



Win Awenen Nisitotung

February 17, 2021 • Vol. 42 No. 2
Bear Moon
Mko Giizis

NEW Inland Application on Page 10



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

Lume opens marijuana retail stores on tribal lands in Sault Ste. Marie and Escanaba

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. – The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Lume Cannabis Co. (Lume), Michigan’s largest vertically integrated cannabis operator, today announced they have been awarded an adult-use marijuana retail license on Sault Ste. Marie tribal lands. The historic partnership will allow Lume to open a marijuana retail store and sell its high-quality cannabis products in partnership with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the largest tribe east of the Mississippi.

“We are honored to work with the top cannabis operator in Michigan to bring high-quality cannabis products to medical patients and adult-use consumers who live in or visit the Sault Ste. Marie and Eastern Upper Peninsula area,” Joel Schultz, Sault Tribe Economic Development Executive Director, said.

Schultz added, “The Sault Tribe is working progressively to diversify economic development to enhance revenues to expand services to Sault Tribe members. Lume has the expertise, passion, values and philosophy that make them the ideal company to work with to bring recreational cannabis to Sault Ste. Marie.”

Lume offers high-quality cannabis products and a unique, customer-focused retail experience with more than 20 strains of high-quality Lume flower, pre-rolls, effects-based Lume Cartridges, edibles and a new line of CBD products only sold in Lume stores.

“We are excited about our partnership with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

and are pleased to announce we’ve received an adult-use marijuana retail license to open our newest Lume location,” Lume President and COO Doug Hellyar said. “We look forward to introducing our high-quality cannabis products to medical patients and adult-use customers in this new market.”

“This is a big moment for our tribe for the opportunities it represents. Until now, we have been on the outside of this thriving industry and we look forward to working with Lume to help Michiganders experience the numerous health, wellness and other benefits of Lume’s high-quality cannabis products,” Schultz said.

All Lume flower is grown and cultivated in a state-of-the-art facility in Ewart, Mich., by a team of highly trained and experienced growers, which ensures Lume products have consistent aromas, appearances and effects. For a full product listing, visit www.lume.com.

“Providing Michiganders with safe cannabis products is our top priority — which is why we grow all our products without harmful chemicals and subject them to the most rigorous testing in the industry,” Hellyar said. “Our newest partnership with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will take our operations to the next level and establish us as the state’s go-to source for all things cannabis, including our commitment to educating our customers and making it as convenient as possible for them to access the best, safest products to meet their individual needs.”

www.saulttribe.com

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49735

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

Tribal elder celebrates her 98th birthday March 11

BY SALLY HILL MECKER

Amy Aurilla Bolles Hill was born on March 11, 1923, in Munising, Mich., to Henry Bolles and Leona Goudreau Bolles. Amy was the oldest daughter of six siblings, including Edna Merz McCarthy, Audrey Katt, Lois Scheil, George and Sally Green.

At 5 years old, Amy’s parents moved to Grand Haven, Mich., where the rest of her siblings were born. Amy attended school in Grand Haven and graduated. She worked in the glove factory in Grand Haven. Amy loved going to the Grand Haven Roller Rink where she was introduced to Oliver (Johnny) Hill.

Amy married Oliver Hill in April 1942. The couple had settled down for a brief period of time when Uncle Sam called Oliver off to the Army. Amy was then expecting their first child, Karen, when Oliver went



Sault Tribe Elder Amy Hill still vibrant at 98.

off to war. The war was long; Amy had Karen while Oliver was overseas. Upon his return from the Korean war, Karen was already 3 years old. They settled in a home in West Olive, where daughter, Sally Ann, and son, David John, were born.

Amy worked for R A Miller in Grand Haven where she assembled military antennas for

many years and happily retired from there. She enjoyed making wedding cakes, spending her time with her sisters and traveling to Florida to see her two girls, Karen Husted and Sally Mecker. She spent the winter months in Florida.

Amy’s grandparents were Antoine Joseph Goudreau and Aurilla Bellant. Her great-grandparents were Joseph Goudreau and Mary Jane Louise Martin, and Joseph Bellant and Maria Cordelia Oberschau. The Goudreau family descends from Amble Goudreau who established a commercial fishing business in Epoufette in Upper Michigan.

On her 98th birthday March 11, Amy will be celebrating with her son, David, and his wife, Kathy, with limited visitation because of the pandemic. Amy is still vibrant and happy watching bull riding competitions on TV.

AAIA welcomes Medicine as new program director

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Association on American Indian Affairs, the oldest non-profit serving Indian Country, is excited to welcome Colleen Medicine, who is Ojibwe and a citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, to serve as its new program director. As program director, Ms. Medicine will help lead the organization’s strategic development of its progressive programs strengthening youth, culture, sovereignty and capacity building.

“Colleen Medicine has a distinguished career in Indian Country policy and is an expert in cultural heritage and repatriation issues,” said attorney and Executive Director Shannon O’Loughlin. “As we look to the association’s 100-year anniversary in 2022, and how we must create a future for our youth and our world that is free of our racist and colonized past, Ms. Medicine will give a significant voice to the organization’s vision of creating a world where diverse Native American cultures and values are lived, protected and respected. We are honored that Ms. Medicine is joining the association in this powerful leadership role and as part of our growing team.”

Before joining the association, Ms. Medicine served the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in the tribe’s repatriation



Sault Tribe member Colleen Medicine

office and more recently as the director of Language and Culture and *Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act* designee. Ms. Medicine has also managed a Perinatal Opioid grant for the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan and spends her volunteer time working with mothers and families as an indigenous breastfeeding counselor. She is a lifetime Anishinaabemowin language learner. Ms. Medicine received a Master of Science degree in international administration with a focus on international repatriation from Central Michigan University in 2017, and also holds a Bachelor of Science degree in public administration

with a minor in American Indian studies from CMU.

Ms. Medicine shared, “I am honored and humbled to continue to work in Indian Country at the association on American Indian Affairs. My spirit name is Waabshkaa Asinekwe, White Rock Woman, and I am Mshiikenh ndodem, Turtle Clan. I come from a sacred place located in the heart of the Great Lakes of Michigan called Mackinac Mnising or Mackinac Island. I am truly thankful each day that I wake up to fight for Indian Country — for those who have come before me, for those here now and for those generations to come in the future.”

The Association on American Indian Affairs is the oldest non-profit serving Indian Country protecting sovereignty, preserving culture, educating youth and building capacity. The association was formed in 1922 to change the destructive path of federal policy from assimilation, termination and allotment, to sovereignty, self-determination and self-sufficiency. Throughout its 98-year history, the association has provided national advocacy on watershed issues that support sovereignty and culture, while working at a grassroots level with tribes to support the implementation of programs that affect real lives on the ground.

NEW FROM ANGELINE BOULLEY

“BOULLEY HAS DELIVERED
A MASTERPIECE OF INDIGENOUS
LITERATURE.”

—ERIN TRIPP, LINGIT, @ERINS_LIBRARY

“THIS NOVEL SHOWCASES
THE POWER OF
INDIGENOUS RESILIENCE
IN THE WAKE OF GRIEF.”

—DANIELLE ROULETTE,
OJIBWE FROM DOG CREEK
FIRST NATION,
@THUNDERBIRDWOMANREADS

“ANGELINE BOULLEY
BRINGS YA TO
THE REZ IN THIS
UNFORGETTABLE
THRILLER.”

—MALLORY WHITEDUCK,
MEMBER OF KITIGAN ZIBI
ANISHINABEG,
@NATIVEGIRLSREADING



THIS GROUNDBREAKING DEBUT ASKS HOW FAR ONE
UNENROLLED TRIBAL MEMBER WILL GO TO PROTECT
HER COMMUNITY IF IT MEANS TEARING APART THE
ONLY WORLD SHE'S EVER KNOWN.

ANGELINE BOULLEY, an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, is a storyteller who writes about her Ojibwe community in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. She is a former Director of the Office of Indian Education at the U.S. Department of Education. Angeline lives in southwest Michigan, but her home will always be on Sugar Island. *Firekeeper's Daughter* is her debut novel.

VISIT [FIREKEEPERSDAUGHTER.COM](https://www.firekeepersdaughter.com) TO START READING

Foster Parent Recipe

4 Cups Courage
 1 Large Heart
 1 Heaping Scoop of a Nurturing Environment
 1 or 2 Mentors Optional
 Equal Parts: Love, Empathy & Understanding
 Add 1 or more Child(ren)
 Sprinkle all ingredients within your home, stir to combine.
 When complete, open door of Home and accept Child(ren).

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, and making a difference in the life of a child please contact Anishnaabek Community and Family Services at (906) 632-5250 or 1-800-726-0093.



Basic Business Start-Up Program offered

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — Arrowhead Incubator Inc. (AHIN) is a non-profit organization created in 2019 by a group of tribal entrepreneurs and business experts. Headquartered in northern Michigan's hub for technology, innovation and entrepreneurship at 20Fathoms in Traverse City, Mich., AHIN is a Native American focused eco-

economic and business incubator. Arrowhead offers a comprehensive, eight-week Basic Business Start-Up Program designed to support the development of Native and non-Native entrepreneurial ventures. Engagement with a business and technological assistance center, mentorship and opportunities for professional development gives enrolled

ventures a competitive edge in a complex, fast-paced business environment. Empowering Native industry, employment and small businesses is AHIN's mission and purpose. AHIN's programming and support is designed for the social and economic advancement of present and future tribal generations.

Training opportunities available for eligible applicants

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

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

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

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

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

All-In-One Fitness Club now open Mon-Fri and Sundays

The All-In-One Fitness Club at the Big Bear Arena in Sault Ste. Marie will opened on Wednesday, Feb. 10.

The hours are Monday-Friday, 6 a.m.-8 p.m. and Sundays, 12 p.m.-4 p.m.
 The facility is closed on Saturdays.

Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

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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 funded by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of

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

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

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

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

Inter-Tribal Council seeks participants for study on fish consumption

The Inter-Tribal Council (ITC) of Michigan seeks tribal members to earn \$135 by participating in an eight-week study on their consumption habits of Great Lakes fish. The ITC is inviting those who live in the state of Michigan and a member of one of the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) tribes, which include Bay Mills Indian Community, Grand Traverse Bands of Chippewa Indians, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa and Chippewa Indians and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Participants will record their fish consumption on a user-friendly web-based database once a week for eight weeks. The data will be used, in part, to help build a phone app for consumers of Great Lakes fish.

Participants will receive a \$60 gift card after completing one month of the study and another \$75 gift card after completing the second month, along with a short survey. To get started, please follow this link to the online recruitment form at https://is.gd/Gigiigooinaan_Study.

Contact Amy Poupart at

apoupart@glitc.org, or (715) 588-1077, or email ITC at fishappcoordinator@itcmi.org, with questions. For any technical support questions, please contact Tom Chelius at tchelius@mcw.edu at leave a voicemail at (414) 955-8040.

CORA has been analyzing tribal commercial fish harvest from the 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Superior, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron since 1991 and now has one of the largest continuous records of fish contaminants in the Great Lakes.

CORA is partnering with the Medical College of Wisconsin and the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan to develop a smart phone app that gives interactive and personalized advice to consumers of Great Lakes fish from the 1836 treaty area. The advice is presented in a culturally relevant way that includes Anishinaabemowin and encourages consumption of native Great Lakes fish that are lower in contaminants. The app includes information not only on contaminants but also nutritional benefits of eating tribal commercial fish including omega-3 fatty acid content.

ARROWHEAD INCUBATOR

Turn your local business idea into a reality!

Get a Jump Start on Launching Your Business

For more information on the Basic Business Start-Up Program including individualized coaching, support, and training contact the SEDS-GO Project Coordinator Gaia Klotz at: gaia.klotz@ahin.org

NOTICE: The production of this flyer was supported by Grant #16N0004-01-06 from ACE. Its content are solely the responsibility of Arrowhead Incubator, Inc. and do not necessarily represent the official views of ACE.

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.

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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Destination Dental School offers online opportunity

The Destination Dental School Program would prepare college students for careers in medicine, pharmacy, veterinary medicine and dentistry.

Destination Dental School is an intense gateway experience for underrepresented minority students interested in a career in dentistry. The goal of the program is to encourage and increase the number of talented underrepresented students who pursue careers in dentistry. The course is presented by the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine. Students will participate virtually, on Saturdays. Students will be connected to mentors from the Michigan Dental Association, so students can get real-life exposure to a professional career.

Destination Dental School application - School of Dental Medicine - University at Buffalo: Google Destination Dental School or visit: http://dental.buffalo.edu/about-us/sdm-diversity-and-inclusion/destination-dental-school-application.html?fbclid=IwAR2JTLzLRUh1c1MY1Bv7CWxjHeru7Vx6tPSWRBhojvo6XlIgodafurBeyD_I.

The deadline to apply is Feb. 28, 2021.

Traditional Medicine Program clinics schedule for February 2021

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program clinics schedule for February 2021. Please call for questions or to schedule appointments.

Gerard Sagassige

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center - 15, 22, 23; Lori Gambardella at (906) 632-0236 or Annie Thibert at (906) 632-0220

Escanaba Community Center - Feb. 16; Lori Gambardella at (906) 632-0236 or Annie Thibert at (906) 632-0220

Manistique Health Center - Feb. 17; (906) 341-8469 or (866) 401-0043

Munising Health Center - Feb. 24; (906) 387-4721 or (800) 236-4705

Joe Syrette

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center - Feb. 17, 19, 24 and 26; Lori Gambardella at (906) 632-0236 or Annie Thibert at (906) 632-0220

Manistique Health Center - Feb. 17; (906) 341-8469 or (866) 401-0043

Newberry Community Center - Feb. 18; (906) 293-8181

St. Ignace Health Center - Feb. 25; (906) 643-8689 or (877) 256-0135

Members needed to take seats on Sault Tribe committees

The following committees have vacant seats which require Sault Tribe members. 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 - three vacancies (4-year term)

Conservation Committee - one vacancy - Fisheries (term expiring: 3/3/2023)

Election Committee - three vacancies (4-year term)

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

Health Board - five vacancies (4-year term)

Housing Commission - one vacancy - open to all units (4-year term), one vacancy - unit 1 (4 year term) one vacancy - unit 2 (4 year term)

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

Sault Tribe Thrive Directory

Thank you to all the Sault Tribe member-owned businesses who have reached out and contacted us so far. Another month of continued GROWTH!

The Sault Tribe member-owned businesses directory can be seen at www.saulttribe.com/newsroom/7153-sault-tribe-thrive-directory-feb-2021

If your business is not listed, please contact us so we can get you/your business setup with our office and into the directory going forward. We will update the list as needed and republish every month to ensure new members and changes are seen consistently.

The Sault Tribe Thrive office is here to help any and all Sault Tribe member-owned businesses. Contact Justin Emery, business support coordinator, Sault Tribe Thrive, Jemery@saulttribe.net, (906) 635-6050 extension 26121, or (906) 203-2914.

Biiboon Manidokewin (Winter Ceremony)



Aaniin/Hello, from all of us at the Sault Tribe Language and Culture Department. We send our prayers up for our community during this trying time, and ask Gchi-Manido (Creator) to protect each and everyone of our community members. We encourage everyone to continue to learn and live our Anishinaabe Biimaadiziwin (Traditional Way of Life).

It is time for our Biiboon Manidokewin (Winter Ceremony) here in Bahweting. We are taught that this is a time to pass on our oral history and teachings through storytelling. This is also the time for us to give thanks for the blanket of snow that allows Creation to rest and renew energy for the coming Spring. During this season, we remember our loved ones, Ancestors and give thanks for our stories and teachings that are shared.

Due to safety concerns, we will not be gathering for Winter Ceremony, however we encourage each of you to put out your own offerings of sema/tobacco and food near a tree or other plant life anytime during the Winter months. Some food suggestions you can use for offerings are berries, meat, rice, and vegetables.

From The Sault Tribe Language and Culture Department
Miigwech/Thank you!



For more information, please contact
Language and Culture Department
at 906-635-6050



SATURDAYS IN MARCH


MAD CASH

ALL SITES

HOT SEAT DRAWS
5 P.M. - 10 P.M.

CASH DRAWS
STARTING AT 10:15 P.M.
AND 10:30 P.M.

WIN UP TO \$250 CASH



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

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SAULT STE. MARIE + ST. IGNACE
HESSEL + CHRISTMAS + MANISTIQUE
1-800-KEWADIN | KEWADIN.COM

IT'S PARTY GRAS

SATURDAYS in February

Hot Seat Draws 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Punch - a - Bunch 9:30 p.m. & 9:45 p.m.

TOURNAMENTS

ADVANCEMENT

Sault Ste. Marie

Mondays & Tuesdays in February & March 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Daily Prize Pool 22,500 Bonus Points

WINTER WONDERLAND

St. Ignace

Mondays in February & March 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Daily Prize Pool 35,000 Bonus Points

SPIN TO WIN

Up to \$15,000 CASH/Bonus Points

Sault Ste. Marie

March 12 - 14

St. Ignace

April 23-24

KEWADIN MADNESS

Weekly in March 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Christmas - Tuesdays

Manistique - Wednesdays

Hessel - Thursdays

FREE entry for all Northern Rewards Club members

Kewadin Casinos using enhanced cleaning procedures

By **BRENDA AUSTIN**

Kewadin Casinos and their staffs have implemented a regimented cleaning process to provide their customers with the safest possible environment for their enjoyment. After reading CDC guidelines and meeting with health professionals and cleaning supply vendors, the casinos purchased additional cleaning supplies and equipment, and trained staff on new cleaning procedures.

Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center Executive Housekeeper John Cleary, said, "Since COVID-19, cleaning staff now look at every touch surface as an infectious surface, and those surfaces are cleaned and sanitized repetitively throughout daily shifts. Deep cleaning within the building was

something that was done biannually or annually, and now it is done daily, weekly and monthly. COVID-19 caused us to look at the type of cleaning and disinfecting products that were being used, and upgrading to specialized equipment designed to apply disinfectants on surfaces in small and large areas. Some tasks require hand application, and we also now use fogging equipment to disinfect hard-to-reach spots. We have added cleaning and disinfecting products to what we were already using, and purchased new equipment to assist us in meeting our goal of providing the public with the safest possible environment."

Cleary said that COVID-19 hasn't changed the fundamental purpose of housekeeping and

their custodial staff, whose primary responsibility is to protect the health and safety of casino customers through ongoing cleaning and disinfecting. He said it has increased how often tasks are performed, along with some added steps to provide that same clean safe environment due to COVID-19's highly contagious nature.

Sanitizing stations have been placed throughout the casinos in highly accessible places. And soap, sanitizer stations and hand towel dispensers are being upgraded to touchless, along with touchless water faucets. Ion generators have been added to all air handling equipment, including those in hotel rooms. The ion generators work to consistently clean the inside air. Cleary said that negative and positive ions seek out and attach to particulates in the air, both visible and invisible, forming heavy clusters that are no longer able to remain suspended, forcing them to drop to

the ground. The ions the generators produce have microbicidal effects on pathogens, which disrupt their surface proteins rendering them inactive. Cleary said the fresh air exchanges throughout interior public spaces have been upgraded in conjunction with the ion generators.

During times gaming areas are closed to guests for cleaning, the rooms are fogged and wiped down with sanitizer. Electrostatic sprayers are used in office spaces, meeting rooms and as an added layer of safety in every hotel room after it has been cleaned and sanitized by housekeeping staff.

Cleary said the new cleaning practices that have been put in place will remain the new normal, even after the pandemic is under control. "Our focus will always be on what more can we do to protect our staff and guests. Every step and system housekeeping puts in place will have been vetted by health professionals, the CDC and our

vendors," he said.

Kewadin Casino Chief Executive Officer Allen Kerridge said "Our phenomenal housekeeping teams have always worked hard to provide a clean place for guests to visit and stay, but over the last year they have had to work even harder to protect every person who walked into our casinos.

"Our Executive Housekeeper John Cleary is always learning about the newest products and how to take care of the usual issues in the most effective ways possible. John led the COVID-19 enhanced cleaning procedures for all five casinos, and not only met our needs, but exceeded them. It's been an incredible team effort involving casino and hotel housekeeping as well as team members from other departments, and they all deserve our recognition and thanks for making our casinos the cleanest and most sanitized places to visit."



Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center Executive Housekeeper John Cleary fogging a guest room for an extra layer of sanitizing at Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie.



Photo by John Cleary
Casino porter Melvin Alstergren fogging gaming machines and rooms at Sault Ste. Marie's Kewadin Casino.

6 Mile Farmers Market Crafts, Gifts & More *Fresh & Local from the U.P.*

Winter Hours: Saturday 11 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
2351 6 Mile Rd. in Sault Ste. Marie • 1 Mile West of Mackinac Trail

Baked Goods



Canned Fruits & Vegetables



Crafts & Gifts



Fresh Eggs

Herbs



All Handcrafted! Produce • Honey • Maple Syrup • Furniture • Fresh Donuts • Soap & More!

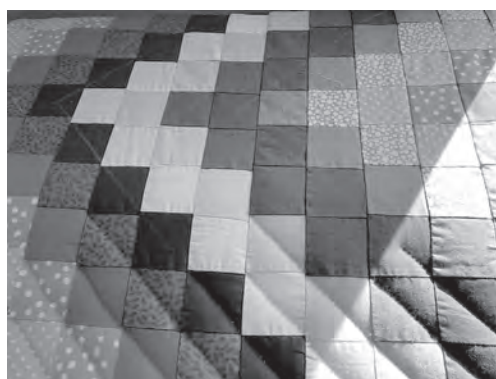
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Swings • Beautiful Quilts • Wheels • Toys
Canned Goods • Candy • Much More



6830 S. Taylor Rd. in Sault Ste. Marie (Off 6 Mile Rd., 1 Mile West of Mackinac Trail)

Anishinaabemowin 2021

A new language is like a muscle. If you don't use it, it weakens. *Be strong!*

Our 2021 strategy for learning Anishinaabemowin is through conversations (**giigidowinan** - *gii-gi-do-win-an*).
Welcome to the party of Anishinaabemowin speakers! Have fun. Be confident. You belong here.

1. Aanii Genii Gaazhikenhs, niijii!

aa-*ni* Ge-*ni* Gaa-zhik-*enhs*, *ni*-jii
Hello Me-too Cat, my friend.

Aaniish ezhi yaa-yin?

aa-*niish* e-zhi *yaa*-yin
How are you doing?



2. Oonh, Nimkii Nimosh, aanii!

oonh, *Nim*-kii Ni-*mosh*, aa-*ni*
Oh, Thunder Dog, hello!

N'mino yaa. Ge-gii gwa?

ni-*mi*-no yaa. *ge*-gii gwa
I'm doin' good. And you?



3. Mii gwa ge-nii.

mii gwa ge-*ni*
Me too.

Aapiish niijii-minaan Booniid Bineshiinh yaad?

aa-*piish* *ni*-jii-mi-*naan* Boo-*niid* Bi-ne-*shiinh* yaad
Where is our friend Alight Bird?

Gaawiin n'gii waabmaa-sii nangwa.

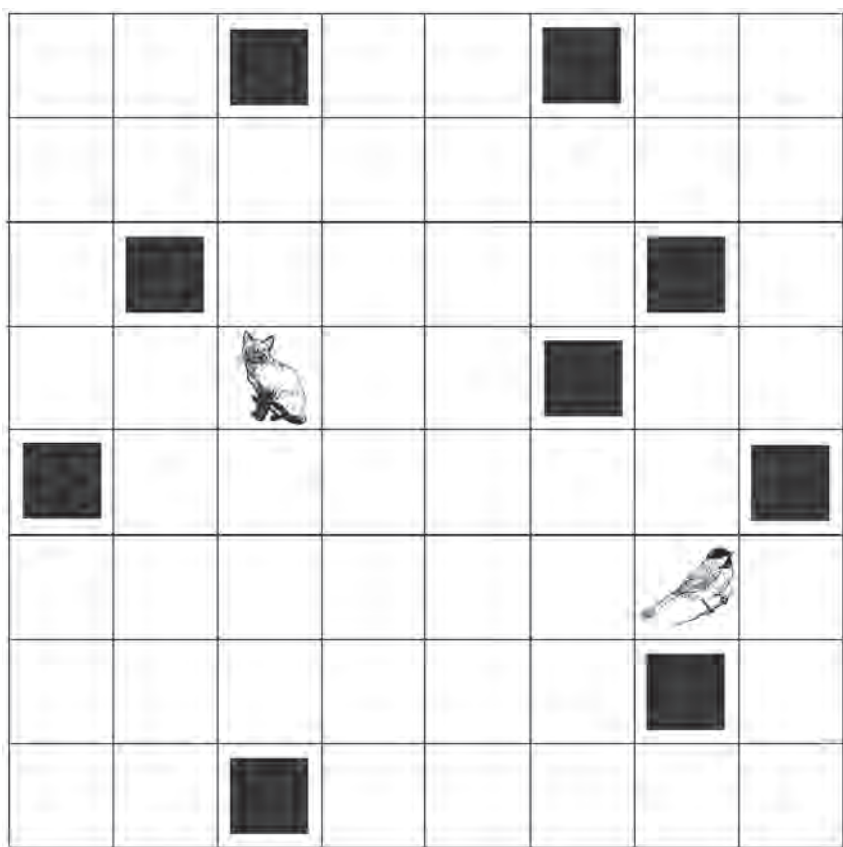
gaa-*wiin* n-gii *waab*-maa-*sii* *nan*-gwa
I didn't see her today.

5. Enh, kina waya pane bakadewag.

enh, *ki*-na *way*-a pa-*ne* *ba*-ka-de-wag
Yes everyone is always hungry.

N'manj iidik pii waa biskaabiid.

ni *man*-j ii-*dik* pii waa bis-*kaa*-biid
I wonder when she will return.



Find your way from **Genii Gaazhikenhs** to **Booniid Bineshiinh**

by drawing a line through all the empty squares one time only.

You can go up, down and across but not diagonally.

Making our sounds Most letters sound like in English.

Here are the exceptions.

aa sounds like the a in *all*

ii sounds like the e in *be*

oo sounds like the o in *go*

e sounds like the e in *end*

a sounds like the a in *tuba*

i sounds like the i in *sip*

o sounds like the oo's in *book*

g sounds only like it does in *go*

Pronounce all the letters. *Italic type* will tell you which word-parts to stress. No italics in a word means the parts have equal stress. Long words are broken up with dashes (-); still, say each word smoothly. And notice "nh" has **NO SOUND** of its own. It is a sign to say the vowels just before it "through your nose".

Makwa Giizis

Bear Moon

by Susan Askwith

4. Gaawiin ndoo kenmaa-sii.

gaa-*wiin* n-doo *ken*-maa-*sii*
I don't know.

Gnabaj mijim gda ndawaab-ndaan.

g-na-*baj* *mii*-jim g-*da* n-da-*waab*-n-daan.
Probably she is looking for food.

6. N'wii oo ndawaabmaa.

n-*wii* oo n-da-*waab*-maa.
I will go and look for her.

Tips 'N Tricks

What's up with "gwa"?

Well, it doesn't really have a meaning and is instead like an exclamation mark. So it emphasizes your idea and you find it tucked in here and there in sentences. Sprinkle it around wherever you want!

You say **gwa** sort of like "go" (using our pronunciation guide on that!) but slipping that w in there. It's as if you started to say (in English) "go on" but left off the "n" at the end.

And get really up close and personal with the pronunciation chart: Making our Sounds. That's the way to fit in with the crowd here!

When do you go at red and stop at green?

When you're eating a watermelon!

What's the best food when you're so hungry you could eat a house?

cottage cheese, wall nuts, and kitchen sink cookies

Some people say popcorn is hard to chew.

There's a kernel of truth in that.

Want to hear a joke about paper?

Nevermind. It's tear-able.

Did you hear about the restaurant on the moon?

Great food, no atmosphere.



7 COUNTY SERVICE AREA WELLNESS & RECREATION GUIDE

EFFECTIVE

2/10/21

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT FUND

Income-based funding for Tribal youth for a variety of activities:
(Income guidelines based on 300% of the 2020 HHS Poverty Guidelines)

- Sports Fees, Music, dance and theatre lessons, Instruments; Language lessons, Camps and related travel fees; Education, cultural and class trips; Testing fees; Driver's Education; Senior pictures; School supplies and book deposits and Regalia and youth drum.

APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be tribal youth age 0 through 12th grade living within the seven county service area (Alger, Chippewa, Delta, Luke, Mackinac, Marquette and Schoolcraft).
- Applicants may receive funding, up to \$150 once per academic year (August 1-July 31).

Applications available at www.bigbeararena.com, under the YOUTH PROGRAMS page or requested via email at kcainrs2@saulttribe.net.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Completed Application
- Copy of Student's Tribal Card
- Proof of Income
- Invoice, Registration Form, Brochure or Program Literature
- Reimbursements Require Parent/Guardian's IRS W9

ST. IGNACE



Little Bear East Arena

275 Marquette Street, (906) 643.6081
morganm@cityofstignace.net
www.littlebeararena.com

FREE to Sault Tribe members: Fitness Center includes weight equipment, aerobic machines, free weights and exercise machines.

Fitness Center & Track Hours:
Monday - Friday: 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Holiday hours vary, check website for details.

Present Tribal ID to desk attendant.

MARQUETTE

NMU Physical Education & Instructional Facility (PEIF)
1401 Presque Isle Avenue, (906) 227.2519
www.nmu.edu

FREE to Sault Tribe Members: Fitness Center, Lap Pool, Diving Tank, Saunas, Gymnasiums, Indoor Climbing Wall, Racquetball Courts, Group Fitness Classes and Cycling Classes.

Discounts on outdoor equipment rentals, locker and towel service as well as personal training.

Hours:
Monday - Friday: 5:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.
Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Sunday: 12 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Pool, sauna, outdoor recreation and holiday hours vary, visit website for details.

Present Tribal ID to desk attendant.
Age restrictions may apply.

NMU-Berry Event Center
1401 Presque Isle Avenue, (906) 227.2850

FREE to Sault Tribe members: Walking Track.

Hours:
TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Holiday hours vary, visit website for details.

Present Tribal ID to desk attendant.
Age restrictions may apply.

NMU-Superior Dome
1401 Presque Isle Avenue, (906) 227.2850

FREE to Sault Tribe members: Gymnasiums, Indoor Track, Indoor Tennis Courts, Turf and Floor (unavailable when rented).

Hours:
TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Holiday hours vary, visit website for details.

Present Tribal ID to desk attendant.
Age restrictions may apply.

Intramural Sports also available to Sault Tribe members age 16 and older, information available on the website.

NEWBERRY & CURTIS



Helen Newberry Joy Hospital & Healthcare Center
Newberry-502 W. Harrie Street, (906) 293.9182
Curtis-N9246 Saw-Wa-Quato St., (906) 586.9840
www.hnjh.org

FREE to Sault Tribe members: Exercise machines, weight equipment, shower facilities, free towel service and lockers (Newberry only).

Hours:
TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Email wellness@hnhj.org for hours.

Present Tribal ID to desk attendant.

Medical release may be required.



MUNISING



Alger Parks & Recreation Fitness Center
413 Maple Street, (906) 387.5636
www.algerparksrecdept.com

FREE to Sault Tribe members: Fitness Center with cardio room, cybex room, weight room, TV workout video room and gymnasium with walking track.

Fitness Center Hours:
Open 24/7

Present Tribal ID to register for membership.

ESCANABA

Sullivan's Health & Fitness
1401 N. 26th Street, Suite 118, (906) 217.2011
www.sullivanshealthandfitness.com

FREE for Sault Tribe members, their spouses and children residing in the Escanaba area.

Large open group exercise area with exercise machines, workout equipment, free weights and bench stations.

Hours:
24-hour access for members

Call for appointment to become a member, present Tribal ID to desk attendant.



Northern Lights YMCA
2001 North Lincoln Rd., (906) 789.0005
www.nlymca.com

FREE to Sault Tribe members and immediate family: Fitness center, pool, hot tub, sauna and gym.

Sault Tribe members receive discounted member rate for all programs at the YMCA.

Hours:
Monday - Friday: 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday: 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Sunday: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Present Tribal ID to desk attendant. Age restrictions may apply.

NEGAUNEE



YMCA of Marquette County
350 Iron Street, (906) 475.9666
www.ymcamqt.org

FREE to Sault Tribe members: Cardio and strength training equipment, sauna, locker rooms, rock wall and free drop-in fitness classes such as Yoga, Pilates, Strong Bodies, etc.

On-site tot watch for parents with children 6 weeks to 7 years for YMCA-member rates.

Hours:
Monday - Friday: 5 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Present Tribal ID and register on first visit.

SAULT STE. MARIE

All-In-One Fitness Club
(inside Big Bear Arena)
Two Ice Circle, (906) 635.4935
www.bigbeararena.com (Fitness Tab)

FREE to Sault Tribe Members: Fitness Center, track, basketball and volleyball gyms and saunas.

Fitness Center:
Monday - Friday: 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday: CLOSED
Sunday: 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Track Hours:
Same as above Fitness Center Hours

Basketball and Volleyball Gyms: Private Rental ONLY
Saunas: CLOSED

See website for updates and details.

Present Tribal ID to desk monitor to register. Age restrictions may apply.



Big Bear Arena
Two Ice Circle, (906) 635.7465
www.bigbeararena.com

- FREE to Sault Tribe members:
- Walking Track (Based on All in One Fitness Center Hours)
 - Playground: 7 days a week during daylight
 - Snow Shoe Rentals (email bookthebear@saulttribe.net)

- Public Skating & Skate Rentals: TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED
- Drop In Basketball and Volleyball: TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED
- Nature Trail: TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Up North Nutrition & GYM 906
327 Ashmun Street, (906) 259.7085
www.gym906.com

FREE to Sault Tribe members when All in One Fitness Center is closed.

Fitness Center Hours:
Monday - Friday: 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Lake Superior State University (SAC & Norris Center Pool)
1000 Meridian Street, (906) 635.2602
www.lssu.edu

FREE to Sault Tribe members: Student Activity Center (SAC) includes fitness equipment, track and gym.

Hours:
Monday - Thursday: 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Friday: 6:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday: 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Norris Center Pool includes use of pool during open swim times.

Hours:
TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Holiday hours vary, check website for details.

Present Tribal ID to desk attendant.
Age restrictions may apply.

MANISTIQUE

High School Pool
100 Cedar Street, Manistique, (906) 341.4300

FREE to Sault Tribe members.

Open Swim Hours:
TEMPORARILY CLOSED

Present Tribal ID to pool attendant on first visit.



KINROSS / KINCHELOE

Kinross Recreation Fitness Center
43 Wood Lake Road, (906) 495.5350

FREE to Sault Tribe members: Cardio workout machines, 12 station universal fitness center and free weights.

Hours:
Monday - Friday: 12 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: CLOSED

Present Tribal ID to desk attendant.

Little Bear West Ice Arena
180 N. Maple, (906) 341.3863

FREE Open skate and skate rentals for Sault Tribe members.

Hours: Varies

For current public skating schedule, call 906.341.3863.

Present Tribal ID to desk attendant.

LSSU Youth Athletic Camps 2021
FREE to Sault Tribe members, limited space, must pre-register.

Basketball and Volleyball: Camps announced in the Spring, pending current public health status.

Registration and applications will be available at www.bigbeararena.com.

Food Sovereignty Symposium and Festival coming to U.P. in collaboration with NMU

BY RICK SMITH

A symposium and festival promoting and supporting traditional Indigenous foods is tentatively set for Sept. 19-21 on the lands of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and Northern Michigan University, thanks to a long-developing collaboration of individuals and organizations.

Speaking more specifically on the purpose of the Food Sovereignty Symposium and Festival, Sault Tribe citizen and Northern Michigan University Native American Studies Professor Martin Reinhardt, Ph.D., said, "It is intended to provide an opportunity for indigenous food producers, chefs, researchers and others to share their knowledge with others so we can build on the work that has been done to help indigenous communities revitalize their

connections with the spirit beings that we know as food."

Explaining how he became involved in the collaborative, Reinhardt said Dan Cornelius, technical assistance specialist for the non-profit Intertribal Agriculture Council, has coordinated indigenous food summits since around 2010. Reinhardt attended one of the first summits at the Oneida Casino in Green Bay, Wis., in 2011, giving a presentation on the work taking place on the Decolonizing Diet Project at the NMU Center for Native American Studies.

The Intertribal Agriculture Council became the lead organization of an evolving collaboration.

Cornelius coordinated the Food Sovereignty Symposium and Festival in 2017 with Reinhardt serving as a keynote

speaker at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "After that symposium, I asked Dan if he would be willing to hold it in the U.P. at some time in the near future," Reinhardt said. "He agreed and we began to look at possibilities for upcoming years. We finally decided on 2021 and began talking with other folks involved in food sovereignty in the area."

The 2017 symposium featured a wide variety of speakers, workshops, demonstrations, displays and meals on the university campus and many other places throughout town. The U.P. symposium will be modeled on the 2017 symposium plus possible additional features from online suggestions at www.food-sovereignty.com. The web site also has much more detail about the symposium features.

Cornelius and Reinhardt formed a leadership team in May of 2020 with Valoree Gagnon, director of the Michigan Technological University Great Lakes Research Center's University-Indigenous Community Partnerships as well as research assistant professor at the school's College of Forest Resources and Environmental Science; and Scott Herron, a professor of biology at Ferris State University. "We attended a few meetings with other folks who are generally involved in food security and other issues, and shared the idea about the symposium with them," Reinhardt said.

The larger group they met with eventually dubbed itself the Food, Economy, Ecology, Diversity and Sovereignty (FEEDS) Educational Collaborative. In May of 2020, the team applied

for a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant of nearly \$100,000 for the coming symposium, they were awarded full funding. Contributions are also accepted at www.food-sovereignty.com.

The symposium is set to be an in-person gathering if conditions permit.

Along with the support of the NSF, Intertribal Agriculture Council, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, NMU Center for Native American Studies, MTU Great Lakes Research Center, Ferris State University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, support for the symposium also comes from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Michigan State University Extension, Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College and many others.

Bill introduced in House of Representatives calls for indigenous land acknowledgements

BY RICK SMITH

A bill has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives to encourage Congress as well as state and local governments to conduct formal Indigenous land acknowledgements before public or ceremonial events. Indigenous land acknowledgements recognize that the land on which the acknowledgement is made was originally inhabited by

certain tribes. It is a solemn rite of respectfully bringing to mind the background of the land and its original inhabitants that has gained momentum in spreading across the globe in recent years.

Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-D.C.) introduced the bill, House Resolution 1264, which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources. And, according to an announce-

ment, she appears to be the first member of Congress to introduce such a resolution.

"It's past time for Congress to acknowledge that the land comprising our country was originally inhabited by Indigenous peoples known as Native Americans, Native Hawaiians and Alaska Natives," Norton was quoted as saying in the announcement. "This formal statement recogniz-

es that Indigenous peoples are the original and traditional stewards of a given geographic area, and I hope to convey honor and respect for their connection to their ancestral lands."

The bill explains land acknowledgements are a proper method to recognize the traditions of Indigenous people and their ancestral lands. They are also expressions of gratitude and

appreciation to the tribes who first on the land and encourages broadening awareness of Indigenous peoples.

In other countries, such as Australia and Canada, Indigenous land acknowledgements have become commonly observed before sporting events, concerts and artistic performances, prior to speeches, political events and other functions since about 2015.

Increasing homeownership in urban Indian communities

CEDAR CITY, Utah – CBC Mortgage Agency (CBCMA), a tribally-owned nationally chartered housing finance agency and a leading source of down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers, has launched the Kani Urban Indian Housing Initiative to increase homeownership in the urban Indian community. The word "Kani" is a word used by the Cedar Band of Paiutes for home or house from the band's traditional language. The National Urban Indian Family Coalition (NUIFC), an advocacy group for American Indian families living in urban areas, has partnered with CBCMA on the initiative to address the housing needs of Native Americans living in urban areas.

"As a native owned company, we recognize the unique set of challenges that the Native American community faces in

becoming homeowners," said Kani Urban Indian Housing Initiative spokeswoman Tama Tsinnie (Navajo). "This new initiative will enable us to provide key resources to address the housing crisis in urban Indian communities. Currently, urban Indians spend more money on rent proportionally than non-Indian renters and, similar to other communities of color, lack down payment resources to facilitate homeownership. We aim to focus the Kani Urban Indian Housing Initiative on these housing issues through education, financial literacy and securing sustainable homeownership for Native Americans who live off the reservation."

CBCMA, a wholly owned subsidiary of Cedar Band Corp., offers the Chenoa Fund down payment assistance program. Cedar Band Corp. is a federally chartered tribal corporation

wholly owned and operated by the Cedar Band of Paiute Indians. NUIFC will promote the Kani Urban Indian Housing Initiative's message through its existing affiliated urban Indian centers by hosting webinars and homebuyer workshops with CBCMA. These workshops aim to provide support to Native American urban communities with guidance and down payment assistance programs.

The Cedar Band of Paiutes celebrates the resilience of Native communities no matter where they are and through the Kani Urban Indian Housing Initiative will help address a long-standing housing crisis of Native Americans purchasing homes in urban communities.

"With homelessness and under housing a definitive and widespread issue in our communities, this is an excellent opportunity to provide meaning-

ful education and assistance to urban dwelling American Indian and Alaska Native peoples to access homeownership." said National Urban Indian Family Coalition Executive Director Janeen Comenote (Quinault). "We are excited to partner with the Kani Urban Indian Housing Initiative and are looking forward to launching this unique project."

More information about the Kani Urban Indian Housing Initiative is available online at <http://kanihousing.org>

Founded in 2013, CBC Mortgage Agency is a tribally owned nationally chartered housing finance agency. As a leading source of down payment assistance, CBCMA helps low-to-moderate income consumers, often in minority neighborhoods, achieve the dream of homeownership. CBCMA, which was recognized as one

of the Top 25 Companies in Mortgage and Servicing by MReport, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Cedar Band Corporation, a federally chartered tribal corporation founded and wholly owned by the Cedar Band of Paiute Indians. More information can be found at chenoafund.org.

Founded in 2003, the mission of the National Urban Indian Family Coalition is to elevate a national voice and sustain indigenous values and culture through a strong network of urban Indian organizations. The goals of the NUIFC are to build a movement that promotes advocacy, enhances resources and mobilizes systems to integrate urban Indian issues in policy discussions and implementation and to sustain indigenous values and culture within urban communities. Learn more by visiting www.nuifc.org.

CCFP receives \$25,000 donation from local Pickford family

SAULT STE. MARIE – The Chippewa County Family Project (CCFP) received a \$25,000 donation from a foundation set up by Jami and Quin Brewer of Pickford.

The funds will support the Robert Arfstrom and Sharyn Faunt Teen Foster Home on Three Mile Road in Sault Ste. Marie. The foster home is completing the State of Michigan

licensing process and hopes to open by spring. Donated funds are integral to helping the house remain solvent and develop programming for residents.

The Brewers moved to Pickford from St. Louis, Mo., last fall. They recently sold their warehousing business and established a foundation to help kids. Quin still runs a logistics business headquartered in St. Louis.

"We were looking for old traditional orphanages, which don't exist anymore," Quin said. "When we investigated charitable organizations in the area, we met Tracey. The house was under construction then, but we decided we would definitely give to that."

Quin and Jami, who are parents of four adult children ages 25-31, were raised in loving, nurturing homes. They took

advantage of opportunities to succeed and look forward to helping youth in the foster care system do the same.

"No sad story here," Quin said. "We were raised by great parents. We've been blessed."

"And, we're blessed to have their support," said CCFP President Tracey Holt. "We are so grateful that the Brewers sought us out. What a great welcome to

the community! This wonderful couple chose the eastern Upper Peninsula for retirement and to give back by supporting the Arfstrom Faunt Home. Their gift will make a big difference for us."

To support the Arfstrom Faunt Home, contact Holt, tholt@hospiceoftheup.com or house manager Lindsay Ellis at lindsaye@ccfamilyproject.com.

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

BY JESS GILLOTTE-KING

February is typically associated with love and relationships. We often find our “first love” or “puppy love” in our teens. It is important to demonstrate to teens about what a healthy relationship looks like and should feel like. By modeling healthy relationships, teens learn what behaviors are acceptable and appropriate.

Teen dating violence is a serious issue and is becoming more prevalent in adolescent relationships. Teen dating violence is defined as “the physical, sexual or psychological/emotional abuse in a dating relationship among adolescents.”

Verbal, physical and sexual violence are common in teen relationships and are becoming even more common. “One in three adolescents in the United States is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, verbal abuse from a dating partner. For Native

American teens, the rate is even higher. In one study by the Center for Disease Control, the rate of teen dating violence among high school students in Alaska’s Native communities is 13.3 percent, nearly 4 percent higher than the national average of 9.8 percent. Further, studies suggest that American Indians are 2.5 times more likely to experience sexual assault crimes compared to all other races, and one in three Indian women report having been raped during her lifetime” (from *The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges*). What does teen dating violence look like? Here are signs of abusive behaviors:

Physical abuse: Hitting, punching, shoving, restraining, biting, scratching, hair pulling, pinching or anything that causes harm to another person.

Sexual abuse: Pressuring or forcing a partner to engage in unwanted sexual activity, using

social media or text messages to pressure partners to share photos, raping or coercing partner to perform sexual acts, preventing the use of birth control or other forms of contraception

Verbal abuse: Name calling, yelling, insulting, embarrassing, criticizing, etc.

Psychological abuse: Using threats and intimidation, such as threatening to end the relationship, threats to cause harm to themselves or others, threats to commit suicide or to cause harm to pets or property. Using controlling tactics such as not allowing partner to see friends or family or preventing them from going places, controlling what clothes are worn, extreme jealousy, spreading rumors, minimizing behaviors or blaming partners for their abusive actions.

Using Technology: Excessive texting, messaging or calling, cyber bullying, checking partner’s phone without permission, using

location services to track partner, stalking, creating fake profiles to spy on partner, posting on partners social media, messaging others about partner, etc.

For parents – Teen dating violence is on the rise, yet it can be prevented. It is necessary for pre-teens and teens to begin learning the skills needed to create and maintain healthy relationships. These skills may include how to manage feelings appropriately, how to communicate in a healthful way, respecting boundaries and having appropriate expectations of others. It is important to talk to teens and maintain an open line of communication. It is not always easy for teens to express their feelings to adults but knowing they have someone willing to listen is vital.

For teens – If you find yourself in an abusive relationship or feel you are being treated inappropriately, please tell

someone and consider ending the relationship. If your partner is making you feel uncomfortable or forcing or coercing you to do things you do not agree with, know that you are not alone. There is help! The Advocacy Resource Center has a wealth of knowledge and compassion to assist with teen dating violence and provide care and counseling to those in need.

Teen dating violence is on the rise and it is our job to teach, to protect and to demonstrate a healthy relationship. We must help our adolescents understand and know the value of their worth. Let them know they are not alone and help is always available. The Advocacy Resource Center can be reached at (906) 632-1808, please ask to speak to an advocate.

Jess Gillotte-King is a community educator with the Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center.

Largest indigenous U.S. House representation set in 2021

BY RICK SMITH

The year 2021 ushered in the largest number of indigenous representatives in the history of the U.S. House of Representatives. Six new and incumbent representatives with American Indian and Native Hawaiian ancestry now serve in the chamber. They consist of three Democrats, three Republicans, three females and three males representing four states and seven indigenous

nations.

Democrats are New Mexico First Congressional District incumbent Debra Haaland (Pueblo of Laguna, Jemez Pueblo), Kansas Third Congressional District incumbent Sharice Davids (Ho Chunk Nation of Wisconsin) and Hawaii Second Congressional District freshman Kaiali’i Kahele (Native Hawaiian).

Republicans are Oklahoma Fourth Congressional

District incumbent Tom Cole (Chickasaw Nation), Oklahoma Second Congressional District incumbent Markwayne Mullin (Cherokee Nation) and New Mexico Second Congressional District freshman Yvette Herrel (Cherokee Nation).

Cole is the most senior American Indian congressman in the House having served since 2003. Mullin follows with eight years in the House, both Haaland and Davids have served

since Jan. 3, 2019. Harrell and Kahele commenced their initial terms last Jan. 3.

Haaland is the Biden-Harris administration nominee for Secretary of the Interior. She would be the first American Indian to hold the post if approved by Congress.

A Republican from South Carolina with mixed Cherokee and Afro-American ancestry, Richard H. Cain, appears to be the first representative to serve

in the the House starting in 1873.

The first senator with American Indian ancestry was Hiram Revels, a Lumbee Republican from Mississippi who term began in 1870.

One Republican senator from Kansas with Kaw, Osage and Potawatomi ancestry served from 1915 to 1929 before he resigned after he was elected as vice president in the Hoover administration.



Debra Haaland



Sharice Davids



Kaiali'i Kahele



Tom Cole



Markwayne Mullin



Yvette Harrell

Soo Theatre launches capital campaign to restore exterior

On Jan. 29, the Soo Theatre Board of Directors announced the official kick-off of a capital campaign to restore the building’s historic exterior, including the marquee, primary entrance, storefronts, upper windows, masonry, emergency exits and other features. The decision to move forward with a phased approach to fully restoring the historic building follows a vote last year to move ahead with this phase, which is estimated at a cost of more than \$640,500.

The Soo Theatre was constructed in 1930 and has undergone many changes and alterations over the years. In 2003, the Soo Theatre Project, a non-profit organization was formed to purchase the building, vacant at the time, and began the nearly 20-year process of bringing the Theatre back into operation and restoring portions of the interior and exterior as funding has allowed.

Colleen Arbic, who has served



on the Board of Directors since 2003, and currently as Executive Director, believes it is time to launch another phase of the capital campaign to restore the exterior. “After years of reworking plans, working with engineers, architects, staff and volunteers, the Soo Theatre Board is confident that these plans should be put into action,” she said. “Restoring the exterior is the right choice for this moment. It will bring the building back to the beautiful look it had in the 1940s. Just imagine being on Ashmun Street and seeing lights on the marquee once again!”

The Soo Theatre Board

engaged the assistance of former Downtown Development Director Justin Knepper, now with his own company, Knepper Development Strategies, to assist in fundraising efforts. Knepper has recently completed design and capital campaign print and social media materials and plans to schedule calls and meetings with key donors over the next few months.

Knepper said, “I believe the Soo Theatre is one of Sault Ste. Marie’s most important assets across the entire community. I am excited to work with the Soo Theatre Board and staff on this project; I cannot wait for the day when

contractors start setting up their scaffolding and getting to work. Whether you can pledge \$500,000 or \$5, we appreciate every person, no matter where you live or where you’re from, donating to restore our city’s beautiful, historic theatre.”

“We owe a debt of gratitude to the many donors, countless numbers of volunteers, in-kind service contributors, board, committee members and staff who have helped to upgrade the building. All of these people have made it possible to stage productions and start an arts education program that is unique in this area and that contin-

ues to grow,” Arbic said.

Arbic would also like to thank the Theatre Board of Directors and the creative staff who have worked so tirelessly to keep the theatre operational during the COVID crisis, and who have supported the vision to launch a capital campaign at the beginning of 2021:

Board President Nancy Kirkpatrick, Vice President Dawn Bumstead, Secretary Susan Camp, Treasurer Carol Andary, Brad Blair, Michele Callaghan, City Manager Brian Chapman, Laura Collins-Downwind, Larry Jacques, Leisa Mansfield, Honorary Members Tom Ewing and Mary McKay, Artistic Director Karen Hughes Beacom and Education Director Maggie Twining.

For further information regarding the Soo Theatre and the capital campaign, please visit www.sootheatre.org, contact Justin Knepper at justin.d.knepper@gmail.com, or call him at (906) 630-0579.

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement & Conservation

SUBMITTED BY ROBERT MARCHAND,
CHIEF OF POLICE

Inland hunting, fishing and gathering

The 2020 licensing year is almost over, with all current inland hunting and non-hunting harvest cards expiring March 31, 2021. You will see the 2021 application in this edition of the newspaper. Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) will begin accepting those applications starting March 1, 2021. Please remember that, if you have not yet turned in your 2020 harvest report, you will not be able to get a 2021 license until you do. These reports are required to be submitted if you held this license in 2020, whether or not you engaged in any activity.

Please be sure you are reviewing your rules and regulations to ensure you are engaging in allowable activity, regardless of which license you hold. STLE continues to get calls asking if members can use their inland license to fish on the Great Lakes. The answer is, and has been, no. For members to fish the Great Lakes in Sault Tribe's 1836 Treaty area, you must have one of the following: Sault Tribe's subsistence or subsistence and gillnet license; a State of Michigan fishing license; or you are authorized per CORA Code, Section XVII to use your tribal membership card by following State of Michigan rules.

Great Lakes licenses: Commercial and subsistence

Commercial fishermen are required to call and schedule an appointment to renew or obtain a captain's or helper's license. In order for STLE to obtain accurate information and be able to process licenses timely, captains and helpers must call themselves to provide licensing staff with current and accurate information. We will no longer accept appointments made by anyone other than the license holder.

Please note that all 2020 subsistence and commercial licenses expired on December 31, 2020, as noted on the applicable licenses. If you have not yet renewed your license for 2021, you are not required to submit the required monthly reports. STLE began issuing 2021 subsistence and subsistence/gillnet licenses on Monday, December 21, 2020. STLE also began scheduling commercial licensing appointments that same day. Captains and helpers can call (906) 635-6065 if they'd like to schedule an appointment to obtain their 2021 captains or helpers license.

Reminder for commercial captains: If you did not renew and pick up your license, or if you did not pay for it, for 2020 licensing year, you are still required to pay for this license each year.

If you have questions or are not sure if you have paid, please call Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and we'd be happy to help you figure that out. Please see *Tribal Code Chapter 20, Section 20.102 - Licensing of Commercial Treaty Fishing Activity*, subsection (10). Any Sault Ste. Marie tribal license holder who fails to renew his tribal treaty fishing license for a period of one (1) year shall not thereafter be relicensed.

General information

When tribal members obtain these licenses, it is understood that they will educate themselves on the rules and regulations associated with exercising their treaty rights. Sault Tribe makes all tribal laws accessible on their website for easy access and reference. If members are unclear on any section of any treaty rights codes, we encourage them to contact Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and ask to speak to an officer.

They are here to help our members understand these regulations and how they are enforced.

Tribal laws that regulate treaty licenses are available online at www.saulttribe.com, Government, Tribal Code. Chapter 21 and 23 regulate inland hunting, fishing and gathering activity. Chapter 20 and CORA code regulate subsistence, subsistence gill net and commercial fishing activity. 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.

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.



2021 Sault Tribe Inland Application

NEW

Licensing cost is \$5 per member. Allowable payment methods are check & money order or credit/debit card **at the window only**. Cash payment are not accepted. Youth (16 and under) and Elders (60 and over) are not required to pay fees. New members must provide a copy of their **current Enrollment card and proof of hunter safety if born after 1960**.

Application must be filled out accurately and completely. Please print legibly. It is your responsibility to know and follow the rules and regulation pertaining to this license.

Name: _____
Last First Middle

Mailing Address: _____
Street
City State ZIP

Physical Address: _____
Street City State ZIP

Male
 Female Date of Birth: _____

Phone Number: _____ Tribal File #: _____ STS#: _____

Email Address: _____

Please select one of the following license (must provide or have already provided hunter safety):

- Hunting Harvest Card (allows Inland fishing, general gathering, small game, waterfowl, migratory birds and general furbearer)
- Deer
 - Spring Turkey
 - Fall Turkey
 - Trapping (Pine Marten, Bobcat, Fisher, River Otter)
- Non Hunting Harvest Card (allows general gathering and Inland fishing **ONLY**)

Bear and Elk applications will be available in the Tribal newspaper in April 2021. For all other permits pursuant to Ch. 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code, you must contact the Conservation Department at 906-635-6065 (i.e. State/Federal Firewood Permits, Maple Sap permits, Birch Bark Permit, Conifer Bough Permit etc....)

Mail completed applications to: **Sault Tribe Law Enforcement. P.O. Box 925 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783**

For STLE office use only

Amount rcvd: _____

Rcvd by: _____

Method of Pymt: _____

Date issued: _____

- Elder
 Youth

Resolution protects Straits of Mackinac as cultural site

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors passed a resolution designating the Straits of Mackinac as a traditional cultural property site. Resolution 2021-38 was approved at the Feb. 2 board meeting. Authored by the tribe's environmental director, Kathleen Brosemer, the resolution seeks to protect the Straits of Mackinac and its submerged bottomlands as a "traditional cultural property" site with significant culture, history and identity.

To Protect the Straits of Mackinac as a Traditional Cultural Property Site

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

(Sault Tribe) is a federally recognized tribe and invested with inherent sovereignty and right to self-governance; and

WHEREAS, the Sault Tribe is signatory to the 1836 Treaty of Washington which ceded the use of land that allowed for the formation of the State of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, the 1836 Treaty of Washington reserved usufructuary rights in perpetuity, such rights to include hunting and gathering and the rights of usual occupancy, to the native peoples signatory to the treaty; and

WHEREAS the Tribal Board of the Sault Tribe is in support

of the Sault Tribe's Cultural and Environmental Divisions compiling preliminary research that will be used to support the protection of tribal cultural, historical, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS the Enbridge Line 5 twin pipelines and its proposed tunnel lie within the terrestrial and submerged bottomlands of the Straits of Mackinac; and

WHEREAS the Sault Tribe never ceded control of the lakes or lake bottomlands to any other government entity in the Treaty of Washington or any other treaty of cession; and

WHEREAS the Straits of Mackinac, including the waters,

the terrestrial ecosystems adjacent to the waters, and the submerged bottomlands, as the heart of Turtle Island in the middle of the Great Lakes, has significant culture, history, and identity to the Sault Tribe; and

WHEREAS the Sault Tribe Board of Directors supports the designation of the Straits of Mackinac and its submerged bottomlands as a "Traditional Cultural Property" site with significant culture, history, and identity,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians does hereby, as follows:

1) Direct the Sault Tribe Cultural and Environmental Divisions to compile preliminary research for the area around the Enbridge Line 5 twin pipelines and the proposed tunnel project in order to protect the traditional cultural and historic resources of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and further

2) Direct the Sault Tribe Cultural and Environmental Divisions to submit the information to the US Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies for formal designation as a Traditional Cultural Property site.

Elder lunch drive-through – hold the COVID please!

STORY AND PHOTOS BY HOLLY KIBBLE, ELDER SERVICE DIVISION DIRECTOR

Elders take COVID-19 seriously when it comes to their lunch. Since March, the elder's congregate meal programs in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel and Manistique have been operating with curbside pick-up. Elders drive up and

their delicious, nutritious lunch is brought to their car. However, one site had to make a transition to accommodate so many elders in the parking lot.

In Sault Ste. Marie, the parking was a little limited and some days it felt like bumper cars when elders came to get their afternoon lunch. The concern was to keep the production of meals going smooth for the largest tribal meal site in Sault Ste. Marie. This site serves approximately three times more elders. As COVID funding became available, the Elder Service Division decided to take out a window and put in a drive-thru. There was a lot of plan-

ning by Elder Services and Sault Tribe Construction on how to add the cement driveway and make an access outlet onto the Kewadin Casino service drive.

The first week the drive-thru service window opened, the program topped over 70 elders in just one hour. Both congregate meals and home delivered meals have increased significantly since the COVID pandemic began. The Elder Service Division essential workers responded by never taking one day off and continuing their daily services to elders by providing homecare, transportation, outreach and meals.



An elder using the drive-through window to pick up lunch.



Construction gets underway in preparation for the new window.



Above, Getting it done! Below, Making an exit from the window.







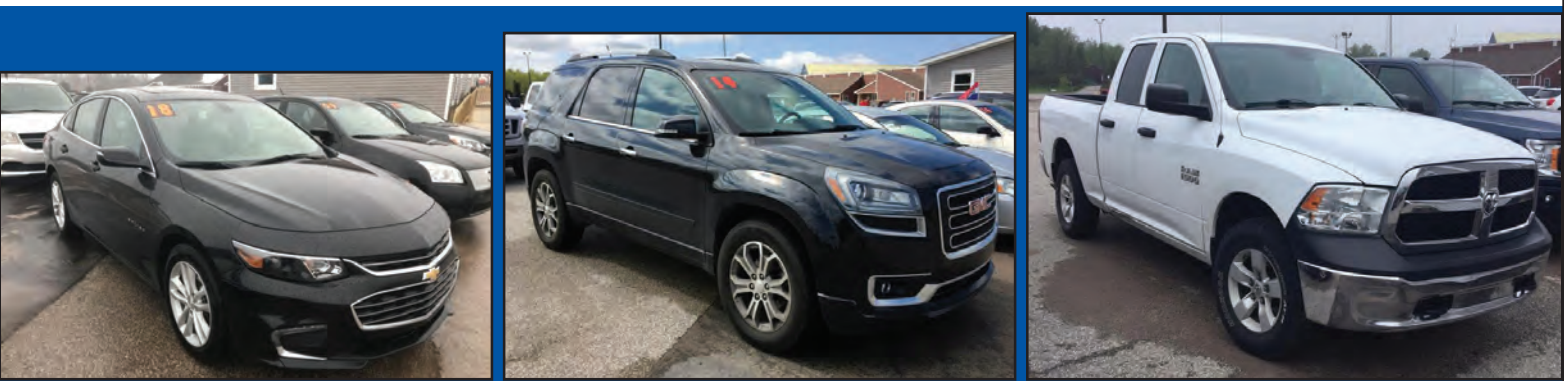
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Richards, repatriation and historic preservation specialist, works to bring home Anishinabek ancestors and artifacts

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Marie Richards is the repatriation and historic preservation specialist with the Sault Tribe Language and Culture Department.

In that role she functions as a designee for the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, or NAGPRA, in the tribe's efforts to repatriate human ancestral remains and cultural objects. She also receives cultural resource review requests under the National Historic Preservation Act to help protect the tribe's culturally significant and sacred sites. "I do a lot to help and support efforts to keep our heritage intact as much as possible, which is one of my favorite aspects of this job," she said. "I work with some amazing people in the tribe's Language and Culture Department learning more about who we are, what we did and where we're going as a people."

Richards said the department was successful in repatriating ancestral remains last year. "COVID concerns created some difficulties, but our former department director, Colleen Medicine, was persistent in working with institutions and within our office for safety procedures that would help the work continue when safe to do so. This year will be no exception, and I hope we will be successful in complet-

ing some of these journeys that multiple people have been part of over several years," she said.

As the repatriation and historic preservation specialist, Richards' has conversations with different institutions to pave the way to bring our ancestors home for a traditional burial. She also works to protect sacred sites and objects, and to help preserve traditional knowledge to pass on to future generations. She said that one aspect of colonialism is control over cultural patrimony and practices, such as having our ancestors dug up and sent to museums and universities. "Our cultural items were and are displayed for the public to see without consent, even when those items are not meant for public consumption. Our sacred sites were destroyed. All of this was happening at a time when the government and society forbid Native peoples from cultural practices," she said. Richards said the Anishinaabe are a resilient people, with the ability to continue forward and overcome hardships. "As Anishinaabek, we have been through so much the past 500 years, yet here we are surviving forced assimilation and other efforts at cultural genocide. Our cultural teachings help us survive through difficult times. Especially today," she said.

Richards is a social science doctoral student at Michigan



Marie Richards

Technological University studying industrial heritage and archaeology with her research focusing on the effect of industrialization on traditional cultural landscapes and Anishinaabek resilience and repatriation in maintaining connections to ancestral lands. She attended the University of Iowa for her Bachelor of Arts in anthropology and Master of Science in urban planning. "I missed heritage resources and went on to receive my Master of Arts in heritage resources from Northwestern State University of Louisiana; there I worked with the Jena Band of Choctaw

Indians on some heritage preservation planning for an internship and my master's thesis. My experiences in cultural resource management exposed a limitation to archaeological training and practices that pushed me to enter a Ph.D program to address the problems we face in protecting Indigenous traditions, culture and our homelands."

She was recently accepted into a competitive fellowship program, the Intertribal Agricultural Council—Inter-Institutional Network for Food, Agriculture, and Sustainability (IAC-INFAS) Tribal Fellowship, as one of

eleven Native graduate scholars. She said it's the first year of the fellowship program, and she is finding it interesting networking with other Native minds on food sovereignty. She said that another Sault Tribe member, Tara Maudrie, is also part of the cohort.

Richards said she finds it exciting to be part of empowering and celebrating our people and community. "One could say I was called to this position, my education and career paths part of a journey to here and now. Many of us grew up through a difficult time to identify as being Native, so we were not able to learn and pass down what it means to be Anishinaabek. Times have changed and I want to be part of protecting and reconnecting everyone to our culture."

Most of Richards' career has centered on historical archaeology and ethnography. "This includes several years as a field archaeologist and ethnographer with cultural resource management firms in Louisiana. I am familiar with and practiced in many heritage specialist roles, including academic research, digging shovel tests and excavating and authoring historical reports. While I have experience in historic preservation, bringing home ancestors is a new experience and I am honored to be part of that process," she said.

Michigan SBDC provides expanded relief services

The Michigan Small Business Development Center (SBDC), a statewide small business support organization, has expanded its no-cost services to reflect the needs of small businesses continuing to be affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Small businesses in all 83 counties in Michigan will benefit from the support services including accounting, e-commerce website development, human resource support and more.

"The pandemic hit small businesses exceptionally hard, and demand for SBDC services skyrocketed. We've doubled our staff and extended services into key areas that will expedite small business recovery," commented J.D. Collins, state director of the Michigan SBDC. "These services provide immediate value for businesses responding to the pandemic; an online menu for a restaurant, mental health support for struggling staff or child care focused consulting are just a few of the services that are part of our comeback kit."

In close partnership with the State of Michigan, the Michigan SBDC continues to work towards enhancing Michigan's economic well-being by providing consulting, training and market research for new ventures, existing small businesses and advanced technology companies.

The SBDC has contracted Michigan-based small businesses to deliver its expanded services including website development agencies, branding agencies, social

media agencies, accountants, EAP programs and more. These no-cost services are available through September 2021 and are complemented by the SBDC's well-established team of business consultants who provide free, one-on-one consulting to small businesses in all 83 counties.

Along with EAP services, eligible small businesses may take advantage of the following services offered through the CARES Act funding:

- Accounting.
- Branding
- Graphic design
- Website development
- E-commerce support
- Human resource support

"I'd like to thank Daniel Yoder and the Michigan Small Business Development Center for helping my business get through a season to remember for both the challenges we've overcome and the successes we've had," said Sam Raymond, owner of Keweenaw Adventure Company.

Entrepreneurs and small businesses can access free consulting through the SBDC at any time. To qualify for the SBDC's expanded small business recovery program, a business must be a client of the Michigan SBDC, have gross revenue under \$1M and have a demonstrated need for such services as a way to pivot or survive the crisis.

Individuals can register for SBDC services and learn more about the small business recovery program at SBDCMichigan.org/Recovery.

Women's Breastplate Workshop

Culture - The Key to Healing

The Advocacy Resource Center will be hosting Facebook workshops for interested participants. We will post a video to Facebook for you to follow along with on February 26th, 2021. The first 30 people to message your address by February 17th will receive a kit in the mail.

WHEN: February 26th, 2021 8:00 A.M.

WHERE: Advocacy Resource Center Facebook page.

SUPPLIES ARE LIMITED

To register, please contact Ashley Gravelle
Advocacy Resource Center Cultural Healing Educator
at 906-632-1808



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This event was produced by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Anishnaabek Community and Family Services, Advocacy Resource Center under 2018-VO-GX-0004 awarded by the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.



Resolutions passed at Dec. 8-Feb.2 board meetings

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa met on Dec. 8 with all present and passed the following resolutions.

Resolution number 2020-305 – Permitting State Inspection and Law Enforcement State Licensed Facilities – Escanaba – Waived rights of the tribe to exclude state regulatory, law enforcement and fire agencies for the purpose of administering and enforcing state marijuana laws, applicable tax laws and administrative rules on trust land leased to Green Sunrise Products LLC in Escanaba.

306 – Permitting State Inspection and Law Enforcement State Licensed Facilities – SSM – Waived rights of the tribe to exclude state regulatory, law enforcement and fire agencies for the purpose of administering and enforcing state marijuana laws, applicable tax laws and administrative rules on trust land leased to Green Sunrise Products LLC in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

307 – Amending Purposes of Contract Morisset, Schlosser, Jozwiak and Somerville – Authorized and amendment with the law firm to continue representation through the remainder of the year.

The board reconvened on Jan. 5 with all present and passed the following.

2021-01 – ACFS-DTE Foundation Establishment FY 2021 Budget – Approved for other revenue funding of \$24,000 with no effect on tribal support.

02 – Establishment of FY 2021 Budget DeMawating Development – Odenaang Storage – Approved for other revenue funding of \$13,200.

03 – SAMHSA STOPR Establishment of FY 2021 Budget – Approved for federal Health and Human Services funding of \$267,877.80 with no effect on tribal support.

04 – SAMHSA Grant FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved for grant funding to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses with no effect on tribal support.

05 – Michigan Tribal Food Access Collaborative FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved to increase Intertribal Council funds \$18,311.01 with no effect on tribal support.

06 – ACFS-Family Violence FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved for a decrease in federal Health and Human Services funding of \$40,093 with no effect on tribal support.

07 – Road to Wellness Grant FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved to change the personnel sheet, decrease expenses and decrease Intertribal Council funding \$34,992.45 with no effect on tribal support.

08 – Family Spirit Grant and Third-Party Revenue FY 2021 Budget Modifications – Approved to increase expenses with third-party revenue funds of \$6,012.36 with no effect on tribal support and to transfer the funds to the third-party revenue account.

09 – Perinatal Opioid Grant

FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved to decrease expenses and decrease Intertribal Council funding \$7,875.09 with no effect on tribal support.

10 – Soo Health Center Admin, Emergency Preparedness and Third-Party Revenue FY 2021 Budget Modifications – Approved to change the personnel sheet, decrease expenses and decrease third-party revenue \$26,135.41; modification to emergency preparedness account to change the personnel sheet, increase expenses and increase State of Michigan funding \$9,738; and for a decrease to third-party revenue transfer of \$26,135.41.

11 – Trust Land Status: Taylor Parcel Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County – Secretary of the Interior requested to accept title of a land parcel in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

12 – Trust Land Status: Phillippe Parcel Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County – Secretary of the Interior asked to accept title of a land parcel in Sault Ste. Marie.

13 – Trust Land Status: John McNaughton’s Addition Parcel Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County – Secretary of the Interior asked to take title of a land parcel in Sault Ste. Marie.

14 – Trust Land Status: W.C. Teter’s Addition, Block 2 Lots 7-11 Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County – Secretary of the Interior asked to take title of land parcel in Sault Ste. Marie.

15 – Trust Land Status: Selwyn Parcel Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County – Secretary of the Interior asked to take title of a land parcel in Sault Ste. Marie.

16 – Solution to Approve Modifications to the Conservation Easements and Utility Right-Of-Way for the Donated Methodist Mission Property – Authorized and approved modified agreements and issues a limited waiver of sovereign immunity to the Michigan Department of Environment and Cloverland Electric.

The board reconvened on Jan. 19 with all present and passed the following.

17 – Authorizing A Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and the Right to Exclude and Addressing Other Matters Required to Obtain and Maintain An Internet Gaming Operator’s License From the Michigan Gaming Control Board – Tribe submits itself to the Michigan Gaming Control Board jurisdiction or any successor agency charged with enforcement of the Lawful Internet Gaming Act (LIGA) in connection with an application for an Internet gaming operator’s license and as a condition to retain the license. The tribe further agrees to abide by the LIGA provisions and orders pursuant to LIGA Internet gaming by an Indian tribe. Waives sovereign immunity solely for the purposes stated in the LIGA. Sets conditions

conducive to acquiring and maintaining an Internet gaming license.

18 – Authorizing A Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and the Right to Exclude and Addressing Other Matters Required to Obtain and Maintain a Sports Betting Operator’s License From the Michigan Gaming Control Board – Sets terms conforming to the Lawful Sports Betting Act.

19 – Approval and Authorization of Second Amended and Restated Online Gaming and Sports Betting Agreement and Limited Waiver of Sault Tribe Online Gaming’s Sovereign Immunity Therein – Authorized terms of an agreement between the tribe, Sault Tribe Online Gaming and Wynn.

20 – Cultural-Anishinaabemowin Theatre Project Establishment of FY 2021 Budget – Approved an \$8,779.50 budget from other revenue account with no effect on tribal support.

21 – ACFS-Tribal Governments Establishment of FY 2021 and 2022 Budget – Approved federal Department of Justice funding of \$139,994.93 for FY 2021 with no effect on tribal support and \$241,904.20 for FY 2022 with no effect on tribal support.

22 – Natural Resources-Environmental Tolerances Manoomin Establishment of FY 2021 and 2022 Budget – Approved Bureau of Indian Affairs funding of \$22,581.50 for FY 2021 with no effect on tribal support and \$46,618.50 with no effect on tribal support.

23 – Natural Resources-Invasive Species Surveillance Establishment of FY 2022 Budget – Approved Bureau of Indian Affairs funding of \$125,611.85 with no effect on tribal support.

24 – Natural Resources-Wintering Complexes Establishment of FY 2022 Budget – Approved Bureau of Indian Affairs funding of \$155,653.05 with no effect on tribal support.

25 – Dental Clinics (Sault, St. Ignace and Manistique) and Third-Party Revenue FY 2021 Budget Modifications – Approved budget modifications for Sault and St. Ignace clinics to change the personnel sheets and reallocate expenses. Approved budget modification for Manistique clinic to change the personnel sheet, increase expenses and increase third-party revenue funds \$39,904.52. Also approved a modification to increase third-party revenue transfer of \$39,904.52.

26 – Amending Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority Bylaws – Eliminated participation in meetings by Electronic media.

27 – Approving Contract Patterson, Earnhart, Real Bird and Wilson, LLP – Approved for the purposes of providing legal services to the tribe until Dec. 31, 2021.

28 – Approving Contract Morisset, Schlosser and

Somerville, LLP – Approved for the purposes of providing legal services to the tribe until Dec. 31, 2021.

29 – Approving Contract Foster Garvey – Approved for the purposes of providing legal services to the tribe until Dec. 31, 2021.

30 – Approving Contract Butzel Long – Approved for the purposes of providing legal services to the tribe until Dec. 31, 2021.

31 – Approving Contract Alexis Lambros – Approved for the purposes of providing legal services to the tribe until Dec. 31, 2021.

32 – Approving Contract Sonosky Chambers-Juul Litigation – Approved for the purpose of pursuing litigation related to vaping devices and marketing, on a contingency fee basis, continuing until the resolution of such litigation.

33 – Approving Contract Ogitchiida Qwe and Associates – Approved for consulting services until Dec. 31, 2021.

The board reconvened on Feb. 2 with all present and passed the following resolutions.

34 – Soo Health Center Optical FY 2021 Budget Modification – Approved to reallocate expenses and change the personnel sheet with no effect on tribal support.

35 – Soo Health Center Laboratory and Third-Party Revenue FY 2021 Budget

Modifications – Approved to increase expenses, change the personnel sheet and increase third party revenue \$58,838.46 with no effect on tribal support and to increase third-party revenue transfer of \$58,838.46.

36 – Earmarking Additional COVID-19 Relief Funds for Tribal Owned Business Recovery Grant Program – Approved for any funding the tribe may receive from the U.S. Department of the Treasury depending on the outcome of two Supreme Court cases referred to as the “Chehalis” cases.

37 – Reaffirm and Approve Promissory Note from Self-Sufficiency Fund to Tribe – Approved for a renewed promissory note.

38 – To Protect the Straits of Mackinac as a Traditional Cultural Property Site – Directs the tribe’s Language and Culture Department and the Environmental Department to conduct preliminary research for the area around Enbridge Line 5 pipelines and proposed tunnel project in order to protect the traditional cultural and historic resources of the tribe and submit the information to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and other agencies for formal designation as a traditional cultural property site.

Resolutions can be viewed in their entirety along with voting grids www.saulttribe.com.

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Understanding humidity and its importance

BY ROBIN BOUSCHOR,
ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

When the temperature drops the air becomes drier. The skin can itch, our throat can also feel “rough” due to this and even can be the cause of headaches. One thing that is important to control during the winter months in the home is humidity.

Humidity is the amount of water vapor in the air. Relative humidity (RH) is the ratio of moisture in the air to the maximum amount of moisture the air can hold, which varies depending on the air temperature. As the temperature rises, the air can hold more moisture. Many studies have shown adverse effects of low indoor RH and beneficial effects of elevated RH.

The nose and throat is our body’s first line of defense in the fight against pollutants and microbes contained in the air we breathe and the second line is our respiratory tract. Inside our respiratory tract is layer of small hair shaped structures called cilia and a thin membrane of mucous covers them. Airborne pollutants, such as particles, allergens, viruses and bacteria, are captured by this sticky mucous membrane and removed from the air. The tiny cilia whip back and forth many times per second to transport the mucous and any trapped contaminants towards our throats. It is then swallowed or coughed out, and therefore destroyed or rendered harmless, according to recent studies. If the air we are

breathing in is below 40 percent RH over a prolonged period of time, this mucous membrane layer dries out. This can cause damage to the cilia, inhibits our ability to filter pollutants from the air we breathe and leave us susceptible to airborne infection.

A study published in August 2020 that evaluated a total of 10 most relevant international studies on how humidity influences survival, spread and infection with pathogens such as influenza and corona viruses (SARS-CoV-1, MERS and SARS-CoV-2), recommends at least 40 percent RH in public buildings.

According to the study’s co-author, Dr. Ajit Ahlawat, “If the relative humidity of indoor air is below 40 percent, the par-

ticles emitted by infected people absorb less water, remain lighter, fly further through the room and are more likely to be inhaled by healthy people. In addition, dry air also makes the mucous membranes in our noses dry and more permeable to viruses.”

It is important to stress proper care and maintenance needs to be completed with any humidifier unit. It has a potential for bacterial growth if not properly cleaned by the manufacturer’s instructions. It is also recommended every room with a humidifier have an RH monitor to gauge the current RH. A home occupant should also watch out for window condensation, which can lead to water damage and mold growth if condensation is

persistent. Outdoor temperatures below 0° Fahrenheit can make it hard to achieve 40 percent RH but monitoring for window condensation will help you figure out what RH is achievable for the apartment or home. Turn off the humidifier if window condensation starts to occur and turn the unit on once condensation goes away.

Please contact the Sault Tribe Environmental Department with any questions or concerns in regard to air quality. The department also offers free indoor air quality assessments to tribal members living in the seven-county service area. Call (906) 632-5575 or email rbouschor1@saulttribe.net.

ITC offers Anishinaabe cooking resources catalog

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan is developing a catalog of Anishinaabe Cooking Resources as part of the Michigan Tribal Food Access Coalition and Walmart Healthy Native Food Project. These resources featuring Indigenous traditional foods are developed in partnership with Bay Mills Indian Community, Hannahville Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Little

Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians.

In 2021, the Anishinaabe Cooking Resources will feature a series of 12 monthly cooking education videos and educational resources combined into a monthly nutrition packet. The cooking videos will encourage healthy eating using traditional ingredient choices available at local grocery stores, farmer’s markets, or at Food Distribution Program in Indian Reservation (FDPIR) locations.

The educational resources which accompany the video

each month include handouts on Anishinaabe culture through the 13 Moons Anishinaabe Nutrition project and the Michigan State University and Ground Works Harvest of the Month handout.

In addition, nutrition information will be provided through partnerships with a registered dietician and the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics will help support nutrition education and tips for healthy eating.

January’s nutrition packet includes hominy corn soup demonstration video with recipe, hominy black bean bowl recipe,

beginning with corn, a monthly lesson from the 13 Moons Anishinaabe Nutrition project, information from 2020 Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, *Eatright Essentials: Heart Healthy Eating*, starting with plant based foods, legumes, *Harvest of the Month* nutritional education page from Groundworks, Michigan State University Extension, FoodCorps Michigan, Farm to School Northwest Michigan and Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District.

Participating tribes will

cross-share these resources on their websites, social media and through mailings of hard copies of materials to community members and distributions at FDPIR locations.

Resources will also be available on the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan’s Facebook, Instagram, Youtube channel, and at www.itcmi.org/anishinaabe-cooking-resources/.

For more information, contact Program Manager: Cathy Edgerly at cedgerly@itcmi.org.

What is the ketogenic diet?

BY BARBARA GORDON, RDN, LD

It’s all the rage. The Internet is filled with stories of how everyone from movie stars to ordinary people have shed stubborn pounds with the ketogenic diet. Some suggest that this eating pattern also may be helpful for managing diabetes and warding off Alzheimer’s disease. So, is it a miracle diet or just the latest fad?

How the keto diet works – The ketogenic diet is a high fat, moderate protein, low carbohydrate eating pattern, which differs from general, healthful eating recommendations. Many nutrient-rich foods are sources of carbohydrates, including fruits, vegetables, whole grains, milk and yogurt. On a keto diet, carbs from all sources are severely restricted. With the goal of keeping carbs below 50 grams per day, keto dieters often consume no breads, grains or cereals. And, even fruits and vegetables are limited because they, too, contain carbs. For most people, the keto diet requires making big shifts in how they usually eat.

Why does the keto diet restrict carbs? – Carbs are the main source of energy for our body. Without enough carbs for energy, the body breaks down fat into ketones. The ketones then become the primary source of fuel for the body. Ketones provide energy for the heart, kidneys and other muscles. The body also uses ketones as an alternative energy source for the brain. Hence, the name for this eating pattern.

For our bodies, a ketogenic diet is actually a partial fast. During a total fast or starvation state, the

body has no source of energy. Thus, it breaks down lean muscle mass for fuel. With the keto diet, the ketones provide an alternative source of energy. Unlike a full fast, the keto diet helps to maintain lean muscle mass.

Is the keto diet safe? – This eating pattern is not recommended for individuals with pancreatic disease, liver conditions, thyroid problems, eating disorders or a history of eating disorders, gallbladder disease or those who have had their gallbladders removed.

Plus, there are both short-term and long-term health risks for all people associated with the keto diet. Short term health risks include flu-like symptoms. For example, upset stomach, headache, fatigue and dizzy spells. This is called the “keto flu.” Some people also report trouble sleeping. Cutting back on high-fiber vegetables, fruits and whole grains also can increase risk for constipation. Often keto dieters must take a fiber supplement to help stay regular, but this should be discussed with a health care provider.

Long term health risks of the keto diet include kidney stones, liver disease and deficiencies of vitamins and minerals. To limit carbs, many nutrient-rich vegetables and fruits are cut out. Thus, intakes of vitamin A, C, K and folate usually are low.

The high fat nature of the keto diet is very controversial. A considerable body of research has shown that diets high in saturated fat may increase the risk for heart disease and other chronic health problems. The risk that keto diet-

ers might be taking with regards to their long-term cardiovascular health has not been fully studied.

What the science tells us about the keto diet – The keto diet has been used to help manage epilepsy, a disorder characterized by seizures, for more than 100 years. More recent studies are evaluating the keto diet as an alternative dietary treatment for obesity and diabetes. Research findings on the benefits of the keto diet for these health conditions are extremely limited. Studies on effectiveness of the keto diet were conducted with small groups of people. And, most of the research about Alzheimer’s disease relies on research done on lab animals. To fully assess the safety of this eating pattern, more research is needed. Plus, studies must be done on the long-term health effects of the keto diet.

Body mass index and individual metabolic rates impact how quickly different individuals produce ketones. This means that on the keto diet, some people lose weight more slowly than others — even if they are following the same exact keto diet plan. For this group of people, the keto diet can be frustrating and may impact their motivation for making healthy dietary changes. Plus, many people are not able to stick with the keto diet and gain back the weight after returning to their previous pattern of eating.

The bottom line – The ketogenic diet is quite restrictive. Research supports this eating pattern for epilepsy when managed along with a health care team, since its treatment can be

For more information about the Diabetes and Nutrition Programs or other health services, call the Sault Tribe Health Center’s Community Health Program at (906) 632-5210. Or, call the Tribal Health Center nearest you:
Manistique, (906) 341-8469
Munising, (906) 387-4721

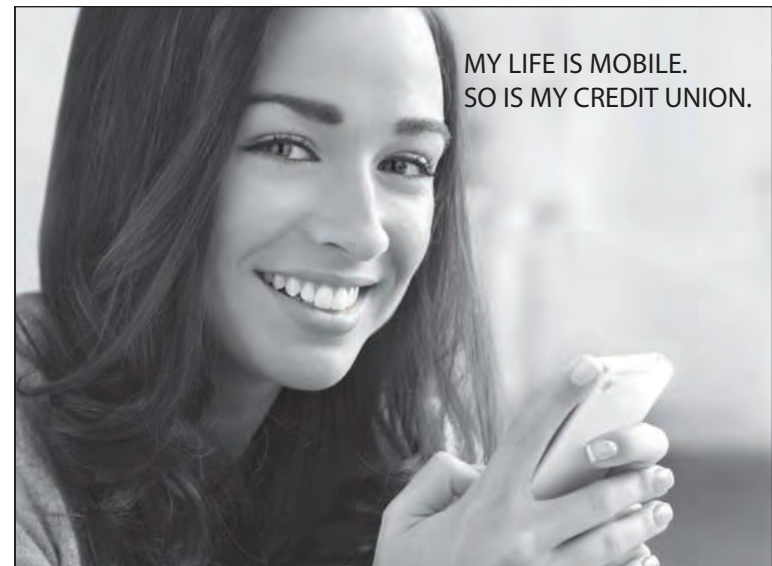
St. Ignace, (906) 643-8689
Hessel, (906) 484-2727
Newberry, (906) 293-3001
Escanaba, (906) 786-2636
Marquette, (906) 225-1616
Sault Tribe Health Center, (906) 632-5210

very complex. However, with regards to the keto diet as a tool for weight loss and other health benefits, the jury is still out.

For a personalized weight management plan that meets your individual needs, consult a registered dietitian nutritionist. An RDN can create a personalized weight loss program based on your unique health and nutrition

needs and goals. To find a dietitian in your area, search the Academy’s Find an Expert (<https://www.eatright.org/find-an-expert>) database.

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Students encouraged to explore education and career paths during Career and Technical Education Month

LANSING, Mich.— With more than 529,000 Michigan job openings projected annually through the year 2028, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer joins the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) and the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) to proclaim February as Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month.

Career and technical education offer high school and college students hands-on training that can be applied to real-world training and career pathways. Additionally, as part of the governor's Michigan Back to Work initiative to grow the state economy and encourage good-paying jobs for Michigan workers, this month state officials are encouraging students to explore viable programs across the state that

teach skills needed for high-demand, high-skill, high-wage career opportunities.

"There are many career pathways that can lead to a rewarding future, and it's important that Michigan students can access and explore the many options available to them," Gov. Gretchen Whitmer said. "Career and technical education programs offer academic, technical and real-world skills that prepare our high school and college students for success in today's 21st century economy."

High schools, colleges and some universities across Michigan offer CTE programs that are aligned with in-demand, high-wage careers in fields such as information technology, health care, hospitality and manufacturing. Most high school programs also offer early college credit

opportunities to provide a seamless transition to postsecondary education.

"Jobs requiring skilled employees demand more education and training than ever before," LEO Acting Director Susan Corbin said. "CTE programs prepare students for these career opportunities, giving students a head-start on their pathway to a certificate in professional trades, registered apprenticeships or a college degree."

Despite the challenges presented by the global pandemic, over 97,000 Michigan high school students participated in CTE in the 2019-2020 school year. More than 95 percent of students who concentrated in CTE go on to attend a postsecondary educational institution, seek advanced career and technical education training, sign up

for military service, participate in national volunteer service or find employment within a year of graduation, according to MDE.

MDE data also shows students who completed a high school CTE program and went on to earn a two-year degree earn an average starting wage that is \$5,200 more than their peers with no high school CTE.

"Expanding CTE programs in Michigan schools helps to ensure students have the real-world, hands-on experience they need to explore rewarding career opportunities," said State Superintendent Dr. Michael Rice. "CTE helps meet one of Michigan's strategic education plan's goals to expand secondary learning opportunities for all students – helping to inspire and encourage every student to explore all

options along their educational journey."

Postsecondary institutions in Michigan have more than 3,600 qualifying CTE programs, offering a certificate or associates degree. There are nearly 90,000 students enrolled in these programs in the state.

Students, parents, educators and life-long learners interested in exploring career options, training, wages and projected openings should visit the state's Pathfinder website. Additional high school CTE resources and information may be found on MDE's website.

To explore professional trades careers, including Day-In-The-Life videos from real Michiganders highlighting their careers, and learn more about Career and Technical Education Month, visit Going-PRO.com/CTE.

Scholarship initiative offers tuition-free opportunity

LANSING, Mich. – Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Republican and Democratic legislators announced the launch of the \$30 million Michigan Reconnect program, the largest effort in state history to ensure that more than 4.1 million Michiganders who are 25 or older and do not have a college degree will have an opportunity to earn a tuition-free associate degree or skills certificate.

Michigan Reconnect will pay the cost of tuition for eligible adults who want to pursue an associate degree or skills certificate at their in-district community college. The program also offers skills scholarships to help cover the cost of tuition through more than 70 private training schools with 120 programs that offer certificates in high-demand careers in industries such as manufacturing, construction, information technology, healthcare or business management.

Michiganders can submit applications at Michigan.gov/

Reconnect. The application takes less than five minutes to complete and can be done on a mobile device.

Reconnect scholarships are accepted by all Michigan community colleges and are even available to eligible adults who are already enrolled in their local community college. The program pays the remaining balance of tuition and mandatory fees after other state and federal financial aid have been applied. For those who choose to attend an out-of-district community college, Reconnect will pay the in-district portion of tuition.

The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) is administering Reconnect in partnership with the Michigan Department of Treasury.

To be eligible for Michigan Reconnect, you must:

- Be at least 25 years old when you apply
- Have lived in Michigan for a year or more
- Have a high school diploma
- Have not yet completed a

college degree (associate or bachelor's)

Michigan employers' ability to find highly skilled and capable employees is more difficult than ever and is cited as a top concern in the most recent Michigan Future Business Index Report. Michigan Reconnect will help address the dual challenges of the state's widening talent gap and aging workforce.

As of 2019, only 41 percent of Michigan's working-age residents had an associate degree or higher, placing Michigan at 31st in the nation. The average age of Michigan's 365,232 residents currently enrolled at a community college is 25.7 years old, and more than 36 percent are 25 or older, according to the Michigan Community College Association.

Michiganders without a college degree or training credential often face economic challenges. A 2020 analysis by the American Association of Community Colleges reports the median earnings of full-time employees with a high school degree is \$40,510

annually, while those with an associate degree make \$50,079 per year, based on U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

Individuals looking to take advantage of Reconnect who are unsure what they'd like to study are encouraged to consider some of Michigan's high-demand careers. A list of those careers and wages by occupation and region is available on the Michigan Reconnect website.

A virtual news conference tour through March will also introduce Michigan Reconnect benefits to audiences across the state. The events will feature state legislators and local leaders representing community colleges and business and workforce development organizations, as well as testimonials from prospective Michigan Reconnect applicants from every region of the state.

While more than 8 in 10 parents of a Michigan high school student expect their child to earn a college degree, 70 percent said that high costs are a barrier, according to a survey

commissioned by the Michigan Association of State Universities.

Michigan Reconnect is an ideal solution for those families and students who initially decided they couldn't afford to pay tuition to attend community college or feared taking on student loan debt.

The nation's first program of its kind, Futures for Frontliners offered tuition-free college or high school completion to Michiganders who provided essential front-line services during COVID-19 Stay Home, Stay Safe orders between April and June 2020.

Approximately 20,000 Michiganders who applied but didn't qualify for Futures for Frontliners and are 25 years or older will automatically be eligible for tuition-free college assistance with Michigan Reconnect.

Eligible residents can learn more and apply for Michigan Reconnect at michigan.gov/Reconnect.

Apply now for Travois Tribal Scholarships for college students

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Travois, a Certified B Corporation focused exclusively on promoting housing and economic development for American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities, established the Travois Tribal Scholarship Program in partnership with the American Indian College Fund to support 10 tribal college students in 2021.

The \$25,000 scholarship program will support eight students pursuing careers in affordable housing and economic development and two students pursuing an arts degree.

Scholarship application information will be available in early

2021 through the College Fund.

Since 1995, Travois has brought investor equity to more than 230 developments through the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program and New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) program, making an impact of more than \$1.5 billion across Indian Country. These private investor funds have helped build or rehabilitate more than 5,700 homes and have helped finance critical economic developments, including infrastructure, health care, community centers, education facilities and job incubators.

For more information, visit travois.com.

Nicole Insko becomes Doctor of Veterinary Medicine this spring

Sault Tribe member Nicole LeeAnn Insko will graduate from Michigan State University Veterinary School this May, becoming Dr. Nicole LeeAnn Insko DVM. She attended veterinary school from 2017 to 2021, receiving the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver and the Anthony Sinkula Scholarship.

Receiving the Anthony Sinkula scholarship for all four years of veterinary school allowed her to concentrate on her studies without having to work. The scholarship is only offered to Native students attending vet school. Insko was the only applicant for two years and was so happy to share it with other Native students once they attended vet school.

Insko attended Tremper High School in Kenosha, Wis., (which she considers her hometown) graduating in 2011 at 17. She was a member of the travel club and through fundraising visited Germany, France and Italy.

She took her undergraduate degree at Elmhurst College, Ill., majoring in biology with minors in chemistry and theater, following Elmhurst's pre-vet curriculum and graduating with honors. She received a \$120,000 Presidential Scholarship and an \$8,000 minority grant.

Insko, 27, already has a position lined up at a small animal veterinary clinic in Milwaukee, Wis., she fell in love with during an internship. She currently lives in Lansing with her partner, Justin Clark, also a graduate of Elmhurst.

Her parents are Tammie Insko nee Wilkins and Joseph Insko. She is the granddaughter of the late Floyd and Phoebe Wilkins, and Buck and Judy Insko of Florence, Ky.

Her mother, who is from Mackinac Island, was sent to Holy Childhood of Jesus Boarding School in Harbor Springs, Mich. One generation later, her daughter is graduating from MSU Veterinary School.



Walking on . . .

RONALD BELLANT

Ronald "Ronnie" Bellant, age



83, of Mount Morris, died on Jan. 19, 2021, at McLaren Flint surrounded by family. In accordance with Ronald's wishes, cremation will take place. A private funeral service will be held at Miles Martin Funeral Home in Mount Morris.

Ronnie was an animal lover, having several cats and dogs throughout his lifetime. One of his favorite pets was a dog named Sandy. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be considered to the Genesee Humane Society. Expressions of sympathy may be placed on Ronnie's tribute page at martinfuneralhome.com.

Ronnie was born in Flint, Mich., on Nov. 1, 1937, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Leonard and Lillian (Benedict) Bellant. Ronnie was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in Sault Ste Marie, Mich. Ronnie lived his whole life in the Flint area. He was educated locally and graduated from Flint Central High School with the Class of 1956. Ronnie retired after 26 years from ACDelco GM Motors, he was a truck driver for A&P Grocery Stores and drove for Genesee County Road Commission.

Ron was also a veteran, serving in the Navy Reserve. Ron and Janet were married for 64 years and were blessed with three sons; Thomas, Donald, and Phillip.

In his free time, Ronnie enjoyed family together time, playing softball, bowling, fishing, hunting, camping, traveling and especially going on road trips.

Ronnie is survived by his wife of 64 years, Janet (Ehrlich) Bellant; sons, Thomas and wife, Julie Bellant, Donald and wife, Carol Bellant, Phillip and wife, Stephanie Bellant; several grandchildren; great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews; sisters-in-law: Phyllis Ehrlich, Mary Loe.

Ronnie is preceded in death by both his parents, Leonard and Lillian; and his brother, Earl Bellant.

The family would like to thank the doctors and nurses in the McLaren Emergency Room for their compassion and kindness during this difficult situation along with a huge thank you to nurse Shannon, her compassion, empathy and kindness to the family were greatly appreciated!

Friends may share a memory with the family at the funeral home or online at martinfuneralhome.com.

GERALD N. HORN

Gerald "Jerry" Noel Horn, aka Pierre, age 79, of St. Ignace,

Mich., died on Jan. 3, 2021, in Petoskey, Mich. He was born on Dec. 25, 1941, on Mackinac Island, Mich., to Archibald Jacob and

Roma Margaret (Squires) Horn.

Jerry grew up on Mackinac Island where he attended the Thomas W. Ferry School and as a mischievous boy even pulled Margaret Douds' pigtails. After school, he worked on the island for his entire life. He met Irene Woodford going for a soda pop with a group of friends and she fell for his wink. They were married on Nov. 3, 1962, in St. Ignace at the Rectory of St. Ignatius Church and made their winter home in St. Ignace while their summer home was on the island. Jerry worked for the Carriage Tours and the City of Mackinac Island for many years, retiring in 2011.

Jerry attended both St. Ignatius Catholic Church in St. Ignace and Ste. Anne's Catholic Church on Mackinac Island, depending on the season. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He was also a member of the Legion of the Moose and Moose Lodge in St. Ignace.

Jerry loved boating and always owned a nice boat. He enjoyed visiting with people and always told jokes and gave candy to everyone. He also enjoyed being a local "Santa Clause" during the Christmas season.

Jerry is survived by his wife of 58 years, Irene Horn; five sons, Gerald Horn of St. Ignace, Gary (Susan) Horn of St. Ignace, Archie Horn of St. Ignace, Kevin (Stacy) Horn of Traverse City, Mich., and Thomas (Tracy) Horn of Hessel, Mich.; four grandchildren, Sasha (Roger) Ormsbee, Annmarie Horn, Brandon Horn, and Johnathan Horn; one great-grandson, Jeremiah Ormsbee, brother, Roger Horn of St. Ignace; sisters, Linda (Larry) Belonga and Jennifer Glashaw of St. Ignace; mother-in-law, Philma Leazier; sisters-in-law, Bonnie Woodford Culfa of St. Ignace and Lindy Mattox (Kevin) McNamara of Moran, Mich.; and brothers-in-law, Patrick (Peggy) Woodford of Pittsburgh, Penn., Michael (Rose) Woodford of St. Ignace, and Dale Woodford of St. Ignace many nieces and nephews.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, Archibald and Roma Horn; brothers, Loren Horn and Frank Horn, sister Mary Horn; sister-in-law, Elaine Horn; and brothers-in-law, Ernie Glashaw and Glenn Mattox, Jr.

Flow-through visitation was on Jan. 11 at Dodson Funeral Cremation Burial Services in St. Ignace. Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Jan. 12 at St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church in St. Ignace. Service conducted by Father Frank Ricca.

Final resting place will be Mackinac Island Protestant Cemetery.

JAMES L.A. MASTAW

James "Jim" Lee Alexander Mastaw, aged 70, from Mt.

Carmel, Ill., formerly of Grand Rapids, Mich., and Sault Ste Marie, Mich., passed away on Dec. 29, 2020. He has been reunited with his parents, Alexander and Opal; sisters, Sharon Jones and Christina Galla; brother, William Mastaw; and brother-in-law Norman Jones.

Jim was known to many and loved by all who knew him. He was compassionate to his family and friends and had the ability to make anyone he met feel special. Jim's personality and spirit will be missed by the many lives that he touched.

He will be deeply missed by his daughters, Ginger(Matt), Suzanne(Tom) and Deb (Rick), many step-children; his grandchildren; his brothers, George (Cindy) and Jerry (Barb); his sister-in-law, Kate Mastaw; nieces; nephews; and friends.

ELIZABETH A. MONGEON

Elizabeth Ann Mongeon of Harrison passed away at her home on Oct. 2, 2020. She was born on Aug. 31, 1920, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and just celebrated her 100th birthday. Elizabeth married Raleigh Mongeon and moved to Pontiac, but after retirement, they returned to Harrison. She was known as the Cat Lady for her love of cats that resulted in numerous rescues. She had several hobbies and was rarely without a novel or a crossword puzzle.

She is preceded in death by her husband Raleigh; parents, Angelia and Fred Earls; daughters, Shirley Ann Koury, Sharon Merle Molyneaux Given; son, John (Den) Molyneaux; grandson, Jolon Snowbeck; son-in-law, George Given; sisters Martha, Clayton, Virginia Johnson, Darlene Stocks; and brother, Thomas Earls.

She is survived by her daughter Diana (Duane) Snowbeck of Hopkins, Minn.; grandchildren, Debbie Jennings, Cathy, Brad, Todd and Rachel Snowbeck, Joshua Given, and Bob Gravel; nieces, Liane Johnson, Jil Ann Bolton, and Mona Hyndman; and great-grandchildren, Sara, Tahanee, Yasmeen and Javier. A special thanks to her caregivers, nephew Mike Johnston and Philip Harrington.

Memorial gifts in memory of Mrs. Mongeon may be considered to a no-kill animal shelters for cats. To share an online memory or condolence with Elizabeth's family, please visit www.stockingfuneralhome.com. Arrangements for Mrs. Mongeon are entrusted in Stocking Funeral Home, Harrison.

NORMAN S. VAN ALSTINE

Norman S. Van Alstine, 76, of Holt, Mich., was born on Aug. 10, 1944, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. and raised in DeTour Village, Mich. He passed away

on Jan. 14, 2021, in Lansing.

After graduating from DeTour High School, he received a full-ride scholarship to play football at Northern Michigan University. After NMU, Norm served in the Navy for four years during the Vietnam era. After serving his country, he went back to school at Central Michigan University. He then moved to Lansing to work, where he met his wife of 49 years, Carol.

He was a hard-working family man. He worked construction, at Melling Forge for 27 years, then at Sears for five years. He was an avid outdoorsman and liked to hunt and fish and go golfing. He also raced cars in his younger days.

Norm will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Carol; children, Jennifer Worley (Paul Colligan) and Norman (Tracy); grandchildren, Samantha (Matt) VanAuken, Tina (Sean) Kaspar, Nolan Colligan and Leland Van Alstine; great-grandchildren, Landon VanAuken, Gavin Kaspar, and Oliver Kaspar; sister, Shirley Van Alstine; and brothers, Gerald, Gary and Tim.

The funeral service with military honors was held Jan. 16, 2021, at the Estes-Leadley Greater Lansing Chapel, Pastor Wesley B. Emerson officiating. Interment will follow in Maple Ridge Cemetery, Holt, Mich. Memorial contributions may be made to Ele's Place, Lansing.

LYNNE D. WEAVER

Lynne D. (Ermatinger) Weaver, 70, of Saut Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Jan. 17, 2021, in the comfort of her home surrounded by her loved ones.

She was born to Margaret Grace Johnson and James Henry Ermatinger on June 22, 1950. Lynne was a resilient woman who fought for all good in this world. She fought for justice, kindness and equality. Lynne was a bright light that touched everyone she came across and that is evident even after her passing.

Along the beaches of Lake Superior looking for beach glass or in the St. Marys River kayaking with her dog companion, Phoebe, Lynne could always be found by a body of water. The beach always felt like home to her, and we know that's where her spirit blows through its breezes and among its waves.

Lynne is survived by her children, Joseph Atkinson of Sault Ste. Marie and Lori (Ben) St. Peter of Brimley, Mich.; her five grandchildren, Brittney (Ben) Matelski Thomas MacLean, Brianna MacLean, Kaytlyn St. Peter and Kourtney St. Peter; her seven great-grandchildren, Leah, Harper, Gertrude, Nora, Stella, Maryea and Gracelynn; and her siblings, Jim (Debbie) Ermatinger

of Athen, Mich., John (Kris) Ermatinger of Brimley, Susan Henderlite of Sault Ste. Marie, Gayle (Tom) Fortin of Sault Ste. Marie, and Karen Duprey of Stephenson, Mich.

She was preceded in death by the love of her life, Rich; her father, James, and her step-father, Norm Butsch.

A celebration of life is being planned for later this summer.

CALVIN JOSEPH PROUT

Calvin (Cal) Joseph Prout, 81, passed away peacefully on Feb. 5, 2021, in Pensacola, Fla., surrounded by his loving wife and children. Cal was born on Nov. 3, 1939.

He graduated from LaSalle High School in St. Ignace, Mich., in 1957, and was employed as a painter and later as an ironworker during the construction of the Mackinac Bridge. He attended Northern Michigan University for one year. He then attended apprenticeship and became a member of the Iron Workers Local 783 in Marquette, Mich., which later merged with Milwaukee and became Local 8. Cal served on Local 783's executive board from 1968 through 1970 and as president from 1970 through 1976. He married his wife, Sis, in 1959, and they lived in various locations until settling at their current address, 13 Horseshoe Lake Circle in Negaunee, Mich., where they have resided for over 50 years. He continued working in the iron working trade throughout the U.S. for over 42 years, retiring from the profession in 2000. In 2007, he was inducted into the Ironworkers Hall of Fame, with special recognition for being the youngest ironworker on the Mackinac Bridge project. He also worked as a commercial fisherman on Lake Michigan and Lake Superior with his father and later with his two sons.

Cal was a registered member of the American Legion in Marquette, the Elks Lodge in Negaunee, and a was a member of St. Christopher's Parish in Marquette, Mich. He was also a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Cal was an avid sports enthusiast, lettering in varsity football and baseball in high school. He later played on teams that regularly scrimmaged against inmates at the Marquette Branch Prison. He enjoyed bowling and belonged to a league in Marquette for several years. He also played fast pitch softball for a team sponsored by Remillard's Bar for many years, after which he enjoyed the camaraderie of playing in slow pitch leagues. On several occasions he played in the old-timers' tournaments during Negaunee's Pioneer Days. He also enjoyed golfing in local leagues and in his winter home of Gulf Shores, Ala.

Cal loved toiling in his garden, and he enjoyed spending leisure time at his camp, which he built with his wife, Sis, with the assistance of many wonderful friends

See "Walking on," page 19



Biden issues memo on tribal consultation

By RICK SMITH

President Joseph Biden R. Biden Jr. issued a memorandum on Jan. 26 for the heads of executive departments and federal agencies titled Memorandum on Tribal Consultation and Strengthening Nation-to-Nation Relationships.

“American Indian and Alaska Native Tribal Nations are sovereign governments recognized under the Constitution of the United States, treaties, statutes, executive orders and court decisions,” the memorandum begins. “It is a priority of my administration to make respect for tribal sovereignty and self-governance, commitment to fulfilling federal trust and treaty responsibilities to tribal nations, and regular, meaningful and robust consultation with tribal nations cornerstones of federal Indian

policy. The United States has made solemn promises to tribal nations for more than two centuries. Honoring those commitments is particularly vital now, as our nation faces crises related to health, the economy, racial justice and climate change — all of which disproportionately harm Native Americans. History demonstrates that we best serve Native American people when tribal governments are empowered to lead their communities, and when federal officials speak with and listen to tribal leaders in formulating federal policy that affects tribal nations.”

With that introduction, Biden went on to explain that Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, issued by then President Bill Clinton on Nov. 6, 2000, charges

all executive departments and federal agencies with engaging in regular and sincere consultation with tribal officials in the development of policies that have tribal implications. He added that tribal consultation under the order serves to strengthen the nation-to-nation relationship between the United States and tribes. Further, A presidential memorandum issued later on Nov. 5, 2009, on tribal consultation requires each federal agency to prepare and periodically update a detailed plan of action to implement Executive Order 13175. Biden then states his memorandum reaffirms the policy announced in the 2009 memorandum.

“My Administration is committed to honoring tribal sovereignty and including tribal voices in policy deliberation

that affects tribal communities,” Biden’s memorandum notes. “The federal government has much to learn from tribal nations and strong communication is fundamental to a constructive relationship.”

With that introduction, Biden went on to direct the head of each agency to submit within 90 days a detailed plan of actions to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) their respective agency will take to implement the policies set forth in Executive Order 13175. Plans shall be developed after consultation with tribal nations and tribal officials as specified in the executive order.

The plans and subsequent reports shall designate appropriate agency officials to coordinate implementation of the plans and prepare annual progress reports

and updates to the assistant to the president for domestic policy (APDP) and the director of the OMB.

Within a year, the director of the OMB in coordination with the APDP shall submit a report to the president on the implementation of Executive Order 13175 along with any recommendations for improving the plans or making the tribal consultation process more effective.

The memorandum stipulates that the authority granted by law to an executive department of agency remains intact and the orders to be carried out consistent with applicable law and availability of appropriations. It also authorizes the director of the OMB to publish the memorandum in the Federal Register, which can be found at www.federalregister.gov.

Teller and Johns appointed into Biden-Harris administration

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer congratulate Arlando Teller and Wahleah Johns, both members of the Navajo Nation, for their recent appointments to serve under the Biden Harris Administration.

Wahleah Johns, will serve as the head of the Office of Indian Energy, under the U.S. Department of Energy, to assist tribes with energy development, capacity building, energy cost reduction and electrification of tribal lands and homes. She previously served as the executive

director of Native Renewables helping families to achieve energy independence by bringing solar power to off the grid homes for Navajo and Hopi families. Johns is originally from Tonizhoni, Ariz.

Arlando Teller, originally from Chinle, Ariz., resigned as a member of the Arizona House of Representatives for District 7 on Jan. 31, to accept the position of deputy assistant secretary for Tribal Affairs under the U.S. Department of Transportation. Prior to being elected, Teller served as the deputy executive director for the Navajo Nation

Division of Transportation.

“Words cannot express how proud we are of these two young Navajo professionals, who have dedicated themselves to serving our Navajo people and are now moving onto the federal level to help empower all tribal nations. In my conversations with the Biden-Harris administration, I’ve advocated for the appointment of our Navajo people to high-level positions to help advance the issues of all tribes at the federal level. First Lady Phefelia Nez and I congratulate them and their families and we look forward to working with each of them

on transportation infrastructure and energy development,” said President Nez, who also thanked former Rep. Teller for his years of service as a state legislator representing many Navajo communities at the state level.

Recently, President Nez spoke with U.S. Department of Transportation Secretary nominee Pete Buttigieg, regarding road improvements and infrastructure needs on the Navajo Nation. Working with Navajo Nation Division of Transportation Executive Director Garret Silversmith, the Office of the President and Vice President is

in the process of submitting road and transportation priorities to Secretary nominee Buttigieg.

“Second Lady Dottie Lizer and I are excited to see our Navajo professionals exceling and establishing themselves at the federal level. We congratulate Arlando Teller and Wahleah Johns for helping to lead the way for Indian Country and for our Navajo people. We have many road and transportation and energy needs that I look forward to working together on to advance our priorities to help our Navajo communities,” said Vice President Lizer.

California Energy Commission awards over \$5 million to Indian Energy

SAN DIEGO, Calif., — San Diego-based energy developer, Indian Energy LLC, has accepted a grant of more than \$5 million from the California Energy Commission (CEC) to develop and demonstrate long-duration, non-lithium, ion-based energy storage technologies. This grant is part of the CEC’s Electric Program Investment Charge (EPIC) program, funding research that accelerates clean energy innovation, helping to build California’s 100 percent clean energy future.

This EPIC grant aims to demonstrate the value of energy storage technologies; evaluate how they meet varying customer needs; and help increase grid resiliency. These technologies could meet a pressing need for energy storage across the state to help prevent and mitigate blackouts and brownouts driven by climate change and more frequent wildfires. In addition, energy storage enables better integration and a more dynamic use of California’s growing renewable energy resources.

Indian Energy is a 100 percent Native American-owned utility-scale and microgrid development and systems integration firm. Utilizing the grant funds, Indian Energy, along with construction management partner Webcor, will develop, integrate and commission several innovative Hybrid Modular Storage Systems (HMSS) as a long-duration energy storage technology demonstration and deployment

research project. The HMSS project is focused on uncovering and closing any final knowledge gaps in potential grid-scale implementation of long-duration storage, one of the last major barriers to securing California’s sustainable clean energy future.

By leveraging the breadth and scale of the partners from a Navy/Marine Corps and Tribal perspective, the project can serve as a catalyst for a new wave of renewable energy solutions for California and beyond.

“It is an honor to be part of a team that is on the verge of accelerating the country’s solution for long-duration energy storage,” Indian Energy CEO Allen G. Cadreau said. “Our project — likely the first of its kind — will not only verify the industries current leading energy storage technologies and capabilities, but will also aid in the advancement of the technology and its operational security. We now have the ability to actively test energy storage use cases through real-world and real time applications at a time when our energy, transportation and tribal nation infrastructure needs critical support.”

The HMSS project involves developing six module types, each capable of meeting the requirements of long-duration energy storage and the needs of the state grid operators.

Located in the 52 Area of Camp Pendleton, to leverage existing clean energy assets, the HMSS will demonstrate how to

optimize the productivity of a variety of solar assets by charging with clean energy and shifting the delivery of that energy to peak demand and evening hours. It will also demonstrate how to shift to 100 percent renewables, as well as provide deep resiliency toward grid disturbances such as wildfires and cyberattacks.

Three specific HMSS modules will be funded by the state and made of flow batteries, supercapacitors, fast-responding mechanical energy storage and zinc hybrid cathodes in integrated installations. The other three modules will be funded by other government agencies and private industry partners. Developed using a proven “system of systems approach,” the energy storage technologies will also include an innovative hybrid controller which will ensure that each technology will be used at its most advantageous operating point, or optimized. The project includes installing different types and configurations or batteries, testing them individually, and then using them as one large unit, such as a unit that would be used on the California power grid when they recently shut down for fire safety. The best HMSS will then be scaled to 400kW/4MWh to achieve 400kW, for 10 hours (4MWh), the requirement per the grant.

“The 52 Area of Camp Pendleton has always played a special role in the development of microgrids and resiliency approaches

for the State,” Mike Firenze, Director of Federal Programs at Webcor, said. “The Marine Corps and Navy have quietly, yet boldly, lead the way when it comes to implementing renewables and microgrids for resiliency. It makes sense to bring it back to the site of prior success as a team and solve some of the last major hurdles to rapid and widespread adoption.”

The project is preceded by nearly a decade of renewable and resiliency activities in the Navy Southwest Region and underscores Indian Energy’s recent awarding of over \$6 million in grant funding by the CEC within the last year to create two living

laboratories to test the world’s most advanced energy storage technologies. The energy storage grants are being developed in partnership with the United States Marine Corp and the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians.

“We support the innovative approaches that Indian Energy and the State are developing and deploying,” Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Chairman John Christman said. “Long-duration storage is the critical piece for tribal nations to achieve energy sovereignty and resiliency. We are proud to be involved with these measures through our own VICU project.”

Walking on continued . . .

From “Walking on,” page 18

and their children. It was their labor of love, a sanctuary where they would go to relax, hunt and enjoy a sauna at the end of the day. He loved going for spontaneous rides off the beaten path to explore the beauty and hidden treasures of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula, and his annual hiatus with Sis to Gulf Shores, where they were “snowbirds” for 21 years.

Cal was a lover of poetry and was quite a poet and storyteller himself. He was always able to make those around him laugh. He was a poet-warrior — more poet than warrior, bringing a smile and a laugh (and occasionally a tear) to those around him.

He loved life, and he loved people. He was truly a remarkable husband and father, and a friend to all. He will be greatly missed.

He is survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Eolia (Sis) Prout; four children, Laurie Downs (Daniel), Tracey Roberts (Bruce), Michael Prout and Todd Prout; a sister, Madeleine Alderson (James); eight grandchildren and several great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Charles Prout and Ellen Steel; his brother, Terry Prout; and his aunt, Anna Wilson.

A memorial service celebrating his life will be scheduled at a later date.

"All Members Everywhere" Is Our Indian Way



Representing All Members Everywhere

Ahneen, Boozho, Negee:

My family story is pretty well known by now. I grew up in the house I live in on Shunk Road in the Soo. It was my Gram Maria (Boulley) Parr's house. She moved from Homestead Road on Sugar Island into our family home when my mom Gotnee was a teenager. Like many tribal families, we were very poor and did not have indoor plumbing (until I was 13). Concentrations of our people across the UP also lived this way. We were not recognized as a tribe until 1972. My Indian lineage, the Boulleys & Josephs were part of the Sugar Island Band that helped us gain recognition. Much of our Tribal Constitution at the time of recognition was spoon fed to us by the Department of Interior/ BIA including our Original Bands and Six Historical Bands.

Over the years, as we gained federal funds, so too came the reliance on our seven county service area for federal funding based on this population. There is an important distinction here. While our federal funds are based on our service area population, the federal government doesn't stipulate or limit our services to this population. I may be wrong, but I have never seen any federal regulation to the contrary. I want to make it clear that the notion of a service area was imposed and is not in any way "traditional". In fact, in many ways, it abandons our traditional Indian ways by turning our backs on our own people; our own blood relatives. Nonetheless, it is true that we only receive federal funding for the 16,500 Sault Tribe Members who live in

our seven county service area. But it is also true that we have the authority to expand our service area. I checked with the Indian Health Services, and there is no reason why we don't include Emmet and Cheboygan Counties in a nine county service area. The decision not limit ourselves is done entirely out of economics by the Board of Directors. To be clear, this was a choice made long before anyone current elected was on the Board. However, the \$1,000 "percapita type" dividend paid out last fall was NOT restricted by the federal government of who should qualify. If anyone says otherwise, ask them to cite the section in the federal *Cares Act* or any law that limited the distribution. They can't because it is not true. While some tribes limited the benefit to their service area, many did not.

THE BASIS FOR DENIAL & CHANCE FOR SUCCESS

I share this not to stir up a hornet's nest but to emphasize how this colonial "divide and conquer" approach has been our undoing at key moments in our tribal history. The most recent being when we were denied by the Trump Administration our Mandatory Trust petition for our downstate casinos. A Lansing is a casino is a foregone conclusion due to the current Lansing Mayor abandoning our project. However, our New Boston project has local government support, mutual law enforcement agreements, revenue sharing with local government and is ready to go. While the Trump Administration's denial made clear our project was indeed a "mandatory trust" qualified project, ultimately we were denied because we failed to justify how our Membership would benefit.

During the drafting of our Mandatory Trust application, I insisted we make clear how we would use the net revenues to consolidate and/or enhance our land holdings and services in our seven county service area but also "All Members, Everywhere". In other words, how such revenues would benefit the Members downstate. After all, a radius of 70 miles around New Boston and Lansing has as many Members as some of

our smaller units back home. It's dis-ingenuous to use our population of 44,000 Members in Congressional testimony if we have no intent of ever extending services to those who live outside the service area. While I have pushed this for year, there is currently no plan to ever include all Members in benefiting. This very issue provided a material weakness and denial of our mandatory trust petition. Further, it we are unlikely to prevail, until we show how all Members everywhere will benefit. A revised plan to benefit all Members is exactly how we gain approval by the new Administration.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION

The Biden-Harris Campaign had an unprecedented outreach to Indian Country which made the difference in key battle ground states to retain Minnesota and turn Michigan, Wisconsin, Arizona and Nevada blue. In his first week in office, President Biden released a Presidential Memorandum reaffirming E.O.13175 which established Government to Government relations with tribes. Over the years, US Presidents have further articulated E.O. 13175 through Presidential Memorandum. The Obama-Biden Administration extended and added the requirement for Consultation for all federal agencies and departments to produce Consultation Policies in consultation with tribes. In 2019, a GAO report revealed a number of federal agencies simply had not yet complied. During the Biden transition period, consistently other tribal leaders and I asked for a restatement and reaffirmation of both E.O. 13175 and strengthening of the Presidential Memorandum on Consultation including established timelines for completing the consultation mandate. I am extremely grateful and look forward to the next 90 days to help formulate consultation policies across agencies.

WAITING MY TURN TO BE VACCINATED

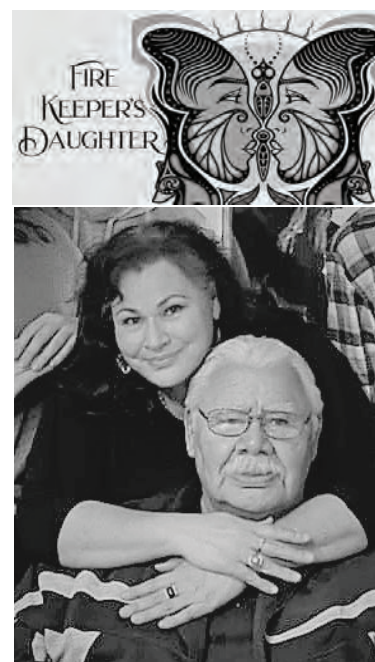
I'm 55, prematurely gray (who am I fooling, it is nearly all white now) and reasonably healthy (running daily) so I am not on any priority list. I

strongly support our Elders being vaccinated first along with high risk Tribal Member based on chronic disease and health conditions. I also support health workers and other front line workers like teachers, service providers and casino team members going first. I think of our ceremonies and feasts and how we have our Elders go first. There is a teaching with this as they are critical as keys to our heritage, culture, language and our past. They retain our stories and in our *spirit wheel*, we rely on them to impart our stories that make us who we are.

So, I wait. But I also recognize my circumstances are such that I can control my exposure. For that I am grateful. I am adhering to social distancing and only leave my home to go to work and for groceries. At work, we stick strictly to temperature checks on the way in, limit our mobility and wear masks. We respect each other enough to not put each other at risk. But I realize those who by virtue of their jobs and lives that are at greater risk. I don't begrudge anyone who gets the opportunity to get vaccinated before me so please do so. Look to our tribal website and your local county website for when you can get vaccinated ASAP. Please be patient; we'll get there.

BEAMING WITH SUGAR ISLAND PRIDE

I would be remiss if I did mention the release of Tribal Member Angeline Boulley's book next month ~



Firekeeper's Daughter. Angeline's father is my Uncle Henry Boulley (my mom's brother). Those who have been to our fasting camps at the Sugar Island Culture Camp know him as one of our long time firekeepers. Angeline and my grandmother was Maria Boulley whose father was Norman Boulley and grandparents Edward and Catherine (Joseph) Boulley who are all Sugar Island Band. The model below (made by my older brother) is our Great Grandpa Norman Boulley's homestead on Sugar Island. Angeline's book, *The Fire Keeper's Daughter* is a intriguing mix of our culture and mystery that is a page burner to the very end.

Please check it out at:
firekeepersdaughter.com

Chi McGwitch, Negee,



"AT LARGE" MEMBERS PLEASE REGISTER TO VOTE:

1-800-251-6597

Director Chase runs down Unit IV updates



**DENISE CHASE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Recently, the tribe's CFO gave a updated report on the history of land claims trust fund. Initially the land claim trust fund was originally funded with \$19,682,386 back in December 1997. The funds were received through the Michigan Indians Claim Act, which awarded funds in settlement of certain land claims made on behalf of members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe and other Michigan tribes. At the time, the seated Sault Tribe Board of Directors held community meetings and got input from the

membership. The total amount received was deposited into the Land Claims Trust Fund.

The CFO reported from 1998 until 2020 the total distributions to the elders 60 and above has been \$70,900.801. The recent check elders received in January from the Lands Claim Fund was for the amount of \$445. The checks were distributed to 6,626 Tribal Elders age 60-plus. The amount distributed was \$2,948,570. Each year, as more members reach the age of 60, the checks will be less, as only the interest generated off the Lands Claim Trust Funds is available for distribution to our elders.

Back in 1998, there were 1,926 elders who received a check for \$900; the total cost was \$1,733,400. Ten years later in 2008, there were 3,333 elders who received \$1,600; the total cost was \$5,332,800. Back then, the tribal board supplemented additional funds with Tribal Support dollars to increase the elder checks. Jumping ahead another 10 years in 2018, there were 5,664 elders who received \$493. The total amount distribut-

ed was \$2,792,352.

The CFO's total report on the Land Claims Fund is on pages 10 and 11 of this newspaper issue.

Director Morrow and I would like to say thank you to the following elves who helped Santa Claus stuff and mail our children's Christmas card this year: Kelli Beaudry, Crystal Martin, Rachel Joslin, Shelli Gould and Viola Neadow. Because of the COVID-19 epidemic we had to make changes in how Santa distributed the children's gifts. "Miigwech" for all that you have done to help make the Christmas happier for the children in our community!

I would like to thank all of the tribe's loyal and dedicated employees who have helped maneuver and navigate through this COVID-19 pandemic. The tribe and our COVID Task Force Committee is committed to keeping our team members and community healthy.

Elder Vaccine Clinics:

The Health Division has administered over 3034 doses of the Covid-19 vaccines so far. The Health Division has reported they will be receiving additional vaccines from IHS and they will be planning and scheduling more vaccine clinics and advertise. Last week the Rural Health Director had to cancel and reschedule vaccines that were planned because of the recent winter storm. There will be more doses of the Moderna vaccines shipped to Manistique, Escanaba, Marquette, Munising and Newberry this week. It has been reported to the board that all Elders who want or need the vaccine should be vaccinated with at least the first dose this week.

Elder Handicap Ramps are available if you are in need of one. The process is to call Mark Willis at 1-888-711-7356. There

is no application to fill out. The elder must have a statement of need or prescription from their doctor. Mark will make a home visit to assess the ramp placement and do all the measurements. So please call the Elder Health Division and talk to Mark to apply.

Water/sewer assistance is still available from the Sault Tribe Housing Authority. The amount available is \$500 per household. You do not have to reside in one of the housing reservation sites to apply. Applicants must reside in the tribe's seven-county service area. For more information or to apply, call 1-800-794-4072.

I am reminding you of the energy heating assistance programs the tribe offers, especially since we have had the recent huge snow storm that dropped a lot of snow across the Upper Peninsula and along with it the frigid and below zero temperatures.

Heating Assistance: The LIHEAP program provides assistance to lower the burden of high energy bills and to increase energy efficiency of eligible tribal households. Here are a couple of the ACFS heating assistance programs and open dates:

- Heating opened up Nov. 1 and is available until funds are exhausted. Eligible households will receive a heating credit towards their heating bill to help reduce hardships resulting from high energy bills during the winter months.

- Crisis Energy opened up on Jan. 1. Target households that are at risk of shut-off may receive energy assistance. Target household are defined as documented disability, elderly 60-plus or child under the age of 6 in the home.

- Elder Heating Assistance is for elders 60-plus and this program has a higher income guideline then the LIHEAP program.

Please contact your local ACFS office for more information, stop into your local tribal center to pick up a application, or call Viola Neadow at 1-800-347-7137 or (906) 341-6993 or Heidi Nesberg at 1-800-236-4705 or (906) 387-3906.

I reported this in a past unit report but want to send another **REMINDER TO ALL ELDERS** — the tribe recently hired two elder Outreach Workers to cover the western end in Units 4 and 5. These positions were hired to make home visits, phone contact and to work strictly with our elder population 60 years of age and older. These positions were hired to help assist all elders especially the home bound and to help elders navigate and apply for services through not only our tribal programs but to identify any local program and resources, they might be eligible for. If you know a elder in need of assistance or a home visit, or would like to call and request one, please call Elder care at 1-888-711-7356, or contact the Elder Outreach Workers directly: Stacy Mattson at (906) 259-3244 or Heather Dubord at (906) 259-3239.

The Elder Program provides Life Alert Systems (Telemergency Units) if you are in need and meet the program guidelines. You must complete the Elder Fund application and obtain a script or statement of need from your doctor. Mark Willis is the contact person for this program; please contact him at 1-888-711-7356.

In closing, I would like to remind everyone to stay safe, and please wear a mask. Wishing you good health in 2021.

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

Thank you,
Denise Chase

Inland studying manoomin in St. Mary's River



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hi, the tribe has been busy making sure the CARES Act funding is being spent within the parameters that are set out by law. I know it's being said we can distribute some of the funds to our membership outside the service agreement area but our legal team has made the determination that we are not able to do that. Our plans for the CARES Act funding were based on the population within the service agreement area which is the same for all the tribes that received these monies.

Our Natural Resources Department received monies to contract and conduct work to better understand the environmental tolerances of manoomin (wild rice) in the St. Marys River, Mich. The grant will contribute to our understanding of feasibility of manoomin restoration within the 1836 ceded territory. The successful manoomin restoration would benefit our community in several ways: it is a sacred food and medicine for our people, it provides important nursery habitat for fish as well as foraging habitat for migratory

birds and waterfowl. This will benefit tribal members who hunt, fish, gather and trap in the 1836 treaty ceded territory as well and improved understanding of manoomin restoration and access to manoomin.

This week we will be celebrating a graduation from our Gwaiak Miicon Drug Court Program. I have known the graduate since they were a young child and it is so good to see them overcome all the obstacles that come with traveling the road to sobriety. The Drug Court allows eligible tribal members to find treatment for their addictions. It helps save lives and gives them the tools needed to live clean and sober. The Drug Court Team will assist them every step of the way because it is hard work for the individual and is a daily struggle to try to maintain the challenges of everyday living. Judge Jocelyn Fabry leads the team, which includes mentors who have recovered from addiction, traditional medicine, law enforcement and counselors. If you would like more information on this program you may call (906) 635-4963.

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

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

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

Thank You,
Kim Gravelle

Meetings and workshops should be open to public



**AUSTIN LOWES
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin, I would like to begin this unit report by thanking the staff at our health centers. The Sault Tribe has vaccinated several thousand individuals at this point. Unfortunately, we have been receiving short notice when our vaccines will arrive. This has caused staff to work tirelessly to create patient rosters and meet the logistical demands that are involved with mass vaccinations. I am proud of the work that our health center staff has achieved. If you or your loved ones have been part of this effort, thank you!

Due to the limited supply of vaccines, the most vulnerable members of our tribe have been prioritized during this process. This includes the elderly and individuals with pre-existing medical conditions. The tribe has roughly 44,000 members. It is my goal that everyone will be offered a vaccine as soon as possible, but this will take time. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

To monitor when vaccines will be offered, the tribal website has been modified. On the homepage, there is a yellow bar with the following text: "Read more: COVID-19 immunization information..." Clicking this link allows individuals to get updates regarding when vaccines will be offered. I encourage everyone to monitor this page.

Unfortunately, meetings continue to be closed to the membership. This is something I do not agree with. If positivity rates are low enough to mandate that our team members work, they should have the right to attend meetings.

Tribal members are not stupid. They are capable of making

decisions to keep themselves safe. They are not reliant on the board of directors to make these safety decisions for them. I was elected with the promise of transparency. If it were up to me, both meetings and workshops would be open to the public. If meetings remain virtual, there must be a section for membership concerns. There has been advocacy for this by Chairperson Payment, myself and others. It is my goal for members to participate in virtual meetings in the near future.

Regarding tribal businesses, restaurants and bars opened on Feb. 1 with limited occupancy of 25 percent, along with social distancing. Hotels are open at limited capacity as well. The Big Bear re-opened recently to allow members to utilize exercise for self-care. There will be a drive through mobile food patty on Feb. 17 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the Big Bear.

Stay safe and be well. As always, it is a privilege to serve you.

Miigwech,
Austin Lowes

Reacting to one director doesn't help our tribe



MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

We as board members must display leadership at all times. We are in positions of authority to change laws and regulations and can hold executives accountable to those policies. Meaning there is a time and place to address any

concerns, without attacking team members or causing unnecessary chaos on social media. We choose to become tribal leaders — govern by law; our words matter. If a leader wants to address something, they have every opportunity to do so in our workshops and meetings.

Social media has allowed everyone everywhere to express their concerns and opinions. I don't use social media as much as I should. Getting information and positive messaging out to our community is a good thing. Unfortunately, a lot of negativity surrounds social media as well. It's exhausting to funnel through it all; and for my own well-being I limit my time online.

Why is any of this relevant? In my five years on the board, our meetings have changed. We workshop our agenda items

during the day and vote on resolutions that evening, but "Board Concerns" have grown. When I first started, it was often said that no one board member has any authority and our "power" only relies in the board as a whole (i.e. resolutions, policy change, etc.). "Board Concerns" are not the will of the board; individual board members can bring up any topic on any issue that they want. Bringing up concerns is not a problem, however, managers reacting or changing course due to one individual does not show the will of the people nor does it reflect a democratic process.

Reacting to one board member does not help our tribe. Trying to keep some board members happy does not help our tribe. I understand why board members try to influence directors and managers because it is a long tiring process

to change things and hold managers and directors accountable to those changes, but the process should be followed. Executives, directors and managers are shielded and have the ability to say "no" to any one board member. Require us to change policy, require us to change laws, require us to gain consensus and have the will of the majority be heard.

Lack of accountability and comments like, "The board said..." have resulted in driving some team members away. Public scorn during meetings and personal attacks on Facebook from governing officials adds to the disdain of working for our tribe. I ask all those who feel that to continue on. It's not easy working for your tribe. I know, I've worked for us for over 20 years before getting on the board. I ask you to keep helping where you

can. I believe most of us want to see our tribe succeed. It is a great organization; we need to continue fighting the good fight and providing much needed services to our membership the right way. Making the board accountable will help make everyone else accountable.

Keeping these things in mind and knowing many others utilize social media, I ask that you remain critical and question intent and purpose of anyone's post. I know it's difficult to sift through it all and often times only one side of a position is given, seek out the other side of the story. Although you may not often see me on social media, I am always available to membership. Feel free to reach out to me and help come up with solutions that our tribe faces.

Chi Miigwech.

Freiheit discusses our tribal Constitution facts



BETTY FREIHEIT,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Hello tribal members, did you know our tribal Constitution was approved by only 992 members nearly 50 years ago? Our total population was only a few thousand members.

No one ever imagined the tribe would be as large and complex

as we are today. Our Constitution was never designed to handle our tribe of today.

It was just a template fill in the blanks document given to our leaders to complete the final steps for recognition. The template was created in the 1930s by a BIA employee and distributed widely to tribes. It was used because it was a simple one branch government document.

In a one branch government, the board controls all executive (business), legislative, (laws and rules) and judicial (court) systems. Over the past several years, tribes across the country and within Michigan have abandoned these old one branch government BIA constitutions and have replaced them with two or three-branch government constitutions. They realized a one branch government gave tribal boards too much unchecked power, led to corrupt acts of tribal officials, allowed for

micromanagement by boards, and reduced and diminished members' rights. All of this and more has occurred in the Sault Tribe. Further, in our current system our board has the power to 'interpret' the Constitution which I believe has resulted in an erosion of members' rights.

While there is much room for change and improvement in our tribal Constitution, a meaningful start would be to establish a separate, independent judicial system with standing allowed for members.

We say that members enjoy the same rights as those under the U.S. Constitution, but in reality members' rights in the tribe exists only at the pleasure of the board, meaning the board has the final say if the rights can be exercised. In the past, we have seen board overturn members' referendums and members' petitions for removal of board members.

Further, the board defines the scope of authority of the tribal courts and has refused to allow the courts the authority to hear members' cases against the tribe or the board. So, members who believe they have been treated unjustly have no legal recourse in our courts.

How do we change this? We need a Constitution amendment approved by the members. In the past, a few board members suggested we could just separate the court via resolution. But we know from experience that whatever the board does by resolution they can undo. We also need to change judges hired, fired and supervised by the board. Instead, Judges should be elected by and accountable to the members. Their performance would be governed by the rules of their profession and a recall procedure would be developed for use in violations.

The courts should be granted

the power to interpret the Constitution. This would be a stopgap on board making self-serving interpretations.

Members deserve rights. Rights that cannot be derailed by a vote of the board. And members deserve the ability to challenge the board when abuses of power occur, if they are subject to maltreatment by the board, individually or collectively. We need a board bold enough to allow this to happen.

Finally, remember the at-large represent two-thirds of the tribe, you can make the difference with the future board if you are registered. I will continue to take steps to include the at-large in the tribal circle, but I need your help.

Please stay warm, healthy and help you neighbor anytime you can.

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

Matson reports on tribe's businesses, casinos



CHARLES MATSON SR.,
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Ahnee. I hope this finds everyone safe and well. Our vaccine rollout has been doing well and it's great to see we have been distributing a large portion of our allocated doses. Not saying that this process has not been without bumps in the road but it is great to see our elder community getting vaccinated if they so choose. We can only hope that this will give our elders a chance to see their loved ones without fear of contracting the virus. We understand the vaccine is not full immunity from COVID but it does give a great chance to

not require hospitalization due to complications.

Our casinos are keeping their heads above water. The pandemic has been especially brutal on our gaming establishments revenues. International bridge closure, reduced customer capacity and safety of gathering in large groups have been real obstacles. I really do feel our casino team members are doing a great job in trying to keep our patrons safe. We have upgraded our HVAC system, which will help with ventilation and air purification. Even though our sports betting in our casinos has suffered with the inability of holding larger events focused on major sporting events like the super bowl, it is still bringing in revenue and it should do that into the future. Our Internet gaming venture has finally come to fruition. We settled into a business partnership with Wynn-Bet, an arm of Wynn gaming industries, which has been very successful and reputable in the gaming industry. It is my belief that we came out very positive in the terms of our agreement that should, and I believe will, bring a positive revenue stream to our tribe well into the future.

The White Pine Lodge in Christmas has been doing well but took a hit to the prior year due to limited capacity. The convenience store has been doing well and managed to pick up some lost revenues from the limited occupancy in the hotel. With the snow finally arriving, we should see a surge in our occupancy levels. Our investment in the Harvey property has proven to be a good investment so far with projections going up some even with the problems with the pandemic.

We opened our second marijuana dispensary in Escanaba and it has had great sales numbers to date. Our other dispensary in the Sault has been showing steady sales which should increase if or when the international bridge opens. Business diversification is going to be a big part of stabilizing and improving our revenues.

2020 Consent Decree negotiations are ongoing. These have been very difficult negotiations. It is difficult enough trying to get an agreement amongst the tribes, feds and the state in the best of times. It is very problematic to negotiate when you are not even in the room, face to face with each other. It is my honor and my

duty to negotiate this decree and try and make sure each and every tribal member's treaty rights are protected into the future.

Feel free to contact me with

any questions or concerns at Cmatson68@saulttribe.net or (906) 450-5094.

Respectfully
Charles J. Matson Sr.

Returning to normal



KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

Our world is slowly returning back to normal. We have been forever changed by the last year's events but we can see the beginning of the end ahead. Children returning to school, business opening and seeing family in person are very good signs of things to come.

The vaccines are rolling out and shots are being given every week. The tribe is striving to get every vial we can. We are never sent what we request but nobody is. Please be patient if you have not received your dose yet. We have a set protocol we are following. Please check our website to see when you can sign up with the tribe but please also check out the county to also get on its lists to get the vaccine as soon as you can.

The tribal board is working on many different projects and activities of the tribe. Our negotiations on the consent decree to fish on the Great Lakes is progressing. We have to navigate many concerns and wants with the state, feds and the other tribes. Sometimes it seems to progress too slowly but we are pressing ahead and working towards what is best for the Sault Tribe.

See "Massaway," page 23

Thank a health staffer for all their hard work



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

We have had an extremely hard year and I'm grateful that we are aggressively moving forward on vaccinating our members. Our health staff did an amazing job rolling our priority lists and making changes fast and accommodating as info and supplies came in, this has been a fluid endeavor since the beginning. They have worked tirelessly to service our tribe. If you see any of them, please take a moment to offer your appreciation to them. In the upcoming months we will continue to vaccinate our members as we can. All updates and information are posted to our website (saulttribe.com) accordingly and many questions can be answered there. If you need me please do not hesitate to call me as well.

We have moved forward on

a couple major endeavors in 2021 — online/sports betting and our agreement we entered into with the opening of two separate Lume Cannabis businesses in Sault Ste. Marie and Escanaba with additional sites in the works. We secured leases with these businesses and make profit each month to assist with EDC and services to our members. This was a huge endeavor with mixed feelings on the item, but in the end, we made a sound business decision to move forward for the economic purposes and with a very respectable business/company.

For many years we struggled to find other endeavors to pursue additional revenue and development and I am happy to report items are moving forward greatly and to date we have many in the mix making very significant additional revenue that we can then use to build other development. I hope that open minded members hear all the facts and do research on our endeavors when we open them. Criticism is a very easy to give out in spoonfuls, but in the end hurt our reputation, hurt dedicated staff members who work hard to advance us and keep us from moving forward with endeavors. I respect that all do not agree with some decisions that are made, but in the end, we cannot simply sit in the back seat and things excel. I appreciate the work that our volunteer commit-

tees/executive team members do to advance these items and see a future with open minds.

We are also working diligently to secure executive positions within the tribe, including an HR director, gaming commission director and education director as well as an in-house general counsel. I have very adamant mixed feeling about all of these positions and the additional work we give to other dedicated staff members and the ones who are overlooked to step in. I am advocating to change policies so that we can advance our dedicated team members that have worked for us many years and have demonstrated their abilities to handle certain promotions within. Unfortunately, this has fallen on deaf ears and I am in the minority with this action. I will continue to advocate for existing staff to be considered for these positions and watch closely who and why we sit lacking executive positions. I want us to have a workforce that is strong and solid with professional and knowledgeable people in each department; the board is not meant for that role to direct day-to-day and micromanage. I am frustrated with how we are going about this but know I will continue to voice my position. We have already lost too many team tribal members to these kinds of decisions.

This past month, for a Valentine's Day activity, our YEA

staff in Unit II prepared and created gift/informational bags to the youth in our unit, these items were taken to schools in our unit to distribute. This activity was two-fold, one to remind parents that they are still hosting safe activity projects and also to encourage and invite new participants with website info, Facebook, email and phone number information. I was very happy to see the team work and dedication from our YEA staff and anyone interested in being involved can contact Lisa at (906) 484-2298 for more information. We are completely committed to reducing the negative impact that this past year has had on our youth, so feel free to take advantage of that resource for your children.

In this issue of the tribal paper, there is a report on the history of that Land Claims Fund, some refer to it as the "Elder Fund." In short, in 1997 we received the initial amount of \$19.6 million and immediately the past leaders secured a plan to pay out interest payments yearly to elders of the tribe, as you will see in the review we have in total assets in the fund about \$38.1 million. Since the inception of the funds, we have paid out to elders over \$70.9 million in payments through the years, each and every year we have additional elders to include in the amount. I am very grateful that our past leaders have made this

fund continue to assist yearly and my hope is to include additional revenue in the fund as we can — that is why it is imperative that we move forward on items besides casino properties. Please review the land claims article and contact me personally if you have any questions or thoughts about this. I really miss meeting with our elders in Unit II on a monthly basis, I have spoken to many of you through this time and that helps both of us so I encourage that you contact me if you are in need. I look forward to when I can sit face to face with you all again monthly.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge and offer my sincerest chi miigwech to Ken Ermatinger, our retired gaming commission director. Ken has been a major asset to our gaming endeavors. His role and extra work on our committees has brought dedication for advancement to our members, our business and our success. Thank you, Ken, for the many years of service to our tribe.

As always, please contact me anytime you are in need or have input or ideas that you would like to share (906) 484-2954, (906) 322-3818, lcausley@saulttribe.net.

Lana Causley-Smith
Sault Ste Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians Board
of Directors

Sorenson gives a run down on tribal activities



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

I would like to remind tribal members living in the tax agreement area that it is your responsibility to keep your address updated with our tribal tax office, (906) 635-6050. You need to give ample time to them when buying a vehicle, ATV, boat, lumber, etc. The staff consists of two people that may not always be immediately available. Please be patient and these ladies will take good care of you.

Anyone wishing to get the COVID-19 vaccine should also call their local tribal health clinic to be placed on a list. The staff are really trying to contact all the elders to give them the opportunity to get the vaccine ASAP but if members don't normally visit the clinics or their contact information is not current then you may fall through the cracks. The staff are doing a great job trying to facilitate this process but they could use your help in being patient and letting them know you would like to receive the shot when they get to your category. Some members

outside of elders may get the vaccine as long as there are extras in those vials and you can get their quickly so no doses are wasted. So please call and get on the list no matter what age you are.

Until the tribe comes up with a system for a central address changing mechanism, tribal members need to change their address with enrollment, the health center and tribal tax office. Right now, this information is not shared tribal wide. Anyone that is currently not receiving the tribal paper and would like to, please contact the Communication Department at (906) 635-6050 (or email slucas@saulttribe.net). Newspapers used to be mailed to everyone but so many were being wasted because of bad addresses so the only people that get them mailed now are elders (address is updated annually with land claim checks) and people who call and request it.

So far, we have had opened two Lume stores, one in Sault Ste. Marie and recently in Escanaba. Both stores had great openings days. We are not always going to please everyone with the businesses or the way things get done but on the other hand, members want to know why we are not taking this or that opportunity. All we can do is have our EDC director vet these business opportunities and make the best decisions with the information we have. There are usually reasons why the tribe does the things it does and when it comes to business, you can't always divulge every piece of information so your competition has a heads up.

Our other business ventures have been doing extremely well, such as Gitche Enterprises with

selling modular/mobile homes, vehicles, sheds and scooters. All of our storage units are full with even some on a waiting list. Our rental units are usually always full. Our Midjims, Northern Hospitality, White Pine Lodge and some of our other businesses have been impacted by COVID-19 but are still contributing to our tax base. The EDC will be reporting on our successes in future issues.

We are facing some real big drug problems on our reservations and we need to come up with a wraparound program to clean this up and heal our families. Meth seems to be everywhere these days and people can act very crazy under the influence. It is not good for our kids to be raised in and around any drugs. I'm not sure why arrests are not being made but I sure do plan to get to the bottom of it. Housing has zero tolerance for this behavior and there are consequences.

I am very grateful for our tribal members who volunteer their time and expertise as members of the Sault Tribe Business Alliance. Many of these business owners have started businesses out of the Sault and employ some of our members as well. I have met with some of these individuals and they really do have the best interest of our tribe and our youth at heart. It seems sometimes these individuals come under attack when people spread rumors or lies and instigate negativity. I do not support any of this garbage. I realize that there will always be some that criticize and judge, but maybe some should consider giving their time and expertise to move the tribe forward as a positive measure instead of the constant

demonizing of the tribe and its business partners.

I strive to understand why people continue to support and believe people that run to social media with promises. Many times, these promises haven't been discussed or vetted, but, hey, it makes that person look like a hero. That's a lame game of "look at me" instead of look at what our team accomplished. There are some people who can never work well with others or as a team player. Another thing I love is to see accusations or questions about a resolution or board action and the person plays dumb, but they signed the contract and the resolution. The same person will call out an "i" not being dotted but has no idea what that action was about.

I am sure many of you know it is not always easy putting or getting the truth out there. You have fans that love it and people that hate it, depending on which side of the coin they lie. I choose to provide the truth rather than to create a fan club. It is much easier to remember the truth than remembering what lie you told to what person.

I want to say that I do not always agree with everything our managers and executives say or do and believe me I usually let them know. I do not support the bullying some of them are subjected to, though. The Executive Task Force has been carrying the burden of this tribe for almost a year now. They have put in countless hours trying to keep our members and team members safe while still trying to keep our heads above water. I probably do not say it enough, but I am proud to have you guys on our team!

Anytime you want up-to-date and accurate information about the Sault Tribe you should read our newspaper in print or online, the Sault Tribe website (saulttribe.com) or Facebook- The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Other divisions have pages as well. The information will be unbiased and accurate.

Please feel free to email me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or call or text (906) 430-0536 with any comments and concerns.

From "Massaway," Page 22

Our sports gaming has opened both online and in our casinos. It rolled out very well and we hope the momentum continues. Our dispensary, Lume, is doing very well in the Soo and so are the other two sites in the Upper Peninsula. We are working now to prepare our government and tribal businesses for a very busy summer. We believe when travel and group activities are allowed the general public will move en masse to the U.P. Our local businesses need this to happen. It has been a very hard past year on them and many of them are barely hanging on.

Another development on the horizon that the tribe has to keep an eye on is the new command center for satellites to be built in Kinross. This project will bring many people and good jobs to the area. The tribe has to be a player in these new projects as much as we can.

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

Keith Massaway, 702 Hazelton St., St. Ignace, 49781 MI; kmas-saway@msn.com; (906) 643-6981



IT'S GAME TIME

★
KEWADIN CASINOS
SPORTSBOOK

PROUD PARTNER OF

Wynn.
BET

BET ON
THE MADNESS
IN MARCH

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