

# THE SAULT TRIBE NEWS

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Mshka'odin Giizis: "Frozen Moon"

Win Awenen Nisitotung "One Who Understands"

November 22, 2005 • Vol. 26 No. 16

## Gaming control board approves Greektown Casino's permanent hotel-casino resort

DETROIT –The Michigan Gaming Control Board approved a \$200-million financing package for the development of Greektown Casino's permanent hotel-casino resort.

Construction of the permanent Greektown Casino resort, which will include a 400-room hotel and 3,500-space attached parking garage, is scheduled to begin in February 2006, pending final property acquisitions and zoning approvals from the City of Detroit. The project will also include a major expansion of Greektown Casino's gaming space from 75,000 square feet to 100,000 square feet.

The casino-resort will be located in Greektown, Detroit's most popular entertainment district.

Once the development is complete, total investment in the pro-

ject will be about \$475 million - \$275 million already invested in the current casino and \$200 million more to construct the hotel, parking garage, spa, 1,500-seat theater, convention space, and other amenities.

"The permanent Greektown Casino resort will attract thousands of visitors to Detroit every day, create more jobs and generate more economic benefits for our Tribe, the city of Detroit, and the state," said Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment, majority owners of the casino. "We are anxious to break ground as soon as the Super Bowl festivities have ended in early February so we can maximize our economic contributions to our members, our casino guests, and the city of Detroit."



Above, Lucius Vassar from the Detroit mayor's office; Chairperson Aaron Payment; Marvin Beatty, Greektown investor and management board member; James Jenkins, president of Jenkins Construction; and Bill Williams, vice president of guest services for Greektown Casino, cut the ribbon to open the new, eight-story, 630-space parking garage, right, for Greektown customers.

The opening of the garage marked the fifth anniversary of the opening of Greektown Casino.



**Coming soon! Monthly reports from members of the board on our tribal Web sites. See board meeting brief on page 6.**

### Sault Tribe Children's Christmas Parties

- Saturday Dec. 3**
  - **Munising**, 1-3 p.m., Central Elementary School cafeteria, contact April Nagelkerk at (906) 387-4721.
- Saturday, Dec. 10**
  - **Sault Ste. Marie**, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Chi Mukwa Arena, 2 Ice Circle Drive, call Sue Henderlite at (906) 635-6050.
  - **DeTour**, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sacred Heart Church hall, call Lisa Burnside or Cory Hall at (906) 484-2298.
  - **Hessel**, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Hessel Tribal Center, call Helen Beacom at (906) 484-2727.
  - **Manistique**, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Manistique Tribal Center, call Viola Neadow or Denise Chase at (906) 341-2993.
  - **Marquette**, 1-4 p.m., NMU Center, contact Gary Carr at (906) 346-9076.
  - **St. Ignace**, noon-2 p.m., Little
- Bear East, call Fred Paquin or Hope Collia at (906) 635-6065, extension 55292.
- Sunday Dec, 11**
  - **Engadine**, 4-6 p.m., Garfield Township Hall, call Laura Frich at (906) 477-6685.
- Thursday, Dec. 15**
  - **Newberry**, American Legion, call Shirley Kowalke at (906) 293-8181.
- Friday Dec. 16**
  - **Escanaba**, 6-8:30 p.m. Flat Rock Township Hall, call Karen Corbett or Tara Duchene at (906) 786, 9211 or Viola Neadow or Denise Chase at (906) 341-2993.
  - **Mackinac Island**, Mackinac County Courthouse, Noon-2 p.m., contact Fred Paquin or Hope Collia, (906) 635-6065, extension 55292.

### New Constitution amendment project

Members of the board of directors are pleased to announce a new Constitution amendment project for the tribe. The board has identified the need to update the tribe's 1975 Constitution to make improvements to the government, strengthen our sovereignty and protect the rights of the people.

The project is designed to develop *proposed* amendments to the Constitution. Any *proposed* amendments will be put to a vote of the people. The voters of our tribe will make the final decision on whether to approve any amendments to the Constitution.

**Open Process — Join In**  
A new 29-member Constitution committee will be selected to develop proposed amendments to the Constitution. You can join the committee (See sign-up process below).

All committee meetings will be open to public — members of the tribe will be permitted to attend

the meetings. No members of the board of directors will serve on the new committee.

**Background on the Constitution**  
The Constitution serves as the foundation for the tribe's government. The Constitution sets the most important rules for the tribe's government. The Constitution also sets the rights and freedoms for the people.

The tribe is free to determine its own form of government. In the 1930s, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) persuaded most tribes to adopt model constitutions under a federal law called the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA). In 1975, voters of the tribe adopted an IRA Constitution as was approved by the BIA.

IRA constitutions allow the BIA to control the internal affairs of tribes — many decisions of the tribe are valid *only* with the "approval of the Secretary of the Interior" (currently Gale Norton).

Any changes to IRA Constitutions also require the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. The tribe's 1975 Constitution requires the "approval of the Secretary of the Interior" before certain decisions made by the tribe are valid.

Throughout the United States, many tribes have experienced difficulties operating under IRA constitutions. For example, most IRA constitutions do not include any separation of powers or "checks and balances" between the branches of government — most government power is vested in a small group of elected officials. Tribe members are often unable to enforce their civil rights and freedoms listed under the Constitution. Many tribes have revised their old IRA Constitutions to make important governmental reforms, obtain greater autonomy and freedom, and expand and protect the rights of the people.

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# Menominee Nation child overdosed on cocaine

BY RICK SMITH

Her clothed body was found on a sidewalk with her coat draped over her at dawn on Oct. 23 in south Minneapolis, Minn. She was behind a funeral home with a hospital about a block away. It was the body of sixth-grader Sydney Jade Mahkuk, 11, a member of the Menominee Nation in northeast Wisconsin. There were no signs of trauma. Sydney's body was six blocks from her home.

"I thought she was sleeping," the 23-year old man named Nick who found her told the *Star Tribune*. "I said, 'Hey, hey, wake up!' Then I shook her and there was nothing. Her eyes were rolled back in her head. That's what I remember: Her face was so distressed. There was no question she had passed."

Police said although she had been missing for days, no one had reported the situation to authorities. In fact, police told the *Pioneer Press*, her mother, Glenda Askenette, didn't know Sydney's whereabouts until police told her on Oct. 25 that they found the girl. However, a different account said the child's mother last saw her at 7:00 p.m. on the evening before her body was found, and she believed Sydney was staying overnight with a friend. Police identified Sydney's body through a tattoo an officer had noted earlier.

An initial autopsy yielded no clues to Sydney's death until toxicology results came back indicating cocaine in her blood. Unlike alcohol, there is no measurement to determine how much cocaine was in her system, but it was enough to be lethal.

"Whether someone provided the cocaine to her or enabled her to get or take the cocaine doesn't matter to us," Police Captain Rich Stanek, head of the Minneapolis homicide department and criminal investigation unit, was quoted as saying. "We are going to aggressively pursue anyone



Sydney Jade Mahkuk

who was involved." He added, "I don't know of anybody else that young to die of a drug overdose."

Two weeks after the discovery of Sydney's body, Police Chief William McManus told several hundred people gathered at an outdoor memorial service for her, "We are investigating this as if it were a homicide. An 11-year old girl doesn't wind up dead of her own volition on a sidewalk at 2:30 in the morning." A memorial of flowers, stuffed animals, eagle feathers and notes accumulated over the spot where her body was found.

Sydney was the second youngest of seven children. Her father died a few years ago from a heart attack. One of her brothers, a 20-year old, is currently serving a 62-year prison sentence for his role in a gang related double homicide last year.

While Sydney lived a cloudy life, she was described as good-hearted, but her knowledge of the street life around her neighborhood, along with gravitating toward an older crowd, made her seem older than her years.

Her mother said Sydney was a good and happy student, but records of the Minneapolis Public School District show, although she registered for school this year, she never showed for classes and was automatically withdrawn from the rolls after 15 consecutive absences.

Sydney took part in efforts to improve her life. She and her

mother participated in a program designed to strengthen families in which youths took vows to become "strong young people with a great future" and to make "good decisions so we reach our goals."

Further, the girl was involved with a community mentoring program. Stephanie Tucker, who was Sydney's mentor, said the child gave her a tour of the girl's neighborhood and got an "eye-opener" after she pointed out people on the street during the tour who sold drugs or sex.

Tucker said she was shocked to learn a child her age could know such things. Reports didn't indicate how long Sydney had been in the program.

At the memorial ceremony in Minneapolis, sage was burned and drummers played as American Indian leaders and others prayed and spoke. Saying his feelings about Sydney's death reminded him of the school shooting spree by a 15-year old Chippewa boy on the Red Lake Indian Reservation last March, Dennis Banks of the American Indian Movement called for American Indians in the community to have the courage to make objective and honest examinations of how they care for their children, and learn how to make any needed improvements. "If we as a community don't do anything about it, we don't deserve to live in this community. We can't blame it on the white man, we have to blame it on ourselves and do something about that to make a change," he said.

A traditional two-night wake was held for Sydney on Oct. 29 on the Menominee Indian Reservation near Keshena, Wisc. Her funeral and burial was at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Neopit, Wisc.

Sydney would have been 12 years old on Nov. 29.

## Attention Sault Tribe members — regarding tribal enrollment cards

### Public notice

In order for tribe members to receive tobacco and fuel products discounts, tribal cards must have magnetic strips on the back. If the tribal cards do not have the magnetic strips on the back, please call the Enrollment Department (1-800-251-6597 or 632-8552) to make arrangements for a new card for new cards.

As of Jan. 1, 2006, the new fuel pumps and cashiers will no longer be able to process those cards without the magnetic strip. This may result in members paying full price for tax exempt products at the fuel station and gift shops. However, if your card has a magnetic strip that it defective, the cashier will assist you with the purchase and you will need to contact enrollment to have you defective card replaced.

The tribe tracks all purchases of tobacco products, diesel fuel and gasoline and has a duty to prosecute violators.

## Highlights from the 62nd annual NCAI convention in Tulsa

BY RICK SMITH

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) met in Tulsa, Okla., from Nov. 1 to Nov. 3 for the 62nd annual NCAI convention. The theme was "Celebrating 30 years of the Self-Determination Act."

**Outgoing NCAI President Tex G. Hall** expressed sadness in leaving his position in his last address as president. He did indicate he may run for office in his home state of North Dakota.

Hall also serves as the chairman of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation. He reviewed recent accomplishments by the NCAI such as the creation of the tribal Supreme Court project, the Native Vote initiative the trust reform task force and the state of Indian nations address.

"Lately, a lot of folks have been asking me if I will take on the biggest challenge of my life and run for statewide office back in North Dakota in 2008. I think that today, I am saying once again, why not?" Hall said.

The **NCAI executive director, Jackie Johnson**, said tribes will be addressing issues in the near future such as the reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, the Violence Against Women Act, the Voting Rights Act and the Telecommunications Act. She implored tribes to submit their concerns regarding appropriations and other legislative issues quickly in 2006 because of the coming election. She said the window for opportunity is small next year.

**Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry** welcomed the return of NCAI to Oklahoma and invited those attending the conference to the blessing of the American Indian Cultural Center in Oklahoma City. He said the \$143 million project will be the largest museum and cultural center of its kind in the world and should be completed in 2008.

Henry also expressed appreciation to the state's 30 tribes for taking an active role in eradicating methamphetamine labs in the state.

**NCAI Treasurer Ron Allen**,

chairman of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, reported a **tribal embassy** in Washington D.C. is the goal of a fund raising campaign that has accumulated \$220,000 so far. In explaining the need for a building to house NCAI and other tribal organizations, he said, "The fight for our sovereignty is fought in Washington, D.C." Former chief of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Dave Anderson, founder of Famous Dave's barbecue restaurants, pledged \$50,000 to the cause. The goal is to raise a total of \$12 million to acquire a building.

**U.S. Congressman Tom Cole** (R-Oklahoma), a member of the Chickasaw Nation and the only American Indian in the U.S. Congress, expressed to delegates strong support for tribal sovereignty and Indian gaming. "We should never, ever qualify the existence of tribal sovereignty. It is non-negotiable," he said.

Cole has been opposing efforts by the Bush administration to make changes in regulations that would impose new limits on Indian gaming.

**Education Secretary Margaret Spellings** applauded the results of the most recent Nation's Report Card that showed American Indian students made significant gains in math scores and modest gains in reading scores.

**Hurricane relief update:** So far, the NCAI has raised \$140,000 to assist tribes recovering in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. The Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians from California gave \$100,000 and the Southern Ute Tribe of Colorado donated an additional \$25,000. The money goes directly to tribes.

The **U.S. Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of Justice** and the **National Indian Gaming Commission** presented updates on various topics such as trust reform, Indian mascots, violence against women, budget cuts, methamphetamine, the

—Continued on page 3.

### Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians 18th annual Sobriety New Year's Powwow Two Ice Circle Drive in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

**Gibisdowaanaa jichaag**

**We are listening to the spirit**

**Dec. 30, 2005 — Winter gathering**

**Niigaanagiizhik Building, 11 Ice Circle Drive**

**9 a.m. — 7 p.m.**

**Dec. 31, 2005 — New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow**

**Big Bear Arena, 2 Ice Circle Drive**

**1 p.m. — Grand entry**

**5 p.m. — Feast**

**7 p.m. — Grand entry**

**Come and dance the New Year in!**

**Due to safety concerns, all vendors will be upstairs. This is a drug and alcohol free event.**

**If you have any questions please contact Bud, Melissa or Wendi at (906) 632-7494.**

# Chippewa County YACs are back again this year

BY PAULA MCKERCHIE

The Chippewa County Community Foundation Youth Advisory Committees are back in action this year. We are looking forward to a very exciting year.

The committees, or YACs, consist of area youth in Chippewa County who are committed and dedicated to supporting programs which benefit youth in the county. Currently, there are committees established in Brimley, Rudyard and Sault Ste. Marie with plans in development for committees at Malcom School in Sault Ste. Marie and in Pickford and DeTour.

There are two components of a youth advisory committee. The first focus is on grant making. This consists of awarding grant requests relating to youth from funds derived from our youth enrichment endowment fund at the Chippewa County Community Foundation.

The second focus is dedication to our local areas through community service projects. Not only do our committees provide grants, they are out in the community trying to make a difference by participating in volunteer work as well.

In addition to awarding grants, the YACs learn about what a community foundation does, what an endowment fund is and many other types of business and philanthropy skills that will be useful in future endeavors.

Here are some frequently asked questions about youth advisory committees:

**Q:** What is a youth advisory committee (YAC)?

**A:** A YAC is a standing committee composed of Chippewa County youth in ages 12-21 with



YAC candidates

membership representative of the county. There are many similar youth committees throughout the state.

**Q:** Why did the committees get started?

**A:** The youth advisory committees were created as a response to a statewide challenge issued by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. In order to meet the requirements of the challenge, a new fund was created to address youth issues. The YAC was established to make grant recommendations to the foundation board of trustees. To date, over \$130,000 statewide has been granted by youth advisory committees to local youth projects from the interest of the Kellogg Youth Fund.

**Q:** What do members do?

**A:** Members of YACs attend one to two meetings a month to learn more about youth issues in Chippewa County. Meetings also include snacks, fun and trainings. Grant requests for youth projects are reviewed and decisions made as to which projects will be recommended for funding. A needs

assessment is conducted periodically in the schools to determine areas of concern for young people. Community service opportunities are also provided to give youth experience in philanthropy.

**Q:** What is a community foundation?

**A:** A non-profit organization advised by a volunteer board of directors and is a local source of grants from permanent endowments from which accumulated interest may be used to fund local projects. They pool local dollars that may leverage additional matching revenues. It is flexible and able to meet the changing needs of Chippewa County.

Chippewa County advisory committee 2004-05 projects:

- Granted funds to help establish the Boys and Girls Club of Sault Ste. Marie.

- Purchase and deliver gifts and food baskets for the holidays to families in need.

- Granted funds for the reupholstering of an area high school weight room.

- Granted funds to the Working on Wellness Committee in an area high school to buy mouse pads with anti-smoking messages.

- Granted funds to help bring the tall ship to Sault Ste. Marie for the Soo Locks anniversary.

Please look for further information involving the Chippewa County Community Foundation and the youth advisory committee in future editions of this paper.

For questions or additional information, please call Paula McKerchie, YAC coordinator, at the Chippewa County Community Foundation at (906) 635-1046.

## Convention highlights continued

—Continued from page 2.

the media and attempts to limit Indian gaming.

**Arlen Melendez**, chairman of the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony in Nevada and the second American Indian to serve on the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, urged tribes to take an interest in the commission's work. "The bottom line is, Indian Country needs to weigh in," he said. "The spirit of discrimination lives on."

**Dr. Charles Grim**, a member of the Cherokee Nation and director of the U.S. Indian Health Services, said IHS is stressing three major issues in Indian Country: Behavioral health, disease prevention and chronic dis-

ease management. He noted that suicide, obesity and disability percentages are very high among tribe members.

**Montana Governor Brian Schweitzer** (D) was repeatedly applauded during a speech at the convention. He urged American Indians to become involved in state and federal politics and invited them to join the Democratic party. "An Indian voting Republican is like a chicken voting for the colonel," he said, referring to Colonel Sanders and the KFC chain.

He said his administration has more Indian people in it than all the previous governors combined. He issued a challenge to become

involved politically to ensure tribal nations have a seat at the table. He described his relationship with tribes in his state. "We are partners," he said.

**Floyd Jordain, Jr.**, chairman of the Red Lake Ojibwe Nation of Minnesota, expressed gratitude to federal agencies and Indian Country for reaching out to help his tribe after the tragic shooting spree at a reservation school last March. "We must listen to our youth before it is too late," he remarked.

Elections of NCAI officers were conducted (See related story on page 12).

# American Indian establishes Web site for Indian children

Mary Kim Titla, Arizona's first and only American Indian television news reporter, has resigned from Channel 12 (KPNX) News to devote herself to the online magazine she created for American Indian youths.

Titla, a member of the San Carlos Apache Tribe, has filled NativeYouthMagazine.com with profiles, articles, commentaries, poems and artwork produced by young American Indians. Titla said she believes her calling now is about molding young native

storytellers and will showcase their talents and lifestyles through the magazine.

"I think the magazine fills a void, there's nothing of this magnitude in the U.S.," Titla said. "My sons didn't have a place on the Internet to go to. They go to mainstream sites.

"Native Youth Magazine is a place for all young native people whether they are interested in fashion, writing or art," she said.

Titla encourages all American Indian youth to visit the site.

## Jackson launches Congressional run

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. — Jack Jackson, Jr., has stepped down as executive director of the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs to become a full-time candidate for Congress.

Jackson, a Democrat, is the third Navajo to run for the House of Representatives in District 1, which includes the Navajo Nation.

The other two — Lloyd House and Derrick Watchman — failed, but Jackson said he thinks his chances are good despite the popularity of Republican incumbent Rick Renzi.

In the first place, Jackson is getting an early start on the race and on fund-raising. So far, he has managed to raise enough money — in the low six figures — to start a decent campaign and bring out the issues he feels are of chief concern to voters in this district.

These include the need to improve schools, create more job opportunities and promote economic development.

He has more than a year before the Sept. 12, 2006, primary to introduce himself to voters.

This should be no problem on the Navajo Reservation, where voters elected both Jackson and his father to multiple terms in the state Legislature.

Jack Jr. said his name is also well known by voters on the other five reservations in the Congressional district because of his work on their behalf as a state legislator and on the Indian affairs commission.

The largest town in the district is Flagstaff, and Jackson feels he has made a positive impression

on people there, too.

Jackson's challenge is to become better known to voters outside his current realm of activity.

District 1 covers the largest territory of Arizona's eight Congressional districts. It encompasses most of Coconino County plus all or part of seven other counties, and sprawls from the Utah border as far south as San Manuel.

Jackson spent part of this week in San Manuel and nearby towns, helping deliver food and school supplies to striking mine workers there.

This was part of the Democratic Party's effort to shore up its base among unionized workers in the southern portion of the Congressional district.

The strike, which has been largely ignored by the state's media, was called by copper mine workers who claim their employers are refusing to talk to them about terms for a new contract.

Jackson said he sides with the miners, who believe the companies are trying to drive down salaries and reduce worker benefits.

"In a time when copper mining operations in the first district are most profitable, mine owners should be willing to negotiate a better, livable wage with their employees," Jackson said.

"These corporate citizens of our state should at least come to the table with a better offer than a three-year wage freeze," he said.

Jackson currently stands alone in the primary field, since no one else has announced for the Democratic nomination.

## School board meetings

JKL Bahweting Public School Academy Board of Education meetings are scheduled for every second Tuesday of every month in the school cafeteria, 1301 Marquette Avenue, at 5:30 p.m. If there are any questions, please call Shawnda Kangas, president, or Patti Paris, secretary, at 635-5055.

**The next deadline for submissions to The Sault Tribe News is Monday, Dec. 5, 2005.**

**Tune in to Sault Tribe This Week, the Saturday Morning Show with George Snider from 10 to 11 a.m. every week on AM 1230 WSOO. You'll hear news, tribal information, live interviews and music and other great features.**

**Listen for Sault Tribe This Week with Tom Ewing scheduled on Tuesdays on AM 1230 WSOO at 9:35 a.m., WNBY-FM 12:37 p.m. and 5:38 p.m. in Newberry and WIDG-AM 9:04 a.m. in St. Ignace.**

**Wednesdays WNBY-FM 12:37 p.m. and 5:38 p.m. and Thursdays on WSUE-FM (Rock 101) at 10:25 a.m. and 4:25 p.m. The program is always informative.**

# 'EQUAL PROTECTIONS' VOTER REGISTRATION



**Aaron Payment, MPA  
Tribal Chairperson**

First, let me again say that I was very pleased with the resolution I drafted and the Tribal Board passed to immediately begin voter registration for those who live outside of the Upper Peninsula. However, after receiving numerous calls or emails regarding this issue, I have decided to introduce new legislation regarding Member voter registration.

## **PAYMENT 'EQUAL PROTECTIONS' VOTER REGISTRATION BILL**

The 'equal protections' arguments I used to justify immediately starting voter registration for the next election actually point to a different conclusion. If the Tribal Constitution calls for a census and voter registration every four years for those who reside within the service area - but we interpret this to mean that if they live in the service area they are automatically registered, then I can see no good reason why we don't do the same for those who reside outside of the service area.

Further, the previous argument against automatic voter registration was that the Constitution requires those who live outside of the service area to register to vote in every election in the unit of their choice. Clearly, this justification went out the window when we locked voters in a particular unit for four years for Members who register from outside of the service area. If we truly believed that Members who live outside of the service area had to register to vote in each election, then how is it that we now consider them registered to vote from the previous election?

This very justification demonstrates that we have the interpretive authority to not require those who live outside of the service area to have to register to vote in each election. If we can interpret

that those who live inside of the service area are automatically registered to vote, and those who live outside of the service area who registered in the election immediately preceding are also automatically registered to vote, then we can also interpret all Members regardless of where they live are automatically registered to vote.

To lead the way in ushering in a new democratic beginning, at the December 6, 2005 Tribal Board meeting, I will introduce Tribal Legislation that will treat all Tribal Members equally with respect to voter registration using their enrollment with the Tribe as their registration to vote.

## **ESTABLISHING NEW RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT TO SERVE**

Another election issue I feel strongly about is the manner in which we restrict talented and otherwise qualified Tribal Members from eligibility to serve on the Tribal Board of Directors. Though the Tribal Constitution requires that Board Members must reside in the unit they represent, the Tribal Election Code unduly prohibits Members from running and moving to the Unit they would then represent. In United States Senate elections, individuals can run for office for a particular state then move to that state if elected. Ultimately the decision is up to the voters, right? So why can we do the same?

With a Tribe of 33,000 Members (which amounts to about 21,000 adults) certainly we would want the best of the best to represent our interests' right? If some of our most talent Members chose to work as corporate executives outside of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan because the work existed there, wouldn't we want them to be able to compete for one of the most important jobs - serving our own people?

Currently, with about 6,000 of our adults Members residing in the service area, while about 15,000 adults live outside of the service area, why wouldn't we want to qualify the vast majority to run for elective office if they then agree to reside in the unit they are elected to represent? In explaining this issue to a friend, she asked, 'aren't you afraid of increasing your competition?' My answer was, 'No. Our Members deserve the best. To arbitrarily not qualify Members for election eligibility out of fear they may beat you is cowardly.'

In 2002, I joined Tribal Board Members in voting to eliminate the 1/4 blood quantum requirement to run for office. If we believed this past practice unduly restricted our talent pool, then these same Board Members should easily agree to open up eligibility to all talented and qualified Members regardless of where they currently live, as along as, they reside in the unit they represent after they are elected (pursuant to the Tribal Constitution).

At the December 6, 2005 Tribal Board meeting, I will introduce a Board Referendum to let the Members decide if a candidate should be qualified to run for office, as long as, he or she moves to the election unit they are elected to represent.

## **ADDITIONAL ELECTION CODE PROPOSED REVISIONS**

Finally, to equalize the playing field and improve the integrity of Tribal Elections, I am going to propose the following revisions to the election code:

**\* Lower election spending limits back to \$5,000 for the Tribal Board and \$20,000 for the Tribal Chairperson. Whether or not you are elected should be based on what you have to offer not how wealthy you are;**

**\* Grant all candidates free space in the Tribal Newspaper for the primary (1/4 page) and for the general election editions (1/2 page);**

**\* Prohibit incumbent candidates from writing unit reports that amount to nothing more than thinly disguised and self serving election ads;**

**\* Provide one free mailing (optional) for any candidate who submits their ad to be mailed to voters in one main general election mailing.**

**\* Contract with an auditing firm or local City Clerk to preside over the ballot counting to ensure the integrity of the vote count**

## **FOCUSING ON DELIVERING SERVICES RATHER THAN PETTY SQUABBLES**

Several Members of the Tribal Board have joined me in agreement that personal axes to grind are taking our governing board's focus away from Membership service. We spend an inordinate amount of time in an apparent power struggle that is unnecessary. Certainly, the Membership doesn't benefit from bickering back and forth. Consternation

doesn't bring services to Members who have been waiting.

Since becoming Chairperson, I have voluntarily involved the Tribal Board at an unprecedented level. All information and records of the Tribe are open for inspection for the Tribal Board. This just doesn't appear to be enough for some.

Quite frankly, on most items of importance, what we have seen is a coalition breakdown of about four or five Board members who vote NO on most issues regardless of their merit. Again, voting NO out of protest doesn't bring services to the neediest of our people.

## **YOU CAN'T STAND FOR SOMETHING, IF YOU STAND AGAINST EVERYTHING!**

Tribal Members deserve much more than Board members who just vote NO and go off into angry tirades with no proposed solutions. It is one thing to run on the 'anti' platform to get elected. It is quite another to prove yourself worthy of re-election. This involves having novel ideas that you bring to the table and persuading fellow Board members to vote.

## **TRIBAL ELECTION 2006 MANIFESTO**

In preparation for the upcoming Tribal elections, Members should consider the following election manifesto:

### **MEMBERS DESERVE:**

**\* Board Members who focus on positive development to not make the same mistakes we have made in the past rather than argue ad nauseum that 'we shouldn't have done this or that.'**

**\* Board Members who can focus beyond conflict to participate as a team to develop a long term - comprehensive development strategy for sustained and expanded economic development;**

**\* Board Members who will vote to protect our assets from the kind of corruption that saw \$2.66 million leave the Tribe's funds on Election night 2004;**

**\* Board Members who focus on the 'Needs of the Neediest, Now' rather than petty personal differences;**

**\* Board Members who will join in expanding services - NOW - to Members where they reside by voting to establish a sixth election unit of those Members (the majority) who live outside of the current election units;**

**\* Board Members who actively**

**participate and support the upcoming Constitutional Convention to find solutions to long standing problems of creating a separation of powers (elected judge, prosecutor, attorney general, as well as, a clear separation and non-intrusion of one branch over another);**

**\* Board Members who will join in the development and legislation of Tribal Labor Laws that once and for all protect the rights of Tribal employees beyond policy interpretation;**

**\* Board Members who do their job humbly and in a fair and objective manner. MEMBERS DESERVE MORE THAN:**

**\* Board Members who find fault in everything but are not capable of finding and proposing solutions. A critical nature is good as long as it leads to a positive alternative;**

**\* Board Members who blindly follow a coalition to try to 'usurp' some perceived power they feel they don't have and for which they feel they are entitled. The focus should not be on who has the most power but what is in the best interest of the Members;**

## **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

My holiday wish is that you are able to find quality time to spend with your family and friends. If you have disagreements, I hope you find a way to work things out and appreciate the opportunity to just be with one another. Please take time to reflect on the meaning of the Christmas holiday and spread a little good will toward man.

Every year, we have our annual sobriety pow wow. I attend every single year and have lived a sober lifestyle for eleven years along with my older sister who has twelve years. I don't judge anyone here; I just realize my life has been very happy and fulfilled since I chose to live sober. If you are struggling, please join us. You will be welcomed.

Merry Christmas. Happy New Year and to our Elders - watch for your Elder checks to arrive in the first week in January!

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments please contact me by Email at: [apayment@saulttribe.net](mailto:apayment@saulttribe.net) or call (906) 635-6050 or toll free at (888) 94-AARON.

## **THE SAULT TRIBE NEWS**

The newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians  
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Cory Wilson.....Communications Director  
Alan Kamuda.....Deputy Director  
Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer  
Rick Smith.....Staff Writer  
Janice Manning.....Administrative Assistant  
Sherrie Lucas.....Administrative Secretary  
Nathan Wright.....Web Site Administrator  
Darryl Brown.....Advertising Sales Associate

*The Sault Tribe News* welcomes submissions of news articles, feature stories, photographs, columns and announcements of Native American or non-profit

events. All submissions are printed at the discretion of the editor, subject to editing and are not to exceed 400 words.

Unsigned submissions are not accepted.

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*The Sault Tribe News*  
Communications Dept.  
531 Ashmun St.  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
Telephone: (906) 632-6398  
Fax: (906) 632-6556  
e-mail address:  
[saulttribenews@saulttribe.net](mailto:saulttribenews@saulttribe.net)



# Fort Belknap tribes elect first female president

BY RICK SMITH

The residents of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, in north central Montana, elected Julia Doney as tribal president earlier this month, making her the first woman elected to the position in that reservation's history.

The Fort Belknap Indian Reservation was created by an Act of Congress on May 1, 1888 and the Fort Belknap Agency was established at its present location.

The Fort Belknap Indian Community consists of two tribes, the Assiniboine and the Gros Ventre.

Doney, an Assiniboine, and her running mate, Raymond Chandler Sr., a Gros Ventre, defeated William "Snuffy" Main and Charles "Jack" Plumage, both of whom are former tribal chairmen, by a vote of 829-667.

Doney was serving as vice-president until the council's former president, Darrell Martin, resigned last April. She assumed

the presidency and has since been serving in that capacity. Martin assumed the presidency after the sudden resignation of another former president, Ben Speakthunder, resigned. After Martin assumed the presidency, he appointed Doney as vice-president. Before that, Doney was the director of the tribes' head start program.

Doney said her appointment was controversial and offered that her election victory should quell some of the critics. She expressed confidence in the other members of the tribal council.

She told the *Great Falls Tribune* she hopes to use her four-year term in office to make tribal government more open to the public, emphasize improvements in health care, housing, job creation and recreation for young people.

"The public needs to be brought more into the loop of what goes on," said Doney, who has a master's degree in counsel-

ing. "I think we're all ready to move and move as a team,"

The other eight members of the Fort Belknap Indian Community Council, which oversees the joint government of the Fort Belknap Assiniboine and Gros Ventre tribes, were also elected. The council consists of four Assiniboine members and four Gros Ventre members who have two-year terms.

The Fort Belknap Indian Reservation is the fourth largest Indian reservation in Montana. It encompasses an area of 675,147 acres, which extends approximately 28 miles east to west, and 35 miles north to south. The land is mostly rolling plains with the Little Rocky Mountains in the southern region of the reservation. The chief industry of the reservation are cattle and buffalo ranches. The total of members of the Fort Belknap Indian Community is about 5,426.

# Harvard honors American Indian tribal government initiatives

By Rick Smith

The Harvard Honoring Contributions in the Governance of American Indian Nations Awards Program, more commonly called the Honoring Nations Awards, named 14 American Indian tribal government initiatives to receive the honors on the fifth annual ceremony on Nov. 2 in Tulsa, Okla. Of those programs that received awards, half received high honor awards of \$10,000 and the other half received honor awards \$2,000 recognizing their achievements.

The program highlights exemplary tribal government programs among the 562 Indian nations in the United States.

The 2005 Honoring Nations High Honors Award recipients: Akwesasne Freedom School, Akwes-asne Mohawk Nation, Rooseveltown, N.Y.

Flandreau Police Department, Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, Flandreau, S.D.

Oneida Nation Farms, Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, Seymour, Wisc.

Professional Empowerment Program, Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, Sisseton, S.D.

Siyeh Corporation Blackfeet

Nation, Browning, Mont.

Tribal Monitors Program, Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, Fort Yates, N.D.

Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council Council, Koyukon and Gwich'in Athabaskan, Yupik and Tlingit, Fairbanks, Alaska.

The 2005 Honoring Nations Honors Awards recipients: Cherokee Language Revitalization Project, Cherokee Nation, Tahlequah, Okla.

Choctaw Tribal Court System, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Choctaw, Miss.

The Hopi Land Team, The Hopi Tribe, Kykotsmovi, Ariz.

Miccosukee Tribe Section 404 Permitting Program, Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, Miami, Fla.

Migizi Business Camp, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Manistee, Mich.

Navajo Nation Sales Tax, The Navajo Nation, Window Rock, Ariz.

ONABEN's innovative models for enterprise development, a collaboration of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde Indians, Warm Springs Reservation, Siletz Indians, Umatilla Indian

Reservation, Cowlitz Indian Tribe and the Colville Reservation, Tigard, Ore.

The 14 award winners were selected from applications from 41 tribes and seven inter-tribal collaborations. At each stage of the selection process, applications are judged on effectiveness, significance, transferability, creativity and sustainability. The Harvard Kennedy School also use the successes of the honorees as bases for reports, case studies and instructional materials.

Chief Oren Lyons of the Onondaga Indian Nation of New York said, "These honorees inspire us all. But even more, they plant seeds that provide for our future generations" Lyons is also chairman of the Honoring Nations Advisory Board.

The programs director, Amy Besaw, said, "These success stories are uplifting, especially because they are fueling replication in Indian Country."

For more information about the program, visit the Web site at [www.ksg.harvard.edu/hpaied](http://www.ksg.harvard.edu/hpaied) or call (617) 495-1480.

# Granholm cuts \$3 billion deal for job creation and tax cuts

LANSING — State Rep. Gary McDowell (D-Rudyard) recently praised a \$3 billion bipartisan deal between Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm and House and Senate leaders that will help create high-tech jobs in Michigan and entice businesses to invest in our state.

"I am confident this bipartisan agreement will be a giant leap forward in keeping good-paying jobs in Michigan and in setting the groundwork for bringing more high-growth job providers to northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula," McDowell said. "I applaud leaders on both sides of the aisle for putting the economic good health of our state and the future of our workers ahead of partisan politics."

In particular, McDowell singled out as praiseworthy a commitment of \$15 million for tourism advertising he said will be of "significant benefit to northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula."

The Rudyard lawmaker also lauded money pegged for forestry and agriculture.

The deal reached late last Nov 3 provides \$1 billion from the

state's tobacco settlement for Granholm's 21st century jobs initiative. The funds will be used to diversify Michigan's economy by creating jobs and support innovation and research in the fields of homeland security, high-tech automotive, alternative energy and life sciences. Another \$300 million will provide venture capital for start-up companies in Michigan.

In her 2005 State of the State address, Granholm unveiled a proposal to move Michigan towards robust economic recovery by creating 21st century jobs in research and innovation, focusing on competitive edge technologies, life sciences and commercialization.

Also under the plan, companies that locate or build new facilities in Michigan within the next two years will get a 100 percent personal property tax cut. Manufacturers already located in Michigan will get a 15 percent personal property tax cut. The deal will encourage companies to move to Michigan, bringing more jobs to help boost the economy.

# Senate enacts improved housing law

WASHINGTON DC — The Senate passed legislation on Nov. 9 that reduces barriers to federal Indian housing programs and Youth-Build funds. The National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC) worked closely with Senators Rick Renzi (R-Ariz.), Jim Matheson (D-Utah), Tim Johnson (D-N.D.) and Michael Enzi (R-Wyo.) to pass the Native American Housing Enhancement Act of 2005, or H.R. 797.

The Act reduces barriers for tribes in accessing housing block grants by amending the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act (NAHASDA). It clarifies that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development cannot reduce the amount of Indian housing block grant funds based solely on the technical status of a tribe's income from NAHASDA programs. The Act reinforces that the intent of NAHASDA is to broaden housing grant opportunities and not limit them.

"The program income provision is a major step for tribes, improving their flexibility and ability to achieve long-term development goals by building financial portfolios," said Chester Carl, chairman of the Indian housing council. "The support from the Senate also reinforces tribal self-governance endorsed by NAHASDA."

H.R. 797 also revises the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act to make YouthBuild program funds available for tribes and organizations that serve tribal communities. The YouthBuild program allows youth to build leadership and job skills

by participating in home construction projects. The passage of NAHASDA in 1996 prohibited tribes from applying for YouthBuild programs.

"This bill will help give American Indians in rural Arizona, and across the nation, the tools they need to make better use of federal housing programs and plan for the future," said Congressman Renzi. "I am especially pleased to see the YouthBuild program reinstated to help teach life skills to at-risk youth. This program not only provides these young people with an opportunity to improve themselves, it allows them to assist their communities by building new housing for needy families."

The Act also makes amendments to housing programs for Indian tribes administered by the USDA. Authorized under the Housing Act of 1949, the programs are subject to the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 and 1968, which prohibit discrimination of housing programs based on race, color or national origin. Due to the nature of federally recognized tribes serving Indian communities, H.R. 797 clarifies that the housing programs under the Department of Agriculture must comply under the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968, consistent with NAHASDA.

H.R. 797 will now return to the House of Representatives for a vote.

The YouthBuild program helps tribes to employ their youth in tribal projects giving them valuable experience for future employment prospects.

# January retirees should start process now

BY ED DWYER

If you are planning to join the ranks of other retirees in 2006, now is the time to start applying for Social Security retirement benefits.

We usually encourage people to let us know about three months before the month they plan to retire. So if you expect to retire in January, now is the time to get started. To complete your application for retirement benefits, you can do what more than half a million people have done already — visit our website at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) and click

on "apply to retire" and apply for benefits by using our online application.

The online application is more convenient than ever. By using an "electronic signature," you can safely send us your completed application over the Internet with no need to print it and mail it in. We will let you know if we need you to mail or bring in other items, such as proof of age, earnings and marriage.

So if your New Year's resolutions will focus on how to live in retirement, get an early start by applying for your Social Security

retirement benefits now. Just go to [www.socialsecurity.gov/apply-toretire](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/apply-toretire) to apply online. You can also apply by calling us toll-free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) or by visiting your local Social Security office. And rest assured that your retirement payments will be waiting for you on the other side of the New Year's Eve festivities.



# General board meeting briefs

Compiled by Rick Smith

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians met for a general meeting on Nov. 1 in Sault Ste. Marie. All board members were present. The minutes from a meeting on Oct. 18 were approved.

**Approved resolutions:** The former Endahyon Group Home which now functions as a child advocacy center was renamed in honor of Dawn M. Eavou, a former tribal social worker, and the official name of the facility is now the Dawn M. Eavou Child Advocacy Center. All board members were present and favored the action.

The board approved a budget modification of \$20,323.48 to house a workplace site for Americorps volunteers and functions at the Charlie and Harriet Shedawin Building with an appropriation of \$3,000 for 2005 from tribal operations. All board members were present and favored the measure.

Tribal liquor licenses were renewed for the Midjim stores and all five Kewadin Casinos. All board members were present and approved the renewals except for Cathy Abramson, who opposed.

The St. Mary's River Task Force was to formally advise the board regarding issues and recommendations for tribal government action with the goal of restoring the St. Mary's River. People will be appointed to the task force by chairperson of the task force, Cathy Abramson, who was appointed chair by the board. All board members were present and approved the action.

A right of way easement was granted to the City of Munising on tribal property in Munising. The easement will allow for assistance on a tribal project.



The above rendering depicts the design of the former Lincoln School in Munising which was built in 1915. The board of directors passed a resolution of intent to incur debt in the maximum principal amount of \$2,500,000 as the permanent financing of the costs for converting the former school building into a tribal center in Munising. Construction should start in the spring of 2006 with completion in early 2007.

A budget modification of \$147,490 was approved for the Board of Director's Initiative budget for 2005, bringing the total of the initiative to \$1,219,478. All board members were present and approved the modification.

While waiting for the tribal election committee to provide proof of committee rules approved by the board for basic due process and fairness to all parties, the board adopted a policy that no adverse actions of any kind be taken by the committee against a tribal member until such time as the board approves any such rules. All board members were present except for Chase, who was temporarily out of the room. Board members Eitrem, Gravelle, Shagen, LaPoint, Lambert, Miller and Matson favored the measure while Abramson, McKelvie, Causley and Paquin opposed.

The board amended the team member confidentiality policy applicable to all governmental, enterprise and casino employees. The policy further direct and clarify the use and disclosure of confidential and other propriety information by employees. All board members were present and favored the amendment except for Causley.

The board concluded the meeting and met for another general meeting on Nov. 14 in Hessel. All board members were present except for Paul Shagen.

**Approved resolutions:** An official declaration of intent to incur debt in the maximum principal amount of \$2,500,000 as the permanent financing of the costs for converting a former school building into a tribal center in Munising. Two other resolutions were passed authorizing the financing along with a waiver of sovereign immunity and

tribal court jurisdiction for the center. All board members present favored the measures, except for board member Robert LaPoint, who opposed.

An amendment to the tribal inland hunting and fishing code will allow the tribal conservation committee to issue disabled hunter permits to members who have temporary or permanent disabilities. The implementation date will be set after negotiations with the state and federal governments are final. All board members present favored the action.

An investment policy was adopted and the board authorized opening investment accounts with Wells Fargo Bank and USB Financial Services. Transactions and documents must be signed by two of the following individuals: Aaron Payment, Robert LaPoint, Todd Gravelle, Victor Matson, Jr., or Bill Connolly. The move was approved by all board members present.

The board resolved to make monthly reports of board proceedings to their constituents via [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) and [www.saulttribe.org](http://www.saulttribe.org) in conjunction with *The Sault Tribe News*. Tribe members will be able to subscribe or remove themselves from an e-mail list if they request to do so. The reports will be posted on the sites in an area reserved for each board member. All board members present approved the measure.

Budget reconciliations for fiscal year 2005 in the amount of \$20,395 were accepted. All board members present approved.

Board meetings are scheduled for the first and third Tuesdays of each month.

## Referendum results announced

The tribal election committee officially released election results at the Nov. 14th board meeting held in Hessel, Mich., that pertained to the most recent referendum mailed tribe members.

The committee reported 4,247 ballots were returned, with 2,255 voting to approve and 1,964 voting to disapprove, while 28 ballots were deemed spoiled.

Of the spoiled ballots, five were returned with no choice selected, two were marked with an unclear choice and 21 failed to meet the security requirements.

As required, the election committee received in excess of 30 percent of registered voters who cast ballots, therefore, the board of director's decision to overturn lead counsel's legal binding opinion 2005-03, dated Aug. 3, 2005, and accept the election results from the election committee dated Aug. 2, 2005, as outlined in Resolution 2005-119 is valid and binding in accordance with the referendum ordinance.

**Deadline for  
submissions to  
the Christmas  
issue of *The  
Sault Tribe News*  
is 5 p.m.  
Monday,  
Dec. 5, 2005.**

# Indian tribes and labor unions



**Paul Shagen**  
Unit 1 Representative  
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

In recent weeks, much controversy has arisen within our community regarding labor unions on tribal land. The debate is an outgrowth of several recent developments, including a significant change in the interpretation of federal law and the decision to unionize by the teachers of the Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting School. In light of this controversy, it is necessary to expand on the public statement I made at the Nov. 1, 2005 Sault Tribe Board meeting.

Last year, in San Manuel

Indian Bingo and Casino ("San Manuel"), the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) reversed nearly 30 years of precedent by extending jurisdiction to most Indian commercial activities on tribal land. In San Manuel, the NLRB ruled for the first time that employees at Indian casinos now have rights under the National Labor Relations Act (the "Federal Labor Law").

However, well before San Manuel, labor unions organized on tribal land. For example, in 1979 the NLRB ruled in Devils Lake Sioux Manufacturing that a company located on tribal land, which was not wholly owned and controlled by the tribe, was subject to the Federal Labor Law (although the tribe owed 51 percent of the company, it was controlled by the 49 percent non-tribal owner). Therefore, labor unions have operated on tribal land for many years.

It is important to note, however, that in 1976 the NLRB ruled in Fort Apache Timber Company that a tribally owned and operated commercial enterprise on tribal land was implicitly exempted from the definition of an "employer" subject to the

Federal Labor Law. In so ruling the NLRB chose to treat Indian tribes the same as the federal government and states, which are expressly exempt from the Federal Labor Law.

The NLRB's recent decision in San Manuel, which overturned Fort Apache Timber Company, represents and ominous departure from the NLRB's past acknowledgment that on tribal land, Indian tribes should be treated the same as states and the federal government. Make no mistake, San Manuel represents a significant intrusion on tribal sovereignty in that it infringes on Indian tribes' authority to make their own laws, govern their territory and exclude individuals from tribal land.

In assessing the impact of San Manuel, it is important to understand the role and structure of the NLRB. The NLRB is the independent federal agency that administers the Federal Labor Law. The NLRB conducts secret ballot elections to determine whether employees wish to be represented by a union, and prevents and remedies unfair labor practices. This would include an employer's unlawful retaliation against its employees for pro-

tected concerted activities, such as attempting to form a union.

San Manuel has the affect of putting elected tribal officials, such as members of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors, in a precarious position. On the one hand, the Board has the authority to manage the economic affairs of the Sault Tribe, including adopting employment policies and practices. From a management perspective, a union would threaten or infringe upon this authority. In addition, a union would place additional stress on funding for essential services and programs if it resulted in higher wages and additional benefits for employees.

On the other hand, 1,260 of the Sault Tribe's 2,309 employees, or fifty-eight percent, are Sault Tribe Members. This number is significant. If a majority of employees seek to form a union, any Sault Tribe Board member who actively opposes such an effort may be viewed as being anti-employee, a label which could have serious consequences at election time.

In any event, I would like to share my position on labor unions on tribal land. I do not support unions on tribal lands,

as they represent a threat to tribal sovereignty. At the same time, however, I acknowledge that the Federal Labor Law grants employees broad legal rights, including to unionize and prohibits the Sault Tribe from unlawfully interfering with any such effort. In other words, the decision whether to unionize belongs to employees and not the employer. Given this right, I will not condone any attempt to unlawfully violate the rights of employees under the Federal Labor Law.

The Sault Tribe must address the concerns of many of our employees, including to improve: (1) the work environment; (2) employment policies and practices to ensure fairness and due process; (3) employment security, as many employees, especially non-members, worry about losing their jobs; and (4) lines of communication. If Sault Tribe employees are treated and compensated fairly and feel secure in their employment, they are far less likely to unionize.

If you have any questions, please contact me at home (906) 437-5381. Thank you for your continued support.

# Constitutional convention committee



**Lana Causley**  
Unit II Representative  
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

On Nov. 1, the board of directors had the opportunity to discuss the coming Constitution convention with Richard Monette and Robert Lyttle. These two have been contracted to facilitate the project. As stated in previous reports, both of these gentlemen have experience in revising Constitutions for other tribes as well as their own. During the workshop with the board, we discussed the make up of the committee.

This committee will be uniquely different from others. With input from past experience in facilitating these conventions, it was strongly recommended by Mr. Monette and Mr. Little that the chairman and

board of directors NOT be on the committee. This was recommended for one main purpose, to ensure trust and continuity for our members. This is a convention for the members, by the members. If the tribal membership does not trust the committee and the procedures, members simply will not participate in the process, or worse, not vote for any of the changes.

Politics have to be taken completely out and the people of this tribe have to be in control. This is not saying the chairman and the board will not be able to have input, we will and should be actively involved, to always communicate what our members would like to see in the outcome. The creation of the committee as discussed is as follows.

There will be a total of at least 29 committee members, each board of directors member and the chairman will nominate four members. Out of these four members, one will be chosen by the facilitators. This will total 13. Members will also have an opportunity to self nominate by completing a form that will be distributed in the tribal paper, 16 members will be chosen from this process. (13+16=29).

There was a lot of discussion as to what should qualify a member to be on this committee. My input, as well as other board members, was this: If you are a tribe member

with the interest and passion to become actively involved, you should have the opportunity. College degrees, business degrees, etc., can and will have a place, but should not be the driving force for the candidates on the committee. As stated by board member Victor Matson, Sr., he is tired of hearing our tribe members being put down about not being "smart enough" to have valuable input; all tribe members have something to offer. I see that the majority of the board of directors are able to give up this control over choosing the committee and welcome diverse minds and ideas. I want to ensure that the four WE chose from our unit is with your input, please call me with members' names you would like to see nominated from our unit. If there is someone in your area who can and will make themselves available and commit their time for this convention, please call me.

The most crucial part is forming the committee, to ensure trust and continuity. We all know that bringing people from outside into our tribe is a little questionable so I want to share something with you. In the workshop, discussing nominating members from our communities, Mr. Monette stated, "During my tribe's Constitution convention, when I had to nominate a member from my community, I chose my opponent, the one who

was not elected, this is the person I nominated," Mr. Monette was the chairman.

The statement from him impressed me as it showed he had integrity and, also, he was part of his Constitutional convention and he wanted to hear from members who didn't necessarily have the same views as him, he wanted it to work. This is being passed on to you only so that you know a little about Mr. Monette's values as we will have to trust the facilitators as well. We will have an opportunity for both the facilitators to come to our unit meetings for an introduction and presentation about our convention.

At this same meeting, the board appropriated additional funds to re-open the Harriet and Charlie Shedawin building. When this building first opened, it was named in their honor. These two individuals were passionate about helping Anishinaabe people recover from substance abuse problems. This building will again be used for that purpose. AA meetings will be held there as well as other activities to assist our people who have had the hard road of alcoholism.

Alcoholism is still the leading disease within Anishinaabe people; we learn very early how it affects our families. If you are interested in being a volunteer or you are in need, please call our substance abuse department we

can get you the assistance you need, you do not have to struggle by yourself.

I would like to write about the recent referendum election that took place within our tribe. On Nov. 10, the election committee conducted the public counting of the ballots, I was in attendance and witnessed first hand the process in which it was conducted. The outcome has been announced without any contests filed in the five-day allotted time. Two thousand two hundred and fifty five approved the decision to uphold the board of directors decision to overturn the legal department's opinion on the outcome of the last referendum. One thousand sixty four disapproved the decision. This means, removed board members are prohibited from running for elected office. A majority of the membership did decide the outcome and we must honor that.

Lastly, I would like to say miigwetch to all involved in the veteran's powwow held this past weekend. Bud Biron, Melissa Causley and all other volunteers did a great job. Veterans, drummers, dancers and singers, you helped in making this day for our Anishinaabe very special and many people are grateful. It helps us to be part of this honoring of our veterans as we feel closer to those we lost. Again, miigwetch, baamaapii Lana Causley (906) 484-2954.

## 2 percent funds increase



**Robert LaPoint**  
Unit II Representative  
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

It is too early to report on the distribution of the two percent money for unit two but I will tell you we are getting an increase. At first we thought we were getting a lower amount than we expected. When looking into this, it was discovered we had quite a bit more coming to us. The amount we get for Unit II was, in fact, increased. Director Causley and myself feel good about the amount our unit will be receiving.

There is a lesson to be learned by all these treaty taxes we are paying. I blame the past administration for the bigger problems we face. We have not turned the corner on our debt but I think we are making headway. One problem that has been brought to light is the way our financial statements use to read. They did not include the debt owed to the Greeks. By leaving over 250 million dollars off the financial statement, the tribal debt did not show how much we were leveraged. We can't stop doing business but we are going to have to take serious looks at our future spending priorities. Our new chairman seems to have a better

grasp of this than people are giving him credit.

I want to thank my fellow board members for their vote on the balanced budget resolution. This, to me, is a milestone in fiscal responsibility. Some of you may remember this was my first campaign proposal in the most recent election. Some of the board members even debated me on this issue before the election and they now support the resolution. This is good news. Financial pressures require us to use spending restraints. This is helping this board understand our responsibility. The resolution got passed and was reported in the news but the significance of the resolution was never explained. Putting a cap on our spending will help us set priorities.

The treaty tax we pay the state is roughly 250 million. With that amount of money we could have paid off the Greeks. It is important for the members to understand, the 250 million dollar pay off to the Greeks will go down as one of the biggest sweetheart deals in our history. With only 10 million dollars a year coming north, it will take us 25 years to earn that much money.

Paying the Greeks \$700,000 a month is a big amount. This debt is the fault of Bernard Bouschor. It did not show up on our financial statement because he had started another corporation. This was very dangerous. Misleading the members and the board by not including the debt to the Greeks, to me, is almost criminal.

Our net worth has stabilized with our new chairman. This is very important. Before the election our net worth kept going down every year. This had me very concerned and we are still vulnerable

by going deeper into debt. I voted no against buying the building in Munising. The vote was 11 to one. I voted against it. If we are going to put a cap on spending then we need to set priorities. There is going to need to be some trade offs. How do we know how much this building is going to cost us in repairs and heat.

There is one thing we can do to help balance our budget and get out of debt. We need to increase our income. You can only cut so much. We should put a freeze on all discretionary spending. With no growth in our income, there should be no growth in our spending. The federal government does not want to help us, we need to help ourselves. We should have, as a goal, a 10-year window to pay down our debt. We need to face the tough decisions today or the impossible decisions down the road. We are going to face many challenges in the future. We need to take baby steps in trying to reform our tribal economy.

The transition in our tribe is starting to show signs of progress. We need to increase our business. We could rename Greektown to "Kewadin" Greektown. We own it, let's use it to promote our other properties here in the north. If we rename Kewadin Greektown, our advertising identity will be stronger for all our casinos. We should launch a whole new marketing strategy, one that supports the EUP and Mackinac Island. Bringing an attraction to the St. Ignace casino and collaborating with the local communities is the way we can do this. If you have questions or need more information, call me. Bob LaPoint, vice chairman and Unit II representative.

## Members decide issues



**Rob Lambert**  
Unit III Representative  
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Our membership gets past the mudslinging to decide the issue!

The results of the most recent referendum are in and once again our membership has determined they do not want their board representatives to run again if they have been removed. With all of the campaign mailings that were put out with the intent to confuse you and even our chairperson using our tribal funds to put out a mailer to let you know how he was voting on this issue, I would have not been surprised if you had reversed your previous decision. It was a basic question of whether or not you should

approve your previous decision to not allow removed board members to run again or reverse that decision and allow them to run. You were told of corrupt board members and unconstitutional actions. It was suggested that blank ballots were counted to determine the outcome. Our tribal election committee was all but tarred and feathered. The folks who wanted you to disapprove your previous decision left no rock un-thrown and in the end, you saw through the whole thing and decided to vote the very same way you voted the first time.

Our election committee did an outstanding job. They proved they can conduct themselves with the highest degree of integrity, even when their every action is called into question. I am proud of them for standing tall and not just buckling to the tremendous stress they were under. Some would have been happy to see them just get up and walk away. I am glad they stayed. They proved our elections can be held in a fair and honest manner.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report. Rob Lambert, 23 Stockbridge St., St. Ignace, MI 49781. Phone 643-8840 or 1-800-484-7919 pin 8106, send e-mail to roblamberts@sbglobal.net.

### Charter Cable televises Sault Tribe general board meetings

Marquette and Alger Counties- 6:30 to 11 p.m., Channel 8, Fridays  
Sault Ste. Marie - 3 to 5 p.m., Channel 2, Mondays and Thursdays  
St. Ignace - 9 a.m., Channel 12, Mondays  
Escanaba and Manistique - 3 to 5 p.m., Channel 8, Wednesdays

# Many thanks for so much



**Cathy Abramson**  
Unit I Representative  
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Chi Megwetch to all our members who voted in the recent referendum. The final outcome was the ballot was approved. The people have spoken and we need to move on.

Since that time, the board and the election committee have held a workshop and are working together to improve our election ordinance. So far, we made it through the definitions. This will definitely take time as we work together to produce a document that is understandable and acceptable to everyone.

At our last meeting, I introduced a resolution that will greatly improve the board's communication with our members, and it was passed unanimously! This is exciting as it will allow all board members to use the Sault Tribe e-mail list (via the Web site administrator) to send out our unit reports. I hope you will be able to immediately respond to us, if you choose, in this venue. Of course, if you do not want to receive them, you may simply ask to be taken off the list. Our unit reports will be posted on the Sault Tribe Web site in an area specific for each board member. Also, part of the resolution states the Sault Tribe Web site administrator will not provide your web-site e-mail addresses to anyone without notifying and obtaining approval from the board prior to releasing any information internal or external. This will provide e-mail address privacy to you e-mail users. Thank you to Communications Director Cory Wilson and Web site administrator Nathan Wright for helping to support this initiative.

There is finally some movement to the proposed Constitutional convention. We met with our hired consultants and we discussed the rules of how the convention would be handled. Rule number one is: The Chairperson or members of the board of directors will not be able to sit on this working committee. We will be appointing members from our

tribal communities to this committee. If you are interested in working on this monumental event, please let us know. I am excited that our membership will be so directly involved in this process.

Thank you to all who returned their inland hunting and fishing surveys. The information was compiled and it is very helpful to our board and negotiating team so that our membership's input is well represented. Chairperson Payment, Directors Matson and Paquin, and attorneys Bruce Green, Courtney Kutcher and Aaron Schlehuber are on the negotiating team. Director Fred Paquin has been doing an excellent job representing our tribe during these negotiations. Also, at this time, I would like to thank Charles Matson, Billy Perry, Henry Grondin and Clarence Hudak for all the heart and soul they have put into our inland hunting, fishing, gathering and trapping regulations. Having recently been appointed to the conservation committee, I enjoy seeing and hearing first hand the passion and concern these individuals express when it comes to our rights. They are true warriors. Great job to all of you!

I attended the veterans powwow in Kinross this past weekend. On this day, we honored all those who fought for our freedoms and rights as Anishinabe people and as American citizens. This event is growing! Megwetch to Bud Biron, Melissa Causley, Tim Haller, Gene Biron, Ed Cook, Richard Lee, the staff at the Kinross Recreation Center and I'm sure there were many others who helped organize this powwow. It was great to see the group of members from Cheboygan. They came to help and learn so they would be able to sponsor a powwow in their area. It was also heartwarming to see all of our members who volunteered to help them out.

It was great to see all of our elders at the Thanksgiving dinner. I wish we could have stayed longer but we had to drive to Detroit for a 6 p.m. Michigan Gaming Control Board meeting. The good news is they approved our financing package for the development of Greektown Casino's permanent hotel-casino resort. This was extremely important to all of us.

While it is important to give thanks everyday, this seems to be the time of year we like to publicly express ourselves.

I am thankful for the wise decisions our ancestors made years ago so that we may retain our rights to hunt, fish, gather and trap to continue to provide

for our families while they obtained health and education benefits for our people.

I am thankful my roots run deep in this area called Bahwetching and all my relations live close by.

I am thankful I had a grandmother who spoke our Anishinabe language, prepared our traditional foods, picked and prepared our traditional medicines, harvested and crafted baskets of the black ash trees and shared these and other traditional teachings with my mother.

I am thankful I had a mother and father who loved one another and took good care of me and my brothers and sisters. My mother was always there at home for us and my father taught me and my brothers to hunt, fish and gather. We always knew who we were and continued to live the Anishinabe way of life.

I am thankful my brothers and sisters have had the opportunity to help intricately shape our tribe. Many of them have worked hard to help our tribal organization along the way. I am most thankful for my wonderful husband, children and grandchildren who continue to be supportive of me and our tribal families. I am so proud of them all.

To all our cousins, families and friends who are there for us in good times and bad, thank you for all your support and encouragement. You don't know how much your kind words and hugs help to keep us strong.

You might think my unit report is not a place for this and I should stick to the issues. I strongly believe this — Our tribe, that we have sworn to serve and protect, is my family and yours. All that we do, how we live, how we share, how we help out one another, how we pray — these are all the traditions and culture that were handed down to us. We are a tribe. We are family. When there are times of need, all the political differences get left at the door. Everyone helps one another. I encourage all people to go out and do the same.

Even if you are going through hard times, you can be thankful for the lessons you are learning. I know I am. During this holiday season, spend some quiet time and really reflect on all the blessings the Creator continues provide for us. We all have a lot to be thankful for. Please continue to pray for our tribe and our servicemen who are away from their families.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (906) 635-3054 or (906) 440-7613. My e-mail address is abrams410@charter.net.

# Sault Tribe voters prevail



**Joe Eitrem**  
Unit I Representative  
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Despite the thousand of dollars spent in recent flyers and Evening News ads to encourage tribe members to disapprove the recent referendum, the majority of the membership saw through the untruths, propaganda and politics of this campaign and wisdom prevailed. I would like to thank all of the members who voted in the referendum vote and to those of you who voted to approve, thanks for your insight and wisdom to see through the politics.

After a year of negotiating with the Michigan Gaming Commission, they have approved our refinancing with Merrill Lynch, which means we can now move forward with the plans for our commitment for the expansion of our permanent casino in Detroit. Also, under this plan, we will be able to bring back to the tribe \$6 million that was paid to the Greeks that came from our Northern operation. We will also receive \$5 million annually for 2006, 2007 and 2008 that will come back to the Sault.

Negotiations are ongoing to acquire properties, air rights, zoning and various other obstacles that need to be done before we can start construction on our parking garage-hotel to complete our permanent casino site. Construction should start in February 2006. Once the hotel is built, we will receive back from the gaming taxes five percent, which will represent a reduction of approximately \$12 million that we can use to pay down our debt. Our projected net revenue from the Greektown operation for 2006 is \$78,600,000; for 2007 it is \$90,400,000; for 2008 \$119,400,000; for 2009 \$126,400,000. In 2009, we can expect, based on our projections, to bring \$10 million up the Sault.

We are still waiting for Congress to approve our request to build a casino in Romulus. We cannot proceed with this project until we get their approval.

If you have any question please call or e-mail at the following: (906) 632-8567 or josepheitrem@yahoo.com.

# Home visitors program



Home visitors (from left to right) Joan Jorgensen, Virginia Vesper and Lauri Gaskin.

Home visitors, Virginia Vesper, Joan Jorgensen, and Lauri Gaskin are currently recruiting children from birth to age three and pregnant women in Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac Counties to participate in the Sault Tribe's Early Head Start Home Based Program.

Early Head Start is a federally funded program that works with the families to enhance the development of infants and toddlers birth to age three and to insure the most healthy pregnancy possible for women. Families who enroll in Early Head Start participate in a variety of educational and culturally relevant activities to insure optimal development.

Home visitors are highly qualified to meet the special needs of all children and families including those with disabilities. We are certified in the parents-as-teachers curriculum and have family service credentials.

As home visitors, we bring the classroom in to your home. We will visit you and your child once

a week for 90 minutes. We use the parents-as-teachers curriculum, which emphasizes the parent is the first and most important teacher of their children. We will help the parents to develop weekly home visits that are age appropriate and meet your child's skills and interests. Activities include the core areas of large and small muscle development, cognitive development, social and emotional development, language, health, nutrition, and Ojibwe culture.

In addition to the weekly home visits, you and your family will have the opportunity to participate in socializations and parent meetings each month and be involved in the family partnership process. We strive to provide you and your family with interesting experiences, the chance to meet other program participants, have fun and enhance various areas of development with your child.

Our children are our future leaders and the survival of the Ojibwe way of life depends on the actions we undertake today.

## American Indian Graduate Center announces inaugural academic team

On October 15, 2005 the American Indian Graduate Center presented ten outstanding American Indian students from across the country the All Native American High School Academic Team awards.

The awards were presented at the AIGC annual conference at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque, N.M. Indian Country needs only to

look at these bright, eager new faces to recognize that these young students have again embarked upon excelling in their academic endeavors. What some people may not realize is how critical our young students are to the future of American Indian communities.

Red Team Award winners are Wynonna Curly, Navajo; Lia Jasperse, Navajo; Shawntay Lupi

and Sisseton Wahpeton Sioux.

White Team, Tennille Begay, Navajo; Caleb Fairey, Navajo; Samuel E. Kohn, Crow and Christy Webber, Spirit Lake Sioux.

Blue Team, Roxanna Rae Billie, Navajo; Sarracina Littlebird, Laguna and Chelsea Yazzie, Navajo.



# Check your tribal card



**Denise Chase**  
Unit IV Representative  
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Please check the back of your tribal membership card to see if you have the magnetic strip. If you don't, make sure to call the enrollment dept. at (800) 251-6597 to receive a new one.

Effective Jan. 1, 2006, cashiers will no longer accept your membership cards without the magnetic strips when purchasing tobacco and fuel products. This means you will be required to pay the full price for tobacco and fuel products, and would be required to pay state sale taxes on items purchased at the gift shops.

On Oct. 26, tribal board members spent a legislative day in Lansing and met with Representative Diane Byrum; Senator Jason Allen; speaker of the house, Craig DeRoche; Professor George Cornell of Michigan State University; Kathy Blake, senior vice president of business development for Michigan's Economic Development Corporation; and Representative Gary McDowell.

The inland fishing, hunting, and gathering sub-committee members, Charlie Matson, Billy Perry, Henry Grondin, Clarence Hudak, Aaron Schlehuder and Aaron Payment and individual board members in their units held community meetings to get your input before starting negotiations with the state on our hunting, fishing and gathering rights. All members were mailed input surveys, so far about 3,000 surveys were returned. Please complete your survey and return. We need your input, concerns and guidance when making decisions on your 1836 Treaty rights.

## Marinette Marine delivers Cutter Mackinaw to U. S. Coast Guard Old Cutter Mackinaw bound for museum duty in Cheboygan

MARINETTE, Wisc. — The U.S. Coast Guard officially accepted the Coast Guard Cutter Mackinaw (WLBB-30) on Nov. 17.

This marked the first day the ship's crew took responsibility for the cutter, and the cutter was placed into a temporary in-commission special status. It was launched into the Menominee River at Marinette Marine Corporation April 2 and has since been undergoing outfitting and sea trials. The cutter's official commissioning is tentatively scheduled to take place at her homeport of Cheboygan, Mich., June 9, 2006.

The Cutter Mackinaw is a one-of-a-kind 240-foot icebreaker and buoy tender, built at the Marinette Marine Corporation shipyard. The Coast Guard's Great Lakes Icebreaker replacement project, a

Because of the urgency to hold the inland hunting, fishing and gathering input session in the seven-county service area, it was decided to cancel the second meeting in Marquette scheduled for Oct. 19 and move Escanaba's meeting up in its place. Reason was because the date was moved up to start negotiations and the committee wanted to make sure they had offered and held the input sessions in all areas and wanted the information compiled and given to the negotiation team.

I would like to apologize to the tribal members in Marquette who showed up for that meeting, we were assured that it was advertised in your local paper that the meeting was cancelled.

The tribal board and the election committee met last week for a session on making changes to the tribal code chapter 10 election ordinance. Future workshops are being scheduled to complete and go through this 21 page document.

The tribal board voted to approve the issuing of a disabled hunter permit to individuals to discharge a fire-arm, bow or cross bow from a stationary motor vehicle. The member must have a permanent or temporary disability that prevents the hunter from reasonably negotiating rough terrain. Although the resolution is approved the board agreed no permits will be issued until the inland hunting, fishing and gathering negotiations are completed.

Our unit has \$63,338 for falls distribution of 2 percent dollars that will be allocated to the following projects in our community:

1. Rapid River Bay De Noc Township - \$5,436 (for picnic tables).
2. City of Manistique - \$6,791 (for fire fighting infrastructure project).
3. Delta county (Great Lakes Pow Wow regalia) - 3,500.
4. Escanaba Area Public Schools - \$5,000 - (Reaching our potential).
5. Gladstone Public Schools - \$4,320 - (Cultural Enhancement Project).
6. Gladstone Public Schools - (R. River - Learning Circle) - \$2,000.
7. Manistique Area Schools - 5,000 - (Indian Educ. Coordinating Services Project).

8. Rapid River Public Schools - (Indian Educ.) - \$5,000.
9. Thompson Township - (Historical Marker) - \$1,000.
10. Delta Co. - (Teaching Circle William Bonifas Center) - \$3,500.
11. West Branch Township Community Center - \$5,000 - (water - aerobic & therapy equip.).
12. Marquette County - \$5,000 - (Health Dept. Dental Clinic).
13. Ishpeming Public School - (Title VII Academic prevention Regression Cultural Enhancement) - \$5,000.
14. Big Bay School District - (Technology update project) - \$6,791.

Children's Christmas parties are scheduled for:

- Delta County area, Dec. 16, 6-8:30 p.m., Flat Rock Township Hall.
- Schoolcraft, Manistique and surrounding areas Dec. 10, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Manistique Tribal Center.

We are still in need of Santa's helpers to go toy shopping for Manistique. If you are interested in volunteering, please call 341-6993.

Office hours will be held by Tom Miller and myself at the Escanaba Tribal Center, Nov. 23, 5:30-7:30 p.m. and KI Sawyer Community Center, 269 Canberra Street, Nov. 30, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Elders Christmas dinners will be held in Marquette at Wahlstrom's Restaurant, Dec. 8, 6 p.m. In the Escanaba area at the Chip-In Casino banquet center in Hannaville, Dec. 19, 6 p.m.

Manistique elders Christmas dinner will be at the Manistique Tribal Center Dec. 12, 6 p.m.

Like to say chi megwetch to Troy and Wade Jensen, tribal fisherman who brought some smoked fish in to the elders to enjoy.

On Oct. 1, the heating assistance program opened up through Anishinaabek Community and Family Services. For more information, call 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137 or stop in at a local tribal center.

If I can be of any assistance or you need to contact me, please call 341-6783 or my toll free number (888) 667-3809. Thank you.

The responsibility of the cutter was then transferred to the commanding officer of the Cutter Mackinaw, Captain Donald, Triner along with the crew of 10 officers and 46 enlisted who became the plankowners of the new vessel.

The Cutter Mackinaw will remain dockside in Marinette for several weeks while the crew trains aboard the cutter and outfits it with necessary equipment. Prior to departure, Mackinaw will be holding an open house as a gesture of appreciation to the residents of Marinette and Menominee for supporting all 31 Coast Guard crews. The event will be held Dec. 7 from 12 to 5 p.m., at the K&K warehouse pier in Menominee, and all residents of Marinette and Menominee are invited to come and enjoy the ship.

# Board of Directors to deliver unit reports via e-mail and post on www.saulttribe.com

BY NATHAN WRIGHT

On Nov. 14, the Sault Tribe board of directors voted unanimously to have unit reports posted on the Web site and sent to registered members of the Sault Tribe Web site via e-mail with resolution 2005-181.

With the passing of resolution 2005-181, each board member will now have their own area to post unit reports.

The most recent unit report will be at the top of each board member's Web page followed by previous unit reports. The new format for unit is now available on the Web site under the board link. Unit reports will also continue to be available on the Sault Tribe Web site via the tribal newspaper.

Unit report e-mails will be sent out on average twice a month. Details are being worked out as to the e-mail format, schedule etc.

Registered Sault Tribe Web site members will be able to easily subscribe and unsubscribe from any lists made available. Unit reports via e-mail are expected to start sometime in late January or February of 2006

after we have upgraded our new Web server.

Due to the amount of traffic we receive when we send out an e-mail, it was in our best interest to wait until we upgrade our new Web service plan. As many of you know, our Web site performance has been slow due to the high traffic we have been receiving (see article in Oct 11, 2005 issue for more information). We are approaching more than 2000 registered users with 907,540 visitors since Feb. 11.

## New additions and updates on www.saulttribe.com

- Board attendance reports from July, 2004, to September, 2005.
  - The George Snider radio show now available as a mp3 every week.
  - Tribal Code was updated.
- Please make sure you update your records with the new Sault Tribe Web site address. Please use www.saulttribe.com. Don't forget to register!

## Sault Tribe Web site Q and A

**Question:** I e-mailed someone via a form on the Web site and I received an e-mail from crane@saulttribe.org. Why?

**Answer:** e-mails sent to anyone via the Web site go directly to the person you are trying to contact. If you receive an automatically generated crane@saulttribe.org, it is because you checked the box on the contact form and requested a copy or there was an error because an e-mail address is not working.

**Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Kewadin Casinos is holding a raffle for one 2006 Polaris Indy 500 Classic.**

All proceeds will go towards the Employee Emergency Assistance Program

Drawing will be held on **December 21, 2005** at 11 am at Kewadin Casino, 1286 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie (need not be present to win)

Tickets can be purchased at the following locations:

- Any of the Kewadin Eateries
- Sault Tribe Housing
- Sault Tribe Health Center
- Big Bear Arena
- Any Kewadin Gift shop

**1 Ticket for \$5 or 3 tickets for \$10**

**Winner will have the option to receive a 2-year extended warranty or \$400 in Polaris Gear.**

Winner will be responsible for the tax amount and the removal of the snowmobile.

License # STR-040-05

# Kewadin Casinos announce new COO



Tony Goetz

Kewadin Casinos announced the hiring of Tony Goetz as Chief Operations Officer for the Sault Tribe's five casinos operating throughout the eastern Upper Peninsula.

Prior to accepting the position, Goetz served as interim COO since last May. Goetz brings over 14 years of senior and executive level management experience, specifically in the area of casino gaming operations, and over 17 years experience overall in the gaming industry.

"I am extremely proud and

honored to have earned the opportunity to represent the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians community by serving in the role of COO for the Kewadin Casinos. I look forward to working together with the many wonderful and hard working team members throughout all of our five casinos. I have a great level of gratitude and respect for them and the contributions that they make in helping our casino businesses become so successful," said Goetz.

Goetz was born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and began his career in the gaming industry in March of 1988 after being hired as a blackjack dealer at the Vegas Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie. After one year, he was promoted to the position of pit boss and quickly obtained certification in all areas of gaming supervision. In 1991, he accepted the position of casino manager of the Kewadin Shores Casino in St. Ignace. He remained in that primary role for nearly 14 years and has endured six casino expansions that all occurred between 1992 and 1996.

During that time, the casino expanded from 4,000 square feet to a 52,000 square-foot facility that, today, provides employment for nearly 350 team members.

Goetz has also been very actively involved in the planning and development of the new Kewadin Shores Casino and Hotel currently under construction and scheduled to open in May of 2006.

In 1998, he was promoted to the position of casino general manager and was assigned oversight responsibility for three of the five northern Kewadin Casino properties including St. Ignace, Manistique and Hessel. Goetz held this position until earlier this year when he was appointed interim COO for all five Kewadin Casinos.

Goetz is a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and lives in Sault Ste. Marie with his wife, Donna, to whom he has been married for 18 years. They have four children, Amanda, Anthony Jr., Travis, and Nathan; and one grandson, Darian.

# Robinson tapped for P&D director



Renee' Robinson

Renee' Robinson was recently promoted to director of planning and development for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Robinson began her career with the tribe during an internship in the executive director's office in 1978. She returned to work for the tribe in 1980 for the next eight years, filling positions within the education department, contract health services and the housing department. She also worked as one of the first groups of team members trained as blackjack dealers at our flagship casino in the Sault. Robinson earned a bachelor's of science degree in legal studies from Lake Superior State University with a minor in business and specialties in law office administration and criminal justice.

She was awarded the Outstanding Native American Graduate of the Year award upon the completion of her degree. Robinson went on to earn a master's degree in public administration at Central

Michigan University, where she was awarded a full scholarship through the Patricia Roberts Harris Fellowship Award.

While at CMU, she also completed the course work for her master's in sociology and her doctorate in educational administration. Robinson returned home to Sault Ste. Marie to be closer to her family following the birth of her granddaughter, Ashley Robinson. She returned to work for the tribe in 2000 as the planning and development analyst and was appointed to the position of acting director of planning and development just prior to January of 2005.

Robinson is responsible for overseeing a variety of internal services for the tribe including grants and contracts, transportation funding, strategic planning, survey research, data analysis and various other special projects that impact the future direction of the tribe.

"I am excited about the new challenges that lie ahead, especially over the next two to three years" Robinson said. "We are anticipating the expansion of the planning department and are eager to develop a very aggressive team of grants and planning specialists, who will ensure the future growth and development of the tribe. We have a great deal of work to do in the months to come to lay the ground work for increased federal funding and a strong cooperative relationship with our communities. I look forward to meeting with our members regularly to gather their input for our future strategic planning."

## Birth announcements



**Aedan Andrew Haapala** was born on Sept. 16, 2005, at 7:15 p.m. at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

He weighed seven pounds, 10.5 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Proud parents are Andy and Holly (nee Roy) Haapala of Sault Ste. Marie.

Grandparents are Ted and Linda Haapala of the Sault and Frank and Dianne Naccarato of Kinross, Mich., Paul and Carol Pontious of Lake Wales, Fla., and William and Patricia Roy of Menominee, Mich.

Great-grandparents are Roberta Worley of the Sault and Mario and Ortensia Naccarato of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.



Twins **Joshua Frederick and Matthew Joseph Lumsden** were born to proud parents Mallinda (nee Albon) and Joel Lumsden of Dafter on Oct. 20, 2005, at Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey.

Joshua weighed four pounds, 14 ounces and Matthew weighed five pounds, seven ounces.

Grandparents are Frederick and Patricia Albon and Susie and the late Joseph Lumsden.

Great-grandfather is Floyd Cook.



**Cayson Christopher Erno** was born on Oct. 31, 2005, at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie. He weighed eight pounds and 2.7 ounces.

Proud parents are Chris and Amy Erno of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Cayson joins his big brother, Brett, at home.

Grandparents are Bernard Krull and Sharon Krull of Sault Ste. Marie as well as Donald and Diane Erno of Ruyard, Mich.

Great-grandparents are Eleanor and the late Chris Parr of Sault Ste. Marie along with Raymond and Lila Royer of Fibre, Mich., and Audrey and the late Allan Erno of Engadine, Mich.

## Hudak bags deer



Sault Tribe member Colton Hudak, 9, from Cheboygan, took this beautiful 11-point buck while hunting during archery season in Illinois with his father, Chris, uncle Dale and cousin Jordan.

## Kinross reaffirms Oberle and Mitchell

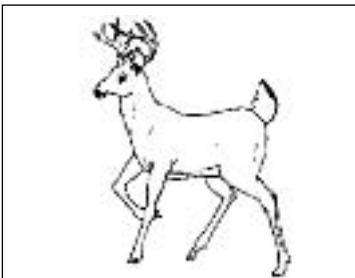
"I am proud to serve the citizens of Kinross" said Kinross Township Supervisor Jason Oberle. "Their decision yesterday to move forward on a path of fiscal responsibility has reaffirmed the decision voters made when they elected me a year ago. I would like to thank my supporters and at the same time reach out my hand to those who voted against me and ask them to join

me in doing what is right for our township. Much needs to be done and everyone can find a way to contribute."

Dan Mitchell added his wish to reach out to the whole community and said, "I am grateful the voters have given me the opportunity to continue to serve our community."

Voter turnout was low with 628 voters showing up at the

polls. Kinross has 2,182 registered voters.



# Carr selected for ambassadorship



Billy Carr, jersey number 23 for the Warren Jets Freshmen where he plays defensive right tackle coached by Coach Kevin Williamson.

William Carr III is a member of our tribe, son of Bill and Robin, brother of Brett and a resident of Warren, Mich.

He was recently selected to participate in the 50-year old People to People Ambassador Program. William was recommended for the honor by a

teacher for excellence in school as well as his non-academic activities.

He attends Agnes Beer Middle School in Warren and is in the sixth grade.

In the summer of 2006, William, along with 39 other students, will travel as student ambassadors to learn the history and culture of those countries and for those he will be visiting, they will learn about him.

William will have the responsibility of raising as much money as he can to cover the \$6,000 needed for the trip.

President Eisenhower began this program to help earn high school or university credits. Each succeeding president has been honorary chairman, knowing it is such a great program.

William is another in the long list of tribe members who continue to bring pride and exceptional publicity to our great Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

# Livermore returns to duty in Iraq



Sgt. David Livermore

Sault Tribe member, Sgt. David A. Livermore, is currently serving his second tour of duty in Iraq. He is in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany prior to his deployment.

Sgt. Livermore is an Engadine High School graduate, class of '97, and attended Northern Michigan University prior to his enlistment.

He is the son of Linda and David Livermore of Garnet.



# Sault member selected as MVP



Sault Tribe member Tony Bonacci was recently awarded the most valuable player for the seventh grade Sault Giants Red Team. He is the son of Carmine and Debra Bonacci.

# Heavy mettle



Calvin Hartwig displays some of his awards

Sault Tribe member Calvin Hartwig received the 2005 Coach's Award on Nov. 2 at the Elks Lodge in Sault Ste. Marie for his feats on the Sault Area High School cross-country team. The award is just one of many Hartwig has accumulated as he nears the end of his secondary education career.

Due to graduate from Sault Area High School in June of 2006, Hartwig demonstrates outstanding effort in academics and athletics along with other pursuits.

An avid reader, his GPA hovers between 3.6 and 3.9 while he racks up awards for athletics. So far, Hartwig has collected two junior varsity letters, two varsity letters, 21 medals in track and cross-country running, two awards for drafting in scholastic competitions and accolades for his performance in the straits area all-conference competition. The awards are from various sources such as his school, Kiwanis, Elks and other organizations.

Besides school competitions and activities, Hartwig also participates in events such as the annual Billy Mills run and volunteers for service to his community by helping in the annual city wide clean-up and doing field work for a local water conservation group.

Hartwig is an advanced placement student who is a member of the National Honor Society and fully intends to pursue a higher education career in automotive engineering with a minor in history. He said he favors studying at Kettington University in Flint.

# An open water debut



Giorgie Graves

Giorgie Graves, 12, a six-year veteran of USA Swimming competitions had never competed in an open water race when she competed in the one-mile Open Water Challenge at Cypress Gardens, Fla.

Graves was asked to enter the event by her coach at Brandon Blue Wave, Mio Vasic. She has competed in nearly 100 swim meets from Ft. Lauderdale to Buffalo. In terms of competition, she has swum against the best in the country in her age group.

About 50 swimmers, most of whom were open water veterans and twice the size of Graves,

pushed her out of the way and swam over her to gain the lead at the first buoy.

In her first open water race, Giorgie Graves, a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, finished first place in her age group (10-14-year old girls), first place in overall women and third place in overall men and women.

She finished with a time of 18 minutes and seven seconds.

Her coach is planning on entering her in the U.S. National Open Water Championships in Ft. Myers, Fla., in June of 2006.

# Sportsman's club plants walleye



The St. Mary's River Sportsman's Club conducted their annual walleye planting on Nov. 4, thanks to their many supporters.

The club has been planting walleye in the St. Mary's River for over 30 years and, according to many of the river resorts in the area, their customers have seen an increase in the number of walleye caught. The club hopes these results are due, at least in part, to their planting efforts.

A raffle is held each year to

support this on-going project. The club members work very hard from March through September to raise the money for planting. You may have spotted them at the River Rage Professional Walleye Tournament, the Michigan Walleye Tournament or the FOP Walleye Tournament.

The club would like to thank and express appreciation to all participating organizations for their support.

They would like to especially thank the Kewadin Casinos

Marketing Department and the Kewadin Casinos management team for their strong support of this project over the years.

Kewadin Casinos have been a partner in the walleye planting project with the St. Mary's River Sportsman's Club for about 10 years.

Co-chairmen of the club are Gordon McCloskey and Basil Willis.

"They bent over backwards to help us and they should be recognized for what they're doing," said Willis.

# Sault Tribe interpretive center, preserving our story

BY ART LEIGHTON, HISTORIC PRESERVATION SPECIALIST

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians secured an Administration for Native Americans Social and Economic Development Strategies grant to plan for the building of a tribal interpretive center. This facility will help the tribe preserve our culture, educate Sault Tribe membership and the general public and perpetuate our way of life for future generations of Anishinaabek. The planning grant is a well timed opportunity to make a generational impact on our community.

A major component of fulfilling the promise of the grant is the gathering of tribal input by survey, for a future center. During the months of October, November and December, the grant project team will visit the nine elder committees throughout the tribal service area. The hope is to gain an understanding of the desires of the elders in our communities for the composition of the interpretive center and museum. The committee has already visited the elders committees in Escanaba, Manistique, Hessel, Newberry and the Sault. The meetings and the overall feedback has been

enthusiastic and positive for a center. Many Sault Tribe elders retain the knowledge we are seeking to understand. They know the story and experiences of our ancestors and it is our hope that this story will be preserved in the center.

The board meetings represent another segment of the tribal population that is going to be asked to fill out surveys about the interpretive center. We will continue to come to the meetings to gather feedback until January. Combined with *The Sault Tribe News* and the tribal Web site, most of our membership should have a chance

to offer information to the project team. This is the first stage of the process of planning a facility that reflects who we were in the past and our identity today as Anishinaabek. With a solid understanding of culture and history, the Sault Tribe interpretive center can leave a legacy for the future generations of our people.

You can help the project team by spending a few moments to fill out this survey. The first half of the survey concerns the makeup of a future interpretive center. These are ideas that the committee has come up with during the course of our meetings. If you

have other suggestions, please include them in the questionnaire. The second part of the survey is a cultural assessment. The cultural department of the tribe is trying to gain an understanding of the cultural knowledge that exists in the Sault Tribe membership. If you could help with that, it will be deeply appreciated.



## New NCAI president

BY ADAM McMULLIN, NCAI

TULSA, Okla.— Joe Garcia, Governor of Ohkay Owingeh (Pueblo of San Juan, N.M.), was elected president of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) on Nov. 3 at the organization's 62nd annual convention.

Garcia has served as NCAI first vice-president since 2003, two terms as San Juan lieutenant governor and two terms as San Juan governor. A community advocate, Garcia serves as a school board chairman and president of TSAY, a tribally owned business.

"We must protect our culture, our people and our language," said Garcia. "One person, one tribe cannot do it as it takes a multitude of power, of organizations, a multitude of spirit and the Indian mind to get us to the next level. We cannot turn over decisions to Congress, the president or state legislatures. We have to do it ourselves, we have to do our part as one nation — the Indian nation. I am committed to lead in this great effort."

"President-elect Garcia will be a great leader for NCAI," said outgoing NCAI President Tex G. Hall. "He has proven to be a successful governor for the San Juan Pueblo and I know that will translate into effective, progressive leadership on the national stage that will benefit Indian people for generations."

Other NCAI election results: Jefferson Keel, lieutenant governor of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, was elected first vice-president; Juana Majel-Dixon of the Pauma Band of Mission Indians of California was re-elected as recording secretary; and W. Ron Allen, chairman of the Jamestown S'Klallam tribe of Washington was re-elected treasurer.

Founded in 1944, the National Congress of American Indians ([www.ncai.org](http://www.ncai.org)) is the oldest, largest and most representative American Indian and Alaska Native organization in the country. NCAI advocates on behalf of more than 250 tribal governments, promoting strong tribal-federal government-to-government policies, and promoting a better understanding among the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people and rights.

### Community input survey for the Ojibwe interpretive center

#### What would your interest be for the following components or activities?

|  | Interest Level |      |      |      |
|--|----------------|------|------|------|
|  | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 1. Teaching lodges                                   | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 2. Traditional teachings                             | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 3. Outdoor amphitheater                              | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 4. Dormitory housing                                 | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 5. Kitchen and food preparation area                 | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 6. Traditional garden                                | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 7. Greenhouse  | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 8. Aviary (Bird sanctuary and rehabilitation center) | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 9. Canoeing and hiking                               | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 10. Indoor amphitheater                              | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 11. Traditional foods eatery                         | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 12. Planetarium                                      | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 13. Traditional and fine arts gallery                | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 14. Gift shop (Tribal crafts and artist promotions)  | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 15. Tribal archives and artifacts preservation       | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 16. Tribal history                                   | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 17. Great Lakes history with tribal theme            | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 18. Cultural division offices                        | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 19. Natural resources department                     | Very high      | High | Some | None |
| 20. Mobile interpretive center                       | Very high      | High | Some | None |

### Cultural assessment

|   | Interest Level |    |            |
|---|----------------|----|------------|
|   | Yes            | No | Don't know |
| 1. Do you have a American Indian name?                          | Yes            | No | Don't know |
| 2. Do you know what clan or dodem you are?                      | Yes            | No | Don't know |
| 3. Do you know the history of the tribe?                        | Yes            | No | Don't know |
| 4. Have you heard the creation story?                           | Yes            | No | Don't know |
| 5. Do you know the history of the Indians of America?           | Yes            | No | Don't know |
| 6. Do you live or follow the Anishinaabe way of life?           | Yes            | No | Don't know |
| 7. Does your family live or follow the Anishinaabe way of life? | Yes            | No | Don't know |
| 8. Do you know of speak Ojibwe?                                 | Yes            | No | Don't know |

#### Have you participated in the following activities?

#### Do you want to learn more about them?

|  | Participated |    | Interest Level |      |       |
|--|--------------|----|----------------|------|-------|
|  | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 1. Harvesting and making maple syrup           | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 2. Making corn soup and fry bread              | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 3. Hunting deer and preparing deer meat        | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 4. Gill netting or trap netting for fish       | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 5. Harvesting birch bark for making baskets    | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 6. Making birch bark baskets                   | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 7. Harvesting ash trees for making baskets     | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 8. Making ash baskets                          | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 9. Harvesting sweetgrass, sage, cedar, etc.    | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 10. Making dance regalia                       | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 11. Dancing in a powwow                        | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 12. Singing or drumming                        | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 13. Making beadwork, jewelry, necklaces, etc.  | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None. |
| 14. Working with porcupine quills, boxes, etc. | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 15. Building a ceremonial fire                 | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 16. Offering semaa                             | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 17. Naming ceremonies                          | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 18. Sweat lodge                                | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 19. Storytelling                               | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 20. Talking circles                            | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 21. Feasting, ghost supper, memorial offering  | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 22. Ojibwe language class                      | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 23. Clan system teachings                      | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |
| 24. Medicine wheel teachings philosophy        | Yes          | No | High           | Some | None  |

Thank you for helping shape and design the Ojibwe interpretive center. Your comments, questions and suggestions are welcomed.

Please return completed survey to:  
**Art Leighton,**  
**Ojibwe interpretive center planner,**  
**206 Greenough,**  
**Sault Ste. Marie, MI, 49783,**  
**(906) 632-7494**

# Young Scholars Program offered to high achievers

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Education Department will be accepting applications for the Young Scholars Program.

The purpose of this program is to recognize the hard work and dedication of our tribe's students in grades six through 12 who have received all A grades or perfect attendance for one or more marking periods.

**Students may apply twice a year, after the first semester and again at the end of the second semester.**

The tribe will be accepting applications for the fall semester of the 2005-06 school year as soon as the first semester is over.

Students will receive an award of \$25 for each marking period in which all A grades or perfect attendance was achieved with a maximum award of \$50 per semester. For eligibility, a student must be an enrolled member of our tribe in grades six through 12 at a public or private school.

All A grades means students must receive some form of an A (A+, A, A-) in all courses for a

marking period. Students in schools grading on a numerical basis must receive the equivalent A grades to qualify. In such cases, please attach a letter stating the school's equivalency with the application.

Qualifications for perfect attendance means students must have been in school or at a school function each day of the marking period with the report stating zero absences. Excused absences do not constitute perfect attendance.

The number of marking periods completed from the start of

the 2004-2005 school year to the application deadline will be used for the lottery in February 2005.

In order to qualify for the Young Scholars Program, the following information must be received by Feb. 24, 2006: A completed application with all parts completed; a copy of the student's report card signed by a parent or a letter from an administrator at the school stating the marking periods for which the student earned all A grades and/or perfect attendance; a copy of the student's Sault Tribe membership

card (If the student doesn't have a card, please call enrollment to request one); a photograph suitable for printing in the tribal newspaper is optional, send a picture you can spare and please write the student's name on the back.

The information can be sent by mail to Sault Tribe, Attn: Jack Kibble, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

All information must be received by 5 p.m. on Feb. 24, 2006.

## Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Young Scholars Program Application form

|                   |     |  |   |
|-------------------|-----|--|---|
| Student's name:   |     | Age:   | Grade:  |
| Address:          |     | City:  |   |
| State:            | Zip | Phone:   | E-mail:   |
| School name:      |     | School phone:  |   |
| School address:   |     | All A grades, number of periods of marking periods for first semester. | Perfect attendance, number of marking periods for first semester. |
| Principal's name: |     | Student's Social Security number: mandatory                            |   |

**Please attach the following:**

1. A copy of the student's report card signed by their parent or a letter from an administrator of their school stating the marking periods for which they have had all A grades and/or perfect attendance, students must be in grades six through 12 to qualify.
2. A copy of the student's Sault Tribe membership card. If the student doesn't have a card, please call enrollment to request one.
3. If a photograph of the student is available which could be used in promotion of the program, please enclose it with the completed application. Please write the student's name on the back of the picture.

I certify that all the information given is true and correct. I understand that this information is being given for the receipt of funds and the Sault Tribe education department officials may verify the information on the application with my child's school. I further give consent for the use of my child's name and likeness for the promotion of this program.

Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail the preceding information to Sault Tribe, Attn: Jack Kibble, Two Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or fax the information to (906) 635-6511.

All information must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Feb. 24, 2005, to be eligible for the program.

## Innovators of our time

The *Smithsonian Magazine* recently chose 35 innovators who make a difference, a contribution, and inspire. Included on that list are Jane Mt. Pleasant.

Among the six nations of the Iroquois, corn, beans and squash have been known as the Three Sisters—gifts from the Creator that grew well together and provided nutritional sustenance.

For more than 30 years, Jane Mt. Pleasant has revitalized interest in the ancient Iroquois tradition of growing food through polyculture, a system where plants grow and flourish together. She has used it to help farmers protect their soil. She has also rescued several varieties of corn

from extinction — the same corn that sustained northeast and Canadian American Indians for centuries.

Mt. Pleasant's blend of Native knowledge and western science gives Americans Indians a strong presence in sustainability science. job opportunities, ethno-education."

Another is Mark Plotkin who published *Tales of a Shaman's Apprentice*, a story of his experiences and a call to preserve nature's pharmacy and undiscovered promise for curing disease. Now in its 25th printing, *Tales* has been translated into five languages and has been adapted into a video, audiotape, children's

Other top innovators named to the Smithsonian list are Wynton Marsalis, Margaret Burbidge, Bill Gates, Richard Leakey, Annie Leibovitz, Clyde Roper, Andy Goldsworthy, Robert Langridge, Daphne Sheldrick, Julie Taymor, Wendell Berry, Edward O. Wilson, John Dobson, Mark Lehner, Sally Ride, Gordon Parks, D.A. Henderson, Renée Fleming, David Attenborough, Tim Berners-Lee, James Watson, Wes Jackson, Yo-Yo Ma, Daniel H. Janzen, Ed Bearss, Frank Gehry, Janis Carter, Maya Angelou, Robert Moses, Douglas Owsley, Chuck Close and Steven Spielberg.

# Get help to meet costs of medicare prescription drug program

BY ED DWYER  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
ADMINISTRATION

There is still time to apply for extra financial help through the new Medicare prescription drug program that goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2006.

These days, many Medicare beneficiaries may be trying to decide which of the Medicare plans to sign up for, since enrollment begins on Nov. 15. But if you have limited income and resources, don't forget to see if you can qualify for extra help to pay for part of the monthly premiums, annual deductibles and prescription co-payments under the new prescription drug program.

That extra help could be worth an average of \$2,100 per year for those who qualify.

Social Security is taking applications now from Medicare beneficiaries who may be eligible for the extra help. To qualify, an individual must have total annual income below \$14,355 and resources limited to \$10,000. The limits for a married couple living together are higher: \$19,245 in combined annual income and \$20,000 in resources. These resources can be slightly higher — an additional \$1,500 per person — if some of the money will be used for burial expenses. Even if your annual income is higher, you still may be able to get some help if you support other family members who live with you; have earnings from work; or live in Alaska or Hawaii.

Some beneficiaries will qualify for the extra financial help

automatically.

Anyone who has both Medicare and Medicaid, or Medicare and Supplemental Security Income, or anyone whose state pays his or her Medicare premiums, will not have to complete an eligibility application.

Also, it is important that all beneficiaries understand that even if they qualify for the extra help, they still need to enroll in a Medicare-approved prescription drug plan to obtain both coverage and the extra help.

It should be noted that enrollment into a Medicare approved prescription drug plan is not done by Social Security. Individuals wishing to enroll in a prescription drug plan must contact the plan directly. Assistance in selecting a prescription drug plan is available by contacting Medicare at 1-800-633-4227 or by using the Medicare website at [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov).

So remember, it is not too late to see if you qualify for some extra help with prescription drug costs. More than three million people have already applied. But if you are not one of them and you think that you might qualify for the extra help, you can complete an online application at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov). Or you can contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) and ask for an application in the mail, or request more information. But the clock is ticking, so do it today, and then enroll in the new Medicare prescription drug program between Nov. 15, 2005 and May 15, 2006.

The next deadline for submissions to *The Sault Tribe News* is Monday, Dec. 5, 2005, at 5 p.m.

# November is Foster Home Recruitment Month



Miigwetch to foster families, helping a lonely child find his way.

At a time of Thanksgiving, Anishnabek Community and Family Services would like to give special thanks to the foster families who care for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indian children in need.

Whose hearts and homes are open to children who are unable to live at home right now.

Children with special needs and require many services. Making your house their temporary home and security.

To those making a difference, remember:

*“One-hundred years from now,  
it will not matter what material wealth or status we  
attained,  
but the world may be different,  
because we were important to the  
life of a child” –Forest Witcraft*

Thank you foster parents!

Those interested in learning more about becoming Sault Tribe foster parents are welcome to call Jeanne McHugh at (906) 341-6993 or 1-800-347-7137.

# Behavioral health program honored



The Anishnabek Community and Family Services team, back row, left to right, Selina McLean, secretary; Debbie Sirk, behavioral health counselor; Dr. Leif LaLone, clinical supervisor; Mike Powers, court specialist; Yvonne Goudreau, behavioral health counselor; Karen Howell, behavioral health counselor; Bob Ruuska, behavioral health counselor; and Candace Worthington, clinical social worker. Center row, left to right, Richard O’Kane, behavioral health director; Phylis Thomas, behavioral health supervisor; Cindy Thomas, behavioral health supervisor; Caryn Royer, secretary; Jennifer LeBlanc, behavioral health counselor; and Angel Peer, secretary. Front row, left to right: Julie Menard, acting mental health technician; Sarah Halvorsen, clinical social worker; Christine McPherson, ACFS director; and Lane Barber, clinical social worker.

The Sault Tribe Behavioral Health Program was recently selected as one of ten “Effective practices and models in communities of color: Effective behavioral health interventions for children, adolescents and families of color” by the First Nations Behavioral Health Association.

In receiving the award, ACFS Director Christine McPherson said, “Our program is unique in that it provides mental health, substance abuse and employee assistance services under the same roof as other social services programs. A social and community healing perspective is critical in addressing multiple needs of our families and children. Over the years we have found this to be most effective in our community and it is gratifying to see the staff recognized at the national level.”

The award recognizes program models or service interventions

that have a track record of proven effectiveness with indigenous children and families and which addresses some aspect of families. The First Nations Behavioral Health Association recognizes programs in order to identify and describe both mainstream and racial and ethnic specific program models or service interventions that have proven effective in addressing behavioral health issues in the American Indian communities.

The First Nations Behavioral Health Association seeks to ensure that effective models are identified and shared with a national audience and to build the capacity of community-based providers of color to document and participate in resource development strategies for effective programs.

## Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

During the month of October 2005, Anishnabek Community and Family Services processed 542 heating assistance applications. Of those applications, 82 percent of them were approved for assistance.

Heating assistance provides a credit with the primary heat vendor for those households eligible for assistance.

Eligibility includes income limits, residency and tribal membership.

First time applicants should bring copies of the household income for the past 12 months, Sault Tribe membership cards for all household members, Social Security cards for all household members and proof of an active account. All documents should be copies, which can be made at all ACFS offices.

If you have not received LIHEAP heating assistance and believe you may be eligible, you may contact the ACFS office serving your county.

Chippewa and Luce counties, can call the office in Sault Ste. Marie at 632-5250 or 1-800-726-0093. Mackinac County can contact the St. Ignace office at 643-8103 or 1-877-444-5608, and Schoolcraft, Delta, Alger and Marquette County residents can contact the Manistique office at 341-6993 or 1-800-347-7137.

**Deadline for submissions to the Christmas issue of *The Sault Tribe News* is 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5.**

## Sault Tribe FY2006 LIHEAP weatherization guidelines

Is the price of heating fuel getting you down? Do you wish you could get more out of your tank of fuel or use less gas?

Anishnabek Community and Family Services wishes to remind Sault Tribe households residing in the tribal service area that they may be eligible for assistance in weatherizing their home.

The goal of weatherization assistance is to improve the heating efficiency of the home, thus reducing the energy burden and reliance on energy assistance programs.

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds may be used for low-cost residential

weatherization or other energy related home repair for low-income households, particularly those low-income households with the lowest incomes who pay a high proportion of household income for home energy.

If you believe your household would benefit from weatherization assistance, please contact ACFS for assistance in applying for services.

Applications are available at ACFS offices in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace and Manistique or can be mailed, please contact ACFS at 632-5250 or 1-800-726-0093.

## Crisis energy assistance available to low income target households January 2 , 2006

Low income target households are defined as those households who are at, or below, 100 percent of poverty and have at least one Sault Tribe member who is and elder (Age 60 or over), disabled (receives SSI or SSD in their own name) or a child aged five years or under.

Low-income target households are eligible to apply using the simple application process in which the household submits their heating assistance approval letter in lieu of an application.

Changes in the household composition, or income, require completion of an application.

Additionally, target households are not required to submit a disconnect notice. A credit will be issued to their account with their primary heating vendor. Those households with disconnect notices should submit the notice to insure that the maximum amount of assistance is provided.

First time applicants will be required to complete an applications with supporting documenta-

tion for the household including Sault Tribe membership cards, Social Security cards, household income for the past 12 months and proof of an active account. All documents should be copies, which can be made at all ACFS offices.

Non-target households are eligible to apply Feb. 1, 2006, and are required to be interviewed by a direct assistance staff member. Non-target households are not eligible to apply directly. The applicant will be asked to provide proof of efforts to prevent the disconnect.

Please contact the ACFS offices in your county for an appointment. Chippewa and Luce counties can call the office in Sault Ste. Marie at 632-5250 or 1-800-726-0093. Mackinac County can contact the St. Ignace office at 643-8103 or 1-877-444-5608, and Schoolcraft, Delta, Alger and Marquette County residents can contact the Manistique office at 341-6993 or 1-800-347-7137.

*Anishnabek Community and Family Services  
Biidaajmowin  
Bringing news from  
ACFS*

## Preserving Our Past

The multi-award winning tribal elder video series “Preserving Our Past”, is now available at a reduced price of \$25 with \$4.95 shipping and handling.

To order your copy, call the tribal video production department at (906) 632-6398.



# 2005 Sault Tribe Youth Leadership Conference

Billed as “The Leaders of Tomorrow Are Here Today — A Conference to Change the Unchangeable,” about 82 young people along with over two dozen presenters met through the weekend of Nov. 18-20 at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center in Sault Ste. Marie for the 2005 Sault Tribe Youth Leadership Conference.

The children heard presentations on drumming, regalia styles, basket crafting, hand drumming, the Seven Grandfathers, clans, education government, community, health and leadership.

The presentations began Friday, Nov. 18 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Breaks in presentations allowed for socialization along with a free time period afterwards just before dinner and a talent show in the Dream Maker’s Theater. Presentations resumed on the following day and later in the evening the children and presenters enjoyed a semi-formal dinner banquet and dance in the theater. The conference concluded at noon on Sunday.

Some of the speakers included American Indian motivational speakers LeAdra Bitsie and

Chance Rush who travel throughout Indian Country to speak to and encourage Indian youth. Local speakers included Bud Biron, Jackie Halfaday-Minton, Ron Paquin, Kat Memegos, Cal Burnside, Cathy Abramson, Lana Causley, William Gravelle, representatives from Sault Tribe programs and services among others.

The students attending the conference came from Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Newberry, Manistique and Hannahville.



Above, Indian Country motivational speaker LeAdra Bitsie, one of the keynote speakers, addresses conference attendees



Unit II board member Lana Causley speaks with students during a break in presentations.



Manistique Tribal Youth Council members, Christin Apps, Nick Smith and Blake Mannisto, all 16, with chaperones from Manistique Roberta and Herbert Weinert.

*Photos by Rick Smith and Al Kamuda*



The founding members of the tribal youth council get together at the 10 year reunion. Left to right, Alan Rabideau, William “Buckshot” Gravelle, Dee Eggert, Dave Houghton, Kim McPherson, Barb Gravelle, Jody Ringuette, Lisa Kerfoot, Laura Collins, Shondra Hominga, Josh Hominga and Chris Goetz



Unit I Representative Cathy Abramson was the program administrator when the tribal youth council started 10 years ago and Alan Rabideau was the youth services coordinator.



Enji-Nadamaageng participants get all dressed up for the youth conference dinner at the Dream Maker’s Theater.

# 2005 annual elders Thanksgiving luncheon



Seventh grader Jaicinna Singh concentrates on the music during the performance.



Seated left to right, Grace MacArthur and Shirley Cameron, along with standing left to right, Grace Flowers, Lorraine Moran and Pauline Hickman gather around Chairperson Aaron Payment at the luncheon.



John Wilkinson conducts the JKL Middle School and Intermediate Orchestras for the elders at the luncheon. Fifty students from JKL Bahweting played a variety of classical and traditional tunes.



In her work, Elder Division Director Holly Kibble shows no favoritism but, at the luncheon, Holly had her favorite elders, mom and dad Emery and Donna Corbiere.



Friends share some old family memories after the luncheon.

Photos by Alan Kamuda

# Expanded skate rental opens at Chi Mukwa



To kick off their expanded skate rental, Chi Mukwa was open for free rental and skating.

Chi Mukwa unveiled their 279 new pairs of rental skates with a free skate and free rental to all patrons. The new Riedell skates were purchased with a grant and replace 10 year old skates.

Due to numerous requests they have had, they have expanded on their smaller hockey skates beginning with 11 juniors. Over the years the trend in this area has been for girls to wear hockey skates, so that meant ordering more hockey skates in all sizes. Their old skates that are in salvageable condition will be redistributed to other areas to use.

Chi Mukwa is open for public skating on Saturday and Sunday from 2:30-4:20 p.m., \$3 for adults and \$2 for students and kids. Skate rental is \$2. Skating and skate rental is free to tribe members.



Tori Gamelin, 5, gets her skates tied up by her grandmother Carol LaMantia.

# A Halloween full of thanks and scares



Viola Neadow from Manistique is presented with a "Thank You for Your Good Help Award" by Chairperson Aaron Payment. Other winners of the "Chi Miigwech Mino-Naadamaageyin Award" were Dorothy Currie from Hessel, Diane Moore and Joanne Carr from the Sault.



An employee costume contest was also held at the "Give Back to the Employees" luncheon. The winners were, left to right, Lisa Bumstead, first place; Cathy Boling, second place; and Kim Pilcher and Nina Plis who as a team took third place.



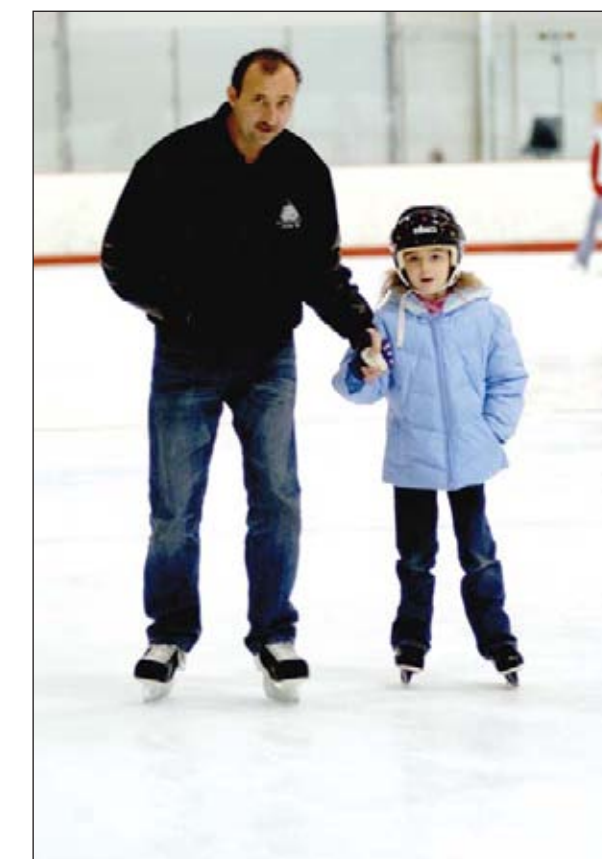
It wasn't a day when only the adults could dress up and play. Here are the winners, all in "Wizard of Oz" attire, from the 0-3 age group at the ninth annual Nightmare on Bear Street Halloween Party at Chi Mukwa Recreation Center. All are shown with their moms, left to right, Jaron Wyma as the scarecrow, Dajon Willis as the lion and Samantha Willis with her pet dog as Dorothy and ToTo,



Matt Merian and Christina Etapa welcomed children into the emergency room at the Nightmare on Bear Street scare maze.

The ninth annual Nightmare on Bear Street was another tremendous success as over 1,500 people showed up for the scary fun at Chi Mukwa.

"We really want to thank all the volunteers who helped us that night," said Zachary Robinson, the assistant events manager. "We could not have done it without the help of the Northern Black Bears, Delta Sigma Phi fraternity, the LSSU cross country and track teams and all the tribal team members."



It was Dana McCauley's first time out this year so she needed a little help from dad, John. The McCauleys came over from Sault Ontario for the free skate.

On Halloween, Oct. 31, 2005, the Sault Tribe Dress Down Committee held a special luncheon for the employees. It was what the dress down committee hopes is the first annual "Give Back to the Employees" luncheon. The committee recognizes just how much Sault Tribe employees contribute to not only our tribal community but to our local communities as well.



# Meet Kewadin Casino's management



**Rick McDowell**



**Alan Bouschor**

**By MICHELLE BOUSCHOR**

In part two of our "Meet the Management" series we look at two additional members of our management team.

The team is comprised of casino management from all sites and is responsible for the overall direction of the facilities.

**Chief Financial Officer Rick McDowell** has over 18 years of experience working with the gaming industry. He has a bachelor's of science degree from Lake Superior State University and worked as a senior accountant with Anderson, Tackman and Co., a local CPA firm, for 10 years before beginning his career with Kewadin Casinos.

During his time spent at Anderson, Tackman and Co., McDowell's work included preparing audits for federal, state and local units of government and tribal casinos. He worked with various tribal gaming operations

including the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians on audits, casino internal control and financial statement preparation.

In 1988, McDowell joined the Kewadin Casino team as a controller for gaming operations. His prior experience working with tribal and gaming businesses proved useful and helped McDowell develop a successful and efficient accounting department.

Rick McDowell was promoted to Kewadin Casino's chief financial officer in 1997, and is responsible for all financial aspects of the casino operations.

**Vice President of Marketing and Sales Alan Bouschor** has 11 years of gaming experience working with Kewadin Casinos. He earned a bachelor's of science degree in business administration from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point in 1995.

Bouschor worked part-time for

various tribal businesses before embarking on his gaming career in 1994 as an assistant manager..

In 1997, Bouschor became the vice president of marketing and sales. In this position, he was responsible for the management and direction of all marketing activities in addition to the oversight of the convention sales department, group sales department, player development and executive services, and entertainment department for five Kewadin Casino properties. In 2003, Bouschor accepted the responsibility of oversight of Kewadin Casinos Hotel, located on-site at the Sault Ste. Marie casino location. This hotel property includes 320 well-appointed rooms, pool, sauna, whirlpool and workout room.

After a restructuring of the organization in 2005, Bouschor began to direct his efforts on the marketing, player development and executive services departments. He works with his team on a variety of projects including the planning and implementation of all marketing events, promotions and tournaments, a new one to one direct mail program, web development, customer service projects, Northern Rewards Club improvement and executive services for all five casino properties.

Bouschor is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

# More ways to win millions at Kewadin Casinos



The new eMillions Gold Seeker slot machine

The highly anticipated eMillions™ slot machines will make their way into Kewadin Casinos this month. Kewadin will be the first casino in the Midwest to feature the revolutionary eMillions machines.

"This roll out is very exciting for us," Slot Director Dave Kucharczyk said. "We signed a contract for the 13 eMillions machines at the industry's largest trade show, the Global Gaming Expo, in Las Vegas last month. They are some of the hottest machines out there and they feature many new advances which are a benefit for our customers."

The eMillions, manufactured by Atronic, is a thrilling new nickel wide area progressive that gives every player the chance to become a millionaire. Playing max bet qualifies players to win the \$1,000,000 plus jackpot and playing less than max bet still offers the opportunity to win the 1,000,000 plus credit jackpot. The unique Jackpot Re-spin™ feature rewards players who bet more.

Wide area progressive machines often have larger jackpots for players to win. These machines are linked throughout a network area including other casinos across the country. Each time a coin is played in a linked machine anywhere in the network, the cumulative jackpot grows and continues to build until it is won.

The addition of the eMillions machines will bring the total slot machines Kewadin offers to nearly 2,000 at all five casino locations. Machines that will be featured in the eMillions circuit include African Riches™, Gold Seekers™ and Fantasy Forest™.

The eMillions is a subset of the e-motion™ game group which has been leading the market for the "new age of video" ergonomic and technically advanced slot machines designed to attract play, build player loyalty and generate significant revenue. Unique and eye-catching frame lights, dual TFT screens, and ergonomic cabinet design, including the patent-

protected height adjustable playfield, first in the industry, captivate players and operators alike. The supporting Hi(!)bility™ platform enhances e-motion's exciting design with more interactive games, sophisticated new gaming concepts, and compatibility with future technology.

The ATRONIC Group of companies, a leading global provider of casino games and services, is headquartered in Germany. The group companies Atronic International, Atronic Americas and Atronic Systems maintain offices in the USA, Europe, Russia, Latin America, South Africa and Australia. ATRONIC is dedicated to producing only the highest quality of entertaining games and products, including dynamic casino management and linked gaming solutions which are being operated in 84 countries worldwide. ATRONIC holds a total of 190 worldwide gaming licenses including the United States of America, where it is licensed to sell machines in 24 states and to 140 tribes.

ATRONIC is a member of the Gaming Standards Association and supports open industry standards such as Best of Breed and System to System.

ATRONIC is part of the family-owned and operated GAUSELMANN Group which entered into an alliance with GTECH Holdings Corporation, a NYSE listed American company who acquired a 50 percent controlling equity interest in ATRONIC on Dec. 6, 2004. The transaction, which is contingent upon regulatory and gaming license approvals, is expected to be completed on Dec. 31, 2006.

The family-owned and operated GAUSELMANN Group, which has sold two million gaming devices since inception, is the second largest manufacturer of gaming devices worldwide. To find out more information about ATRONIC please visit the Web site at [www.atronic.com](http://www.atronic.com).

**GOOD  
NEWS  
FROM**



*The race is on at the Kewadin Shores Resort in St. Ignace . . .*

Construction work at the new Kewadin Casino facility in St. Ignace is progressing at an exceptional rate! Crews are working on closing in all areas of the building in order to heat and work on the inside of the structure during the winter months. Over 80 workers are currently on location, 50 percent of which are Sault Tribe members.

Pictured above is the entrance way which connects the new 81 room hotel which overlooks the picturesque Horseshoe Bay, in the background, to the casino floor, on the left.

Siding and painting on the casino side of the new facility is nearly complete. Once this is done, work will begin on the inside of the casino floor. This new gaming space will include 26 Vegas style table games, 20 keno seats, a poker room, keno, and 800 slots. For more on how human resources is preparing for the opening of the St. Ignace Resort, please see the related story on page 22.

Photo by Alan Kamuda

**Norma "Pat" Black** walked on last Oct. 3 in Battle Creek, Mich.

She was the great-great-granddaughter of Peter John Beaver, great-granddaughter of Angeline (nee Beaver) and Norman Williams, granddaughter of Mary (nee Williams) Loiselle and daughter of Alice "Annis" (nee Mercier) and Walter Ray Robbins.

Pat was a member of our tribe since 1976. Born June 7, 1931, near Curtis, she spent her life in Michigan.

She retired after 30 years with Ford Motor Credit Corporation in Lansing, becoming area manager.

She is survived by her son, John L. Black III; daughter, Valerie (Brian) Kewley; granddaughter, Sarah Ruth Kewley; and sisters, Edwina (Richard) Randall and Wenona (nee Lucus) Hess.

Pat enjoyed life to the fullest and never complained. We mourn her passing and miss her and her generous love. She was a member of St. Joseph Church and supported the school and activities her granddaughter attends. God rest her soul.

**Steven M. Brown** of Kinchloe passed away at Tendercare Nursing Home on Oct. 29, 2005. He was born in Ann Arbor, Mich., on July 21, 1983, to

Benjamin and JoAnn (nee Miller) Brown.

Steve enjoyed attending school and riding the bus. He especially loved camping with his family where he tended the campfire and swam in the lakes.

Surviving Steven M. Brown are his mother, JoAnn Brown; his step-father, Johnny Brown; his brother, James L. Miller; his step-brother, Benjamin Brown; and his step-sisters, Shelly, Tammy and Crystal Brown.

Preceding him in death are his father, Benjamin Brown, and his sister, Barbara Miller.

Visitation was tribal ceremonial building Nov. 2. Traditional services were Nov. 3. Burial will take place at Lakeview Cemetery in Kinross.

Arrangements were in the care of Hovie Funeral Home.

**June Theresa Ouellette**, 75, died on Aug. 9, 2005, with her son, Vince, by her side at the Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette. She was born on Feb. 1, 1930 in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to the late Francis and Marie (nee Kelly) King.

She graduated from high school in Sault Ste. Marie and then from Mercy School of Nursing.

June married Theodore Howard Ouellette on June 13, 1953. They were married for over

45 years when Ted preceded her in death on March 12, 1999.

June worked as a nurse for St. Lawrence Hospital in Lansing, Munising Memorial Hospital (both the old and new), the Superior Health Haven, LMAS Health Department and then for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

June was a nurse by profession and she lived her entire life with compassion, generosity and caring for others. She graciously opened her home to friends, family and people in the community. June was truly loved by all who knew her.

She was a member of the Sacred Heart Catholic Church, St. Bridget's Circle of Sacred Heart, the National Catholic Society of Foresters and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

June enjoyed playing the piano, card games with her girlfriends, gardening, sewing, baking, knitting and spending time with family and friends.

In her early 60s, June began showing early signs of Alzheimer's disease. Her children are grateful for the outpouring of assistance people in the community gave to June during her time of need.

June is survived by three daughters, Karen Ouellette of Valdez, Alaska, Yvonne Ouellette of Caledonia, Mich. and Maria

Ouellette of Mason, Mich.; two sons and daughters-in-law, Larry and Robin Ouellette of Wasilla, Alaska and Vince Ouellette and Vicky Ballas of Munising; nine grandchildren; brother, Clark King of Sault Ste. Marie; sister, Jacqueline Lee of Sault Ste. Marie; brothers-in-laws and sisters-in-law, Claude Ouellette, Richard (Carol) Ouellette, Mary King, Kay King and Marilyn King; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her brothers, Jack, Gene, Raymond, William, Gerald and Francis.

Friends called at the Bowerman Funeral Home in Munising and a parish vigil service was conducted on Aug. 14. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at the Sacred Heart Church on Aug. 15. Interment was at the Maple Grove Cemetery.

Memorials in memory of June may be made to the Jacobetti Home for Veterans, the Marquette-Alger Alzheimer's Association or the Sacred Heart Church.

**Lauretta Sliger**, 93, of Trout Creek, died on Nov. 1, 2005, at her home. She was born on June 19, 1912, in Trout Creek, daughter of the late Henry and Mary (nee Garrick) Aslin.

She married Fred Sliger on Nov. 3 1928, in Crystal Falls. He

preceded her in death on July 31, 1969.

Lauretta was a cook at the Trout Creek School for 15 years and cooked at the First Presbyterian Point Bible Camp for many years.

She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Trout Creek and served on the church board for many years. She was also a member of the Trombley-Polkas American Legion Auxiliary in Trout Creek, the Henry Hendrickson VFW Auxiliary in Covington and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Survivors include her daughter, Nancy Aho of Iron River; four sons, Bill (Myra) and Fred (Priscilla) of Trout Creek, Charlie of Covington and Jack (JoAnn) of Juneau, Alaska; 17 grandchildren, 49 great-grandchildren; and a step-brother, Jack (Jeanette) Staff of Ewan. She was preceded in death by a daughter, Mary Margaret; a great-grandson, Bradley; and a brother, George.

Funeral services were held on Nov. 5 at the First Presbyterian Church in Trout Creek with Dawn Treado officiating. Interment was in the Trout Creek Cemetery.

The Wandersee Funeral Home in Bruce Crossing was in charge of arrangements.

SECTION 00020

## ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is given hereby that

### SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

Will be accepting Bids for Construction / Renovation / Retrofit of the former Lincoln School for a:

### NEW MUNISING TRIBAL COMMUNITY CENTER

According to drawings and specifications as prepared by the Architect, Goudreau & Associates, Inc., and described in general as:

#### I. DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK:

Renovation of an existing 21,000 GSF, 3 story early 1900 school building. Renovation to convert existing GSF into offices and services for Elder Services, Health Services, Medical Services, Social Services and Traditional Medicine on an existing site located at 615 W. Munising Avenue (M-28), Munising, Michigan. Work shall include site development, architectural, structural, mechanical, and electrical trades.

#### II. CONSTRUCTION PHASING: (Not Used)

#### III. TYPES OF PROPOSALS:

Proposals for the above work will be received in the following trade areas:

|       |   |   |
|-------|---|---|
| S & A | - | Site work Trades / Architectural Trades                               |
| F & W | - | Flooring & Window Treatments  |
| M     | - | Mechanical Trades   |
| E     | - | Electrical Trades   |
| FP    | - | Fire Protection   |
| TC    | - | Temperature Controls  |
| TAB   | - | Test and Balance  |
| C     | - | Combined Proposal for Above Trades (S & A, F & W, M, E, FP, TC & TAB) |

The awarded contractors in each of the above trade areas will have their contracts assigned to the awarded Architectural Trades Contractor. The Owner will then enter into a single contract with the architectural trades contractor who shall be the General Contractor for the project.

#### IV. ALTERNATE / ALLOWANCES:

All contractors, subcontractors, sub-subcontractors and suppliers shall acquaint themselves with Section 01021, Cash Allowances, and 01030, Alternates, under Division 1, General Requirements, of the Contract Documents.

#### V. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS:

The Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will receive sealed bid proposals until 2 p.m., local time, December 29, 2005 at the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Administration Building in Sault Ste Marie, Michigan at which time all proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud. Proposals received after the specified time will not be accepted and shall be returned to the bidder unopened.

Sealed bid proposals must be on the forms furnished by the Architect and be accompanied by a bid bond from an authorized surety company or certified check in the amount of 5% of the bid proposal submitted. Bid Breakdown and USDA Rural Development (RD) forms indicated in the specifications are also required with the submission of the bid.

#### VI. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS:

Contract Documents (Project Manual, Plans and Technical Specifications) may be obtained at the office of the Architect: Goudreau & Associates, Inc., 131 South Main Street, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan 48858, and will be on file on and after November 29, 2005 and may be examined at the following locations:

Builders Exchange in Marquette, Escanaba, Iron Mountain, Grand Rapids, Saginaw, Lansing, & Traverse City, MI.

Dodge Reports in Flint, Grand Rapids, & Lansing, MI.

Goudreau & Associates, Inc., 131 S. Main Street, Mt. Pleasant MI 48858

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Administration Building, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783

A check in the amount of \$150.00, payable to Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, must be submitted by Prime Bidders as a deposit for each set of plans and specifications, same to be refunded to prime bidders submitting proposals upon return of plans and specifications in good condition within ten (10) days of the opening of bids. Maximum per contractor - two (2) sets on a deposit basis.

Plans may be obtained by subcontractors, sub-sub contractors and suppliers at the cost of reproduction and handling, \$150.00 (non-refundable). Prime Contractors may obtain sets beyond the second set at cost of reproduction and handling, \$150.00 (non-refundable).

#### VII. PRE-BID CONFERENCE:

A Pre-Bid Conference will be conducted at 1:30 p.m. on December 13, 2005 in the American Legion 1 Building directly across from the site. Questions and discussions will be entertained regarding the bidding process, construction phasing, Owner occupancy, site conditions, and any other matters that are of interest. The Owner will also provide a tour of the existing site. It is highly recommended that any contractor or subcontractor submitting a proposal attend. Failure to do so will constitute material non-compliance with the bid conditions.

#### VIII. ACCEPTANCE OF PROPOSALS:

Substantial completion date for this project shall be as indicated under the Supplemental Conditions, Section 00800.

The Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians reserves the right to accept and/or reject any or all bid proposals and to waive any and all informalities and/or irregularities in bid proposal submitted. This right shall be exercised at the sole discretion of the Owner. The Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will make award as may appear to be in the best interest of the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.



# International indigenous news



"The old people must start talking and the young people must start listening." — Thomas Banyacya, Hopi Visit [www.nativevillage.org](http://www.nativevillage.org)

COMPILED BY RICK SMITH

## An unburied treasure

NEW YORK — Recent storms have uncovered an important early American Indian burial site in Riverhead. The site appeared after the Peconic River bank was eroded by heavy rains and high waves. It contained bones from at least two people buried from 800 BC to 800 AD and artifacts including bowl fragments and a pipe. "There was an exquisite ceramic pipe that was nearly perfect and had very interesting geometric detail on it," said archaeologist David Thompson. "It was obviously used, it had burn marks on it. It was about four inches long." The bones have been turned over to a forensic anthropologist for examination.

— *Newsday, Inc.*

## What is the origin of democracy?

NEW YORK — Ask a non-Indian historian where American democracy was born and you'll hear answers like Philadelphia, Boston or the Mayflower. Ask Oren Lyons and he'll direct you to the Haudenosaunee, who are also called Iroquois' or Six Nations.

"Columbus and the Conquistadors didn't bring democracy, neither did the Mayflower," Lyons said. "Democracy was here in America. Freedom, democracy, women's rights, suffrage and peace were all here."

The Haudenosaunee revere a prophet called the Peacemaker. Centuries ago, he gathered their ancestors together on the shores of Onondaga Lake to halt the warfare between them and create the world's first democratic government. The resulting "Great Law of Peace" bound the Cayuga, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga and Seneca nations, and later the Tuscarora, into a powerful and prosperous confederacy.

"The Six Nations were involved in all land-based meetings in the Northeast during colonial times," Lyons said. "We set the protocol and showed the Europeans how to have a meeting — no interruptions, listen to each other, define the issues, one speaker at a time."

Lyons cited a 1744 meeting in Lancaster, Penn., involving four colonial governors and the leaders of the six Haudenosaunee nations. At that gathering an Onondaga chief told the governors that their colonies "would never amount to much" if they did not unite as the Haudenosaunee had done. Notes of the meeting were sent to Philadelphia where Benjamin Franklin published them, and many of the Haudenosaunee ways became part of the U.S. Constitution.

In October of 1988, both the U.S. Senate and the House of Representatives passed resolutions that, "acknowledge the contribution made by the Iroquois Confederacy and other Indian nations to the formation and development of the United States" and "reaffirm the constitutionally recognized government-to-government relationship with Indian tribes."

Read The Constitution of the Iroquois Nation.

— *American Indians News Source*

## Old-world wars brought death, slavery into Florida

Florida — The colonial American Southeast, especially Georgia and Florida, had something Europeans couldn't live without — deerskins for the European middle class.

Deerskin was used for work pants and aprons, shoes, saddles, saddlebags, tackle, harness, bookbinding and coverings for seats and luggage. Ships leaving Charleston in the early 1700s were ferrying 54,000 deerskins a year to Europe. By the 1740s and 1760s, the annual cargoes topped 152,000 skins.

Historian James Axtell writes, "The best hunters were the Muskogee or Creeks of Alabama and Georgia." It was during this period the Seminoles of Florida evolved.

The American Revolution between the British and American colonists made refugees of many of the natives and resulted in "community creation," especially in Florida. Refugees built new lives and new towns, often creating one large community composed of several villages.

The Seminoles would surface in the open land of Florida, one of the sanctuaries — or "renegade strongholds" — for Indians, loyal British citizens and escaped African slaves. Seminoles practiced a form of slavery and adoption that replaced warriors killed in battles with captured enemies. In this way, Seminoles accepted Africans and natives from many tribes.

— *Orlando Sentinel*

## Evidence grows about Trail of Tears

North Carolina — In 1838, the United States evicted

3,000 Cherokees from southwestern North Carolina.

Thousands of men, women and children were ordered to leave for unknown lands to the West. Many people died along the way. That dark chapter in U.S. history came to be known as the Trail of Tears.

Today, using shovels and aged government ledgers, a University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill archaeologist, Brett Riggs, has unearthed remains of 30 Cherokee farms in Clay, Cherokee and Graham counties and located remnants of roads the Cherokees followed on their Trail of Tears. His work is evidence that old North Carolina roads should be included on the official Trail of Tears map, the commemorative route being established by the National Park Service.

Currently, the roads extend only as far east as Tennessee. To Riggs, his discoveries more importantly restore a displaced people — at least on paper — to their land, a place where their ancestors lived and died for at least 1,000 years.

"We have to be realistic about the history," Riggs said. "This was ethnic cleansing, in America."

— *American Indian Listserve*

## Report's findings not accepted by Inuit leader

Arctic — For years the Inuit have accused the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and the federal government of killing more than 20,000 sled dogs between 1950 and 1980. The killings were meant to keep Inuit off the land, thus destroying their traditional way of life.

But a recent report by the RCMP denies the slaughter happened. They say they have found no evidence of a sanctioned slaughter of Inuit sled dogs in the eastern Arctic and the only dogs killed were sick or dangerous to the community.

But the Qikiqtani Inuit Organization says the report is one-sided because the RCMP is doing an investigation on itself. "I'm not really surprised on the content," said Terry Audla, the group's executive director. "We were more or less expecting the type of information that was in the report." Audla says the QIA wants a judicial inquiry into the alleged dog killings. "What that would do from both sides, gather all the information and make sense of it all," he said.

— *RCMP Interim Report: Review of Allegations*

## Nisqually elder reflects on 60 years of fighting for salmon

Washington — It's been 60 years since Billy Frank's first arrest for catching salmon on the Nisqually River. He was 14 and doing what his father, his grandfather and generations of Nisqually tribe members had done for centuries. Since then, Frank has been fighting for both his people and the salmon.

"In my estimation, he's the functional equivalent of Martin Luther King, Jr. for African-American people or Cesar Chavez for Hispanic people," said David Nicandri, director of the Washington State History Museum.

The struggle went on for years as Northwest tribes fought for their traditional fishing rights guaranteed in their treaties.

In 1974, U.S. District Judge George Boldt affirmed the nation's obligation to honor the treaties, and the U.S. Supreme Court upheld Boldt five years later. "One of Frank's great lines is about it taking so many talents and pooling of efforts to get things done," Nicandri said. "He'll say, 'You need the policy people, the scientists — and you need the getting-arrested guy, and I was the getting-arrested guy.'"

Today, Billy Frank is chairman of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, a coalition of salmon-treaty tribes. "So here we are today, still trying to implement the Boldt decision, still trying to implement the recovery of salmon," Frank said.

— *Associated Press*

## Secwepemec elder and youth honored for addressing the United Nations

British Columbia — Indigenous peoples across Canada never gave up their nationhood and their right to self-determination. Recently, elder Irene Billy and Skaucis Manuel from the Secwepemec Nation returned from Switzerland after speaking to the United Nations about Canada's human rights records. Both lobbied to recognize indigenous rights and condemn Canada's policies that undermine those rights.

Manuel said, "Canada is basically saying we are a domesticated peoples. However, I argue that Canada actually is totally disrupting the national unity of indigenous peoples and the territorial integrity of our lands. Canada

occupies our territory."

Irene Billy, herself, has been arrested at Sun Peaks Ski Resort because she refused to leave her Skwelkwek'welt territory to protect it from development. "As indigenous peoples we have the right to decide what happens in our territories and no development can happen without our prior informed consent," she said.

During the discussion, they were addressed by U.N. Committee Member Rajsoomer Lallah, who said, "We know that you are people and have all those rights!"

— *Gathering Place, First Nation's Canadian News*

## Leaders of feuding tribes break bread together

Arizona — In a historical appearance, the leaders of two tribes with long-standing disagreements say unity is important for the future.

Hopi Tribal Chairman Wayne Taylor joined Navajo leaders, including President Joe Shirley, during the 37th annual Western Navajo Fair in Arizona.

Saying that hundreds of people may have both Hopi and Navajo ancestry, Taylor and Shirley said they would shoulder any criticism for their joint appearance. But no one criticized, instead, both received cheers and applause when they showed up, on horseback, to travel the parade route together. The two tribal leaders also attended a luncheon together and later went to the fourth annual Tuuvi gathering in Moencopi Village. The primary source of friction has been the Navajo-Hopi land dispute. The disagreement began in 1882 when President Chester A. Arthur issued the Executive Order giving 2,400,000 acres to the Hopi "and other such Indians as the Secretary of the Interior may see fit to settle upon."

The Navajo had interpreted the phrase "other such Indians" as including them. But the Hopi believe the phrase does not specifically mean the Navajo. The recent meeting between Taylor and Shirley was the first time since the early 1980s that Navajo and Hopi leaders spent time together socially.

— *Indigenous News Digest*

## Land claimed signed, sealed and delivered

Yukon — The Carcross-Tagish First Nation has become the 11th in the territory to officially sign a land claim deal. The land claim, which takes effect in January, 2006, gives the Carcross-Tagish more than 1,500 square kilometers of traditional land. The Nation will also receive close to \$50,000,000 over the next 15 years. The deal comes after years of negotiations and two separate votes.

— *Canadian Broadcasting Corporation*

## Colombian tribes seek to return to lost roots

Columbia — By returning to their roots, Colombian tribes are receiving hefty government aid to preserve indigenous culture. For those on the impoverished Kankuamo reservation, their reason to save their language and culture is not about money but "survival," said Jaime Arias, chief of the 12,000-strong Kankuamo tribe. By 1900, anthropologists referred to the Kankuamo as a mixed-race tribe. Then, in 1991, a new constitution granted indigenous peoples some autonomy, land rights, their own judicial and administrative systems and cultural aid packages to help preserve their way of life. This prompted the Kankuamos to dress in tribal garb, revive their language and chewing coca leaves, a tribal custom dating back 5,000 years. Six years later, the Kankuamos were officially recognized as an ethnic tribe — one of 94 groups totaling 800,000 people, or about two percent of Colombia's population. Although no one is fluent in the tribe's ancient language, tribe members are compiling a dictionary based on conversations with tribal elders and books from the days of Spanish rule.

— *American Indian Listserve*

## Chairman donates large chunk of salary to tribal charities

Montana — Chippewa-Cree tribal Chairman John "Chance" Houle will donate \$20,000 of his 2006 salary to goodwill events and projects on the Rocky Boy's Reservation. Houle, who was elected last November, said he will split the money four ways. Roughly \$12,000 will go to the annual Thanksgiving basket giveaway. In addition, \$5,000 will be donated to the Chippewa-Cree Youth Rodeo in August, another \$2,500 will go to the Senior Citizens Recreation fund and \$500 is pledged to the Sundance Chief.

— *Great Fall Tribune*

# New Constitution amendment project

--Continued from page 1

## Benefits of a Revised Constitution

A strong well-written Constitution can expand a tribe's sovereignty and jurisdiction while protecting the rights and freedoms of the people.

Benefits can include:

- Strengthen sovereignty and power.
- Clarify the roles of each branch of government.
- Remove outdated BIA supervision over the tribe's internal affairs.
- Delete inappropriate references to federal and state law.
- Simplify the process for the tribe to pass laws.
- Improve the tribal court system, when appropriate.
- Increase stability within the tribe's government.
- Reduce the potential for recall abuse and election fraud.
- Clarify enrollment and membership rules.
- Strengthen the tribe's bargaining power over state governments.
- Guarantee the rights and freedoms of the people.

## Constitution Workshop

On Nov. 1, 2005, the board of directors held a Constitution workshop conducted by two American Indian attorneys, Richard A. Monette (Turtle Mountain Chippewa) and Robert Lyttle (Cheyenne-Arapaho). Both attorneys have years of experience assisting numerous tribes with constitutional reform projects.

Monette currently serves as a tenured law professor at the University of Wisconsin College of Law. Previously, Monette has served as a staff attorney with the Indian affairs committee, first for Vice Chairman Senator Evans and later for the chairman, Senator Inouye, and has served as director of legislative affairs for the BIA in Washington, D.C., during Ada Deer's administration. He has also been elected twice as chairman of the Turtle Mountain Tribe.

Lyttle has practiced law for over 17 years representing Indian tribes in a variety of matters including gaming compact negotiation, casino development, governmental affairs and constitutional reform. Previously, Lyttle has served as an adjunct professor at Arizona State University College of Law. His law practice has focused on the area of constitutional reform for tribes.

The board of directors has asked the attorneys to assist the tribe with this important project. Initially, the board has directed the attorneys to conduct a Constitution workshop in each unit for members of our tribe.

## Constitution workshops and informational meetings will be held in each unit

### Unit V

Marquette/Christmas/Munising  
Dec. 14, 2005

Location to be announced  
5 to 9 p.m.

### Unit IV

Manistique  
Dec. 15, 2005

Manistique Community Center  
5 to 9 p.m.

### Unit III

St. Ignace  
Dec. 20, 2005

Location to be announced  
5 to 9 p.m.

### Unit II

Hessel

Dec. 16, 2005

Hessel Community Center  
5 to 9 p.m.

Detroit

Dec. 17, 2005

Location to be announced  
5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

### Unit I

Sault Ste. Marie  
Dec. 19, 2005

Kewadin Convention Center  
5 to 9 p.m.

Workbooks will be provided.  
Refreshments will be served.

## Constitution committee

The board of directors has determined that a new committee should be formed to direct this important project. The committee's job will be to develop proposed amendments to the Constitution to be placed before the voters.

## Four-Step appointment process

The committee will be comprised of 29 members of the tribe representing diverse backgrounds and life-experiences. Committee members will be selected using three methods:

### Step 1:

#### Board of directors nominations Thirteen tribe members

Each member of the board nominates four tribe members to serve as committee members. Nominations should include basic information on each nominee. Thirteen committee members will be selected by a neutral party based on each list of four candidates nominated by board members. Attorneys Monette and Lyttle will select one tribe member from each group of four; emphasis will be placed on selecting individuals with diverse backgrounds, locales and life-experiences. The deadline for board nomination of committee members is Dec. 30, 2005.

### Step 2:

#### General public Eight tribe members

Eight committee members will be selected by a neutral party from a pool of tribe members who have indicated their interest in serving on the committee in response to a newspaper announcement. Basic information will be requested from each interested person. Attorneys Monette and Lyttle will select eight tribe members from the pool of candidates; emphasis will be placed on selecting individuals with diverse backgrounds, locales, and life-experiences. The deadline for committee member sign-up from the general public is Jan. 6, 2006 (See sign-up process below).

### Step 3:

#### Constitution convention Eight tribe members

Eight committee members will be selected by the adult members of the tribe voting at a Constitution convention on Jan. 14, 2006. (Location and details to be announced). The deadline for selection of committee members at the Constitution convention is Jan. 14, 2006.

### Step 4:

#### Ratification and approval of the Constitution committee

#### Twenty nine tribe members

After 29 tribe members are selected using the three methods listed above, the board of directors will formally ratify and approve the appointment of the new constitution committee. If the board of directors takes no action within 30 days of the convention, then the 29 members selected for the new committee will be automatically approved in accordance with a resolution adopted by the board.

#### Summary of the four-step appointment process for the constitution committee

- Thirteen tribe members will be selected by a neutral party based on four nominations from each board member.
- Eight tribe members will be selected by a neutral party from a pool of tribe members who signed-up for the committee.
- Eight tribe members will be selected by the voters of the tribe who attend the Constitution convention.
- The board of directors ratifies and approves the appointment of the new Constitution committee.
- Total: Twenty-nine tribe members on the new Constitution

committee.

## Committee process

The committee will be asked to use simple rules of procedure to conduct business. The rules include requirements for advanced notice of each meeting, an agenda, minutes and orderly debate. The committee will be asked to reach decisions by consensus or, if necessary, by a majority vote. The rules will require all committee meetings to be held in public and tribe members must be permitted to attend committee meetings.

Constitutions are documents of compromise. With over 30,000 members of the tribe, there will likely never be 100 percent agreement on any issue. The committee will be asked to reach agreement on critical governmental issues facing the tribe and it is likely that compromise will be required to bridge differences of opinion.

The committee will be asked to hold public hearings on their proposals before any final recommendations are made. The committee will be asked to issue periodic updates on the progress of their work.

## Guiding principals

The project is designed to let the people of the tribe develop and vote on proposed amend-

ments to the Constitution. The Constitution is a document for all the people and the whole tribe. The board of directors has agreed to take steps to stay neutral in the project, to try to keep "politics" out of the project and to allow the people to develop proposed amendments to the Constitution.

The project is a serious matter and any changes to the Constitution could last for many years. The current Constitution has been in place for 30 years.

## Approval process

Once proposed amendments to the Constitution are developed, the committee will forward their recommendations to the board of directors. According to the terms of the 1975 Constitution, the board of directors must ask the BIA to hold a special election, called a "Secretarial election," for the voters to make a final decision on any proposed amendments.

## Voters have the final say

Any decisions reached by the committee will not be final until approved by the voters of the tribe. The voters will make the final decision on any amendments to the Constitution.

## Sign-up for the new Constitution committee, open to all members of our tribe

I want to serve on the new Constitution committee. I am an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

I am listed in the following unit:                      My age is:                      \_\_\_\_\_

|                  |       |       |          |
|------------------|-------|-------|----------|
| Sault Ste. Marie | _____ | _____ | under 18 |
| St. Ignace       | _____ | _____ | 19 to 29 |
| Manistique       | _____ | _____ | 30 to 39 |
| Christmas        | _____ | _____ | 40 to 49 |
| Hessel           | _____ | _____ | 50 to 60 |
|                  |       |       | over 60  |

Brief personal statement (Feel free to include information on your background, occupation, education and significant life-experiences. Attach extra pages if necessary).

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I want to serve on the Constitution committee because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Submit this form or a letter or interest to:

Candace Blocher, coordinator  
Constitution amendment project  
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians  
523 Ashmun Street  
Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783  
Tel: (906) 635-6050  
Fax: (906) 632-6587  
E-mail: cblocher@saulttribe.net

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT THIS FORM OR A LETTER OF INTEREST: Jan. 6, 2006, at 5 p.m.**

## Sault Tribe and team member holiday special

Once again we would like to say thank you to all Sault Tribe members and team members this holiday season.

To express our appreciation for your business throughout the year, we are offering a special rate during this holiday time. You owe it to yourself to put aside an evening to relax.

Starting Nov. 20, 2005, through Dec. 30, 2005, we are offering the following special rates.

Standard room, any day of the week, \$31 plus tax.

Whirlpool room, Sunday through Thursday, \$45 plus tax; Friday-Saturday, \$57 plus tax.

Suite room, Sunday through Thursday, \$55 plus tax; Friday

and Saturday, \$73 plus tax.

\$15.00 Kewadin gold voucher for those who qualify.

The above rates are based on double occupancy and availability. Additional cost for each additional guest. When making your reservation state you're a Sault Tribe member or a team member. Upon check-in you must show your Sault Tribe card or team member badge.

We look forward to serving you!

Happy holidays from Kewadin Casino Lakefront Inn, 1131 North State Street. St. Ignace, Mich., 49781. Phone (906) 643-8411. Fax (906) 643-8924. Reservations 800-322-8411.

## --From our mailbag--

### Scholar's thanks

To the editor,

I am writing this letter to express my gratitude and appreciation for the scholarship I have been chosen to receive. I would have loved to thank all of you in person but I am in Arizona. I hope everyone involved in this decision will read this letter.

This award will help me to concentrate on school and not worry so much about paying bills. I am a single mother and being able to put my whole effort into school is vital to me.

I would also like to thank the board for believing in me and helping me to obtain my goals and eventually help others.

I am currently getting A grades in all of my classes and I plan to keep it that way and achieve honors status.

Again, thank you for believing in me, I won't let you down. Sincerely,

—**Maya Goeman**

### Family pride

To the editor,

Dearest mother, Dalinda, and little sister, Charlene,

We just wanted to express how proud we are of you both. Your golfing talents far exceed anything we could ever dream of when it comes to the sport!

Mom, we never get tired of hearing your stories of league and competition and you really

proved it this year at tournament time. Not only were you and your daughter, Charlene, the only women's team out there, you beat two out of your four brother's at your father's memorial tournament, the John Causley Sr. Memorial Tournament. He would be so proud!

We know it is a sport you hold close to your heart. Spending weekends on the course with him in the last four years of his life. What a privilege that had to be to learn from such a gifted golfer! And now you have obviously passed this on to your youngest daughter.

Charlene, how you have grown and blossomed into a beautiful young woman. You have overcome such obstacles in this past year. From your life-threatening thyroid disease to become MVP of the Cedarville High School golf team and more recently head junior female dancer at the Hessel Powwow, what honors.

Hold your heads high, dearest mom and little sister, you deserve to be recognized and celebrated!

With love and the greatest admiration and respect,

—**Sara Collins-Archer, Duluth, Minn.**

—**Michelle Collins, Corpus Christi, Texas**

—**Angelina Causley-Guerra, Hessel, Mich.**

# Employment office gears up for Kewadin Shores openings

SUBMITTED BY LYNN TROZZO

"Full speed ahead," says the management team of Kewadin Casinos and human resources, to go ahead and gear up for the expansion and new site opening in May 2006. We cannot get started soon enough on this massive type of hiring for St. Ignace and we are now on the time-line to get things going.

We have speculated and forecast that in order to open up the new site in May, we will be looking to fill approximately 80 new positions consisting mainly of the food and beverage department and the new hotel. This number does not reflect the annual temporary hiring we do for the summer months, which would be approximately another 40 to 45 positions.

The time line to meet the grand opening in May with a fully

trained and prepared staff begins with the career fairs from January through March when we hope to meet all of our full-time, regular demands for the new positions. The idea that we can offer people jobs and so many at a time when most are unemployed in the area that mostly booms seasonal employment is going to be great news for those who live in the St. Ignace area.

Competition is fierce for employees amongst the tourism industry around the St. Ignace site but, if truth be told, at this point, we have no qualms about meeting the goals of hiring 80 new team members. The St. Ignace site is already looking nothing less than majestic. Everybody I speak with about the site is excited and anxious for the grand opening. They all reiterate the same sentiment

when it comes to working in a brand new building, especially a waterfront property that boasts total beauty in natural surroundings of the Upper Peninsula, and that is, "What a great opportunity for a fun job."

Be sure to stay tuned to this monthly article and look for the coming schedule of events related to the career fairs set for January, February and early March. If you know you are already interested in working at the new "Gem of the North," and you are customer-service oriented, please call our employment office toll free at 1-866-635-7032 for cool places! Cool people! Cool jobs! We will be happy to add your name to our invitation list.

## Membership Q and A

Q – I read where there are openings on the special needs enrollment committee. How can I apply for one of the seats?

A – To be considered for a seat on the special needs enrollment committee, all a tribe member needs to do is send a letter of interest and three letters of support from other tribe members. These inquiries should be sent to the Enrollment Department, Attn: Linda Smith, tribal registrar, P.O. Box 1628, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. This provides you an opportunity to represent your unit on the committee.

Q – I was wondering if flu shots are going to be available this year. I remember last year there was a shortage and not everyone could get a shot. Are we going to be able to get our shots this year?

A – Yes. This year, there doesn't seem to be any threat of a shortage of the flu vaccine. In fact, there are a number of flu shot clinics being offered in the service area. Check with your local tribal health facility or county health department for information in your area.

Q – When does the heating assistance program start up again?

A – The Low Income Energy Heating Assistance Program begins on Oct. 1 of each year. You can stop by the ACFS office and see a direct services worker to help you fill out the application. Do not wait as funds are limited and applications are reviewed on a first come first serve basis pending eligibility. (Please see related story on page 14.)

Q – I am a member wondering if the tribe could assist me with adopting a child or becoming a foster parent.

A – All questions that relate to child placement should be directed to the Binogii Placement Agency, which is a component of ACFS. The agency contracts with the state of Michigan, which allows the program to provide

services to families of members in the service area. The Sault Tribe is the only tribe in Michigan that has a child placing agency licensed by the State. Call 632-5250 or toll-free at 1-800-726-0093. (Please see related story on page 14.)

Q – I thought the tribe gave students \$500.00 per semester for higher education costs. I received only two checks this year and was informed this is all I will receive this year.

A – The higher education program provides for a total of \$1000 per year in educational assistance to those who meet the guidelines. If you attend college year round, you can only receive the benefit of \$1000 in any one year. Students must keep in mind they will receive a 1099 form from the tribe. This is a statement of income, and must be reported when you are filing your taxes. Contact Janice Lewton in the education department for more information. She can be reached at (906) 635-6050 extension 56537.

Q – I have been waiting for tribal housing for a long time. I applied in 2003 and still haven't heard anything from housing. What is taking so long?

A – Tribal housing is a much sought after service and openings are few and far between. The housing department reviews applications each time there is a vacancy. However, applications for housing must be updated every six months. So, if you haven't updated your original application, you aren't being considered for any openings. To update your application and get back on the list of interested applicants, please contact the housing department in your area for instructions. If you are interested in home ownership opportunities, you may want to check out the new federal loan programs for tribe members. For more information on loans, call Carolyn O'Neil at (906) 495-5555.

Q – How can I find out more

about our flag and its symbolism? I know the colors and animals are symbolic and would like to know more about it.

A – The answer to this question could be an article in itself. The Sault Tribe Culture Department is available to answer any questions you may have about these types of things. The staff at the department are a very culturally knowledgeable complement of Anishinaabe. You can reach the culture department by calling (906) 632-7494. Some information is on the Sault Tribe Web site, if you have Internet access, at [www.saulttribe.org](http://www.saulttribe.org).

Q – I live in Gaylord and recently drove past a house flying a Sault Tribe flag. As a member, I really felt a sense of pride to see our colors displayed at a private residence and wonder if the tribe offers the flags for sale? If so, who would I contact to buy one?

A – Yes, the flags are available and are sold through the tribe's administration building. Members may call toll-free at 1-888-942-2766 and ask for Krista Payment. The flags come in an assortment of sizes and Krista has all the details to help you place an order.

Q – I want to open a business and would like to know what the tribe offers for financial assistance to members.

A – At present there are no programs to help members in business ventures. You may want to contact your local chamber of commerce and inquire about opportunities available in your area for small business or minority business loans.

To contact Sault Tribe membership liaisons, DJ Malloy or Clarence Hudak, with questions or concerns, call (906) 632-6578 or 1-888-94-AARON, e-mail; [djmalloy@saulttribe.net](mailto:djmalloy@saulttribe.net) or [chudak@saulttribe.net](mailto:chudak@saulttribe.net) or post your question on the Web at [www.saulttribe.org](http://www.saulttribe.org).

## LSSU LEARN TO SWIM CLASS - FREE FOR TRIBAL YOUTH

**Mondays and Wednesdays, 4-4:50 p.m.**

**Lake Superior State University Norris Center Pool**

**1st session,**

**Jan. 16-Feb. 22**

**2nd session, March 6-April 12**

**Please call Jessica at 635-7770**

**to register.**

**Class size is limited.**

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA

Sault Tribe youth may request funding for a variety of purposes to be expended outside of tribal programs, including:

- **Sport fees (registration, equipment, shoes)**
- **Music, dance and theatre lessons**
- **Instrument purchase and rental**
- **Language lessons**
- **Camps (sports, band, art, academic) and related travel fees**
- **Educational, cultural and class trips**
- **Testing fees**
- **Driver's education**
- **Senior pictures**
- **School supplies and book deposits**
- **Regalia and youth drum**

### APPLICANT QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be a tribe member in grades 0-12 living in the seven-county service area.
- Applicant may receive funds once per academic year (Aug. 1-July 31), up to \$150.
- Qualifying categories for funding are based on tribal strategic directions of the medicine wheel (i.e. physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual).

### APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

- Applicant must submit current copy of tribal membership card.
- Applicant must submit copy of invoice, registration, brochure/literature with organization's name and costs or receipt of payment.
- Checks will be made out to the organization provided, unless otherwise indicated.
- Proof of household income (most recent check stub, tax forms, W-2, etc.) must be submitted with all applications.
- Income guidelines will be based on 300 percent of the 2005 U.S. Health and Human Services poverty guidelines.

**Submit requests for funding to Jessica Dumback, Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Questions can be directed to Jessica at 1-800-588-RINK or 906-635-7770.**

## ATTENTION SAULT TRIBE MEMBER BUSINESS OWNERS

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Purchasing Department maintains a bidders list for contractors, vendors and suppliers of goods and services needed by the Sault Tribe.

If you would like to have your business included on this bidders list or if your business is currently on the bidders list and would like to update your information, please call Sheri Wallis at (906) 635-7035.

## LITTLE BEAR EAST HOURS

### Mens drop in hockey:

Mondays, 8 p.m.,  
Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m.

\$5 per person/goalies free

### Open skate hours:

Please call (906) 643-8676-ext. 1 for times.

### Adult skate:

Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Walking hours are the same as adult skate

### Fitness center:

Mondays and Wednesdays, 6 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Tuesdays and Thursday, 7 a.m.-8 p.m.  
Fridays, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Saturdays, 8 a.m.-11 a.m.  
Sundays closed

**Must have tribal card and sign-in for each open skate. Rent skates for \$4 a pair. Times are subject to change. Call the Little Bear East in advance at (906) 643-8676.**

## Calling All Veterans...

The Sault Tribe is currently gathering a list of tribal members who served in our armed services. This information will be used to help honor both current veterans and those who have passed away, who selflessly served their country.

We need the following information for this database:

- The number of years you were in the service
- What branch of the military you served in
  - The highest rank you achieved
- Your current contact information including name, address, city, state, zip, phone, and email-if applicable.

To help us recognize those who sacrificed so we can enjoy our freedom and American way of life, please fill out the form below and mail to The Sault Tribe News, ATTN: Tribal Veteran Search, 523 Ashmun Street, or call 906-635-6050 to provide us with the information listed above. Veterans can also submit their information online at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) via the "Contact Us" section. For more information contact Joanne Carr at 906-635-6050.

### I am a Sault Tribe Member Veteran.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch of Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Year's Served: 19\_\_\_\_ to 19\_\_\_\_ Total Years: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Circle: Current Veteran / Deceased / POW / MIA

## SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS COMMITTEE VACANCIES

### JOM COMMITTEE

3 Vacancies (different units)

### SPECIAL NEEDS/ENROLLMENT COMMITTEE

3 Vacancies (different units)

### HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1 Vacancy

### CULTURAL COMMITTEE

1 Vacancy

### ELDER ADVISORY SUB-COMMITTEE

Unit I - 1 Vacancy

Unit II - 1 Vacancy

Unit III - 1 Vacancy

Unit IV - 1 Vacancy (Munising)

Unit V - 1 Vacancy

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](mailto:jcarr@saulttribe.net)**

# Community Calendar

**Nov. 26** — David Lee Roth concert at Dream Maker's Theater at Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information call 1-800-KEWADIN.

**Dec. 1** — World AIDS Day observance at the Sault Tribe Health and Human Services Center auditorium 2-4 p.m. There will be a short program and refreshments. Everyone is welcome. For more information call Larry Klein at (906) 632-5265 or Stacey Willis at (906) 632-5255.

**Dec. 3** — Munising kid's Christmas party from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Central School cafeteria. Members ages 0-12 are eligible to receive a gift. To register, please call April Nagelkerk, (906) 387-4821 or Kim Swanberg, (906) 387-3861.

**Dec. 6** — Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting in Sault Ste. Marie at 6 p.m. Open community hour from 5-6 p.m. For information contact Joanne Carr at (906) 635-6050 extension 26337.

**Dec. 10** — Annual children's Christmas party from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Chi Mukwa in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information call Sue Henderlite at 635-6050 extension 26517.

**Dec. 10** — St. Ignace, children's Christmas party from noon to 2 p.m. at Little Bear East, 275 Marquette St., St. Ignace. For more information call Hope Colliat at (906) 635-6065, extension 55292.

**Dec. 10** — Kids Christmas party from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Manistique tribal center community room.

**Dec. 13** — The Mackinac County Caregiver Support Group will meet in the education room of the Mackinac Straits Long Term Care Facility, 220 Burdette Street in St. Ignace on the second Tuesday at 6 p.m. For more information please call Ronda Schlehuber at (906) 643-7489 or Janet Yoder at 1-800-337-3827

**Dec. 14** — Constitution workshop and informational meeting Unit V Marquette, Christmas, Munising. Location to be announced 5-9 p.m. Workbooks will be provided. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Candice Blocher, coordinator, Constitution amendment project at (906) 635-6050.

**Dec. 15** — Constitution workshop and informational meeting Unit IV Manistique. Manistique community center 5-9 p.m. Workbooks will be provided. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Candice Blocher, coordinator, Constitution amendment project at (906) 635-6050.

**Dec. 16** — Escanaba children's Christmas party from, 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Flat Rock Township Hall.

**Dec. 16** — Constitution workshop and informational meeting Unit II Hessel. Hessel community center 5-9 p.m. Workbooks will be provided. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Candice Blocher, coordinator, Constitution amendment project at (906) 635-6050.

**Dec. 17** — "Reindeer Games" Totzone at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in

Sault Ste. Marie. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

**Dec. 17** — Mackinac Island, children's Christmas party from Noon to 2 p.m. at Mackinac Island County Courthouse. For more information call Hope Colliat at (906) 635-6065, extension 55292.

**Dec. 17** — Constitution workshop and informational meeting Detroit. Location to be announced 5-9 p.m. Workbooks will be provided. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Candice Blocher, coordinator, Constitution amendment project at (906) 635-6050.

**Dec. 17** — Lorrie Morgan and Ronnie Milsap concert at Dream Maker's Theater at Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information call 1-800-KEWADIN.

**Dec. 19** — Constitution workshop and informational meeting Unit I Sault Ste. Marie. Kewadin Convention Center, 5-9 p.m. Workbooks will be provided. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Candice Blocher, coordinator, Constitution amendment project at (906) 635-6050.

**Dec. 20** — Constitution workshop and informational meeting Unit III St Ignace. Location to be announced, 5-9 p.m. Workbooks will be provided. Refreshments will be served. For more information call Candice Blocher, coordinator, Constitution amendment project at (906) 635-6050.

**Dec. 27-30** — Christmas break public skate at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

**Dec. 28** — The Chippewa County Caregiver Support Group will meet in the second floor conference room at the Avery Square Center, 510 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie, on the last Wednesday at 2 p.m. For more information, please call (906) 632-3363.

**Dec.30** — Winter gathering at the Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Building on Ice Circle Drive in Sault Ste. Marie from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

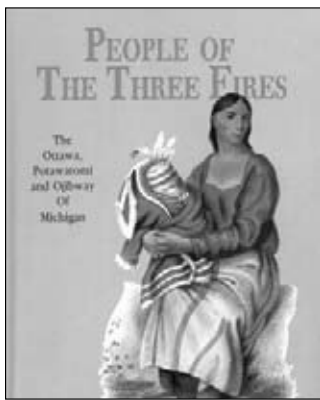
**Dec. 31** — 18th annual Sault Tribe Sobriety New Year's Powwow "Gibisdowaanaa jichaag: We are listening to the spirit" at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center on Ice Circle Drive in Sault Ste. Marie. Grand entry 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Feast 5 p.m. Come and dance the New Year in! Due to safety concerns all vendors will be upstairs. This is a drug and alcohol free event. If you have any questions, please call Bud, Melissa or Wendi at (906) 632-7494.

**Jan. 23-27** — Kewadin Shores Casino job fair. For more information, call the Sault Tribe Employment Office at 1-866-635-7032 or apply online at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

**Feb. 20-24** — Kewadin Shores Casino job fair. For more information call the Sault Tribe Employment Office at 1-866-635-7032 or apply online at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

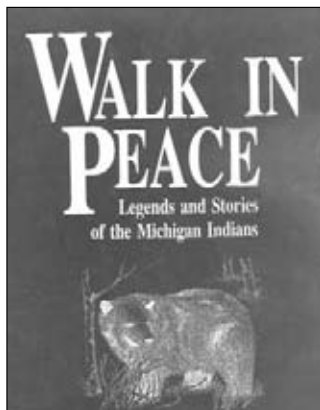
# Order your books in time for Christmas

[www.saulttribe.com/Michigan-Indian-Press.html](http://www.saulttribe.com/Michigan-Indian-Press.html)



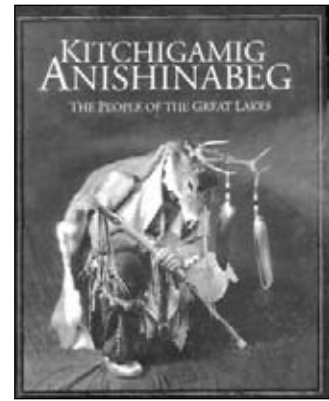
**People Of The Three Fires, The Ottawa, Potawatomi and Ojibway Of Michigan** by James Clifton, George Cornell and James McClurken.

This major study combines a concise history of the Michigan tribes with culture and traditions of the people. It paints a vivid picture of American Indian life in Michigan from "prehistoric" times to the present.  
118 pages, 31 photographs, 15 illustrations, four maps, bibliography, index and reinforced binding.  
\$25.95 plus tax



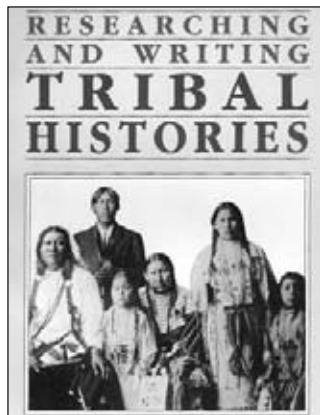
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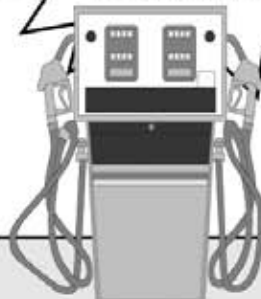
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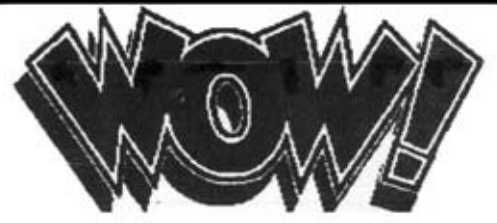
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- ⇒ Remove Garden Hose from Outside Faucets
- ⇒ Plug Any Cracks in Foundation

#### To Prevent Heating Failures

##### If You Have a LP Gas Furnace...

- ⇒ Keep the Snow Shoveled Off the Tank and All Around the Tank
- ⇒ Make Sure Your LP Regulator is Not Under an Eve so as to Prevent Water from Dripping on it—Protect it with a Cover
- ⇒ If you have a high efficiency furnace that vents with plastic through the side of the house, keep snow cleaned away from vent

##### If You Have a Fuel Oil Furnace...

- ⇒ Make Sure Your Oil Filter is in a Warm Environment
- ⇒ Don't Forget to Change Air Filters and Oil Motors
- ⇒ If you leave your house unattended for more than 24 hours please have someone monitor your inside temperature.

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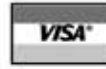
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Traditional ways of resolving dispute are resurfacing under the names of Peacemaking, Circle Sentencing, and Community Courts. These are not new methods of justice. They are just the teachings of long ago.

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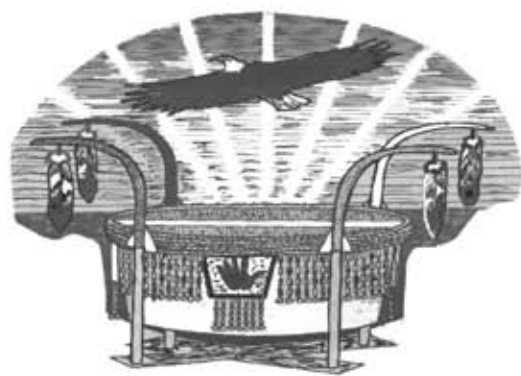


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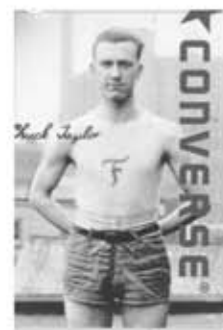


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**\$181,000**

Minors Welcome

Young adults 13 & under must be accompanied by an adult 21 years or older.  
TICKETS ARE NONREFUNDABLE



Once again we would like to say thank you to all Sault Tribal Members and Team Members this Holiday Season.

To express our appreciation for your business throughout the year we are offering a special rate during this Holiday time. You owe it to yourself to put aside an evening to relax!

|                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Standard Room</b>           | <b>\$31.00 plus tax</b> |
| <i>(Any day of the week)</i>   |                         |
| <b>Whirlpool Room</b>          | <b>\$45.00 plus tax</b> |
| <i>(Sunday thru Thursday)</i>  |                         |
| <b>Whirlpool Room</b>          | <b>\$57.00 plus tax</b> |
| <i>(Friday &amp; Saturday)</i> |                         |
| <b>Suite Room</b>              | <b>\$55.00 plus tax</b> |
| <i>(Sunday thru Thursday)</i>  |                         |
| <b>Suite Room</b>              | <b>\$73.00 plus tax</b> |
| <i>(Friday &amp; Saturday)</i> |                         |

The above rates are based on double occupancy and availability. Additional cost for each additional guest. When making your reservation state you are a Sault Tribe Member or a Team Member. Upon check in, you must show your Sault Tribal Card or Team Member Badge.

Purchase your DreamMakers entertainment ticket with your Northern Rewards Players Card and receive 10% OFF!

DreamMakers Theater  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI  
Box Office: (906) 635-4917

1-800-KEWADIN  
WWW.KEWADIN.COM