state and national level. The EDC offers educational opportunities for tribal member businesses as well as networking events and other ways of promoting Sault Tribe member owned businesses.

During his time as an intern, Innerebner has learned more about these businesses and their operations.

He said, "Investing in these local businesses leads to growth for everyone."

Innerebner also had the chance to witness all the different moving parts there are in the tribe and how "everyone plays a role in its success."

Natasha Stewart

Stewart is the intern for



the Language and Culture Department, as well as an alumni of JKL Bahweting and Sault Area High School. They are a senior at Grand Valley State University studying Integrative, Religious and Intercultural Studies with an emphasis in Indigenous Leadership and Sustainability. During their time as an intern, Stewart has learned a lot about the Language and Culture Department and their role within the community, as well as

Anishinaabeg culture and language.

Stewart said, "This internship has taught me how important it is to preserve and protect our language, culture and history for our ancestors, current generations and future generations."

Christian Gregory

In the Legal Department, Gregory's internship has consisted of working on policies, attending committee meetings and otherwise planning how CARES Act money is spent. He said that there's a big difference in state vs. tribal law, which means the tribe often has to decide what regulations to follow



and when the tribe needs to write its own policies. He also wanted to thank his supervisor, Josh Elliott, for having such good experience.

Samantha Hintz

As the Administrative/Legislative intern, Hintz has had the opportunity to have insight into the structure and processes within the tribal government and how the tribe works with federal, state and local governments. She has also been able to reach out to people in different departments and to learn more about the history of the Sault Tribe and how Anishinaabe exist as a people now.

Hintz said she feels this experience will help her to become more involved. "I have gotten to work on a variety of projects so far and have had time to explore my culture in a way that I have never been able to before. I feel that I will be able to take all that I have learned here with me into



whatever future I end up with," she said.

Department, Greene has been a graphic design intern. She has been grateful for the opportunity to be more involved, which has given her the chance to learn about how much goes into the production of everything that is displayed at Kewadin and around the Sault.

Judah Pemble

Pemble has been an intern for the newspaper in the Communications Department. His work has been mostly focused on designing ads for



businesses that want to advertise in the newspaper, as well as working on layout and copywriting. During his internship, he learned a lot about how much goes into every publication of the newspaper, and what an important source of information it is for the tribe.

He's been enjoying his time being more connected with the tribe. He said, "Engaging with our people and culture has helped me to start being a more active member of the tribe."

Rilee Greene

Part of the Marketing



Callie working with the gill net crew in Lake Huron.



sun shelter for kids at the playground. Her internship has been going very well and the tribe has been "really good to work for," she said. Questions come up daily, and looking for answers has been a way of learning more about the tribe.

Sam Massey

Massey has been interning at the Environmental Department alongside invasive species expert Hadley Reed. Although working on various projects, Massey has especially enjoyed keeping up on Environmental's gardens, as well as going into the field to investigate and remove invasive species.

Growing up in Newberry, Massey said he "missed the

opportunity to really familiarize myself with the tribe and what

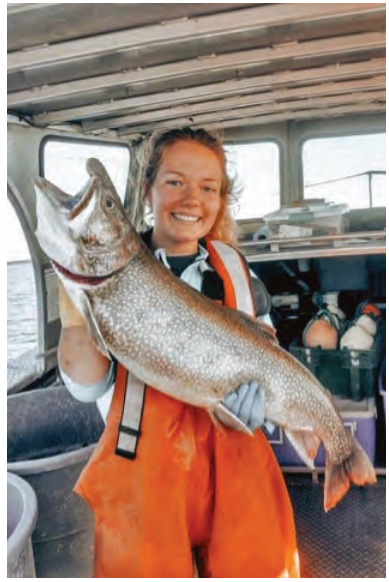


they do. Working here has given me a good look at what the tribe is like."

The difference in working for the tribe has been its care for the earth and our cultural roots. The tribe "has a genuine care for preserving the land it sits on and the people it serves. There are a lot of entities who make excuses or cut corners; the tribe doesn't," he said.

Callie Kammers

Fisheries and Wildlife major



Callie Kammers has had a very exciting summer interning with the Fisheries Department. Her experience has been a learning one, with developing an independent project and commercial fishing among the things she has learned. Her internship and the people she's worked with "have made me really excited for my future in the field," she said.



Sam removing Purple Loosestrife from a ditch on M-129.

Under the coordination of cultural activities coordinator Joshua Biron and cultural activities assistant Sean Vandyke, the Sault Tribe summer interns got a chance to visit the Mary Murray Culture Camp on beautiful Sugar Island, make medicine pouches and learn about the camp history. It was a great opportunity for the interns to gain some cultural knowledge and learn a traditional craft.



A piece of chaga, a traditional medicine.



From left to right, Samantha Hintz, Sam Massey, Troy Boyer, Natasha Stewart, Judah Pemble.



The interns learning how to make medicine pouches.



Joshua Biron talking about traditional medicine.



Natasha Stewart in front of Duck Lake.



University of Michigan biostation overlooking Duck Lake.



Sean Vandyke leading a nature walk.

Nine-year-old fighting one-in-a-billion cancer diagnosis

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

A nine-year-old Sault Tribe girl, London Carey, is fighting a very rare and aggressive cancer called peripheral malignant nerve sheath tumor. What makes her cancer so extremely rare is that it's located in her brain. Only one in every one billion cases of this type of cancer has been found in the brain.

Her mom, Rebekah "Becki" Miller, is a tribal member and employee, working as a receptionist at tribal court in Sault Ste. Marie. Her father, Tony Carey, works for AMI Industries, Inc., in the Sault.

Miller said that London, who was complaining of daily headaches and vision problems, was sent to see an eye specialist June 19, 2019, at Grand Traverse Ophthalmology in Traverse City after her eye doctor didn't like what he was seeing. At that appointment the ophthalmologist found what's called a papilledema behind London's eye. "He didn't like what he saw, so he transferred us to the nearest ER for London to have an MRI," Miller said. "When we got the MRI results it was a parent's worst nightmare. We were told that London had a tumor in her brain behind her right eye and that we had about 15 minutes before the helicopter would arrive to airlift her to Grand Rapids to the Helen DeVos Children's Hospital."

Miller said that when they arrived at DeVos, a team of medical staff met them in the intensive care unit and the next few days were a blur of around the clock care and lots of testing, with her parents spending lots of time next to her bedside.

Six days after seeing the eye specialist, on June 24, 2019, London's tumor was removed. "The doctors told us they had never seen a tumor like it, and that it was being sent out for testing," she said. They kept London in the hospital for three days to recover and sent her home."

Then on July 10, 2019, her parents received the devastating call that London had malignant peripheral nerve sheath tumor of the brain. "We were told that London would have to



Nine-year-old London Carey, with her father, Tony Carey and mother, Becki Miller after her first surgery for an extremely rare peripheral malignant nerve sheath tumor located in her brain.

go through weeks of radiation. London soon lost most of her hair but it was slowly growing back and she was happy to go back to school. September 24, 2019, was her last day of radiation. At her three month MRI checkup in November, they told us that everything looked good but that there was some scar tissue from the surgery."

On April 15, 2020, at her six-month follow up appointment, Becki and London traveled back to DeVos expecting more good news. London had been acting normal and not feeling ill. When they received the call from the doctor who read her scans, it wasn't the good news they were hoping for. Her tumor had reappeared and she was being admitted into inpatient care.

Two days later, on April 17, London had her second surgery to have the tumor removed. "The doctors had to send her tumor to the pathologist for results because it didn't look like her last tumor," Miller said. "They told us that her cancer was back and that we would have to wait for her team of doctors to come up with a plan of how to treat London's cancer because normally this type of cancer does not come back after radiation treatment. We were also told at that appointment that London's cancer is so rare that only one in a billion have it in the brain." Her doctor at DeVos,

Rebecca Loret De Mola, was also working on London's case with doctors from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the National Institutes of Health.

On May 21 London started an at home oral chemotherapy drug. Her parents were told this was the best option her medical team could come up with because of the rarity of her cancer. Miller said they were told London would probably be on the medication for up to two years, and every three months she would have to do a full day of doctor appointments at DeVos with her medical team, including the neurologist, optometrist, labs and her oncologist.

"Since this all started, I have had to leave my job in our hometown (Sault Ste. Marie) and move in with a friend in Grand Rapids when London was getting her radiation. Then in November we moved back to our hometown and I wasn't able to find a job until January. When the corona virus epidemic began I was an on call employee, and after London's surgery I was laid off from April 1 through June 1, and am still waiting to be paid by unemployment. I am asking for help because I am driving an unreliable car that continues to have problems, and most of the time I am the one transporting London to her appointments. Her father, Tony Carey, pays for her insurance and medical bills, and is not



Photos by Becki Miller

London getting ready to head home after her second brain surgery in April 2020 to remove a cancerous tumor in her brain.

able to take any time off. Any financial help would be greatly appreciated," she said.

The family is planning a silent auction the end of August, and possibly a taco sale in September, with updates being posted on Becki's Facebook page. "The fundraising money will be going towards travel costs and hospital bills, and anything left over will be London's to spend when we eventually get to go on her Make-A-Wish trip to Key West to swim with dolphins," Miller said. "We are asking for donations, but most of all prayers. She's a fighter and is still fighting." (#LondonStrong)

London will be starting the fourth grade this fall, and will be homeschooled for now due to COVID, but is a proud Lincoln Elementary School student.

"Thankfully we have an amazing co-parenting team, with all her parents working together through difficulties like this and

her step mom offering to provide her homeschooling," Miller said.

Becki said she would like people to know that the world around their family has crumbled because of London's diagnosis. "Our lives have changed dramatically."

London's loving family includes her mother Becki Miller, Becki's boyfriend of six years, Jeremy (Cloud) Sparks, her father Tony Carey, and stepmother Jodi (Leask) Carey. Her siblings include Caleb Miller, 20, Owen Rowlings, 18, Kelli Jacobson, 14, and Ethan Michalski, 13.

If you would like to make a financial donation to help London and her family, you can do so by sending donations to her father, Tony Carey, 305 Bluewater Dr., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, or to her mother, Becki Miller, 6454 S. Deland St., Brimley, MI 49715. You can also stop by the Sault Tribe's Chippewa Court on Shunk Road in Sault Ste. Marie, where Becki is an employee.

Book review: *Sanctuary* — A foreboding taste of coming times?

BY RICK SMITH

Karen East accumulated knowledge about the Anishinaabe after working as a marriage and family therapist for about 19 years with three different tribes around the Great Lakes and the Indian Health Service and earning a bachelor's degree in Native American studies. She incorporated what she learned in her novel, *Sanctuary*. The story is also informed by actual events from 1997 onward that threaten the health of the natural environment and all living beings.

"I didn't see much effort to improve things," said East.

Set a mere 20 years from now, the story unfolds in a polluted and restrictive world run by major corporations, whose profits take precedence over the protection of anything else, including constitutional rights and a representative government.

U.S. citizens can no longer



Karen East

travel freely and practicing free will can draw the attention of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The DHS acts as the enforcement arm of the major corporations. And attracting their suspicion can get one placed under constant surveillance and perhaps end up as another unheralded disappearance.

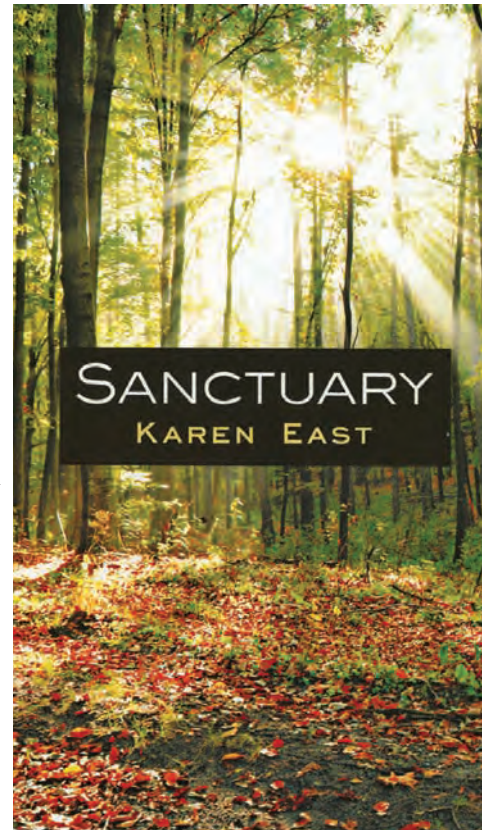
Janet Ryan, a young "newspaper reporter" in Minneapolis, Minn., whose actual job is to churn out stories outlined by DHS, is drawn into a secretive group through a childhood friend. The group doesn't trust anything commonly accepted as the normal part of daily life. Ryan is asked to travel to the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation in northern Wisconsin to meet with an elderly woman who sought asylum there among the Anishinaabe who call the reservation home. What will Ryan find when she leaves the dystopian mainstream society and enters the world of the Anishinaabe?

Sanctuary is easy reading and the writing keeps one engrossed as the story unfolds. But an unnerving phenomenon lives in this novel — while it is often difficult in such stories to imagine how a society can deteriorate so badly, that's not the case in this

work. In fact, it seems like the mainstream world portrayed in *Sanctuary* could be the next logical evolution of current events.

East said she saw mainstream culture was adopting an attitude "in which there was little tolerance for differences of opinion." And this was observed over a long period of time, she said she had the main story line developed along with the characters by 2000.

Sanctuary is a publication of Archway Publishing, a self-publishing subsidiary of the Simon and Schuster Publishing Company. The novel is available through Amazon, Barnes and Noble and Archway Publishing.



Walking on . . .

DAVID F. AMYOTTE

David F. Amyotte, 82, passed away on Aug. 11. He was born Feb. 11, 1938, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

A member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, David attended the local High School in Sault Ste. Marie graduating in 1955. David was an avid hockey player and hunter enjoying many trips to the family hunting cabin in the Upper Peninsula. He played on a "farm" team for a professional hockey team. Joining the Marines in 1957, where he served with honor, David played a role in the 1958 Lebanon crisis. Later he was a postal worker for over 25 years in the Madison, Wis., area where he retired as an inspector of the then Southern Wisconsin distribution center. David was a hockey coach for his three sons and led the first Stoughton hockey teams to first place finishes for a number of years.

David is survived by his wife, Barbara Jean; his son, Michael; his daughter, Sarah; eight grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his siblings and parents, and his sons, David and Harry.

JESSE D. BEAUDOIN

Jesse Daniel Beaudoin, 35, of Trout Lake, Mich., passed away unexpectedly on June 29, 2020, in Ann Arbor, Mich. Jesse was born in Petoskey, Mich., on Sept. 8, 1984, to Joseph and Gayle (Cadreau) Beaudoin.

After high school, Jesse worked as a carpenter. He then moved to Wyoming and California. After some time, he followed his dream of becoming a truck driver and enrolled in truck driving school. Jesse drove for Swift Transportation and eventually bought his own truck and leased on to a few different trucking companies. He made many trips across the country doing what he loved. Jesse moved back to Trout Lake, Mich., in Sept. 2018 to be closer to his family and friends where he drove truck for Tulgetka Transport of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., until his death. Jesse had many hobbies, including hunting, fishing, barbecuing/smoking a variety of meats and cheeses, hanging out with friends and family and especially riding his Harley. He would also help anyone who needed a helping hand.

Jesse is survived by his daughter, Martina, of Joplin, Mo.; a brother Joseph (Michelle) Beaudoin of Sarasota, Fla.; his uncle, Joseph (Bridget) Cadreau, and his aunt, Diann (Elwood) Fox, both of Trout Lake, Mich.; his Godparents, Robert (Robin) Mowery; numerous aunts; many nieces; nephews; and cousins.

His parents, Joseph and Gayle Beaudoin; grandparents, Joseph

and Elaine Cadreau, and Bill and Ruby Beaudoin, preceded Jesse in death.

Graveside services took place at Lakeview Cemetery in Trout Lake on July 18.

GREGORY S. DAVIS

Gregory S. Davis, 82, of Gwinn, passed away on July 22, 2020, at U.P. Health System-Marquette. Greg was born on Jan. 27, 1938, in the family home at Gros Cap, Mich., to the late Cecil and Regina (Cheeseman) Davis. He was a 1956 graduate of LaSalle High School in St. Ignace.

After graduating from high school, Greg was employed as a laborer in the construction of the Mackinac Bridge. In 1958, he enlisted in the U.S. Army until July of 1961. Following his military service, he became an iron worker with Local Union 783 in Marquette until his retirement around 1998.

In his free time, Greg enjoyed going to his camp, "Unyun," in Northland as well as going on rides, gardening at camp and socializing with his buddies at the local tavern. He particularly enjoyed spending time with his family at camp. He was also an avid cribbage player.

Greg was an active member of Little Lake American Legion Post 349 where he often helped with pasty making. He was also a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Survivors include three children, Christopher (Barbe Wheeler) Davis, Cheri (Dean) Roberts and Kevin (Tammy Whitcomb) Davis, all of Gwinn; four grandchildren, Andrew (Adrienne) Roberts, Dean (Alyssa) Roberts, Whitney (Chris Valima) Roberts and Travis Havens; 10 great-grandchildren; one sister, Mary Johnson of Tucson, Ariz.; one brother, Evan (Carol) Davis of Drummond Island, Mich.; sister-in-law, Carol Davis of DeTour, Mich.; also several nieces and nephews and special friend, Chris Burch.

Preceding him in death besides his parents was his wife, the former Patricia A. Soeltner whom he married on April 22, 1961, in Ann Arbor; one son Stephen Davis; a brother, Bruce Davis; also a long-time girlfriend, Jamie Moody.

Visitation and a memorial service took place on Aug. 1 at Canale Gwinn Funeral Home and Cremation Services with the Rev. Allen Mott officiating. Burial with military honors will take place in the Gwinn Cemetery. Greg's funeral was streamed at <https://my.gather.app/remember/gregory-davis>.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans Activities Fund, 425 Fisher Street, Marquette, MI 49855 in Greg's memory.

Canale Gwinn Funeral Home and Cremation Services assisted the Davis family, memories may be shared at canalefuneral.com.



MERRY J. HANLEY

Merry J. Hanley, 80, of Caseville, Mich., passed on July 27, 2020. Merry was born in Manistique, Mich., on May 14, 1940, to Elisabeth Marshal and Victor Steele.

She married George A. Elphinstone in 1958, they had three children, Charles, Renee and Kenneth. After a divorce, she married John G. Hanley, his wife for 30 years until his passing in 2011.

Merry supported charitable functions of the American Legion Riders wherever she went by cooking at their fundraisers and other events. In particular, she helped them at Post 4 in Lakeland, Fla., and Post 359 in Titusville, Fla.

Merry is survived by her children, many grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

In accordance with her request, no funerary services took place and her body was donated to Wayne State University School of Medicine.

KATHERINE M. KOLBUS

Katherine Mary "Honey" Kolbus, age 84, of Wetmore, died unexpectedly, at Munising Memorial Hospital on July 31, 2020. She was born in Munising



on Dec. 4, 1935, the eleventh of 12 children to the late Thomas and Inez (Carr) McNally.

Katherine graduated from Wm. G. Mather High School in 1954. Through school she was active in Glee Club, 4-H and was class secretary. After school she worked on Grand Island at the Mather Lodge cleaning rooms and mastering the perfect hospital corner. Honey then worked at the Munising Paper Mill for a couple of years as a secretary and then in the bakery at Hub's Super Valu before beginning her employment at CCI, which became Timber Products. She worked there for over 25 years and retired as a veneer inspector.

Katherine married Walter "Vog" Kolbus on June 29, 1957. She loved to entertain and was a talented and modest cook, always knowing just the right thing to add to make the meal complete. Katherine enjoyed working on her plants and gardens, picking berries and still would use a push mower to cut her grass. She was highly active and hard-working, and volunteered at the food pantry, Mustang Booster Club and the tribal center, advocating for the local Alzheimer's group and visiting the residents at Tendercare. Honey was proud of her Native American heritage and was an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She was also a devout and faithful member of Sacred Heart Church.

In her later years, she really enjoyed traveling: Honey would get lucky in the casinos in Las Vegas; catch, can and smoke fish from the Kuskokwim River in Alaska, visited Mt. McKinley, flew in a helicopter over the Grand Canyon, hiked in the

Smokey Mountains, climbed the Superstition Mountains in Arizona, went to the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, Mt. Rushmore, Crazy Horse, Colorado and San Antonio to name a few. Honey loved her family, she cherished all the time she could spend with her children, grandchildren and Vog.

She is survived by her husband of 63 years, Walter "Vog" Kolbus of Wetmore; children, Kim Kolbus of Escanaba, Melinda "Mendy" Kolbus of Rapid River, Robin (Joanna) Kolbus of Bethel, Alaska, Kevin (Danielle) Kolbus of Christmas, Karin (Paul) Gollinger of Munising and Kristi (John) Lambert of Mt. Pleasant, Wis.; grandchildren, William Balko, Mark Kolbus, Cheryl (Brandon) Mason, Alyssa and Rianna Brothers, Hayden Bayer, and Megan and Gavin Lambert; great-grandchildren, Sierra, Dimetri, Phoenix, and Sarah; sister, Marilyn "Tenni" Milatovich; sister-in-law, Cece Walkiewicz; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Katherine was preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Inez; son, Mark Kolbus; and siblings, Thomas, Jr., Clifford "Kip," Isabelle "Lolly," Wayne, Dorothy "Dort," Raymond, Margaret "Muggs," John, Marion "Biggs," and Darlene "Dar."

Fr. Michal Ocran celebrated a Memorial Mass for Katherine on Aug. 8 at Sacred Heart Church. Interment followed at Maple Grove Cemetery. Honey's obituary and online guestbook may be viewed and signed at bowermanfuneralhome.net.

DEREK A. LEHRE

Derek Andrew "Diggit" Lehre, 32, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on July 26, 2020, at War Memorial Hospital.

Derek was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on Feb. 29, 1988. He attended Sault High School and was a member of the Sault Tribe. He worked in construction and enjoyed ice fishing, camping, snowmobiling and four-wheeling. Most of all, he loved family time.

Derek is survived by two daughters, Ellie Lehre and Rily Traynor, both of Sault Ste. Marie; his mother, Maggie (Mike "Meco") Gardner of Sault Ste. Marie; two brothers, Timothy (Alyssa) Lehre Jr. of Bay Mills, Mich., and Jeremy Lehre of Sault Ste. Marie; two grandmothers, Ellen Lehre of Sault Ste. Marie and Sarah (Rich) Weber of Dafter, Mich.; and many aunts, uncles, cousins and close friends.

Derek was preceded in death by his father, Timothy W. Lehre Sr.; grandmother, Helen Lehre; grandfathers Samuel Rogan and Albert Lehre; and a cousin, Troy Lehre Jr.

A memorial service was Aug. 4 at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to help with funeral expenses. Condolences may be left at www.csmulder.com.



CONSTANCE F. MARSHALL

Constance F. Marshall, 78 of Pellston, Mich., passed away surrounded by family. Connie was a wonderful mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and aunt who went to be with the Lord on Aug. 10, 2020. She was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Connie was the fourth oldest of nine children. She was born on Dec. 15, to Lee and Ruby (Mallory) Marshall. On November 11, 1961, she married John Borowski for 19 years of marriage. Although their marriage ended, their friendship continued until his death on Sept 12, 2011. Connie and John moved to Walled Lake, Mich., in 1964 where they lived for seven years. On returning to northern Michigan, they built a home in Center Township. There they raised two daughters, Robin and Amber, and a total of 12 foster children, of which four were long-term with them throughout the time living there.

Connie graduated from North Central Michigan College with an associate degree and from Lake Superior State College with a bachelor's degree. She went on to have a wonderful career as a social worker and later as the director of Indian education at Petoskey High School and Charlevoix High School from 1994 to retiring in 2009.

Connie loved working with her flowers and plants, and was a master gardener. Reading was such an enjoyment for her. Once she picked up a book it was hard for her to put it down. She would do anything for anyone. Her whole life was helping people. She was a great inspiration to everyone. She loved her family and will be greatly missed.

She is survived by two daughters, Robin Moyer of Boyne City and Amber Borowski of Harbor Springs and her daughter, Emilee; sons, Tyler and Nathan Moyer (Katelin); great-grandson, Cullen Moyer (Nathan and Katelin Moyer); brothers, Clark Marshall, Nelson (Sandy) Marshall, Kenton (Sonya) Marshall; sisters, Mary Ellen Marshall, Lorelee (David) Dankert and Valorie Dickson; many nieces and nephews.

Connie was preceded in death by her parents, Lee and Ruby Marshall; brother, Doug Marshall; sister, Robin Marshall; sisters-in-law, Ina Marshall, Kay Marshall and Carol Marshall; nephew, Brian Dickson; niece, Michelle Kusnierz; and John Borowski.

Burial arrangements are being made and will be announced.

If you would like to give a memorial donation in Connie's name, donate to Seven Day Adventist Church-Petoskey/Carp Lake, Salvation Army or Spirit Day Camp-Challenge Mountain.

KENNETH L. MCKERCHIE

Kenneth Leroy "Kenny" McKerchie, 77, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away peacefully. See "Walking on," page 18



Walking on continued . . .

From "Walking on," page 17 fully on July 21, 2020, surrounded by loved ones.

Kenny was born on Sugar Island on June 15, 1943, to Earl and Adeline (Aikens) McKerchie and was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Kenny was retired from the Sault Tribe Housing Authority and was a life-time lover of working on cars and enjoying time with family and friends.

Kenny is survived by his siblings, Bernice Roberts, Clarence McKerchie, Loretta (Bob) Peterson, Carol (Bob) Lawrence, Michael McKerchie, Raymond (Sue) McKerchie, Russel (Linda) McKerchie, Irene (Jim) Sears, Beverly (Denny) Watson, and Daniel (Loris) McKerchie; children, Michelle (David) MacArthur, Melissa (Aaron Paulitch) Sally, Mary LaJoyce and Michael (Jessica) McKerchie; grandchildren, Adam (Kaitlyn) MacArthur, Keith MacArthur, Brian McKerchie, Jimmy Smith, Aaron LaJoyce, Cheyenne LaJoyce, Daniel Bowerman, Ethan Black, Ella Black and Kenzey McKerchie; as well as many nieces and nephews. Kenny is also survived by his beloved special friend, Sharon Jaros.

Kenny was preceded in death by his parents, Earl and Adeline McKerchie; brother, Earl "JR" McKerchie; sister, Arlene



McKerchie; and good friend and son-in-law, James "Jim" Sally. Kenny was also preceded in death by the love of his life, Nancy McKerchie, who passed away on the same date 18 years ago.

Family held a private viewing at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and welcomed family and friends to a celebration of life on July 25 at the Niigaanagiiizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie. A graveside service will be held at a later date.

Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

BLANCHE RANTA

Blanche "Bea" Ranta, 93, passed away on July 22, 2020, at Bay Bluffs Care Center in Harbor Springs, Mich. She was born on Sept. 15, 1926. Bea was the last of the Morley family. Her parents, Frank and Matilda Morley; brothers, Lorne, James, John, Albert and Francis; and a sister, Ann Graf, all preceded her in death.

Bea worked at Edison Sault Electric for 28 years, retiring in 1989. She was married 53 years to Leo Ranta, who also preceded her in death.

Bea is survived by one daughter, Nancy McCarry, and Nancy's husband, Robert, whom Bea adored; two grandchildren, James (Mary) McCarry of Auburn, Mich., and Sandy Jennings of Petoskey, Mich.; four great-grandchildren, Bethany McCarry of Oregon, Paige (Ray) Gonzalez of North Carolina and Courtney and Megan Jennings of Petoskey; one great-great-grandson, Myles Gonzalez, and a new little boy to come in September.

Bea is also survived by a sister-in-law, Dorothy Morley, and many nieces and nephews.

Bea was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Bea moved to Petoskey to be close to her daughter and family. She was in an assisted living home and then two care centers.

Bea was always there to lend a helping hand. She was a lovely lady who will be sorely missed but forever remembered. A family funeral service will be held at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home. Burial will be at Riverside Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to Bay Bluffs Foundation, 750 E. Main Street Harbor Spring, MI 49740. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

KATHLEEN SWEENEY

Kathleen (O'Rourke) Sweeney, age 74, of Rockford, Mich., and North Port, Fla., passed away peacefully with her family by her side following a prolonged illness on July 21, 2020, in Sarasota, Fla. She was born on April 1, 1946 in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Clyde and Yvonne (Goudreau) O'Rourke.



Kathy attended elementary school at the Ursuline Academy and graduated from LaSalle High School in St. Ignace, Mich., in

1964. She also married Eugene Sweeney that same year and began her many years with her lifelong partner. Kathy worked for the State of Michigan in the departments of Secretary of State and Natural Resources before retiring 20 years ago.

Kathy was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Our Lady of Consolation Catholic Church in Rockford and San Pedro Catholic Church in North Port Florida. Her Catholic faith was very important to her as she shared that part of her life with her husband Eugene and their children. She was likely greeted in heaven by her brother Fred who passed away only a month prior.

Kathy spent her life enjoying her children and grandchildren. She also loved the outdoors. She enjoyed fishing, hunting and picking blueberries. The first time Eugene brought her deer hunting with him, he let her sit in the woods the entire day by herself. Thinking she would have had enough of that, she quickly exclaimed, "We need to get out here earlier tomorrow, there are deer running everywhere!" She was hooked from that moment on. Her husband and children have fond memories of spending time with her in the woods and on the water. She especially loved spending time with her siblings at bird camp each fall. She loved playing cards with her friends and family and for some reason she seemed to almost always win when playing dummy rummy or cribbage. No one could cook better lasagna, except maybe her

chef brother Tim, from whom she probably got the recipe.

Kathy had many friends and will be surely missed. She had a loving smile and everyone enjoyed being in her company. Kathy was the loving wife of Eugene who survives her. She was also the proud mother of her sons, Aaron (Carolyn) Sweeney of Rockford and Shawn (Ann) Sweeney of Ionia and her daughter, Colleen Sweeney of Sweetwater, N.J. Kathy is one of eight children in the O'Rourke family. Her surviving siblings are Dan (Carol) O'Rourke of Oneida, Wis., Tom "Clem" (Lynn) O'Rourke of Fowler, Mich., Tim (Barb) O'Rourke of Dyer, Ind., Bill (Karen) O'Rourke of Bellevue, Mich., Rose (Eban) Mackey of Marshall, Mich., Clyde (Beth) O'Rourke of St. Ignace and sister in law Jeanette (Fred) O'Rourke of St. Ignace. She will also be deeply mourned by Eugene's siblings and her 10 grandchildren Mariah, Connor, Ryan, Emmett, Owen, Keegan, Trey, Rourke, Finnegan and Dempsey.

Kathy was preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Fred. A funeral Mass took place at Our Lady of Consolation Church in Rockford on Aug. 21. Interment will be at the Holy Family Cemetery in Barbeau, Mich. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that Masses be offered for the repose of her soul.

Services are under the care of Farley Funeral Home in North Port. Online condolences can be made at www.farleyfuneralhome.com.

Governors nationwide urge Oct. 31 Census deadline

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Gretchen Whitmer, Oregon Governor Kate Brown, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper, Washington Governor Jay Inslee, Colorado Governor Jared Polis, Illinois Governor JB Pritzker, and Vermont Governor Phil Scott sent a joint letter to the U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Department of Commerce on Aug. 18 urging them to reinstate the Census collection and response period to Oct. 31. The Census Bureau recently slashed the period by an entire month to Sept. 30, 2020.

"The Trump administration's

last-minute, under-the-cover-of-darkness changes to the U.S. Census deadline threaten our ability to get an accurate count, which will be used to determine Congressional representation and federal funding for the next decade," said Governor Whitmer. "It is more important than ever that we be able to reach and account for every Michigander to ensure we receive funding for essential programs to help Michiganders recover from the COVID-19 crisis and be successful over the next decade – services like child care, education, foster care and special education. I urge the

U.S. Census Bureau to restore the Oct. 31 deadline to give states the time needed to get a complete and accurate count. I'm also calling on all Michigan residents to complete the Census immediately, whether it's online, by phone, or by mail, to ensure our communities receive the resources they've worked so hard to earn."

In April, Congress and the White House agreed to extend Census count operations through Oct. 31 in light of the extraordinary challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. There is still a possibility that Congress will act to extend the statutory

deadline for delivering the population count beyond Dec. 31, 2020.

Despite this agreement, in August, the U.S. Census Bureau, which is a part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, quietly announced they were shortening the 2020 Census deadline to Sept. 30, 2020.

Historically, the U.S. Census has undercounted minorities, immigrants, those living in poverty and young children. The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed, confirmed and highlighted pre-existing inequities in Michigan and disproportionately affected communi-

ties of color making it all the more important that these populations are counted.

In Michigan alone, 3.3 million people are considered hard-to-count based on the Census Bureau's own low response score calculation which factors in internet access, rental rate and more to determine which areas are less likely to respond to the 2020 census. With the shortened timeline, the Trump administration is making it nearly impossible to ensure these hard-to-count communities are counted and as a result compromising funding for all Michiganders.

Native organizations alarmed over announced Census change

This week, the U.S. Census Bureau announced it is ending its Census 2020 field operations on Sept. 30, 2020, despite severely low response rates in historically undercounted areas, including in many tribal areas across the country.

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), the Native American Rights Fund (NARF) and the National Urban Indian Family Coalition (NUIFC) are deeply alarmed and concerned with this unwarranted and irresponsible decision. An accurate Census count is essential to ensure fair and accurate representation of all Americans, including this country's First Americans, because Census data is used for reapportionment

of congressional seats and in redistricting to elect representatives at every level of government. Ending the 2020 Census count early during a global pandemic is not only bad policy, it puts at risk the ability of our communities to access social safety nets and other benefits that a complete Census count affords Americans wherever they are.

Our tribal nations and tribal communities have been ravaged by COVID-19, and an extension of the Census enumeration period was a humane lifeline during an unprecedented global health catastrophe that provided critically needed additional time to tribal nations to ensure that everyone in their communities are counted. For millions of American Indians

and Alaska Natives, whether they live on rural reservations or in America's large cities, an inaccurate Census count will decimate our ability to advocate for necessary services for our most vulnerable communities. An incomplete

Michigan applies for additional \$300 weekly to unemployed

LANSING, Mich. – The Michigan Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) submitted an application on Aug. 18 to the United States Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) for funding that would provide an additional \$300 per week payment to Michiganders receiving unemployment benefits.

"Right now, there are an unprecedented number of

count also undermines our representative system of government in violation of the United States Constitution and in derogation of the federal government's trust responsibilities to tribal nations.

NCAI, NARF, and NUIFC

Michiganers who have lost work due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This program will provide some much needed support for families that are struggling to put food on the table or pay their bills, but it's a short term band aid that falls short of what's needed," said Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

The UIA estimates that under the program, about 910,000 Michiganders would receive at

least \$300 per week in supplemental benefits. Eligible claimants will be paid benefits retroactive to Aug. 1.

UIA Director Steve Gray said, "Michigan workers are advised to continue their bi-weekly certifications as they normally would and do not need to contact the UIA or make changes to their MiWAM account to receive these additional funds."

Clean, Drain, Dry: preventing more damage from invasive species with three step program

BY KATHIE BROSEMER, ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM MANAGER

If you were asked how many invasive species are in the Great Lakes, what would you say? 50? 100? Would you believe someone if they told you there were over 175 different species that didn't originate here?

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association there are over 175 invasive species in the Great Lakes today. Most were brought in unintentionally due to commercial or recreational boating. Out of all of the invasive species the most famous would be either the sea

lamprey or the zebra mussel. Sea lampreys have been established in the Great Lakes since the construction of the Welland Canal in 1919, which let them access the lakes above Niagara Falls. Like sea lamprey, it was shipping that brought zebra mussels into the upper lakes but they didn't have to swim. In the mid-1980s it is believed a single ship traveling from the Baltic Sea exchanged its ballast water in Lake St. Clair, unintentionally releasing zebra mussel larvae.

The most important fact about the invasive species that became famous is that they do a lot of harm to the fisheries that sustain us and that we enjoy. Now the

question is simple, what can you do to prevent further spread and new introductions? You can care for your gear.

Highlighting the three steps to invasive species prevention and management, the Clean, Drain, Dry Initiative™ is an easy way to remember to care for your gear and protect the environment. Every time you enter or leave the water, mother earth needs you to clean not only your boat, but everything that may come in contact with the water. This means inner tubes, life jackets, fishing poles and lines, nets, coolers, and the entire boat and trailer. On the boat every surface should be wiped

down, and the bilge, transom well and live well drained and rinsed.

Between trips everything should be given ample time to completely dry, preferably a week as zebra mussels can survive out of water for several days.

The Clean, Drain, Dry™ process is even more important when traveling from one water body to another. For instance, the red swamp crayfish is present in southern Michigan, but not in the northern lower peninsula or in the Upper Peninsula. If a fisherman accidentally traps a red swamp crayfish in their bilge and brings his boat to go

fishing in Lake Superior without properly cleaning and drying it, he could unintentionally introduce a new invasive species to our waters. Unfortunately this has happened before in other parts of the Great Lakes region, showing how important it is to clean, drain and dry all boats and gear.

Without proper precautions, boaters will continue to introduce invasive species to the Great Lakes and harm our fisheries. To learn more about the Clean, Drain, Dry Initiative™ visit their website at stopaquaticinvasives.org or call the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575.

What you need to know about blue-green algae

BY ROB WIENER, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

When temperatures soar in the summer months, many people and their pets, love to take to the water to help beat the heat. While swimming is usually a perfectly safe summertime tradition, there are some emerging threats that water enthusiasts and pet owners should be aware of.

Each summer, news stories break throughout the country about dogs dying after swimming in water. The usual culprit: cyanobacteria, commonly known as blue-green algae.

Blue-green algae are a group of naturally occurring bacteria

found in both fresh and salt water. Although a blue-green color is most common, the bacteria can also be red, brown or even purple.

In late summer and early fall, conditions are often favorable for excessive growth of cyanobacteria, also known as a blue-green algal bloom. In addition to warm temperatures, blue-green algal blooms are fueled by an overabundance of nutrients, particularly phosphorus and nitrogen. Excess phosphorus and nitrogen can enter bodies of water through many sources, including fertilizer runoff and untreated sewage from manure spreading, leaking septic

systems or wastewater overflows.

People typically recognize blue-green algal blooms by the appearance of a scum on the water's surface and/or bluish-green stained water, many times accompanied by a foul odor.

However, blue-green algal blooms can also occur in water that appears clear. Blue-green algal blooms are likely to be more prevalent in lakes and ponds, where the water is less prone to being mixed up and dispersed from wind and waves.

The presence of blue-green algae in a water body is not abnormal. However, it can

become a concern because in some instances, blue-green algae can produce harmful toxins. Toxins released from blue-green algae can be harmful to both humans and pets, potentially damaging the brain, liver and kidneys of an animal.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), exposure to cyanobacteria can occur through ingestion, inhalation, or skin contact. This means that being in or around an algal bloom can expose a person or pet to the toxins in a variety of manners. Signs and symptoms of exposure can include gastrointestinal ailments, sore throat or

respiratory problems, or irritation in the eyes or on the skin.

The CDC recommends avoiding drinking or recreating in water that is discolored, has a bad odor, or has visible scum or foam on the surface. Pets that inadvertently enter suspect water should be rinsed off as quickly as possible and monitored closely for signs of sickness or distress.

Just because water has a certain coloration or substances floating on it does not mean it is harboring harmful cyanobacteria. There are many other naturally occurring and human-caused phenomena that can be mistaken for harmful algal blooms.

ATTENTION BOATERS

AUGUST — OCTOBER

Possible Salmon Gill nets in northern Lakes Huron & Michigan

Salmon Nets must be marked on the surface at each end with a 5-foot staff buoy, 12-inch x 12-inch orange flag with fisher's number, 6-inch x 14-inch orange floats every 300 feet.



➔ Visibility will be limited during low-light or bad weather conditions. Please exercise extreme caution while boating in these areas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority
179 W 3 Mile Rd.
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.
906-632-0043

U.S. Coast Guard
Sault Ste. Marie
906-635-3233

MDNR RAP Hotline:
1-800-292-7800



Tribal Commercial Salmon Fishery

LAKE HURON

A. Aug 1-Oct. 15: Brulee Point to Rabbit Back Point.
B. Sept. 1-Oct. 15: Cordwood Point to Hammond Bay Harbor Light.

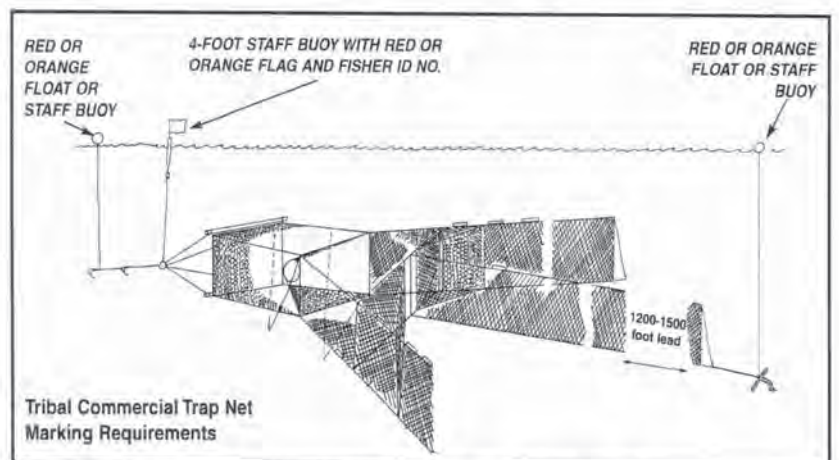
LAKE MICHIGAN

C. Aug. 1-Oct. 15: McGulpin Point in the Mackinaw City area to Seven Mile Point near Cross Village, within one (1) mile of the shoreline.
D. Sept. 15-Oct. 30: Off the tip of Leelanau Peninsula and west to just north of the Leland River.
E. Day after Labor Day – Oct. 30: Suttons Bay from Omena Point to Suttons Point.

2020

NOTICE TO BOATERS

COMMERCIAL TRAP NETS in northern Lakes Michigan & Huron



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

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

2020

Autumn colors, weather, scents and more await

POETRY BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Drum beats of the wind

While we sleep our spirits dance to drum beats of the wind, graceful motion ethereal souls joined in a dance that never ends.

Moving to the beat of the sea, and the whisper of the waves, our moccasined feet don't miss a step but tap to the harmony.

Sleeping, our spirits move within time to drum beats not always there. The breath of air that a dinosaur breathed was the same one you and I shared.

Dancing upon the tides of time we spread our wings and learned to fly, our moccasined feet move gracefully to the tune of a Grandfather drum.

While we sleep our spirits dance to be near each other again, the earth is aware of our soul prints threaded throughout her hair.

Each is entwined with the other through the present and the past, our moccasined feet move joyfully to the drums beat, home at last.

While we sleep our spirits dance to drum beats of the wind, as our destinies unfold throughout time, we will meet each other again.

The earth is our cradle, the universe our backyard, our moccasined feet move to a shared beat that is yet to be defined.

Our spirits dance together to a beat we each create. Life is a gift, time an illusion, love the ultimate goal. Our moccasined feet have found the beat within each others souls.

While we sleep our spirits dance to drum beats of the wind, drum beats which will call us home to be with each other again.

The north wind blew last night from off the Canadian shore

The north wind blew last night from off the Canadian shore. It crept around the edges of my hood, freeing some of my hair, which danced upon its jagged breath, playing in the setting sun.

It seemed to delight in the wicked cold now coming in measurable gusts; for as I turned it bounced and curled, unwilling to be confined. And so I reached up to push the unruly mess back, turning around to find...

That the north wind was taking on a manlier task, leaving my hair behind. I bent down near the water's edge to watch its turbulent draught, only to see the setting sun joining in on the fun, and painting a canvas of deep ardent hues, on porcelain crazed shards of ice - that the north wind took it upon itself to

send crashing to my feet.

And as I raised the camera to my eyes, the wind then held its breath. My finger pressed the shutter release as the sun began to set. My hands had slowed from the biting cold, seeking the warmth of home; and as I turned and lifted my foot the north wind took a deep breath...

And sent a great gust aimed at my back, making the ice pop and crack. It formed new colors and landscapes on the river's now dark slopes; the canvas that was a tandem work, with its audience of one...

Now was almost done, and although it grew darker still the north wind played with a few more strands, and in a fond farewell above my head and guiding me home were ribbons of dark amber clouds.



A storm can be seen in the distance on the St. Marys river.

From father to son, the Anishinaabe fishermen's legacy lives on upon the Great Lakes shores

This was written many years ago in honor of Vic Matson, Sr. and his tug "Sallie," and the role he played over the years protecting the rights of tribal fishermen.

Thank you for carrying me through the storm, even though you were tired and worn. For sharing the love of the lakes with me, for a fisherman I was born to be.

Fourth generation, my son makes five, he walks in my footsteps and fills me with pride.

Before our treaty rights were

recognized, we were soot in some peoples eyes.

Our nets were cut, our life was torn, while we were waiting for a treaty to be born.

Our children ran screaming, their arms opened wide, to prevent the DNR from taking our pride. Their arms were pried loose, a trailer hooked up, out of the water it was jerked with a tug.

The biggest mistake they ever made, cameras were waiting that Native American Day.

With autumn come visits from hammer-wielding Thor

Vibrating the dwellings of simple men, making the water shiver under the captains feet. Wielding his fearful hammer Mjolnir, his iron gloves gripping his sturdy staff - he but lifts his arm and thunder peals. Fierce-eyed he looks around, his hair and beard a fiery red, he sends a bolt of lightning to the ground, and as he reaches into his belt for another round - my dogs circle and lay at my feet and the cats all run and hide. It's Thor! I tell them all, a welcome visitor this warm fall night.

In anticipation of the storm on a cool fall night

The dogs and cats are restless, sensing tension in the air. The churning of the freighter becomes muffled against the frenzied waves.

With anticipation the rumble comes - the sound of Thor's staff being drawn to his hand. They come to me for comfort, instinctively protective, as the tumultuous storm draws near.

Circling around my feet, they lay listening for his footsteps, which in the distance take up a thrumming beat, gaining convective force. His staff shooting lightning, his stride followed by gusty wind.

Outside, the oak quakes in anticipation of the visit from its indomitable friend; knowing the sky will turn black, the stars disappear, and lance-like flames dance across the sky. As the river gives off steam, the old

gnarled oak becomes covered in cleansing rain, losing more of its fall-colored leaves through which the curious chipmunk must push aside in order to see.

The red-haired red-bearded fierce eyed Thor, the bearer of 14 names, stands as he takes the reins of his cart from the hands of his golden-haired goddess Sif. His two goats bleat and paw, ready to go. Thor pulls on his iron gloves, and it begins.

I take a sip of my coffee, flashlight close at hand, and hope for a good show, of lightening, thunder, rain - with all the windows open in hushed expectation,

I am not disappointed! One cat runs and hides, the dogs look but don't move.

I lift my cup in salute to Thor's might, and breathe deep of the storms fresh offerings.

As Thor beckons, laughing, the wind races to catch up

Thor gently and insidiously invades my dream. From a deep oblivious sleep to a groggy acknowledgement, I hear a sound as though he snored; he shakes his head in disgust.

The snore grows into a loud growl, and then closer still it becomes a living beast, and with a pulse of its tail emits another 'crack!' I readjust my bed covers and keep my eyes shut, not willing to let in the light.

With the dawn comes fog and wet, the rain-slicked world outside my window begins to waken and beckons to me to tiptoe past the frightened

dog to view Thor in his glory - with a sunrise shroud around his shoulders and his hammer shooting off slivers of lightening each time it touches a cloud.

His bronzed muscular Norse God frame stands tall and proud, as he flexes and puts on a show. Snore indeed! I hear him say - then 'crack!' His steed jumps into the harness and then all I see is Thor's back.

Where the sunrise before shrouded, the rainbow now highlights his track. And laughing from a distance he beckons, and the wind races to catch up.

A hungry bass outwits a fisherman's tempting bait

Green sea grass ripples over a large mouth bass, while a tackle patched tree stump provides cool dappled shade, over which a gossamer dragonfly grazes its violet hued wing, knocking a spider, which takes a swing landing on the log again.

Patterns on the surface shift as a fishing line causes a rift. The sea grass ripples absorbing the blow, alerting the bass nestled below.

The bass avoids the fisherman's line, but not so the dragonfly. Scuttle bugs scurry across the way, wind blown they follow the waves.

Noon time heat saturates the day making the lady bugs stop their play. Turtles bask between both worlds, keeping an eye on the fisherman nearby.

The spider walks along the log, spotted by a green eyed frog. The bass jumps up to take a look, rocking a lilly pad near the fisherman's hook.

The splash resounds across the lake creating ripples under the waves. The fisherman decides to call it a day happy with his time away.

The tackle patched tree stump gives off steam making the dragonfly sleepy again. The spider finds a perfect spot above the sea grass gently rocked by the engines rush.

The sun paints a path across the lake, cooling the air the lady bugs wake. The night time chorus sings their song with the green eyed frog hopping along.

The fisherman stacks the logs up high, while the scent of his

fire hangs over the night.

The cool air covering the sun warmed lake creates tendrils of fog where fireflies play.

The hazy stars in their velvet throne wink at the lake now put to bed. The fisherman packs away his gear, stifles a yawn and startles a deer.

Night time creatures now get their turn, wind blown they follow the waves. The fireflies call to the bass below, who sticks his head up to watch the show.

As the fisherman climbs into his truck he tosses his bait into the muck. The sea grass ripples absorbing the blow, alerting the bass now nestled below.

And so the lake drifts off to sleep, the hungry bass now fully replete.

for it has traveled with the best. There may be tears in it's owners eyes, but there is pride in the hearts of our tribe.

They have worked hard the two of them, but now it's time to trade the *Sallie* in.

A fisherman's day is an early one, no matter the weather their life goes on, and on those Great Lakes now sails Vic Matson's son.



Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and Conservation

BY ROBERT MARCHAND,
CHIEF OF POLICE

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) has implemented a requirement that, to assist in slowing the spread of COVID-19, if you are entering the judicial building, you are required to wear a face covering or face mask. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.



al reports for the inland fishing, hunting and gathering licenses. Failure to submit required commercial or subsistence catch reports will result in a ticket and fines, per code: failure to submit the annual inland hunting, fishing and gathering harvest reports

will prevent tribal members from obtaining the current year's license until the prior year report has been submitted.

All three types of reports are required to be submitted, regardless of whether members exercised the activity allowable under each different license.

Early firearm deer season is approaching. This year it goes from Sept. 8 through Oct. 31.

During early firearm season, with tribal license and tags, members may take two deer, only one of which can be antlered.

Late firearm deer season begins Nov. 15 and goes through Jan. 3, 2021.

The remainder of a licensed member's deer tags can be filled

during this season.

Quiet time goes from Nov. 1 through Nov. 14. Firearms are not allowed to be used, however, licensed members may fill their tags using a bow or crossbow during quiet time.

Fall turkey season begins Sept. 15 and goes through Nov. 14 and licensed members may fill their two tags with birds of either sex.

Tribal laws that regulate treaty licenses are available online at www.saulttribe.com. Scroll down Government to Tribal Code.

Chapter 21 and 23 regulate inland hunting, fishing and gathering activity. Chapter 20 and CORA code regulate Great Lakes subsistence, subsistence gill net, commercial fishing activity and recre-

ational fishing with just your tribal membership card (See CORA Code, Part Five, Section XVII – Recreational Fishing). Maps, applications and other resource materials can be found on the website by selecting Membership Services, Natural Resources and either click the downloads link to the left or at the bottom of the page, in red letters – For Applications Click Here.

General information

As always, if members have any questions regarding any of the treaty licensing requirements, please feel free to call Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and we will put you in touch with an officer. We can be reached at (906) 635-6065.

LSSU adds elementary education and secondary education programs to degree completion offerings in Petoskey

Lake Superior State University is expanding its degree completion offerings in Petoskey by adding baccalaureate programs in elementary education and secondary education.

These opportunities, again offered in partnership with North Central Michigan College, went into effect with the fall 2020 semester and build on the undergraduate options already in place between the two institutions. Students take classes at NCMC—the site for LSSU's regional center in Petoskey—from both schools and ultimately can earn select bachelor's degrees from LSSU.

"We're excited at our latest initiative to help fill the need for teachers in Michigan and to provide students from the Petoskey area the chance to earn an undergraduate degree in their community," said Dr. Barb Light, dean of the College of Education and Liberal Arts at LSSU.

The new elementary education and secondary education completion programs increase the roster of LSSU majors that also include early childhood education, accounting, business administration, criminal justice, and general studies. All of these undergraduate degrees can be completed at the LSSU regional center in Petoskey on NCMC's



campus without students ever having to come to Sault Ste. Marie. Completion degree programs also benefit students financially; they save on tuition by earning 45-70 credits from NCMC, depending on program selection, and the rest from LSSU.

NCMC President Dr. David Roland Finley said, "We are extremely pleased to partner once more with LSSU to offer these new baccalaureate degrees here in Petoskey. The longstanding partnership of our two institutions has made Northern Michigan a great place to live and learn for generations. It's now even better!"

LSSU has operated a regional center on NCMC's campus for

more than 25 years, with more than 500 LSSU students earning undergraduate degrees there.

Principals and superintendents often favor hometown teachers for knowing the lay of the land, observed Dr. Light. "And teachers raised in Northern Michigan may be more inclined to want to give back by educating the next generation in their backyard," she said. Perhaps most importantly, the School of Education at LSSU prepares teacher candidates for day-one readiness, Dr. Light pointed out, and achieves 100 percent job placement for them.

Elementary education concentrations are offered in early childhood, learning disabilities, language arts, mathematics or

language arts and mathematics. Secondary education concentrations are offered in English language and literature, mathematics, integrated science or social science.

LSSU President Dr. Rodney S. Hanley said, "We continue to make efforts to address the teacher shortage throughout the state, as these new education completion offerings suggest. And our regional centers serve as prime examples of community partnerships and engagement, which form one of the priorities of our strategic plan."

About Lake Superior State University: Lake Superior State University is one of Michigan's most affordable public universities with One-Rate at Lake State tuition for all. Surrounded by three Great Lakes, LSSU is an unsurpassed location for research, innovation, and real-world experiences. Signature programs include fisheries and wildlife management, engineering, nursing, criminal justice, business, robotics engineering, and fire science.

In 2019, Lake State launched the first cannabis chemistry program in the nation. LSSU also was the first campus nationwide to offer an accredited four-year fire science program; it is one of three in the U.S. LSSU was

the first campus nationwide to offer an accredited four-year robotics engineering technology program and is the only university nationwide to offer undergraduate education in industrial robotics. LSSU also offers several certificate programs, including a one-year culinary arts chef certificate at its 5,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art Les Cheneaux Culinary School in Hessel. Regional centers are in Escanaba, Iron Mountain, and Petoskey. LSSU opened its newest location in St. Helen in 2020. Additional LSSU hallmarks include the annual Banished Words List that receives worldwide media coverage and a student-run Atlantic salmon hatchery at its renowned Center for Freshwater Research and Education. LSSU's NCAA Division I hockey team has won five national championships; men compete in five other sports and women in six at the Division II level. Lake State was founded in 1946 in Sault Ste. Marie, the oldest city in Michigan (1668), on the site of the former U.S. Army's Fort Brady. Lake State has approximately 2,000 undergraduate students, with 88 percent coming from Michigan, and with every county represented. Ninety percent of full-time students receive financial aid.

Sault Tribe looking for members to fill vacant seats on committees

The following committees have vacant seats. Sault Tribe members interested in filling these vacancies should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other members to Joanne Carr or Linda Grossett, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783. Call 906-635-6050 with any questions.

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - six vacancies –three males (4-year term), three female (4-year term)

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

Election Committee - four vacancies (4-year term)

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

Health Board - five vacancies

(4-year term)

Housing Commission - one vacancy – Unit 5 (4-year term)

Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - five vacancies (2-year term)

Elder Advisory Committee Unit I - Sault (4-year term),

one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy

Unit II - Hessel (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit II - Naubinway (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit III - St. Ignace (4-year term), one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy

Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term) one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy

Unit V - Munising (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy

Elder Subcommittee

Unit I - Sault (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, two alternate seat vacancies

Unit II - Hessel (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies, two alternate vacancies

Unit II - Newberry (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit II - Naubinway (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy and two alternate seat vacancies

Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies

Unit V - Munising (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, two alternate seat vacancies

Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one alternate seat vacancy

Dean Koval Bell birth

It is with great pride that we wish to announce the birth of Dean Koval Bell.

Dean was born on July 12, 2020, to his beaming parents Jennifer (tribal member) and Brad Bell in Davison, Mich.

He is a healthy good looking boy and is growing like a weed.

His older brother Benson (almost 3 years old and a tribal member) wanted to say "Hello, little brother, welcome home."

As their grandfather, I couldn't be more happy and proud to say "Awenen," and I love you.



LISTEN TO THE DRUM: ANSWER THE CENSUS & VOTE BECAUSE SINCE 1948 ~ YOU CAN!



Dr. Aaron A. Payment,
Tribal Chairperson

*Representing All
Members Everywhere*

Ahneen, Boozho,

I have always been involved in supporting candidates who support Indian Country ~ both republican and democrat. As Tribal Chairperson, I am careful to not push partisanship. Going into a federal election, we must not stick our head in the sand. Instead, it is important to know from candidates for federal office what their platforms are for Indian Country. Election platforms set the administrative and legislative agenda for the next four to eight years. We cannot afford to blindly follow anyone but must educate ourselves as to who represents opportunities beneficial to our Tribe.

Since being trained in 1992 as a member of the inaugural class of the Michigan Political Leadership Program, I have seen the value of reaching across the isle and building friendships to transcend politics to support our tribal causes. To give back, I have trained 30 cohorts of 24 fellows annually on the importance of Tribal Sovereignty and Governance. One example of how this has benefitted our Tribe is my friendship with an MPLP Alumni and former Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives Craig DeRoche (Republican from Novi, MI). During his tenure, because it was good policy, and I am sure because of our friendship, he protected the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver from cuts for which

Democratic Governor Granholm had agreed. Most recently, my friend Senator Wayne Schmidt (R) and Sault Tribe Member Senator Jeff Irwin (D) worked across the isle to gain full funding for the MITW. Working toward good policy despite politics, is one of the hallmarks of MPLP and of my career.

During the Obama-Biden Administration, I was involved in helping push substantive issues in support of our tribes. The creation of the White House Council on Tribal Affairs came about after a resolution passed by the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes pushed for this. Further, the Annual White House Tribal Leaders Conference helped to establish a substantive agenda for advancing our issues. One benchmark was the 500,000 acres of land that was put into reservation trust status for tribes. Our Tribe saved over \$300,000 annually in taxes for land put in trust.

Always remember, that the 500 million acres of land tribes ceded (our Tribe and four others ceded 14 million acres in the 1836 treaty) prepaid in full every penny we receive. It is not welfare, socialism, or even reparations. It is legal tender that must be paid.

Another such dividend during the Obama Administration was how our treaty and trust funding for implementation of the Inland Consent Decree was shielded from cuts during sequestration. I worked directly on this with Secretary of Interior Sally Jewell and Assistant Secretary Kevin Washburn under the Obama Admin-



istration. The result was an annual amount of \$455,000 to our Tribe for treaty rights.

YOUR SACRED DUTY ON BEHALF OF OUR ANCESTORS

I guesstimate that our Sault Tribe Members are split between democratic and republican politics. With 22,000+ Sault Tribe Members of voting age in MI, we are two times the margin of victory in the last Presidential election at 10,704. With our Headquarters situated in a rural part of the country, many of our people support the 2nd Amendment, Right to Life, and lean Conservative on many issues. Most of these issues are very personal and in many cases dictate how we vote. I lean libertarian as I don't want government intruding in my life. But as Tribes, upholding treaties and funding is a strong federal responsibility.

As an American Indian, the issues which determine how I vote, are whether or not a candidate supports issues which benefit our Tribe. Do they have any clue what a tribal sovereignty platform looks like. Admittedly, democrats and republicans candidates have little understanding of our issues. Part of my job as Chairperson and as an Anishinabek or American Indian is to educate those who will make major decisions on our sovereignty and upholding the treaty and trust responsibility including funding for our people. This is a sacred duty we inherited from our ancestors who sacrificed and signed the treaties to provide our very way of life and prosperity.

TRYING TO WORK WITH THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION

Recall my Chair's report dating back to July 2017 when I reported that I was one of the first group of eight tribal leaders to meet with President Trump. All of the other leaders were from oil or energy rich tribes. I think I was invited given my non-partisan approach and work on the National level to benefit all Indian people. I have not spoken too much regarding this meeting as it was frenetic and surreal ~ like an episode of the apprentice. We were scheduled for 45 minutes. After 30 minutes of

discussing his former opponent, just two of us were permitted to speak. When Trump called upon me, I addressed the need to get government out of the way with respect to permitting tribes to use of our own land. I also addressed the overly bureaucratic process for putting land into trust. I then addressed our impending Mandatory Trust Petition for our downstate land. He noted that he recalled our Tribe as the Casino in Detroit that turned him down for a partnership (he subsequently filed for bankruptcy). This frightened me as he has shown himself to be vindictive. He said that he would have the Interior Secretary follow up but nothing positive came of it.

TRUMP ADMIN REJECTS SAULT TRIBE MANDATORY TRUST

After about a year or so and then Interior Secretary Zinke being forced to resign, our Mandatory Trust went into limbo. In earnest, we tried everything to advance our request but were finally denied by the Trump Administration. Despite the 1997 Michigan Indian Land Claims Settlement Act specifically providing for us to take land into trust if acquired with interest from our Land Claims Fund, we were denied. Part of the reason was because we failed to sufficiently demonstrate how acquiring such land would benefit our Members back home, and down state. This is not a criteria but one for which I firmly believe we need to solidify via a tribal referendum to approve a revenue sharing plan to guarantee all Members will benefit.

If you read our newspaper and watch the press releases, you will recall that we filed a federal lawsuit to overturn the Trump Administration's denial. Guess what? We won! The Trump Administration is appealing and wasting tax payers dollars as we will prevail much like the Tohono O'odham Nation who have lent their support. We will prevail as we know what the law contemplated. How do we know this? We, and the Bay Mills Tribe drafted the bill and gained the support of Congressmen Bart Stupak and Dale Kildee to sponsor the bill.

I realize that many of

our ST Members can't yet see the benefit of Membership. With the recent distribution of Cares Act funds not based on economic need but based on living in the services area, this point is underscored. But, our long term strategic plan does include expansion of services to Members no matter where you live. To accomplish this, we need to keep fighting for full treaty and trust funding which is my strength. But we also desperately need our Mandatory Trust to be approved. This will generate revenues at over 5 times what we make now. I am convinced our Board will hold a referendum vote to approve a long term spending plan that includes everyone. If not, I doubt we will ever gain approval on our Mandatory Trust Petition.



KEEPING OUR TRIBAL OPTIONS OPEN

A year ago, during a tribal leader meeting with Presidential candidates, I had the opportunity to pose some tough questions to Sen. Kamala Harris who was then a Presidential candidate. The questions dealt with taking land into trust. Her answer was that she would streamline the federal process and not subordinate tribes to states or local governments. The California tribes who were present were pleased with her answer and my friend Pechanga Tribe Chairman Mark Macarro endorsed her in the days that followed.

Over the next several weeks, I will be pressing to ferret out a clear platform from all federal candidates on taking land into trust, our mandatory trust and upholding the treaty and trust obligations. In 2016, neither Clinton nor Trump bothered. The Trump Administration has made his opposition clear by denying our mandatory trust. That's not to say they couldn't change in 10 weeks. I support any candidate, regardless of party who will support a strong tribal sovereignty and treaty platform.

Chi McGwitch, Negee!

Aaron

"We are Americans, but we are also Native Americans with a right to vote & be counted since becoming citizens in 1924 and granted the federal right to vote in elections following landmark cases in 1948 Harrison v. Laveen and Trujillo v. Garley. Think about that, just 71 years ago, our right to vote was finally affirmed"

Working to meet needs with limited resources



KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

As we all weave our way through a difficult year, we must be cognizant of how everyone is

handling the pressures their own way. Our tribal members, our team members and staff have had some difficult times both physically and emotionally these last four months. I thank everyone for their understanding as the tribal board works to get the needs met that we can with limited resources.

I have had many calls on many topics over the year. I wish I could respond to them all with a complete answer but things are changing rapidly and sometimes the yes answer today is a no answer tomorrow. Please be patient with each other and we will get to where we need to be.

Our tribal government is stable and all divisions, departments and

programs are open and functioning. Some have had to change how they interact with people but the core mission remains intact. Our tribal casinos have had a rougher time of it. Closing down and then reopening has been hard on our team members and guests. We opened on a limited games base and some team members have not been recalled to work yet. I hope soon we will be able to employ all our team members again.

The casino patrons are beginning to come back and we will have our casinos as safe and welcoming as we possibly can. The loss of revenue from the shut down is real. The tribal board needs to prepare to do all it can

to sustain the level of programs the government provides now. We are working on ways to make sure that we can maintain those standards.

A word on the COVID money the tribe has received from the federal government. It has many, many, restrictions attached to them. We get federal guidance one day that says to spend it on COVID impacted items and then a week later clarification comes in. Don't spend it here. Don't spend it there. Don't recapture lost revenue, don't replace worn out equipment, etc. Then a week later after we have made the plan adjustments the new guidance comes out that the government will be audited on the spending of

the COVID money according to new guidelines that are still being developed. The final guidance says that if you fail to adhere to all the guidance and you also have to spend it out completely by Dec. 31 or repay the government the money back. These all cause great stress on our staff and board members. We only have a one shot and a short time to get it right. So right now it is taking most of the staff's time to fulfill the board's directions.

Please take care, be safe and be thankful for what the Creator has given us. Thank you again for the calls and e-mail. Keith Massaway, 702 Hazelton St., St. Ignace, MI. 49781, kmassaway@msn.com, (906) 643-6981.

Consent Decree negotiations extended to Dec. 31



CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

The dog days of August are here. I hope everyone is finding a way to get outdoors and enjoy this fine weather. I did notice a

few leaves on my maple trees starting to show hints of red. Always a reminder of the chores that have to be done before winter arrives once again.

2020 Consent Decree negotiations continue under an extension of the current decree until Dec. 31, as ordered by the court. This extension was ordered by the court in order to accommodate challenges related to COVID-19 restrictions. Virtual meetings rather than meeting together at the table has slowed down the process. But we've made good use of this time. I'm feeling positive. Our negotiation team, with support and input from the Tribal Board, input from Conservation Committee members and tremendous work by our biological staff

and legal team has been focused, substantive and productive. I thank them all for their contributions and dedication.

COVID-19 funding has also been a challenge. Tribal governments have a direct relationship with the federal government. We know a thing or two about agency funding processes. The process of passing legislation is relatively simple. Once it is negotiated and approved by both the House and Senate, the bill is sent to the president, who decides whether to veto it or sign it into law.

But enacting a law is only the first step in a complex process that must occur before the law takes full effect. While the laws Congress has passed in recent

years have become increasingly detailed, most legislation sent to the Executive Branch departments and agencies for implementation remains vague. Early on, general information about the new law is produced, including Frequently Asked Questions, or FAQs, as well as resources for the major provisions and "nonregulatory guidance" that provides helpful but nonbinding clarifications on potentially ambiguous issues when putting the law into practice.

When there is emergency legislation such as the CARES Act, that "nonregulatory guidance" plays a huge role in how these COVID-19 funds are administered. It hasn't been easy. Different federal agencies have issued

"guidance" that sometimes conflict with other agency guidance. Common sense about how best to enact funding gets pushed to the back burner as tribes attempt to comply with the "nonregulatory guidance" procedures. The Sault Tribe has an excellent compliance record. But the Administrative Procedures Act is frustrating and unnecessarily burdensome as it applies to agency "guidance" will help us navigate our direction moving forward.

I miss seeing everyone, and wish only the best for you and your family.

Please feel free to call (906) 430-5551 or email chollowell@saulttribe.net.

Please stay safe and healthy and be kind to one another.

Environmental DNA technology helping MSU researchers more accurately examine aquatic communities

BY CAMERON RUDOLPH,
MSU EXTENSION

Two MSU researchers are using innovative technology that extracts DNA from lake water samples, painting a clearer picture of what lies beneath the water's surface.

In 2002, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) created the Status and Trends Program, which helps the agency take inventory of the state's lakes and streams to inform management decisions.

Traditionally geared toward fish, techniques for species identification and population estimates have included gill nets, trap nets and electrofishing. It's a tried-and-true process but also laborious. Michigan has more than 11,000 inland lakes, making it unrealistic to survey them all.

Researchers in the Michigan State University Department of Fisheries and Wildlife are testing a relatively new technology that could drastically reduce the time and resource expenditure. By taking several water samples, which are then passed through a fine mesh filter and analyzed in the lab, scientists can extract DNA information from a variety of living organisms.

Environmental DNA (eDNA) techniques have been around for more than a decade, but the science has taken a significant leap in recent years. Early eDNA



Research team members Nick Sard and Rebecca Selby comparing environmental DNA and traditional surveys of diversity and abundance.

studies were searching for the absence or presence of a single species, either invasive or threatened. Now scientists can observe entire aquatic communities, from fish and invertebrates to insects and plants.

Each of these organisms leaves traces of DNA that can persist in the environment for weeks. This DNA may come from skin cells, scales, damaged tissue, waste or free DNA. By obtaining samples from different areas at varying depths, a clearer image of the ecosystem begins to emerge.

Leading the charge for MSU are Kim Scribner, a professor,

and John Robinson, an assistant professor, both in the Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Scribner and Robinson have been partnering with postdoctoral researchers, graduate students, undergraduates, the MDNR and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE).

Their first eDNA projects have been efforts to compare findings with the Status and Trends Program. The team has surveyed 22 lakes around the state, taking 40 to 50 water samples from each. The analysis then takes place on the MSU campus.

"The outcomes tend to be

similar to the traditional methods, in that we find a lot of the same things," Robinson said. "But with eDNA it's much more sensitive. We find rarer species, including rare invasives, that would be hard to capture otherwise."

Scribner believes that the efficiency of eDNA makes it an attractive methodology.

"You're getting more bang for your buck," he said. "It's easier to get information from more bodies of water in a shorter amount of time, and it's more accurate. When we use eDNA as compared to traditional sampling, we get much higher species accumulation curves, meaning that when we take multiple samples from the same area, we find more and more species each time. Agencies such as the MDNR and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have already expressed interest in our findings."

But applications of eDNA technologies span far beyond general population estimates. About five years ago when he first started to explore eDNA, Scribner became interested in how it could address an assortment of ecological questions around invasive and threatened species, and how human development influences inland lake ecosystems. When Robinson joined the university a year later,

he added his expertise to the mix.

One of the primary concerns is the sheer number of invasive species posing problems in Michigan waters and how that influences native wildlife. Scribner thinks that by getting a more complete picture of what's in the water, researchers can better understand why certain lakes are more susceptible to infestation. EGLE and the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative have partnered in these studies.

"There has been a lot of work done with eDNA and well-known invasives such as Asian carp," Scribner said.

Abundant invasives often have a harmful effect on threatened species, gobbling up important food sources. Scribner and Robinson are working with the MDNR to use eDNA to test for the presence of threatened species such as the lake herring.

"It can be really difficult to capture threatened species using traditional methods, with eDNA we can see if they've been in a particular location," Scribner said. "The lake herring is an example of an important fish that has seen dwindling numbers in inland lakes. Before we write them off completely, we can see if any DNA appears in our water samples. This technology can provide a glimmer of hope to restoring these populations."

Working on 2000 Consent Decree negotiations



CHARLES MATSON SR.
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Aanii, I hope everyone is being safe and healthy through these trying times. We need to make sure and check in on our elderly and most vulnerable people as we try and navigate through this pandemic. Sometimes a simple call and hello to see if they need anything means a lot.

We are still in the process of negotiations for our Great Lakes 2000 Consent Decree. Some groups do not really seem to respect that we have these rights. These groups are starting to ramp up their rhetoric and are trying to mislead people.

This is the same technique they have used in the past. They use these tactics to bring more revenues into their coffers and try and whip up public sentiment towards the tribes. We as negotiators will have to stay vigilant on this and make sure to correct misleading statements.

As a tribe, we have decided to move into the cannabis industry. With the legalization of cannabis in Michigan we have decided to go into business with a highly respected company. This is very fast growing and profitable industry. We need to get up and running quickly so as

to not be left behind by others who are getting into this emerging business. It is my belief that business diversification will help us become financially independent and stable into the future.

The coronavirus pandemic has negatively impacted our revenues of our casinos and hotels. Before the pandemic we were getting ready to start up sports betting in our gaming establishments. This was going to be a great way to bring more patrons into our casinos and help food and beverage sales. Unfortunately, due to safety

concerns over the pandemic, we have been holding off on this. I do want to say thanks to all our team members. They are doing a great job keeping each other and our patrons safe by following the safety standards set in place as we navigate through this time.

I pray and hope that all of us make it through these uneasy times safe and healthy. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to contact me at (906) 450-5094 or cmatson@saulttribe.net.

Respectfully,
Charles Matson Sr.

Important for tribal members to keep address updated



DENISE CHASE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

Elder outreach worker – The tribal board has approved action to establish a 2021 budget for an Elder Outreach Worker Program with third party revenue in the amount of \$268,913.24. Every board member in attendance unanimously supported this funding on behalf of our elderly population.

Our elders prefer to live at home as long as they are able to. It's very important now especially with their months of social isolation and home quarantined caused by COVID-19 global pandemic, that we have workers who can make home visits to assess our elderly population needs.

These positions would perform a variety of duties and serve as an advocate for our elders by helping them access tribal and community resources.

Please update your address – Recently the tribal board approved a new direct benefit plan for tribal members who reside in the seven-county service area. Members impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic will receive \$1,000. Please make sure to return your survey form. You had to be enrolled by July 21, 2020, and have an updated address.

I have been receiving calls from members who reside in the seven-county service area but have not changed or updated their addresses and/or applied for other programs with enrollment/services and thought it changed their address tribal wide. Unfortunately, that makes them ineligible to receive the benefit. The tribe should look at purchasing with COVID funds a computer program that will update individuals' addresses automatically across every department tribal wide, when they complete applications.

Please enroll your children – I urge you to please make sure

your children are enrolled. If they weren't enrolled by July 21, 2020, they will not be eligible for the \$1,000 COVID impact benefit. Check with enrollment to see if they are enrolled and if not get their birth certificates sent in right away. Call (800) 251-6597.

In order for tribal programs and services expansion to occur, it is imperative that every parent enrolls their children so we can get an accurate head count, when planning for the future and program needs.

Job postings opportunities – A driver is needed for the Elder Services Division in the western end. There is also a Community Health Program clerk opening in the Escanaba health office:

DRIVER

DEPARTMENT: Elder Service Division

CLASSIFICATION: Part-time/regular/non-exempt

REPORTS TO: Eldercare Services Division director

LOCATION: West end service area (Marquette, Munising, Escanaba and Manistique)

NATIVE AMERICAN PREFERENCE APPLIES

POSITION SUMMARY:

The driver, under the direction of the Eldercare Services Division director, is responsible for providing pre-arranged transportation for elders to and from non-emergency medical appointments. This includes but not limited to transporting to hospitals, regional medical facilities, health clinics and doctor offices.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: (includes, but is not limited to, the following)

– Conducts pre and post-trip inspections of GSA vehicles prior to every trip.

– Reports any accidents and passenger injuries to the transportation coordinator.

– Instructs passengers regarding their safety responsibilities.

– Drives defensively under varying traffic conditions and inclement weather.

– Performs vehicle house-keeping duties inside and out.

– Maintains vehicle maintenance records; services performed with dates, times, etc.

– Ensures safety of all passengers who will be transported by Elder Service program.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES: (includes, but is not limited to, the following)

– Exhibits a positive image

as an Eldercare Service representative.

– All other job related duties as assigned.

CONTACTS: Immediate peers, peers in other departments, immediate supervisor/manager, managers in other departments, customers and outside vendors/service providers.

PHYSICAL

REQUIREMENTS: Position very heavy with lifting objects over 100 pounds with frequent lifting/carrying of more than 50 pounds. Physical factors include constant sitting, use of hearing, near/midrange/far vision, depth perception, color/field of vision and driving; frequent walking, lifting, reaching, occasional standing, carrying, pushing/pulling, climbing, stooping, kneeling, crawling, manual handling, bending, use of smell and typing. Working conditions include constant exposure to weather, extreme heat/cold, wet/humidity; frequent exposure to vibration; occasional exposure to noise and air quality.

REQUIREMENTS:

Education: No education requirement.

Experience: No experience required.

Certification/license: Will be required to undergo and successfully pass a background check. Must maintain a good moral character standing. Must have a valid driver's license and be insurable by the Sault Tribe Insurance Department. Must comply with annual driver license review and insurability standards with the Sault Tribe Insurance Department. Must obtain chauffeur's license upon employment. Will be required to complete and pass pre-employment drug testing.

Knowledge, skills and abilities: Knowledge of CPR preferred. Must be able to communicate effectively both orally and in writing. Must have ability to operate all vehicle types used in transporting elders to their destinations. Must be willing to travel throughout the seven-county service area of the Upper Peninsula and occasionally outside the seven-county area and in the lower peninsula. Native American preferred.

REMUNERATION: \$9.908 per hour

REPLY TO: Sault Tribe Human Resource Department, Attn: Employment, 3015 Mackinac Trail, St. Ignace, MI 49781, (906) 643-4176, (866)

635-7032 toll free, (906) 643-2127 fax or apply online at www.saulttribe.com.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PROGRAM CLERK

CLASSIFICATION: Part-time/regular - (14 Hours per Week)

LOCATION: Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center

PROGRAM: Senior Employment

POSITION SUMMARY:

Responsible for providing: 1) Clerical support services to the Community Health Program. 2) Program resource, consultation and coordination services for program staff located at the Tribal Community Health Center. 3) Direct clerical support services for the Community Health staff at the center.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: (Includes, but is not limited to the following)

– Greet the public in a professional, courteous manner and assist clientele in receiving requested information and services.

– Answer all incoming calls and transfer to staff. Record and route telephone messages.

– Process all incoming/outgoing mail. Sort and route to appropriate staff in a timely manner

– Receive, process and distribute medications from the pharmacy to clients.

– Maintain filing systems consistent with federal guidelines and acceptable office practices.

– Schedule clinic appointments for services. Coordinate mailing and appointment reminders about various program services to clients.

– Prepare and process medical records for scheduled clinical services.

– Process collections for services rendered according to the collections policy.

– Coordinate processing of all program information through sorting, photocopying and routing to appropriate staff.

– Collaborate with on-site staff to coordinate site performance improvement and safety issues.

– Communicate closely with the health assistant and other staff to ensure effective, efficient program implementation.

– All other job-related duties as assigned.

CONTACTS: Immediate peers, peers in other departments, immediate supervisor/manager,

managers in other departments, executives, customers and outside vendors/service providers.

WORKING CONDITIONS/ SAFETY HAZARDS:

Position sedentary primarily sitting/lifting a maximum of 10 pounds. Physical factors include use of hearing and occasional typing; frequent walking, pushing/pulling, use of near/midrange/far vision, depth perception, and color/field of vision and bending. Occasional carrying and unpacking of office supplies, lifting, pushing, pulling, stooping, reaching and use of smell, far vision, and bending. Working conditions include occasional exposure to weather, extreme heat/cold and wet/humidity. Potential hazards include computer use and occasional exposure to moving mechanical parts, electric shock, infectious exposure, patient contact and/or client contact and equipment.

JOB SPECIFICATIONS:

Must be a Sault Tribe member aged 60 or over and reside within the seven-county service area. Must undergo a criminal background investigation and pre-employment drug testing.

REMUNERATION: \$9.65 per hour.

CLOSING DATE: Open until filled.

REPLY TO: Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indian, Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center, Attention: Tara Duchene, 1401 N. 26th Street, Suite 105, Escanaba, MI 49829, (906) 341-1836, or Senior Employment Program, Attention: Brenda Cadreau, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, (906) 635-4767.

Please feel free to contact me with any issues or concerns.

Denise Chase, Board rep.
(906) 203-2471

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Thank you front-line team members, hats off!



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

The board recently passed a resolution expunging tribal member marijuana offenses that can be set aside. Tribal Court will be going through all previous criminal files and entering orders setting aside each marijuana conviction. A copy of the order setting aside the conviction will be sent to the affected defendants at their last known address in the next two months as the orders are completed. If you have moved please contact the court at (906) 635-4963.

We have also recently announced our partnership with Lume opening some recreational marijuana retail stores on our land in several areas in the U.P. The first store to open that is in progress will be the Sault Ste. Marie location by Walmart. The

board of directors also agreed to loan Lume \$2 million from our Eagle Lending business. This will allow Lume to have more cash available to get more of these stores up and running and that will lead to us making money sooner as well as being paid back interest on the loan.

The COVID relief fund forms have been mailed out to qualifying members in the service area. The checks should be delivered by the end of September. Unfortunately, some members have not kept their addresses up to date and will not qualify as well as parents that did not get their children cards before July 21.

The board has been discussing hazard pay for several weeks. The issue had been placed on the meeting agenda for July 21 but it was no where near ready so it was tabled. During the July 28 workshop we had spent several hours discussing scenarios with our executive and legal staff. At one time there was discussion of a flat amount, possibility of a flat amount now and one towards the end of the year and hourly rates as well. We were told by our general counsel that the casino and EDC did not qualify for hazard pay but the government side could take those funds and give them to the casino and EDC as effects of COVID. They could in turn use the funds to pay team

members appreciation pay.

At the time of the vote I abstained, which in eight years that has rarely been the case for me. I am not afraid to vote on any issue nor explain why I voted a certain way. It's either because I feel I have a conflict of interest or I don't have all the information. I abstained because no one could tell us the price tag. When we voted on the \$1000 per member we at least knew it was going to cost about \$16 million.

As a board member I have a fiscal responsibility to the entire Sault Tribe. The documents we were provided had category 1 for front line staff such as medical, law enforcement, tribal court and janitorial. The other was category 2 that consisted of food distribution, IT, administrative, accounting and public assistance team members. Category 2 allowed for some discretion, which was part of the reason we had no price tag. I did try and add to the resolution that we would get the price tag prior to implementation but that did not pass.

When we had to close the casino for two months that cost us \$10 million. I asked the CFO if we have another \$10 million set aside in case we go into another shut down this fall and the answer is no. I worked for the tribe in 2008 when too many people lost their jobs and services and programs were cut. I do not

take these decisions lightly and I do not think we will have a problem spending this money before Dec. 31, when we keep coming up with new ideas or projects to use the funding for.

I just personally feel like we needed to set aside some money so when and if times get tough this fall and we need to close again. Many people have been fortunate to not have to pay rent during this time, stimulus money, the \$600 unemployment benefit, larger food stamp amounts, etc. When all these programs are cut or eliminated, then our people will need the help.

I have to say one of my biggest concerns as a board member is when board members do not conflict their self out for a vote. This is not the first time I have written about this but I shouldn't have to call a conflict before a vote, people should have integrity. Some think it's perfectly fine to vote on a matter that effects a member of their family. Some even bring forward raises for their family. I think members will be shocked to know how they get played.

Another thing that irritates me is when supervisors choose to hire or promote people they can manipulate instead of hiring someone who is strong. Clearly these managers are narcissists. If you want to have a strong and successful team you hire people who are the best.

If you have to tell your team members that they cannot talk to board members or remind them constantly about confidentiality, you must have something to hide.

For those in management who are coming to work every day, on time and fill in when your team may be short staffed, you are doing it right! If this statement fuels your fire, I guess its time to reevaluate your work ethic!

I would like to thank Anne Suggitt on her many years of service to the Sault Tribe Head Start Program and all the families she has been in contact with over the years. Anne is the epitome of what a manager should be. I had the pleasure of serving on the Head Start Parent Committee and Policy Council for a few years when my kids were enrolled and as a board member as a member of the Advisory Committee. Anne leaves big shoes to fill and I wish her a long and happy retirement!

To all those front-line team members, my hat is off to you for all you do for our members and customers! Thank you for being a part of our team!

A reminder that our unit continues to have monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month at the McCann School at 6 p.m.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

Thank you voters for placing your trust in me



**AUSTIN LOWES,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin! This is my first unit report, so I would like to say thank you to the voters for placing their trust in me. Our elections are sacred events where our people choose their leaders and I consider it a great honor to have been selected. I vow to fight for our members throughout my term.

My advocacy thus far has been towards offsetting the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This includes supporting a resolution to provide service area members with \$1,000 each. I also supported a resolution to provide hazard pay

to our team members. I recognize this is an extremely difficult time and I will continue to support programs that directly benefit our members.

To protect our tribal programs, economy diversity must occur. This makes us less reliant on casino gaming, which is struggling due to the pandemic. I am pleased with our current pace of accomplishing this. Our diversification includes online gaming, sports betting and partnering with a cannabis company that will operate on small parcels of our trust land. This will provide our tribe with the

resources to fund programs that can't operate on grants alone. This will greatly benefit our tribal youth, families and elders.

I am pleased to announce that marijuana convictions in Tribal Court have been automatically expunged.

Minorities such as Native Americans are disproportionately convicted of non-violent drug offenses. This impacts their ability to obtain housing, employment, financial aid and fair custody.

Since marijuana is legal at the state and federal level, it's unfair to judge individuals

based on the standards of the past. I also don't believe it's the place of government to police morality.

To conclude, I would like to personally thank our team members.

Their dedication is inspirational and I am proud of all of them. It is commonplace for them to go outside their job duties to perform COVID-19 related tasks such as screening. They are the backbone of the tribe and they should be honored at every instance.

Miigwetch!

Austin Lowes

Gratitude to those helping through these times



**MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Watching national politics we see that there are several ways to govern and lead people. Some choose to spread lies and cause chaos, some choose to allow the chaos to spread because it helps

achieve specific goals, some treat it like a status symbol and nothing else. The lessons we get from these people help teach us what not to be and to remind us that we are all in this together. With state and national politics dividing the people at an alarming rate, we as Anishnaabe must remain united. Many of us will fight for what's best for the tribe, we will fight for what's right, we will for our people to have a better way of life. We can do these things without pitting each other against our own, we can do it without the chaos.

For those that have followed me throughout the years, you know that I do not air our dirty laundry. I do not speak very often during our broadcasted meetings because I believe the workshops the week before and agenda review are where we hash things out and

come to compromises prior to a vote. I believe in talking to the membership, not just on social media and not just my friends. I do not represent just my supporters or those who voted for me, I represent all our people and every decision I make while on the board will reflect that.

I wanted to thank our Enrollment Department and the COVID taskforce for helping implement the Covid Relief Funds. There has been a lot of work put in to sending out the mailer and much more work will be needed to get the checks out. I hoped that there would be additional funds, but we did not get all the relief that a tribe our size should get. The CARES Act allowed tribes to obtain COVID funds, but the formulas used were drastically inadequate and simply put there

is not enough to go around. Some money will be distributed directly to families within our boundaries, some money will go to improve access and safety to our many tribally owned businesses to prevent the spread, some will go to help services and the unique challenges this pandemic has placed on obtaining services and several other options are still being considered and looked into such as housing, educational and family services.

As with all things related to this pandemic, things are subject to change. I wanted to say thank you also to our executive staff and Kewadin management for being flexible and working with the board to address changes. We've asked a lot from you, planning budgets and staff, only to have made major revisions which required all those plans to be revisited; Chi miigwech

for all those involved and helping our tribe get through this. I'm also grateful that we have approved hazard and appreciation pay. It's a complicated process as two categories were established and have to be administered over all governmental employees, Kewadin employees and all EDC employees. We have had and continue to have great employees who have worked throughout the pandemic to maintain many essential services to our people and to keep our businesses open. Thank you.

We will get through this. We are a resilient people. I ask everyone to continue praying, practicing social distancing and taking the necessary steps to help fight this pandemic. As always, if you wish to discuss these issues or have suggestions to help our tribe, please contact me at (906) 440-7768. Chi miigwech.

Board pension plan v. Social Security: NO double dipping!



**BETTY FREIHEIT,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

The Sault Tribe Board pension plan was put into place in 1996 or 1997. There are different opinions about why this was approved but one reason is because as elected officials and not employees of the tribe, the board members could not participate in Social Security. At the time, the board position was not considered a job under federal regulations, so board members who served did not accumulate any Social Security equity. As you know, how much American workers receive in Social Security upon retirement is based on how much you pay in. To date, the board has not paid anything into Social Security.

The board pension plan as enacted was amended sometime between 2008 and 2010, set a maximum value at \$1,000 per month (\$12,000 a year) for those fully vested. To be fully vested, you have to serve at least 20 years. Board members also become vested at other levels including at five years for \$250, 10 years at \$500 a month and 15

years at \$750 a month.

The plan approved by the board included a cost of living increment but it is unclear if it was from enactment or once the retired board member begins to draw. It is unclear if someone who begins to retire and is fully vested gets \$1,000 or an amount with an increment that has been growing since enactment. In other words, is the amount for someone who retires from the board after 20 years at \$1,000 a month or \$2,000 or more?

Sometime between 2008 and 2010, I am informed that the tribal legal department approached the board with a recommendation that the board approve a new resolution relating to the board pension. Up until then and afterward, the board of directors, as individuals, paid nothing into the plan but given it is considered income, were never assessed any taxes on this income. Some report the reason for the resolution was to approve the plan in a different manner than originally approved to absolve individual board member liability on the taxes for vested benefit. Others claim it was just to comply with federal regulation without clarifying what that meant.

From what I can tell, the original plan was to quietly approve the revised plan at the board level but, as tribal member Janet Liedel and I circulated a petition to require a referendum, we easily got the signatures so the board had no choice. Then, the board did something they previously explained they were not allowed to do.

They directed that a cover letter be sent with a referendum ballot to explain (from the board's

opinion) why the resolution was necessary to shield the tribe from tax liability. Others claim the tax liability was on the individual board members who were vested and not the tribe. In either event, this was unethical and the board had a conflict of interest for directing a cover letter (to sway the outcome) be sent along with the referendum ballot. This has never been done before or after this instance.

What is at stake now, is federal law changed to allow for tribal board members across the country to qualify for Social Security. So, a board pension is no longer needed. I feel for those who are already retired and their widows, so I support grandfathering them in. But, going forward, it would be a conflict of interest and unethical to draw both the board pension and participate in Social Security. If the board pension was enacted because the board could not participate in Social Security, that is no longer the case, so a referendum vote should be held to eliminate the board pension from the date of enactment going forward. That is what my resolution (see below) intends to do. It is fair to those who are already drawing the pension and prospective in that it is implemented going forward.

The text of this resolution is included for your review. I tried to workshop this issue but was met with very strong emotional reactions, clearly this is out of self-interest and self-preservation. But, I am not easily deterred. This is what several others and I campaigned on including new board member Austin Lowes. Now is the time to follow through on our campaign

promises and I intend to do so.

Resolution to Prohibit Double Dipping: Tribal Board Pension Plan and Social Security Pay

WHEREAS, prior to 2018, federal law did not permit elected tribal officials from participating in the federal Social Security system including employer and employee contributions; and

WHEREAS, in 1996, the tribal board of directors (TBOD) approved a TBOD pension plan that at the maximum benefit pays \$1,000 a month (\$12,000 annually) to a respective tribal board member who retires with full benefit passed on to a surviving spouse upon the former board member's death; and

WHEREAS, in 2010, the TBOD initiated a tribal referendum vote to provide a technical fix to the TBOD pension plan which eliminated any tax liability for the tribe and the potential tribal board recipient of the pension plan with said referendum approved in the affirmative; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the federal government approved for elected tribal officials to be able to participate in the federal Social Security system; and

WHEREAS, the TBOD voted to appropriate funds in the 2020 budget to cover the employer portion of the TBOD's participation in the federal Social Security system;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, participation in both the TBOD pension plan and

the federal Social Security system is duplicative, amounts to "double dipping" and is therefore prohibited; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that changes to the TBOD retirement or participation in the federal Social Security system will be made via tribal referendum initiated by the TBOD pension plan consistent with the initiation of the tribal referendum regarding the board pension plan in 2010; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that in the interests of tribal savings, that any tribal referendum held regarding the TBOD pension plan or participation in the federal Social Security system include an option for the tribal voters to eliminate the TBOD pension plan prospectively meaning those who are enjoying the benefit today continue to do so and those who have not begun to draw, not receive such benefit going forward.

This is the resolution I will submit to the board's secretary, this unit report is long but I wanted to share the history of this plan with you.

Just to congratulate Director Lowes who drafted the expungement resolution where tribal members' marijuana convictions are automatically erased from their court record. Good job, Austin Lowes!

I need to turn this report in, I hope our members are safe and please help your neighbors anytime you can!

Please feel free to contact me at (906) 379-8745.

Betty F. Freiheit

Elder Services needs driver for west end medical transport



**DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

WEST END DRIVER NEEDED!

The Elder Services Division has an open position for a west end driver for the Manistique, Escanaba, Munising and Marquette areas.

Under the direction of the Eldercare Services Division director, this position is responsible for providing pre-arranged transportation for elders to and from non-emergency medical appointments. This includes but is not limited to transporting to hospitals, regional medical facilities, health clinics and doctors offices. If interested in applying, contact the Human Resources Department in St. Ignace toll free at (866) 635-7032.

This driver position is especially important to the community. Without a driver right now, our elders are going without their medical appointments.

On July 21, the board of directors voted unanimously to establish a new direct benefit plan for Sault Tribe members residing in the seven-county service area who have been impacted by the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Members residing in the tribe's service area who have been impacted by the pandemic will each receive \$1,000. Non-tribal parents or legal guardians of Sault Tribe minor children will be eligible to receive the benefit for their tribal child.

There was a push to use the tribal total enrollment population of 44,000 as part of the formula for the tribe's share of the \$8 billion allocated by Congress, but instead the Treasury used the 16,500, the Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) statistic covering the tribe's service area.

To be eligible, tribal members must:

— Be an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe as of July 21, 2020;

— Reside in the seven-county service area of the Sault Tribe as of July 21, 2020; and

— Encountered COVID-19 financial hardships from March 1 through July 21, 2020.

A mail out and response survey must be completed by each member receiving \$1,000 to comply with federal requirements. The forms have been mailed out; any questions please call Enrollment toll free at (800) 251-6597.

I have received many phone calls from members who did not have their children enrolled before July 21, 2020. As long as I have been on the board, I have encouraged members to get their children enrolled. Last year, Director Chase and I worked with the Enrollment Department to attend the Escanaba State Fair to try to capture children who needed to be enrolled. It is important to get your children enrolled to ensure they are counted for services in the future.

I have also received calls from members who resided within the seven-county service area, but they did not update their address with the Enrollment Department before July 21. Even if you receive services at the Health Center, USDA Food Program, Tax Office, etc., you need to update your address with the Enrollment Office.

Unfortunately, the tribe does not have a computer system that allows one office to update your address with every department with one phone call.

A resolution to expunge and set aside tribal members' marijuana offenses and past convictions was unanimously approved by the board of directors at an Aug. 11 special meeting.

The legalized personal use and possession of marijuana has become more accepted across the country, including Sault Tribe and the State of Michigan. The tribe has decriminalized marijuana for medical and recreational purposes and recently entered an agreement to sell marijuana for recreational purposes at various trust land locations.

Prior marijuana convictions can create obstacles for those seeking higher education assistance, housing and employment.

The Tribal Code allowed members to apply for only one marijuana related offense to be expunged after five years, so the board decided to add expungement of all such offenses to the Tribal Code.

The resolution adds expungement to Chapter 71 of the Tribal Code, which provides for setting aside past marijuana convic-

tions. Tribal Code, Chapter 71, section 71.1617 Vacating Offenses, now reads: "All past marijuana convictions authorized by these Sections shall be set aside and expunged from individual records for all convictions prior to Aug. 11, 2020. Future convictions may be set aside pursuant to Tribal Code Chapter 77."

In the next few weeks, Tribal Court will be going through all previous criminal files and entering orders setting aside each marijuana conviction. A copy of the orders setting aside the convictions will be sent to the affected defendants to their last known address in the next two months as the orders are completed. If an individual believes they have a previous marijuana conviction that will be set aside, and have moved or believe the address that the court has may be out of date, they should contact the court at (906) 635-4963 or tribalcourt@saulttribe.net with an updated address.

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

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

Pearson's Asbestos Abatement conducts open house

By RICK SMITH

An open house at Pearson's Asbestos Abatement took place in Escanaba on Aug. 17 to show off the new enterprise under management of Sault Tribe Inc., a chartered corporation formed by Sault Tribe under Section 17 of the Indian Reorganization Act.

According to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, tribally chartered corporations have

been gaining popularity by American Indian tribal governments to conduct various types of economic development and business ventures. Section 17 corporations have certain advantages over other types of charters. Sault Tribe Inc. has its own board of directors to oversee and manage the daily functions of its business concerns.

Pearson's has a successful history and the previous owner,

Dennis Pearson, will be staying with the firm as a consultant. Pearson said the firm started in 1924 as a boiler repair service operated by his grandfather. "But, eventually, boilers fell out of use," he said.

About the time his grandfather decided to retire, asbestos became known as a hazardous material, which had been widely used for insulation in buildings, ships and other applications.

Pearson and his father seized the opportunity for starting a business by launching Pearson's Asbestos Abatement in 1987. "We thought we'd have about 10 good years before it would dry up," Pearson said. "But it just kept going and going and going."

Aside from asbestos abatement, Pearson's also remedies mold, mildew, lead paint, bird droppings and other hazardous

materials.

The firm's territory at present is in northeast Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Economic Development Director Joel Schultz said plans call for expansion in the Upper Peninsula, northern lower Michigan and further into Wisconsin. Efforts are in progress to open a branch in Sault Ste. Marie soon.



Photos by Rick Smith

Pearson's Asbestos Abatement offices and warehouse as seen from Danforth Road in Escanaba, Mich.



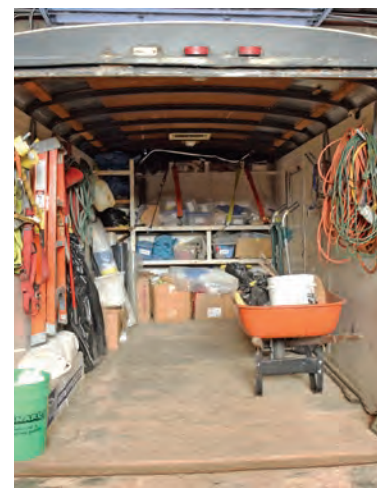
Lorri Kwarciany, administrative assistant, runs the front office of Pearson's Asbestos Abatement.



Dennis Pearson (left), consultant and previous owner of the company, and the firm's manager, Rob Arndt.



Arndt displays a bag used for collecting hazardous materials. From left, Tom Grow, JETA Corporation vice president of sales and marketing; Linda Grow, president of JETA Corporation and Sault Tribe Inc.; Arndt and Pearson.



One of the company's worksite trailers.

Museum features traveling Native American boarding school exhibit

By BRENDA AUSTIN

The Museum of Ojibwa Culture, located in St. Ignace (near the tip of the Upper Peninsula on the northern side of the Straits of Mackinac) has created a traveling exhibit, *Unlocking the Silence: The Often Overlooked History of Native American Boarding Schools*.

Museum volunteer Charlee Brissette, said, "The exhibit comes from the desire to extend the accessibility and visibility of this critical part of our history, that often goes untold. With the ability of this exhibit to easily travel from venue to venue, it will bring this information to more audiences and increase knowledge of this history to the general public. The reality of the boarding school era, and the policies and systems that were put into place at the time is information that needs to be shared. This history needs to be taught. Our people still feel and live with the effects of the boarding school systems."

Brissette said the reality of the boarding school history is very nuanced. "Many simplified educational resources that speak of the boarding schools tend to leave out that some survivors had some positive experiences at school. Some students were able to learn skills and trades that they could then use to earn wages and provide for their families when they

went back home," she said. "We are at a point in our lives where it is imperative to share these stories and experiences so that history does not repeat itself, and to honor our ancestors who were impacted by these policies and systems."

This exhibit is available to be loaned out to local schools, libraries, museums and organizations for a designated time period.

Another featured exhibit that was installed in the museum in Nov. 2018 is the *Mannaji aag Ogichidaawag*, or *Honoring Our Native American Veterans* exhibit.

Museum Director Shirley Donovan Sorrels said this permanent exhibit was created to honor and acknowledge the distinguished service of Native Americans in every branch of the armed forces. Sorrels worked with Exhibit Designer Keeney Swearer, and Charlee Brissette who acted as an exhibit consultant and content writer to develop the exhibit. Brissette said, "I was honored to write both of these exhibits and work closely with Keeney on design and concept development. Keeney is really experienced and brilliant when it comes to exhibit designs and installation."

Work on the veteran's exhibit began in early 2018, and Brissette put out a notice to the public to nominate veterans they personally knew who served in the armed



Charlee Brissette (left) and Keeney Swearer in front of the Veterans exhibit on display at the museum.



The Museum of Ojibwa Culture in St. Ignace has created a traveling exhibit, *Unlocking the Silence: The Often Overlooked History of Native American Boarding Schools*.

forces. After receiving many nominations, Brissette set up interviews with many of veterans who were willing to share their experiences. "It was a truly humbling experience to listen as they shared their incredible stories," she said. The exhibit focuses on the role of Native American veterans in service since colonial contact. It details well-known

two exhibits was provided by the Michigan Humanities Council, Sault Tribe 2% funding, and the St. Ignace area Community Foundation.

There are multiple exhibits in the museum, and on the museum grounds for visitors to see.

Sorrels is applying for funding to create a memorial on the museum grounds to honor Native American Veterans from Mackinac County and gather further stories which will be featured on name plates with a QR code enabling visitors to access the stories using their phone camera.

In 2021 the museum is creating a Hometown Heroes project with banners honoring Mackinac County veterans, which will be displayed on the museum grounds and along the boardwalk by the water.

Sorrels said she is honored and excited to announce the Museum was recently selected for the Michigan Humanities Community Impact Partner of the Year award.

The museum, located at 500 N. State St., has an award winning Clan Park, a fun kids area, a store featuring crafts made by local Native artists, a new Sculpture Park and a long-house on the museum grounds. Admission to the museum is by donation.

Visit the museum's website at: www.museumofojibwaculture.net; or contact Shirley Donovan-Sorrels at (906) 643-9161.

wars and our people's commitment to protecting our homeland in wars such as WWI, WWII, Iraq and Afghanistan. The backdrop of the exhibit is printed on birch veneer and the images begin with the Revolutionary War, and then follow with images of Native soldiers in the Civil war, WWI, WWII, and Desert Storm. Sorrels said funding for the

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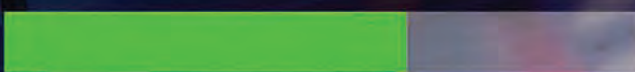
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