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CATHERINE HOLLOWELL, DIRECTOR, UNIT II

If you are reading this newspaper in hard copy form, chances are you're a tribal elder. Quite a few months ago we discontinued delivering the tribal newspaper through the mail to everyone but our elders. However, any tribal member is eligible to receive a newspaper in the mail. All members have to do to keep their papers coming is to request the paper and update your mailing address. They can do that by calling toll free at (800) 251-6597*.

Please help us get the word out by letting your children, grandchildren, tribal friends and family know how to re-establish newspaper delivery to their mailbox.

There was supposed to be a first class postcard mailed to every member informing them of this change. I have yet to find anyone who received this mailed announcement including my own family.

A hearty congratulations to our chairman, Aaron Payment, for his recent presidential appointment to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education. This has been Aaron's desire—to serve and be a voice for all Indian Country at the highest levels of federal government—and his achievement is a testament to what hard work, ambition and tenacity can accomplish. We can all take pride in the prestige his appointment brings to our tribe. Well done, Aaron.

I also want to acknowledge and express appreciation to all the individuals who work tirelessly on behalf of our tribal communities. It was pretty "touch and go" whether our ceremonial grounds would be ready in time for the 23rd annual Hessel powwow.

There was a very last minute flurry of activity, construction crews and heavy equipment on site in the week leading up to powwow. It looked like the set of an HGTV "Yard Crashers" episode. I admit I was getting nervous, but, amazingly, Friday morning revealed a newly constructed public restroom; a new Waabano lodge; a major renovation of the drum arbor and MC stand; refurbished concession stand and bleachers; and spruced up and freshly mowed grounds. Thank you to all staff, including Housing and especially Sault Tribe Construction. A special miigwech to Chip MacArthur for his help with this project as well as securing resources for the Newberry powwow, too. A special miigwech to the elders in our community who always keep the faith and keep us strong and united. We are blessed.

Miigwech to Monica Cady in the Hessel area and Mary Archambeau at "The Link" in Newberry for their commitment to community gardens.

Monica was instrumental in establishing perennial gardens at the Hessel Housing site. Even though the grant project has expired, Monica has continued to care and nurture the gardens. I want to commend her for her passion and grassroots organization. Likewise, 'The Link," a community resource center in Newberry, has a community garden. The kids are harvesting the produce and they have mini farmer's market in front of the center. Very exciting to see. It takes a village and these ladies rock!

Congratulations to all Sault Tribe scholarship recipients and all our young people who are pursuing higher education or trades schools goals. Whatever path you choose, you are our ambassadors and our hope. A special "congratulations" to Carrie Gable, sophomore at CMU and recipient of the Nokomis Scholarship in honor of our grandmothers.

This has been an actionpacked season with seven of our grandchildren making it home for the summer. Seems like many people made it home this summer for family reunions and celebrations.

Next month, I will do my best to update on more sobering issues that we are facing as a tribe. For now, I just want to wish everyone the best as we turn our attention to the fall season and winter preparations.

Contact me anytime with your questions, comments and concerns.

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