

THE SAULT TRIBE NEWS



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Mko Giizis: "Bear Moon"

Win Awenen Nisitotung "One Who Understands"

February 22, 2005 • Vol. 26 No. 3

Tribal court offers variety of programs

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Seven court employees provide services to over 2,800 people a year and hear over 800 cases a year in Sault Ste. Marie tribal court. There is an additional unknown number of people receiving court services in the tribe's seven county service area.

Tribal court opened its doors in 1979 and hears child welfare, criminal, juvenile delinquency and civil cases. Personal protection and small claims cases are also heard. The three main civil areas involve landlord-tenant cases, garnishments and conservation cases for allegations of violated treaty rights.

Working to protect individual rights and ensure fair trials, a contract was signed in 2001 with Chippewa County providing services of a public defender for criminal and delinquency cases.

However, after a Feb. 18 meeting of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners the contract for a public defender was terminated.

In addition, the tribe has contracts with eight local attorneys to provide legal counsel for minor

children and their parents in abuse and neglect cases.

Tribal court offers the community and people going through the court system a variety of programs aimed at prevention, education and self improvement.

The following is a brief summary of each program offered by tribal court.

Gwaiak Miicon, or adult drug court, has recently undergone some reorganization to include additional involvement of more tribal departments. The adult drug court team meets once a week during court to assist participants of the program. Included on the team are representatives from ACFS behavioral health, Dr. LaLone and Cindy Thomas; law enforcement and public prosecutor James Bias; culture department and the court.

Since the program's inception in 2001, there have been 11 graduates of the program. Judge Kandra Robbins said, "The costs of this program are absorbed by the court and staff who donate their time. We don't have a large enough case load to qualify for a



Tribal court staff, Back L to R: Joanne Umbrasas, Pat McKelvie, Annette Brabant. Front L to R: John Block, Judge Kandra Robbins, Vicki Gardner and Vanessa Owaski.

grant but decided it was an important enough program for our community to keep it running. Instead of having a separate staff position to oversee the program, our probation officer, Pat McKelvie, acts as coordinator."

Ezhkiniigijig Dibaaknigewin, or teen court, works in conjunction with the tribe's Youth Education and Activities (YEA) program to involve tribal youth.

Teen courts, or peer court, are active throughout the U.S. according to Judge Robbins who also said this is the only program of its sort in the eastern Upper Peninsula.

Students from Hessel, St. Ignace and the Sault have been training with tribal court since last June preparing for their role as jurors and attorneys. By the time this article is printed the students

will be participating in their first two real cases before the Judge. "Eight of the students have been trained as attorneys in the two cases, two representing the tribe and two representing the juvenile that has been deferred to the teen court program. Then we will have a jury of six that will come up with the disposition," Judge Robbins said. "This is, hopefully, going to give the juveniles a better experience and make it more meaningful to them since it is their peers telling them their behavior is unacceptable."

The student attorneys and jurors will have guidelines to follow and their decisions will have to be within reason Judge Robbins explained. "I will preside over the hearings but for the most part it will be up to the students."

Youth in grades eight to 12 are welcome to participate, however students must be a sophomore to be considered for an attorney role. Youth must also maintain a C average in school.

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Elders to receive more tax-free money in 2005 Elder dividend payments exceed \$4 million

BY CORY J. WILSON

The Self-Sufficiency Fund provides significant benefits to our most cherished and deserving tribe members, our elders.

The Self-Sufficiency Fund was developed in 1998, after the federal government settled a 161-year old land claim originating from the 1836 Chippewa-Ottawa Treaty. The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians was awarded \$19.6 million by the federal government.

The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians, through its board of directors, established a trust fund for the benefit of the tribe's future, which was titled the Self-Sufficiency Fund. The principal of the fund consists of the \$19.6 million originating from the land claims settlement, interest generated from dividends and investments and any other funds the tribe chooses to add to the fund.

The fund, as stated in the enacted resolution, "shall be used exclusively for investments or expenditures which the board of directors determines are reasonably related to economic development beneficial to the tribe; or development of tribal resources;

are otherwise financially beneficial to the tribe and its members; or will consolidate or enhance tribal land holdings."

To decide how the funds were to be used, tribal leaders conducted a national survey of the membership and held community meetings across the service area of the Upper Peninsula.

As a result from the suggestions from its members, the tribal board of directors created the Elder Self-Sufficiency Fund, also known as the Elder Land Claims Dividend Fund, and deposited the land claim settlement funds into an interest-earning account. This annual interest is based on the performance of tribal investments and the interest is designated to fund specific services while the principal remains intact, thus securing the funds financial future.

The interest earned on the principal is used to fund the annual elder dividend payments and is dispersed to elders ages 60 and older. Elders should note they will become eligible and payments will go into effect the following year after their 60th birthday.

2005 Payment summary

Money market	\$	12,747
Corporate funds		831,494
Mutual funds		100,647
Tribal note		1,400,000
Tribal enhancement		800,000
Stocks		2,726
Total income	\$	3,147,614
Estimated elders		2,600
Tax free payment	\$	1,211
Taxable payment		389
Total payment	\$	1,600

Unit I Representative Cathy Abramson, who was serving on the board of directors at the time this fund was developed said, "We surveyed the membership and I talked with many different age groups in various communities, and the general consensus of the membership was for the money to benefit tribal elders. In developing the fund, we also got input from the tribal elders themselves and, to the best of my knowledge, their input was used to establish the eligibility require-

ments which set the age at 60,"

Tribal Chairperson Aaron Payment also gave insight on the development of the fund, and was quick to acknowledge the involvement of former Vice Chairman George Nolan. "Often we hear about the origin of the Self-Sufficiency Fund and to clarify how this fund came about, we need to give recognition to our former Vice Chairman George Nolan, who back in 1992 shared with me the concept of this fund," he said.

Pursuant to the fund's guidelines, a designated amount of the fund is allowed to be invested to maximize the benefits to the membership.

As outlined in the Self-Sufficiency Fund's resolution, the tribe can and has used a portion of the fund to enhance tribal land holdings, if the investment is evaluated to be financially beneficial to the tribe. This type of investment strategy came to be known as tribal enhancements. For example, prior to the construction of the Greentown Casino, a portion of the fund was needed as collateral. In December of 2003, the tribe pledged a total of \$10 million back into the principal with a return rate of 10%, bringing the fund's total principal amount to \$29.6 million.

The financial objective is for the funds generated from the interest to eventually exceed the amounts originally invested. Only the interest is used for elder dividend payments in order to maintain the earning power of the principal amount invested.

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Elder dividend

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This conservative method of investing will ensure our tribe's financial future for the next seven generations. The Self-Sufficiency Fund is an example of a system that is an alternative for per capita payments to individual tribe members. This fund is better suited for the financial stability of the tribe and its members, because it offers a funding source that will never be depleted, as long as the tribe continues to follow the fund's investing guidelines. As of today, the tribe has accomplished the fund's objective. The \$19.6 million that was originally invested has generated approximately \$24.4 million in interest including tribal enhancements. In fact, since the program began, the entire amount of the Elder Self-Sufficiency Fund consisting of approximately \$24.4 million has been distributed, which equates to 18,117 payments to elders over the past eight years.

The Elder Self-Sufficiency Fund is derived from three areas which include trust income, tribal enhancement and tribal support dollars. Trust income consists of earnings from actual investments in the financial markets and is tax-free. Tribal enhancements are earnings derived from the collateral agreements (promissory notes/loans) with the tribe and is also tax exempt. Tribal support dollars are funds appropriated by the board of directors to supplement actual earnings, which are considered taxable. This money is based on the financial position of the tribe and is not guaranteed.

The tribe took out a \$10 million dollar promissory note on the Elder Self-Sufficiency Fund in order to help fund the renovation of the St. Ignace casino. By investing in this project, the tribe guaranteed a higher rate of return in addition to benefiting from the investment's tax exempt status. The end result is that the elder dividend fund earns more for distribution to our elders and ensures that a greater percentage of the dividend is tax exempt.

The taxable portion of the 2004 dividend check was \$894. Because the tribe used a portion of the fund for the St. Ignace casino, the taxable amount is now \$389 showing a reduction of more than half of the taxable portion. This is good news for tribe elders who, as a result, will now take home more tax-free money.

In 2005, Sault Tribe elders will take home approximately \$1,211 in tax free money compared to last year's take-home amount of \$706, which is an increase of \$505 tax-free dollars.

"The tribe could have borrowed the money from an outside financial institution," said Unit III Representative Fred Paquin. "However, by borrowing the money from the tribe, we saved the elders from having to pay a higher interest rate, which reduced the taxable amount of their dividend checks for 2005. Having this money available not only benefits the tribe but also the elders."

The exact amount distributed annually varies from year to year depending on the income earned and the number of eligible elders. Keep in mind, the minimum amount now distributed to each elder every year is at least \$1,600 regardless of the fund's performance. To continue to pay the allotted \$1,600 annual elder dividend payment, the tribe added \$1.1 million to the dividend distribution payment. The reason for this is because interest rates fell and the tribe had to make up the difference to maintain the level of money allocated for distribution. This \$1.1 million contribution is taxable and represents the \$389 taxable portion from each elder dividend check. The tribe distributed 2,585 payments to elders this past year, totaling approximately \$4.1 million in dividend payments.

"Giving money to our elders benefits us all, because our elders are our mothers, fathers, grandmothers, grandfathers, uncles and aunts and, one day, when we are elders, we will benefit from this program as well," said Payment.

1099 Form clarification: Please note, the IRS 1099 form elders received in early February 2005 is for the 2004 calendar year (the check was issued in January 2004) showing a taxable amount of \$894. The 1099 form for 2005 will show a taxable amount of \$389. The 1099 form for 2005 will be sent to elders in January of 2006. The letter sent to tribe elders on 12/28/04 regarding dividend payments was reviewed by the board of directors and detailed the anticipated amounts that were to be taxable and nontaxable for 2005.

* * * OFFICIAL NOTICE * * *

SMOKING TAX EXEMPTION MODIFICATION

On Tuesday, Feb. 15, the board of directors passed a resolution in support of the Tobacco Cessation Program. This program offers a great benefit to tribal members and families to include medication for cessation, problem solving, and support to those who desire and choose to quit smoking or chewing tobacco.

Since the program began in 2001, it has been operating at a deficit to pay for needed medications to help tobacco users to stop using. The new resolution passed by the tribal board will increase the amount of funding to the Tobacco Cessation Program, while retaining a tax exemption to the consumer of \$15 per carton. (For a smoker who consumes four cartons per month, the average monthly cost, without the exemption, is approximately \$180. The new monthly cost with the modified exemption is \$120, or a \$60 a month tax exemption for tribe members.)

The Tobacco Cessation Program is a comprehensive team approach involving doctors and providers, pharmacy, and community/rural health services. Medications available through the Tobacco Cessation Program include Zyban, as well as nicotine patches, gum, and lozenges. These medications are to help reduce withdrawal symptoms. Counseling with a nurse or educator is also available for added support while quitting.

Tribes members are encouraged to take advantage of the Tobacco Cessation Program should they desire to quit smoking or chewing commercial tobacco.

For more information on smoking cessation, please call Sault Tribe Health Center, Community Health Services 906-632-5210 or see your tribal clinic in your community.

The new exemption amount takes effect March 1, 2005.

HUNTING AND INLAND FISHING LOTTERY APPLICATION

To apply for a hunting/inland fishing permit, you must have a current enrollment card and be 18 years of age.

The game is only to be used to feed your family and not be sold or traded. Anyone caught selling subsistence game will be fined and will not be eligible to receive a hunting/inland-fishing permit in the future.

If you are selected for a permit, the fee for a hunting/inland-fishing permit is \$10 per year. This department will accept checks or money orders. **CASH PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

You must make an appointment to come in and pick up your permit. You must have a valid driver's license and a current enrollment card to submit at this time.

APPLICANT: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____ SEX: _____

DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER: _____

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____

As a permit holder you **MUST** submit a monthly catch report. Tribal Code Chapter 21 requires all permit holders to file a monthly report, even when there is no activity. Failure to submit an inland fishing and hunting report will result in a citation from Sault Tribe Law Enforcement.

If you are issued a permit, you may be subjected to prosecution by the state courts. The tribe will not provide any defense counsel. The tribe will not be responsible for any fines and costs incurred.

Permits must be picked up at the Sault Ste. Marie office or at one of the designated tribal locations. You are required to pick up your own permit or contact the Sault Tribe Police Department for mailing. There is a \$4 shipping and handling fee.

This application must be returned to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Law Enforcement Department at 2715 Shunk Road, Post Office Box 925, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or by fax (906) 632-0691 no later than 5:00 p.m., April 22, 2005.

* If application is not completely filled out, it will not be processed. Make sure all application information is completed upon submission.

Please designate the type of permit you are requesting by checking one of the following:

____ Hunting only ____ Inland fishing only ____ Both hunting and inland fishing

**The next
deadline for
submissions to
The Sault Tribe
News is 5:00 p.m.,
Monday, March 7**

Tribal court offers variety of programs to community

—Continued from page 1.

S.A.G.E., or Social Action Group Experience, is the court's newest program. Teaching youth community responsibility and values are the goals of the S.A.G.E. program. "Often youth are required to do community service while on probation. One of the problems is it tends to be more of a punishment which is not what the court wants. We want them to be able to give something back to the community in a positive way," Judge Robbins said.

The youth in this program will chose their own project and meet once a week for a month to plan, implement and review the entire process. "They learn project management and some skills and make positive connections within the community," Judge Robbins said.

This program is open to all youth, you do not have to be referred by the court to participate.

Voices to Choices is a drug and alcohol educational program which is offered to juveniles and adults with each group meeting twice a month.

The program is based on a video series with group discussion. The juvenile group discusses drugs, alcohol, suicide, self-image, friends, parents, integrity, responsibility, attitude and goals. In 2004, 28 juveniles attended the program.

The adult program talks about traditional approaches to a sober lifestyle, warning signs of abuse, coping skills, positive self talk, powerlessness and dealing with denial. In 2004, 37 adults attended the program.

Both programs are 10 weeks in length and are open to the community.

Three **active parenting programs** are offered called 1234 Parenting for children birth to four, Active Parenting NOW ages five to 12, and Active Parenting of Teens for youth 13 and over.

Joanne Umbrasas is the coordinator of these programs and last year graduated 27 from the three programs and currently has 26 parents enrolled in two groups.

"We have recognized for a number of years that we needed a good parenting program we could send parents to. Having these pro-

grams available fills a need for the court," Judge Robbins said.

Most parents attending the parenting classes are self referred. Anyone, tribal and non-tribal, is welcome to attend.

Programs currently **under development** are Enji-naadamaageng (teen drug court), Friends of Anishinabe Youth Mentoring Program and Peacekeeping Development.

Teen drug court is modeled after the adult drug court which has proven to be very successful. "The people that have completed the adult drug court successfully and made changes in their lives made us see the value of a program which focuses on the mental, physical, spiritual and emotional. We decided we really needed to use that model for our juvenile justice cases," Judge Robbins said.

Close to being implemented, teen drug court will see more serious cases which don't qualify to go before peer court. "The tribe's Substance Abuse Program has been an invaluable partner in the teen drug court," Judge Robbins said.

Friends of Anishinabe Youth is a mentoring program currently under development. A committee of volunteers has been working on bylaws for the program which will include electronic mentoring. "We are hoping to have elders volunteer and work as mentors with the youth," Judge Robbins said. This program is for the teen community as a whole, as well as teens in the court system.

Peacekeeping Development is a program originated by George Nolan who held community meetings in early 2000 before he had a debilitating stroke. The program was tabled until local training with the community healing program was complete.

The peacekeeping program is a more traditional way of resolving disputes. Those wishing to volunteer as a peacemaker will receive free training through the EUP Dispute Resolution Center. Once trained, peacemakers will become certified mediators and make referrals based on the needs of the individual to other community or tribal based programs.

If someone is referred by the court to the peacekeepers and a resolution is reached to everyone's satisfaction, the resolution will then become the court order.

For additional information call Chippewa Tribal Court at (906) 635-4963.

Mentoring today for tomorrow's future

Are you interested in making a difference, being a role model and changing the future? Learn more about mentoring a child Feb. 26 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Avery Square. Refreshments will be served and music provided by George Snider and Dave Stanaway.

Sponsored by Friends of the Anishinabe Youth Mentoring Advisory Council and Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Chippewa County.

McDowell working with legislators to improve Michigan snowmobiling

LANSING - State Rep. Gary McDowell (D-Rudyard) announced that he and other northern Michigan legislators will unveil a new proposal "in the very near future" that would resolve a year-long dispute between state lawmakers and the Michigan Department of Transportation over snowmobile travel along I-75 rights of way and some state highways in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula.

"Our state is known as a 'winter wonderland' for snowmobiling because of our extensive trails, abundant snow and exciting terrain," said McDowell, who serves as minority vice chair of the conservation, forestry and outdoor recreation committee and also is a member of the state House's snowmobile caucus.

"Our legislation will help preserve that reputation," added State Rep. Matt Gillard (D-Alpena). "We want to make it easier for snowmachine drivers to enjoy the sport without risking their personal safety or the safety of motorists."

Under a new bipartisan compromise being negotiated by McDowell, Gillard, State Rep. Kevin Elsenheimer (R-Bellaire) and State Sen. Jason Allen (R-Traverse City) with officials from MDOT, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Michigan Snowmobile Association, the plan would allow snowmobile travel on I-75 rights of way under strictly controlled circumstances. Currently, snowmobile operators are prohibited from being on the I-75 right of way.

A similar proposal that passed unanimously in Senate and House committees stalled last year after MDOT officials and Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm, citing

safety concerns, sought to include a provision banning snowmobiles from the unplowed right of way on state highways where they are now allowed.

From Jan. 1, 2001, through Oct. 31, 2004, at least 197 snowmobile crashes involving cars were reported on northern Michigan roadways, MDOT records show. An additional 705 crashes were reported along public rights of way during that span, according to MDOT data. On state trunklines, 22 collisions involving snowmobiles and cars were reported in Northern Michigan, as well as another 27 accidents on state trunkline rights of way.

"The Michigan Snowmobile Association understands that riding a snowmobile should be frozen fun, not fatal," Gillard said. "That's why it is critical for their members to have a voice in any process that may restrict use of snowmachines in our state." An essential component of the legislation would help establish a snowmobile trail linking Indian River and Cheboygan and open M-68 to snow machine drivers near the I-75 on-ramp.

"We want riders to have a blast on the trails and come back home alive. By working together in a spirit of cooperation with Gov. Granholm, our colleagues in the state Legislature and with our friends in the Michigan Snowmobile Association, we are confident we will achieve that goal," Gillard said.

More than 6,100 miles of designated snowmobile trails are located throughout Michigan. Michigan is one of only three states that offer a large system of interconnected snowmobile trails.

Traditional Anishinabe crafters, artisans wanted

BY RICK SMITH

Practitioners of traditional Anishinabe arts and crafts are being sought to set up shop in the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center.

"It's all about education and using all of our resources to promote tourism locally," said Carol Eavou, vice-president of hotel operations. "We want to raise awareness of traditional Anishinabe skills by incorporating them into our businesses, weaving ourselves into our businesses."

An acclaimed traditional craftsman from Sault Ste. Marie, Ron Paquin recently set up a studio in the complex. On a typical day he works on projects, explains particulars to clients and sells his wares.

"Customer feed-back on this has been very positive," said Eavou. "Many customers didn't understand how much work goes into traditional projects and



Bawating Anishinabe traditional craftsman Ron Paquin works on a project in his studio at the Kewadin complex in the Sault.

thought our prices for those items were too high until they were able to see the process themselves and get a better appreciation for the labor and skill involved. Some call this edutainment, part education and part entertainment."

Eavou said she is looking for traditional Anishinabek crafters who could spend at least a day or two each week working on projects in-house and interacting with customers. Call her at 632-0530 for more information.

Oberle elected to Michigan Townships Association

Kinross Charter Township Supervisor Jason Oberle was elected to the Michigan Townships Association (MTA) Board of Directors during the association's 52nd annual educational conference in Detroit, held Jan. 25-28, 2005.

As a member of the MTA Board of Directors, Oberle will carry the interests of township officials in District IV (representing Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac and Schoolcraft counties) to the entire board, which meets six times per year. His term on the board will expire in 2009, when he can run for re-election. In addition

to his responsibilities as district director, Oberle will serve on board committees that will be announced during the next board meeting on Feb. 25, 2005.

"I am very happy to be able to serve the people of my community in this capacity," Oberle said. "I believe that young adults, like myself, need to become more involved in their communities and I plan to work on the MTA Board of Directors as an advocate for my generation."

Oberle was elected Kinross Township supervisor during the 2004 general election and is actively involved in his communi-

ty as a member of the Kinross Boosters Club and the Chippewa County Economic Development Commission. Oberle has also been a member of the Chippewa County MTA Chapter since 2004. Oberle is a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

MTA is the exclusive legislative and public advocate for Michigan's 1,242 townships and is the foremost source of quality education and information for Michigan's elected and appointed township officials. For more information about MTA, visit www.michigantownships.org.

Attacking each other is wrong, we must work together



**Aaron A. Payment, MPA
Chairperson,
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians**

At the Feb. 15, 2005, meeting of the tribal board of directors, a resolution was submitted to the board that suggests that a continued 'negative' approach of an 'opposition government' is likely to continue at the detriment of the entire tribe. Our parliamentary meeting rules require a copy of draft resolutions to be in the possession of each board member five days prior to enactment. The purpose for this notice requirement is to give an opportunity for members of the board to review draft resolutions, to allow for any necessary legal analyses, to determine any implications for our operations or management and to understand all of the implications of enactment. The resolution in question was kept secret from the board until the meeting began.

Resolution to strip chairperson of spending authority

The resolution in question was kept secret from the board until the meeting began. The resolution purports to create accountability for the office of chairperson and the signature authority already approved by the board of directors. Currently, the tribal chairperson can spend up to \$50,000 without prior board approval. Anything beyond this amount not previously appropriated in a bud-

get is not permitted.

Specifically, the draft resolution presented at the 2-15-05 meeting would require the tribal chairperson to provide a report to the tribal board every single time the duly authorized signature authority is exercised. This would include travel and minor purchases, every single expenditure under \$50,000. Director Vic Matson interjected to the tribal board that I, as chairperson, have made it a standard practice to involve the tribal board in such decisions and that I have been completely forth coming prior to exercising my signature authority.

One example that has become a political issue for our more strident constituents and apparently an issue for a select few tribal board members was the tribe's contribution to the I-500 snowmobile race. Though I did exercise my signature authority, in this case up to \$10,000 by making the contribution from the tribe, each board member's consent was gained prior to cutting the check. A record of each board member's approval has been maintained.

Board members involved in all decisions

I understand that when an unpopular decision is made, it is easier to take the 'path of least resistance' by not explaining to members that board members (they themselves) were in fact involved in the decision. However, to blame the chairperson for spending when no opposition is voiced is simply cowardly and dishonest.

Some members of the board vehemently disagree with just about everything the majority of the tribal board decides. However, the opportunity to affect the outcome is when the decision is being made. If individual board members have such little faith in their skills of persuasion, they should find ways to work positively for their desired outcome; not attack those who disagree with them.

Political retribution?

I don't respect the approach of

attacking each other on the e-mail circuit, planned attempts to make wild accusations during board meetings, the new phenomena of trying to interfere with appropriations for other tribal units, or trying to undo projects we have already approved. I have seen attempts to not fund the Escanaba Tribal Center, the Manistique Health and Tribal Center, the Munising Tribal Center (aka Lincoln school) and repeated underhanded attempts to try to undue the will of Unit III in the 2004 election of Fred Paquin.

Recall that Director Paquin's vote (1,034) is nearly 57 percent greater than that previously earned by Rob Lambert (445). While Director Lambert continues to oppose myself (in everything I do) and Director Paquin, I have to wonder what constituent base he thinks he will draw from in the 2006 tribal elections. Consistently, Director Lambert denies any underhanded efforts, but I have documentation (Lambert's accusatory e-mail, my complaint and the Michigan Department of Transportation response) to show that he has used his employment to make disgusting allegations against Director Paquin.

Petty resistance not good governance

So why are we experiencing the current wave of 'resistance?' rather than focus on the business of governance for the tribe? That is a good question that all members should ask their elected representatives. Clearly, there is an attempt to erode the authority of the tribal administration. Since I have been elected chairperson, I have made great strides to involve the tribal board in the governance of the tribe.

The tribal board's increased involvement is welcomed and embraced. Immediately, after the election, I coordinated and implemented a tribal board orientation to ensure that new board members understood their responsibility, the full scope of our operations, our financial conditions, the

tribal appropriations process, our current litigation issues and a general overview of programs and services of the tribe. I put together this training curriculum in order to ensure the new board members were comfortable in understanding the enormity of their responsibility and were well equipped to govern.

Nothing kept secret from tribal board

Under our new administration, the tribal board is invited to attend monthly financial review meetings where we go through all services and governmental operations budgets of the tribe. In addition to complete disclosure of all financial information, we also have available on-line all of our financial expenditures for the tribal board to look at. In many cases, if a board member has a question about a particular expenditure, we go directly into the expenditures in our main accounting database to look it up. Nothing is censored. The tribal board truly has as much access to all tribal information as I do. I realize some continue to argue that information is being kept from them.

So what is really going on? Why do we continue to have dissension on the tribal board? Members would be well served to know why there are continued attacks on your elected board members and on-going attempts to unravel previously approved projects.

"Secret meetings" to plan attacks

Early this year, I came across an e-mail sent to a third party that gets to the bottom of the apparent motivation to undermine our duly elected government. In the e-mail, an individual is quoted as saying, "The board has to take back the powers given the chairman . . . A few months ago we had a meeting where Directors Lambert, McKelvie, Causley and Abramson attended. The issue of regaining these powers was the top discussion. When the meeting was over

it was the consensus of everyone that something was going to be done . . . A resolution has to be drawn and submitted to the entire board."

The e-mail then goes on to attack and disparage Directors Vic Matson, Vice Chair Bob LaPoint, Tom Miller, Denise Chase, Paul Shagen, Fred Paquin and Treasurer Todd Gravelle. The e-mail concludes, "The only board members that have stuck by their guns on every issue they originally committed to is McKelvie, Lambert, and Causley."

I find it a little more than disturbing that those who claim that the tribal board is holding 'secret meetings' from the membership is actually holding secret meetings themselves designed to undermine and attack duly elected tribal board members in all units.

Coalitions normal but cooperation yields better government

Forming coalitions in government is the nature of the 'beast' in politics. However, to do so at the detriment of affording each and every elected board member a level of due respect by hearing their proposals in advance, is just that — disrespectful. Again, if board members have little faith in their powers of persuasion, then they should gain these skills rather than continue to try to undermine every decision made by the tribal board as a body.

While others spout off the claim to support, a 'strong positive leadership' approach to government, the 'strong positive' majority on your tribal board will continue to work together to resolve issues and govern in this manner beyond a campaign promise.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments please contact me by e-mail at apayment@saulttribe.net or call (906) 635-6050 or toll free at (888) 94-AARON. Chi-MeGwitch. Baama Pii, Negee!

—From our tribe's mail—

Thanks for the donation

Dear Editor,
Thank you to the Sault Tribe and the board of directors for contributing \$32,169.27 from their two percent distribution to the Kinross Recreation Center. Special thanks to Chairperson Aaron Payment for all his contin-

ued efforts to serve our community by focusing on health, education and recreation.

The money will be used to address long needed building improvements, expand programming and to purchase equipment. Thanks again,
—Deedee Frasure and the Kinross Rec Center staff

Elder dividend checks are a help

Dear Editor,
Just a short note to say thank you again to the board of directors for our tribal dividend checks for the year.
With our checks we pay our house insurance, land taxes and car insurance for the year. It is a

relief knowing that the above bills are paid and we do not have to worry about saving up the money to do so.

You are all doing such a great job on getting the tribe back on the right track. Keep up the hard work, we do appreciate all you have done for us, the elders.
Thank you again!
—Glen and Vida Captain

Dear Editor,
I want to thank you for the many gifts you have sent to the elders. I really appreciate it. When one lives on a fixed income, it is sometimes hard to do. Your check paid for my taxes and insurance. Your gift card had many uses. Once again thank you from the depths of my heart.
Sincerely,
—Elva Hofer

THE SAULT TRIBE NEWS

The newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
February 22, 2005, Vol. 26, No.3

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Alan Kamuda.....Deputy Director
Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
Rick Smith.....Staff Writer
Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary

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the activities of the tribal government, member programs and services and cultural, social and spiritual activities of tribal members.

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General board meeting briefs for February

By RICK SMITH

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors met for a general meeting in Sault Ste. Marie at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center on Feb. 1. Board members Cathy Abramson and Vic Matson, Sr., were absent.

Presentation: Chairperson Aaron Payment and Sault Tribe United Way campaigns coordinator Heather Smith presented a check for \$17,500 to United Way 2004 Campaign Chairman Bill Munsell.

Minutes: The minutes of board meetings on Nov. 9 and 16; Dec. 7, 21 and 28; Jan. 4, 11 and 18 were approved. Copies are available to members by calling tribal administration at 635-6050.

Resolutions: *Voting is not noted on actions taken unanimously.*

The board authorized an application for a 2005 Native American Protection and Repatriation Act documentation grant from the U.S. Department of the Interior. If awarded, the grant will provide up to \$75,000 to provide a documentation program to develop and implement policies for the purpose of repatriation of American Indian cultural items including human remains, sacred objects, funerary objects and objects of cultural patrimony.

A resolution was passed "to allow those Batchewana band members who were disenrolled from our tribe because they failed to sign the disclaimer form and to allow these members to obtain and sign a new enrollment form and be eligible for automatic membership within our tribe." An

amendment added a 90-day time limit effective from the date of passage. Board members Denise Chase and Robert Lambert, Sr., opposed the resolution.

Another general meeting of the board was convened on Feb. 15 in St. Ignace. Board members Tom Miller and Lambert were absent.

Minutes: The minutes of the board meeting on Feb. 1 were approved.

Resolutions: Authorization was granted on an application for supplemental federal funding for transitional housing for female victims of violent crimes. If awarded, the grant will provide \$175,000 over a three-year period and does not require any matching funds.

A section of our tribe's child welfare code was amended to read, "30.209(4) Upon a motion of the prosecuting attorney or attorney for the child, and upon good cause shown, tribal court jurisdiction may be retained until a child reaches twenty (20) years of age. In determining whether good cause exists to retain jurisdiction beyond a child's eighteenth (18th) birthday, the tribal court shall consider the stated wishes of the child. The court may continue to exercise ancillary jurisdiction over the parent of a child to ensure payment of placement costs or other costs associated with the juvenile proceeding, regardless of whether the child continues under the court's jurisdiction." Essentially, the amendment allows the court to continue assistance for subjects in the court system who reach 18 years of age and wish to have

extra time to become better prepared to leave the system.

Another section of the juvenile code was amended as follows, "36.414(4) Jurisdiction for a child who has reached their seventeenth (17th) birthday may be extended for up to two years upon motion of the prosecuting attorney or attorney for the child, and upon good cause shown, regardless of when the child first came under the court's jurisdiction. The court may continue to exercise ancillary jurisdiction over the parent of a child to ensure payment of placement costs or other costs associated with the juvenile proceeding, regardless of whether the child continues under the Court's jurisdiction. The record concerning the child shall be destroyed according to section 36.1003 of this chapter."

A conservation committee request was approved to distribute \$207,547 from the fishermen's trust fund to assist our tribe's commercial fishermen to prepare for the 2005 fishing season. The funds will assist those fishermen left with financial hardship as a result of poor market demand during the 2004 season. Board member Fred Paquin abstained from voting.

The board appropriated a total of \$2,038,398 as the tribal governmental fiscal year 2005 capital purchases budget with \$30,600 in tribal support dollars, \$1,300,298 from governmental fund balances and \$707,500 in the form of loan proceeds to cover the capital purchases for Sault Tribe Construction.

The board also appropriated a

total of \$1,285,451 as the tribal enterprises fiscal year 2005 capital purchases budget with some \$469,314 as tribal support dollars and the remaining \$789,137 from enterprise fund balances. In addition, the 2005 enterprises budget was approved.

The board made a third appropriation of \$3,306,533 in tribal support dollars for the fiscal year 2005 legal department budget. Board member Dennis McKelvie opposed the appropriation and board member Paul Shagen abstained from voting.

The tribal gaming ordinance section 42.412(2) was amended as follows, "A gaming commissioner, a gaming commission staff member, or a director or a member of the director's household, shall not be able to gamble in any Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' gaming establishment licensed pursuant to this chapter, or have any personal financial interest in any gambling by any patron in an establishment licensed pursuant to this chapter." The amendment added gaming commissioners to the list of those regulated by this section. Board members Abramson, Todd Gravelle and Robert LaPoint opposed the amendment.

The tribal tax code was amended to replace the sections regarding imposition of cigarette taxes and distribution of tax proceeds. The board levied a tax equal to 25 percent of the state exemption for cigarettes provided by the tribe-state tax agreement, \$2.25 per carton, to support the tribal smoking cessation program. Board members McKelvie, Gravelle, Matson, Chase and Joe

Eitrem opposed the levy creating a tied vote broken by Chairperson Aaron Payment who favored the measure.

A policy was adopted setting guidelines for tribal construction field workers to donate leave time to co-workers who have health crises. Board member Gravelle abstained.

The board authorized an application for a \$40,000 grant from the National Park Service to enhance and record culture camp activities.

New business: A resolution to establish regular reports from the chairman to the board regarding signature spending up to \$50,000 was referred to a workshop to be completed within 30 days. Board members Lana Causley, Joe Eitrem, McKelvie and Abramson opposed referral.

The board accepted two resignations from the tribal election committee and was asked for guidance on filling the vacancies and other matters.

Ken Ermatinger was re-appointed to the tribal housing commission for a four year term.

A Marquette Area Elders Committee request to require appointees to the committee be residents of Unit V was approved.

The board conducts general meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month and they are open to our tribe's members.

Look for the next edition of *The Sault Tribe News* on March 18!

Major issues facing us must be worked on



Lana Causley
Unit II Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

This unit report is being written the day before the board of directors meeting in St Ignace on Feb. 15, 2005. At this meeting, I plan to present two resolutions.

Back in July 1997, the board passed resolution 97-63, giving the chairman authority to spend up to \$50,000 for the day-to-day operations of the tribe. Although this is acceptable, the resolution failed to outline or require that any reporting practices were in place.

All of the board members and the current chairman have voiced their concerns as to the limitations of the previous chair. That being in the past, I have introduced a resolution to implement a reporting requirement for those expenditures so the board has a

monthly report stating the cost center (where the money was drawn from) the date, the amount and the reason the money was expended.

This resolution does not blame the current chair for any wrongdoing, it simply places checks and balances on the current chair AND any future chairman of our tribe.

It is the board of directors' responsibility in the Constitution, article VII, section 1m, "to manage any and all economic affairs and enterprises of the tribe." This resolution, if passed, will create the checks and balances for this spending within our tribe.

Cathy Abramson, on behalf of four other board members including myself, attempted to place the conflict of interest on the agenda for this upcoming meeting. I received my agenda and the resolution was not put on, even though the five day requirement was met.

This resolution was presented back in October 2003, with it being resolved that the question would be voted on by referendum; this never happened. It was again presented in September 2004, where it was referred to a committee and workshops would be scheduled; this never happened either. We discussed it briefly but no firm decision was agreed upon.

There are a lot of different

aspects to this and also a lot of different opinions. Mine has not changed. I believe to be an employee and be a board member is a conflict of interest. With that being said, some disagree due to the fact that both Denise Chase and Fred Paquin did get voted into their elected positions with their employment being known. That's a fact.

So the resolution presented would allow both to remain in their position this term to respect and honor their unit members' decisions. But, if they were to run again, and any future candidate running, would not be allowed to be an employee.

Statements have been made that we are simply attacking Denise and Fred. This resolution clearly states otherwise by recognizing that they were elected and had the position.

I brought this resolution forward in September 2004 because tribe members asked me to and it is what I believe in as a member of the tribe and the board. I will support it again because we must address it. It's not a new issue but it is being used to separate our board and this has got to stop.

I do see countless things that both Fred and Denise have done for their communities, such as the Manistique Health Center and the new hospital in St. Ignace, and we do have to give

credit where it is due. A referendum to the people will also end the issue.

I do not agree with anyone being publicly attacked about this, that is why it is our responsibility to get it off the table one way or another. The chairman and board members are, in fact, creating the problem by not addressing it completely. Nobody can deny that. Let's address it and move on. The past is the past. We can't change it but we have to move on. We have major issues facing our tribe that we must work on:

- Money owed to the Greeks. We owe them \$207 million. We must work out a payment structure to ensure that we have money available for services in the years to come, we are in debt to the Greeks plus an additional \$220 million for other Greektown debt. Northern debt is at least \$20 million.

I met with tribe members last week who had no clue we are in such financial strain and, on top of that, feared losing their jobs because of budget cuts.

The board has been meeting weekly on the issues in Greektown and, from what I understand, the cuts have taken place and our budget passed with positions secured.

- The threat of a union. I do say threat because if we have a union in place it will cripple our

sovereign right to give tribe members preference in employment. We cannot ever be in a position where we cannot give preference to our tribe's members. In Greektown there is a union and out of at least 1,800 team members only five are Sault Tribe members.

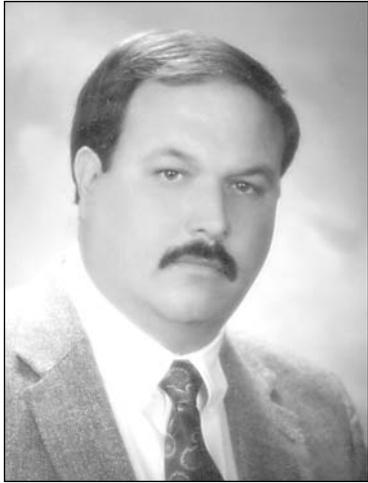
We must start taking positive steps that will create a secure, fair and safe environment for our employees and where tribe members can be promoted. There is a proposed plan being drafted that will benefit all tribal employees and also a freedom of information policy. These are two policies that will directly benefit all employees and members.

It has been determined by this board that the evaluation for employees is not working. We will begin meeting with HR to implement a new and fair one. Joe Eitrem said, "let's throw it out and start from scratch." I agree. We will be meeting on this in the next few weeks.

I will be holding a unit meeting in Naubinway on March 3 at 5:30 p.m. at the Naubinway Pavilion. Office hours: Newberry will be March 25 and Hessel will be March 7. I invite and encourage members from our unit to attend the unit meetings and bring you concerns to me during office hours.

Remember our board meeting will be in Hessel on March 15.

Applications available for the 2005 season



Fred Paquin
Unit III Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

There have been several questions and concerns regarding the harvest amounts during the 2004 hunting and inland fishing season.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the tribe members who were issued permits for their diligence in filing their catch reports. Our hunting and inland fishing rights will be determined by a federal judge in federal court. We are mandated to record and track all of our harvest. This process may seem tedious and time consuming, but

this also will clear up rumors of the tribes over-harvesting the resource. Your involvement will make you a part of the history of our tribe and insuring that our treaty rights are preserved and protected.

During the 2004 season, there were 864 permits issued with the following year-to-date harvest amounts:

Big game

Buck 167
Doe 193
Unreported sex 280

Small game

Beaver 56
Birds 5
Coyote 1
Duck 24
Geese 2
Muskrat 68
Partridge/grouse 458
Raccoon 13
Rabbit 161
Snowshoe hare 13
Squirrel 1
Other species 51

Pounds of fish

Blue gill 77
Brown trout 151
Chinook salmon 2,680
Coho salmon 882
Herring 73
Lake trout 312

Large bass 26
Menominee 18
Perch 570
Pink salmon 170
Pike 497
Rainbow trout 13
Small bass 123
Steelhead 196
Suckers 3
Walleye 1279
Whitefish 116
Other species 87

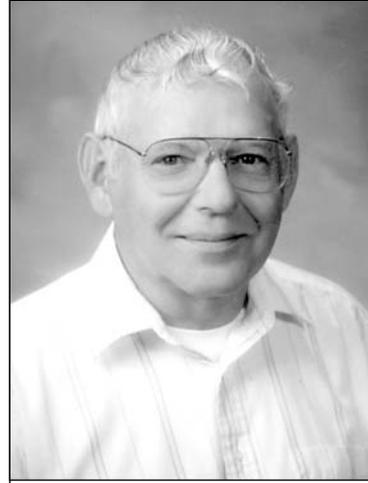
As you can see by the results of all the hunting and fishing, the numbers are not as high as people assumed.

Tribe members who receive hunting and fishing permits have been engaging in this activity for their entire lives. They have learned as small children to respect and protect the resource as part of our culture.

Applications are now available for the 2005 season, please see page 2 in this issue of *The Sault Tribe News*. Please remember to complete and submit your applications before the deadline. I look forward to working with you during the 2005 season. I hope it is a safe and prosperous one.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at (906) 643-8878.

We are in an era of rapid change



Bob LaPoint
Unit II Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

So crucial are the issues facing our tribe, I hardly know where to begin. Let me start by saying I am not all that proud of the way the tribal government use to do business and I want you to know we are trying to fix it. What unites our tribe are the diverse points of view. But there are realities beyond the rhetoric and political gamesmanship. We are operating in an era of rapid change and yes, times of great uncertainty. The national economy does not look bright for the distant future. We have to be concerned about the national debt just in the same way we must be concerned about the tribal debt. The chairman and the board of directors are together when looking ahead and identifying key economic issues. We are putting forth an effort to foresee any number of large and complex forces that could create problems for our economic future. We need to provide a framework within our governmental body to effect economic and policy decisions. This administration is very open with the board making decisions and with the members appetite for 24-hour news and tribal affairs. I would still like to see more civility in the emails. It is apparent that many of the mature writers on the Internet agree. We are not yet into the election cycle and the board should be allowed to do our business. Vacancies on the election board is one issue that needs critical attention. This is one of those realities. Having come from the reform movement that participated in the biggest political change in this tribe's history. I can tell you. We don't want to loose ground. Members should see what they can do to offer suggestions and ideas for establishing a fair and respected election committee.

I can appreciate when the members use the Internet to communicate with each other. You are participating in "civic journalism" or maybe "commu-

nity journalism." Our tribal media does not do any political reporting and this is good.

The unit reports have become the central political forum. This is also good. The issue of the tribal economy is hard to report and the chairman has been the convenient scapegoat for the problems created by the past administration. Now we are faced with tough choices and hard decisions. The members are getting total financial accountability. Something I fought for in every election. One thing you have to realize is that tribal governments and tribal economies are still an experiment. We might only have one chance to get it right in our life time. I enjoy the political discourse that I hear from so many and I can tell you, there is much restructuring going on within the tribal administration. One department that is getting a good examination is the communications department. The communications department is the drum beat of our tribe. They publish the tribal newspaper and they do a darn good job of it. Publishing the budget in the last issue of the paper is a clear example of the openness this administration is trying to project. The communications department is also responsible for the tribal website and the video taping and airing of the board meetings. They are the news media that we have to work with. They are also one of the departments that needs to get help from the board. In talking with the staff from the communications department, it is clear they have been operating with out-dated equipment and this problem deserves serious attention. This will increase their productive capacity. We need to look for new and creative ways to make money. Having a state-of-the-art communications department can help move the whole tribe forward. Using our tribal media in a variety of ways can be good for business. Basically, I favor cost containment in most areas of the tribe, this policy is being followed by the current administration. The chairman and the board are united in addressing the real tough issue of fiscal responsibility. The question of how to. Designing effective ways to secure our financial growth is difficult because of the debt, it remains as one of our greatest challenges. If you have any questions or need additional information, call (906) 493-5311, Bob LaPoint, vice chairman and Unit II board member.



Cub Scout Joey Hoffman, sister Autumn and fellow Kincheloe Troop 122 member Jacob Corbett received some tactical training while on a tour of the Sault Tribe police station from Sault Tribe Officer Bob Marchand. The children were shown equipment the officers use and had their fingerprints taken while visiting the station. Tribal police work closely with youth in the area to establish a positive and friendly relationship.

Photo by Alan Kamuda

Charter Cable televises Sault Tribe board meetings:

Marquette and Alger Counties, 6:30 to 11:00 p.m., Channel 8, Fridays

Sault Ste. Marie, Channel 2, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Mondays and Thursdays

St. Ignace, Channel 12, 9:00 a.m., Mondays

Escanaba and Manistique, Channel 8, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., Wednesdays

Think Spring!

Taking care of business



Cathy Abramsom
Unit I Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Director Chase reported in her last unit report that some board members opposed the approval of funding for an Escanaba Community Center. What she didn't say in her report was that it was suggested the additional \$45,600 requested be taken from the already approved \$691,714 for the Manistique Health Center expansion of services. This \$691,714 was additional funding given to Manistique over and above what they already receive. Also, opening a facility is a costly undertaking with the expectation that additional future funds would be required to provide services.

The question posed was this. Do you want funding for services or funding for a building? This is not a black and white issue. This was not just a one time appropriation. This would be committing an unspecified amount of dollars for years to come without careful thought going into how these dollars would be provided.

Facilities may not be the most cost effective answer for tribe members' services in rural communities. To date, the Lincoln School in Munising remains vacant and this must be adequately addressed before adding another vacant facility. The cost to open a community center that is vacant is wasteful if not used. Researching potential partnerships, joint ventures, and purchased services from existing providers and local businesses must be done first. I am supportive of services for members in all

communities, however expanding services and facilities when budgets and services are being reduced in other areas is fiscally irresponsible.

Many of you have noticed that our board workshops and membership input was not being videotaped and shown on the cable television station.

Apparently, an executive order was given to discontinue this form of communication to the public. It was believed that a majority of the board agreed to this. At the Kinross board meeting, a majority of the board members voted to continue videotaping all workshops and community input and to have them aired on television. I hope you continue to enjoy viewing these informative workshops and meetings.

There are some board members who are trying to bring back issues that have been sent to committee for further review. At this point in time, there are a few issues that have been sent to committee, but they have stayed there with no action taken. There appears to be strong resistance from some board members to discuss certain issues.

Examples of these are the conflict of interest resolution. This resolution states that board members should not work for the tribe while in office. It also states that those board members who are now working for the tribe will fulfill their term of office and if re-elected they will need to make their choice. This issue is not going away. At our last workshop, the date of the committee meeting was finally set for Tuesday, March 22, at 1:00 p.m. in Sault Ste. Marie. I urge all members to attend. Another example is the formation of a Unit VI committee. I will be asking for an update regarding this issue at our next board meeting.

Every Monday, I will now be holding office hours from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. My office is located on the third floor of the administration building in the Sault. You may call me at 1-800-793-0660, ext. 26089 or 906-635-6050 to set up an appointment. You may also call me at my

home phone at 906-635-3054. If you are unable to take advantage of my office hours, I would be happy to come to your home to meet with you.

I have spoken with many, many tribe members from every viewpoint imaginable and a common theme amongst most of them is that this campaign of negativity needs to stop! They have asked me to address it in my unit report.

In the last paper, the chairperson once again addressed the disturbing situation that occurred during the change of administration. The board of directors, by majority but not unanimously, agreed to bring suit on our former chairman and the contracted employees who left employment immediately following the election. It is now in the hands of the courts and the attorneys. There is no need to report anything further unless there are new developments. The board has taken action to move forward. However, if we continually dwell on the issues from past administrations, we are going to remain stuck on the bitterness of the moment and we are not going to be able to move forward to try to make a better future for our tribe.

One more item, before I close. Ms. Rose Allard, a tribe member who works for United Cerebral Palsy of Michigan in Marquette is spearheading an information sharing workshop to be held at the Manistique Tribal Center on Thursday, April 21, 2005. The topic for this workshop is services for people with special disabilities. Directors Causley and I will be working with Rose and Barb Hosket to better inform our tribal service providers and members about the services that are available to them. Agencies such as Social Security Administration, Pathways, FIA, Michigan Job Commission, Michigan Works! and the United Cerebral Palsy (to name a few) will be there to present. All service providers and tribe members from all units are welcome to attend. Please mark this down on your calendar and plan to attend!

The search for talent

SUBMITTED BY LYNN TROZZO

Talent comes in various forms. Talent can be fine-tuned like a fiddle and honed to precision edge. Talent can be found naturally or it can be acquired through many means of study, education and training.

Everybody believes they have talent in some shape or form and are usually pretty adept at knowing what that talent is and growing it and nurturing it until it becomes the essence of the person.

Sometimes talent can be something that is so very difficult to others and yet so very simple to some, for example; giving superior out-of-the-norm customer service. In this industry of gaming, food, beverage and lodging, we promote good times with good friends and we do it where we live. We don't have to travel to find all the fun stuff that is here, right here, all under one roof. The same goes for the Shores along with the Christmas, Manistique and Hessel sites. Of course, the Sault Kewadin Casino has it all, but the other sites have the same great food and the same great customers.

But how do we find the team-members to provide that "superior out-of-the-norm" customer service? We listen, we watch, we inquire and we post. We pay attention to those who come to the employment office looking for that entry level position to "just get my foot in the door" and move up. We listen to those who are looking for careers and stability and might be discussing it around the lunch table or break room, or we turn an ear when someone speaks of exceptional customer service they had recently witnessed or been lucky enough to receive. For instance, just recently, I heard an extreme

case of internal superior customer service that got me thinking not only is external customer service so very important but it brings to mind just how important the internal customer service is as well. To see it from a birds-eye view, you think that "superior out-of-the-norm" customer service must be a talent.

This particular situation occurred when the hotel was at maximum capacity during a busy weekend and the housekeeping staff was short for various reasons. They found themselves rushing about with fewer team-members, trying to get the rooms done for customers. Not only did they get the rooms done, but they came together to get it done. Apparently one room was left undone, but somebody took the lead and said, "Hey, I'll do this, if you do that." A third person said, "Yeah, and I'll do this part." A fourth person said, "I'll do this or that part."

In no time at all, the room was ready to meet the external customer and, to their satisfaction, it was even ahead of time. This is truly awesome customer service which began internally then in turn affected the external customer.

Between now and 2006, we will be searching for talent, not only for our regular seasonal positions for all sites, but for those who have the talent to nurture that "superior out-of-the-norm" customer service at our new site in St. Ignace. If you think you have this kind of talent, please view our website daily at www.saulttribe.org and apply online or call toll free at 1-866-635-7032. The Sault Tribe employment office is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS COMMITTEE VACANCIES

JOM COMMITTEE

3 Vacancies (different units)

SPECIAL NEEDS/ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE

6 Vacancies (different units)

HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1 Vacancy

ELECTION COMMITTEE

2 Vacancies

HOUSING AUTHORITY COMMITTEE

1 Vacancy (Unit 5)

Send one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation (tribe members only) to:
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
Board of Directors
Attn: Joanne Carr
523 Ashmun Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI. 49783

(906) 635-6050, toll free 800-793-0660, fax (906) 632-6696

Email: jcarr@saulttribe.net

The Escanaba elders will hold potluck dinners at the Escanaba Civic Center, which is on 225 North 23rd St.

They meet on the second Saturday of each month.

Thank you, *Secretary Betty Majestic*

P.S. - We will meet here until further notice.

The Unit IV tribal elders of Manistique will be holding monthly meetings on the first Thursday of every month at the tribe's Manistique Community Center.

Please bring a dish to pass at the potluck supper at 6:00 p.m. The meeting follows the dinner. The next meeting is scheduled for March 3.

Learn to swim Free for our tribe's youth

Mondays and Wednesdays 4:00-4:50 p.m.

Lake Superior State University

Norris Center pool

Second session runs - March 7-April 15

Call Jessica at 635-7770 to register.

Class size is limited.

The next deadline for submissions to *The Sault Tribe News* is 5:00 p.m. Monday, March 7

Higher education programs

BY JANICE M. LEWTON,
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR

First of all, we would like to congratulate those students who graduated in December 2004. We wish you the best of luck!

U.P. western end college information tour: Barb Christie and Heather Corbiere from our higher education department will be available to answer college information questions at the following dates and locations —

Feb. 21, Munising High School, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.; Negaunee High School, 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.; Ispeming High School, 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Feb. 22, Bark River High School, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; Escanaba High School, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 pm; Gladstone and Escanaba Alternative, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

March 14, Newberry Alternative, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; Newberry High School, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.; Engadine High School 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

March 15, Big Bay de Noc School, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; Manistique High School, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Manistique Alternative 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

March 16, Rapid River High

School, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.; and Gladstone High School, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Higher education self-sufficiency fund program, also called the incentive award program: As of Feb. 11, we received 1,374 applications and awarded 859 students at \$371,889.85 for the fall 2004 session.

This fund is on a first-come first-served basis, which means as grades come in, we award students until our funds run out.

If you have not yet submitted your fall 2004 grades, you can still do so. Send them to Sault Tribe Higher Education, 531 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783

We realize many schools are no longer sending grades to the student's mailing address and the student has to retrieve them from the Internet. Before sending in the Internet grades,

please make sure the identifying information includes, your name, school and the session. If anything is handwritten on it, we cannot accept it.

Please make sure that you have a 2004-05 higher education assistance application on file before turning in your

grades or you wont be eligible for the incentive award. If you do not have an application, you can file one at www.saulttribe.com.

If you already have an application on file for the 2004-05 school year, please do not send us another one, it's one application per school year.

Please keep in mind that it is the student's responsibility to report their awards to the appropriate agencies which may include the financial aid office, IRS, etc."

Higher education grant program for the 2004-05 school year: We awarded 207 students with \$143,192 for the 2004-05 school year.

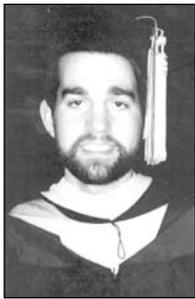
2005-06 School year applications will be mailed out about the end of February or beginning of March. Please make sure that we have your current mailing address.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at any time. Call us at (906) 632-6098 or 1-800-793-0660 and ask for the higher education department or send e-mail to jl Lewton@saulttribe.net.

Smith earns master's degrees

Derek R. Smith of Ann Arbor, Mich., formerly of Midland, Mich., graduated with two master's degrees.

He received a



master's of social work and a master's of public health from the University of Michigan, Dec. 18, 2004.

Derek graduated from Midland High School in 1998 and earned two BAs and a minor degree from the University of Michigan in 2002.

Derek was a former tribal chairman intern and studied abroad in

Salamunca, Spain.

He accepted a position with the Greater Oakland Native American Health Center in Oakland, Calif.

Derek is the son of Lyle and Debra (nee Bellant) Smith of Midland, Mich., and the grandson of the late Euclid and Arbutus (nee Davenport) of Cheboygan, Mich., and Patricia and the late Lyle Smith of Hampton, Va.

Porter awarded two scholarships from the University of Michigan

Lydia Porter will be graduating from Harbor Springs High School in the spring and has been accepted to the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, as a freshman beginning Sept. 2005.

We are very pleased to tell you that she has been awarded two



scholarships from the University. The first one is The University of Michigan Regents Merit Scholarship, which is reserved for the top graduates of high schools throughout the state of Michigan. As a Regents Scholar she will receive a \$1,500 merit award to be used for residence hall fees.

The second one is the University of Michigan Scholar Recognition Award. This scholarship is offered to Michigan residents with a strong academic record

who demonstrate scholarly potential and can contribute significantly to the overall excellence and diversity of the entering freshman class. This award provides a full-tuition scholarship for four years of undergraduate study.

Lydia is the daughter of Matthew and Melinda Porter, formerly of Mackinac Island. Her grandparents are Armand and Shirley Horn and William and Lorone Porter all of Mackinac Island.

Students honored for perfect attendance

SUBMITTED BY JAMIE EAVOU,
NATIVE AMERICAN ADVISOR
SAULT AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL

On Feb. 3, 24 students from Sault Area Middle School were invited to attend a "zero tardy party" for having perfect attendance. Nine of the 24 students were Native American.

The zero tardy party consisted of students who had zero absences, zero tardies and zero referrals for the entire semester.

The students were rewarded with lunch at Pizza Hut and bowling at Dondee Lanes. Chi Miigwech to Pizza Hut and Dondee Lanes for their patience and hospitality.



Congratulations to John Cloudman, Curtis Weber, Michael Bazinau, Tasha Opalka, Meghan Buckley, Courtney Gervais, Cassandra Holt, Anthony Hallai, and Carl Mason. Missing from photo is Carl Mason.

Way to go!

Correction — In the Jan. 11, 2005, edition of *The Sault Tribe News*, the wrong Web address was given for the National Museum of the American Indian. The correct address is www.AmericanIndian.si.edu.

Adult education

BY GEORGE H. SNIDER

I thought I would cut to the chase and just answer some of the questions I get and a few interesting facts regarding the government equivalency diploma (GED) tests.

Did you know the General Educational Development Testing Service develops and distributes the GED tests?

More than 600,000 adults worldwide take the GED Tests each year.

Those who obtain scores high enough to earn a GED outperform at least 40 percent of today's high school seniors.

GED graduates include comedian Bill Cosby, actor Christian Slater, Delaware's Governor Ruth

Ann Minner, and U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado.

One out of every seven high school diplomas issued each year in the United States is based on passing the GED tests.

More than 95 percent of U.S. employers consider GED graduates the same as traditional high school graduates in regard to hiring, salary and opportunity for advancement.

The Sault Tribe Adult Learning Center has an open door policy meaning you may enroll at any time.

If you would like more information or to enroll, please call me at (906) 632-6280 or send e-mail to gnsnider@saulttribe.net.

Vincent excels in academics and sports

Sault Tribe member Katie Rosemarie Vincent has earned for three consecutive years the honor of being added to our nation's national honor



roll and Who's Who in America's High School Students. Katie has a 3.8 GPA, is active in varsity sports — basketball, volleyball and track — in the school choir and committee mem-

ber with student council assisting on dances and events. She also has a part time job working at Mac's Market in Newberry.

Katie is the daughter of Pam McKerchie and Ray B. Vincent.

Granddaughter of Wm. and Margaret (nee McCoy) McKerchie-Lilly and Earl, Jr., and Maggie McKerchie and George and Jean Vincent and Richard and Mary Berry. Her family is very proud of her achievements and support her goals.

McKerchie makes deans list

Sault Tribe member Melissa Rae McKerchie has earned the honor at LSSU of being on the deans list with a 3.79 GPA. She recently transferring to Grand Valley State University to pursue an education



in film and video productions.

Melissa is the daughter of Pam McKerchie and Ray B. Vincent. Granddaughter of Wm. and Margaret (McCoy) McKerchie-Lilly and Earl and Maggie McKerchie Jr. and George and Jean Vincent and Richard and Mary Berry. Her family is very proud of her achievements and support her goals.

Campbell wins minority leadership award

SUBMITTED BY RICHARD A. CAMPBELL

Sault Tribe member Shannon Marie Campbell has been nominated as an USAA National Minority Leadership Award winner by the United States Achievement Academy.

Shannon will graduate from Rincon High School, Tucson, Ariz., in May and has been admit-



ted to the University of Arizona as a pre-education major. She has also been offered admission to Northern Arizona University and selected to receive their Blue and Gold Scholarship.

In high school, she is a member of the National Honor Society and the Rincon High choir.

Shannon is the daughter of tribe member Steven Campbell of Tucson, and granddaughter of Sault Tribe member Richard Campbell of Mackinaw City, Mich.

Miller graduates with bachelor of science degree

Michael Paul Miller received a bachelor of science degree in mathematics with an emphasis in math education from Northern Illinois Uni-versity Dec.



12, 2004.

He is the son of Arthur A. Miller, Jr., and Beverly Miller of Carpentersville, Ill., and Ronna Miller of Elk Grove, Ill., nephew of Unit IV Sault Tribe board member Tom Miller and grandson of Martha Miller, both of Cooks, Mich.

Congratulations Michael!

New U.S. Department of Education Web site helps combat problem of diploma mills

Students and employers can now access a master list of accredited colleges, universities, career and trade schools, thus helping combat the growing problem of diploma mills, thanks to a new Department of Education Web site unveiled today by department officials, the Federal Trade Commission, the Office of Personnel Management and U.S. Reps. Mike Castle, Buck McKeon and Tom Davis.

"This new Web site is at www.ope.ed.gov/accreditation and is an important tool to combat the growing industry of diploma

mills that scam unsuspecting consumers and employers by offering fraudulent degrees," said Assistant Secretary of Education Sally Stroup. "On behalf of Secretary Spellings, I would like to thank Sen. Collins and Congressmen Boehner, Castle, Davis and McKeon for their support. This Web site is the first step in our continued efforts to increase awareness and provide useful information to the public."

Diploma mills operate outside the purview of the accreditation process and the Department of Education's oversight of federal

student aid programs. Consequently, they threaten to devalue the genuine education credentials of millions of Americans.

It should be noted that some institutions have chosen not to participate in the federal student aid program and therefore do not have to be approved by an accrediting agency recognized by the department. While these institutions do not appear on the department's list, they may be legitimate schools. Stroup encouraged consumers and employers to use the list as an initial source of information and to investigate further

whenever an institution does not appear on the list.

Last January, after discussions with Sen. Susan Collins, Department of Education officials brought together federal and state representatives to discuss the most effective ways to combat the rising problem of diploma mills. Last May, Stroup testified before Congress on the problem of diploma mills and pledged a coordinated, ongoing effort by the department along with other state and federal entities to address the issue.

In addition to the new Web

site, the Federal Trade Commission announced a new publication, *Avoid Fake Degree Burns by Researching Academic Credentials*, a resource for hiring managers and human resources professionals with information on the Department of Education's database and other tools to help assess academic credentials.

The publication, available at www.ftc.gov/bcp/conline/pubs/bu/pubs/diplomamills, also identifies red flags that indicate a job applicant's claimed academic credentials could be bogus.

Nationwide ACT test is April 9

College-bound high school students can take the ACT assessment on April 9, 2005, the next nationwide test date. The registration postmark deadline is March 4. Late registration postmark deadline is March 18 (an additional fee is required for late registration).

The ACT Assessment now contains an optional writing test. Some colleges will require writing scores from students entering college in the fall of 2006. Students should check the admissions requirements of colleges they are considering before deciding whether to register for the

ACT with or without the writing test. The cost is \$28 without and \$42 with the writing test.

Students can receive registration information from their high school guidance counselors or they can register on ACT's website at www.actstudent.org. The website also features test tips, practice test, and a database for students to find out if a prospective college requires a writing score.

ACT scores are accepted by virtually all colleges and universities in the nation, including all ivy league schools. Scores are used, along with a student's high

school GPA, high school courses taken, extracurricular activities and other information to help determine if a student is academically ready for college-level coursework.

ACT encourages eleventh graders to examine their ACT scores for academic weaknesses and take more challenging courses or receive extra help to grow stronger in important academic areas. The ACT Assessment includes four tests: English, reading, math, and science. Students who opt to take the writing test will add 30 minutes to the three-hour normal testing time.

New ACT prep guide is the only one with actual ACT tests

College-bound high school students who want to prepare for the ACT assessment with "the real thing" can do so with a new book available through ACT's Web site at www.actstudent.org. The book, titled *The Real ACT Prep Guide*, includes three real ACT exams, including samples and practice tips for the new optional writing test.

"The ACT assessment hasn't changed, other than the addition of an optional writing test for students whose colleges require a writing score," said Jon Erickson, ACT's vice president for educational services. "This book is the most authentic ACT prep book on the market, because it's the only one with actual ACT tests that have been taken by students. There's no better way to become familiar with the ACT assessment than by practicing with real ACT tests, and there's no better way to

practice for the new writing test than using samples and advice from the people who designed it."

The Real ACT Prep Guide costs \$19.95 and also includes important test-taking tips, information on how to register and what to expect on test day.

The ACT assessment is administered to students in all 50 states and is accepted at virtually all U.S. colleges and universities. Although most colleges won't require a writing score, some will require it for students entering college in the fall of 2006.

Students can search colleges at www.actstudent.org to find out if the college they are considering requires a writing score, and then make a decision about taking the ACT assessment with or without the writing test.

Michigan Indian Elders Association scholarship notice

The Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) will make available two \$500 scholarships and one (1) \$1000 scholarship. The scholarships will be awarded to three qualified students with the \$1000 scholarship being awarded to the most qualified student, as determined by committee review and lottery, if necessary. Each student must be currently enrolled in a course of study at, or have a letter of acceptance from, a public college or university or technical school and must meet the following qualifications:

- The student must be an enrolled member or a direct descendant of an enrolled member of one of the MIEA constituent tribes or bands and must be verified by the constituent tribal enrollment department.
- Must have successfully completed and passed all five General Education Development equivalency tests with a minimum score

of 40 and an average score of 45 and must possess a G.E.D. certificate; or graduated from an accredited high school with a 3.00 grade point average; or if currently enrolled at a college, university or trade school, must have an accumulated grade point average of 3.00.

- Must, except for special and extenuating circumstances, attend college, university or trade school on a full-time basis.

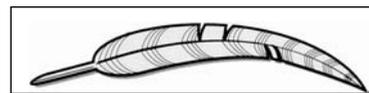
- Must complete the provided application form and submit it with required supporting documentation and the mailing must be received by the coordinator no later than June 13, 2005. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

An application form can be obtained from the tribal education department of each of the constituent tribes or bands

Current constituent tribes and bands are Bay Mills Indian

Community; Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians; Hannahville Band of Potawatomi Indians; Keweenaw Bay Indian Community; Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians; Little River Band of Ottawa Indians; Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians; Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Potawatomi Indians; Gun Lake Tribe; Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians; Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe; and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Applications can be picked up at the Sault Tribe administration building at 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., 49783 or call the Sault Tribe Education Department at 906-632-6098 or 1-800-793-0660.



Scholarship information on the World Wide Web

Though there are a number of companies and organizations that have donated money for scholarship use to minorities. A great deal of the money is being returned because of a lack of interest.

Here are a few Web sites:
1) Bell labs fellowships for underrepresented minorities are listed at www.bell-labs.com/fellowships/CRFP/info.

- 2) Student inventors scholarships at invent.org/collegiate.
- 3) Student video scholarships, christophers.org/vidcon2k.
- 4) Coca-Cola two year college scholarships, coca-colascholars.org/programs.
- 5) Holocaust remembrance scholarships, holocaust.hklaw.com.
- 6) Ayn Rand essay scholarships, aynrand.org/contests.
- 7) Brand essay competition, [- tuteforbrandleadership.org/IBLESayContest-2002Rules.
 - 8\) Gates millennium scholarships, \[gmsp.org/nominationmaterials\]\(http://gmsp.org/nominationmaterials\).
 - 9\) Xerox scholarships, \[www2.xerox.com/go/xrx/about_xerox/about_xerox_detail\]\(http://www2.xerox.com/go/xrx/about_xerox/about_xerox_detail\).
 - 10\) Sports scholarships and internships, \[ncaa.org/about/scholarships\]\(http://ncaa.org/about/scholarships\).](http://insti-

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Braden Pages, 3, on a backhoe as part of Sault Tribe Head Start's "under construction" weekly theme. The Head Start kids were paid a visit by construction workers from Hammer Head Construction.

Learn to swim

Free for our tribe's youth
Mondays and Wednesdays 4:00 to 4:50 p.m.
Lake Superior State University Norris Center pool
Second session — March 7 to April 15
Call Jessica at 635-7770 to register.
Class size is limited.

Battle of the Boards



Unit III Representative Fred Paquin goes over Ashley Russo for a rebound in the first quarter of the game.

It was a laughing Battle of the Boards at the Chi Mukwa Recreation Center as the Bahweting Anishinaabek Tribal Youth Council took on the board of directors in the third annual contest.

"It's always a great way to help the youth council raise money for projects," said YEA Director Allie Krebs. "The kids love going one on one with the board."

The games were broken into two

quarters of basketball and two quarters of dodgeball. The board of directors pulled ahead during the first quarter but fast breaks and pin-point shooting added a win to the YEA side by the end of the game.

Through negotiation and philanthropic donating, almost \$500 was raised, the board was able to claim the game, although it was the youth council who won the evening.

Photos by Alan Kamuda



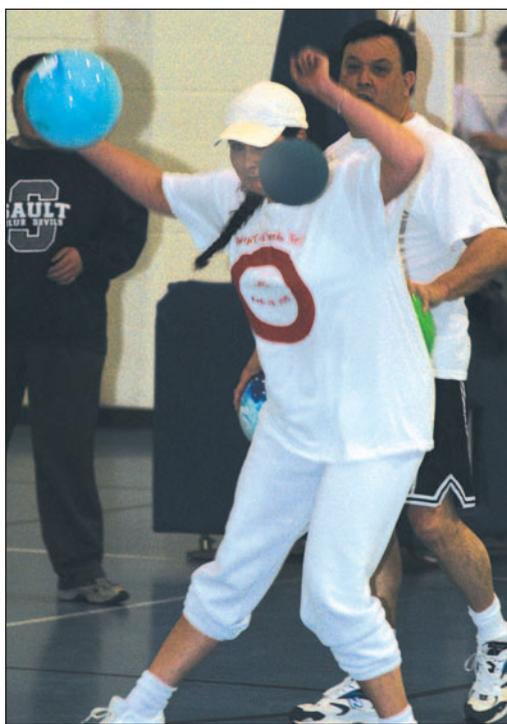
Unit I Representative Cathy Abramson takes a shot at one of the YEA youth during the second quarter dodgeball.



Unit I Representative Dennis McKelvie goes after the ball from behind Adam Khalil who was still able to get the pass off.



Chairperson Aaron Payment goes up for two points during the final quarter of the game.



Unit II Representative Lana Causley gets hit in the dodgeball portion of the game.



Tribal Associate Executive Director Kristi Little plans a dodgeball attack with her son Richard, 10, who played on the board's side. Richard scored six points and mom missed all her shots.



Mnaajtoodaa Eyaawying Honouring Our Cultural Identity

11th LANGUAGE CONFERENCE
Hosted by Anishinaabemowin Teg Inc.

Kewadin Hotel and Convention Centre
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, USA

March 30, 31, April 1, 2 & 3, 2005

Pre-registration
Before March 1, 2005: \$150.00 CDN / \$116.00 US
AFTER March 1st: \$200.00 CDN / \$165.00 US
\$100.00 CDN / \$83.00 US Elder or Student
\$75.00 CDN / \$62.00 US Daily Rate / NO MEALS
Groups of 20 or more 10% discount

PAYMENT OPTION OF:
Certified Cheque, Money Order or Purchase Order

Topics:
Anishinaabe Culture
Anishinaabemowin Humour, Stories, Songs
Anishinaabemowin Resource Development
Activities for Elders and Youth
Special Guest Entertainment
Fiddle and Step Dance Night
Pow-Wow and Cultural Evening

Host Hotels
Kewadin Hotel and Convention Centre: 1 (800) 539 2346
Algomas Water Tower Inn: 1 (800) 461 0800
Best Western: (705) 942 2500

In Partnership with Union of Ontario Indians



For further information contact:
705 942 9909
Website:

<http://www.anishinabek.ca/uoilc/index.htm>



Locks of Love

Samantha Stiver, 19, donated her blond locks to the Locks of Love charity which uses the hair to provide free hairpieces for financially disadvantaged children under the age of 18 who suffer from medical hair loss. Left is Samantha with her hair that has been long her whole life and on the right with her new hair style.



Dancing to the drum beat

Students at J.K.L. School participate in a drum and dance social

Marking the end of the semester, a drum and dance social was held at J.K.L. Bahweting School Jan. 27, honoring students and their accomplishments. Award certificates were handed out and students had the opportunity to have a few hours of fun socializing and dancing to traditional music and songs.

Photos by Brenda Austin



Students had the chance to receive award certificates, socialize with friends and dance to traditional drumming and songs.



Presley Howell examines the fringe on her friend Madelyne Rudledge's shawl.



Deanna LaLonde, Brynn Mansfield and Alysia Brewer.



L to R: Lexi Newland, Holly Austin, Lacey Morgan, Kendra Becker and Rebecca McCauley.



Scott Colborn and Hailey Jackson hold hands as they dance around the drum.



Kindergartner Austin Tschirhart with his grandparents Bob and Winnie Wertz.

Menards place in Kinross sled dog competitions

Brittany Menard, 14, and her sister, Eran, 9, participated in sled dog races in Kinross Jan. 8-9, 2005.

A member of the Great Lakes Sled Dog Association, Brittany entered her first three-dog junior sled race across three miles over rough terrain against nine other participants on both days.

She finished in 12 minutes, 39 seconds on the first day and 13 minutes, 11 seconds on the following day. Brittany finished in fifth place for both days.

Eran participated in the 100-yard one-dog dash, coming in at 11.47 seconds on both days. She placed second, receiving a ribbon and trophy.

Brittany would like to thank everyone who helped her at the races. A special thanks to John McCormick, who helped tremendously and made it all possible.



Brittany Menard in action with her dog team, Duce, Ranger and Lad.

Barbeau wins state free throw competition

SUBMITTED BY WANDA BARBEAU
Dustin Barbeau, Big Bay de Noc seventh grader and Sault Tribe member, recently won the Michigan Elk's state free throw competition in Troy, Mich.

He made 20 out of 25 free throws in the 12 to 13-year age group to claim the first place title.

Dustin will return to Troy in March to compete against other winners from Ohio and Indiana.

Way to go, Dustin!



Miller receives commission and graduates with BS degree

Arthur Albert Miller III was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Illinois Army National Guard on Dec. 18, 2004.

In addition to receiving his commission, Lt. Miller also graduated from Western Illinois University with a bachelor's of science in recreation, park and tourism administration.

He is the son of Arthur A. Miller Jr. and Beverly Miller of Carpentersville, Ill., and Ronna L. Miller of Elk Grove, Ill., nephew of Sault Tribe board member Tom Miller and grandson of Martha Miller, both of Cooks, Mich.

Lt. Miller is currently in Fort



Sill, Okla., for a U.S. Army field artillery officer course.

The "Castle" — A short story

BY MARION KOMENDERA

The "castle" and that way of life caused me to have a sense of what is important in life and what isn't. It felt like a refuge and it stabilized my life, I did not like to be sent away, especially with my Aunt in DuBuque, Iowa, a year at a time. She was wealthy, but I always missed my mother and was happy when I came back to Detroit.

I never became materialistic. There have been highs and lows in life, I accepted the lows and dealt with them. The highs were just frosting on the cake. I felt grateful. Life is so short, it's so important to enjoy the simple pleasures that are all around you if you look.

In 1939, after ten years of on and off separation during the great depression, my mother and I were alone roughing it, moved into 19303 Concord. She became a housekeeper, so we could stay together at last.

Luigi Canale was a volatile Italian builder, cement man, with two motherless children, Rose and Ben.

The moment I saw the house I was enchanted. It looked like a



Marion Komendera

fairy-tale castle. The walls were a foot thick, very safe and secure for us. It was beautiful and very impressive.

Then we entered the house, it was a big shock — kid heaven! It was unfinished, and a total disaster. Plaster boards, unpainted for the walls, old linoleum on the floors, toys, dirt, tools and cement bags everywhere.

We sat on the couch and a fine mist of cement dust rose, when the old furnace came on a spray of coal dust spewed out of the registers and coated everything. The bathroom did have modern fixtures, but alas, a dirt floor with small tiles piled in one corner waiting to be laid.

The basement was cement block, a cement floor, but again with areas of earth. This was a mouse haven. Rose and I didn't care, we had a child's paradise. We made houses for the mice. We were safe and free, housework was definitely not a priority.

My mother brought her cat and then accumulated six more. She used sand for their cat boxes, big mistake!

Every spring we had a flea invasion. They covered our legs from the calf down as we got out of bed. We put our legs under cold water in the tub and down the drain they went. It's a wonder we didn't get the bubonic plague. There were secret passages and sliding doors upstairs. We thought

that bodies or ghosts were hidden behind them. At some point we explored everything.

We listened to Caruso records and some lively foxtrots on the old Victrola, and we danced. We had plenty of privacy and used our imaginations. We loved our odd environment. We had total freedom. We also enjoyed Luigi's ghost stories. One of his tales was about "The long arm," the arm would follow you and grow longer and longer, then catch you to bring you to the devil and horrible demons.

The only cleaning equipment was a broom and a dustpan. Clothes were sent out to be washed. We did have a modern sink, refrigerator and stove. He was an excellent cook, Italian style. Mother played the piano very well and we all sang around it. Nice, especially at Christmas time. She was a non-stop reader, and we became avid readers. We went to the art museum and the old Nortown picture show and saw some of the greatest movies that were ever produced.

I'll never forget my first home, my make believe castle and my "sister" Rose. Recently she said no one would believe we lived as we did and not have lost our minds.

This was a lighter, amusing side of our life in that house, there were many minor and major tragedies that I omitted.

Booths celebrate 50 years of marriage

Bob and Barbara (nee Marrow) Booth met when she was 14 and Bob 18. They dated and later married on Jan. 15, 1955.

They have three children, Robert Douglas, Pamela and Linda Marie; they have also been blessed with six grand children, Malissa and Trisha Booth (twins), Stephanie Wheatley, Andrew and Rebecca Arnold and Justin Walter.

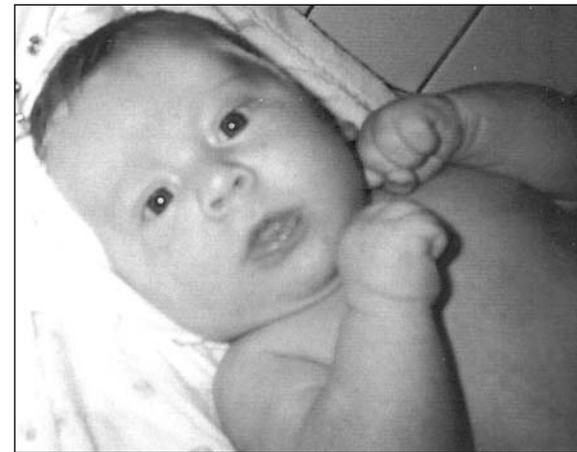
Congratulations Bob and Barbara!



Stork Report...

Tribe member Kerri Sue Smith Slingerland and Ian Slingerland of Portland, Ore., are proud to announce the arrival of their first baby boy, Calder Namid. He arrived Nov. 4, 2004 at 4:00 a.m. weighing eight pounds, three ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Calder's maternal grandmother is tribe member Debra (nee Bellant) Smith and Lyle Smith of Midland, Mich., Great-grandparents are the late Euclid and Arbutus (nee Davenport) Bellant of Cheboygan, Mich., and Patricia and the late Lyle Smith of Hampton, Va. Paternal grandparents are Jack and Penny Slingerland of Vancouver, Wash. Great-grandparents are Faune Slingerland Mitchell of Seattle, Wash., and Rex Welton, Billings, Mont.



New ACFS staff member

Christina Wilkins recently accepted a child advocacy coordinator position with Anishnabek Community and Family Services based in Kinross.

Wilkins was born and raised in the Sault area and graduated from Lake Superior State University in December of 2004 with a bachelor's of science degree in human services with minors in social work and child

development.

She is a candidate for the Grand Valley State University master's in social work program.

In her spare time, Wilkins enjoys keeping fit, riding horses and training puppies.

Welcome aboard!



E.U.P. caregiver support group meetings in Sault, St. Ignace

The Sault Ste. Marie Caregiver Support Group will meet in the second floor conference room at the Avery Square Center, 510 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on the last Wednesday, March 30, at 2:00 p.m. For more information please call (906) 632-6096.

The Mackinac Straits Support

Group will meet in the Education Room of the Mackinac Straits Long Term Care Facility, 220 Burdette Street, St. Ignace, Mich., on the second Tuesday, March 8, at 6:00 p.m.

For more information please call Ronda Schlehuber at 906-643-7489 or Janet Yoder at 800-337-3827.

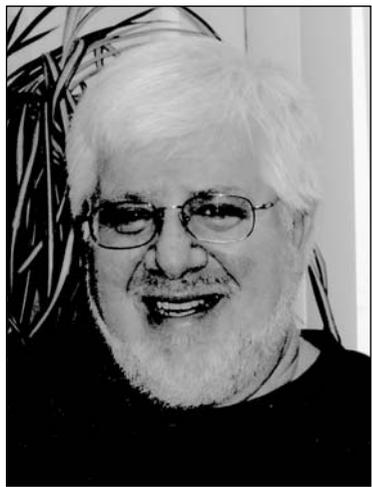
Waabanangikwe's Journey

SUBMITTED BY MARY ANN STOTT

The mid-winter thaw has come and gone. Fresh snow has fallen and Waabanangikwe has left her home for a walk on a beautiful morning. During her walk she meets a tall man with a big smile and snow white hair. His name is Tom Sauro. He had heard about Waabanangikwe's journey to learn about diabetes. He asked if she would share her teachings with him and he would share a story about himself.

Waabanangikwe was happy to share stories with Tom, because there was something special about him that made her feel that he truly cared about people.

Tom told Waabanangikwe that he worked as a community health technician for his tribe in Sault Ste. Marie. This job let Tom help



Tom Sauro, CHT

people stay healthy and take care of people who are ill.

Tom shared with Waabanangikwe that the healthiest life style change he has made was to quit smoking. He started smoking

when he was 18 years old. "Many people around me were smoking and when I started I used to think smoking relaxed me, but it really didn't," he said. "After I found out how truly bad nicotine is to our bodies and how the addiction controlled my body and took over my life, I knew I had to quit."

Tom told Waabanangikwe that his family health history puts him at high risk for diabetes and heart disease. His mother, Grace Sauro, has diabetes and his father, Bill Sauro, who has passed on, had diabetes and heart disease.

Tom shared that his father was very concerned about Tom's smoking. On Thanksgiving, four days before his father passed away, he told Tom to quit smoking. Those were the last words his father shared with Tom. That was

nine years ago. Tom knew his father was right and he needed to quit smoking.

It took Tom six attempts to quit smoking. The longest amount of time without smoking between attempts to quit was six months.

Five years ago on Jan. 4, Tom was able to quit smoking. Knowledge from the "Freedom from Smoking" classes and support from family and friends helped him quit. Tom shared with Waabanangikwe that smoking increases the risks of cardiovascular problems and diabetes. Smoking raised his blood pressure and his pulse rate and caused damage to his vessels. When he quit his breathing improved. While he was smoking he had less ability to fight off colds and he was sick much more often.

Waabanangikwe now knows that Tom wants others in his tribe to be healthy and consider making the same life style change that has helped him so much. He was sent by the tribe for smoking cessation training. Tom wants everyone to know, "I'm here to help anyone who wants to quit smoking."

Waabanangikwe thanked Tom for his teachings and promised to bring his message to the people. As she walked away, Waabanangikwe felt Tom's father would be very proud of his work.

Contact for the smoking cessation program is Tom Sauro at 906-632-5207.

Contact for the Sault Tribe diabetes program is Mary Ann Stott, BSN, diabetes nurse educator at 906-632-5209.

Program brings affordable health care to uninsured residents of Chippewa County

The Chippewa Health Access Coalition (CHAC) has opened their doors coordinating health care services for the uninsured.

The coalition is a non-profit organization started in the faith community with the first meeting in December 2002. It has since received 501(c)(3) status, established a board of directors and elected officers Russ Murphy, president; Rosemary Blashill, vice president; Christine Lundquist, treasurer; and Barbara Reed, secretary.

In September of 2004, the Upper Peninsula of Michigan was awarded a 2004 Healthy

Communities Access Program grant. The grant is awarded by the Federal Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration.

CHAC is one of the six regional agencies receiving funds from the three-year grant. Originally operating on donations from local churches and faith community members, the grant provides the funds necessary to create a strong foundation focusing on planning for a sustainable future.

The program leverages volunteer care, donated services and community support to meet health care needs such as physician vis-

its, laboratory care and medications that are difficult for the uninsured to afford. Health care is offered through donated physician services. Dr. Richard Ganzhorn was the first physician to join the team in December 2003. He is now joined by Dr. Robert Graham, Dr. Robert Mackie, Dr. Phillip Niemi, Dr. John Ockenfels, Dr. Jaak Pahn, Dr. Charlene Sweeney and Dr. Timothy Tetzlaff. War Memorial Hospital has joined the program making certain lab tests and chest x-rays available at a low cost. Several local pharmacies have also signed on to participate in the program.

CHAC is designed for the low-to-middle income, uninsured residents, who earn too much income to qualify for public health programs but cannot afford their own health insurance and are not eligible for employer-sponsored health insurance. To be eligible for the CHAC program, patients must not have any type of health assistance, meet income guidelines and be a Chippewa County resident between the ages of 19 and 64.

People without health insurance typically forego or postpone preventive and routine health care until there is an emergency,

which is more costly and less effective. CHAC will be the bridge to provide uninsured patients with access to preventative and regular care as well as chronic illness management. It allows patients to be diagnosed and treated early, which is expected to decrease the cost of care of uninsured persons for local hospital and practitioners.

For information on enrolling in the program or if you are interested in volunteering, please contact CHAC at 906-635-7483.

Michigan Inter-Tribal Council receives Avon Breast Care Fund award

The Avon Breast Care Fund has awarded a \$55,000 one-year grant to the Michigan Inter-Tribal Council to increase awareness of the life-saving benefits of early detection of breast cancer. It is the fifth year that the program has received Avon Foundation funding to support its work on this important health issue and in recognition of the excellence of the program. This grant is especially meaningful as it comes during the 50th anniversary year of the Avon Foundation.

The breast health program at the Michigan Inter-Tribal Council will educate women of Michigan's tribes and refer them to low-cost or free mammograms and clinical breast exams in their own communities. Unique, culturally specific education will be provided to tribal women in four Michigan communities: The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Community, Hannahville Indian Community, and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Since October of 2000, the Michigan Inter-Tribal Breast Health Program has reached nearly 7,000 women with information about the importance of early detection of breast cancer and has referred almost 3,500 women for mammograms and clinical breast exams. In addition, the program

has developed a variety of culturally specific breast health education materials, including the Courage Calendar, which features Native American Breast Cancer Survivors, and the Pink Shawls Project video, which is a grass roots project addressing breast health awareness and screening with traditional teachings and dancing.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women in the U.S., and the leading single cause of death overall in women between the ages of 40 and 55. According to the American Cancer Society, 7,210 new cases of breast cancer will be detected in Michigan this year and 1,380 lives will be lost. Nationwide, there is a new diagnosis every three minutes and a death from breast cancer every 14 minutes. While advances have been made in prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure, early detection still affords the best opportunity for successful treatment. Programs such as the Inter-Tribal Breast Health Program help ensure that all women have access to early detection information and options, even poor and medically underserved women.

"Many factors, ranging from fear to lack of a health care provider's recommendation, keep women from practicing good

breast health," says Noel Pingatore, health education program manager for the Michigan Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. "There is a tremendous need to reach women with information and resource. We are grateful that Avon shares this mission and has chosen to support our program."

The Avon Foundation has funded more than 800 community-based programs across the United States during the last 10 years, including the breast health program at Michigan Inter-Tribal. These programs are dedicated to educating under-served women about breast cancer and linking them with early detection screening services.

For more information about the Inter-Tribal Breast Health Program at the Michigan Inter-Tribal Council, please call Noel Pingatore at (906) 632-6896. For more information about breast cancer, contact the American Cancer society at 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org, or the call the National Cancer Institute at 1-800-4-CANCER or visit www.cancer.gov.

To learn more about the Avon Foundation, call 1-866-505-AVON or visitors can log on to www.avonfoundation.org.

Sault Tribe health center receives ACR accreditation

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians health center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., has been awarded a three-year term of accreditation in mammography as the result of a recent survey by the American College of Radiology (ACR).

The ACR, headquartered in Reston, Va., awards accreditation to facilities for the achievement of high practice standards after a peer-review evaluation of its practice. Evaluations are conducted by board-certified physicians and medical physicists who are

experts in the field. They assess the qualifications of the personnel, and the adequacy of facility equipment. The surveyors report their finding to the ACR's Committee of Accreditation, which subsequently provides the practice with a comprehensive report.

The ACR is a national organization serving more than 32,000 diagnostic/interventional radiologists, radiation oncologists and medical physicists with programs for focusing on comprehensive health care services.

1-800-MEDICARE helpline

SUBMITTED BY WISCONSIN PHYSICIANS SERVICE

Medicare is always working to improve its service to you. The 1-800-MEDICARE helpline has replaced the touch-tone system with a speech-automated system to make it easier for you to get the information you need 24 hours a day, including weekends.

The system will ask you questions that you answer with your voice to direct your call automatically. Remember to speak clearly, call from a quiet area and have your red, white and blue Medicare card in front of you.

You can direct your call

faster if you say what you need, after listening to the instructions.

Frequently asked questions like "What does Medicare cover?" or "Who is eligible for Medicare?" and other important questions say "Answers."

Ordering Medicare publications ask for "Publications."

If you want to talk to a customer service representative say "Agent."

For more information on Medicare, see medicare.gov or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227.) TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

Mary Murray's Gift



Sugar Island. We have many other visitors who tour our facilities and surrounding grounds, such as the Waabino lodge, the nature trail, etc. Since the very beginning, the Mary Murray Culture Camp has hosted events that have brought guests from as far away as North Korea, China, Japan, Mongolia, Norway, Sweden, Canada and from throughout the United States.

The history of the camp started when a gracious tribe elder donated forty acres of land on Sugar Island to our tribe. The land was used for the development of a tribal cultural camp where the Ojibwa culture and traditions would be practiced and passed on to all members. In honor of Mary Murray, the Anishinaabeg Edinokiiwad Department is planing an unveiling of a memorial dedicated to Mary Murray's generous donation to all Anishinaabe people. This dedication will be tentatively scheduled for early April 2005.

Attendmance Statistics (2001/2004)

2001
Tribe members 400
All visitors 702
2002
Tribe members 435
All visitors 781
2003
Tribe members 462
All visitors 801
2004
Tribe members 416
All visitors 731

The next camps are as follows, sugar bush camp will start mid to late March whenever the sap runs.

March 5, story telling at the ceremonial building.

We are always looking for volunteers for the powwows and other events, if you would like to volunteer, you can call Bud Biron or Laura Collins at 632-7033 or contact the cultural division at 632-7494.

Mary Murray, shown here in a David Conklin painting, donated 40 acres to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in the early 1970s to provide the land base they needed to gain federal recognition. The Mary Murray Culture Camp now occupies the land.

SUBMITTED BY BERNARD (BUD) BIRON, CULTURE CAMP COORDINATOR

Bozhoo Ogeemachichuk, a new department, Anishinaabeg Edinokiiwad, has been added to the cultural division. This department is now managing the Mary Murray Culture Camp and all area tribally sponsored powwows.

The culture camp was originally under the umbrella of the Sault Tribe Housing Authority. In the past, the camp offered different types of camps year round such as smoked fish, net tying, drum making, flute camp, winter survival, moccasin making, snow shoe making, cradle board making and sugar bush.

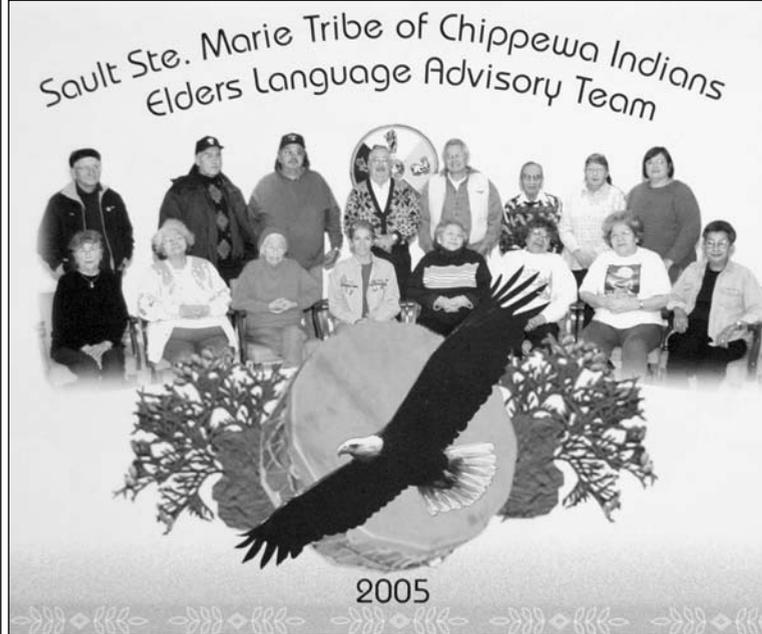
This year, in addition to all previous camps, we are going to offer a summer environmental camp involving traditional

Ojibwa gathering and gardening. The gardening will include the traditional sacred plants of tobacco, cedar, sage and sweetgrass. We currently have two raised beds to accommodate the growth of the sacred medicines.

We have been working with the United States Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Conservation Services to repatriate and reestablish our traditional medicine plants in the area. This will be a youth driven pilot project of restoring our traditional medicines in the local area. When it is time to harvest our traditional medicines, we will have them accessible for elders upon request.

The cultural camp has many tribe members visiting year round. Sometimes they will stop in if we are having a camp or if they are on vacation or touring

Special after holiday offer 2005 Moon Calendar Only \$5



The Sault Tribe Cultural Division announces a special post holiday offer of \$5 for the 2005 Moon Calendar. Give the gift of Anishinaabe language and culture to your family and friends.

This beautiful, full-color calendar features current and former members of the Sault Tribe Elders Language Advisory Group, known for their knowledge and wisdom, Anishinaabe language ability, and contributions to our own community-based dialect of Anishinaabemowin.

Honor these Elders as you journey through the year 2005. Learn the names of the months, days of the week, seasons, numbers, colors, the Four Directions, the Seven Grandfathers, prayers to the Creator, cultural practices and Anishinaabe life ways, as well as practical phrases useful in everyday life.

The 2005 Moon Calendar is a gift that keeps on giving throughout the year.

To order, just fill out the Order Form and mail it with payment to the address shown. Questions? Call (906) 632-7494.

Order Form - 2005 Moon Calendar

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Method of Payment (please check one)

- Cash
- Money Order (make payable to Sault Tribe)
- Personal Check (make payable to Sault Tribe)
- Credit/Debit Card
- Visa MasterCard
- Debit

Name as it appears on card: _____
(Please print)

Card No. _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Questions? Call Wendi Pages @ 906-632-7494

Return your payment to:
Sault Tribe Cultural Division
Attn: Wendi Pages, Admin. Asst.
206 Greenough Street
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783

Anishinaabemowin Word Search

By Randy Gordon

Naapnewin Ailments

AAKSHKADE	CRAMPS
CHAASHIN	LAME
DAAPSHKAA	SEIZURES
DEWAAPNE	HEART TROUBLE
DEWKWE	HEADACHE
GBISKWE	HOARSE
GGIIPSHE	DEAF
GIGKAA	COLD
GIKMANZI	NUMB
GIIWSHKWE	DIZZY
GKIIHINGWE	BLIND
GZHIZWAAPN	FEVER
JIIICHIIGOM	WART
MAANJMIZI	CRIPPLED
MIGII	SORES
MOOKSE	RASH
MSKOZHE	MEASLES
NBWIWI	PARALYZED
NKAAMDAM	FAINT
SOSDAM	COUGH
TAWGAAPNE	EARACHE
WIIBDAAPNE	TOOTHACHE

T S Y I E E I W I I W B N E P N
 F E P E U W E N I H S A A H C M
 H B T W K G S Z L T M Y G E I V
 U E I K M N K E T E O I B W E D
 I U X W A I O D A N G R I K H E
 U I A E A I O A W P I K S H S W
 M P G D N B M K G A I B K S P A
 G P Y I J I F H A A H A W W I A
 I E M N M I T S A D C A E I I P
 I H V H I K W K P B I K G I G N
 K Z B U Z G G A N I I H W G G E
 M O Q Q I I I A E I J S Q L R U
 A K P Y G X L K K W Q P T Z K S
 N S S C G Z H I Z W A A P N E T
 Z M P L E O M A D M A A K N J B
 I U I M A D S O S W K D U S T E

Anishinaabemowin words are found in all directions even backwards.

New Adolescent In-Home Assistance Program

Parenting activities in March



Jennifer Lehto and Kris Derusha, caseworkers for the Adolescent In-Home Assistance Program.

Anishnabek Community and Family Services is pleased to announce it is accepting referrals for the Adolescent In-Home Assistance Program (AIHA).

AIHA is an innovative way to use tribal culture to help at risk adolescents from being removed from their homes. It will also assist in the reintegration of adolescents who are returning from residential treatment back into their homes. The objective is to help families regain balance in their lives by helping them gain structure and stability.

AIHA will use the strength based treatment philosophy and wrap around concept which gives the family the opportunity to identify what their needs are

and the caseworkers help focus on strengths of the family, family support system and community resources to improve the problem areas. By having the family addressing the problems and what works for them, they can develop problem solving techniques that last long after the youth is out of the program.

AIHA will include a strong cultural component as well. The program will include a level system based on the teachings of the Seven Grandfathers. Participating in cultural activities and exploring traditional healing methods will be encouraged.

AIHA will be available to Sault Tribe members throughout the service area. The number of

weekly contacts and the length of the program will be based on the family's needs, with a minimum of 15 weeks to complete.

Jennifer Lehto and Kris Derusha have been hired as caseworkers to implement the program. Both have bachelor's degrees in psychology and past experience in working with delinquent youth.

Members wishing to access the program services in Chippewa and Mackinac Counties can contact Jennifer Lehto at 906-495-1232. In Luce, Schoolcraft, Alger, Marquette, and Delta counties contact Kris Derusha at 906-341-699

Wrap around training presented in the Sault

BY STACEY TADGERSON
SAFE KIDS SAFE STREETS,
PROJECT FACILITATOR

On Jan. 24, 2005 Dr. John VanDenBerg, child psychologist and leading wraparound expert from Colorado, presented a lecture to 64 participants from across the Upper Peninsula at the Kewadin Hotel and Convention Center.

Participants were representatives of local social services organizations, tribal leadership, membership liaison, medical providers, community health, education, tribal Head Start and Upward Bound, law offices and law enforcement agencies.

A fundamental background was provided to inform the various professionals of new methodologies being implemented across the U.S. and internationally in systems of care. A system of care refers to how a community comes together to agree on a vision, corresponding structures and practice that will support efforts to help children and families with serve and support needs

Highlighted were the wrap around systems of care values which are persistent commitment to families, child centered, family-focused, safety, individualized, strength based, partnerships, collaboration, community support, social networks, informal supports, outcome based and cost

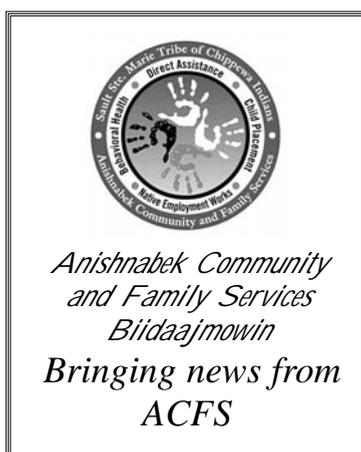
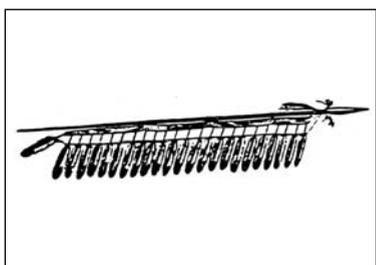
responsible in order for effective results and satisfied clients.

Evaluation of the training was favorable with participants stating, "I love the concept . . . support the involvement of family and friends . . . enjoyed the presentation . . . I believe we need to do this (wrap-around) here."

When asked what they thought it would take to move towards this form of service in our community, they suggested "more agencies to attend further training and introduction . . . communication between services and various agencies . . . practice . . . coaching."

Fortunately, the recommendations are just what are in store for Anishnabek Community & Family Services (ACFS) staff and clients.

Michele Stewart-Copes, from Vroon VanDenBerg LLP, continued training which is tailored for ACFS on Jan. 25, 2005, and returned on February 21 and 22, 2005, for more in-depth ACFS training and coaching on these new wrap around tools.



USDA offices remodeled

SUBMITTED BY THE USDA STAFF

The Sault Tribe USDA Food Distribution Program has made some changes. Located in the same building, the offices have been changed to allow more room for private interviews. Employees are accessible through the inter-office e-mail and have their own e-mail addresses and access to the Internet and an additional office has been given to the warehouse staff.

Remodeling was done in the fall of 2004 and the staff would like to add a Chi Migwitch to Sault Tribe Construction, Northern Hospitality, the MIS department and the telecommunications department for a job well done.

Last fall we held an open house and we will be doing this again this fall to give the community a chance to see what we have to offer and how things are done in the program. The food provid-



March is Parenting Awareness Month and the Parenting Awareness Committee will be hosting several activities for parents and families during the month.

The point of the awareness theme is to promote attention on the important role parents play in raising children who grow up to be healthy, caring and productive citizens.

Three major events are planned for families:

- March 17 — **Family Fun Night**, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Chikukwa Recreation Center. This event gives parents a non-alcoholic way to celebrate St Patrick's Day with their families. There's a large variety of activity booths, free food and prize drawings. The grand prize this year is a cool bike donated by the family of the late Fredrick E. Gardener. The bike is displayed at the Sault Tribe health center lobby.

- March 19 — **Family Fun Day**, 1:00-5:00 p.m. at Little Bear East in St. Ignace, with open skating, activities, free food, a bike drawing and other door prizes.

- An **ice cream social** is being planned by Manistique ACFS with the date and time to be announced in the near future.

Other events include four brown bag lunch presentations from noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Sault Tribe Health and Human Services Center auditorium on topics for parenting: March 4 the special education process with



Suzette Gardner and her brother Sam, left, with the bike their family is donating to Family Fun night to honor their late father, Fredrick Gardner, shown above with their mother June.

Heidi Wituck, March 18 child development with Lane Barber, March 23 Dr. Robert Devers, and March 31 the area stop bullying committee.

In addition, the cultural department has appropriate events for parents planned in March such as story telling, culture camps, a women's circle, language classes, and a language conference. Call 632-7494 for more details.

To acknowledge parent's contributions this year, the Michigan Parenting Awareness Campaign suggests "Caught Being Good" cards to give to parents and caretakers demonstrating positive parenting behavior. Our local committee followed suit developing such a card and the Sault Ste. Marie McDonalds shops endorse the cards with a free dessert.

The cards are being disbursed through the area elementary schools which also received posters, bookmarks for the libraries, a letter for the teachers, a flier of events and parent news on the back.

To promote parenting information and community awareness of these events, there will be display tables at the Sault Tribe Health and Human Services Center, Chikukwa, administration, judicial services and the Child Care Center.

Everyone is welcome to all of these activities. To find out more details on any of the events, call Stacey or Julie at 632-5250 or 1-800-726-0093.



Michelle Nalett and Marcie Smith, USDA certifiers in their newly remodeled office.

ed was prepared with on hand commodities and the recipes were made available to our guests. If anyone has any recipes they would like to share for the next open house, we would be glad to pass them on. We are always looking for new ideas and input from our clients.

We are still located in the front of the building but on the oppo-

site side at 3601 S. Mackinac Trail in Sault Ste. Marie.

Please remember, if you think you may be eligible or you just have a question we can be reached toll free at 1-888-448-8732 or 635-6076.

The circle of life from elders to youth

Learning to lead — honoring our elders



The Anishinaabe Nimmki Tribal Youth Council Unit IV, front row: Nick Smith, Josh Price, Crystal Owens, Samantha Guilmette, back row: Tom Miller, Denise Chase and Taylor Wood.



Many people attended the presentation given by the Anishinaabe Nimmki Tribal Youth Council Feb. 3 at the Manistique Tribal Center during their monthly meeting. Photos by Josh Price

The Anishinaabe Nimmki Tribal Youth Council did a powerpoint presentation for the elders at their monthly meeting. The powerpoint showed them what we did last year. They all seemed to enjoy watching it. We also invited them to the Honor our Elders Wild Game Feast at the tribal center.

-Nick Smith

The other tribal youth councils will also be hosting elder appreciation dinners next month. Contact your area YEA coordinator for details.



My Mom taught me

I learned how to pick and wash strawberries, how to make bread and how to clean really clean.
I learned how to be thorough, how to be skeptical and how to be real - really real.
I learned to love reading a really good book.
I learned how to take care of myself though the lesson never really took. Now that I'm old and lagging behind I hear her voice inside my mind, "C'mon get up you're going to be late, sit up, pull you're hair back and clean up you plate."
I learned how to care for children like I was cared for, really really well.
I can't really put into verse no words can tell.
I really miss you Mom.
A sentimental thank you from the children of Theresa Sylvia LaBlance/Bissell, a really special person.
1926-1995

Unit II Coordinator's report

Ahnii, I want to start out by saying how extremely proud I am of the Nbiish-be-mwi-jwaang Tribal Youth Council, for your willingness and eagerness to share. What an awesome group of young adults you are.

The Nbiish-be-mwi-jwaang Tribal Youth Council is ready to travel to the other areas in Unit II to provide assistance with getting a youth council started. For those of you wishing to do so, please contact me.

I am pleased to have a new youth drum starting in Hessel, Chi-Megwetch to Gene Biron for volunteering your time and energy, teaching the traditional ways of the Anishinaabe drum. My dream is to have the entire community involved with this activity. During practice, community members can bring in their crafts, work on regalia and enjoy socializing with each other.

I have had the pleasure of meeting with school officials and community members in the other areas of Unit II. I want to thank you for taking the time to meet with me, either in person or by phone. From these meet-

ings, I am seeing a great need for more youth activities. My plans are to start programming in these areas in March. If you have any special need you would like to suggest, or ideas for activities, please let me know.

I will be attending the unit meetings with Lana Causley, our Unit II board of directors representative. During this time, I would like to meet with the parents, grandparents, and guardians of our youth, to explain the activities for the YEA Unit II program. Our next meeting is Feb. 24 at the Hessel Tribal Center.

I am really looking forward to meeting all of you, and eager to get started. If you would like to contact me, you can do so by calling (906) 484-2298 or e-mail me at: lburnside@saulttribe.net

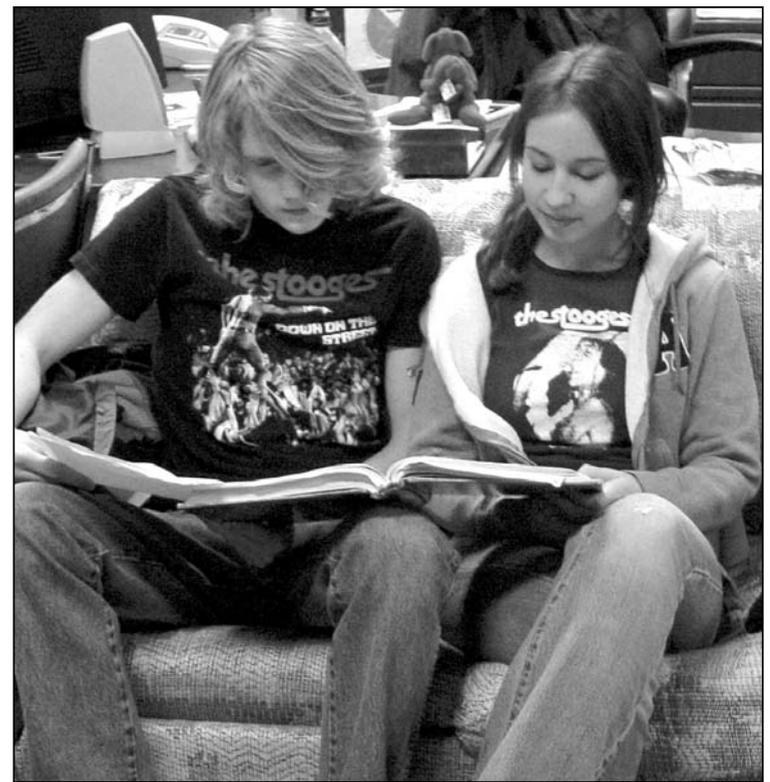
Chi-Megwetch, Lisa Burnside, Unit II Youth Education and Activities program coordinator.



Attending our parent's open house held on the last Saturday of every month is L to R: Julie McKelvie, Karen McKelvie, Julie, volunteer from LSSU, Chris Cadreau, Nichole Causley, Ruth Clowe, and Emily Clowe. Thanks to Kewadin Casino for donating our door prizes of concert tickets.

Correction:

In the January edition of the Youth Education and Activities newspaper, I mistakenly referred to this little guy as Dylan. His name is actually Anthony Causley. I could've sworn he said his name was Dylan. Sorry Anthony.



Crispin Merkel and Alicia Gervais study during exam cram at the YEA computer lab.



College Night at the Big Bear brought a great many prospective college goers and their parents. Above, a large crowd learns about applying for financial aid.

Walking On

Leonard Howard Brown, 72, of Lehi, Utah, passed away Feb. 9, 2005. He was born Sept. 1, 1932 in Chicago, Ill., to Leon H. and Catherine Kreiger Brown. He married Judy Lee Brown on May 4, 1985.

Leonard was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He served in the Air Force during the Korean conflict, worked as a policeman and later as security for several companies throughout Utah. He liked the outdoors and loved his children very much.

Survived by his wife, Judy of Lehi; three sons, Joe Brown of Wisconsin, Keith (Renee) Brown of Wheatland, Calif., Jon Brown of Lehi; three daughters, Valerie (Richard) Brice of Green Bay, Wisc., Sonja Brown, Colusa, Calif., Brenda (Gary) Llewelyn of Lehi; 12 grandchildren; and a sister, Betty Lou Piepenberg of Green Bay, Wisc.

Funeral services were Feb. 14, in the Wing Mortuary chapel, 118 E. Main, Lehi. Interment, Lehi City Cemetery.

Tina Marie Marshall, 40, of Harvey and formerly of Moran, died Jan. 18, 2005, at Marquette County Medical Care Facility in Ishpeming, where she had resided since January 2002.

She was born Oct. 24, 1964, in Petoskey to Al and Lois (nee Everson) Marshall and grew up in Moran before moving to the Marquette area in 1974. She was a 1982 graduate of Marquette Senior High School and attended Suomi College in Hancock (now Finlandia University), earning an associate's degree in travel administration. Ms. Marshall was employed at Cook Sign Company for a year before accepting a position with Simmons Airlines.

At age 18, she was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis.

Ms. Marshall enjoyed handi-crafts, including ceramics and needlepoint, and was a skilled baker. She was a member of the



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

She is survived by her parents, Al and Lois Marshall of Harvey; two sisters and their families, Brenda Brey of Marquette and Beverly and Vern Sneed of Tampa, Fla.; a brother, Scott Marshall of Gwinn; a niece, Nicole Brey; and a nephew, Ryan Marshall.

She was preceded in death by a nephew, Robert Brey.

Robert A. Vieau, 66, of Cheboygan, passed away on Jan. 29, 2005, at his home.

He was born April 9, 1938 in Cheboygan to William H.

and Rosalie (nee Bodwin) Vieau. On Oct. 7, 1986, in Kinross, Bob married the former Mabel Tillotson, who survives.

Bob served in the U.S. Air Force and the National Guard for 27 years. During his term of service with the Air Force, Bob drove in the presidential motorcade for President John F. Kennedy's inauguration and funeral. Upon his honorable discharge, Bob worked for the Cheboygan Public Schools as a bus driver and Bell's Fisheries and DeMercurio Trucking. He also worked at the Shell gas station for five years, finally retiring in 2000.

Bob was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, a former member of the Cheboygan Eagles Post No. 1282 and the American Legion Post No. 159 in Mackinaw City. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, mushroom hunting and playing his guitar and at one time was in a band

with his brothers called Country Sounds.

Besides his wife, Mabel, of Cheboygan, Bob is survived by his children, Robert Wayne of Kinross, Mich., Rosemary of Idaho, Rebecca (Jeff) Long of Texas, Robert Joseph (Kelly) Vieau of Walloon Lake, Mich., Dan (Buckle) Nelligan of Carp Lake, Mich., and Patti Jankoviak of Cheboygan, Michelle (David) Westfall of Grayling, Mich., Rebecca Bain of Kentucky, Sam (Marlene) Hopkinson of Indian River, Mich., and John Hopkinson of Cheboygan; three brothers, Howard (Carol) Vieau and of Henry (Betty) Vieau of Mackinac City, Mich., and David (Pat) Vieau of Alanson, Mich.; three sisters, Patricia (Kaye) Kalkofen of Alanson, Shirley Vieau of Mackinac City, and Mary (Tom) Brown of Wolverine, Mich.; 10 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, a mother-in-law, Ruby Swan of Atlanta, Mich., a sister-in-law Terry Swan of Atlanta, and numerous nieces and nephews. Bob is also survived by his beloved dogs, Gomer and Tippy.

Bob was preceded in death by his parents, one daughter, Rhonda Anderson, and one sister, Sharon Stoneburner.

Visitation was held on Feb. 1 at the Christian Funeral Home of Cheboygan. Funeral service was conducted on Feb. 2 at the funeral home, with officiant Rev. Nelson Duncan. Interment will take place in Lakeview Cemetery in Mackinac City in the spring.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the family.

Lawrence "Joe" Johnson, 41, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2005. He was born on Sugar Island, Mich., on Dec. 14, 1963.

Joe was an avid hunter and fisherman who loved the outdoors. He enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, as well as playing the guitar.

A member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, he was very proud of his Native heritage and attended area powwows. He was a great storyteller, and all who knew him will miss his sense of humor.

Joe is survived by his parents, LaVerne "Putts" Johnson (Robert Hutton) of Sault Ste. Marie and Floyd (Chris) Johnson of Jackson, Mich.; one sister, Delores (Scott) Kivi; two brothers, Charlie Johnson and Floyd (Tricia) Johnson, all of Sault Ste. Marie; and a grandfather, Charles (Pat) Bennett of New York. He is also survived by three daughters, Brenda and Jeanie Clor of Bay Mills, Mich., and Joelle LaBranche of Sault Ste. Marie; two grandchildren, Johnathan and Josephine Clor of Bay Mills; three nephews, Patrick Goetz, Robert Peters and Joshua Kivi; and one grand-niece, Sophia. Joe is also survived by special friend, Sara Weesaw.

He was predeceased by his grandparents Lawrence "Honey" and Louise McCoy of Sugar Island; and Floyd Johnson and Dolores Bennett of New York.

Memorial services will be announced at a later date.

Bay Mills Indian Community 14th Annual Honoring Our Veterans Competition Pow Wow June 10-12

Over \$10,000 in dance competition money, drum competition money to be announced. All American Indian dancers and drums welcome (tribal identification card required).

American Indian vendors only. For information contact Angie Johnson at (906) 248-3241, ext. 1106 or Irma Parrish at (906) 248-3241, ext. 3160.

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The Cemetery

BY MARION KOMENDERA

*The small white gravestones, all in rows,
Among the rolling hillsides, the green grass grows.
The Civil War dead, honored by time.*

General Lee's mansion, pillared and white.

*A national shrine, below the slope, the Arlington home.
Looking down, are two more recent, the Kennedy men.*

Looking up, you can see the capital's dome,

*Below, their eternal light
will always show us the way.*

*Keep moving down the paths,
more tombs, more dead.*

*The unknown soldier and
America's greatest all interred in their final rest.*

It's so quiet and awesomely still.

The trees gently blow on the soft breath of the breeze.

I hear the carillon play

"My country tis of thee, sweet land of liberty."

*But what a price they have paid for America's historic
struggle and unyielding spirit.*

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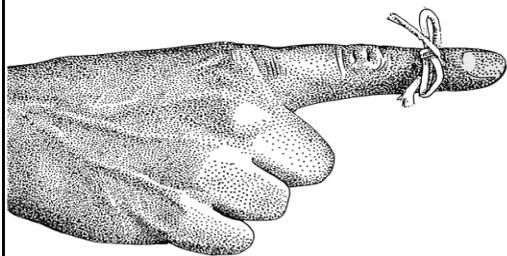
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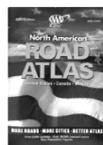
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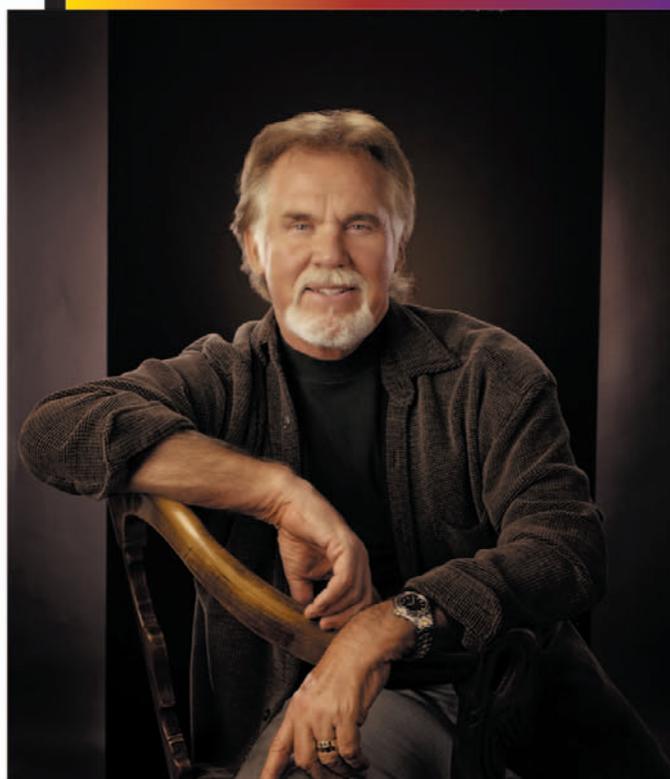


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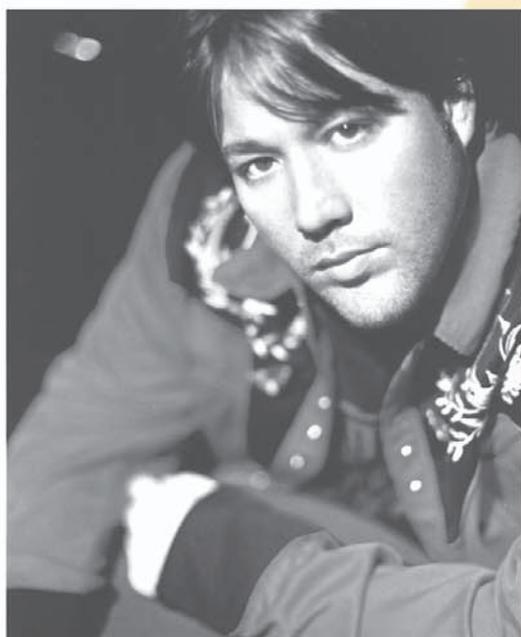
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