



Win Awenen Nisitotung

August 16, 2023
Raspberry-Picking Moon • Mskominike Giizis
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Bahweting Bidajimowin • Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Board cuts ribbon on tribe's Lodge of Hope



Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton

On July 26, Sault Tribe held a ribbon cutting ceremony for its new homeless shelter, Bgwasendam Gamigong, or Lodge of Hope, located at 3901 I-75 Business Spur in Sault Ste. Marie. The former hotel was renovated into a facility providing 21 rooms for transitional housing for individuals and families on a first-come, first-served basis. The shelter is for Sault Tribe members or their household experiencing homelessness who meet income guidelines. Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes said the tribe historically spent \$100,000 per year providing members with 2-week vouchers that didn't provide enough time to find permanent housing, and didn't address the underlying problem. ACFS Director Juanita Bye said the Lodge of Hope will offer not only shelter but "an umbrella of voluntary services to our homeless members helping to eliminate barriers to homelessness." Contact ACFS at 2218 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or call (800) 726-0093 to apply. Above, elected officials cut the ribbon to open Bgwasendam Gamigong (L-R), Unit I Directors Michael McKerchie and Isaac McKechnie, Chairman Austin Lowes, Unit II Director Kim Lee, and Unit I Director Betty Freiheit.

www.saulttribe.com

SAULT TRIBE'S MEMBERSHIP ROLLS TO OPEN

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. – The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians approved a resolution at its Aug. 1 meeting to open the tribe's membership rolls beginning Feb. 1, 2024. Enrollment will remain open until the board passes a subsequent resolution to close them.

"There are many people who are proud of their Native heritage and ancestry who have been unable to enroll as Sault Tribe members," said Sault Tribe Chairman Austin Lowes. "We look forward to welcoming them into our community and growing our membership."

To be eligible for membership with the Sault Tribe, applicants must meet the criteria outlined in the tribe's membership ordinance, Tribal Code Chapter 11, available at www.saulttribe.com/government/tribal-code.

In February 1998, the tribe's membership rolls closed to all adults. There are many reasons individuals haven't been able to enroll in the tribe, such as adoption or unrecognized paternity. Some parents had not realized that their children needed to be enrolled, and there have been many requests from descendants of eligible individuals who never enrolled.

In 2011, the Tribal Membership Ordinance was amended to include applications for those unable to trace ancestry due to sealed child custody records, unrecognized paternity, or out-of-home placements. In 2014, the Tribal Membership

Ordinance was amended to allow tribal members' biological children under the age of 21 to apply for membership.

To apply for membership, applicants must complete the application for enrollment that will be posted at a later date. Applicants must submit copies of documents of their direct lineal descendants, starting with the applicant, then their Native parent, grandparent, and so forth, until they reach the descendant who is listed on one of the base rolls Enrollment uses to determine membership.

An enrolled relative can sign a release form to allow the applicant access to the documentation in the relative's file to complete the applicant's application.

Once applicants have all their documents and the \$25 processing fee ready, they can mail it to the Enrollment Department at P.O. Box 1628, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

They can also drop it off in person at the Enrollment office, 2428 Shunk Rd. in Sault Ste. Marie. **No enrollment applications will be accepted before Feb. 1, 2024.** Processing will take 6-8 weeks or longer, depending on the number of applications.

Please call the Enrollment office for assistance or forms: (906) 632-8552 or (906) 635-3396, or (800) 251-6597.

For more information, see www.saulttribe.com/membership-services/tribal-enrollment.

Tribal member turns 100!

Olivia "Marie" McCoy DeMerse celebrated her 100th birthday with family and friends at Hearthiside Assisted Living in Sault Ste. Marie. She was born on July 15, 1923, in Payment on Sugar Island. She had 13 siblings, including her little sister, 90-year-old Margie McCoy Bossineau, who also

attended last month's celebration. Marie has four children, Punky, Jane, Dan and Nancy; five grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild. An Internet posting prompted tremendous response with Marie collecting over 200 birthday cards from across 22 different states.

Photos submitted by Juanita Hill

At right, 100-year-old Olivia DeMerses' little sister, 90-year-old Margie (left) McCoy Bossineau joined the Olivia's (right) 100th birthday party.

At far right, Olivia gets ready to blow out the candles on her 100th birthday cake.



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Culture is the Key to Healing workshop held

SUBMITTED BY GREY SHEA, CULTURAL HEALING EDUCATOR

On July 27, the Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) ven-

tured to Manistique for one of its "Culture is the Key to Healing" workshops. Participants learned the story behind the dreamcatcher

while making their own beautiful willow dreamcatchers. Cultural Healing Educator Grey Shea provided language, history, humor

and knowledge about various topics throughout the workshop. ARC will be traveling to various locations within the seven-county

service area throughout the summer for more in-person events. Stay tuned for updates: www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC.



In the above photos, Cultural Healing Educator Grey Shea helps workshop participants with their willow dreamcatchers.



Each participant in the Manistique workshop was able to make their own willow dreamcatcher to take home with them.

5.5
BILLION
vaccinated from
COVID-19

Have more questions? We've got answers.

As a parent you want to help protect your child. The COVID-19 vaccine helps prevent kids from getting severely ill, and helps protect them from long-term complications. Children 6 months and up can get vaccinated and age-appropriate boosters are available when eligible. To learn more, talk to your health care provider or visit Michigan.gov/KidsCOVIDvaccine.



Tribal Court relies on Tribal Justice Support to provide necessary funds

Annual one-time funding made available by the BIA Office of Tribal Justice Support helps tribal courts across the U.S. with the development, operation and enhancement of tribal justice systems. These funds are completely separate from the self-governance dollars that tribes receive, and are specifically dedicated to tribal courts. The office also regularly provides tribal courts with technical assistance in the fields of pre-trial, probation, alternative sentencing, family matter

issues including domestic violence, Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), juvenile issues and other matters.

The BIA Office of Tribal Justice Support's main function is to identify and address the needs of tribal courts across Indian Country. A uniform tribal court assessment is the fundamental mechanism used by this program to assess each tribal court's processes overall. Upon request from a tribal court, and based on the tribal court assessment, the office

can provide appropriated funding to tribal and CFR Courts, which is awarded through each of BIA's 12 Regional Offices.

For the last decade, Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court has consistently benefited from the resources the BIA Office of Tribal Justice Support offers. Sault Tribal Court underwent a BIA assessment in 2014, making one-time funding requests available to the Court. And we look forward to the next formal court assessment in 2024. Without

assessments and annual funding from the Office, our Court could not maintain the delivery of justice within our community.

Tribal Court continues to exercise jurisdiction over non-natives pursuant to the Violence Against Women Act legislation, with a recent expansion of authorized crimes in October 2022. As we continue to fight for and exercise our inherent sovereign power, our Court relies on funding for the office to maintain operations and continue to uphold justice.

Senior Employment Positions available in Escanaba, Marquette

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

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

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

Sault Tribe 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 Lona Stewart 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)

Conservation Committee - One vacancy (4-year term)

Election Committee - Nine vacancies (4-year term)

Health Board - Two vacancies (4-year term)

Housing/Utility Authority - One vacancy (4-year term)

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

Unit I - Two vacancies

Unit II - Two vacancies

Unit III - Two vacancies

Elder Advisory Committee

Unit I - Sault - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Unit II - Hessel - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Unit II - Naubinway - One regular vacancy (4-year term)

Unit III - St. Ignace - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Unit V - Munising - One regular vacancy (4-year term)

Unit V - Marquette - One

alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Elder Subcommittees

Unit I - Sault - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)

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

Unit III - St. Ignace - One regular vacancy (4-year term)

Unit IV - Escanaba - Two alternate vacancies (4-year term)

Unit V - Munising - One regular vacancy, two alternate vacancies (4-year term).

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indian's members: You have a voice!

The Sault Tribe's Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) 2024-2025 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Plan is available for your review.

The CSBG program is designed to assist in alleviating the burden of an unexpected emergency for eligible Sault Tribe households in the Sault Tribe's seven-county service area.

The plan is available for review and comment at www.saulttribe.com and the following ACFS locations:

Sault Ste. Marie-2218 Shunk Rd., Manistique-5698 W Highway US-2

Kincheloe-60 Kincheloe Munising-622 W. Superior Street

St. Ignace-1140 N. State Street

Email comments are encouraged to jbye@saulttribe.net. Public Comment will be heard

Monday, Aug. 23 from 4-6 p.m. at 2218 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

If you have questions, or comments please email jbye@saulttribe.net

tribe.net or call (800) 726-0093 to speak to a Direct Service Case Manager.

Ref: Notice of Public Hearing/2024-25 CSBG Plan.

GAS & CIGARETTE DISCOUNTS

TRIBALLY OWNED OFFERING GAS AND CIGARETTE DISCOUNTS

MidJim Convenience Store, 2205 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie

MidJim Convenience Store II, 3045 Mackinac Trial, St. Ignace

TRIBALLY OWNED OFFERING GAS DISCOUNT ONLY

White Pine Lodge, 7889 E, W. M-28, Christmas

University BP at 301 W. Fair Ave., Marquette

NON-TRIBAL OWNED STATIONS OFFERING GAS DISCOUNT ONLY

Newberry Sunoco Gas Station, 13975 M-28, Newberry

Manistique Oil company, 216 Deer St., Manistique

Carnes BP, 2300 Ludington St., Escanaba

Kinross BP Local Express, 4440 Tone Rd., Kincheloe

Cedar Pantry, 159 W M-134, Cedarville

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.

Tribal Members: need assistance?

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

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

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

August 16, 2023
Raspberry-Picking Moon
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Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor
Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary
Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
Scott Brand.....Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Submission and Subscriptions:
Win Awenen Nisitotung
Attn: Communications Dept.
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Chippewa Government Solutions awarded \$24 million contract for influenza response

CDC supporting critical efforts to detect, treat, prevent, and respond to seasonal and novel influenza viruses

BY SAULT TRIBE INC.

Chippewa Government Solutions, a subsidiary of Sault Tribe Inc., has been awarded a \$24 million contract by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to support critical efforts to detect, treat, prevent, and respond to seasonal and novel influenza viruses.

The contract aims to enhance the CDC's Influenza Division for Laboratory and Partner

Support program's readiness and response capacities to a possible influenza pandemic. By focusing on epidemiologic and laboratory surveillance, vaccination improvement, monitoring of novel and antiviral-resistant influenza viruses and the development of effective antiviral drugs and treatment, CGS's role in this project is significant.

"Winning this contract is a major milestone for Chippewa

Government Solutions and the broader STI family. It underscores our capabilities in providing high-quality, specialized solutions for federal agencies," Sault Tribe Inc. CEO Joel Schultz said.

The work to be undertaken by CGS is extensive, encompassing a range of objectives such as evaluating data from epidemiologic and host genetics studies, eliminating surveillance

gaps, developing and evaluating molecular and immunologic assays, ensuring quality assurance in vaccine and diagnostic reagent production, facilitating diagnostic assay development, and planning for epidemic and pandemic preparedness, among others.

The contract highlights the urgent need for improved capabilities to rapidly develop influenza vaccines, decrease time

from identification of circulating viruses to developing vaccines, and fielding these vaccines to impact and decrease the burden of influenza outbreaks.

"This contract is a testament to our team's hard work and the trust the CDC has placed in us," Schultz added. "We look forward to bringing our skills, innovation, and commitment to this initiative to improve global pandemic preparedness."

Tribal Transportation Department preparing plan

Developing solutions for effectively and efficiently meeting tribal and community transportation needs

The Tribal Transportation Department is in the process of preparing a Coordinated Health and Human Services Transportation Plan to develop solutions for effectively and efficiently meeting tribal and community transportation needs.

The tribe provides varied and extensive services to tribal and community members throughout the seven-county service area.

These services include, but are not limited to, health care and employment as well as education, social, cultural, and recreational activities, with most services located quite a distance from residential areas.

Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Regional Health and Human Services Transportation Coordinated Plan

About the Coordinated Plan:
A coordinated plan provides feasible solutions for using available transportation resources and services to meet a community's unmet or underserved needs. The plan is also a means for demonstrating transportation needs and opportunities to secure funding for transportation projects. Development of the Coordinated Plan includes an evaluation of available resources and needs from stakeholders in the community. This input is used in the analysis to identify comprehensive transportation alternatives.

Project Goals:

- Identify strengths and existing needs within the current provider network.
- Identify potential strategies and opportunities for coordination, partnerships, and collaboration between tribal programs, departments, and providers.
- Promote sustainability, cost effectiveness, and access to transportation.

Scan the code below or visit <https://arcg.is/0Wb5PP> to visit the project website respond to our community survey!

Although several local units of government and agencies located in the region currently provide a

variety of transportation options, there are still extensive mobility needs that need to be met.

To build regional coordination the Coordinated Plan will address tribal and regional coordination needs.

In 2015, a Public Tribal Transit Regional Implementation Plan was completed, which laid the groundwork for future coordination and service planning.

The 2023 Coordinated Plan will provide feasible solutions for using existing (or expanded) transportation resources and services to meet a community's unmet and underserved needs.

The plan will identify needs and suggest opportunities to secure funding for selected trans-

portation projects.

Development of the coordinated plan includes an evaluation of available resources and needs from stakeholders in each community. This input is used in the analysis to identify comprehensive transportation alternatives.

You can help inform the Coordinated Plan by visiting the project website and filling out our tribal community survey at: <https://arcg.is/0Wb5PP>.

Thank you for your participation and be sure to watch for project updates and other opportunities to be involved on the website and future publications!

SATURDAYS IN SEPTEMBER - ALL SITES

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WIN YOUR SHARE OF \$75,000 CASH & CREDITS

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

COOLERS OF CASH
All Sites | Saturdays in August
Win Your Share of Over \$82,000 CASH and Credits!

PIRATES GOLD
All Sites | Thursdays in August
Win Your Share of Up To \$25,000 Credits!

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION
Manistique | September 1-22
Win Quarter Pig & Quarter Beef OR Half Pig, Half Beef & Freezer!

UP TO \$15,000 VIDEO POKER
St. Ignace | September 8-9
Early Sign Up Offer | 906-643-7071 ext. 34027

\$22,500 MEGA BINGO
Sault Ste. Marie | September 9
Early Sign Up Offer | 906-632-0530 ext. 54958

UP TO \$8,000 BLACKJACK
Sault Ste. Marie | September 15-16
Early Sign Up Offer | 906-632-0530 ext. 54958

SEPTEMBER TO REMEMBER
Manistique | Fridays in September (Excluding September 22)
All Customers Receive One Free Entry to Win \$2,000 CASH!

FAT STACKS FRIDAYS
Sault Ste. Marie | Fridays in September
All Customers Receive One FREE Entry to Win Your Share of \$35,000 CASH!

SUMMER DAYS GIVEAWAY
St. Ignace | Thursdays in September
Win Your Share of \$5,200 Credits & Prizes!

RESTAURANT SPECIALS
DreamCatchers and Horseshoe Bay Restaurants | September Feature
Berry Delicious Salad - Crisp baby greens, topped with grilled chicken, red onion, blueberries, raspberries and served with raspberry vinaigrette.

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

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Tribe makes 2% payments to seven-county service area

BY BRENDA AUSTIN AND SCOTT BRAND

Communities throughout the Upper Peninsula are benefitting from \$325,987.65 in the most recent round of semi-annual 2% distributions from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians that will be used to help support senior and youth services and recreational and cultural opportunities for area residents.

Each tribal unit received \$65,197.53 to award during the spring cycle.

The Sault Tribe has distributed 2% funding since November 1993 to U.P. communities and organizations. The payments are based on 2% of slot revenues generated from the tribe's Kewadin Casino properties located in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique and Christmas. In the past 30 years, Kewadin Casinos have paid the tribe \$50,685,136.03 in 2% revenue, which has been dispersed within seven U.P. counties of Alger, Chippewa, Delta, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette and Schoolcraft.

Distributions are organized into two categories; short and long-term. Short-term recipients change each distribution cycle, depending on what community or organization is chosen for the allotted funding. Long-term distributions are on-going payments to organizations or communities.

In Unit I, the Soo Township Fire Department received \$24,870.73 earmarked for the purchase of three self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

"The old ones were at their 20-year limit," said Fire Chief Jeff Killips noting that all of the SCBAs on Truck 401 are now up-to-date. "We also had to get news masks as these have a little different set-up."

The carbon fiber tanks provide fresh oxygen for individual firefighters battling blazes throughout the region. The Soo Township crew of 18 volunteer firefighters has a mutual aid agreement with a number of regional fire departments responding when needed, to Dafer and Bruce Townships, the City of Sault Ste. Marie and Sugar Island. Killips said the crew is not limited to structural fires, but has also been trained to respond to large-scale automobile accidents and what he officially called "wildland fires," which includes forest and brush fires.

Killips expressed his appreciation to the Sault Tribe for its ongoing support of Soo Township Fire.

"It will help us respond effectively," he said, adding that Soo Township's coverage area includes the Odenaang Community Development, which has seen substantial growth in recent years.

Other Unit I recipients in the most recent round of 2% dispersals included:

— The Dafer Township Fire Department, \$10,365 for vehicle extrication equipment known as "the Jaws of Life."

— The Kinross Recreation Center in Kinross Township, \$11,500 for the kids' fishing day and the summer activities program.

— The Sugar Island Fire Department, \$9,961.80 for a



Soo Township Fire Chief Jeff Killips displays the new SCBAs.



Pickford Area Historical Society Board Members Jay Leach and Dianne Schmitigal pose with Pickford Township Supervisor Tom Ball.



Mackinac County Animal Shelter Administrator Donna DesJardins and staff member Kendra Kacel accompanied by Koda.



Alger County Commission on Aging Supervisor Kristine Lindquist (standing) watches as Martha and Margaret make their ice cream during an early August Adult Day Club meeting in Munising.

water pump and hose.

— The Superior Township Fire Department, \$8,500 for community wildfire risk reduction combating combustible vegetation.

In Unit II, \$5,000 was earmarked for a museum work room office restoration project including insulation, paint, new flooring and electrical upgrades.

"We had three different kinds of flooring," said Pickford Historical Society Board Member Dianne Schmitigal. "We really appreciate the 2% money."

The 3-story structure, built in 1912, was originally used as an automobile showroom also sell-

ing hardware and other things the farming community would need. Over the years, it housed various other businesses before finally being purchased by the historical society in 2001, according to fellow board member Jay Leach's recollection.

"We are incredibly lucky," said Schmitigal of the community participation in this effort. "We have close to 60 volunteers that help to manage the museum."

The Pickford Area Historical Museum welcomes other communities like Raber, Stalwart, Kinross, Keldon and parts of Rudyard under their roof. The

displays are changed annually with the third floor of the facility serving as the museum archives. It is open to the public June 1-Sept. 1 and for special events and field trips outside of the regular season.

The museum has received 2% funding in the past allowing for the installation of a modern HVAC system and leveling of the basement floor.

Other 2% recipients in Unit II included:

— A \$7,500 contribution for water meter upgrades in DeTour Village.

— Drummond Island Township getting \$10,000 toward an all-season activities pavilion.

— The Newberry Fire Department getting \$10,000 for the purchase of "the Jaws of Life."

— Kitchen fire suppression for Hudson Township with a price tag of \$4,200.

— A laser cutter/engraver for the Pickford Public Schools for \$2,300 which will be utilized in the Industrial Arts, STEM and Arts.

— DeTour Township received \$7,500 to help rebuild the pavilion following a fire.

— Trout Lake Township took in \$3,000 for computer equipment for the Trout Lake Historical Society.

— The Newton Township Historical Society benefitted from a \$10,697.53 contribution earmarked for the museum.

— McMillan Township received \$5,000 towards its recreation center.

In Unit III, the Mackinac County Animal Shelter received \$7,500 in 2% funding for spaying and neutering animals to help control local pet populations.

Shelter Administrator Donna DesJardins said the shelter, built in 2000, has been in operation for more than two decades. It houses, on average, 15-25 cats a month and 5-15 dogs.

"The dogs get adopted out a lot quicker," said DesJardins.

The law requires the spaying or neutering of all animals before they are released to their forever homes. This can, however, prove costly in the event that a pregnant cat arrives, as the shelter will hold mama kitty and the kittens until everyone of them undergoes the procedure. The \$7,500 can also be used to offset expenses for food and kitty litter.

Other funded programs in Unit III include:

— LaSalle High School, \$5,000 for equipment upgrades to benefit the Robotics Team.

— The St. Ignace Fire Department, \$4,200 for ventilation saws.

— The St. Ignace Recreation Department, \$5,000 for ball field bases and fitness center equipment.

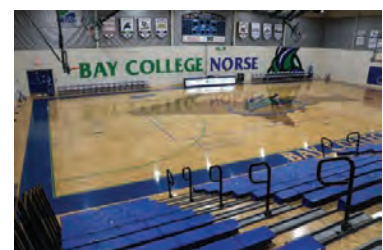
— The St. Ignace Recreation Trail, \$5,000 for unspecified enhancements.

— Straits EMS, \$24,000, for ambulance cot upgrade to the loading/transport system.

— City of St. Ignace Marina, \$2,250 for a marina point-of-sale equipment upgrade.

— The St. Ignace Police Department, \$4,475.75 for first responder trauma kits and training equipment.

— The Museum of Ojibwe Culture, \$7,771.78 for upcoming programming.



Courtesy of Bay College

Working under the same \$65,197.53 budget for 2% dispersals, the Sault Tribal Board of Directors from **Unit IV** managed to deliver one of the largest checks to a single entity, while at the same time giving to more groups than any other unit.

The Bay Norse, bearing the Kelly Green and Royal Blue, were the biggest beneficiaries as \$22,000 was allocated for athletic training facility improvements at Bay College. This program has continued to grow since construction began on a 6,000 square foot addition in November 2018 bringing two home team locker rooms, two away team locker rooms, a room for coaches and referees, a sports conditioning room and meeting space.

Bay College reintroduced athletics in 2017 with Men's and Women's Cross Country and Men's and Women's Basketball. The Norse added baseball and softball in the fall of 2018 with the Norse Volleyball Program taking to the court in the fall of 2022.

"We are excited to be expanding the athletic offerings at Bay," Bay College Administration and Athletic Director Matt Johnson said at the time of the announcement. "Volleyball is a very popular high school sport in our region, and the interest from prospects has been incredible. The decision to increase our athletic offerings demonstrates a strong commitment, by our administration and board, to the student athlete experience at Bay."

Other Unit IV recipients include:

— Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital in the form of \$11,197.53 earmarked for a portable ultrasound system.

— The Gladstone Area Schools with \$2,000 for education and \$1,000 for the Native American Music for Children Program.

— The Gilbert Elementary School in Marquette with \$2,000 for a book vending machine.

— Maple Ridge Township in Delta County which received \$5,000 towards Little League Playoffs.

— Bay de Noc Schools, \$3,000 for coordinating service project.

— Rapid River Schools, \$3,000, towards education.

— Escanaba Area Schools, \$3,000, towards education.

— Manistique Area Schools, \$3,000, towards education.

— Gwinn Area Schools, \$1,000, towards education.

— Mid-Peninsula Area Schools, \$3,000, towards education.

— Negaunee Area Schools, \$3,000, towards education.

— Ishpeming Area Schools, \$3,000, towards education.

See "2%," page

Anishinaabemowin 2023

*"We are the [Tribe], we are the [people]
We are the ones that make a brighter day so let's start [living it]
Oh, there's a choice we're making, we're saving our own lives
It's true we make a better day, [when it's] you and me."*

Adapted from, "We Are the World"
Look for the YouTube video - good music

So, beyond our "Indian Card," Tribal ID card...

Sault Tribe currently has an enrollment of almost 50,000 members. What a *diverse* group we are in almost every way! What we share *together* is our heritage — the lived experiences of our ancestors from the beginning and through all the years until today. All of us in all that time have made a contribution — in our daily choices, in how we live out our values, how we vote, and how we use our time, talent and treasure. In these ways we know we belong to this diverse, complex, and rich family — our sovereign nation. It feels good to know we belong to something bigger and more influential than ourselves.

Suggestions for Getting that "Belonging" Feeling:

Baaweting Anishinaabek n'doo dbendaagwas. The Indians at the rapids I belong to them.
(I belong to the Sault Tribe. (of Chippewa Indians))

N'gagwetaan'gane dbendaagwaziyaanh. I feel really good and whole that I belong.

Semaa n'da bagidinaa. enso giizhigak pii kidyaanh migwech. I put down tobacco every day when I say thank you.

Kina nda nawemaaganak weweni n'mikwenmaag. All my relatives in a good way I remember them.

N' Nishnaabe noozwin miinwaa n'doodem — n'naadimoo'igook. My spirit name and my clan — they help me.

N'wii kendaan aanind Anishinaabemowin. I want to learn some [of] (our language).

N'wii aabjitoon bangi enso giizhigak. I will use it a little bit every day.

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.

Mskominike Giizis Raspberry Moon

by Susan Askwith



Did you know we're a Sovereign Nation?

Sovereignty means we have the same power to govern ourselves — enact legislation (enforceable laws) and have a court system, to determine membership and how we care for each other in our own territory, like any state or federal government does. Without that sovereignty, we would be just another cultural group without status or protection. We would lose federal funding assistance that currently supports so many of our health, housing, education and other benefits we value for members, and for our children to come. To keep our sovereignty, we need three things: land (which we have as a tribe), our culture, and our language.

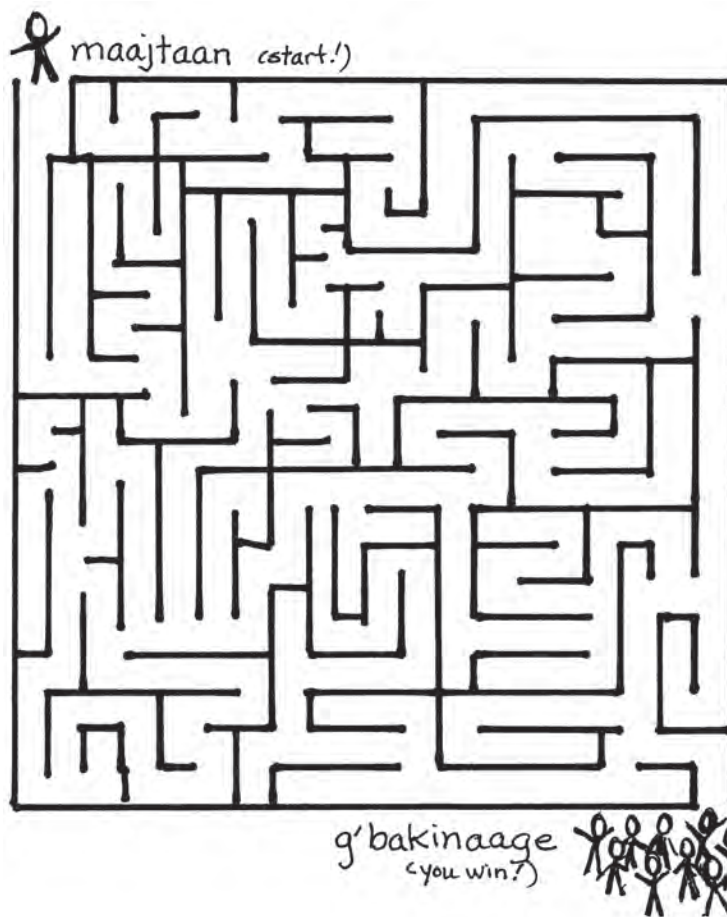
N'da niim jiingtamok-ing

I dance at the powwow
miinwaa n'naadimoog bmaadizijig odi
and I help people there.

N'wiijiwe Baaweting Anishinaabek. I participate in activities [of] Sault Tribe.

G'miijinaanan nooj gegoo Nishnaabe miijim maamwi. We eat all kinds of Indian food together.

N'da nendam nji sa n'bimaadizijig. I vote for the sake of my people.



How do Earth and Mars schedule their vacation? They planet.

Where do math teachers like to go on vacation? Times Square.

What do bees say in summer? It's swarm, isn't it? When do you go at red and stop at green?

When you're eating a watermelon.

What is the difference between a piano and a fish? You can tune a piano but you can't tuna fish.

A Way of Life: The four sacred medicines

Tobacco is the first plant that the Creator gave to Native people. It is the main activator of all the plant spirits. Three other plants, sage, cedar and sweetgrass, follow tobacco, and together they are referred to as the four sacred medicines.

The four sacred medicines are used in everyday life and in ceremonies. All of them can be used to smudge with, though sage, cedar and sweetgrass also have many other uses.

It is said that tobacco sits in the eastern door, sweetgrass in the southern door, sage in the west and cedar in the north. Elders say that the spirits like the aroma produced when we burn tobacco and the other sacred medicines.

TOBACCO

Traditional people say that tobacco is always first. It is used as an offering for everything and in every ceremony. "Always through tobacco," the saying goes.

Traditional tobacco was given to us so that we can communicate with the spirit world. It opens up the door to allow that communication to take place. When we make an offering of tobacco, we communicate our thoughts and feelings through the tobacco as we pray for ourselves, our family, relatives and others.

Tobacco has a special relationship to other plants: it is said to be the main activator of all the plant spirits. It is like the key to

the ignition of a car. When you use it, all things begin to happen.

Tobacco is always offered before picking medicines. When you offer tobacco to a plant and explain why you are there, that plant will let all the plants in the area know why you are coming to pick them.

When you seek the help and advice of an Elder, Healer or Medicine Person, and give your offering of tobacco, they know that a request may be made as tobacco is so sacred.

We express our gratitude for the help the spirits give us through our offering of tobacco. It is put down as an offering of thanks to the First Family, the natural world, after a fast. Traditional people make an offering of tobacco each day when the sun comes up.

Traditional tobacco is still grown in some communities. For example, the Mohawk people use a traditional tobacco that they grow themselves and that is very sacred to them.

SAGE

Sage is used to prepare people for ceremonies and teachings. Because it is more medicinal and stronger than sweetgrass, it tends to be used more often in ceremonies.

Sage is used for releasing what is troubling the mind and for removing negative energy.

It is also used for cleansing homes and sacred items. It also has other medicinal uses.

There is male sage and female sage. The female sage is used by women.

CEDAR

Like sage and sweetgrass, cedar is used to purify the home. It also has many restorative



REFERRALS TO HEALERS, ELDERS AND MEDICINE PEOPLE

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

There are always those who present themselves as Healers, Elders or Medicine People who have not earned that title and may use the teachings and medicines in the wrong way. It is important for everyone, especially

young people, to be aware of this and to exercise caution when they seek healing, teachings or advice. It is advisable to consult with people whom you trust to get referrals to respected and recognized Traditional Healers, Elders and Medicine People.

To obtain a referral to a Healer, Elder or Medicine Person in your area, or to make an appointment in the seven-county service area, call Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine at (906) 632-0236.

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

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SAULT TRIBE TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PROGRAM

★ **2023 SEPTEMBER HEALER'S CLINIC HOURS**

Gerard Sagassige

September 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19
Sault Ste. Marie Health Center
(906) 632-0236
Lori Gambardella

Wednesday, September 6th
St. Ignace Health Center
(906) 643-8689 or
(877) 256-0135

Wednesday, September 13th
Manistique Health Center
(906) 341-8469 or
(866) 401-0043

Wednesday, September 20th
Hessel Community Center
(906) 484-2727

George Goggeye

September 1, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29
Sault Ste. Marie Health Center
(906) 632-0236 Lori Gambardella

Any Questions, or to Book an Appointment Please Call
Traditional Medicine Program at
906-632-0236 or 906-632-5268

medicinal uses. Cedar baths are healing. When cedar is put in the fire with tobacco, it crackles. When it does this, it is calling the attention of the spirits to the offering that is being made.

Cedar is used in fasting and sweat lodge ceremonies as a form of protection: cedar branches cover the floor of the sweat lodge and a circle of cedar surrounds the faster's lodge.

SWEETGRASS

Sweetgrass is the sacred hair of Mother Earth. Its sweet aroma reminds people of the gentleness, love and kindness she has for the people. When sweetgrass is used in a healing circle it has a calming effect. Like sage and cedar, sweetgrass is used for smudging and purification.

TAKING CARE OF THE MEDICINES

You take care of these sacred medicines by keeping them in a dry place. They can be stored in paper bags or wooden boxes. If you have been using alcohol or drugs, Healers say you should wait four to seven days before touching the medicines.

WAABAGAA GIIZIS - LEAVES TURNING COLOR MOON - SEPTEMBER 2023

NIIZHWAASO GIIZHIGAT	NTAM GIIZHIGAT	NIIZHO GIIZHIGAT	NSWO GIIZHIGAT	NIIWO GIIZHIGAT	NAANO GIIZHIGAT	NGODWAASWO GIIZHIGAT
					1 Ashiishmaajii! (Good grief!)	2 E-kinomaagozid n'daaw. (I am a learner/ student.)
3 jidmoonhag (squirrels)	4 E-nokijig Giizhigat (Labor [the ones who work] Day)	5 kinoomaadiigamig ([the institution of] school)	6 Giiwse. (S/he is hunting.)	7 Aangwaamzin! (Pay attention!)	8 sipinigan (scissors)	9 zasweminan (chokecherries)
10 mitigwaab (bow)	11 bkokan (arrows)	12 mashkodewashk (sage)	13 mziniganan (notebooks, books, papers)	14 Pkibinaan. (S/he is picking fruit [other than berries].)	15 mshkiigominan (cranberries)	16 waawaashkesh wiiyaas (venison)
17 manoomin (wild rice)	18 kajgaatewin (umbrella)	19 mishiiminak (apples)	20 binewag (ruffed grouse)	21 mookmaan e-giinaag (sharp knife)	22 zhiibiigenaatig (writing tool)	23 Ntam Dgwaagin (First day of Autumn)
24 Giigoonhke. (S/he is fishing.)	25 bashkizigan (gun)	26 mijimenjigaanhs (laptop)	27 jiishkaamigagan (rake)	28 zaag'iganing (at the lake)	29 Mooshkaneshin Dibiki Giizis (It is a full moon.)	30 Zaawmingaande Bagwan Giizhigat (Orange Shirt Day)

Tribe welcomes Senior Attorney Ryan Mills

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Ryan Mills was recently hired by the Sault Tribe as its senior attorney. Mills has been practicing tribal law since 2013.

Mills said the idea to study tribal law happened during his third year of undergrad study at the University of Michigan. "I spent that summer in Washington D.C. with the Washington Internships for Native Students Summer Program. I worked for the Tribal Relations Department in the USDA, specifically the Natural Resources Conservation Service," he said. "While there, I took several federal Indian Law courses at American University, which sparked my curiosity and eventual desire to go to law school."

Mills graduated from U-M in 2008 with a bachelor's degree in English and a minor in American Indian studies. He took a short break between undergrad and law school and enrolled in Michigan State Universities College of Law Indigenous law program.

Mills said he went to law school with the goal of representing tribal interests and working for tribes. "While we were living in Washington state, I told my wife, Taylor, that I would welcome any chance to get back to Michigan to allow my family to have more direct connections to the tribe and to work for my



Ryan Mills

tribe," he said.

"When General Counsel Aaron Schlehber reached out with the opportunity to join the legal team here, everything seemed to line up for us to fulfill that dream. Taking my decade long experience gained from working with other tribes and bringing that to work for our tribe here is a tremendous opportunity and I am very much looking forward to helping shape the direction of our tribe through my legal representation. Not to mention, I think the Upper Peninsula is a beautiful place to raise a family. I have many fond memories of spending time up here as a child and am thrilled to be able to build those memories with my own children."

Mills said that he will be working with treaty rights issues, including fishing rights. "Ultimately, my job is to use my skills and expertise to provide legal advice to the tribe and its various departments, whether that be Enrollment, the Insurance Department, the Economic Development Corporation, Natural Resources, or the Gaming Authority, to name a few," he said.

Mills' past work experience includes the Indigenous Law and Policy Center at MSU College of Law in 2013 and 2014 on a variety of research projects and different tribal code revision projects. In 2014, he moved to Bellingham, Wash., to work for the Lummi Nation in its prosecutor's office handling mostly child welfare cases and juvenile prosecutions. In 2017, he was on contract with the Nooksack Indian Tribe handling cases for tribal members who were victims of domestic violence, providing necessary legal services such as emergency parenting plans and protection orders. Also in 2017, he began working as the tribal attorney for Upper Skagit Indian Tribe in Skagit County, Wash. He worked there for six years before coming to work for Sault Tribe in June 2023.

While he was at Upper Skagit he handled ICWA cases,

provided legal representation to its Health Clinic, Social Services, HR and Housing Departments. He also provided legal oversight on Upper Skagit's CARES Act and ARPA funded programs, including the Emergency Rental Assistance Program, the Homeowner Assistance Program and IHBG CARES funds.

"I got to work in the federal court on *US v. Washington* treaty fishing cases and advised their tribal council on a variety of tribal code changes and various legal and policy issues affecting that tribe," he said.

Outside of his passion for legal advocacy on behalf of tribes as sovereign nations, Mills said he also enjoys writing short fiction, playing board and video games and exploring the outdoors. "Taylor loves to go thrifting and antiquing so I've joined her in that hobby," he said. "Everyone tells us that Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula have amazing places to thrift and find what my 3-year-

old calls "treasures," so we are excited to explore that more. My daughter has been asking me to take her fishing, so I'll definitely have to get back into that as well. One of the things Mills is most thankful for moving to the Sault, is being "much closer to both my immediate and extended family and being able more fully integrate myself and my family into our Anishinaabe culture." While he and his family were able to join in many traditions and events of the Coast Salish Tribes, it was not the same as celebrating their own heritage here in Michigan. "Moving here and taking this position with the tribe truly feels like coming home," he said.

Mills said that most of his family lives in Michigan. "I grew up in Rockford, Mich., my dad is from St. Ignace and my mom is from Cadillac. I'm a Sault Tribe member and am very thankful for this opportunity to work for our tribe and to be able to immerse my daughters, ages 12 and 3, in our tribe's culture."

Powwow committee says thank you

The Niiwiin Noodin Powwow Committee says thank you to all of our sponsors, supporters, local communities and participants.

Thank you for all the financial donations and in-kind donations.

Thank you to all of the media outlets who helped spread the exciting news.

Thank you to our Traditional Medicine Department and every-

one who contributed time, energy, organizational efforts, donations, and participation in the 2023 Niiwiin Noodin Powwow.

The amount of donations and volunteers was truly a blessing.

Thanks to:

Knoph Construction, Schone's Chiropractic, UP Paper, Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital, Nicolet Bank, Synchronized

Networking Solutions, The Advisor, The Pioneer Tribune, Win Awenen Nisitotung (Sault Tribe newspaper), Jacks Fresh Market, Lake Effects Art Gallery, Kewadin Casinos, Gordon Food Service, Manistique Public Library, Dian Kerridge, Julie and Alan Barr of Kellar Williams Real Estate, Vincent Family, Allen Kerridge, Nila and Dennis Haug and Kathy Gustafson.

Tribe makes 2% payments

From "2%," page 3

In Unit V, the Alger County Commission on Aging was one of the recipients as \$7,884 was distributed for the Adult Day Program.

"They can come from anywhere in the community," Project Supervisor Kristine Lindquist said. "We average 10-12 per day, it varies."

The club meets from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Participants receive a healthy snack and engage in some kind of activity such as games, arts and crafts, and range of motion exercises. Socialization takes place not only with peers, but younger visitors for special events and even the occasional field trip.

On a recent visit, the club was engaged in making their own ice cream combining half and half, sugar and vanilla in a bag mixed inside a second bag with ice and salt.

"The 2 percent funding is amazing," said Lindquist. "Most folks can't afford any type of fee and this allows them to come for free. It's wonderful. We are very grateful for the funding from the Sault Tribe."

Other 2% recipients in Unit V

included:

— Superior Central Schools in Eben Junction with \$6,000 for Project Play On at Superior Central earmarked for band instruments.

— The Alger County Ice Arena in the form of \$5,000 towards a \$77,537.81 project to deliver a rubber flooring upgrade for the facility.

— The Munising Public Schools with \$13,808 for Native American Education and Academic Assistance through the Office of Indian Education Title VI Native Education Grant and another \$5,000 earmarked for improvements to the Mather Elementary School Playground.

— The County of Marquette with \$18,981.76 for the Iron Ore Heritage Recreation Authority trail extension.

— The City of Marquette received \$5,000 for the Upper Peninsula Children's Museum Playful Pathways program.

— The Marquette Area Public Schools with \$8,617 for Native American Education through Title VI.

For more information on how to apply for 2% funds, contact Candace Blocher at (906) 632-6281.

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Check out our online & in-person program options by scanning here:

WOCTEP is funded by the US Department of Education through the NACTEP program. Federal funds contribute to 92% of funding (\$500,666) and tribal support of 8% (\$42,329) for project year 1 (2022)

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StrongHearts supports Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act

EAGAN, Minn. – “It is with great anticipation and support that Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act will enhance and expand support systems designed to protect and prevent domestic and sexual violence,” StrongHearts Native Helpline CEO Lori Jump said July 28. “We applaud the efforts of U.S. Senators Bob Casey (D-PA) and Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) who introduced legislation today.”

Domestic and sexual violence impacts more than 1.3 million

Americans nationwide and Native American and Alaska Natives experience disproportionately high rates of violence. According to the National Institute of Justice, 84% of Native women experience violence in their lifetimes, and 56% experience sexual violence.

Legislation introduced July 28 contains significant enhancements for tribal nations and for the first time will dedicate funding for tribal coalitions and a national Indian domestic violence hotline.

“These are critical enhance-

ments and will improve access to and the delivery of services to our relatives across the country,” Jump said.

Committed to working together

“I’m introducing the Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act because there are far too many people in this nation suffering from abuse and violence, particularly those from underserved communities,” Senator Casey said. “I look forward to working with Senator Murkowski to make sure sur-

vivors across America have the support they need.”

Murkowski said, “I’m proud to once again join Senator Casey in introducing the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act to provide victims of domestic violence with the critical support they need.”

Murkowski added, “Too many Alaskans in rural communities face obstacles to receiving help. This bill would work to increase access to services like crisis counseling, emergency shelters, and support prevention efforts. We

must continue to improve access to support services for victims and their children and build on efforts to improve the safety of Alaska’s communities.”

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act of 1984 (FVPSA) was signed into law in 1984 as the federal government’s first response to the crisis of domestic violence, providing support via grants to domestic violence shelters and programs, including the National Domestic Violence Hotline, and domestic violence coalitions.

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

Beginning Sept. 1, 2023, the amount of food offered in the FDPIR Food Package will increase.

These changes support healthy eating by providing access to nutritious foods. Eggs, vegetables and meats will all see an increase, and frozen strawberries and bison stew meat will be added to the selection list.

Increase in the number of units in the egg category

Each family member may take any combination up to 2 units per person per month. Examples of

combinations that are treated as 2 units in the egg category are 1 dozen shell eggs and two 6-ounce bags of egg mix, four 6-ounce bags of egg mix, or 2 dozen shell eggs.

Increase in the number of units in the vegetable category

Each family member may take up to 18 units per person per month of fresh, frozen, or canned vegetables. The fruit and vegetable exchange, which allows you to swap 5 units of fruit for 5 additional units of vegetables, is permanently embedded in this guide rate

update, making it easier for FDPIR staff to issue additional vegetables. Now, 20 units of fruit and 18 units of vegetables per person per month can be selected. For example, a family of two will now be able to take 36 units of vegetables, an increase from 26 units of vegetables per month. This family will also be able to take their full allotment of 40 units of fruit per month

Increase in the number of units in the meat/poultry/fish category

Each family member may take

up to 5 units per person per month of canned or frozen meat, poultry, or fish.

For example, a family of 2 will now be able to take 10 units of meat, poultry, or fish, an increase from 6 units of meat, poultry, or fish per month.

New foods

Two new foods will be added to the FDPIR food package and made available beginning Sept. 1, 2023. Strawberries, whole, frozen in

a 1-pound pack, are a new fruit option and are treated as 1 unit.

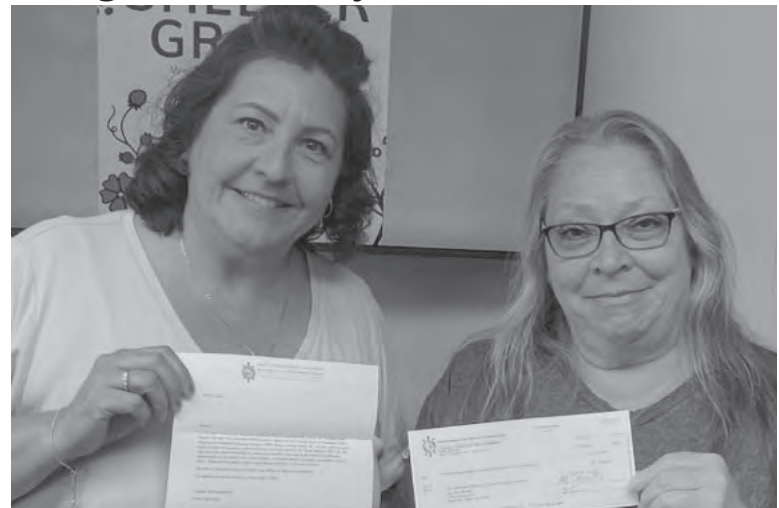
Bison stew meat, frozen in a 2-pound pack, is a new meat option and is treated as 1 unit.

For more information, contact USDA at (906) 635-6076.

Product information sheets and recipe cards for new foods are available and can be found here:

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/usda-foods/household-programs-product-information-sheets-proteins>.

Lodge of Bravery receives donation



The Advocacy Resource Center’s (ARC) Lodge of Bravery received a \$3,839 donation from the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi from t-shirt sales made during the the Nottawaseppi’s Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day event held May 5 in Grand Rapids, Mich. Shown holding the \$3,839 donation are ARC Program Director Jami Moran (left), and Shelter Manager Jane Cadreau.

Tribe offers Adolescent In Home Assistance Program

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services’ Adolescent In Home Assistance (AIHA) Program is designed to identify and provide services to adolescents who are engaging in at-risk behaviors.

AIHA provides culturally appropriate advocacy, support and connections with community-based services that enable the family

to remain together or reunite the family with the adolescent that is an out of home placement due to delinquency issues.

Participants must be between the ages of 11-18. Clients may self-refer.

The Adolescent in Home Assistance Program: May be voluntary or court ordered. Provides

incentives when progress is made with the treatment plan. Provides intensive home-based program with a mandated weekly face-to-face contact with the child. Provides life skills to clients. Ensures referrals for children in foster care are appropriate to assist with life skills.

Call ACFS at (800) 726-0093 or (906) 632-5250.

Energy assistance program available for your review

The Sault Tribe’s Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) 2023-2024 Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is available for your review. The LIHEAP program provides assistance to lower the burden of high energy bills and to increase energy efficiency of eligible Sault Tribe households in the Sault Tribe’s seven-county service area.

The plan is available for review and comment at www.saulttribe.com and the following ACFS locations:

- Sault Ste. Marie-2218 Shunk Rd.
- Manistique-5698 W Highway US-2.
- Kincheloe-60 Kincheloe.
- Munising-622 W. Superior Street.
- St. Ignace-1140 N. State

Street.

Public Comment will be heard Monday, Aug. 23, from 4-6 p.m. at 2218 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or comments can be emailed to Jbye@saulttribe.net.

Questions or comments, email Jbye@saulttribe.net or call 1-800-726-0093.

Ref: Notice of Public Hearing/2023-24 LIHEAP Plan.

Michigan's Upper Peninsula

Chippewa County Fair

August 28 - September 4

chippewafair.com



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Molly's Nest - urban fresh-cut flower farm

BY SCOTT BRAND

Nestled on just under 5-acres in St. Ignace, Molly's Nest, an urban fresh-cut flower farm is filling a niche in the Eastern Upper Peninsula in an environmentally friendly way.

"We are open all the time," said Robin Pavia of the stand located at 69 William Street. "It's all self-serve and on the honor system."

The farm truck, affectionately named Sonny, serves as the point-of-sale adorned with a decorative canopy to protect the fresh cut flowers and customers from the elements. Sonny essentially handles all the sales during the day while Robin and her husband Thomas "Two Feathers" Pavia work the landscaping part of the business.

"Everything is planted from seed inside our house," said Thomas of the activities that take place during the winter months. "We have dozens of different kinds."

The flower business sprung to life, the couple explained, three years ago when they planted more than 4,000 sunflower seeds on the highest ridge on the farm.

"The first year we did it, it was amazing," said Thomas. The bountiful crop of sunflowers prompted the couple to take their decorative sunflowers to the local farmer's market and the idea of doing this began to take root. Adding more flower varieties and expanding the beds has provided additional incentive and markets. Under the Community Supported Agriculture banner, the couple are now serving more than a dozen bouquet groups fulfilling weekly subscriptions.

"It's like Groundhog Day, every day," observed Robin "Get up and harvest flowers for two to three hours and then leave to do landscaping."

Robin also indicated that the business was like Christmas every day, because when they returned home it was always a surprise to see how many sales were made and how much money was collected.

Molly's Nest sits on a portion of the old Graham Farm which ran in the late 1800s and early 1900s. As a result, the Pavia Farm has more than 40 mature apple trees. Thomas envisions a day when he can set up a cider mill and offer field trips to local schools teaching the students about apple harvest and cider production. For now though, those apples are shared with friends and family for pies and fritters.

"We have (traditional) medicines all over this property," said Thomas. "Mullen, turkeytails, sweetgrass, plantain and wild yarrow."

Additional or anticipated crops include peaches, cherries, plums, apricots, pears, rhubarb, onions, garlic and peppers. Thomas admits, with a laugh, that some

of the sweet peppers turned out to be a little spicier than anticipated.

"We just got a brand-new greenhouse at the end of June," said Robin of the 30' x 96' addition. "We're really excited to have this, it's going to help us tremendously."

That's not to say there haven't been setbacks.

"The bugs, Japanese beetles, earwigs and grasshoppers," noted Thomas, "they're annihilating us."

The couple refrain from using harsher pesticides sticking with organic products to protect the bees. Part of that is due the pollination needs of the farm, but also because there are two thriving hives producing honey and a waiting list of interested individuals for this product.

Thomas travels the country as a Local 8 Iron Worker out of Milwaukee, essentially living out of his suitcase and up to 400 feet in the air going from project to project. It is a life he seems ready to leave behind as he learns the intricacies of the farm.

"You can use sumac to smoke the bees," said Thomas. "The red buds off of sumac kills the mites."

Another trick, he explained, involves putting powdered sugar on the bees, spring and fall, which prompts them to clean each other killing off more mites.

Thomas's family returned to the Eastern Upper Peninsula from California in the immediate wake of the 1992 Rodney King riots moving to the St. Ignace reservation and he graduated from LaSalle High School in 1995.

Robin's family never left the area, with her mother's side on Mackinac Island and her father's on the mainland in and around St. Ignace. They both have Native American ancestry.

The current homestead and business name comes from Robin's Aunt Molly Belonga-Chartrand and the custom sign still hangs on the grounds which originally belonged to her. Aunt Molly is also credited for keeping the field mowed providing the cleared land for the Pavia's to farm.

The farm also is home to a handful of feathered friends that provide an additional source of income.

"We sell duck eggs, too," said Robin.

The landscaping side of the business also provides the couple with a lot of satisfaction.

"We love landscaping," said Robin, adding the smiles on customer's faces is its own reward. "I love making people happy."

To get on the waiting list for upcoming landscape work call (906) 298-1633 or (906) 298-0563 or stop by at 69 William Street to buy some fresh cut flowers early in the morning and possibly catch the couple before they head out on their next job.



Thomas Pavia checking the bee hives.



Thomas and Robin Pavia with fresh cut flowers.



Robin Pavia watering the flowers.



The farm truck is affectionately called Sonny.



Odenaang Homes Tribal Enterprise (OHTe)

Home Replacement Program

Administered by Sault Tribe Housing Authority

The OHTe Home Replacement Program provides a single wide replacement trailer home to members of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians who live in substandard housing, are homeless or have no other resources for housing assistance. This program is limited to tribal members residing in Unit 1 Chippewa County. Priority is extended to the elderly, disabled low-income families with dependent children, veteran's, or individuals living in overcrowded and unsafe conditions. There are no ADA/Handicapped Accessible homes available.

*****Applications will be accepted August 3, 2023 through August 31, 2023. There are 22 available single wide trailer homes.*****

For more information, or to request an application
call: 800-794-4072 or 906-495-1450 or
Email: Homereplacementprogram@saulttribe.net

Eligibility Requirements

- ♦ **Must be an Enrolled Member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians**
- ♦ **Applicant must reside within the Tribes Unit 1 service area of Chippewa County**
- ♦ **Applicant provides proof of substandard housing conditions**
- ♦ **Applicant meets the definition of low income at or below 185% of Federal Poverty Guidelines**
- ♦ **Meets the ownership requirements as listed in the OHTe Home Replacement Program Policy**

"This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF), a part of American Rescue Plan, awarded to state, local, and tribal governments across the country in response to and recovery from COVID-19 Pandemic.



Brimley '61 grads



The Brimley Class of 1961 was well represented with three members, Dave Nainan, George Soorus and Emory Schwiderson, at a recent tribal elder lunch. Nainan wore a shirt which read CLASS OF '61: Born in the year of steel (the penny), Studied by and with Superior (the school), A blue ribbon bunch (not the beer), 61 & 61 (Still having fun!)

Walking on...

ELEANOR ROSE SWARTZ

Eleanor Rose Swartz, beloved mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, peacefully passed away on July 28, 2023.

Born Oct. 2nd, 1958, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., she was the daughter of Virginia Germain McPherson and Fred Mongene, and step-daughter of Donald McPherson. All of whom she now joins in eternal rest.

Eleanor had an accomplished career as an electrical panel wirer, showcasing her technical expertise. She was deeply connected to her Native American heritage and proudly embraced her affiliation with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Eleanor was a caring sister to Alan Mongene, Elizabeth Trimm, Donna Smith, Ken Mongene, Mark Vasser, and the late George Mongene. She leaves behind a loving spouse, Gene Swartz Jr, and her adoring children, Mariah Swartz, Monica Swartz, and Devon Swartz. Eleanor was a devoted pet owner and leaves behind her beloved dogs, Bear and Benny, who will miss her dearly.

Eleanor was a devoted grandmother to Keagan Swartz, Haedyn Swartz, Kaylee Chaudoin, and Reilynn Swartz.

Additionally, she took immense joy in being a great-grandmother to Tyler Jr. Swartz-Majeske and Finnley

Swartz-Majeske.

During her life, Eleanor had a passion for arts and crafts. In her later years, she found pleasure in rock painting, a creative outlet that brought her enrichment and happiness. She also enjoyed leisurely car rides and spending time watching movies with her family. Eleanor Rose Swartz will be missed but forever remembered for her unconditional love, and unwavering devotion to her family. She will live on in the hearts of those she touched. May she rest in peace.

DALE STEWART WILSON

Dale Stewart Wilson, 69, passed away Saturday, July 15, 2023, at MyMichigan Medical Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Dale was born on Aug. 4, 1953, to Marshall and Julie (Tolliver) Wilson in Kansas City, Mo. He graduated with the Sault High Class of 1971. On Feb. 23, 1974, he married Janis Ann Gervais at St. Mary's Church in Sault Ste. Marie.

Dale was employed at Marchetti Distributors doing warehouse inventory. He loved hunting, fishing and sports, especially NASCAR, and his dog, Otis.

See "Walking on," page 18

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Corbiere graduates in top five

Aurora Corbiere, daughter of Cassandra Kibble and David and Jen Corbiere, and granddaughter of Sue Blanford and the late Jack Kibble of Sault Ste. Marie, and Faye Corbiere and the late Lyman Corbiere of Manitoulin Island, graduated from Sault Area High School in May 2023. Aurora was involved in soccer, pom poms, Business Professionals of America, SHACC Student Advisory Committee, Spanish Club and the National Honor

Society. She was one of the top five graduating seniors and top five Native American graduates.

She and her grandpa, Jack (who was the tribe's education director for many years), often engaged in banter about college. His wish was for her to attend University of Michigan; she countered by telling him she was considering Michigan State University. Aurora will be attending U-M in the fall for biomedical engineering.

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Team Elm 2 pulls up 11,000 pounds of wild parsnip



Photo submitted by Hadley Reed

The Environmental Department would like to recognize the immense amount of work completed this summer by our AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps team. This year's team, named Elm 2, consisted of seven members, mostly young women. Team members came from across the country with representatives from California and Washington in the west to Vermont and Virginia to the east. AmeriCorps NCC is a national organization focusing on short-term community improvement projects. Elm 2 was a part of their summer of service program that lasted just over six weeks. During their time in Sault Ste. Marie, Elm 2 attended the Grand Assembly, Engineers Day, the Sugar Island powwow and invasive species events in Paradise and Manistique, but, their main work was completed at Odenaang. In continuing the work last year's team did, Elm 2 removed over 11,000 pounds of wild parsnip from the south side of the Odenaang housing complex. Wild parsnip is a noxious invasive species that poses environmental hazards as well as hazards to human health. Removing the wild parsnip at Odenaang has and will continue to protect tribal members and residents as well as the native species in the area. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575 or hreed@saulttribe.net.

Native-owned Rosette Law Firm welcomes Amber Neely

Rosette Law Firm is pleased to announce that Amber Neely, a Wayne State University Law School graduate, and a University of Michigan Law School graduate student dual enrollment program scholar, joined the firm as an Associate in November 2022. Neely is an emerging force in federal Indian Law, bringing a unique perspective to the field and a passion for mentoring those interested in the subject.

A lifelong passion for environmental activism, along with her discovery of Ojibwe ancestry as a young adult, inspired Neely's path toward becoming a warrior lawyer pursuing social and environmental justice in Indian Country. At Rosette Law, Neely counsels and assists Indian tribes and people on matters relating to Land Back and federal trust land, tribal sovereignty of Native nations, federal and state recognition of Indigenous tribes, inter-tribal relations, and treaty-protected environmental and civil rights, among other matters. In her first year with Rosette,



Amber Neely

Neely supported the filing of a federal complaint asserting violations of the Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act concerning the preservation of two treaty-protected indigenous fish

species facing extinction.

During law school, Neely had legal internships with the American Civil Liberties Union of Michigan and the Great Lakes Environmental Law Center (GLELC). Her experience with the ACLU included a class action lawsuit against predatory lending in minority communities and working with the ACLU's Racial Justice Project to provide policy recommendations for racial justice in policing and the peaceful serving of warrants. For the GLELC, Amber surveyed state environmental protection programs for compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and researched methods of cumulative impact analysis for multiple sources of pollution in overburdened communities.

Neely completed the certificate Peacemaking Circles: Indigenous Healing in Times of Conflict, an Indigenous Peacemaking Initiative with the Native American Rights Fund at Stanford University. As a Peacemaker, Neely endeavors to

assist Indian tribes and individuals in resolving internal and external conflicts in a manner consistent with traditional Indigenous justice systems. Amber brings creativity to her law practice. Prior to pursuing a law degree, she was the director of the non-profit organization E.A.R.T.H. Angels, which she founded in 2012, promoting environmental sustainability activism and stewardship through performing arts.

Neely is passionate about bridging gaps in mainstream understanding of historical and modern practices, policies and precedent that affect Indian Country. Neely has presented programs such as Indigenous peoples and U.S. government policies and next month along with her Rosette Law colleagues will present a program in resourceful leadership at the Women Empowering Women for Indigenous Nations (WEWIN) 2023 conference.

Neely is a John D. Voelker Foundation scholar, and scholarship recipient of the Beverly Clark & Lynnmarie Johnson

American Indian Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan.

Neely's commitment to mentoring extends to individuals keen on understanding and practicing federal Indian Law. She is enthusiastic about sharing her knowledge, expertise and passion for Indigenous rights to empower a new generation of lawyers who are interested in this unique field. Neely is available to assist tribal members considering law school navigate the admissions and funding processes. The Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver program is available to qualifying members of federally recognized Indian tribes in Michigan, putting investment in higher education within reach for some tribal members.

For further information about Amber Neely or the Rosette Law Firm, please contact us at or visit www.rosettelaw.com.

Rosette, LLP is a majority Native American owned law firm providing representation in the areas of business transactions, litigation, and governmental affairs.

Michigan Cottage Food Law Aug. 30, 6-8 p.m. Zoom Webinar

Learn how to prepare and sell foods to the public under Michigan's Cottage Food Law. This 2-hour workshop combines education about the Michigan Cottage Food Law and the food safety aspects of preparing and selling cottage foods safely and successfully. Michigan Cottage Food Law allows residents to manufacture foods in home kitchens and storing those products at home. Topics include preparing, packaging, labeling, storing, and transporting cottage foods.

Participants that attend the full program will receive a Michigan Cottage Food Law/Food Safety Certificate.

Join us online via Zoom using your laptop, tablet, smartphone, or any device with internet access at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/michigan-cottage-food-law-aug30>



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Sault elders picnic day included steaks and games



Sault Elder Meal Program Cook Phillip Nertoli helping Chairman Austin Lowes cook steaks.



Chairman Lowes loading up grilled steaks for Unit I Director Michael McKerchie to serve to the elders.



Unit I Director Isaac McKechnie seasons the steaks as Lowes and Nertoli keep a close eye how they are cooking.



Photos by Brenda Austin

The Unit I elder picnic was held Aug. 2 and the Unit I board members and chairman provided steak for the event. Shown above are Elder Program employees and tribal board representatives. Back row L-R: Krissy Giffin, Elaina Wallace, Phil Nertoli, Austin Lowes, Darin Smith, Mike McKerchie, and Roger Perron. Front row L-R: Holly Kibble, Chelsea Davenport and Haven Aikens, Addison Hill, and Joshua Green.



Kurt White played a game of lucky duck draw to try and win a Hershey Kiss. Junior worker Joshua Green, 14, (center) was helping Elder Center Director Holly Kibble with the games.

Marquette elders picnic held at Presque Isle Pavilion



A Marquette elder enjoys an ice cream treat.



One of the drums invited to the picnic.



Photos submitted by Holly Kibble
The Marquette elders picnic was held Aug. 3, with about 112 in attendance. These gentlemen were keeping an eye on how the burgers were doing.

Lindsey Willow Smith made ICGC Scholar in History



Lindsey Willow Smith is a Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians citizen, born and raised in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan. She earned her undergraduate degree in History with a minor in Museum Studies, summa cum laude, at the University of

Michigan. Her undergraduate honors thesis, "Ancestry For Sale: Native Identity on Ancestry. Com Forums," uses forum posts from Ancestry.com to explore how Native identity is created by users through historical documents rather than traditional tribal ways of knowing and understanding community. She then worked as a Curatorial Research Assistant at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. She is interested in understanding the role of society in identity formation, especially in relation to how digital platforms influence how people view themselves. She is now pursuing her Ph.D. in History at the University of Minnesota.

Lindsey is the daughter of tribal member Wayne Smith and Marna Bunting-Smith and granddaughter of tribal member of Geneva Mastaw.

29th ANNUAL

SPIRITUAL GATHERING & POTLUCK
Friday, AUG 18th
3PM

GRAND ENTRY:
Saturday, AUG 19th
1PM & 7PM

FEAST MEAL:
Saturday, AUG 19th

Sunday: Open Powwow

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AUGUST 18th-20th

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SPIRITUAL HELPER:
John Causley

ARENA DIRECTOR:
Tyler Bouschor

EMCEE:
Josh Homminga

HEAD MALE DANCERS:
Abe Bouschor

HEAD FEMALE DANCER:
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18th Annual Newberry Youth Powwow provides mentors for the next generation



Sydney Pages, 11, Isabella Fisher, 11 and Kelley Paquin strip cedar.



Laura Bouschor prepares five-year-old, Myla for the powwow.



Kelley Paquin served as a hairdresser for Nicole Currie, 10.



Kim Jewett paints a snake on six-year-old, Dakota.



The Munising Chapter of Youth Education and Activities traveled to Newberry for the powwow.



A large contingent from the Hessel YEA visited as well.



Jingle dress dancers.



Arena Director Tyler Bouschor mentored 11-year-old Taralyn Scheenamem.



Junior Head Dancer Titus Causley, 12, of Brimley with Head Dancer Rich Lewis.

Photos by Scott Brand



The Kitichikipi Singers (clockwise beginning with the first adult) included Cody Gierke, Greg Gierke, Chase Chartier, 8, Kayden Siewert, 12, Brennan Hoholik, 10 and Ruckus Gilbert, 8.



From left to right, John Schiding, Chuck Somner, Jim Landreville and Joe Causley on the Makwa Giizhik drum.



Fancy shawl dancers.



Junior Emcee Aubrey Adams, 11, of Bark River and Emcee Cal Burnside with the cash for an upcoming spot dance.



Junior Female Head Dancer Elizabeth Wing, 15, of Munising with Head Dancer Rita Bouley.

26th Sugar Island Powwow held July 14-16



Carol Ernst from Ann Arbor, Mich., visited with her cousin John Ernst at the Sugar Island Powwow on Saturday.



Bernadette Azevedo (right) teaching beading. From left, Andrew Waldo, 9, Sara Waldo, Sadie Waldo, 12, Avery Gruber, 6, and Andrea Gruber, all from Ohio.



Photos by Brenda Austin

Visiting from Ohio were Steffanie and Brent Eller, with their children Rayna, 8, Riley, 6, and Rusty, 10.



Master bead work artist George Martin of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Tribe (Gun Lake).



Carrying the Agent Orange staff was Butch VanEllen from Newaygo, Mich.



Gathering for Saturday's grand entry.



Veteran Haley Sebastian carrying an eagle staff.



Veterans volunteer to carry staffs during grand entry.



Head dancers Sonja and Jefferson Ballew.

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SAULT TRIBE thrive

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

Sault Tribe Thrive is an MBDA AIANNH Project estab-

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

To view the online business

directory, go to: www.saulttribe-thrive.com/business-directory/.

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

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See "Directory," page 20

Walking on continued from page 11

Dale is survived by his wife, Janis; his daughter: Marcy (Jim Smith) Wilson Smith; son: Brian (Melissa Sibbald Wilson) Wilson; grandchildren: Jackie Tasker Wilson, Emily Wilson, Jaiden Porcaro, Lily Wilson, Wade Smith, Saryna Smith; and a great-grandson: Carter Jacobsen. Also surviving Dale are his brothers: Bob (Denise) Tolliver and Dan Wilson, and a sister: Lisa (Bill) Jones, as well as numerous brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, great-nieces and nephews, and many friends that he loved dearly.

Dale was preceded in death by his biological father: Marshall Wilson; his mother: Julie (Tolliver) Cryderman, and the much-loved man that raised him: Newt Cryderman; and his brother: Darrell Cryderman.

Dale's family would like to thank the staff of both the My Michigan – Sault Oncology Department and the staff of second floor Med-Surg, as well as Dr. Abraham.

A Celebration of Life party for Dale was held on July 22 at the home of Art and Marcy Derry.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to Hospice of the EUP.

NORMAN FREDERICK PINE

Norman Frederick Pine, Native American name Ogashkimasii Shingwauk - meaning King Fisher Bird, 70, of Sault Sainte Marie, Mich. passed away on Sunday, July 16, 2023, at home.

Norman was born on Dec. 9, 1952, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

to Alex and Nancy (Paquette) Pine.

Norman graduated from Sault High School and attended Alpena College. He was a Sault Tribe Community Member.

Norman was employed at Kewadin Casino and Valley Camp for many years.

Norman's favorite pastime was spending time with his 13 grandkids and great grandkids.

Norman spent countless hours playing any game request and countless hours at McDonald's playland with his grandkids and great grandkids.

Norman's favorite pastime in the evening was to relax on the couch while watching Star Trek with his beloved wife Debbie and two dogs Prancer and Foxy.

Norman was a loving husband and father like no other. His whole entire life revolved around his family. There was not one moment that went by that he didn't put his family first. His heart was so big he would never say no. We see why my mother loved him so much.

Norman is survived by his wife: Deborah Pine; three daughters: Sheila Kibble, Dorothy Mayne (Tyler Dykes) and Nicole Oneski (Marcus Oneski); son: Shawn Wilds (Amy Wilds); 13 grandchildren: Samantha Shanor, Dillon Hillock, Rylee Owaski, Micheal Wilds, Kiana Wilds, Jack Wilds, Brayden Mayne, Raquel Pages, Sophie Oneski, Marcus

Oneski and two great grandchildren.

He is also survived by his sisters: Mary Shipp of Sault Ste. Marie; Chiquita "Keeta" Alred of North Carolina; and Harriette "Princess" Pine of Sault Ste. Marie.

Norman was preceded in death by his parents; by his sisters: Sophie Kizor, Lavina Mikolay and Margaret Ann Scott; and by his brothers Alex, James, Robert, Peter and Albert Pine.

A funeral service was held July 20, 2023, at Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building (Cultural Center) with Father Romeo Officiating.

FRANCES M. "GINGER" ALDRICH

Frances M. "Ginger" Aldrich, 70, of Munising, Mich. and formerly of Manistique, Mich. died Saturday, July 22, 2023 at her home, under the loving care of her family and North Woods Home Hospice. She was born on Oct. 14, 1952 in Manistique, the baby of seven children to the late Chester "Chet" and Frances "Frankie" (Gould) Elliott. Ginger grew up in Manistique and enjoyed tap dancing as a child. She graduated from Manistique High School in 1972. Ginger welcomed into the world her first born son Troy in 1971. She married Leonard Aldrich on Jan. 12, 1978 and together they welcomed Amanda and Brandy to their growing family. Ginger worked as a waitress at many establishments and took great pride in the service she provided to countless patrons at A&W, Big Boy, Sunny Shores, Harbor Inn, and Branding Iron. She also worked as a caregiver at Stepping Stone in Manistique. When Ginger and Leonard moved to Munising around 2013, she started working at Snyder's Drug store and Family Fare. She loved her work family at the store and was a cornerstone of the deli. Ginger enjoyed crocheting and was a great dancer and could polka like no other. At weddings she would find a dance partner and steal the floor. She enjoyed taking rides in the woods listening to the oldies on the radio and sitting in her garage listening to the rain fall. For not liking it in the beginning, Ginger became a huge NASCAR fan and cheered on Dale Earnhardt, Jr. She looked forward to yearly trips with Leonard and her kids to Michigan International Speedway to watch races. The most important thing to Ginger was her family. She was the biggest cheerleader for her kids and loved every moment with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

She is survived by her husband – Leonard Aldrich of Munising; children – Troy (Jennie) Baker of Manistique, Amanda (Adam Tyson) Riggers of Isabella, Mich. and Brandy (Chad Puckett) Deisenroth of Gaylord, Mich.; grandkids – Taya (Alex), Tyler (Ann), Kaleb, Kevin, Bailey (Dale) Michael (Tayler), Alex (Brooke), Alexis (Austin),



Isabella, Hudson, Hank, and Bentley; great-grandchildren – Harlee, Julieann, Aliyah, Aria, Colson, Thea, Ryker, Chase, Sage and two more on the way; sister – Nancy Zellner; and numerous nieces and nephews. Ginger was preceded in death by her parents – Frankie and Chet; siblings – Betty, Chet, Charlie, Mary Jean, and Tommy; and great-granddaughter – Mylie May Marie.

Private family services are being planned for a later date.

Ginger's obituary and online guestbook may be viewed and signed at bowermanfuneralhome.net.

BRAYDEN ALLEN MORGAN

Brayden Allen Morgan, 12, of Newberry, passed away suddenly Saturday, July 29, 2023, at MyMichigan Medical Center-Sault Ste. Marie.

Born March 24, 2011, in Sault Ste. Marie, son of Roy McClard and Brittany Morgan, Brayden just completed the fifth grade as a student of Three Lakes Academy in Curtis.

Brayden brought so much joy to everyone that met him, he had this energy about him that turned even the worst day around with his infectious smile and laugh. Brayden enjoyed spending time with his family, playing basketball, skateboarding, soccer, fishing, the outdoors, collecting and trading Pokémon cards and being with his friends. His joy for life and everything it involved was so inspiring to those around him. Brayden was also a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Brayden was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather Glenn Payment and maternal great grandmother Eleanor Belanger.

Brayden is survived by his loving parents, Roy McClard (Avery Mitchell) of Cedarville and Brittany Morgan (Dakota Moore) of Newberry; sister, Alexis Troop of Newberry; paternal grandparents, Kelly (Bob) Beckett of Sault Ste. Marie; maternal grandparents, Bryan Morgan of Sault Ste. Marie and Donna Causley of Newberry; his loving aunts, April Morgan of Newberry and Lisa Payment of Sault Ste. Marie; loving uncles, Bryan A. Morgan of Newberry and Michael and Zachary Payment of Sault Ste. Marie; and loving cousins, Aysa of Cheboygan, Mich., Christian of Sault Ste. Marie, and Hunter, Kaydence, Damon, Hermione, Hendrix, Carter, and Calanthe all of Newberry.

Per request, cremation services were accorded. A memorial service will be scheduled at a later date.

Condolences may be expressed at <https://www.beaulieufuneralhome.com/obituary/brayden-morgan>. Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry is assisting the family.

MARY RUTH GAMELIN

Mary Ruth Gamelin, 75 of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., went home to be with her Lord on July 17, 2023, at Pennington House

in Pickford, Mich., surrounded by her family.

Mary Ruth was born in Sault Ste. Marie on September 22, 1947, to the late Jim W. and Dorothy Mae (McKay) Brownlee.

Mary Ruth was a graduate of Sault High School and was a member of the St Isaac Jogues Catholic Church and American Legion Post #3. Mary Ruth was an elder and member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. On April 26, 1969, Mary Ruth married Alvin Gamelin in Sault Ste. Marie.

Mary Ruth absolutely loved her job and the tourists while working with Soo Locks, then Sault Historic Sites handing out promotional brochures.

Rain or shine she always had a smile.

She enjoyed spending time with the Sault Tribe Elders, attending lunches, and keeping up on monthly meetings, and many bus trips.

She especially loved all her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Of the many things she enjoyed was her time spent with her friend Joann Nault going to McDonald's, Wendy's, and shopping.

She loved her church, Saint Isaac Jogues.

Mary Ruth is survived by her daughter: Michelle (Gary) Dunkel; and grandchildren: Christin (Jordan Perry) Dunkel, Amanda (James) Neuenschwander, Carrie (Becky Nelson) Dunkel; and great grandchildren: Jaden Dunkel, Adelyn Perry, Mackenzie Perry, Arya, Ivan, Neuenschwander. Mary Ruth was also survived by her siblings: Nancy (Wayne) Lowes, and Kathy (Marty Martell) Laprairie; also, one nephew Rich Lowes.

Mary Ruth was preceded in death by the love of her life, Alvin Gamelin in 2009.

A funeral mass was held on July 21, 2023, at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church with Fr. Dominic as Celebrant.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to the Pennington Home or St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church.

SIERRA HUDAK

Sierra passed away peacefully with her family by her side on July 2, 2023 following her courageous battle with cancer.

Sierra was born in Cheboygan, Mich. on Jan. 30, 1997 to Russell and Kathy (Ventimiglia) Hudak Jr.

She was very proud of her Native American heritage and loved to go hunting. Some of her hobbies included rock hunting & collecting, and taking care of her many house plants. Sierra was well known for her love and passion for animals. She was



a very involved aunt and was always there for her niece and nephew. Sierra was a friend to many, eager to extend out a helping hand and had a smile that could brighten up any room.

Sierra is survived by her parents, Russell and Kathy Hudak; sister, Samantha Hudak; brother in law, Dustin Shields; nephew, Acea Bruce; niece, Ashland Shields; grandmothers, Gertrude Newman and Dorothy Hudak; and best friend, Paige Willis.

She was preceded in death by her grandfathers, Russell Hudak Sr. and John Ventimiglia; aunt, Julie Striebich; uncle, Charlie Ventimiglia; uncle, Robert McLean; and cousin, Chelsea Gregory.

A benefit/celebration of life dinner was held on July 15, 2023 at the Cheboygan Moose Lodge.

Fly high our Angel you will forever be missed!

PHILLIP FRANCIS ANDREWS

Phillip Francis Andrews, 86, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died at the EUP Hospice House in Sault Ste. Marie on Aug. 4, 2023. He was born on Sugar Island, Mich., on June 5, 1937, to Joseph and Josephine G. (Kinney) Andrews.

Phil grew up on Sugar Island and was the third oldest of twelve siblings. He moved to Ohio in 1968, where he met Joanne Hess, and they married on July 15, 1972, and raised their one child, Amy and one step child Melissa.

Phil lived in Vandalia, Ohio, from 1968 to 1988, before moving back to Michigan. He lived in Hessel, Mich., for thirty-two years before moving to Sault Ste. Marie.

Phil was a member of the Drum Club Union in Hessel for twenty years.

Phil loved playing music, especially the drums and the harmonica. He also liked playing cards, gardening, taking walks, fishing, picking sweet grass and creating art.

Phil is survived by his daughter, Amy Andrews-Romans of Fort Wayne, Ind.; stepdaughters, Judy Johnson of Richmond, Ohio, and Melissa Lewis of Springfield, Ohio; grandchildren, Kitanna Jade Sylvester, and Alexander Xavier Sylvester; great grandchild, Tissaia Sage Sylvester; brother, Harry Andrews of West Carlton, Ohio; and sisters, Michelle Andrews of Sault Ste. Marie, Josephine Kavo of Traverse City, Mich., Beatrice Leighton of Sugar Island, Mich., and Shirley LaJoice of Florida.

Phil was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Josephine; wife, Joanne; sister Margaret, sister Charlotte, sister Pauline, sister Lucy, both Edward, and brother Gary.

Final Resting Place will be at Mable Grove Cemetery on Sugar Island, Mich.

A celebration of life was held at Sault Tribe Niigaanagizhik building on Thursday Aug. 10, in Sault Ste Marie, Mich.



Tribe successfully raise whitefish in pond

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

For the past four years, the Sault Tribe Fisheries Department has stocked and raised whitefish in a 2-acre pond located within the Odenaang Housing Development.

“We consider this a very successful venture. It was widely believed that whitefish could not be raised in ponds at this latitude due to the temperatures,” Sault Tribe Fisheries Department Hatchery Manager Rusty Aikens said.

Aikens said about 30,000 whitefish fry are stocked in the pond as soon as the ice has melted, generally in May. The first year the pond was in operation, the fish were harvested in June and July. The last two years, they were harvested in October.

Aikens said where they release the fish depends on their origin. “We have had years of low fry availability from our own hatchery, so we stocked the ponds with fry from Little Traverse Bay Band, which uses Lake Michigan brood stock. On those years, the fish are returned to Lake Michigan, typically Harbor



Finger-length whitefish Springs. When we use Lake Huron fry from our hatchery the fish are stocked back at Nunn’s Creek. This year, we are hoping to implant some of the released fish with transmitters so Lake Michigan fish were used, due to the more robust receiver array in Lake Michigan,” he said.

Fisheries staff like to return the fish to the same body of water their parents were collected from because there are genetic differences in the different stocks of Great Lakes whitefish. Those differences include mouth shapes and sizes, depending on where the stock is taken from and what they are feeding on. Size is also determined by genetics.

When the fry are released into the pond in the spring they are very small and weak. Survival rates coming out of the pond in the fall have ranged from 11% up to 30% and fisheries staff are working on improving those rates.

Fisheries Aide DJ Smith said, “Those survival rates are ones we are happy with currently. Raising whitefish is new and we are one of probably two in the world pond-raising them, so we are still learning and improving on those numbers. The fish that do come out of this pond are much more capable of surviving.”

Aikens said one of the exciting aspects is how productive pond rearing can be. “The ponds have produced 86 to 234 Kg per hectare, which is very impressive. For comparison, ponds in Finland produce 25 to 35 Kg per hectare and walleye ponds produce 60-100 Kg per hectare. As it becomes more evident that pond rearing is not only achievable but is more efficient, more cost effective and produces healthier fish, exploring ways to expand is the next step. We have had early discussion on how that could work,



Assistant Fisheries Biologist Kate Bentgen with the day’s catch.

but no definite plans are in place as of now.”

Assistant Fisheries Biologist Kate Bentgen and Fisheries Aide DJ Smith make weekly trips out to the pond in the early morning hours to set a net with the goal of collecting 15 fish to track growth rates and diets. The fish are checked for length, weight, stomach contents, and if they find anything out of the ordinary, they document it with photos.

Water samples are also collected and used to track dissolved oxygen, temperature, PH, pyto and zooplankton densities.

“Whitefish is culturally and economically important to the tribe,” Smith said. “There wasn’t

a lot of work being done with whitefish, but they are one of the key species that are very much in decline in recent years.

Most of the whitefish currently in the pond will be removed and overwintered in the tribe’s hatchery. About 100 whitefish fingerlings will be left in the pond allowing staff the resources needed to research best practices for winter rearing.

Once the ice is gone in the spring, 100 of the fish from the hatchery will be implanted with transmitters and be held in the pond for a short time to heal before being released into Lake Michigan where they will be tracked.



D.J. Smith and Kate Bentgen check the net on Odenaang Pond to monitor whitefish growth rates.



Sault Tribe Fisheries returns National Walleye Tour fish to the St. Mary’s River

BY SCOTT BRAND

The Sault Tribe Fisheries Team played a critical role in last month’s National Walleye Tour safely returning nearly 90 percent of the captured fish back into the waters they came from.

The July 27 & 28 tournament had close to 200 anglers, both professionals and amateurs, combing to bring more than 400 fish to the scales, but as soon

as the final weights were tallied and pictures taken, the fisheries department was ready to leap into action.

“We take them in transport trucks and get them back in the water,” said Sault Tribe Fisheries Department Hatchery Manager Rusty Aikens, “as soon as the trucks are full.”

Aikens explained the crew made five trips on the first day

of the tournament, releasing 88 percent of the walleyes at different locations along the St. Mary’s River. Those that were floating, instead of swimming were retained by staff for biological sampling.

“We take them to the fish house for processing,” said Aikens of the fish that perished, “then they are distributed to the elders. They don’t go to waste.”



Above, Rusty Aikens loading the holding tank, while to the right, Matt Allard brings another basket to the truck.



Photos by Brenda Austin and Scott Brand
This team was hard at work to ensure as many walleyes as possible could be returned to the river following the National Walleye Tour event on July 27 and 28. From left to right are Kaya Beaudoin, Matt Allard, D.J. Smith and Jason Smith with Rusty Aikens perched above in the bed of the Sault Tribe Fish Hatchery truck.

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

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

Rapid River 49878

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

muscottspainting.com
Construction

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

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

Cedar Springs 49319
Nature's Cure
Joel Halloran
Cedar Springs, MI 49319
(616) 970-8016
sales@naturecurekratom.com
naturecurestore.com
Personal Care Services

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Holt 48842
Moore Trospen Construction
Ted Moore
Holt, MI 48842
(517) 694-6310
tmoore@mooretrospen.com
mooretrospen.com
Construction

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Livonia 48154
Greene Environmental Services
Mike Greene
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(734) 272-8434
mgreene@greeneenvironmentals-
ervices.com
greeneenvironmentalservices.com
Environmental

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

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

See "Diretory," page 22

Sault Tribe Thrive business directory beyond Michigan border

From "Directory," page 21

Pontiac 48340
Fast & Secure Towing & Recovery
 Ronald McClusky Jr.
 Pontiac, MI 48340
 (248) 993-3632
 ronaldalcar@gmail.com
 Transportation
Swartz Ceek 48473
Premier Learning
 Colleen Grace Ford
 Swartz Creek, MI 48473
 (810) 732-6493
 cgkford@comcast.net
 Education
Williamston 48895
Dream Catchers Consulting
 Bill Pemble
 Williamston, MI 48895
 (517) 243-2877
 pemblew@gmail.com
 dreamcatchers.tech
 Consulting

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

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

facebook.com/profile.php?id=100033470683369
 Janitorial Services
California
Native American Church of Turtle Island
 David Gaskin
 Redding, CA 96001
 52 (984) 114-2145
 davidgaskin4@gmail.com
 nacturtleisland.org
 Not For Profit
Colorado
REO Consulting, LLC
 Barbara Pemble, MS, SHRM-CP
 Denver, CO 80206
 (303) 808-1146
 bpemble@reoconsulting.org
 reoconsulting.org
 Consulting
Synchronized Networking Solutions
 Robert (Bob) Gonczy
 Penrose, CO 81240
 (719) 371-2315
 rgonczy@syncns.com
 syncns.com
 Information Technology
Tadpole Press
 Amber Byers
 Lafayette, CO 80026
 (303) 668-8812
 amber@tadpolepress.com
 tadpolepress.com
 Communications
Tippling Point Solutions
 Rick Schmidt
 Centennial, CO 80112
 (303) 353-0440 EXT 301
 info@tp-solutions.com
 tipplingpointcorp.net

Media/Entertainment
Florida
IvyTek
 Michael Griggs
 St. Johns, FL 32259-4453
 (337) 212-0994
 sandy@ivytek.com
 ivytek.com
 Information Technology
Seniors Helping Seniors
 Chad Lawson
 Jacksonville, FL 32258
 (904) 716-5680
 clawson5454@yahoo.com
 seniorshelpingseniors.com
 Healthcare
North Carolina
Eagle's Dream
 Rachel Mandelstamm
 Greensboro, NC 47406
 (989) 385-2129
 eaglesdream2@yahoo.com
 facebook.com/eaglesdream2
 Arts/Culture
Ohio
Mullenbrock & Associates
 Craig Mullenbrock
 Piqua, OH 45356
 (937) 773-8500
 cmullenbrock@woh.rr.com
 mullenbrockassociates.com
 Financial Services
Oklahoma
Nontrivial Solutions
 James Bearden
 Oklahoma City, OK 73137
 (405) 698-3702
 james@nontrivial.net
 nontrivial.net
 Information Technology

Texas
14 PEWS
 Cressandra Thibodeaux
 Houston, TX 77009
 (310) 880-3907
 info@14pews.com
 14pews.org/pages/home.asp
 Media/Entertainment
3rd Run Delivery
 Jennifer Anderson
 Austin, TX 78240
 (847) 525-0197
 jenn.anderson@3rdrun.com
 Food & Beverage
CompHoppers
 Vickie Griggs
 Livingston, TX
 (337) 739-3664
 compoppers@compoppers.com
 compoppers.com
 Recreation
Hand Trucking
 Andrew Garvin
 Mount Pleasant, TX 75455
 (469) 403-5930
 persevere12@yahoo.com
 Transportation
Project Pomona
 Meghan Roberts
 Driftwood, TX 78619
 (281) 248-7406
 meghan2roberts@gmail.com
 projectpomona.com
 Retail
TX Pro
 Tracy Prout
 Hutto, TX 78634
 (512) 630-8848
 tracy@txprollc.com
 facebook.com/txprollc
 Retail

Virginia
ISHPI
 Earl Bowers
 Suffolk, VA 23435
 (757) 809-2302
 info@ishpi.net
 ishpi.net
 Information Technology
Wisconsin
Blue Harbor Fish & Seafood
 Lori Parkinson
 Green Bay, WI 54313
 (920) 435-4633
 blueharborfish@yahoo.com
 blueharborfish.com
 Farming/Fishing
Derusha Construction
 David Derusha
 Ashland, WI 54806
 (715) 730-0734
 derushaconstruction@yahoo.com
 facebook.com/Derusha-Construction-102913544455689
 Construction
JETA Corporation
 Linda Grow
 Neenah, WI 54957-0336
 (920) 486-7072
 sales@jetacorp.com
 jetacorp.com
 Shipping/Distribution
Ontario Canada
Credence HR
 Michael DiAngelo
 Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A5A8
 (705) 542-7208
 michael@credencehr.ca
 credencehr.ca
 Business Services

FREE LSSU Laker Hockey Ticket Application FOR SAULT TRIBE MEMBERS

APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 8, 2023

NAME _____ PHONE _____


ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____


EMAIL _____ # IN HOUSEHOLD _____ FILE # _____

Indicate the number of tickets requested for each game, this cannot exceed number in household.
 Tickets will be mailed to applicants prior to first scheduled game.
Please note, tickets are limited and are not guaranteed for all games requested.
Incomplete applications may not be processed.


# Tickets	Date	Opponent
_____	10/13/23	Alaska Anchorage
_____	10/14/23	Alaska Anchorage
_____	10/21/23	Simon Fraser
_____	11/03/23	Bemidji State
_____	11/04/23	Bemidji State
_____	11/17/23	Bowling Green
_____	11/18/23	Bowling Green
_____	12/01/23	Minnesota State
_____	12/02/23	Minnesota State
_____	01/12/24	Northern Michigan
_____	01/13/24	Northern Michigan
_____	01/20/24	Ferris State
_____	01/26/24	Michigan Tech
_____	01/27/24	Michigan Tech
_____	02/16/24	Augustana
_____	02/17/24	Augustana
_____	03/01/24	Ferris State




Attach Copy of Tribal Card



Mail or email copy of Sault Tribe membership card AND application to:
Big Bear Arena
 ATTN: Laker Tickets
 2 Ice Circle Drive
 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
 Email: bookthebear@saulttribe.net
 Applications available online at: www.bigbeararena.com




OFFICE USE ONLY:
 Date Received: _____ Membership Verified: _____ Staff: _____ Tickets Distributed: _____



Sault Tribe Members

FREE LSSU Lakers Volleyball Tickets

APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 8, 2023



NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____


CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____ # IN HOUSEHOLD _____


Indicate the number of tickets requested for each game, this cannot exceed number in household.
 Tickets will be mailed to applicants prior to the first game selected for tickets.
Please note, tickets are limited and are not guaranteed for all games requested.
Incomplete applications may not be processed.

LAKER VOLLEYBALL (Bud Cooper Gym)					
# Tickets	Date	Opponent	# Tickets	Date	Opponent
_____	09/16/23	Saginaw Valley State	_____	11/03/23	Wisconsin-Parkside
_____	10/01/23	Ferris State	_____	11/05/23	Grand Valley State
_____	10/06/23	Wayne State	_____	11/10/23	Northern Michigan
_____	10/07/23	Davenport	_____	11/11/23	Michigan Tech
_____	10/28/23	Purdue Northwest	_____		

Copy of Sault Tribe Membership Card AND application REQUIRED



FREE LSSU Lakers Basketball Tickets



Game schedules available at lssulakers.com

REQUEST TICKETS BY EMAILING:
bookthebear@saulttribe.net

Copy of Sault Tribe Membership Card Required

Limited Availability

First-Come, First-Serve

The Lodge of Hope will address homelessness



AUSTIN LOWES
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

Aniin,

I'd like to begin my unit report with a very special announcement: our homeless shelter has officially opened. The shelter will provide emergency and transitional housing to members regardless of whether they live in our service area or not. Improving

services for our at-large membership has been a major goal of my chairmanship. I will continue to advocate for services to extend to members outside our service area whenever possible.

The shelter was named, "The Bgwasendam Gamigong," which translates into "The Lodge of Hope." I believe this name is fitting because the shelter will serve as a beacon of hope for the countless tribal members who will be sheltered by its walls. The Lodge of Hope has 21 rooms, which were at full capacity the week it opened. This demonstrates the high rate of homelessness within our tribal community and the desperate need we had for this shelter when I spearheaded the effort to purchase it.

Words cannot express how appreciative I am of our staff's hard work on this project. This is the only tribally-owned homeless shelter in the state of Michigan.

The consultants who worked with us on this project believe the Lodge of Hope can serve as a model for how Indian Country can provide emergency and transitional housing services to its members. To all our team members who have been involved in this project, thank you from the bottom of my heart.

I have another important update to provide: Tribal Members can finally hunt, fish, and gather on tribal property. This was previously prohibited, even though it is at the very bedrock of our culture. Unless otherwise posted, tribal members can now hunt with firearms on Sault Tribe properties outside of city limits as long as they are 500 feet from trails and buildings. Members can hunt on Sault Tribe properties within city limits with a bow or crossbow, but they also have to be 500 feet from trails and buildings. I'm hopeful this change will allow

our members to better practice their treaty rights. A perfect place for our members to hunt on is the 560-acre Sugar Island parcel that was purchased by the tribe last winter. The intent of this purchase was to increase the tribe's land base, which it did by roughly 15%, and to provide a place for members to practice their culture. I will advocate that we continue purchasing land for this purpose.

I'd now like to shift to gaming. As everyone knows, our casinos have been neglected for many years. We have an online gaming license that we lease to Wynn in exchange for several million dollars per year. The previous board obligated these funds to Sault Tribe Inc. and used them to purchase our golf courses, which have not been profitable.

Let that sink in for a moment. While our casinos were crumbling, the previous board obligated I-gaming funds to purchase

golf courses.

I'm proud to announce that these funds were recently obligated to our Gaming Authority, where they'll be used to improve our casinos each year. The first project they'll be used for is to fund a 100% renovation of our casino hotel in Sault Ste. Marie, which has been severely neglected by tribal leadership for many years. When complete, I am confident that our hotel will be the nicest place to stay in the Eastern Upper Peninsula. This renovation will increase our revenue because we'll be able to charge more for hotel rooms. This is crucial because our gaming operations fund our tribal services.

I will continue to advocate for our facilities to be improved before any frivolous purchases are made. It's time for us to take pride in what we own.

Austin Lowes, Chairman

Hampton reports to the Unit IV membership



KIMBERLY HAMPTON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

Aniin kina waya (hello everybody). I hope that everyone has been able to enjoy the summer so far. We are now into the month of August, which means our youth and parents are preparing for back to school shopping. I would like to remind everyone to get in their last minute summer activities as I have seen trees changing color already, leaves dropping, to which I believe winter will be visiting early this year.

Katchup with Kim

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

Wednesday, Aug. 23, 2023, at 7 p.m. EST; Meeting ID: 906 440 8138; Password: KimHampton

Powwow Meetings

Throughout the upcoming year there will be regularly scheduled monthly powwow meetings to keep the committee on task. The next scheduled powwow meeting is **Monday, Sept. 11, 2023, at 5 p.m.** Once additional meetings are scheduled, I will provide the schedule to allow anyone to attend who wishes to do so. I also encourage everyone to "like"

the Niiwin Noodin Pow Wow Facebook page to keep updated on meetings, etc.

Meetings, **open to the public**, scheduled for the Niiwin Noodin Pow Wow Committee, will be located at the Manistique Tribal Health Center, 5698W US Highway 2, Manistique, Mich.

Maamawi (together) Craft Night

On Thursday, Aug. 24, 2023, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. EST there will be a craft night at the Manistique Tribal Health Center, 5698W US Highway 2, Manistique, Mich. There are no skills required to join. Bring a project to work on, work on a group project, or just come to socialize. There will be miscellaneous crafting supplies to get us started. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own snacks or drinks. Everyone is welcome to participate, **open to the public.**

Unit IV Elder Meetings

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

The next meeting in

Marquette, which is a combination of Units IV and V, will be Thursday, Sept. 7, 2023, 5:30 p.m. EST at the Holiday Inn in Marquette

The next meeting in Manistique will be held Sept. 13, 2023, 12 p.m. EST at the Manistique Tribal Center.

The next meeting in Escanaba will be held Sept. 13, 2023, at 5 p.m. EST at the Delta County Chamber Building.

July Activities

UP State Fair Wristbands:

By the time this report is printed in our tribal newspaper, the registration and distribution for wristbands for Unit IV tribal youth will have already occurred. I want to thank everyone, in advance, for all of your help in planning this, organizing, and helping at the event. Chi Miigwech.

New Mechanism Creation In Progress:

On March 14, 2023, I had an item on our workshop agenda regarding mechanisms to provide employees a means of having a process for complaints against board of directors. Board members are elected officials, so currently there is nothing in

place to allow an employee, or key employee, the ability to file a complaint against a board member. The necessary resolutions, policies and procedures for such a mechanism will take some time to develop and get approved at a board of directors meeting. I want our membership to be assured that I will continue the creation and implementation of such a mechanism in order to provide due process for employees as well as the board. I will provide updates throughout this process.

Tribal Homeland Security Advisory Council (THSAC):

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

Manistique Fitness Center and Escanaba Community

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

Manistique Dental

Expansion: In August, there will be planning meetings held to start planning and preparing for an expansion of the dental clinic in Manistique. The hope is to expand the building to add in additional exam rooms in order to increase the number of patients that are able to be seen. Updates will be provided throughout the project.

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, and email is khampton@saulttribe.net.

Kimberly Hampton,
Unit 4 Representative

McKechnie discusses opening the rolls



ISAAC MCKECHNIE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors passed a resolution to open the rolls at its Aug. 1, 2023, board meeting. The rolls will open Feb. 1, 2024, and remain open until the board of directors closes the rolls.

Since 1975, the rolls have been

closed more than they have been opened. The last time the rolls were opened was in 2004 and closed in 2005. The Enrollment Department will be relocating into a new space within the next few months, so please give them time to get situated in their new building.

To be eligible for membership with the Sault Tribe, applicants must meet the criteria as outlined in the tribe's membership ordinance. (Tribal Code Chapter 11 can be read at www.saulttribe.com/government/tribal-code)

To apply for membership, applicants must complete the application for enrollment (coming soon online). A \$25 processing fee will be charged that can be paid by money order or credit card (Visa, Mastercard or Discover). Applicants must submit copies of documents of their direct lineal descendants, starting with the applicant, then their

Native parent(s), grandparent(s), and so forth, until they reach the descendant who is listed on one of the base rolls Enrollment uses to determine membership.

An enrolled relative can sign a release form to allow the applicant access to the documentation in the relative's file to complete the applicant's application.

The Tribal Registrar has the right to deny any or all copied documentation. Applicants may be asked to submit an original document to complete their file. All originals are copied at the Enrollment office and returned to the applicant.

Once applicants have their application, documents and fee ready, they can mail it to the Enrollment Department at P.O. Box 1628, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. They can also drop it off in person at the Enrollment office, 2428 Shunk Rd. in Sault Ste. Marie. Enrollment needs the orig-

inal application with the actual signature, so please do not email applications or documents unless asked to do so. Please allow 6-8 weeks for processing. It could take longer depending on the number of applications that come in.

Please call Enrollment office for assistance or any forms mailed to you. No applications processed before Feb. 1, 2024, I am asking you to please do NOT apply until that time.

Referendum Alert

You will be required to vote on some more frivolous referenda in the next few months. I will not be excising my right to vote on these referenda as a referendum needs 30% of the eligible voters to respond for it to be valid.

Sincerely,

Isaac McKechnie, Unit I
Director
imckechnie@saulttribe.net or
(906) 203-4787

Moving forward to strengthen infrastructure



TYLER LAPLAUNT
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Aanii, Boozhoo!!!

It's been another very productive month for the Sault Tribe as we continue to move forward to strengthen our infrastructure. In a move to remodel and rebuild our Kewadin Casinos portfolio, we are in the process of moving our iGaming licenses and revenue underneath the Kewadin Gaming Authority. While the license transfer is approximately a 6-month process, we initiated this move by placing the iGaming revenue under the Kewadin's control, where it rightfully belongs.

This move will bring much needed capital improvement money to our physical casinos across the Upper Peninsula. By doing so, over the course of the next several years, our casinos will be revamped and brought up to speed with the rest of the industry. This will give us, as a tribe, a more competitive edge and be able to maintain that edge in the months and years to come. There always should have been a plan in place to continuously remodel every 10 or so years, as is the industry standard. That plan is now in place and phase 1 is just getting started.

Now, this isn't like waving a magic wand and having everything fixed overnight and not

all properties will be upgraded simultaneously. The plan is to start our remodel with our flagship Kewadin in the Sault Ste. Marie. We have already dedicated \$10 million in ARPA funds to the exterior and this added iGaming revenue will allow them to expedite the remodeling of hotel rooms, exterior and interior renovations, and eventually an updated and upgraded restaurant or food court. Our vision is to always be proud of our facilities, now and into the future. I believe the plan we have in place with our Kewadin executives will do just that, as well as compete in future markets and make us, once again, a destination for those wanting quality gaming and entertainment. It'll be exciting to watch this unfold over the next few years.

On the governmental side of operations, I'm extremely happy to announce two recently adopted Resolutions that will hopefully strengthen our citizenry over the next few years. The first resolution was presented by Director Freiheit and was titled, "Equal protections in Sault Tribe voter registration," and the second was presented by Director McKechnie and myself and was titled, "Tribal Roll Opening." Both resolutions passed.

First, equal protections in Sault Tribe voter registration will initiate an automatic voter registration process once a tribal citizen is eligible to vote. If they do not select and enroll in a unit, they will still be eligible to vote in chair and referendum elections. Our hope is that this removes any barriers to voter registration in the future. Sure, it will be a rocky start compiling all of the data and getting everyone registered, but once implemented, it will be a part of our regular election process.

Second, tribal roll opening does just that, it opens our enroll-

ment for the first time in almost 20 years. Starting on Feb. 1, 2024, the Sault Tribe Enrollment Department will be taking new applications with proper documentation. Enrollment into our tribe isn't and shouldn't be a special club. It's a birthright.

While many of us were lucky enough to be recognized in the tribe since the beginning or our birth, many were left out of the enrollment process due to historic genocide, urban relocation, the Boarding School Era, disconnection from the tribe, or a variety of other reasons. There is nothing that makes those of us already enrolled any more special than anyone else. As a government, it's up to us to define our citizenship, just like the USA or any other country on the planet. For all of those who were left out for one reason or another, we welcome you with open arms and open hearts. "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

— Abraham Lincoln

One other thing that I'd like to highlight on the governmental side is the rebuilding of our Sault Tribe Legal Department under the direction of General Counsel Aaron Schlehuber. As many of you may know, prior to our election in July 2022, the Sault Tribe contracted a Native law firm to fill the role of our Legal Department. After several blunders and a multi-million-dollar lawsuit, we terminated that law firm and hired Mr. Schlehuber. As of right now, there are no open positions that I am aware of and the department consists of three attorneys, a prosecutor and an ICWA Attorney. I want to thank Aaron and the entire Legal Department for the work they have done this last several months to get our tribe back on track. Chi Miigwech!

On July 26, the Sault Tribe officially opened the Bgwasendam Gamigong "Lodge



Celebrating elders at the Unit V Marquette Elders Picnic — Left to right, Vice-Chairman and Unit V Representative Tyler LaPlaunt, Sault Tribe citizen and Marquette City Commissioner Michael Larson, Secretary and Unit IV Representative Kimberly Hampton, Sault Tribe citizen and Mayor of Marquette Cody Mayer and Chairman Austin Lowes.

of Hope" in Sault Ste. Marie. This was a huge undertaking by ACFS and I want to thank everyone involved for seeing this vision through. The Lodge of Hope is the new Transformational Housing Shelter that will help Sault Tribe citizens who are homeless or facing imminent homelessness get back on their feet. Chairman Lowes has been actively advocating for this since long before I took office and I was proud to support him in this endeavor. I want to thank Chairman Lowes for looking out for some of our most vulnerable and never giving up on his dream to help others. "Sometimes dreams are wiser than waking."

— Black Elk, Oglala Lakota

Unit 5 Marquette Elder Picnic was a huge success thanks to the entire Marquette Elder Committee. The Marquette Elders hosted the picnic a bit differently this year and invited all Sault Tribe households in the community to attend. We had a little more than 120 people in attendance throughout the 4-hours we were out there. The food was great, the conversations were intriguing, and it's always great to get the tribe together. Thanks again to the Teal Lake Singers for coming together for so many events in our community and for Chairman Lowes and Representative Hampton for attending as well.

A reminder for anyone that is interested, Culture Night in Marquette is still the second and fourth Thursday of every month. We started out as a drum group, but have evolved into something a much larger. I'm not even sure Culture Night captures what our community has become. Anyway, please join us from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Lakeview Arena Citizen's Forum. You don't need any experience, just bring yourself and an open mind and heart. Everyone is always welcome. Aug. 10 and Aug. 24 are our next two gatherings.

We have a lot of activities

in Unit V in the process of being planned out for the Fall and Winter months thanks to the Elder Committees in both Munising and Marquette for their joint effort. So keep your eyes open for some more community events.

In the meantime, we are still looking for a community champion in the Munising Area to help get some regular activities up and running. If anyone is interested in helping to lead this effort, please reach out to me and we can help get something set up.

I wanted to leave you with one last important reminder and one of the reasons that I push and encourage cultural and traditional practices so much in our day-to-day lives. Friday, Aug. 11, will be the 45th anniversary of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act. Originally passed on Aug. 11, 1978, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act protected our rights as Native Americans to exercise our traditional religions, allow access to our sacred sites, use and possess sacred objects, and gave us the freedom to worship through ceremony and traditional rites.

Our people have been persecuted since colonization began and we did not have the freedom to exercise our own religion until 1978. Our duty is to carry on our practices and continue to make it easier generation after generation. We can do that by practicing what we know, asking questions respectfully of what we do not know, and work together to continue to learn and thrive as a tribal community. We've come a long way in 45 years, and we have a long way to go to make our way a normal part of daily living.

Have a great August everyone and stay safe!

Chi Miigwech!

Tyler Migizii Migwan
LaPlaunt, Vice-Chairman, Unit V
Director
tlaplaunt@saulttribe.net
(906) 440-8294

Discussion on open enrollment and expanding the service area



SHAWN BOROWICZ,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

Boozhoo,

As I stated on several social media sites some time ago about opening the rolls, this was just passed and the rolls will be open in February 2024. It took some time. As stated earlier, we had to wait for the Enrollment Department to get in a bigger remodeled building, which should

be done by February. Unsure if the Enrollment Department will need to hire more staff to get this done in an efficient manner, but if so, we will make it happen.

There was much debate about allowing Mackinac Band members to enroll. Well, more than half of the Sault Tribe is made up of enrolled Mackinac Band members, according to our Enrollment Director. So why now would we not let them in, and if ya truly do not want them in, then previous administrations should not have blocked Mackinac Band's federal recognition attempts. Also, I don't believe this was passed because it is the right thing to do. So our relatives for whatever reason were not enrolled previously will finally be able to share in their heritage.

A resolution was passed to do a feasibility study to see if

its possible to expand our service area beyond the current seven-county area in the Upper Peninsula. We have a lot of members living below the bridge and when I initially ran for office I said I would try to make this happen. Previous elected officials promised this and once elected never came through for whatever reason. I've been making some calls and this is a doable endeavor and I will keep on this, until it is done, to better serve our members. I believe to continue the services we currently provide to our members, we need to get a foothold below the bridge and get a bigger stake of the gaming market.

The Rendezvous at the Straits Powwow is coming up Aug. 25-27, hope to see you all there. Any questions, concerns or ideas, I can be reached at (906) 379-8511 or sborowicz@sault-tribe.net.

Baamaapii.

Sorenson provides overview report to Unit II



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

At its July 11 meeting, the board passed a resolution to contract a professional videographer to research and produce a video of our fisheries. Hopefully, this will educate some non-Natives on the importance of our treaty rights, the way we harvest the fish and also how we stock for the future.

At this same meeting, the board voted to create a budget to accept TED Grant funding to be able to distribute 652 \$1,000 scholarships as well as conducting an educational assessment. The funds must be spent by September 2024.

The board also voted to automatically register all out-of-service area members when they turn 18. The Constitution says that members can only vote when they choose a unit to vote in. This resolution will now allow people to vote on referendums and the chair's election without selecting a unit. I do not understand why this was necessary as members can vote, they just need to select a unit. It's my opinion that this just drives up the number of registered voters to make sure any referenda no longer make the 30% return, which makes them invalid. They have not wanted to send out referenda lately.

Mike, Darcy and myself had put the removal petition on the agenda but the majority voted to remove it from the agenda. We had wanted to discuss the legal memo we had received on July 1, 2022, in regards to Election Committee subpoena powers.

At the July 18 meeting, they approved a change to Chapter 14: Parliamentary Procedure Disciplinary, so now the simple majority can fine other board members. Meetings are out of control mostly by the chair's family members being allowed to continue to speak and the things being said, such as swearing during this same meeting to another board member. Austin said he only saw Darcy talking but many others saw and heard Betty saying the "f" word as well as pointing to a member in the audience that she wanted kicked out of the meeting, which she did get kicked out. Three women so far have been kicked out for 30 days. It continues to feel like a hostile work environment.

At its last meeting, the board passed a resolution that changed the Elk hunting lottery. Previously, if you had been drawn for a tag, you could not apply for five years, which has been changed to once in a life-

time. I know it sounds harsh, but this will give more people an opportunity to be drawn because the odds are quite high.

Tribal Code 21 was also amended to allow hunting on land that is owned by our tribe. There are still restrictions, so please read the code before doing so.

This year, the tribe will be giving away 50 scholarships instead of the 20 it had previously given. This year's golf classic made about \$20,000 more. A couple of years ago, the board placed the \$1 million into a fund so we would be able to give away double the number of scholarships with the interest generated. The application period is closed, but all members of the tribe are all eligible to apply for scholarships.

In the fall of 2021, the board set aside \$4 million per board member, per unit so Unit 1 received \$20 million, units 2, 3 and 4 received \$ 8 million and unit 5 was \$ 4 million. This money was left up to the unit board members to decide what programs the ARPA funds would be used for. Many units are doing housing and community center projects.

As part of their plan, Unit 1 purchased 22 single wide trailers that will now be used as a home replacement program. Eleven trailers will be given to elders and 11 trailers to families. Housing has put together guidelines and an application. Applicants must live in Unit I and show proof of substandard housing conditions and or trailer homes that exceed 15 years old. Not all units have been able to generate their plans at this time. In Unit 3 we had cleared a piece of property by the airport that we have owned for years. So far, there has been a survey and soil samples done. The original idea was to provide market-based rentals, but there are some

concerns using these funds to generate a profit, so it is being checked into further. We have also purchased some other property in the same area as well. I believe we have until 2025 to spend the money. I am hoping we will get a plan in place this fall or early winter to at least start construction in the Spring. We do know the housing market in St. Ignace and the surrounding area is very unaffordable and scarce.

I would also like to be able to secure some tax credits to create a bigger project but that means we need to have an area that will receive a fairly high score. The current properties are out of town and will not score that well. We definitely need a place for single people, elder or otherwise and families. Some members are not low income and there are not many places to fill this void. Many local rentals have become vacation rentals or employee housing for foreign workers. Shawn and I will be working with housing and legal to discuss options.

The board recently voted to open enrollment to applicants over 21 years of age. Betty and Rob were against already enrolled Mackinac Band members being able to add descendants for this open enrollment. Julie from Enrollment advised the board that Mackinac Band members make up half of the membership, currently.

Applications will not be accepted until Feb. 1, 2024. The Enrollment Department is going to be moving into a new location this fall and will need time for that and will need to prepare for the influx of work. I suspect they will need to hire more team members as last time enrollment was open the board figured 500 new members but actually had 5,000, which was in 2004-2005. The process also took two years to complete, so it will not be as

quickly as people would like. Please be patient with staff and do not call them until the announcement of the process is released.

I know that as excited as some people are, others are not happy that we will be adding to the membership. I had hoped we would have discussed with the Enrollment staff and committee with any concerns or suggestions but this was slapped on the meeting agenda with little discussion time. There will be strains put on our already strained programs and services and this will also affect the amounts of the elder checks.

I did vote to open Enrollment because I know there are families that one or more siblings for whatever reason did not sign up in the past. I just wish these items as sensitive as this would not be used as a political football. It seems that this is just another way to affect elections and referenda since this will increase voters and will make it harder to garner 30% of the votes to pass any referendums the members wish to question in regards to board passed resolutions.

At the last meeting, I sponsored a resolution authorizing an analysis study into the feasibility of expanding the tribe's service area to the ceded territory. This resolution did pass so our Legal, the executive director and membership service agencies will be bringing back a report within 90 days for the board to review. If this can happen, it would allow those members to be considered living in our service area and they would then be able to participate in additional programs and services including the tribe's Purchased and Referred Care Program. I do not want to get anyone's hopes up because this will likely need a negotiation to our annual funding agreement and blessing by the BIA. I just

really wanted us to be able to see if it is possible.

The board was presented with 2 referenda, one on voiding the special unit I election and the other on changing the positive majority to the simple majority. When Legal presented the referenda to the board, some board wanted to see signatures prior to sending them out, so it was tabled. At the next meeting, we tried to add them to the agenda because we assumed they would already be on the meeting agenda but were not, and we didn't have enough votes to add them, so it was put on for another vote at the Aug. 1 meeting. It passed with a six (Bridgett, Lana, Mike, Shawn, Issac and Kim Lee) to four (Rob, Betty, Tyler and Kim H) vote in favor. (Darcy was excused as being sick.)

So now the entire membership will be able to vote on whether or not they think the special election should have been voided and also if they believe the amount of board votes to pass legislation should be reduced to a simple majority. I encourage you all to vote "no" if the wording is, "Do you agree with the board's decision?" If you are confused by the wording please contact me or another board member you trust.

The board voted to replace the heating and cooling system at the McCann School, which is Unit III's community building. There have been many updates to this building over the last few years and we appreciate having a space for meetings, gatherings and funeral luncheons.

The Sept. 5 meeting has been moved from Sault Ste. Marie to St. Ignace since we were unable to have the June meeting in St. Ignace.

Any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

At large members now automatically registered to vote



**BETTY FREIHEIT,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello Tribal Members,

I am pleased to report that my resolution to remove the double standard and often confusing barriers to voter registration for at-large members was passed by the tribal board.

Under our old system at-large members were not automatically registered to vote when they

updated their addresses. They had to complete and submit a separate Voter Registration Form. A procedure not required of the 7-county unit members.

Often at-large members were not aware of this procedure and did not realize they were not registered to vote until they did not receive ballots in the tribal election.

Our members who reside outside the service units will now be automatically registered to vote. The Enrollment Department will send them a letter, notifying them and asking them to select a service unit in which to cast their Director's votes.

Until such a selection is made, at-large members will be able to vote in all Chair and Referenda elections.

And, more good news, our homeless shelter is now officially open. We had a ribbon-cutting ceremony that was well attended by more board members and community. However, I was

shocked to see board member in the photo ops, who didn't support the shelter. Ours is the first tribally-owned shelter in the state of Michigan and goes far beyond just providing a bed an overnight stay.

We have rooms for 21 families. Support staff are available to provide all manners of counseling and referral assistance to help members get back on her feet.

The shelter has been named "Lodge of Hope" and members who are in need of this assistance can call (906) 632-5250 to apply.

Credit goes to our Chairman Austin Lowes for making this happen and also the directors who supported our tribal shelter.

During the Aug. 1, 2023, board meeting, the board voted to open membership rolls, which have been close for over 25 years. The rolls will not open until February 2024. Watch the tribal newspaper and website for more information and instruc-

tions for applicants. In my opinion, the rolls should have never been closed in the first place!

The board also approved sending two referendum petitions to the members. One to overturn the board resolution vacating the Special Election due to corruption, and another one seeking to overturn a board resolution to change the votes required for amending the Election Code. I do not support either of the referenda. We cannot seat anyone based on a corrupted election.

Unit 1 board members had a wonderful picnic with the tribal elders. It is always my pleasure treating our tribal elders any time I can. On that note I will end this report.

Please keep yourself and family safe. Help your neighbors anything you can. And please look out for our elders.

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

Members should descend from the six historical bands



ROBERT MCRORIE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Aaniin Boozhoo to all of my fellow Sault Tribe members. It is, once again, an honor to report to you, the members, of our great Sault Tribe nation. I hope my report finds you and your families well, in both health and spirit. I hope you are taking some time from your busy lives to spend quality time with friends and family, partaking in the festivities of summer.

This month, I would like to highlight a few of the issues I've been working on as well as some of the events that I've attended to help move us forward. I will start with the issue that I believe needs immediate attention from the membership. This may be a touchy subject for many and may trigger some uncomfortable conversations; however, I do feel it is one that we cannot shy away from. This must be addressed and cor-

rected before we move forward.

On Aug. 1, 2023, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors voted to pass Resolution 2023-261 "Tribal Roll Opening." This resolution authorizes open enrollment pursuant to the Tribal Code Chapter 11: Membership Ordinance.

There are major issues with this that I believe must be addressed before moving forward in this process. My concern, along with many other members, is that there is a major discrepancy between who our Sault Tribe Constitution identifies as an eligible member and what the Tribal Code says about membership eligibility.

Our Constitution clearly identifies the six Historical Bands of Ojibwe Indians that are Sault Tribe members and reads, "All persons descended from the six historical bands (Grand Island, Point Iroquois, Sault Ste. Marie, Garden River, Sugar Island, and Drummond Island Bands) of the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Indians whose names appear on any historical roll, census or record made by officials of the Department of the Interior or Bureau of Indian Affairs." This was voted on by the members of the six Historical Bands and ratified on Nov. 13, 1975.

In 1979, with no input from the membership, the board of directors arbitrarily added the Mackinaw Band to the Membership Ordinance via a code change. I believe this decision is unconstitutional and was a drastic overstep

of the board's authority. I do not believe a decision of this magnitude should have been made without the input of the membership. The six Historical Bands are of Ojibwe descent and the Mackinaw Band is of Ottawa descent. Any action to change the very foundation of who we are as a sovereign nation should rest in the hands of the six Historical Band members. This should have never been a decision of the board. Since the addition of bands that were not listed in the Constitution, our tribe has nearly doubled in numbers. Again, I believe there are some major issues with this decision that must be addressed prior to opening the rolls. I believe it would be the continuation of an unresolved mistake, by the board of directors, to proceed without correcting the poor decisions of previous leaders.

After much thought, consideration, and prayer, I have come to the conclusion that, as a leader of our sovereign nation, I cannot, in good conscience, sit silent as our government makes what I view as a crucial mistake. This decision will affect us all and many generations to come. It is a decision that will further change the very foundation of who we are as Ojibwe people. For this reason, I have initiated the referendum process to contest the board of directors' decision to open the rolls prior to addressing these concerns.

I want to be very clear that I am not looking to offend anyone, nor do I have any resentment

towards the members of the Mackinaw Band in any way. In fact, I pray they receive the federal recognition they rightfully deserve as a tribe. I simply believe it is imperative that we remain a tribe of the six Historical Bands moving forward.

This month, I have also worked with the Child Welfare Committee to initiate meetings that will hopefully lead to code changes within Chapter 30 to strengthen our tribe's child welfare process. There are many codes that the committee has identified that need to be modified to achieve this goal. After a meeting with the committee it was determined that the committee will focus on addressing one code change at a time to ensure it is thoroughly worked out and can serve the function it is intended to serve. This was a very productive meeting and I am confident that the committee will be successful in addressing these code changes.

The highlight of my month was most definitely having the honor of enjoying an amazing ribeye steak lunch with our Unit 1 elders. Each of the Unit 1 Directors and Chairman Lowes pitched in to purchase steaks and sides for all of the elders. Chairman Lowes manned the grill with Directors McKechnie and McKerchie. We had an amazing day with our elders and seeing how happy this made them was simply amazing. It is always an honor to sit with our elders and truly appreciate them.

Aug. 8-10 I will be traveling

to Oklahoma to advocate for our tribe during the 2023 Violence Against Woman Act (VAWA) government-to-government consultations with departments of the federal government as well as tribes from across the country. As many know, this is very important to me personally, as my mother was murdered when I was 19. This is also a very important issue to our tribe and Indian Country as a whole, as we experience much higher violent crime rates than any other race in the country. After last year's consultation, the federal government passed legislation that allowed tribes to grant their courts jurisdiction to prosecute those who commit crimes on Indigenous people even when they leave trust land. This was a huge step in the right direction, and shortly after the federal legislation was passed, the board of directors passed a tribal law that granted the Sault Tribe Court the jurisdiction to do so as well. I am very confident that the next round of consultation will increase funding and resources that we need to protect our members.

Again, I hope my report finds you well. I hope you all have a great month with family, friends, and loved ones. Like always, please feel free to contact me with and questions, concerns, or ideas you may have that could help move our tribe in a positive direction forward.

Miigwech,
Director McRorie

Tribe must make healthy changes to advance



LANA CAUSLEY-SMITH,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

I will start by apologizing for not having a unit report in last month. Times have been difficult to say the least. I'm going to attempt to report on the last year since 2022 election and bring you up to date on some things that have occurred.

We began right after the last election with a duly appointed chairperson being seating by the board's constitutional authority being overturned. Since this time, in my opinion, it's been one thing after another — suspending units ARRP projects (Unit 2 community center project, which had been ready to move forward on and found to be legally sound to advance forward) changing election codes, voiding a completed election once the candidate won, passing laws to stifle the membership in meetings, passing laws to remove members and bar them from future meetings, changing the number of votes it takes to pass legislation and to remove and censure board members from

meeting and speaking out and, finally, tabling a member driven referendum until they had an opportunity to review the members' signatures (even after the general counsel and Enrollment Department verified it was valid and ready to be mailed to the members for them.)

To be able to vote. I have placed the item on the agenda to move forward on the mailing of the referendums to the members — this passed, so the first one is you all choosing to overturn the decision that was made to change the votes to pass legislation from seven votes down to six (we have always had it take seven votes to pass or change legislation, which protects the minority). Also, the other referendum is to overturn the decision to void and throw out the the latest election Unit I special election. If they do honor the latest vote on Aug. 1, 2023, you all will have the opportunity to vote either to continue to void it or install the candidate who had the highest votes. I'm not completely confident we will ever see the referendums mailed, but we shall see as it passed to mail them out to members per your "right to referendum."

The board room continues to be hostile and a place of tension as to when the hammer will be dropped to be censured and removed. I've never felt like this before, and frankly, it's highly affected the entire staff — even if many of those at the board table do not realize it. You will see that many of our staff are resigning and quitting in positions that are needed. I will be the first to admit all old board made good and bad decisions, as I've had to go

through many troubles through the years for decisions that have been made, BUT — things are not better and it's been 13 months!

It's time to quit blaming old boards and make healthy changes to advance. Things that are happening aren't healthy for our government. The atmosphere is toxic and it affects many members. In all the elections I've been through, there comes a time that there is respect and professionalism gained but this is not happening. As I did state before, I'm working with board members as best I can and will continue to reach out to those with common respect and ability to advance.

In Unit II, the community center project was suspended 13 months ago, we had to start at ground zero and reset. Since that time, Kim and I have had a few meetings to redesign and plan for the community center. I'm confident she and I will get to a place to begin this project with our allocated funds to advance our unit, but I am not confident it will pass the board with the six votes needed to move forward. I hope I'm very wrong about this, but again, we shall see and I will make every attempt to get the shovel in the ground this coming spring as the engineer stated we could be ready. We have to have this money allocated by 2026 so time is of the essence and always has been. As always, I will move steadily forward.

As reported in past reports, we are also working toward housing in the Newberry and Hessel housing areas. This is where we have infrastructure and last to build. It is also in two locations in our unit that can service both ends as our

unit is so large in length. I will report the progress of housing in my next report.

Our YEA held the youth driven empowerment powwow in Newberry this last weekend. It was an amazing turn out and so many YEA students, staff and members turned out to help with this. Chi miigwech to all that made this happen for our tribal youth and community.

By the time you read this report, Newberry will have held its annual powwow with the help and assistance of our Language and Culture Dept. and community members, I'm sure it will be a special gathering as all in the past have been. Hessel with be the Aug. 19 and 20 and I hope to visit and gather with you.

Lee makes report



KIMBERLY LEE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

Aanii, I hope this report finds you well while enjoying the sunshine and cooler evenings. Many

In closing, I'm remembering all the things that have been good with our tribe. We celebrated 50 years recently and that came with many different leaders and community members dedicating to the success of our tribe. With that, I will say unit representation matters. It's important to remember that although I am not in a stronghold majority, I will do my very best to uphold our Constitution, Tribal Code and continue to protect and advance our tribal people professionally and steadily.

As always, if you would like to meet with me or talk, please contact me at (906) 322-3818 or email lcausley@saulttribe.net.

Baamaapii, Lana Causley-Smith,
Unit 2 Representative

have just a few short weeks until their children return to school. May all of you start the school year excited and ready to prosper.

I was honored to attend the ribbon cutting ceremony for the "Lodge of Hope" transitional housing on July 26. Our ancestors are proud. The peace and love that surrounded the ceremony was fulfilling. In the name of the facility, the word "hope" stands out. It takes understanding the impact of a loss on the membership to provide opportunities and healing. With adequate support, hope can be restored within our communities, homes and our tribe. The genuine notables behind this possibility are all the staff and departments that dedicate so much to something this

See "Lee," Page 27

Tribal membership rolls should remain open



MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

homes or get those in need in a home. There is points system and I urge members to contact Housing as these will go fast.

Hunting on tribal lands is a new law. As many of you know, we are a land-poor tribe and what little land we have has been prioritized for housing and enterprise needs. With our recent purchase of some lands on Sugar Island, the opportunity has arisen for our members to utilize some of our lands to hunt and gather. I want to thank the Conservation Committee for developing the language and revising the codes to allow this. Miigwech.

Our Tribal Enrollment has been closed for several years. It was closed for several reasons, I was told the primary reason was our membership lists had a lot of bad information stemming from decades-old issues, and they needed updating. Over the course of the last few years, our Enrollment Department has had the difficult chore of going through and making sure members are properly enrolled, resulting in several hundred members being disenrolled. The question was asked last Tuesday and Enrollment answered that its was ready to move forward with open enrollment.

The subject of open enrollment isn't as easy as just open vs. closed. There are legitimate concerns on a few issues with

no easy solutions. You will hear several members concerned with Constitution concerns of "who" our members are. In the 1970s, our tribe added bands that were not listed in our Constitution. As a sovereign nation, we determine who our members are. Right or wrong, our membership was broadened to include other bands, specifically Mackinac Band and a portion of Traverse Band.

The other area of concern regarding open enrollment is the strain on our limited resources. However that may sound, it is a concern of many members who already struggle getting access to our health, cultural, community and housing services. Tribal services should never be the reason we restrict membership. I recognize members concerns, and we will need to come up with solutions for our growing population.

Regardless of how we feel about that provision, I believe are rolls should be open. There are many reasons someone didn't enroll, but, regardless, they are members. The Sault Tribe will need to address the Mackinac Band concern eventually. Options include a constitutional amendment or the possibility of "splintering" (meaning separating and obtaining recognition as a different tribe); in either instance, keeping rolls closed is not the answer.

The Board also validated referenda to go out to the people to decide on resolutions we previously passed. Legal had previously stated they were valid and our Enrollment Department verified there were enough signatures, so I am glad the board followed our law and validated them to go out. Our Legal Department is working on how to conduct the referenda with no Election Committee and with a limited turnaround time. I am optimistic they will have solutions worked out and then the membership can decide on the two issues: one will be

on the board removing positive majority on previously actions, and the other will be on the board voiding the special election. I have already made my positions known on both these issues and feel these resolutions weakened our tribe. With the referenda being sent out, our membership will now have the opportunity to decide.

As always, please reach out to me to discuss any of these or any issues our tribe is facing, I can be reached at (906) 440-7768. Chi Miigwech.

Michael McKerchie

From "Lee," page 26

amazing. Chi miigwech to all. Your love, hard work, and dedication will provide many years of hope, love and healing.

Our annual youth powwow was held on Saturday, July 29, at the Newberry powwow grounds. What a beautiful day and phenomenal turnout! The elders allowed me back in the kitchen this year to help prepare lunch and the feast.

The month of August brings our Unit II annual powwows. Newberry hosts its powwow on Aug. 12 and Hessel on Aug. 19. I hope to meet many of you for the first time and say "hi" to those I haven't seen in a while. These events take many volunteers and hard work. They wouldn't be possible otherwise. Chi miigwech to all who make

this a possibility.

I have been invited and will attend the annual VAWA Violence Against Women consultation again this year. This event is held in Tulsa, Ok. Tribal leaders must attend these government-to-government meetings to ensure that Sault Tribes' challenges are heard on important issues affecting our tribe. I will update you next month on what was taken away from this event.

Please reach out with any questions or thoughts. Appreciate your families, friends, and the remainder of your summer season.

As always, Miigwech, for your time.

Unit 2 Director Kimberly Lee
klee@saulttribe.net
(906) 379-8965

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