



Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

Chairman praises bills that ensure equal treatment for Native children and guardians

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. – Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Chairman Austin Lowes joined tribal leaders from across Michigan March 2 in calling on lawmakers to support newly introduced legislation that would ensure children involved in tribal court systems and their guardians receive access to the same support as those in state courts.

Senate Bills 137 and 138 were introduced today by Sen. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) and Sen. John Damoose (R-Harbor Springs). They would make

Michigan families eligible for the Guardianship Assistance Program regardless of the court that orders a child's guardianship. Children with guardianship orders from tribal courts are not currently eligible for the program, and neither are children who have guardianship orders from other states.

"Children who are appointed a guardian often have been through some underlying family issues, and they deserve equal treatment under the law regardless of which court has heard their case," said Lowes. "This legislation will guarantee that a Native child

and their guardian have access to the same financial assistance and support services through the Guardianship Assistance Program as anyone else in Michigan, and I urge the legislature to move these bills quickly to ensure that no one is denied the resources they need."

The Guardianship Assistance Program provides financial support for families who provide permanent guardianship for children when adoption or family re-unification are not appropriate options. The amount of assistance

is pegged to foster care rates. Guardianship, as a permanent option that often takes place within the child's extended family, usually provides a more secure placement that keeps children better connected to their communities.

Lowes, who is also a trained social worker, notes that there is a sense of urgency around the issue for many Native families. "We know of at least 10 Sault Tribe families and many other Native families from around the state who have been impacted by

the current laws on Guardianship Assistance Program benefits because their cases involve a tribal rather than a state court," Lowes said. "When this happens, children remain in unfamiliar foster homes rather than in the home of a close relative, and those foster families may not uphold tribal cultures or customs."

The legislation has been referred to the Senate Committee on Civil Rights, Judiciary and Public Safety where a hearing is expected to be held in the coming weeks.



Photo by Christine McPherson

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors gifted retiring State Senator Wayne Schmidt with a Pendleton blanket and basket at this year's I-500 dinner, sponsored by the tribe. Sen. Schmidt had a wonderful relationship with Sault Tribe, and was a strong advocate for Indian Country in general, said Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes. Pictured above are Unit V Director Tyler LaPlaunt, Unit I Director Isaac McKechnie, Schmidt, Lowes, Unit IV Director Kimberly Hampton, and Unit III Director Shawn Borowicz (L-R).

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Shampine's hunt of a lifetime



Sault Tribe member Amy Shampine and the cow elk she took in Cheboygan County on New Year's Day.

BY SCOTT BRAND

Kicking off the new year with the hunt of a lifetime, Amy Shampine and her .270 Winchester rifle delivered with one shot at approximately 100 yards.

"That was the most exciting hunt I have been on since I started hunting at the age of 11," she said of the massive cow elk she brought down in Cheboygan County near Afton. "It went nine yards, I hit a lung and the liver."

While the elk itself didn't go far, Amy covered a lot of ground before catching up to her quarry.

"I got a phone call just before Christmas, my name was drawn on an alternate tag," she said of the flurry of activity that ensued. "I had a lot of help from friends and family, I had a lot of good information."

More good information came from Robby of The Dog Outfitters who operates a guide service out of Millersburg, Mich.

"He is fantastic," she said of the assistance Robby provided during her five days afield.

The strategy, as Amy explained, was to drive various backroads looking for tracks. Once located, the duo would take off on foot hoping to catch up with the elk herd.

"Now I know why people train for months and even years," she said of the physical demands associated with this kind of hunt.

On New Year's Day Amy and Robby received a radio message providing intel around 8:30 a.m. and made the 20-minute drive on reports of an active herd at another location. They set out on foot and walked, and walked and walked some more.

"I walked until I shot it," said Amy recording the official time as 5:04 p.m. and 12.2 miles under her belt according to her FitBit. "We were in the middle of the woods."

Luckily, there was a forest road or old logging trail about a

quarter-mile from the kill site and with the assistance of a sled and a half-dozen helpers they were able to get the elk to the truck. From there, it was hung and skinned at a facility until it was time to breakdown the meat into edible portions.

"We processed it ourselves," said Amy calculating the group of seven began their work on 1 p.m. in the basement and had the last quarter under the knife by 5:30 p.m. that same day.

"It is delicious," she said of the hamburger, steaks and backstraps, "I have shared quite a bit with my family."

Amy, a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians, learned to hunt in Cheboygan County and carried that tradition on pursuing deer in Ottawa County during her two decades in the Grand Rapids area and has also taken bears further north hunting in Baldwin County. This was her first time elk hunting.

Telemedicine service expands to the Newberry and Hessel Tribal Community Health Centers



Above, Telemedicine training at the Hessel Tribal Community Health Center with staff Hessel CHT Kelly Kopko, St. Ignace CHT Sarah Fisher, and Hessel CHN Tammy Duncan RN (L-R). Right, at the Newberry Tribal Community Health Center Telemedicine Clinic, April Morgan CHT MA II and Tribal Elder



By Marlene Glaesmann Rural Health Program Manager

With the ongoing vision and leadership of the tribal board, tribal and Health Division administration and management, a strategic plan to provide improved access to health care in the communities where tribal members reside through Telemedicine services has now expanded from the Marquette and Gladstone sites to include the Newberry and Hessel Tribal Community Health Center sites.

The DeTour Tribal Community Health Center is scheduled to begin this service soon. Local Health Division Telemedicine teams located at the Newberry and Hessel sites have been working diligently over the past month to coordinate the service. The initial target group for Phase I of the new service is currently established, high risk tribal elders who require routine follow-up and health maintenance visits with medical providers. As local Telemedicine teams become more proficient in the general operations of the clinics and the clinical skills required to operate the telemedicine units, the expansion of the service to include additional groups of patients will become better defined.

A special thanks and congratulations are extended to the hard-working Telemedicine Project teams located at the Newberry/Munising sites (Dr. Michelle Kroupa-Kulik; Myrth Condon DFNP; Valerie Ford RN; April Morgan CHT, MAII; Lois Bryant CH Clerk; Nicole Maudrie CH Clerk and Shirley Kowalke Senior CH Clerk) and the Hessel/St. Ignace sites (Jenni O'Dell RN; Cheryl LaPlaunt RN MPA; Dr. Christine Hamilton; Andrew Rife PA; Tami Duncan RN; Wendy Frosland RN; Krista Potoczak CHT; Sarah Fisher CHT; Kelly Kopko CHT and Tara McReynolds CH Clerk). All Health Division staff have been very positive and enthusiastic about making this new and vital improved access to health care services happen for tribal members.

Please contact the local remote Tribal Community Health Center sites where you live to determine your eligibility for a Telemedicine visit and to schedule an appointment. The Health Division staff at your local Tribal Community Health Centers will be able to answer questions and assist tribal members in any way needed.

Hessel Tribal Community Health Center- (906) 484-2727

Newberry Tribal Community Health Center- (906) 293-8181

Marquette Tribal Community Health Center- (906) 225-1616

Gladstone Tribal Community Health Center- (906) 341-1836

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2023 Elder Scholarship Program announced

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

All applicants must be registered Sault Tribe members with the following qualifications: Graduated from an accredited high school with a cumulative grade

point average of at least 2.50. Or successfully completed and passed all five General Education Development (GED) equivalency tests with a minimum score of 40 and an average score of 45 and must possess a GED certificate. Accepted or enrolled in any two- or four-year public college, university or trade school in any field of study as a full-time student.

Applicants must submit letters of application that include:
 — Cover page that includes name, address, telephone number, email address, proof of tribal enrollment and academic major or course of study to be pursued.
 — Transcript from the applicant's high school verifying the cumulative grade point average. Or, proof of achieving GED requirements

stated above.
 — Letter from the college, university or trade school, showing acceptance for the 2023-2024 school year.
 — Essay of 300-500 words describing how you feel a college education will benefit you and your career objectives and why this scholarship will help you achieve your goal.

Deadline for applications is June 30, at 5 p.m. All requirements must be received by the Elder Service Division, ATTN Elder Scholarship, 2076 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Questions? Contact Holly Kibble, Elder Service Division Director, at (906) 635-4971.

Sault Tribe college students, apply for a tribal Internship!

Applications are now being accepted for the Sault Tribe Internship Program, which is intended to be an exciting experience providing college level Sault Tribe members with an opportunity to learn more about the Sault Tribe and gain practical experience in their chosen field of study.

Interns will have the opportunity to attend cultural and governmental events as well as career-focused training. They will also have the opportunity to interact with the tribal board of directors, executive administrators and program directors.

Possible placements include

Administration, Education, Enterprises, Fiscal Services, Fisheries & Wildlife, Health, Judicial and Legal Services, Kewadin Casinos, Language and Culture, Law Enforcement, Recreation, and Social Services.

The internship is a 10-week program, from June 5 through Aug. 11, paying \$15.50, 40 hours per week. Deadline to apply is Friday, March 31, 2023, by 5 p.m. EST.

For more information or an application, email internships@saulttribe.net.

Or, go to www.saulttribe.com/newsroom/206-education-news.

Rosemary Gaskin Scholarship

The Rosemary Gaskin Scholarship was established to honor and carry-on Rosemary's leadership and good works.

Students compete for a \$1,000 scholarship by writing a 500-word essay focusing on:

- Native American rights
- Education issues
- Issues of racial or gender equality
- Reviving Native cultural/traditional beliefs

- Who is eligible?
- Sault Tribe members
 - No minimum Indian blood quantum
 - Attend a public institution of higher education
 - Not need based
 - Full time or part time
- How do I apply?
- Write or submit a 500-word essay
 - Include a copy of tribal card

— Include return address, phone number, school attending and degree.
 — Apply by March 31 for Fall 2023.

Mail application items to: Chippewa County Community Foundation, 511 Ashmun St., Suite 200, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Questions? Call Aaron Payment at (906) 203-5199 or email aaronpayment@yahoo.com.

ACFS LIHEAP closes; LIHWAP opens

ACFS Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is closed and will re-open Nov. 1, 2023. Elder Heating is still open for Sault Tribe Elders 60 years or older. If you are at risk of a heating disconnect you can contact Direct Service Case Manager in your area to inquire about any other available funding or Michigan Department of Health and Human Services at www.michigan.gov to inquire about State Emergency Relief.

ACFS Low Income Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) has funding available to assist eligible Sault Tribe households with water disconnect notices. If you reside in the tribe's seven-county service area, are a tribal household, meet the income eligibility requirements, and have received a water disconnect notice, please

contact the ACFS in your area to apply.
 ACFS office locations:
 Sault Ste. Marie – 2218 Shunk Rd., (906) 632-5250
 St. Ignace – 1140 N. State St., (906) 643-8689
 Manistique – 5698 W. US-2, (906) 341-6993
 Munising – 622 Superior, (906) 387-3906

Sault Tribal committee vacancies announced

The following Sault Tribe Committees have vacant seats. Sault Tribe members interested in filling these vacancies should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other members to Jessica Dumback at 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, or call (906) 635-6050 with any questions.
Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - Ten vacancies - five males (4-year term), five females (4-year term)
Child Welfare Committee -

Four vacancies (4-year term)
Election Committee - Five vacancies (4-year term)
Health Board - Two vacancies (4-year term)
Housing/Utility Authority - One vacancy (4-year term)
Special Needs/Enrollment Committee -
 Unit I - Three vacancies
 Unit II - Two vacancies
 Unit III - Two vacancies
Elder Advisory Committee
 Unit I - Sault - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)
 Unit II - Hessel - One alternate

vacancy (4-year term)
 Unit III - St. Ignace - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)
 Unit V - Marquette - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)
Elder Subcommittees
 Unit I - Sault - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Unit II - Hessel - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)
 Unit II - Newberry - One regular vacancy
 Unit III - St. Ignace - One regular vacancy (4-year term)
 Unit IV - Escanaba - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)

WIOA funding for on-the-job training

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

The program may be able to provide tuition assistance for skills training if it leads to an industry-recognized certification or under OJT, the program may reimburse an employer 50 percent of your wage for a specified training period.

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

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

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St., Escanaba
Kinross BP Local Express, 4440 Tone Rd., Kincheloe
Cedar Pantry, 159 W M-134, Cedarville



Tribal members: need assistance?

Two membership liaisons work with the chairperson's office on membership issues and concerns across the service area. The liaisons respond to membership issues and follow up to ensure they are resolved. Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact the liaisons when they need help with tribal issues by emailing them at

membersconcerns@saulttribe.net or contacting them individually at: Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, Mich., (906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net OR Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469; Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, mjenerou@saulttribe.net.

Win Awenen Nisitotung
 The official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.
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Sugar Making Moon
Ziisbaakdoke Giizis
 Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor
 Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary
 Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
 Scott Brand.....Staff Writer

Win Awenen Nisitotung welcomes submissions of news articles, feature stories, photographs, columns and announcements of American Indian or non-profit events. All submissions are printed at the discretion of the editor, subject to editing and are not to exceed 400 words. Unsigned submissions are not accepted.
 Please note the distribution date when submitting event information for our community calendar. Submissions can be mailed, faxed or e-mailed. The distribution date is the earliest the newspaper can arrive in the seven-county service area.
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 See our full, online edition at www.saulttribe.com.
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Bench Warrant Amnesty Program March 15 through April 15

Tribal Court is offering bench warrant amnesty for tribal members and others who have bench warrants out for their arrest for failing to pay their outstanding fines and costs. Individuals who have been facing arrest for failure to pay their outstanding judgments can meet with court staff to make arrangements for payments and have their warrants lifted. Anyone paying their fines and costs in full will receive a 20% discount off the total owed. The amnesty and discounted rate are only for those with warrants that were

issued as a result of failure to pay. Anyone wanting to take advantage of the amnesty day should appear at the Tribal Court, 2175 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, or contact the Court at (906) 635-4963, between March 15 and April 15. All persons must be willing to work with the court staff to resolve the outstanding issue. Payments may also be made online at www.citepay-usa.com, but individuals must notify the court beforehand. Tribal Court's current list of individuals eligible for amnesty are as follows:

Nicholas Adamek	TR-2005-17	\$110
Anthony Adams	CIN-2005-21	\$750
Jamie Akers	CC-2019-12	\$100
Paige Akers	CC-2022-25	\$50
Andrew Alstrom	CC-2021-94	\$100
Re-al Armstrong	CIN-2016-27	\$1,450
Gregory Austin, Jr.	CIN-2008-24	\$200
Johnathon Bailey	CC-2022-24	\$50
Dustin Barbeau	C-2022-58	\$100
Milton Bazinau	C-2021-72/103/118	\$120
Aaron Berden	CIN-2005-24	\$100
Marcus Biron	CC-2020-78	\$100
Kelli Blake	CIN-2007-57	\$200
Jamie Brisson	C-2021-56/63/74/83CR-2021-32	\$675
Jenine Brown	CC-2020-157	\$100
Tiffany Bunker	CC-2018-76	\$100
William Cain	CC-2017-05	\$100
Robert Campbell	CIN-2002-22	\$200
Marie Capalbo	TR-2013-17	\$200
Leslie Carrier	TR-1994-27/28	\$129
Sharon Causley	CC-2019-23	\$100
Sally Cooper	TR-1995-35	\$122
Kyle Councillor	TR-1995-77	\$100
Tony Davis	TR-2020-02	\$250
Wesley Dorn	TR-1993-67	\$194
Lauren Farley	CIN-2000-44	\$175
Nichelle Franklin	CC-2020-27	\$100
Kari Gamble	CIN-2007-13	\$300
Austin Garries	C-2013-121	\$150
Cory Gilley	CIN-2007-29	\$600
Karl Graham	C-2022-49/62	\$100
Chad Guerin	CIN-2000-62	\$150
Daniel Gustafson	CC-2022-17	\$50
Steven Hank	CC-2022-16	\$50
Lawrence Harper	CC-2017-19	\$50
Steven Haskell	CIN-2000-34	\$590
Scott Heathorn	CIN-2000-03	\$550
Michael Herro	CIN-2022-01	\$175
Patrick Hodge	CIN-2006-25	\$800
Karen Homminga	CC-2017-22	\$100
John Irving, Jr.	CIN-2000-71	\$100
Tracy Irwin	CC-2022-17	\$50
Dale Jean	CIN-2002-14	\$75
James Johnson, Jr.	CC-2020-96	\$100
Brian Kibble	CC-2019-110	\$100
Kevin King	C-2022-31/47/65	\$160
Kenneth Kinney	CC-2017-28	\$100
Timothy Knutsen	CC-2019-111	\$100
Theodor Krogh III	CC-2021-29	\$100
Ernest Lahti, Sr.	CC-2020-37	\$100
Travis LaTour	CC-2021-122	\$100
Randolph Lawrence	CC-2016-94	\$100
Marsha LeBlanc	CC-2017-104	\$100
Timothy Lehre, Jr.	CC-2019-41	\$100
Ashley Lewis	CC-2020-112	\$100
Jessica MacInnis	C-2021-24	\$100
Richard Magee	CIN-2007-28	\$850
Scott Marble	C-2020-15	\$100
Triston Massera	CC-2018-35	\$50
Justin McCrory	CC-2022-09	\$50
Janet McCue	TR-2004-31	\$100
Kalin McGahey	CC-2018-37/20-118	\$100
Kelsie McGahey	CC-2018-102	\$100
Jessie McGee	CIN-2006-20	\$754
Mandy McRorie	CC-2019-47	\$100
Wilfred Menard	CC-2018-41	\$100
Sean Menary	C-2022-71/87/92/108/119	\$305
Robert Meredith	CIN-2003-33	\$650
Linas Mackaitis	CIN-2000-74	\$300
Michael Morales	CC-2017-113	\$100
Joseph Morrow	TR-2021-08	\$100
Alzalia Neal	CIN-2006-19	\$800
Lily Nichols	CC-2019-53	\$100
Errol Osley	CIN-2017-04	\$900
Letha Pauley	CIN-2001-77	\$180
Samantha Pavlat	CC-2019-58	\$100
Jennifer Payment	CC-2018-51	\$100
Sarah Payment	CC-2021-134	\$100
Jesse Petingalo	CIN-2007-26	\$300
Aaron Phillips	TR-1995/43/44/45	\$321
Joshua Pope	CC-2022-04	\$50
William Quicksey	CIN-2000-53	\$650
Desiree Rolston	CC-2020-63	\$100
Randi Smith	CC-2018-116/21-138	\$100
Stephen Smith	CIN-2002-52	\$430
Nathan Snowberg	C-2015-286/16-09	\$100
Jacob Snyder	CC-2022-01	\$50
Samantha Sparks	CC-2020-66	\$100
Jeffrey Thompson	CIN-2003-35	\$250
Justin Tjaden	CIN-2018-04	\$400
Wesley Vagts	CC-2021-149	\$100
Kimberly Vallier	CC-2019-130	\$100
Patrick Wallace	CIN-2003-34	\$750
Mitchell Wilson	CIN-2007-23	\$200
Montel Burch	CR-2017-49	\$200
Makenzie LaVictor	CR-2020/40/61	\$488
Bertie Mattinas	CR-2002-42/43	\$403
Raenell Penass	CR-2013-76	\$100
Jason Reeve	CR-2003-54	\$345
William Wheelock	CR-2013-75	\$100
Stewart Yokeum	CR-2014-05	\$300

LSSU, BMCC partnership to assist nursing students

By SCOTT BRAND

Lake Superior State University and Bay Mills Community College have officially signed an articulation agreement designed to assist nursing students as they complete their education in pursuit of certification.

"It gives the students an opportunity and an advantage when they transfer to LSSU," said Science Department Chair Natalia Chugunov. "They will get their prerequisites at Bay Mills Community College and their clinicals and specific nursing courses at Lake State."

"The articulation agreement is only going to help strengthen

LSSU, BMCC sign agreement for students to fulfill general requirements first two years at BMCC in preparation for transferring to LSSU to complete nursing degree.

our community," said Bay Mills Community College President Duane Bedell adding these medical professionals will not only serve the immediate area, but scatter across the Upper Peninsula, northern Michigan and beyond as the program continues in the years to come. "We are looking forward to working

closely with our new friends at LSSU."

"It's an honor to be here today," said LSSU President Dr. Rod Handley before the ceremonial signing noting the Bay Mills Indian Community played a pivotal role in providing testing and vaccinations for LSSU staff and students during the COVID-19 pandemic. "Our relationship is so important to us."

BMCC students will now be able to fulfill their general requirements during their first two years, complete with advisors from LSSU in preparation for completing their nursing degrees in the final two years.



Photo by Scott Brand

President Duane Bedell of Bay Mills Community College signs the articulation agreement on Feb. 28 while (from left to right) Dr. Kathy Berchem, Dean of College Health and Behavior, Dr. Lynn Gillette, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs and Samantha Cameron Vice President of Academic Affairs look on during the ceremony.



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Special Advisory Election update

Ballots must be received by the Election Committee before 5 p.m. on March 20

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. —On Feb. 13, 2023, special election ballots for the Special Advisory Election for Unit 1 Director were mailed out to tribal members.

As provided in the Notice of Election published on Jan. 6, 2023, the Election Committee intended for the ballots to be mailed out on Feb. 24, 2023.

However, due to an unintentional clerical error, the ballots were mailed out earlier than planned.

The Election Committee, upon considering all options and upon recommendation of legal counsel,

FARM program announces \$2,500 in grant funds

The Northern Shores Community Development FARM Program is accepting applications for another round of \$2,500 grants to support emerging or established Native American farmers, ranchers, and agricultural/aquaculture/aquafarming entrepreneurs.

Eight grants will be available from the “Capitalizing & Growing Native Agribusiness and Value-added Agribusiness”

Only one application per person per household/business will

be considered. Treaty Fishing is included, as well as harvesting, gathering, and processing natural resources to produce a product.

Applications are available at nscdi.org, and will be accepted until April 6, 2023. Those who are awarded a grant, will be notified by April 14.

For an application, or for more information, please visit our website. If you have any questions, feel free to email: switherspoon@nscdi.org.


has decided to proceed with the Special Advisory Election using the ballots that were sent early. Replacement ballots will NOT be sent to voters.

If you wish to vote in the Special Advisory Election for Unit 1 Director, please utilize the ballot you receive in the mail.

All other voting procedures remain in place as stated in the Election Notice.

In order to be counted for the Special Advisory Election, ballots must be received by the Election Committee by 5 p.m. at the United States Post Office-Sault Ste. Marie location on March 20, 2023.

be considered. Treaty Fishing is included, as well as harvesting, gathering, and processing natural resources to produce a product.



Sault Tribe Language & Culture Community Day

March 25th, 2023

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Ham Served with Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Vegetable, Stuffing & Mixed Berry Pie.

DreamCatchers and Horseshoe Bay Restaurants

Easter Dinner Special | April 9

Ham Served with Scalloped Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetable, & Garden Salad.

Go to kewadin.com/events or kewadin.com/dining for more information.

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

Anishinaabemowin 2023

Our Anishnaabemowin language is where we turn for philosophy, history, science, medicines, stories and spirituality. It is our university and the key to our cultural survival. It is among our greatest treasures. Ojibwe People's Dictionary

Ziisbaakdoke Giizis Sugar-making Moon

by Susan Askwith

Aashiishmaajii! N'da yekoz.

aa-shiish-maa-jii n-da ye-koz
Good grief! I'm tired.

N'giikiimagosh.

n-gii-kii-ma-gosh
I'm sleepy.

N'gii nkingishin

n-gii n-kin-gi-shin
I dozed off.

Minangwaam.

min-an-gwaam
Sleep well.

Nii oo nbaaganing iidik.

nii-oo-na-baa-gan-ing ii-dik
I'll go to bed, I guess

Naangodnong n'aabzingshi.

naan-god-nong n-aa-bi-zin-gi-shi.
Sometimes I get wide awake from a deep sleep.

Gnabach n'wii bwaajige.

g-na-baj n-wii ba-waa-ji-ge
Maybe I'll dream.

Naadin g'crayon-makak!

Go get your crayon box!

Tisigen maaba mazinchigan.

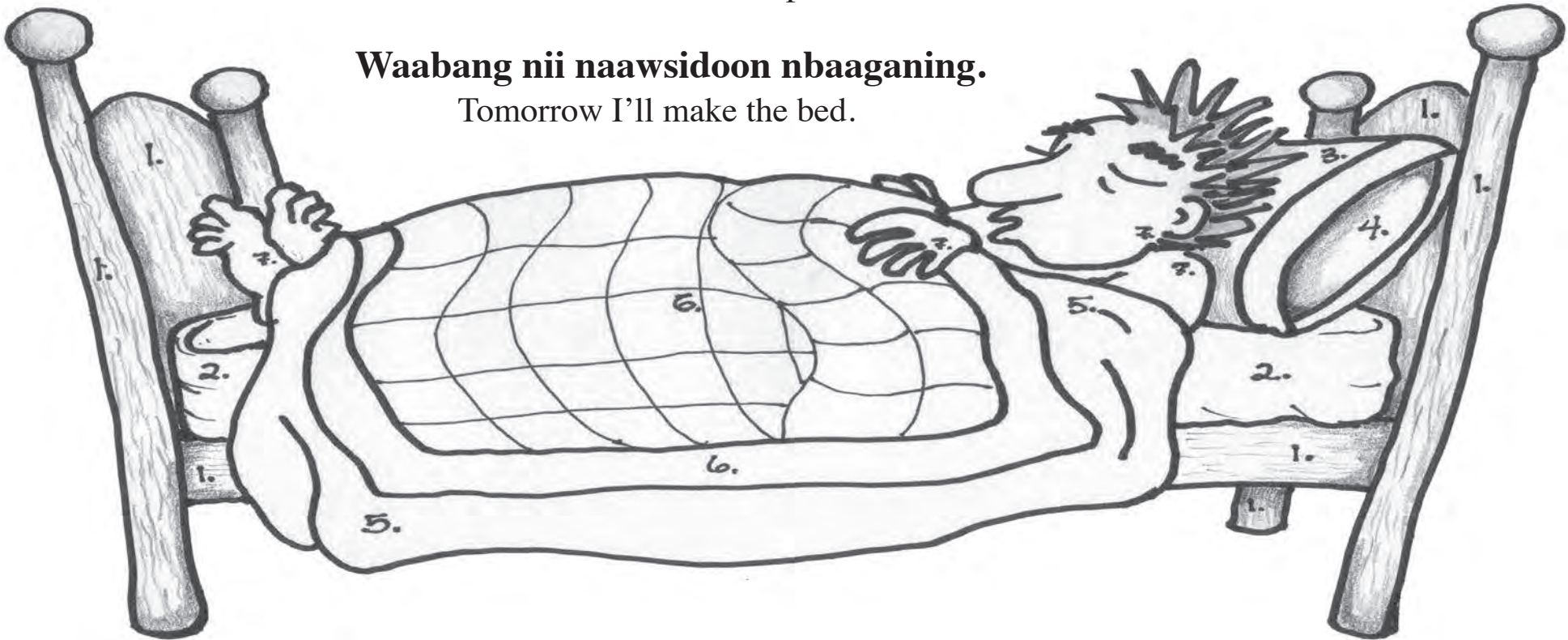
Color this picture.

Nakaazan gidaabkagan.

Use the key (below)

Waabang nii naawsidoon nbaaganing.

Tomorrow I'll make the bed.



1. Nbaagan - Bed
Aki-aande. It is brown.

2. Pishmowin - Mattress
Zaaw-aande. It is orange.

3. Pikweshmoniigan - Pillow case
Zhoomin-aande. It is purple.

4. Pikweshmowin - Pillow
Miskwaa. It is red.

5. Biito-gozhewin - Sheet
Zaawaa. It is yellow.

6. Gozhewin - Blanket
Zhaawshkwaa. It is green.

7. Nbaa - He is sleeping.
G'zhag'ay-aande. It is the color of your skin.

Fun Fact: Our language puts word pieces together to make a single descriptive word. An example is 'He is snoring.': **Mdwejaanengwaam.** *Mdwewe* says s/he is making a noise, *jaanzh* refers to a nose and *ingwaam* refers to sleeping. So our word describes snoring as a noise through the nose that happens when someone (he or she) is sleeping. Note this word is also a complete sentence. No wonder!

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

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

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

We underlined the syllables that get the emphasis.
Pronounce all the letters. Big deal: if n has an H or S after it, the n has NO SOUND of its own. It's a sign to say the vowels just before it in a nasal way - as if you had a stuffed up nose from a cold.

The electric company called me today to say my payment was outstanding. Nice compliment!

I think I'm allergic to the gym. Whenever I go there, I have trouble breathing and I sweat a lot.

I asked my wife if our kids were really spoiled. She answered: No. All kids smell like that.

Why didn't Mozart like chickens?
When asked who was the best composer, they all say "Bach Bach Bach."

Did you see the new movie about maple syrup?
It starts out sappy but the end is sweet.

Learning about Anishinaabe culture from afar

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Tribal members who make their homes in the tribe's seven-county service area have many opportunities to participate in cultural learning activities in person. There are craft making classes such as ribbon shirts, moccasins, birch bark basket making and more. There are also traditional ceremonies, powwows, and traditional language classes offered through Sault Tribe and Bay Mills Community College.

There are fewer opportunities available for tribal members who reside outside the tribe's service area to participate in and learn

Anishinaabe culture. There are some programs offered online free of charge and accessible if you have an Internet connection and a computer. Although the offerings are pretty sparse currently, there are plans in place to expand available options.

The following are offered to anyone with an internet connection who wish to participate.

Language

The most obvious place to start learning the language is the tribal newspaper language page. If you are interested in free online Anishinaabemowin language lessons, they are available on the

Sault Tribe Language and Culture Facebook page, located here: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/100503778114071/22738781600632/>. The Anishinaabemowin team includes Susan Askwith, Paul Blondeau, and Cecil E. Pavlat Sr. If you have any Anishinaabemowin-related questions, you can email: language@saulttribe.net.

There is also a tribal webpage listing departments and services to help you become familiar with the tribe, it's programs and services: saulttribe.com.

Associate of Arts degree: Native American Studies

Bay Mills Community College offers an online associates degree in Native American Studies. (https://www.bmcc.edu/sites/default/files/aa_nativeamericanstudies_bmcc_catalog_2020-2021.pdf)

According to its website, Native American Studies examines contemporary and past experiences and life ways of the first Americans from an Anishinaabe perspective. Courses are designed for both Native American and non-Native American students. Visit <https://www.bmcc.edu> for information.

Traditional craft workshops

Sault Tribe Anishnaabek Community and Family Services Advocacy Resource Center's Cultural Healing Educator, Grey Shea, said she is working on an in-person and virtual craft events through the Culture is the Key to Healing program. Shea said monthly craft events will be held via Facebook Live each month, with kits being mailed to people who register. To view their offerings, go to: <https://www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC>.

Grey Shea can be contacted at: AShea1@saulttribe.net, by phone at: (906) 632-1808, or toll free: (877) 639-7820.

Language and Culture welcomes new team member

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member Emma Donmyer (Aandeg "Crow" Kwe) has been hired by the tribe's Culture Department as a library aide for their collection of artifacts and reading materials.

Donmyer graduated from Sault Area High School in 2020, and started attending Lake Superior State University (LSSU) in August 2020. She is currently working on a double major in social science and political science, with a concentration in historical and comparative politics.

Although she was not raised in a traditional Anishinaabe home, Donmyer said she has always had an interest in tribal culture.

"I had many influences though other family members growing up and attended JKL Bahweting schools from kindergarten until eighth grade and was able to take Ojibwe Language and culture classes," she said. "I wanted to work for the Culture Department because I wanted to take a more active role in the community and wanted to be more connected to our culture."

Donmyer is working in the



Emma Donmyer

Ojibwa Language and Learning Center, located inside Big Bear Arena, on several projects including cataloging its library collection, archiving historical and cultural items, creating new displays, grant development, supervising its student worker, and assisting in other cultural events.

She plans to complete her bachelor's degree at LSSU, and afterwards continue working for the tribe while earning a master's in Indigenous Peoples Law.

Donmyer is also employed at the LSSU Housing Office as a front desk clerk, performing data entry and mail room organization. She is a former Sault Tribe shelter worker and from May 2018 through October 2022 worked at the Great Lakes Shipwreck Historical Society, in Paradise, Mich., as a historical interpreter. She is also involved in student government as an operations manager and Women in Business, where she holds the title of records coordinator.

April Traditional Medicine offerings

April Healer Clinic Hours
Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program is holding April clinic hours for the following dates and locations. Any questions, or to book an appointment, please call the Traditional Medicine Program at (906) 632-0236 or (906) 632-5268.

Gerard Sagassige
Sault Ste. Marie Health Center — April 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25
(906) 632-0236, Lori Gambardella
St. Ignace Health Center — April 5
(906) 643-8689 or (877) 256-0135

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

George Gogleye
Sault Ste. Marie Health Center — April 5, 6, 13, 19, 20
(906) 632-0236, Lori Gambardella
Newberry Health Center —

April 14
(906) 293-8181
Manistique Health Center — April 21
(906) 341-8469 or (866) 401-0043

Women's Full Moon Ceremony April 6
Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program's Women's Full Moon Ceremony Thursday, April 6.

Social time 5:30 to 6 p.m. Ceremony starts at 6 p.m. Located at the Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Building, 11 Ice Circle Dr. in Sault Ste. Marie. Women on their moon time may attend (offerings can be made on your behalf).

Please bring a copper cup or drinking vessel, tobacco, yellow ribbon and a skirt if available to ceremony.

Please contact Lori, Bree, or Katrina with any questions: (906) 632-0236 or (906) 632-5268.

Masks are recommended.

NAMEBINI GIIZIS - SUCKERFISH MOON - APRIL 2023

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

Cedarville High students get hands on experience

By SCOTT BRAND

CEDARVILLE, Mich. — Celebrating Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month in February, a host of involved partners convened on an ambitious construction site, just off M-134, to see the progress made by approximately two dozen Cedarville High School students.

“We got a late start in October,” said CTE Instructor Scott Barr of the timeline for the inaugural house to be built at this location. “It’s going pretty good.”

The two dozen or so Cedarville High School students enrolled in the CTE program began with the cement foundation and have been honing their construction skills along the way providing the bare bones structure on display on Feb. 20,

“They did all the wiring with (Electrician) Andy Bailey,” said Barr, who admitted he even learned a little something during that phase of construction. “We are kind of at a standstill right now waiting on the plumbing.”

Barr said once the plumbing is in place, it will be time to hang drywall, mud and finish the interior. That will also include the participation of another CTE class as Rudyard High School is in the process of building kitchen cabinets for installation at the



From left to right: Sault Tribe Inc. CEO Joel Schultz, Unit II Director Lana Causley-Smith, Construction Teacher Scott Barr, Tammy Rutledge of the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District (EUPISD), Cedarville High student Charlie McPhail, Trustee Jason Sherlund, Les Cheneaux Schools Superintendent Bob Lohff, Kevin St. Onge of the EUPISD and Trustee Steve Honnila visited the construction project currently underway just east of Cedarville. The group gathered to see the work completed by approximately two dozen Cedarville High School students since October.

new house.

The Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District (EUPISD) has carried out the CTE throughout the region since voters approved the measure in 2017. The program, according to EUPISD’s Tammy Rutledge is accessible to students in Sault Ste. Marie, Engadine Newberry, Pickford and Brimley as well as Cedarville and Rudyard. Programs include welding, finance, construction, woodwork-

ing health sciences, business administration and cybersecurity among others.

“Our kids are loving it,” said Barr of the work completed to date. “It’s really pushing them.”

Cedarville Senior Charlie McPhail addressed those in attendance and echoed those sentiments.

“I’ve loved it,” said McPhail of the experience. “I have learned a lot already.”

Sault Tribe, Inc. CEO Joel

Schultz implied this project could be just the tip of the iceberg as infrastructure on the property is already in place for 10 more houses and with an eye towards trust-land status and additional permits the expansion could continue beyond the original footprint. He added this was important not only to provide additional housing for the region, but to allow young people to stay where they grew up and work in the area supporting local businesses.

“It’s very exciting to see our Tribe, EUPISD — Cedarville, DeTour and Rudyard Schools specifically — and local construction companies coming together to collaborate and engage with our youth on a vocational trade endeavor,” said Unit II Director Lana Causley-Smith emphasizing this has been an established goal. “We have talked about steering in this direction for a very long time and the current stakeholders have put those plans into action.”

Fellow Unit II Director Kimberly Lee was unable to attend the Feb. 20 event, but was eager to sing the praises of those involved.

“Many are responsible for implementing this project and sharing their talents with the youth in our communities,” said Lee. “I would like to extend my level of gratitude and appreciation.

She went on to add: “The depth of what the CTE program does for our youth is remarkable. Not only does it give them an introduction to lifelong skills, but it teaches them about goal-driven work ethics. These vital qualities will build confidence, appreciation, understanding, patience, and a sense of purpose. Skills our youth need for the success of their future.”

Board meets in Sault January 17, passes resolutions

A meeting of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors was held Jan. 17, 2023, in Sault Ste. Marie at the Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center. Twenty-eight resolutions were approved.

Resolution 2023-025: Cultural, Institute of Museum and Library Services ARPA FY 2023 budget modification — Approved with federal Department of Education revenue monies of \$25,122.82.

#026: Adam Walsh Act implementation grant, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved with federal DOJ Revenue monies of \$2,571.89.

#027: COPS TRGP 2018, FY 2023 budget modification — Approved for an increase in federal DOJ monies of \$48,050.

#028: Health Division — Marquette Community Health FY 2023 budget modification — Approved for a change to the personnel page and a reallocation of expenses.

#029: ACFS Child Care Fund (state) establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved with MDHHS Revenue monies of \$15,000.

#030: ACFS, DTE Foundation, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved with Other Revenue monies of \$6,500.

#301: ACFS, Division of Victim Services Supplemental FVPSA Mitigation Grant, establishment of FY 2023 budget

— Approved with federal HHS monies of \$63,414.31.

#032: ACFS, Native Employment Works FY 2023 budget modification — Approved for an increase in Tribal Support of \$2,655.02, to also change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses.

#033: ACFS, Child Care Development Fund (2801) FY 2023 budget modification — Approved for an increase in federal HHS monies of \$28,984.98 and to make changes to the personnel sheet.

#034: Board of Directors, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved with Tribal Support monies of \$941,451.02 and Other Revenue monies of \$941,451.01.

#035: Indirect, Membership Services, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved for \$127,895.47.

#036: Admin to Executive Office, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved using Tribal Support monies of \$92,707.81 and Other Revenue monies of \$133,740.16.

#037: Trust land status — Hessel Ridge Golf Course, Mackinac County, Mich. — The tribe is requesting the Secretary of the Interior accept title to the land in trust for the tribe and declare the land to be a part of the tribe’s reservation.

#038: Trust land status,

Gladstone Medical Building, Delta County, Mich. — The tribe is requesting the Secretary of the Interior accept title to the land in trust for the tribe and declare the land to be a part of the tribe’s reservation.

#039: Trust land status, Bonacci Parcels C & G, Chippewa County, Mich. — The tribe is requesting the Secretary of the Interior accept title to the land in trust for the tribe and declare the land to be a part of the tribe’s reservation.

#040: 2023 BIA Funding, youth initiative — The chairman was approved to sign, negotiate and execute any agreement for the 2023 youth initiative funding administered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

#041: 2023 BIA Funding, hatchery maintenance and rehab

— The chairman was approved to sign, negotiate and execute any agreement for this program.

#042: Authorization to apply for Americorps NCCC volunteers — Approved for the tribe’s Environment Department to apply, enter into agreement for the use of the Mary Murray Culture Camp to house volunteers, and authorize the volunteers to work on tribal lands under

the direction of the department’s employees.

#043: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development FY 2022 Indian Housing Block Grant program-competitive grants, \$1.5 million leveraged match — The board concurs with, and approved, the firm commitment of \$1,500,000 of Local Assistance and Tribal

See “Resolutions,” page 9

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MCS Flooring LLC opens in Sault Ste. Marie

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Ross McLeod and his wife and Sault Tribe member Sonja McLeod recently opened MCS Flooring LLC, located inside the Crane Building, Suite 3, off of Seymour Road in the Odenaang Subdivision in Sault Ste. Marie.

The community, family and friends were welcomed at their grand opening event held Feb. 15, 2023.

Sonja McLeod said MCS will cover the Upper Peninsula servicing residential and commercial businesses with a large selection of flooring from 14 manufacturers. In addition to flooring, MCS is also offering a large selection of Comfort Sleep Restonic mattresses.

The Sault Tribe recently closed the doors on its furniture and flooring store, Northern Hospitality, and the McLeod's purchased the remaining inventory, which included flooring, furniture, pictures and throw rugs.

McLeod said MCS stands for McLeod Carpet Service. "Ross has kept this name for over 18 years. He has been in the flooring installation business for over 31 years," she said. "Since people are familiar with the name MCS and who it belongs to, we decided to keep it when opening the store."

Walk-in customers can find any type of flooring available,

MCS Flooring LLC can be reached at (906) 259-0797, (906) 440-7702 or by email at: mcsflooringsm@gmail.com. They are located inside the Crane Building, Suite 3, off of Seymour Road in the Odenaang Subdivision.

and can place orders online with the assistance of a flooring representative. Sonja said they also have many floor installers they can schedule with to complete your project.

Former Northern Hospitality employee Krista Houghton made the move to MCS and McLeod said she is a great asset to their company.

The McLeods are working with the tribe to offer employee payroll deduction and said their tribal discount will begin once they are able to offer payroll deduction.

McLeod said, "We are 51 percent tribally owned, renting the building from the Sault Tribe, on Sault Tribe property, we have three tribal employees, and we live on Sault Tribe trust land. I have worked for the tribe about 28 years total and I feel very strongly about helping the tribal community. This business will help us do that."

MCS Flooring can be reached at (906) 259-0797, (906) 440-7702 or by email at: mcsflooringsm@gmail.com.



The community, family and friends were welcomed at MCS Floorings grand opening event held Feb. 15. MCS Flooring is located inside the Crane Building off of Seymour Road in the Odenaang Subdivision.



In addition to their flooring, MCS purchased furniture and decorative inventory from Northern Hospitality when they closed recently. They also offer a large selection of Comfort Sleep Restonic mattresses.

Resolutions passed at January 17 meeting continued

From "Resolutions," page 8
Consistency Funds for the Indian Housing Block Grant Competitive Grant.

#044: Amending Tribal Code Chapter 11: Membership Ordinance — Amended by adding after the first sentence: "DNA results between the applicant and the applicant's mother, father, sibling, aunt or uncle may be accepted in lieu of or in addition to the applicant's current documentation. The proof of relationship by DNA must be to a scientific level of certainty of no less than 99.9%. All DNA testing must be from an Association for the Advancement of Blood and Biotherapies (AABB) Accredited Laboratory. Any fees incurred will be the sole responsibility of the applicant."

#045: Amending resolution No. 2012-246, Tribal Action Plan Advisory Board (TAPAB) Positions Update — The resolution was amended to describe the Tribal Action Plan Advisory Board (TAPAB) - Board of Directors positions to be the tribal chairman, Austin Lowes and five members of the board to include: Lana Causley-Smith, Bridgett Sorenson, Tyler LaPlaut, Kimberly Hampton, and Kimberly Lee.

#046: Rescission of Resolution 2017-16; No COLA adjustment in wage grids for governmental, enterprise and casino — The board rescinded "Resolution 2017-16 beginning January 2023, and for all prospective years thereafter, all Wage Grids, including the Prevailing Wage Grid and Tipped Positions Grid, shall not

be adjusted in accordance with COLA based on CPI; however, implementation of annual COLA for team members will continue per Resolution 2016-280."

#047: Approval and enactment of remote work policy — The board approved and enacted the proposed Remote Work Policy to be included in the tribe's Human Resource Policy Manuals for the tribe's governmental, casinos, and enterprises, effective Jan. 17, 2023.

#048: Approving CHN Malcolm Limited Dividend Housing Association limited partnership agreement and Garfield Landing transactional documents — Resolution approved.

#049: Audit Committee, appointment of committee members and chairperson — The board appointed the following sitting members of the tribe's board of directors to serve as members of the Audit Committee, with each appointment being effective through the remainder of the designated director's current term of office: Director Isaac McKechnie and Director Tyler LaPlaut, with McKechnie designated to serve as the chairperson of the Audit Committee through the end of his current term as treasurer of the tribal board of directors.

#050: Appointment to Tribal Audit Committee — The Tribal Audit Committee was established by Resolution 1997-88, for the purpose of overseeing, monitoring, and evaluating the tribal audit process and the membership of the committee is to include three persons who are not employees and who do not serve

on the board of directors. There was a vacant seat on the committee and the board reappointed James Halvorsen to serve for a four-year term, expiring Jan. 17, 2027.

#051: Approval and authorization of tribe's COVID-19 Fishery Participant Assistance Program — The board approved the COVID-19 Fishery Participant Assistance Program offering financial assistance to eligible commercial and subsistence fishers that meet the criteria of the Program in Resolution 2022-271. The board authorized the distribution of \$506,644.75 for cultural/ceremonial, spear, and subsistence to the Great Lakes subsistence fishers that engaged in subsistence fishing in 2020, to be evenly distributed in equal shares. The board also authorized the distribution of \$647,169.27 for direct payments to commercial fishers who can demonstrate a total financial loss of 35% in 2020 by March 31, 2023. The program will be funded with CARES Act Governmental Relief Funds received by the tribe that are allocated through the existing administrative and budgeting processes.

#052: Authorization of tribal participation forms, entering into opioid settlements — The tribe filed claims against several opioid manufacturers and distributors seeking damages as a result of the national opioid epidemic; and a settlement agreement has been negotiated with Teva, Allergan, CVS, Walgreens, and Walmart. The board approved Exhibits E, Tribal Participation Forms, enter-

ing the tribe into the Teva and Allergen settlement, CVS settlement, Walgreens settlement, and Walmart settlement.

To view these and prior approved resolutions in their entirety, visit board downloads at: www.saulttribe.com.

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ARC attends Tribal-State Summit at casino

Hali McKelvie, grant coordinator assistant manager for the Sexual Violence Services and Anishnaabek Community and Family Services/Advocacy Resource Center, spoke at the Tribal-State Partnership meeting at Kewadin Casino on Jan. 18.

McKelvie spoke to tribal and state representatives about the history of residential boarding schools and the impact the schools had on our Native ancestors and future generations.

The Advocacy Resource Center's Community Quilt, created in 2022, was on display for those in attendance.

The Community Quilt was created by members of various communities to assist in healing survivors and remembering the victims of residential boarding schools. The quilt was born from an idea of Kim Fyke's, a survivor of Holy Childhood

of Jesus Residential Boarding School in Harbor Springs. Fyke dreamed of having members of the community create a quilt square and collectively assemble the quilt to represent the victims and survivors and use the quilt for healing and remembering the lives that were lost, the pain that was suffered, and the hopes and dreams that were taken from our Native ancestors.

Quilters and tribal members Sue Garrett and Mary Ann Hussey assembled the breathtaking quilt that was revealed on Orange Shirt Day, Sept. 30, 2022.

The event was attended by survivors of Holy Childhood School, Kim Fyke, Marilyn Wakefield, Sharon Skutt, Mary Cope, Karen Wasageshik, and Debra Delk. They spoke of their experiences and discussed the generational traumas that have affected them and their families.



Participants gathered for a Tribal-State Partnership meeting at Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie on Jan. 18.



Hali McKelvie, grant coordinator assistant manager for the Sexual Violence Services and Anishnaabek Community and Family Services/Advocacy Resource Center, spoke at the Tribal-State Partnership meeting at Kewadin Casino on Jan. 18.

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Resolutions, Referendums and Social Media

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MOTIONS without resolutions are not subject to Referendum. When governing boards use motions without creating a resolution - they effectively establish an authoritarian type of government with absolute power.

In the case of diverting \$20 million from a recovery center to casino renovations, board members campaigned on social media to pass the resolution demonstrating a clear bias and abuse of power and influence. What's worse, funds previously allocated for the recovery center had a built in purpose that did not include casino renovations. Using funds not as intended places the Tribe in a vicarious position of scrutiny that jeopardizes future funding opportunities.

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Anishnaabek Community and Family Services' Advocacy Resource Center hires grant coordinator, cultural healing educator

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Hali McKelvie recently joined the Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) team as a grant coordination assistant manager. In that capacity she assists in managing ARC's new Sexual Violence Services (SVS) program.

McKelvie supervises the SVS program secretary, cultural healing educator, and the community educator positions.

She began working for the tribe in the summer of 2002 as a student worker with the Training Department. Then in the spring of 2004, she was hired as a bartender for Sault Kewadin Hotel and Convention Center, where she worked for the Bar and Beverage Department for three years. She worked for a short time as a receptionist at Big Bear Arena before accepting the position of shelter worker for the ARC Lodge of Bravery in the spring of 2008. "I worked for 18 months as a shelter worker, and I gained a lot of foundational insight, experience, and knowledge of the inner workings of victim advocacy, working with women and families impacted by domestic violence and other forms of power and control," she said. "After giving birth to my youngest son, I took a 12-month hiatus to focus on my two young children. I then went into the substance abuse field, before returning to the Sault Tribe's ARC as a community educator in the fall of 2011."

Following that, in late 2013, McKelvie accepted a position with Uniting Three Fires Against Violence (UTFAV), where she remained for eight years. "While with UTFAV, I worked with the 12 federally recognized tribes of Michigan providing technical assistance and training.

In late summer of 2022, she returned to the ARC, after learning of an opportunity to apply for the grant coordination assistant manager position.

McKelvie said the SVS program is an extension of the Advocacy Resource Center

designed to provide services to victims of sexual assault that emphasize culture and tradition in the healing and advocacy process. Victims do not have to be Native American to receive ARC's free and confidential services.

The SVS program has a cultural healing educator whose role is to provide access to culture and tradition for survivors of sexual violence. This includes learning how to do Anishnaabe crafts, access to the four sacred medicines and how to use them, and the opportunity to learn more about the Anishnaabe traditional way of life.

McKelvie said they are in the process of getting their medical and sexual assault nurse examination (SANE) room (located within the SVS building) fully functional to provide sexual assault nurse examinations to victims.

According to McKelvie, the program's goal is to eliminate barriers presented to victims and survivors seeking sexual assault medical exams by providing services outside of a medical facility. "Our goal is to have SVS fully functional by this summer, with a SANE-certified nurse on board to provide sexual assault nurse examinations and rape kit collection for victims. In addition to providing our community with SANE services, we plan on providing therapeutic services for victims and survivors of sexual assault," she said.

ARC's SVS Cultural Healing Educator Grey Shea said the primary purpose of the cultural healing educator is to bridge the gap for those receiving SVS services who are also interested in seeking healing from an Anishnaabe cultural perspective.

"I will be helping connect clients to other services like traditional medicine and helping them learn about how the four sacred medicines (tobacco, cedar sweetgrass, and sage) can be used on healing journeys — for example, smudging and cedar baths. I will also do "Culture is the Key to Healing" craft workshops, which can bring healing by



Hali McKelvie

connecting people to their culture and Anishnaabe teachings. This series was very popular before I came on board and was done via Facebook Live and in the community. I am planning on streaming to YouTube as well and reintroducing in-person events. I am very excited to have the opportunity to add to this series. I received over 50 calls about my first workshop planned for March! There are also many other events I will be participating in while working with the community educator, with my focus always being on sexual assault awareness," she said.

Shea said cultural healing can mean different things to different people. "There are so many aspects of Anishnaabe culture to learn about, whether it be traditional arts, singing, drumming, plant medicine, ceremonies, or anything else. Everyone has their place in their community and culture, which our spirits lead us to. Trauma can significantly affect how we see and connect to



Grey Shea

ourselves. To me, taking time to reconnect to our spirit and who we are is the basis of healing. Reconnecting to our culture can also give us a great support system and a purpose in life if that is what we seek out of it," she said.

Shea has a bachelor's degree in Native American Studies (NAS) from Northern Michigan University and was recognized as the NAS Outstanding Senior in 2019 when she graduated. "My first NAS class was Native American beadwork styles, which I took to get a break from the heavy science classes I was in as part of my original major, clinical laboratory science. In the beadwork class, we learned the word for seed beads — *manidominens*, or little spirit seed. I took an Anishnaabemowin class the following semester because I thought the descriptive nature of that word was so cool. This awakened my spirit, and I ended up changing my major to NAS. I took classes in Native American history, tribal relations, tribal law

and government, research and community engagement, boarding schools, and Anishnaabemowin. I also became the vice president of the Native American Student Association and worked as an office assistant at the NMU Center for Native American Studies," she said.

Shea is currently working towards an associate's degree in Anishnaabe language instruction from Bay Mills Community College, graduating in May this year. "I hope to be an Anishnaabemowin teacher someday," she said. "For now, I try incorporating Anishnaabemowin into everything I do and any programming I create because our language holds our teachings."

Both McKelvie and Shea are Sault Tribe members.

To view what the SVS program can offer victims of sexual violence, visit: <https://www.arc-saulttribe.com>.

Contact McKelvie or Shea at the SVS program by calling (906) 632-1808, or (877) 639-7820.



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StrongHearts Native Helpline celebrates six years

StrongHearts Native Helpline celebrates its six-year anniversary operating a culturally appropriate helpline for Native Americans and Alaska Natives affected by domestic and sexual violence. It's a celebration of breaking down barriers to safety and empowering Native people across the nation that has kept advocates fueled and the number of contacts growing.

"We've seen monumental growth in our contacts and our ability to provide support and advocacy to our relatives,"

StrongHearts CEO Lori Jump said. "The statistics clearly show that our relatives are seeking what has been missing for years — a connection to culturally appropriate, anonymous and confidential support and advocacy."

In the first seven months of operation, StrongHearts tallied 468 contacts. However, that number grew each subsequent year. By the end of 2022, StrongHearts advocates had answered more than 40,000 contacts via call, text and online chat.

StrongHearts met the ever-increasing need for advocacy by incorporating additional support systems and expanding hours of operation. In 2020, online chat and sexual violence advocacy were launched. In 2021, text advocacy was launched and hours of operation expanded to 24/7.

This past year, StrongHearts filled key leadership positions with Chief Operations Officer Sonia Palmer and Human Resources Manager Chelsea Singleton, who work to support the

growth in staff and infrastructure.

To sustain continued growth, plans include:

- Working more closely with tribes and tribal events;
- Increasing external relations and outreach efforts;
- Bolstering staffing structure and support for employee well-being;
- Leveraging data and resources to advocate for change at a policy level; and
- Increasing the capacity for long-term sustainability.



StrongHearts CEO Lori Jump

March recognizes parenting awareness, effects of family violence

March is Parenting Awareness Month, which typically means celebrating all things parenting. This month, the Advocacy Resource Center focuses on the awareness of the effects of family violence on children.

Family violence is a behavior pattern that demonstrates maintaining power and control over a partner in an intimate relationship.

The lasting impacts of family violence on children are multifaceted. Children exposed to family violence may experience behavioral issues, delayed brain development, difficulty in current and future relationships, and dysregulated emotions; it may also affect their physical health. Children may lose sleep, pay less attention in school, struggle with grades, make poor decisions regarding friends, and use drugs and alcohol.

Children who live in a home with family violence experience the same fears and threats to their safety that the adult victim may experience.

Children may witness, be directly involved or overhear the violence within the home. Too often, children are believed to be unaffected if they are in another room or sleeping during the violence. Children know what is happening within their homes, and when exposed to violence, children soon learn to adapt and adjust to the abuser's violence.

Children may try to align their moods and behavior whenever they are around the abuser to prevent outbursts. Children may feel it is their responsibility to comfort the adult victim, to clean up messes, or may take on the responsibility of having to protect their siblings or family pets during or after the violence.

Adult victims of violence may have to develop survival strategies to keep themselves and their children safe.

It is important not to judge the adult victim's survival strategies, even if they appear unreasonable to outsiders. The adult victim knows what will enhance safety and what will escalate it.

Talking with children helps them feel safer and may reassure them that the violence is NOT their fault. Try to find ways to build emotional resilience with the children.

Parents can also be victims of violence in their homes. Child-to-parent violence (CPV) is the abuse of parents by their child or children. It is an often-underreported form of domestic or family

violence. CPV consists of higher levels of aggression than regular childhood or adolescent outbursts. It can include verbal and physical abuse.

Child-to-Parent Abuse is defined as, according to Wikipedia, "any harmful act of an adolescent (ages 10-19) child intended to gain power and control over a parent. The abuse can be physical, psychological, verbal, or financial."

Parents, grandparents, and guardians do not report CPV due to the following:

- Shame or embarrassment of feeling they should be able to handle the issue on their own.
- Fear of enraging the child even more if reported or attempting to control the individual.
- Not wanting the child to be in trouble with the law or court system.

Some of the causes child-to-parent violence can be attributed to the following:

- Broken family unit
- Poor or nonexistent relationship with an absent parent
- Debt or money issues
- Unemployment
- Parental drug or alcohol abuse
- Abuse and neglect from a parent



Photo by ACFS staff

March is National Parenting Awareness Month. The goal is to make everyone aware of the roles that parents play in shaping their children. Effective parenting is not easy and many call it "the hardest job on earth." Children's needs are constantly changing no matter what stage of parenting you're in. The National Parenting Awareness campaign aims to help parents work through these changes and reminds parents that their role is vital. For free resources, tips, and parenting stories visit <http://www.parenting.org>. Stop in and check out the Parenting Awareness Month bulletin board at the Sault Ste. Marie Health Center and the Manistique Tribal Community Center for information and free promotional items!

- No coping skills
 - Disabled, elder, or mentally ill parent
 - Escalated arguments
 - Aggressive behaviors or tendencies
 - Unable to manage feelings
 - Witnessing abuse in the home
 - Lack of respect for parents, perceiving them as weak
 - Lack of consequences for behaviors
 - Mental illness
 - Child seeking revenge upon parent
 - Child-to-parent violence has no specific programs or agencies that protect parents from abusive children. There are intervention strategies that can be helpful to prevent the abuse from escalating if remedied early on, such as:
 - Involve school therapists or behavior specialist
 - Family Therapist
 - Family violence or domestic violence organization
 - Law enforcement
 - Judicial system/juvenile justice programs
 - Adult protective services
 - Creating a safety plan
- If you find yourself in an intimate partner or family violence relationship, the Advocacy Resource Center can offer assistance. Contact an advocate at (906) 632-1808 or visit www.arcsault-tribe.com.

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

In an effort to maintain the Sault Tribe MMIP database for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP), the Advocacy Resource Center is seeking information regarding missing and murdered individuals who are members of the **Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians**. Please message or call the ARC at 906-632-1808 with information that can be entered into the database. The information provided does not have to be current information. The ARC is seeking information for ALL missing or murdered tribal members including the seven county service areas and tribal members across the world. Please ask for Community Educator Jess Gillotte-King (extension 73104) when calling the ARC. If messaging the ARC Facebook page, please leave the following information:



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

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



Any information would be appreciated.

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

Early Childhood Education fathers make pretzels



Photos by Early Childhood Education Program Family Service Coordinator Danielle Kaminski
Dad Cameron and his two sons Holden and Griffin.



Baylee Sterling and daughter Camille.



Dad Philip and daughter Natalie.



Tony and his daughter Lauren.



Ezera and her dad Dan.



Bentley with his dad Trevor.



Jimmy Goetz and his two daughters Laila and Gyselle.



Robert Bailey and his son Corbin.

Snowsnake competition held at powwow grounds, award given to winner of each age division

The Language and Culture Division thanks all competitors and spectators for coming out to the competition Feb. 18, held at the powwow grounds.

For the Mens, Womens, and Elders, first place was \$150, second \$100 and third \$75. For teens, prizes were \$100 for first place, \$75 for second and \$50 for third. For kids, first place was \$75, second \$50 and third \$25.

There were some amazing throwers competing. Top adults in mens and womens all cleared the track — throwing their snowsnakes all the way down the track and off the end. They competed in two sudden death contests. In the womens, the first sudden death was throwing blindfolded. Still with no top three

winner, they played a second sudden death throwing backwards.

In the mens, the first sudden death was using their opposite hand, and in the second sudden death, winners had to throw closest to 140 feet.

Winners of the 2023 Sault Tribe Language and Culture Snow Snake Competition were:

Elders – Women
1st Place – Jennifer Dale-Burton 187.1 Feet
2nd Place – Bernadette Shawanda 94.1 Feet
3rd Place – Cindra Moore 82.1 Feet

Elders – Men
1st Place – Justin Carrick Cleared Track
2nd Place – Bud Biron 87.9 Feet

3rd Place – Bill Morrison 37 Feet
Girls
1st Place – Lola Donmyer 133.4 Feet
2nd Place – Waasinode Kwezance 90.3 Feet
3rd Place – Poppy Solomon 66.5 Feet

Boys
1st Place – Gunner Donmyer 103 Feet
2nd Place – George Solomon 95.5 Feet
3rd Place – Flynn Healy 94.2 Feet

Teen Girls
1st Place – Ava Donmyer Cleared Track
2nd Place – Shaylah Elliott 214.6 Feet
3rd Place – Tammy Pachel 168.7 Feet

Teen Boys
1st Place – Allen Harmon 204.9 Feet

Womens
First sudden death blindfolded
Second sudden death backwards
1st Place – Kayla Assinewe Backwards Clear
2nd Place – Jackie Robinson 221.4 Feet Backwards
3rd Place – Kateri Menominee 220 Feet Blindfolded

Mens
First sudden death opposite hand
Second sudden death closest to 140 feet
1st Place – Noodin Shawanda 15.89 Feet Away
2nd Place – Robear Assinewe 17 Feet Away
3rd Place – Jesse Bowen 21.8 Feet Away



Community members showed up in force to play the game of snowsnake. Categories were children, teens, adults and elders. Friends and families had a great time before heading over to Niigaanagizhik for soup and hot drinks. Photos by Jennifer Dale-Burton



The very first contestant.



The Elder category.



Nikole Wynn and Jackie Robinson.



Larry and Kat Jacques and their son competed.



Anaangabii Stewart takes a shot in adults.



Bay Mills members made a great showing at the contest.



Kat Jacques throws.



Teens Ella Black and Callie Bouschor by the fire.



Children's category.



Robin Bouschor, her son and partner.



Jenny and her child Jay Johnson.



Adult women.



Children's category.



Teens category.



Children's category.



Oliver Collier in the children's category.



Children's category.



Teens category.



Teens category.



Jay Johnson in the Teens category.



Ella Black in the Teens category.

Kids treated to 'picky eaters' pizza making evening

Twelve families in the Sault Tribe Early Childhood Education Program rolled out their own pizza crust and made pizzas. Topping options included red, yellow and green peppers, mushrooms, tomatoes, basil, pineapple, ham and pepperoni for them to taste and put on

their pizzas. Community Health provided goodie bags with resources on picky eaters for the families that attended. This event was sponsored by the Special Diabetes Program for Indians grant. Photos by Family Service Coordinator Danielle L. Kaminski.



Karson with his mom and dad.



Bentley and his family.



Aria and her mom.



Grandpa and Jameson.



Natalie and her mom and grandma.



Lauren rolling pizza dough.

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Walking on...

SUSAN MARIE SMITH

Miss Susan Marie Smith, 59, formerly of Niles, Mich., daughter, sister, aunt, swimmer, singer, and proud Chippewa, died at 9:46 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 11, 2023, with her brother at her side at Saint Joseph Plymouth Medical Center in Plymouth, Ind., following a brief illness. Her family is grateful for the kind and compassionate care provided by the staff of Miller's Merry Manor in Culver.



She was born on the Fourth of July, 1963 at 10:14 p.m. — while the fireworks were exploding outside of Pawating Hospital in Niles — to John W. and Joann C. (Pomeroy) Smith. She began her education at the former Electric Light School of Niles Community Schools before transferring to the Blossomland Learning Center in Berrien Springs, Mich. She was also employed at Gateway Services in Berrien Springs.

Susan was an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She has always enjoyed singing, quickly learning and accurately — and often — reprising every song taught in school. Later, she became a fan of the late singer and songwriter known as John Denver from whom her favorite song was, "Take Me Home, Country Roads." She was also a fan of the television shows "Sesame Street" and "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood." She had a unique skill — shared with her mother — of completing jigsaw puzzles, being able to select a piece from the box and identify exactly where it fits in the big picture.

Her favorite pastime was swimming, often at the YMCA, but also in area lakes and ponds, and anywhere that had a suitable body of water. And whether swimming, singing, or solving puzzles, she always had a great smile.

She was sadly preceded in death by her beloved father, John Smith, who died too young in 1979 at only 40 years old.

Surviving family includes her mother, Joann C. Smith of St. Ignace, Mich.; Susan's siblings, Cheri Hartline of Dowagiac, Mich., Steven Smith of Centreville, Mich., and Rick (Marsie) Smith and Timothy (Maxine) Smith, both of Niles; and many nieces and nephews of several generations.

The Catholic Liturgy for Susan Smith was read on Feb. 16, 2023, at the Halbritter-Wickens Funeral Home, 615 East Main Street in Niles, by Deacon Roger Gregorski of Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish in Niles. Committal Rites followed at the Silverbrook Cemetery in Niles.

Online condolences may be left at: www.halbritterwickens.com.

Susan clearly loved life in a manner that very few of us can truly understand, enjoying the activities in which she participated, and offering a genuine smile

to everyone around her. That smile continues in our memory, and in that heaven in which Jesus said, "...belongs to such as... Susan."

OWEN Z. NOLAN

Owen Z. Nolan, 25 of Sault Ste Marie Mich., unexpectedly started his journey to the Spirit World on Feb. 21, 2023.



Owen was born Jan. 24, 1998, to Jennifer Hurlburt and Landon Nolan. Owen grew up in Sault Ste. Marie, where he enjoyed playing hockey, hanging out with friends and family, fishing, making people laugh, dancing, playing guitar, making music and spending time on Neebish Island where he felt free.

Owen earned his Native name Red Cloud at the Fall Fasting camp in 2015 where he then started to gain his FireKeepers Teaching. Owen watched many fires after this and he truly enjoyed learning and giving back to his culture. Owen attended Malcolm High School where he felt his teacher and classmates were family. Owen loved working on "the boat" dredging, when he would talk about working his face would light up and he was so proud of what he was doing and learning.

Owen is survived by his parents Landon and Tammy Nolan, Jennifer Hurlburt (Korey) and Gary Krull. Sisters Autumn and Haidyn Krull, Jocelyn Nolan and Kaylee (Krull) Beamish, grandparents Marlene Nolan, Carla Hurlburt (Tim), Lisa Hurlburt and Rick and Nancy Shields, great grandparents Sally Nolan and Wilma Vert. Aunts and Uncles Jamie Hurlburt (Chris Scott), Heather Hurlburt (Mick Marble), Kristy Cameron, Dorothy and Steven Wilson and Richard and Amanda Shields. Many cousins and close friends. Owen was loved by all who met him and will be greatly missed.

Owen is preceded in death by his Papa Jim Hulburt and Great Grandparents George Nolan, Ralph Vert and Kathy and Earl Hurlburt.

Traditional services were held for Owen at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building on Friday, Feb. 24 continuing through the night until the final ceremony on Saturday, Feb. 25. A feast was held there following the final ceremony.

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

SARAH NESSETH

Sarah Nesseth, 91, of Dafter, Mich. went to be with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Feb. 22, 2023.



Sarah was born on Feb. 11, 1932, to William and

Bessie Schwiderson, the fourth of fifteen brothers and sisters. She married Dennis Nesseth on Oct. 21, 1950, and they shared 69 years together. Sarah was a helpmate to Dennis through the years, helping him with building many homes for themselves and their children. Sarah loved all her family and had a way of making everyone feel so very special. With a gentle voice she conveyed to us the value of loving the Lord, family, and the simple beauty of life.

Sarah enjoyed playing board and card games, car rides to see the beautiful fall colors, collecting pretty dishes, and camping with a good campfire. There were many fishing trips where more often than not, she would out fish everyone. She was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Sarah is survived by her daughter-in-law Karen Nesseth; daughter Janice (Joe) Hadfield; son Gordon (Jennie) Nesseth; grandchildren Jessica (Oliver) Brewton, Erik (Jeni) Nesseth, Greg Postma, Amy Postma, Kevin (Jodie) Postma, Joy (Corey) Butcher, Joe Hadfield, Chris Hadfield, Luke (Erica) Nesseth, Rebekah (Lynn Paulson) Nesseth, Daniel (Callie Krzyzaniak) Nesseth, and Jacob (Holly) Nesseth; and great grandkids Natalie and Vanessa Brewton, Hannah and Sarah Nesseth, Wyatt Postma, Paige, Megan, and Kyle Postma, Anikah and Amelia Nesseth, and Brantley Heath. She is also survived by eight siblings: Pearl Maniaci, Albert (Kathy) Schwiderson, Jeanette Compo, Emory (Judy) Schwiderson, Kay (Mike) McCarthy, Les (Linda) Schwiderson, Bill (Laurie) Schwiderson, and Melvin Schwiderson; and a sister-in-law Shirley Schwiderson.

Sarah was preceded in death by her husband, Dennis Nesseth; a son, Lawrence Nesseth; a son-in-law, Dale Postma; six siblings, Frank Schwiderson, Helen (Ernie) Coullard, John Schwiderson, Leota (Ray) Campbell, Bessie (Harry) Krata, and David Schwiderson; two brothers-in-law Chuck Maniaci and Bill Compo; and a sister-in-law, Mary Schwiderson.

A celebration of Sarah's life is being planned for later this summer. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

MONICA MARIE ANGULO

Monica Marie Angulo, 91, passed away on Feb. 20, 2023. She was born on July 14, 1931, the daughter of Lawrence R. Thorne and Alma M. Kinney in Sault Ste Marie, Mich.



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

Monica moved to Phoenix, Ariz. to marry Fred G. Angulo.

She is survived by her sister, Dolores Blanchard (Dan-d) of Norfolk, Virg., Donald (Pat) of Hendersonville, Tenn., Robert

(Peg) of Mobile, Alab., and Victor (Karen) of Phoenix. Her daughter Brenda (John-d) of Peoria, son Bruce (Cathrine) of Glendale, Don (Suzanne) of Phoenix, Patti (Pat) of Happy Jack, Ariz., Fred and Mark(d) of Phoenix. She is preceded in death by brothers Lawrence, Lou (Bev) and Jim (Jean-d). Many loving grandchildren and great-grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews.

Monica was a loving and caring person. She worked at local elementary schools as a cafeteria manager.

A memorial aervice was held on Thursday, March 9, 2023, at the Able Funeral Services Chapel, in Phoenix, Ariz.

PHILMA DORA LEAZIER

Philma Dora (Knoodle) Woodford Mattox Leazier, 96, of St. Ignace, Mich., died at Evergreen Living Center on Dec. 25, 2022. She was born in St. Ignace on March 29, 1926, to Patrick L. Knoodle and Lucille Moscoe Ance.



Philma was born at the Moses Shedowin Home in St. Ignace, which was her cousin's (Charley Shedowin and sister's). She was a Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians tribal elder. She was born during the March northwind storm and was given her Native name, "Kewadin," meaning big north wind as a result. She grew up in a tar paper shack, not far from the courthouse in St. Ignace. The house had no running water, electricity, or plumbing. As a young girl, she hauled pails of water from the neighbor's hand pump well. They had a wood stove for heat, and she would go out to collect wood as well. Electricity was hooked up with one light bulb over hanging the main room that a family friend of her mother, installed for the family when she was about 12. Indoor plumbing came much later in her life.

Philma attended school in Newberry, Mich., as well as the Holy Child Childhood School for Native children in Harbor Springs, Michigan. Later, she went to Convent Catholic School in St. Ignace, until the 11th grade and then the NYA School in Ironwood, Mich., to become a welder. During WWII, Philma worked as a welder on Navy ships in Sturgeon Bay, Wisconsin, and then later worked in a munitions plant in Baraboo, Wisc., with nitro cellulose based propellants that were used in WWII.

She worked in many local restaurants, bars, and manufacturing plants in the St. Ignace area and Green Bay, Wisconsin, over the years. She worked as a ticket seller for Star Line and Arnold Line ferry boats. She also sold Avon and was the top seller and president's club honoree for sales, she worked for over 40 years with the company. In the 1990's, she was a hospice volunteer sitter and worked on the election board for years.

She had five children with her first husband, Raymond Woodford; Irene, Bonnie, Patrick, Michael and Dale. She remarried and had three more children with her second husband, Glenn Mattox Sr.; Lindy, Glenn Jr., and Paul. She did not have any more children with her third husband, Clyde Leazier, but he had two sons from his previous marriage, Duane and Eddy.

Philma was a member of the Women of the Moose Lodge since 1982 and was one of the "Church Ladies" as they were known in town who said the rosary before each mass that was scheduled. She was a member of the St. Anne's Altar Society and was certified for the Children's Catholicism Ministry Program. She was one of the prayer chain warriors for the Catholic Church.

Philma was a Breast Cancer Survivor from 2004. She always found time and energy for all of her children and grandchildren, especially seeing to it that they were baptized, participated in Sacrament of Penance, first Holy communion, and confirmation. She was a devout Catholic. She always had a smile and laughter to share.

She lived life to the fullest and loved to party, travel, and put puzzles together with her grandchildren and great grandchildren; she'd watch and cheered the Green Bay Packers with a cold beer, and a shot of Brandy.

She also made countless, beautiful Afghans that kept everyone in her family warm. Those who knew her well as a resident at Evergreen Living Center, laughed each time and she would sing "Hamtramck Mama" by The York Brothers for everyone. Her go-to phrase to say was, "The first 100 years are the worst, after that it is clear sliding."

Philma is preceded in death by her parents; brother, Bernard Knoodle, who passed at the age of 9; sons, Paul William Mattox, who passed at 6 months old, and Glenn Louis Mattox Jr., who died at the age 17 due to a hit-and-run accident; and sons-in-law, Allen R. Green, and Gerald N. Horn.

Philma is survived by her six children and their families; Daughters, Irene M. Horn, Bonnie L. Culfa, and Lindy (Kevin) McNamara; sons, Patrick G. (Peggy) Woodford, Michael L. (Rose) Woodford, and Dale R. Woodford; grandchildren, Jerry, Gary (Susan), Archie, Kevin (Stacy), and Tom (Tracy) Horn, Theresa, Michelle, Raymond Woodford, Nicole (Kevin) Turley, Samantha Green, Sara (Ted) Olson, and Glenda (Blake) Loebach, and Allen Green Jr., Joseph J. III (Brandy) Culfa, and David Culfa; and many beloved great grandchildren and great great grandchildren.

A mass of christian burial will be held at St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church in St. Ignace, on March 29, 2023, at 11 a.m. with a tribal gathering and luncheon to follow at the Sault Tribe Elder Meals Program, 399 McCann Street, St. Ignace, MI, 49781.

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

See "Walking on," page 18

Walking on continued...

From "Walking on," page 17
GEORGE MARSHALL
"MIKE" JORDAN, JR.

George Marshall (Mike) Jordan, Jr. was born in the family home on Judson Street, in Pontiac, Mich. on April 2, 1927. He walked on to meet his predeceased mother, Emily E. (Morrow), father, George Marshall, brothers Richard, and William, and grandson, Ryan Grinnell. He died peacefully at home on Sunday, March 5, 2023 with his wife, Roberta, by his side.

Mike grew up in Lake Orion, Mich.. He attended grade school in Lake Orion, and high school at Assumption College High School in Windsor, Ont. and St. Michael's High School in Pontiac.. He received his high school diploma in absentia while he was serving in the U.S. Navy. Mike held Honorable discharges from both the U.S. Army Air Corps, and the U.S. Navy. He served as a landing craft operator in the Philippine Islands at the time of his discharge. He married his high school girlfriend, Roberta M. Ohngren, on Feb. 12, 1949, while attending Michigan State College.

He is survived by his wife Roberta and their children, Michael R. Jordan, M.D. (Caryl Bjorseth, M.D.) of Macedon, NY; Sue Jordan (Marty) Smith of Canton, Mich.; Shelley Jordan (Sam) Ecker of Avon, Colo.; Kathleen A. (Jack) Loynes of Onekama, Mich.; A. Jane (Tim) Dijak of Saginaw, Mich. In addition to his five children, he has 15 grandchildren: Larissa, Mark, Andrew and Allison Jordan; Marty and Kevin Smith, Erin (Chris) Pell; Jordan Grinnell, Kara (Chris) Akers; James (Crystal) Mulholland, Kelly (Alex) Ward; Mary and Matt Dijak, Claire (Shaughn) Handley; 12 great grandchildren, and 1 great-great grandchild.

Mike graduated from Michigan State College with a bachelor of science degree in 1951, and briefly attended Wayne State Law School. He worked for Federal Life & Casualty Co, Equitable Life, and owned and operated a small grocery and party store in Clare, Mich., before becoming associated with Michigan Bell Telephone Co., in 1955. He retired from Michigan Bell Ameritech in 1985 on his 30th service anniversary date. Mike was outstate operations manager for Michigan Bell's Information Systems Dept. when he retired.

He and Roberta moved to Rogers City, Mich. upon retirement and spent his winters in St. Augustine, Fla. for many years. He enjoyed his family and was an avid fisherman, hunter, and was always ready for a game of golf.

Mike was involved with the Presque Isle Economic Development Corp, and served on the board of directors for Rogers City Country Club. He was a life member of the BPOE, and elder in the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of



Chippewa Indians, and a member of the Roman Catholic Church, St. Dominic's Parish, Saginaw, Mich., and St. Ignatius Parish, Rogers City.

Many thanks of appreciation go out to the dedicated caregivers and staff of Wellspring Assisted Living, Saginaw, and Wellspring Hospice.

Honoring Mr. Jordan's wishes, cremation has taken place. Funeral Liturgy took place at 11 a.m. Monday, March 13, 2023, at St. Dominic Parish, St. Stephen Catholic Church, in Saginaw. Rev. Fr. Steven Gavit officiated, with military honors conducted by American Legion Post #439. Entombment of cremains took place in the Great Lake National Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations in his memory can be made to St. Dominic Parish or St. Ignatius Catholic Church in Rogers City.

CHARLES M. GARRETT

Celebration of life Services for Mr. Charles M. Garrett, 76, of Henderson, Texas were held on Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023, at Crawford-A. Crim Funeral Home chapel with Rev. Eldon Warren officiating.

Mr. Garrett passed from this life on Friday, Dec. 30, 2022, in Little Rock, Ark. He was born on May 19, 1946, in Muskegon, Mich. to the late Charles F. and Philomena Irene Garrett.

"Chuckie," as he was known, served in the U.S. Army Special Forces during the Vietnam conflict from 1967-1969. He graduated from chef school, worked as a painter, and contracted work as a commercial fisherman in the Gulf.

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

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son Mikele Charles Garrett; sister Charlotte Garrett; and granddaughter Crystal Garrett.

Survivors include: sons Craig Garrett, and James Franklin Garrett, both of North Port, Fla., and Chad Edwin Garrett; two granddaughters, Krissi Garrett Vuocolo and husband Michael of Jackson, Mich., and Stacey Garrett of Whitmore Lake, Mich.; four great-grandchildren, Ashton and Aiden Garrett, and Garrett and Grace Vuocolo; sisters, Suzanne Dastous and husband Frank of Henderson, Janie Karacson of Marquette, Mich., and Lisse Anjel Garrett of Omaha, Neb.; niece Kris Ferro of Ohio, and nephews, Jimmy Karacson of Marquette, Jacob Dastous and Frankie Dastous, both of Tyler; and numerous cousins.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301, or to the Henderson Texas Animal Center, 1201 Highland Dr., Henderson, TX 75652.

Words of comfort may be shared with the family at www.crawfordacrim.com.

WILMA CLEO CAIRNS

Wilma Cleo Cairns, 84, of Sugar Island, Mich., passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2022, at My Michigan Medical Center – Sault.

Wilma was born on Nov. 30, 1937, to Joseph and Bernice (McCoy) Leask in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. On Sept. 3, 1954, she married John V. Cairns at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church.

Wilma was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Sugar Island Historical Society. She was a eucharistic minister at Sacred Heart Catholic Church on Sugar Island and was the former treasurer of Sugar Island Township. Wilma enjoyed playing cribbage and spending time with her grandchildren. She enjoyed knitting, puzzles, and going to the casino to play the slots.

Wilma is survived by her children Daniel (Kathy) Cairns and Christopher Cairns both of Sugar Island, Mich.; and Timothy Cairns, Jeffrey (Kim) Cairns, and Tina Fox all of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; eight grandchildren Shelby Fox, Dylan Fox, Derek Cairns, Jayson (Kaylynn) Cairns, Justin Cairns, Jenna (RJ) Vandermate, Keane Cairns, and Stephanie Rogers; 10 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren. Also surviving Wilma is her sister Gayle (Darrell) Belleau of Sugar Island, Mich.; two sisters-in-law Donna (Leo) Leask and Donna (Gordon) Leask; a brother-in-law Elmo (Carol) Smith; as well as many loving nieces and nephews.

Wilma was preceded in death by her husband, John; three



brothers, Ted, Leo "Tuff", and Gordon Leask; her four sisters, Lorraine Rutledge, Joyce McCoy, Carol Smith, and Linda Leask; and a son-in-law Mike Fox.

A visitation was held Nov. 28, 2022, at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home followed by a funeral mass on Nov. 29, 2022, at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Burial will be at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left, in Wilma's name, to a charity of your choice.

JESSIE QUINCY (HAMEL)

Jessie passed away peacefully on Jan. 26, 2023 in Spokane, Wash. with daughters Diane and Pam, and son-in-law Jeff by her side. Jessie leaves

a legacy of service, fun and positive impact through her vibrant and long lifetime of engaging with family, friends, work and volunteering.

Jessie was born in Cedarville, Clark Township, Mich., to Guy and Nellie Hamel. After high school there, she worked for the phone company in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. There she met Dale Quincy, a charismatic and handsome eastern Washington man during his Coast Guard duty. They married and moved first to Lorain, Ohio, and then to Spokane soon after.

Jessie and Dale had a thriving circle and loved to host memorable gatherings. They were successful small business owners of School Products, Inc. until we unexpectedly lost Dale over 30 years ago.

Jessie navigated early widow-



hood with grit and determination, and eventually created a wonderful and long next chapter of life. She devoted many years and volunteer hours to various organizations.

Jessie took up aerobics, learned to golf and developed an avid pursuit of travel. Her garage served as a travelogue of posters and maps reminding her of the many adventures she had. She returned to the U.P. and the Les Cheneaux region during summer for many, many years after moving out west, and enjoyed catching up with family and friends. She especially enjoyed being in Cedarville for the 4th of July celebration activities.

She continued convening people for various gatherings, hosting dinners, driving friends to events, and being of service. And she loved, loved sports, and was an avid fan of the Gonzaga University Bulldogs basketball team. (The Detroit Tigers and various Michigan teams always had a place in her heart too).

Jessie is survived by daughters Diane Quincy, Spokane; Pam Quincy (Jeff Snyder) Netarts of Oregon; sister-in-law Judy Hamel, Cedarville; brother Roger Hamel, Rogers City, Mich., along with nieces, nephews and extended family.

She was preceded in death by parents Guy and Nellie Hamel, husband Dale Quincy, brothers Kent and Arnie Hamel, and sister Hope Hill.

Arrangements, including a memorial gathering on March 18 in Spokane, are being handled by Heritage Funeral Home, in Spokane. Condolence messages can be left at www.heritagefunerals.com/Obituaries.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Les Cheneaux Community Library or the Les Cheneaux Historical Association, both in Cedarville, Mich.

TRIBAL MEMBER REGISTRATION IN THE TAX AGREEMENT AREA

TRIBAL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

(Including the Issuance of Certificates of Exemptions)

INITIAL REGISTRATION AND OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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

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

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

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTIONS

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

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

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

Sawyer serves as student ambassador for University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Elle Sawyer is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians from Cheboygan, Mich. She graduated from Cheboygan Area High School in 2015, and is currently living in Savoy, Ill., where she is pursuing a master's degree at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC).

Sawyer said she has always been proud of her Indigenous background. "In early college I struggled with this part of my identity because I sometimes didn't feel 'Native enough' when around other Native students at Central Michigan University (CMU). I regained my confidence and my involvement with Native and diversity programs flourished. I'm still growing and learning about my culture every day," she said.

She is currently working at the UIUC Native American House (NAH) as a student ambassador and is involved with various other activities on campus.

Sawyer received her bachelor of science degree from CMU in 2020, where she double majored in biology and philosophy. She is now a graduate student in the Program of Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation (PEEC), studying animal behavior. After finishing her master's degree, Sawyer



Elle Sawyer graduated from Central Michigan University in 2020 with a double major.

plans to attend law school to study environmental and federal Indian law.

With a science background, Sawyer said she was interested in how she could apply what she has learned as an ecologist to environmental law. "Environmental concerns impact Indigenous groups all over the world," she said, "Including our tribe."

Sawyer said she has enjoyed working at the NAH. "I've made so many friends and I've learned so much about the history of tribes in this state. Coming from Michigan where we have so many federally recognized tribes, I was shocked to learn that

Illinois had none. UIUC is also a land grant university. As an NAH ambassador I help plan events such as beading workshops, social events, potlucks, Native American Heritage Month events, and a speaker series with Native scholars," she said.

She also helped to plan a congratulatory event in 2022, celebrating Native students graduating from the university. "I created a book club where we read and discuss work from Native authors and also work collectively on projects such as an 'Eco-Cultural Tour,' where we've envisioned a new tour of campus for incoming Native students that highlights spots of interest on campus such as the NAH, the tree for Indigenous Peoples Day that was planted in 2018, and Wassaja Hall (a dorm named after UIUC's first Native graduate)," she said.

"There is an endless list of things I could say about the NAH and the Native faculty and students I've met from being involved there. I have never felt judgment in this space and it has truly given me a home away from home," she said.

Sawyer is undecided where she would like to attend law school, but said she plans to live in Michigan after graduation. "I'm not exactly sure on the type of law I will pursue. On one hand



I am interested in public interest. As the climate and environment continues to change, tribal nations and Indigenous peoples will be impacted greatly. It would be amazing to incorporate my science background of ecology and conservation, and my interest in working with tribes. It is important to ensure tribal sovereignty and tribal rights as our world continues to be altered in the face of the changing climate," she said.

"Alternatively, I am also interested in intellectual property law and cultural property law. With this route I could envision myself protecting the rights of not only intellectual property, but cultural property and cultural knowledge. Cultural property (for example art or artistic designs) has continued to be co-opted and appropriated. I'd like to be an advocate for Native people in some capacity or another."

Anishinaabe culture is empowering for prevention

BY PATRICK MCCOY, TAP COORDINATOR

Aanii, Boozhoo, Indinawemaaganidog.

Our culture is prevention and there are many aspects of culture to learn. Knowing your identity through the clan system is empowering and can and will give your life new direction, as many of our members are finding out, its inspiring.

Each clan had its given traditional roles and responsibilities. Learning about who you are is part of our belief system, becoming who we are through our names our clan systems can add

so much to our lives. We are born into our dodem, which, for the Anishinaabeg, comes from our father's side of the family. If you are born of a non-Anishinaabe father, you could be adopted into the community through a willing adoptive clan, like the Waabzheshii (Marten), Miigiizhi (Eagle), or Maiingun (Wolf) dodem.

The clan system operated as a form of government, a way of organizing work and defining the responsibilities of each community member. Working together, the clans attended to the physical, intellectual, psychological, and

spiritual needs of the community. Each was known by its dodem. They all had their place in the lodge within the healing circle. Our people knew that when the spiritual malady was overcome, the mental and physical would follow.

Also, it's very important to realize that ceremonies were outlawed and people were punished for practicing our original ways. That's why many of our elders didn't know or were reluctant to teach the ones they loved in fear an ill fate would fall on them. Today, many are reclaiming their identity and finding healing from

addiction, PTSD, and intergenerational trauma. They are discovering a new form of resiliency. Although there are many forms of recovery and we can find recovery in many things like exercise, different forms of meditation, mental health counseling, and peer support, attending ceremonies in any form can be a part of your own repatriation of personal identity.

Many of our people that are grounded in Christianity and that is another road to healing and wellness. Many have asked, "Can the two be mixed" and many say they can't, although many of

our people have learned to separate them while attending each individual spiritual ceremonial process. Today, we learn to look at the big picture and allow others to find their own personal path to healing and support it even if it's not the way we follow ourselves. We are developing through life's continued education, so our people have learned and are learning to keep an open mind and question with a conceptual thought process something that is innate in one hand, and in another being educated into them.

Recovery for everyone is a process. Niigotchigo.

Improve your listening skills with "active listening"

Whether you are trying to communicate with your children, your parents or your co-workers, active listening is a valuable skill to learn. Active listening is about being present in the conversation and focusing on what the person is saying, and not on how we intend to respond when they finish speaking.

The guide below about active listening from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) can help you learn how to become an active listener. To learn more about active listening in different situations, such as a parent, a caretaker, or a leader, go to [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) and search "active listening."

Be Patient

Don't expect someone who you have never met to share a sensitive story without getting some assurance that you have their best interests in mind.

- Don't look at your watch while someone is talking.
- Don't rush or push people to "get to the point."
- If the speaker is having a hard time formulating their thoughts, be prepared with open-ended or probing questions.

Let Them Lead

Avoid mentally preparing a response while the speaker is talking. Even if you have the best intentions, you may end up steering the conversation.

— Even if you have relevant information to share, try not to interrupt the speaker.

— Share information after you've built rapport/trust AND the speaker has completed his/her thoughts.

The Power of Paraphrasing

When someone shares a challenge they have undergone, you

may feel compelled to offer solutions. But offering solutions can come off as dismissive. Paraphrasing is the simple but powerful art of translating situations into the resulting feeling or experience.

Ask Questions

Once the speaker has completed his/her thought, ask open-ended questions to encourage the speaker to provide full and meaningful responses.

The Gift of Silence

Resist the urge to fill the silence with banter, ideas, explanations, or even information. When sharing on difficult topics, people may need a moment to gather themselves or reflect. Give them that space.

— Nod or shake your head to show you heard them.

— Empathize with a brief comment (see Power of Paraphrasing above).

Your Body Language

Though active listening requires you to remain mostly silent, you can demonstrate that you are actively engaged through basic gestures.

— Make eye contact throughout the conversation.

— Nod in understanding.

— Shake your head in empathy.

— Lean in toward the speaker.

Read the Speaker's Body Language

Pay attention to the speaker's non-verbal cues to gauge whether you have "outstayed your welcome" or if perhaps it is not a good time for them to be sharing or maybe they are just uncomfortable sharing altogether.

Show Empathy

Put yourself in the speaker's shoes to help you understand things from their perspective. Show that

you acknowledge their emotions and opinions by validating how they feel. Use phrases like "This must be very difficult for you" or "What I hear you saying is..." or "I really appreciate you sharing this with me."

Remote Engagement

"Demonstrating" listening is much more difficult remotely. However, if you must engage remotely, try to encourage the use of video when at all possible. Show your commitment by using video even if the person speaking chooses not to.

— Make it obvious that you aren't typing or checking emails by making your hands visible.

— If possible, find a space in your home or office where nobody will walk behind you. Seeing others walk by can make them feel exposed.

Team members honored at Sault Tribe Health Center



Community Health Program Manager Marlene Glaesmann was selected as the Sault Tribe Health Division Team Member of the Year. Presenting her with her award is Health Division Director Dr. Leo Chugunov.



Sault Tribe Health Center Appointment Programmer Clerk Tia Radle is January's Team Member of the Month for the Sault Tribe Health Division. Presenting her with her award is Health Division Director Dr. Leo Chugunov.

University student donates bone marrow to help baby

BY SCOTT BRAND

A Florida baby has a new chance at a healthy infancy thanks to a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

“He has a complete replication of my immune system,” explained Madelyn (Maddy) Yarema upon returning from her mission to the H. Lee Moffit Cancer and Research Institute in Tampa, Florida. “It took about 15 minutes to harvest the bone marrow.”

Maddy, a sophomore at Wayne State University, is studying pre-med neuro-science with the ultimate goal of becoming, in layman’s terms, a kids’ cancer doctor. A path that seemed to take shape a decade ago when her younger brother, DJ, was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia before undergoing more than three years of che-



Madelyn Yarema

motherapy and hospitalizations while making his recovery.

“I saw a lot of sick little kids, unfortunately,” recalled Maddy.

“She knows firsthand the impact to families and the tolls it can take,” explained Maddy’s father, Dennis. “To many people, this could be seen as a setback

but to her she looked at it as a teaching moment.”

Inspired to help, Maddy visited the website — www.BeTheMatch.org — filled out the necessary information and returned the oral swab to the organization for analysis. It was that effort, which she performed when she enrolled at Wayne State, that connected her with a baby in need of bone marrow.

“As a Native American, her blood type is one the rarer ones to match to,” said Dennis.

The match was confirmed in late 2022, setting in motion one of the most unusual winter breaks for a college student. Instead of heading to Daytona Beach to party with friends, or sunning herself on a tropical beach, Maddy and her mom, Rita, flew to Tampa where she spent a couple days preparing

and recovering from the procedure.

“The way the bone marrow is extracted is through a procedure, under anesthesia, where doctors go in through the lower back with a small drill into the hip/pelvic region and extract some of the donor’s healthy bone marrow,” Dennis detailed. “The marrow is then taken immediately to the hospital where the recipient is located (think organ transplant) and then transplanted into their system.”

“There was some lower back pain, that was about it,” said Maddy estimating it took her “about a week to be as good as new.”

Maddy is currently benched from the BeTheMatch list to

make sure she is available should the baby need any additional donations in the coming months. She calculated it would take about a year before she would be added back onto the active donor rolls.

“It’s a great experience,” said Maddy.

“We’re very proud of Maddy in all that she has accomplished at such a young age,” concluded Dennis. “She is very proud of her Sault heritage and knowing that her ancestors stand beside her in the choices she makes and the accomplishments she achieves.”

Maddy’s mother is Rita (Bezzina) Yarema who grew up downstate and her grandmother is Helena Persyn.

Danielle Lovin makes dean’s list, graduates with nursing degree

Danielle Lovin of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. has been included on the dean’s list for the fall 2022 semester at Lake Superior State University (LSSU) completing her bachelor of science in nursing and graduating in December. This is her second degree having previously graduated from Grand Valley State University in a related field in 2016.

Danielle is the daughter of Robert and Theresa (deceased) Lovin of Sault Ste. Marie.

Throughout her second school career, Danielle worked at various health offices through War Memorial Hospital and has continued to work there after earning her degree.

She is a second-generation graduate of LSSU, her mother earned a nursing degree in 1993.

Danielle is a member of the Sault Tribe.



Danielle Lovin graduates with nursing degree from Lake Superior State University while working at War Memorial Hospital.



Sault Tribe member Cody Reed and his wife Kayla announce the birth of their son Harrison James Reed on Feb. 25, 2023. Harrison was born at War Memorial Hospital, weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches in length. Harrison was born during the Mko Giizis (bear moon), and we call him Makoons (little bear). Grandparents are tribal member Robert and Eve Reed and Ken Weber and Kathrine Frazier.

Environmental outreach at Dan's Resort during Munuscong Minute Ice Fishing Tournament

BY HADLEY REED, ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

The last weekend in February, anglers from across the state flooded into Dan's Resort in Pickford for the annual Munuscong Minute Ice Fishing Tournament. This year marks the fifth year of the tournament and the third year that Sault Tribe's Environmental

Department has attended.

While at the tournament, Environmental Department staff spoke with anglers about invasive species and assisted in recording data on fish caught by tournament participants. This year, the most talked about species was the sea lamprey, as one of the tournament's largest fish had a fresh lamprey

scar on its underside. Although many anglers already knew about sea lamprey and its effect on the environment, they were surprised to learn how big sea lamprey can get. Two sea lamprey models the Environmental Department staff brought with them measured 18 inches from nose to tail, which to the surprise of many anglers, is

slightly smaller than the average length of a full-grown sea lamprey!

Anglers were also surprised to learn that many invasive species still spread during the winter, including species used for bait, such as Eurasian ruffe and round goby, or that microscopic plankton can cling to fishing lines in

the winter. All these invasive species can be prevented from spreading by thoroughly cleaning fishing gear and disposing of unused bait in the trash after fishing.

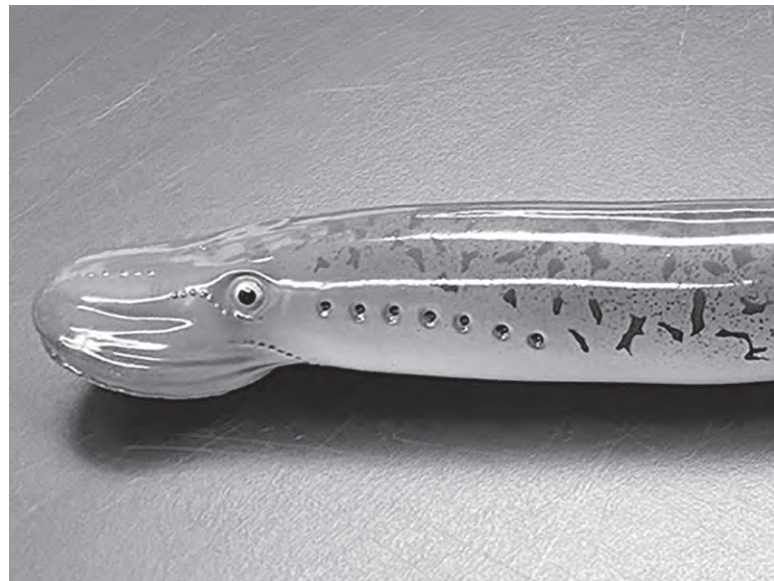
For any questions or concerns regarding invasive species, please call the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575.



Booth set up at Dan's Resort the last weekend in February.



Fresh lamprey mark on a walleye



One of Environmental's lamprey models they take to outreach events.

CORA registration

Cora Registration Process

- No walk-in appointments;
- Must call the CORA office at (906) 632-0043 and ask to speak to Deanna Bowen or Beverly Carrick to schedule an appointment;
- Appointment times are 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.;

For New Registrations

- Must bring current commercial or subsistence fishing card so a copy can be made;
- Must bring proof of ownership such as a previous state registration which has your name as the owner or signed on the back as a purchaser which must have both you as the buyer and the sellers signatures and addresses; or provide a bill of sale which must include on it for VESSEL — the hull ID number, hull material, length, type [open or cabin] and any previous CORA or state registration number and signature of the seller and buyer and for SNOWMOBILE — the year, make and serial and/or model number and the previous CORA or state registration number and signature of the seller and buyer; or for both can have a title or U.S. Coast Guard documentation paperwork for vessel. Without documentation, no registration will be issued.

For Renewals


- Must supply CORA registration number you are renewing. An appointment will not be made until the registration number is provided;
- Must bring current commercial or subsistence fishing card so a copy can be made.

Transfer of CORA registration

- If you are transferring a CORA registration on a vessel or snowmobile you have purchased from a CORA member tribe commercial or subsistence fisherman and the CORA registration is still on the vessel or snowmobile, you must provide a bill of sale with the information as listed under 4b above in order to transfer the CORA registration in your name;
- Must bring current commercial or subsistence fishing card so a copy can be made;

Reminder

- CORA registrations are for Great Lakes treaty fishing rights, not inland treaty fishing rights.
- Only vessels and snowmobiles are eligible for registration. Vessels do NOT include kayaks, canoes, ferry boats or pontoons.
- Any vessel used for commercial fishing that includes skiffs or tow behinds, no matter the length or whether or not it has a motor, must be registered.
- Any vessel used for subsistence fishing that is 12-foot and under with no motor, does not require a CORA registration, unless, your individual Tribal Fishing Code requires registration.



Bagida'waadaa! (Let's set a net!)

Setting Nets for Giigoonsag (Smelt)

AANAPII/AANDI (WHEN/WHERE)


Wednesday, April 5
7:00pm-11:00pm
at Bark Dock Parking Lot
(Just west of Roxbury
Creek on Curly Lewis)

JOIN US!

Learn to set, pull nets and pick nets. Dinner, warm drinks, bonfire and waders will be provided. Must have tribal harvest card to set nets but all are welcome to learn. Dress warm and expect to get a little dirty!

QUESTIONS?

Contact Kat at kjacques@bmcc.edu or (906) 322-1864. Please note this is a tentative date based on weather. Feel free to reach out to be on a reminder or change of date call list.



Little River Band, Adelitas Way coming to Kewadin!

Little River Band at Kewadin St. Ignace May 26

Kewadin Casino St. Ignace is excited to bring the Little River Band to the Event Center on Friday, May 26.

Kicking off Kewadin Casino St. Ignace's 35th anniversary, LRB is coming with more than 40 years of multi-platinum albums and chart-topping hits like Reminiscing, Cool Change, Lonesome Loser, The Night Owls, Take It Easy On Me, Help Is On Its Way, Happy Anniversary, We Two, Man On Your Mind, The Other Guy and It's A Long Way There.

Bassist/vocalist Wayne Nelson joined the band in 1980, and worked alongside founding members with some of the most distinctive harmonies and vocal abilities, creating the unique LRB sound.

Now, in 2022, Nelson is the longest standing member of Little River Band. Other LRB members include Chris Marion: Keyboards/Vocals, Bruce Wallace: Guitar/Vocals, Ryan Ricks: Drums/Percussion/Vocals, and Colin Whinnery: Guitar/Lead Vocals.

Dubbed "the best singing band in the world" by The Eagles founding member, the late Glenn Frey, and Kewadin audiences know why!

The last time LRB rocked a Kewadin stage it was to a sold-out audience, so get your tickets fast.

Tickets to see "the best singing band in the world" are available at tickets.kewadin.com, the Box Office or at Kewadin Casino St. Ignace.

May 26, 2023

Doors: 7 p.m. / Show: 8 p.m.

Tickets start at \$50.

Adelitas Way at Kewadin Sault May 18

Allstar Promotions is excited to bring back Adelitas Way to Kewadin Casinos DreamMakers Theater on Thursday, May 18, 2023!

Joining Adelitas Way on this stop are special guests Otherwise, Moon Fever and Above Snakes!

Tickets are on sale now: tickets.kewadin.com, The Box Office, 1-800-KEWADIN

Doors: 6 p.m. / Show: 7 p.m.

Tickets start at \$20.



Agreement with tribal college aims to increase ranks of dental assistants in northern Michigan NORTHWESTERN TO INTRODUCE PROGRAM IN U.P. APRIL 17

TRAVERSE CITY — Northwestern Michigan College has formally partnered with Bay Mills Community College in an effort to increase the number of dental assistants serving northern Michigan, and Native American patients in particular.

In February, NMC and BMCC, a tribally-controlled Upper Peninsula community college in Brimley, Mich., signed an articulation agreement that will allow Bay Mills students to transfer to NMC's dental assistant program after their first year. NMC's yearlong dental assistant curriculum allows them to sit for the state exam to become a registered dental assistant (RDA). NMC Dental Assistant Director Beckie Wooters will make a recruiting visit to BMCC on April 17.

Ability to earn RDA licensure is a key advantage of NMC's program, the furthest north among six accredited dental assistant programs in Michigan. NMC has an outstanding pass rate history, exceeding the state of Michigan's average in both the clinical and written portion of the exams. Since 2019, at least 96 percent of NMC graduates have passed the clinical portion.

"With a registered dental assistant, a dentist can see about 60 percent more patients. They can do more clinical procedures under the dentist's supervision," said Dr. Jessica Rickert, a now-retired Traverse City area dentist who hired NMC gradu-

ates in her practice.

Rickert is also the first female Native American dentist in the United States, and remains the only one in Michigan. She now consults with insurer Delta Dental of Michigan and leads Anishinaabe Dental Outreach, whose goal is to improve dental health in Native communities. She saw an opportunity to connect NMC and BMCC to better serve the Upper Peninsula, where the shortage of dental professionals is especially acute.

"The scarcity of timely dental care is causing serious hardship," Rickert said of the U.P. "They have a wonderful program at NMC. Dental assisting is such a great career, and it's really fulfilling and it's necessary. Let's make this happen."

"Our communities need more dental professionals of any kind. This seems like a really good fit," agreed Diana McKenzie, dean of science and allied health at BMCC, which enrolls about 600 students. About 62 percent are Native American. Among more than 315,000 dental assistants nationwide, Rickert said only 0.7% are American Indian or Alaska Native.

Natalia Chugunov, chair of the BMCC Science Department, said she hopes the partnership can benefit tribal health centers, too.

"We try to help both the community, our college and our students," she said.

Wooters said the agreement is another way to boost enrollment.

NMC's dental assistant program currently has 13 students, and can accommodate 24. Need is great in the lower peninsula as well, she said.

"We're not filling the needs for all of the jobs," Wooters said.

NMC recently invested \$52,000 in new equipment for the dental assistant program. It has six fully-functioning patient rooms and some of the latest technology, including an intra-oral scanner.

"After earning their asso-

ciate degree and passing the RDA exam, a dental assistant can expect to begin their career making between \$18 and \$25 per hour," Wooters said. A typical work week is only four days, offering flexibility. Job settings include general practice dental offices, pediatric offices, oral surgery and other specialty offices, dental labs and more.

The program has been designed with student convenience in mind. BMCC students can take their first year of gener-

al education requirements entirely online. The second year of in-person dental assistant classes is scheduled in a Tuesday-Thursday block, allowing students to spend most of their week back home in the U.P., if necessary. On-campus housing is also available at NMC.

Rickert said the Michigan Dental Association, the American Dental Association and other sources offer scholarships to students of color.

Y.E.A. UNIT 2 SPRING BREAK CAMP MARCH 27-28

**Pick Up: 9:30ish
Drop Off: 4:30ish**

GRADES 2ND & UP

**Mary Murray Culture Camp
on Sugar Island**

Join kids from different Units in welcoming the new season! Learn about sugar bush, traditional Anishinaabe activities, games & crafts.

****Ask us about our transportation****

**To register:
(906)-484-2298
Kwindsor@saulttribe.net**




Professional outside firm should run elections



ROBERT MCRORIE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Aaniin, Boozhoo, to all of my fellow Sault Tribe members. I hope my report finds you and your family well in both health and spirit. In this month's report, I will provide some follow-up content pertaining to issues I discussed in my last report. I will also give a brief overview of the issues I have been focusing on this month, as well as some current events happening within our sovereign nation's government.

Last month, I reported that the Food Sovereignty Committee Members would be announced at the Feb. 7 board of director's meeting. I am very pleased to announce the members who were chosen to serve our tribe in this capacity. Please join me in congratulating the following inaugural

Sault Tribe Food Sovereignty Committee members: Jonathan Biron, Charlee Brissette, Monica Cady, Jennifer Dale-Burton, Dani Fegan, Casey Hinkson, Larry Jacques, Katy Mattson, Amy McCoy, Colleen Medicine, Martin Reinhardt, and Marie Richards. Each of these committee members possess a unique skill-set that will bring our Sovereign Nation closer to self-sustainability through the Food Sovereignty Initiative. Chi Migwech to all of our new committee members. I am very excited to see what you accomplish on behalf of our members.

Last month, I also delivered my written opinion of the referendum, that was pending at the time, concerning the Recovery Campus funding. Since then, the referendum votes have been counted. The vote count was strongly in favor of supporting the board's decision to reduce the scope of the project; however, there is a 30% voter threshold to accept the results of the referendum. This threshold was not met. Therefore, the decision of the board to reduce the scope of the project is still upheld. I will remain dedicated to finding ways to invest in substance abuse prevention and recovery efforts. Although we are not in a position to invest \$25 million into any single project at this time, we must remain vigilant and pursue grant funding and any other remedy available to us to combat the substance abuse issues plaguing

Indian Country.

On Dec. 20, 2022, the board of directors voted to declare the Unit 1 board seat vacant, that was held by now sitting Chairman Lowes. This declaration of vacancy triggered a Special Advisory Election to take place. During the Dec. 20, 2022 board meeting, I voted, "NO" to declaring the seat vacant. The reason I voted no is because I felt, and still feel, that we have a broken election process. I voted no because it was, and still is, my position that we must address the process in which our elections are conducted. Being a very close-knit tribal community with strongly polarizing political views, it is my opinion that it is impossible to keep political agendas out of the election process in an unbiased manner.

As I have stated for many years, I do believe we need to move towards contracting a professional outside firm to conduct our election processes. I also believe all election complaints should be handled through the court system under the direction of qualified judicial officials. Although I voted "no" to declare the seat vacant, I was outvoted and the seat was declared vacant and the process to begin a Special Advisory Election was initiated. Unfortunately, the very reason I voted no, a broken election process, came to fruition. The Election Committee reported a clerical mistake that resulted in

ballots being mailed to members weeks prior to the original scheduled mailing date. This mistake creates a very unfair election process as candidates were not aware there would be an early mailing of the ballots. I do not and will not support unfair election processes within our sovereign nation; therefore, at the March 7, 2023, Board of Director's Meeting, I will be supporting resolutions to cancel the Special Advisory Election and keep the Unit 1 seat vacant until the next scheduled General Election of 2024. My hope is that, in the meantime, a board majority will take corrective action to fix the long-standing election process issues.

Through my participation on the Sault Tribe Child Welfare Committee as well as some troubling reports from deeply concerned parents who are Sault Tribe members, it has been brought to my attention that our Tribal Court system does not currently have jurisdiction to conduct and determine judgment of child custody hearings. This concerns me because it presents an opportunity for the judicial systems of other governments to determine placement of Sault Tribe children.

It is my belief that custody cases involving children of our sovereign nation should be determined within our Sault Tribe Court system to ensure that the primary goal of keeping Native children within

their respective communities is upheld, when in the best interest of the child. I am by no means an expert of law, nor will I pretend to have all of the answers on this issue, as dealing with child custody cases is a sensitive subject; however, I do believe the conversation needs to take place. I have requested that this item be placed on a future workshop agenda so the board can hear the opinions and position of the court regarding the topic of custody disputes.

I have also been working with the director of the Youth Education and Activities (YEA) and the Assistant Executive Director to establish a budget for the 2023 United National Indian Tribal Youth Conference in Washington D.C. June 28-July 4. It is one of my goals to send representatives from each of our councils to this event. This is an amazing opportunity for our youth councils to enhance their leadership skills and learn how to create positive change within each of the communities within our tribe.

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have or simply to share an idea that could bring positive change to our sovereign nation. I wish many blessings upon all of our members and your families in the coming month. May Creator keep you all in good health and spirit.

Chi Miigwech

Director McKerchie discusses meeting agenda



MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

We've had a few months of progress where it seems like most want to just move forward but then it seems we take a step backward and we repeat the cycle of drama. While I write this, agenda items interfering with our Election Code are once again up for a vote. Whereas I whole heartily believe as a board we should look into things if it is brought to our attention that our laws aren't being followed, but this simply is not the case.

A resolution is being proposed to direct the Election Committee to declare the current Advisory Election spoiled and to direct the committee to conduct a separate election. In able to do this properly, the board would have to amend the Election Code (during an election) to give them the authority to direct the Election Committee to do as the board says (deem current advisory void, etc.), then the board would rescind this authority after that! That is too much board involvement in an election and the ballots should just be counted as is. All this because the ballots for the advisory election went out early. That's it — early ballots. It gives members more time to vote, more time for the ballots to reach members and more time to get them

returned. The ballots should just be counted as is, more changes from the board will just cause more confusion. We have laws, they were followed, the board should follow them, too.

Does sending them early have some problems? Yes, because previous referendum ballots were out while these ones got mailed, but the Election Committee issued a press release stating, "The Election Committee, upon considering all options and upon recommendation of legal counsel, has decided to proceed with the Special Advisory Election using the ballots that were sent early." Furthermore, if someone wants to contest the election and think laws were broken or violated, the Election Code allows for our Court of Appeals to address this. There is no need for board interference.

We should be supportive of our committee members that volunteer their time to make our tribe a better community. The constant barrage of speculation and innuendos needs to stop.

We've recently started a new Food Sovereignty Committee and I believe those members and any others willing to help will assist our tribe moving in the right direction. Just like all of our many other committees and volunteer programs. We are a better tribe because of their efforts and I don't want to see less volunteerism.

Also on the agenda is a "Preliminary Investigative Report on DJ Hoffman." Not exactly sure what the motion will be, as there is no resolution. What I will say is that; 1) It says "Preliminary," which indicated its not complete. 2) Was member's due process followed? (Did we allow him to give his side of situation, as he still has constitutional rights) and 3) Is the board going to release all investigative reports? Either we're going to move on and move forward or

get stuck in this drama and repeat the dysfunctional cycle that we seem to be caught in. To be clear, we should release all investigative reports (not selective), we should nullify any non-disclosure agreements that have been violated, and

we should let the members have more and more access to our workshops, meetings, and any other resources where our leaders are making decisions.

I see more and more member meetings taking place and I'm

encouraged by those getting more involved and helping our tribe. Demand that you be heard, encourage those that can to attend, and keep up the good work. Any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to me at (906) 440-7768.

Lee discusses Unit II issues



KIMBERLY LEE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

Aanii,

Sadly, we saw many tragedies in our small community last month. These families need our support. There have been numerous fundraisers recently to help members deal with tough times. Please help where you can.

We met with the Housing team last month and continue to move forward with strategies to get some much-needed housing for our unit. We are narrowing things down and will continue to meet and move forward.

Speaking of housing, if you get a chance, please read the article about the tribe's collaboration, local high schools, and students building a home together. It's a feel-good story about the positive impact of our communities with the help of many. What an oppor-

tunity this collaboration is offering to our youth. Chi miigwech to all involved in the difference you make.

Telemedicine has begun in our unit, and after team members' feedback, the positivity for the opportunity to improve the well-being of all members is encouraging.

This past month, I attended my first Head Start Committee meeting. Enlightening. The behind-the-scenes operations of what our school systems do to give our children the best start possible are incredible.

I attended a few employee appeals. Board members being on the appeal process makes us more aware of how things are going with team members.

I accepted an invitation to attend a mitten workshop hosted by Jackie Minton. We shared many laughs, fun, and pizza with the Elders resulting in some warm, beautiful handmade mittens. Chi Miigwech, Jackie, for sharing your talent and time.

For members anxiously waiting for the fishermen's funding, rest assured that it is being worked on and should be moving forward very soon.

Sault Tribe college students, from sophomores to graduate students: the tribe has internship opportunities for the summer ahead. Many options are available: email interships@saulttribe.net to see if something fits your dynamic.

Elder Scholarships

Sault Tribe students graduating high school: our elders graciously give four one-time \$500 scholarships. This scholarship could be for anyone starting public college, university, or trade school:

Qualifications

Minimum 2.50 GPA or successfully obtain a GED with a minimum score of 40 or an average of 45. Accepted or enrolled in one of the above full-time.

Application process

Cover page: name, address, proof of tribal enrolment course of study.

Transcript from the previous school with GPA.

Acceptance letter from the school attending

300 to 700-word essay describing how you will benefit from a college educator career objective and how this scholarship will help you achieve your goals. The deadline is June 30, 2023. Elder service division, 2076 Shunk Road, Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783. Questions, call Holly Kibble at (906) 635-4971.

Chi Miigwech to our elders for gifting four Youth a hand up in their success.

We continue to address the issues in the forefront, and your support and strength help on the journey. Stay safe, the sun is shining longer, and the days are getting warmer. Miigwech.

Kimberly Lee, klee@saulttribe.net, (906) 379-8965

Sorenson addresses housing needs with HUD



BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

On March 3, I had my first team meeting with the HUD TIAC. It consisted of our newly appointed group as well as Heidi Freschette, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs with HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing. It was an opportunity to introduce ourselves and discuss having co-chairs to steer the group. We will be having another team meeting on March 11 and then we will be meeting in person in Washington, D.C. on April 12 and 13. I am very excited to serve tribes at this level and bring our concerns with housing to the table.

At the Feb. 21 meeting, there was a motion to do a wage review for the Health Division, beginning with the staff that have

worked for the tribe the longest, with retro pay. I thought it should have been spelled out in a resolution so that everyone was on the same page. I also have concerns that money is not the only reason people leave jobs. We have toxic work environments that have been going on for years that get swept under the rug. Even the locum staff that come seem to not want to stay. I have seen many great team members, many our own members or households, leave without pay being the issue.

Many team members throughout the tribe are also affected by wage compression issues. Some divisions can afford to cover the increase in wages and salaries because of grant funding. There are no easy decisions with the financial impact.

Health is one of the crucial components of our life. We all need to be able to have routine, emergent, and preventative care. That is the reason I supported this motion. If turnover continues after the reviews are complete, I guess maybe then changes will be made.

There is some crazy talk about stopping the election and having a new one because ballots went out early. The timeline has a ballot mailed deadline and the deadline was met. I understand the frustration for those that try to have their postcard arrive in the mailbox the same day ballots do, but I do not see it as a crisis. I really have a hard time believing

that members rely on that postcard or vote as soon as a ballot is received. I myself, do vote and mail right away but I know many people wait and then actually forget to mail it back in. Regardless, the tribe has spent way too much money this year on elections and referendums when none of it really needed to happen. There was plenty of bad decisions in my opinion and I was hoping we were starting to turn a corner but then another storm erupts.

Sault Tribe Community Health will be mailing out surveys for our youth in the seven-county service area ages 12-17. One survey per household is possible and the completion will enter that individual into a drawing for a \$100 gift card.

Please encourage your family members to complete the survey so the tribe can have a better understanding of the health and wellbeing of our tribal youth.

Any college sophomores through graduate student tribal members can apply to be a Sault Tribe Intern for the summer. The program runs June 5 through Aug. 11. It will be 40 hours per week at \$15.50 an hour. This is a great way for students to be exposed to their tribal government and enterprises. It is hard to believe I was an intern under this program in 2002. I completed my internship in the EDC and accepted a job in Human Resources, then went to casino administration, then ran for the

board. If you are interested in this program, please email internships@saulttribe.net. You do not have to live in the seven-county service area to participate in the program but will need to make living arrangements.

Reminder since it is tax filing season, please renew your applications with Purchased and Referred Care. The applications can be found online saulttribe-health.com Also a reminder that those that live in the tax agreement area, make sure your children (16 years and older) are signed up when they start working if you are going to be applying for the tax exemption. Please contact Candace at (906) 632-6281. You can get more information about the tribal tax agreement on saulttribe.com under government and then tribal tax agreement.

If you are experiencing possibly losing your house because of mortgage payments and COVID, please contact the Sault Tribe Housing Office at (906) 495-1450 to see if you qualify for some relief.

All housing sites will be receiving new mailboxes hopefully this year. Many of them are the original and hard to find parts for.

The St. Ignace Elder Complex will be getting sidewalks put in this summer. The elder meal program in the elder complex really needs a good cook or two to help with the program. Sissi has been helping out for quite a

few months but it is not what she was hired to do. Both she and Sue do a great job, but they need more help. Please contact Human Resources at (906) 643-4176 if you would like to cook for your elders.

The St. Ignace Head Start is in an immediate need of a school bus driver. Many parents are either working or do not have transportation to drive or pick them up. If you know of someone that would like to even help on a part-time basis, please contact Human Resources at (906) 643-4176.

Mark your calendars for the St. Ignace Native American Festival at the Museum of Ojibwa Culture May 27 and the Rendezvous at the Straits Powwow for August 25-27.

An update on the subsistence and commercial fishing funds is that we are waiting on hiring a person to help navigate those that need to prove they had a loss greater than 35% due to COVID. Hopefully, the subsistence applications will go out soon, since they do not have that requirement.

A reminder that our Unit III meetings are the third Monday of the month at the McCann School at 6 p.m.

If you have any concerns or questions please contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net or bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

Happy Easter!!

Director Hampton gives rundown on activities



KIMBERLY HAMPTON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

Aniin kina waya (hello everybody),

As I am writing this month's update, daylight saving time is approaching quickly, which also means spring is approaching quickly. With that being said, I hope you all have a great spring. Spring is a time of awakening from a long winter's slumber. For myself, spring brings with it a time to embrace getting outdoors more, being in nature, and starting to prepare for flowers re-emerging and the planting of vegetable seeds in which to care for and nourish so they can in return nourish myself and my family.

During the end of February, I started holding Zoom meetings called "Ketchup with Kim" as an avenue for our tribal membership within Unit 4 as well as any of our units, including at-large members, to converse with myself and hold discussions regarding upcoming resolutions, ideas

members have for our tribe, and current issues. I openly welcome anyone to attend these Zoom meetings as change will take a tribe. For Zoom meeting information, please visit my Facebook social media page for log in information. Miigwech.

Powwow Meetings

Unit 4 will have a 2023 Niiwin Noodin (Four Winds) Pow Wow on Saturday, June 10, with a ceremony opening and talking circle the evening of Friday, June 9. In the next couple of months, everyone is encouraged to "like" the Niiwin Noodin (Four Winds) Pow Wow Facebook page to keep updated on progress and to find contact information regarding vendors.

Meetings, open to the public, scheduled for the Niiwin Noodin Pow Wow Committee, are located at the Manistique Tribal Health Center, 5698W US Highway 2, Manistique, MI on the following dates:

April 3 at 5pm EST

April 27 at 5pm EST

May 1 at 5pm EST

Unit 4 Elder Meetings

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

The next meeting in Manistique will be held April 12 at 12 p.m. EST at the Manistique Tribe Center.

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

February Activities

Solar Project: In regard to

developing solar projects throughout units, there are still discussions occurring, and no formal plans have been made at this time. I will provide updates to our membership as plans progress. I do look forward to such projects in order to explore ways that our tribe can help our environment.

Gladstone Clinic

Telemedicine: In January, a telemedicine unit was installed at the Gladstone clinic with successful sessions taking place. This telemedicine unit allows tribal members to meet with a medical provider virtually for such appointments as medication reviews rather than having to drive to the Manistique clinic to meet with the medical provider in person. A telemedicine unit was also installed in Marquette in January. Additional telemedicine locations will be implemented in the future.

Tribal Homeland Security Advisory Council (THSAC): I have had many members reach out to me asking for updates on my activities with the THSAC. On Feb. 14, I attended my very first, official, meeting as vice-chair where I took my Oath of Office in front of Secretary of Homeland Security Alejandro Mayorkas. We do have another meeting scheduled for March 7, which will have already occurred by the time this unit report is published, to start reviewing the THSAC Charter and Bylaws, the current meeting schedule and create workgroups. There is information I am not authorized to release regarding the THSAC at this time, but what I can share



Hampton and other THSAC members take oath on Zoom.

is that we are working as a collaborative group of various tribal leaders on priorities to help protect and advocate for all tribal nations. I will provide updates and share information as I am able to.

Manistique Fitness Center and Escanaba Community Center:

Bid packages have been received for both these projects with a contractor being chosen soon. Director Morrow and myself have been meeting with engineers and planners regarding interior design and architectural options for both projects. I look forward to seeing both of these projects break ground this summer to begin building and to see plans turn into a reality. Both the Manistique community and the Escanaba community need these projects completed in order to work toward the betterment of our tribe.

Interviews: Throughout the month of February, I attended sessions of interviews for the Executive Director of Enterprise Operations open position and interviews for open positions in our Legal Department.

Meetings Attended

JKL Fiduciary Committee Meetings—Feb. 22 and March 1
Sault Tribe Inc Meeting—March 2

Gaming Authority Meeting—Feb. 21

Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority Meeting (CORA)—Feb. 23

Conservation Committee Meeting—Feb. 27

Looking Forward

Ketchup with Kim: I will continue to hold Zoom meetings to meet with members regarding upcoming resolutions, current issues, and ideas from members for our tribe. I extend the invite for anyone who has ideas to better our tribe. Please feel free to reach out to me with your ideas. After all, you are the membership and I am your representative.

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

Kimberly Hampton,
Unit 4 Representative

Food sovereignty a top priority for Sault Tribe



AUSTIN LOWES
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

Aaniin,

Much has happened since my last unit report. To begin, the Sault Tribe has appointed its inaugural Food Sovereignty Committee. This committee will serve in an advisory role to the board of directors and will make recommendations for what produce, livestock, and programming the tribe's future Food Sovereignty Program will have. These individuals are Jonathan Biron, Charlee Brissette, Monica Cady, Jennifer Dale-Burton, Dani Fegan, Casey Hinkson, Larry Jacques, Katy Mattson, Amy Christine McCoy, Colleen Medicine, Martin Reinhardt, and Marie Richards. I would like to thank these individuals, who I consider some of our tribe's best

and brightest, for helping guide our food sovereignty movement.

Speaking of food sovereignty, in April I will be traveling to the Oneida Nation near Green Bay to pick up two processed bison from that tribe's food sovereignty program. This meat will supplement the meals that are provided to our elders in our Elder Meal Program.

I recently picked up a processed bison from the Prairie Island Indian Community in Minnesota, which provided over 500 pounds of meat to our Elder Program. I thoroughly enjoyed sharing a meal from this bison with our elders. I expect Indigenous meat sources to be something that is provided to our elders more regularly.

I continue to represent our tribe to the best of my abilities. I will be traveling to Washington D.C. at the end of the month to meet with national and tribal leaders to advocate for Indian Country. I also provided the welcoming speech for the Native American Critical Issues Conference that our tribe also hosted. I continue to work with our legislative team to support bills that protect our members.

I recently worked with State Senators John DaMoose and Jeff Irwin, who is a Sault Tribe member, to support legislation that will guarantee that Native

children and their guardians have access to the same financial assistance and support services through the Guardianship Assistance Program as anyone else in Michigan. I will continue to advocate for our members on the local, state, and national level.

I would finally like to announce that the recent referendum was not successful in overturning the Tribe's action to provide our Traditional Medicine Department with funding to construct its own building. Our Traditional Medicine Department is

currently housed in a small space in the Health Center without even a window. I look forward to seeing this essential department grow and thrive in their own space.

Miigwech!
Austin Lowes



Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes (right) gives the welcoming speech at the Native American Critical Issues Conference March 10 at the Sault Kewadin Casino, with Northern Michigan University Professor and Sault Tribe member Martin Reinhardt looking on (left).

2023 Bear Clan feast highest attendance ever



LANA CAUSLEY-SMITH,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

Hope this report finds you all warming up and getting ready for spring - I'm going to touch on a few times this past month. The referendum for the recovery faculty was counted and the threshold was not met to change the board's decision to lower the amount from \$25 million down to \$5 million for the recovery faculty. At this point we will have to alter the plans how to move forward on intense recovery services for our members. I will continue to advocate for this and it will always remain my priority for our members.

Constitution Amendments

I have personally requested three separate times for the discussions to be placed on our workshop agenda to prioritize and make amendments one at a time to change how we are governed. We have successfully completed two amendments in the past with Secretarial Elections (it's been years) and it can be done again. I'm still waiting for it to be on the schedule for workshop. Hopefully this

month sometime.

Our Legal Department is being rebuilt — very disappointed that it took major lawsuits for the change to occur. The advice we received for a very long time was in question — but it mattered who was asking the questions. Mine was not taken into professional consideration; hopefully some have learned from this. We cannot just do things that we want with no adverse outcome. Hopefully this lesson has been learned. I have already seen a change with the experience that is demonstrated now from our general counsel.

House built

Last year, we started a project to build a 3-bedroom home at our property at Hill Crest in Cedarville. We worked hand in hand with a local construction company and our schools to allow the youth to shadow and learn building a home from the ground up. I'm happy to report that it is almost complete and I want to say a sincere chi miigwech to all involved. Please look for the full story in this edition of the paper. I'm looking forward to moving ahead with projects like this one for our housing shortage and the experience in the trade for our tribal youth.

Bear Clan feast

This past weekend we held our annual Bear Clan feast. This was probably the most attendance we had and it was amazing to watch our medicines at work. Our members need connection with our cultural and community and we had tribal members from other tribes attend as well including a fluent language speaker doing a story at our circle. It was a moment in our day that

we can cherish, those that were able to witness this received a gift for sure. I am so humbled by our community commitment and our ways that do not get lost or abandoned in Hessel. It's our priority in Unit II and will remain that way from guidance and support from our Elder group here. Chi miigwech to my dad and the entire committee for steering us in that direction. I had a day with our precious helpers to cook and

it will always stay as one of the best gatherings I've attended.

As we go down paths that are controversial, I remain committed to keep things steady and abide by our codes and Constitution. These things matter to frame our government. If things do not work, we need to change them, but until then, these laws and codes are in place to protect the tribe and people we represent. I will commit to

remaining steady in doing just that with the knowledge and history I am grateful to hold for our people.

Please contact me if you would like to talk to me or need to discuss anything with me, please contact me at (906) 484-2954, 906-322-3818, or Lcausley@saulttribe.net. Baamaapii and think spring.

Lana Causley-Smith, Unit 2 representative

Borowicz updates Unit III



SHAWN BOROWICZ,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

Aanii,

Hope this report finds you and your family well. I would like to start by saying the board is moving forward and we are taking care of issues that should have been accomplished in years past. One of the main ones is the health care issue of finding qualified health care professionals and paying them a competitive wage to treat our tribal members and their families. We have been paying

traveling health care workers huge amounts hourly to work at our facilities. Our chief medical doctor should have the authority to hire these workers at a capped wage that is set by our Human Resources Department, without seeking approval from the board. This micromanagement of the Health Care Division as well as the rest of the departments should not have ever happened. The various department heads should be able to handle their own departments with little involvement of the board.

We are finally coming out of the COVID era and the casinos are coming back to life with increased numbers every month. The snowmobile season and the annual I-500 race brought in quite a few new patrons as well as returning guests. Our marketing team is always implementing new ideas to draw in new customers in a very competitive gaming market.

Mackinac Straits Hospital received a grant to build Unit III a new health center behind

our current facility, which will be a great addition. It will be a one-story facility with all the same features as our current layout but with many upgrades that the various departments are giving their input on to better serve the members and families. According to the architects and general contractors, this should be completed in the fall of 2024.

If all goes well in the spring, we should be able to restart the Unit III housing project that was started this past summer. It will be a great project that is very much needed in the St. Ignace area. Don't have an end date for this project but will keep you all updated.

If you should ever have any questions or concerns or any explanations of anything you may read on the various social media sites, I am always available to answer any questions to the best of my ability. Feel free to contact me anytime.

Baamaapii,
Shawn Borowicz
(906) 379-8511 or sborowicz@saulttribe.net

Board meetings will soon be live and on web



TYLER LAPLAUNT
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Aanii, Boozhoo!

I want to start out by announcing some really great news in the name of transparency. In our Feb. 7 meeting, I motioned to “stream live meetings and open workshops to the Board of Directors Facebook page and log them on our website.” The motion was carried and passed. Now, this won’t go into effect immediately. It will take time for our staff to be able to implement this, so as usual, please be patient.

Once we begin livestreaming our open meetings again, it will bring light onto our government discussions and leave less room for gossip and misinterpretation. It’s only fair that all members have equal access to our open meetings. Not everyone is available during the times that we meet and if they want to be informed and understand what is happening in their government, they should be able to have a source to turn to. That source should be the meetings themselves, not talking heads on social media and hyperbole to blow things out of proportion. Hopefully, the livestreaming and the logging of open meetings will begin soon so that all members can have access.

Again, if anyone ever has a question for any of us, please reach out. Often, a phone call or conversation over a cup of coffee can help eliminate hurtful gossip and rumor mongering. Unit 4 Director Kim Hampton has recently started a series of Zoom meetings to improve awareness and better integrate community stakeholders’ knowledge into her decision-making. I applaud Kim

for doing this. She continues to raise the bar, and likely, many of us will follow suit in one form or another. I prefer meeting in person or having a one-on-one telephone call, but I know that isn’t always optimal for everyone.

Another big move is a recent motion to do a comprehensive wage review on all Health Division staff based on tenure. The board has had a professional wage compensation study in front of us since the day that I began. This study actually dates back to over 2 years ago with no prior action being taken. We’ve been at a stalemate on how to decide how to implement the compensation study ourselves. Some want an all or none approach. That simply does not work. We have many different business divisions and those divisions should be run independently of each other. We may be one tribe, but that this is not how business functions. Healthcare is different from casino, which is different from housing, and so on and so forth. The simple fact of the matter is, we cannot afford the governmental side. That doesn’t mean that we should hold up the entire compensation study in hope that people will stick around to serve their tribe.

I know that this won’t be popular, but healthcare is a treaty right, and with wage compression enhanced by the pandemic on the healthcare side we needed to act quickly. We are losing healthcare workers and we know that our local hospitals are actively and aggressively recruiting within the region. It is our hope that the wage review on healthcare staff will help ease wage compression and make us more competitive with the hospital systems within our region. We need to take care of the people that take care of our health and well-being. I will continue to focus on our healthcare and expanding our healthcare. Healthy people lead to a healthy community and we will continue to utilize every avenue and resource to improve the health of all of our citizens. In order to further expand telehealth, we must maintain and expand the healthcare staff that we have.

We will continue to look for ways to move the rest of the com-

penensation study forward. Like everything else, it will take time. Part of this will have us combing through our budgets to see what truly is necessary and where the wasteful spending is. As we move forward, we will continue to evaluate areas that we can improve and how we can better take care of all of our employees. It is going to take some time, but I know that together we can move forward.

I’m excited to announce then on our next agenda for March 7, I cosponsored a resolution with Director McKechnie to move any settlement we receive from Juul into the Land Claims Fund. While this won’t be an overnight solution, it is a step in the right direction to making sure that our elders are better cared for in the future and a commitment to improve on our elder fund. We will continue to evaluate ways to increase the Land Claims Fund in order to continue to enhance the annual elder checks. Hopefully, this will be the first of many investments into our elders. After all, why wouldn’t we want to age into a better system than we inherited? We will all be elders one day.

I’ll point out that part of the problem with the stagnancy of the elder fund distribution is the fact that we pay out 100% of the interest received every year. That makes no sense as an investment strategy. If the thought was to increase checks every year, how can you do that when you pay out 100% of interest received? This investment strategy needs to be reevaluated. If we save even 10% per year of interest received and paid out on 90%, the returns would be exponential within just a few years. Without some kind of savings and reinvestment strategy, the 100% payout makes absolutely no sense, and will continue to reduce the payout with population growth. My simple suggestion is to reinvest a small portion of the net revenue from interest back into the land claims fund to continue to grow your investment and see greater dividends in the future.

Quick update on the referendum, all referendum failed to get the minimum of 30% of all voter participation. However, looking at the vote totals, they still would have failed. What this tells us is

that the people who elected us are happy with the progress that we are making and the decisions that we are making as a board. We have a lot of challenges facing our tribe and a lot of difficult decisions to continue to make. You elected us to do a job and that is exactly what we are doing and will continue to do.

A couple of reminders for Unit 5:

The next elder meeting and meal for Munising will be at 11 a.m. on Thursday, April 6, at the Munising Tribal Health Center. The next meeting and meal for Marquette will be at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 6, at the Holiday Inn Marquette. If you have any question about attendance at these events, feel free to reach out to me and I’d be happy to explain.

Our drum group is still going strong on the second and fourth Thursday of every month in the Citizens Forum at Lakeview Arena in Marquette. The scheduled drum group sessions for April will be 5:30 - 8 p.m. on April 13 and April 27. Our drum group continues to grow as do the activities happening in the background. Dinner and water are provided and we always look forward to sharing our culture and knowledge within our own community. I cannot thank everyone enough for participating in making these drum groups such a success.

Munising elders are still looking for anyone who can assist in implementing similar cultural workshops or drum groups in the Munising area. We are trying to make our cultural teaching sustainable within our own communities and not paying thousands of dollars to have someone come in from an outer lying area. If you or someone you know is willing to help, please contact Philip Martin at (619) 587-0557. He is trying to get some activities together for people of all age groups in the Munising area. Your assistance of any kind is greatly appreciated.

Finally, our Munising and Marquette elder committee are working together to create a sustainable Unit 5 powwow. The idea is to move it between Marquette and Munising year after year, but work together to make it successful and inclusive. This year, the plan is to host it in Marquette in

either late fall or early winter. If you are interested in assisting in any way, please reach out and I’ll connect you with the appropriate planning staff. I’m so happy to see our community coming together in such great ways to expand our culture, share knowledge, and combine resources. I look forward to this and all activities coming from our Unit 5 membership.

On a final note, I will be attending the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes impact week in Washington, D.C., from March 19 through the 23rd. MAST is comprised of 35 tribes and works together in an effort to improve policy and benefit tribes within our region. MAST brings together lawmakers, different divisions of HHS, and other federal key stakeholders. MAST also provides a day where tribal leaders team up and hit the Hill to advocate together. As tribes, we work on both sides of the aisle as independents to get work done to benefit our tribal communities. I look forward to representing the Sault Tribe as our vice-chairman, as well as the region, for advocacy in Washington, D.C. My primary focus will continue to be healthcare and treaty rights with a minor focus on health IT modernization.

With spring quickly approaching it is a time for releasing. Lay out your asemma and pray for better days ahead. Our Traditional Medicine Program offers spring and fall fasting ceremonies to help with releasing. If you’ve never taken part before, reach out to Traditional Medicine and ask them about spring fasting camp. It’s an amazing experience to be a part of the community with all of the teachings, storytelling, and the sacredness of the fast. If you don’t have the time, you can always do your own mini-fast at home. However, if you have the time, I highly encourage you to check out the spring fasting camp on Sugar Island. Call Traditional Medicine at (906) 632-0220.

Chi Miigwech,
Tyler Migizii Migwan
LaPlaut
Vice-Chairman, Unit 5
Director
tlaplaut@saulttribe.net
(906) 440-8294

Health’s wage grid funded by 3-party revenue



BETTY FREIHEIT
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Hello Tribal Members,
Our first ever Food Sovereignty Committee was selected at the Feb. 7 board meeting. This is truly an exciting

and important initiative of our tribe that will have long lasting benefits to our members.

There were so many great applicants it was a very difficult choice. The selected committee members are: Jonathan Biron, Charlee Brissette, Monica Cady, Jennifer Dale-Burton, Danielle Fegan, Casey Hinkson, Larry Jacques, Katy Matson, Amy McCoy, Colleen Medicine, Martin Reinhardt, and Marie Richards. Thank you for your dedication to serve.

During the Feb. 21 meeting the board approved implementing the wage grade for the Health Center Staff. This will result in increasing wages. It was a necessary move to improve recruitment and retention of staff to provide needed medical services for our members. The reason these wage

increases were possible at this time is because the Health Center had the funds due to its third-party revenue.

I know, and understand why many of our tribal employees feel slighted that the new wage grid has not yet been assigned to their positions. I believe the board is working towards making this happen as soon as economically feasible.

Students who will be enrolled in a higher education institution this fall should be aware of the following scholarship opportunities.

One is for the Rosemary Gaskin Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship was established 25 years ago by Aaron Payment to honor the good works of one of our founding elders. Rosemary also helped many students through high school by

providing counseling and support services. This scholarship is not need based and it is open to all tribal members.

Applications for this \$1,000 scholarship consists of a 500-word essay on selected topics. The application deadline is March 31. For more information visit the tribal webpage or contact Dr. Aaron Payment at (906) 203-5159 or email aaronpayment@yahoo.com.

Sault Tribe Elders are also offering four \$500 scholarships for freshmen entering a public college, university, or trade school. Applicants will need to submit a 300- 500-word essay describing how they believe a college education will help them achieve their goals and how this scholarship will assist them. The application deadline is June 30. For full details on the applica-

tion requirements and for additional information contact Holly Kibble, Elder Services Division Director, at (906) 635-4971.

I want to apologize to all tribal members who were disadvantaged by the early mailing of the Special Election ballots. It should not have happened. We need to do better to consider all our member needs during the elections.

Please pray for our young people who are struggling with addictions and offer them help if requested.

Please take care of yourself and family. Help your neighbors anytime you can. And please take care of our elders and check on them often.

Betty F. Freiheit
Unit 1 Director
bfreiheit@saulttribe.net
(906) 379-8745

Community Health holds Elder's ribbon skirt workshop

Community Health Educators Tammy Bumstead and Maggie Gallegos offered an elder's ribbon skirt making class at the Nokomis-Mishomis Place in Sault Ste. Marie on March 3. Sault Tribe elder Lou Anne Bush served as the instructor, with Language and Culture staff Tyler Bouschor and Geezhik McCoy also assisting. Photos by Tammy Bumstead



Lou Anne Bush (right) shows elders how to start a ribbon skirt.



Sault Tribe elder Rita Vassar picks out her ribbon colors with Geezhik McCoy and Tyler Bouschor (L-R)



Sault Tribe elder Rose A. Allard deciding on her ribbon placement with Bouschor and McCoy.



Allard with her finished skirt.



Elder Nancy Lowes poses with her skirt.



Sault Tribe member Skye Wicahpi models her skirt.



Sault Tribe member Amie Penrose selects her material.



Sault Tribe elder Jolene Nertoli sews her skirt.

Educator Maddy Gallegos.

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