

Win Awenen Nisitotung



"One Who Understands"

Manidoo Gilzls: "Great Spirit Moon"

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

January 12, 2007 • Vol. 28 No. 1

Briefs

Gravelle sentencing scheduled for Jan. 17

Unit I Representative on the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors, Todd Gravelle, will face sentencing for two misdemeanors on Jan. 17 before the 91st District Court of Chippewa County.

Gravelle was charged with three felony counts of possession of cocaine, methadone and oxycodone last March.

The charges were recently reduced through a plea agreement and Gravelle pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor count on Dec. 21 of using methadone without a prescription. He also entered a guilty plea on a second misdemeanor stemming from an arrest last October on a charge of operating a vehicle while intoxicated.

Sentencing on both charges is scheduled for Jan. 17 in the 91st District Court.

Join our online community

Join our online community today at www.saulttribe.com. Our new e-mail newsletter is now available at the Sault Tribe's official Web site.

Those who have registered at www.saulttribe.com in the past or have voluntarily provided the Sault Tribe with their e-mail addresses, now have access to our new e-mail notification network feature. This new Web site feature allows individuals who are interested in the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians to sign up to receive e-mail notifications of breaking news pertaining to the Sault Tribe.

Message topics consist of information from media releases, public notices and Web updates. Those who sign up to receive these notifications will also be notified when the Sault Tribe newspaper and board meeting video is available online.

Newspaper changes name to preserve tribal heritage

The Sault Tribe News has changed its name back to *Win Awenen Nisitotung*, which in our native language means, "he/she/or one who well or fully understands." The name is pronounced, Ween Wewe-ni Nes-ta-tongue.



Construction crews work to finish the foundation for Greektown Casino's permanent parking structure. The parking garage and pedestrian walkway connecting the structure to the casino are scheduled to open on time in fall 2007.

Photo by Brian Brown

First phase of permanent Greektown Casino on schedule

Greektown Casino will become "easiest" casino to access in Detroit market

DETROIT — The tribe's Greektown Casino will soon have the most convenient casino parking garage in the Detroit market as work on phase one of the permanent gaming resort moves forward on schedule.

The new 3,000-space parking garage, which features a short walkway connecting the ramp directly to Greektown Casino, is scheduled to open on time in the fall, casino executives said. Once the garage opens, Greektown guests will conveniently enter and exit the 13-story structure located directly across the street from the casino via an easy exit on I-375.

"We are on schedule with the actual construction timeline

despite a delay in the start date caused by circumstances beyond our control," said Greektown Chief Executive Officer Craig Ghelfi. "Our garage sits just seconds off the freeway and will lead the market in terms of offering easy access to our permanent casino and hotel. Opening the attached parking structure will help us attract guests who have gone elsewhere because of a perceived lack of parking at Greektown Casino."

The garage will also significantly increase Greektown Casino's visibility from the highway, making it easier to find. Once inside the parking structure, guests will access the casino floor

via an enclosed walkway about three stories above the ground. Guests will walk a short distance through the walkway across Monroe Avenue and directly into the casino.

"Once the permanent parking garage is complete, Greektown Casino will be the easiest Detroit casino for guests to access," Ghelfi said.

Greektown Casino will also be able to convert another casino-owned parking structure back to full time valet parking, improving customer service and wait times for vehicles.

In addition to the new garage, the permanent Greektown Casino will feature a 30-story, 400-room

hotel and a 25,000-square foot gaming floor expansion. The permanent Greektown Casino resort will also have a multi-purpose theater, additional restaurants and more. The new hotel and expanded gaming floor will be open by fall 2008. Total investment in the project will be about \$450 million.

Construction crews are currently finishing the foundations and installing the caissons for the permanent parking structure and hotel. Prefabricated pieces of the parking structure will begin rising out of the ground in mid February. The Greektown Casino hotel will be integrated with the west side of the parking structure.

Tribe requesting court decision on embezzlement scandal involving Bouschor and former key employees

SAULT STE. MARIE — The Sault Tribe anticipates the upcoming hearing regarding its lawsuit against former Chairman Bernard Bouschor, seven former key employees and a law firm once employed by the tribe, could prove to be crucial in the overall case.

The tribe's legal team plans to submit a motion on Jan. 16 requesting the court to make a decision based upon the undisputed facts. The attorneys representing the Sault Tribe have

indicated they are confident all the facts presented to the court at this juncture will be considered condemning enough to find the defendants guilty on five of the ten charges filed, which involves breach of fiduciary duty, constructive fraud, conversion of funds, embezzlement and cooperatively administering unauthorized severance agreements.

After several months of obtaining testimony and collecting further evidence supporting the

tribe's claims, the tribe feels they now have more than enough evidence to find the defendants guilty and will once again ask the court to make a decision on the case.

The tribe made a similar request to the court on Jan. 31, 2006, based upon initial evidence, however, the judge chose to hear further arguments and opted to set a trial date beginning April 16, 2007.

The tribe's second request for the court's decision is expected to

include evidence in the form of testimony from the former chairman and the seven key employees.

The tribe claims the severance agreements entered into with the employee defendants on or about June 9, 2004, are invalid, void and thus unenforceable because the former Chairman Bernard Bouschor did not have the authority to enter into those agreements.

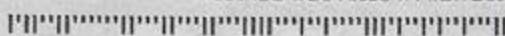
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LITTLE ROCK, AR 72204-1000



Membership Q & A

Q: Lately, I've been trying to educate myself on the history of the tribe's fishery and in doing so, I have seen the acronym CORA used quite a bit. What does this stand for and what are its duties?

A: The acronym CORA stands for Chippewa-Ottawa Resource Authority and it is a natural resource regulatory organization comprised of the five Michigan tribes whose ancestors were signatories of the Treaty of 1836. These include the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Bay Mills Indian Community, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Grand Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

This inter-tribal body became effective in January of 2001 and was borne out of the previous management authority, the Chippewa-Ottawa Treaty Fishery Management Authority (COTFMA). CORA has a governing body similar to its predecessor and it allows for each tribe to have two votes when the organization meets for official business. These votes are vested with the tribal chairmen and the natural resources body chairmen. As for the Sault Tribe, these individuals are Chairman Aaron Payment and Conservation Committee Chairman Jason Grondin.

CORA also has two committees that oversee the Great Lakes fish-



ery and the natural resources of the lands and inland waters of the 1836 Treaty. These are, respectively, the Great Lakes Resource Committee and the Inland Lands and Waters Resource Committee.

Over the last few years, I have had the privilege to attend the CORA meetings, held approximately every six weeks, and I can not overstate the importance of having an entity that is the equivalent of a modern day council of tribes.

Our treaty rights are the most important thing we possess and with that being said I would like to echo a statement one of the chairmen of the other tribes recently said, "We must stand together and speak with a unified voice if we are to protect our treaty rights, the natural resources and the environment for all the generations to come!"

For more information on CORA visit www.1836cora.org.

Pictured above: Membership liaisons' Clarence Hudak and DJ Malloy provide answers to commonly asked questions pertaining to the Sault Tribe.

Tribe member happy with online newspaper

Aloha, I just received the tribal e-mail announcement of the newspaper being available online. I am viewing it, now, and it is great. Since the hard copy is arriving in Honolulu about 30 days behind schedule (Sept. received in mid Oct.), please save the trees by not sending me a hard copy in the future. The electronic version is easy and much more colorful. Mahalo (thanks in Hawaiian).

— Dan Paquin
Honolulu, Hawaii

Family of Cheryl Thompson expresses thanks

The Family of Cheryl (nee Nesberg) Thompson would like to thank the following people and organizations for their overwhelming generosity in this time of sorrow: Kinross EMS, War Memorial Hospital staff and social workers, Dr. Rechner, Michigan State Police, Chippewa County Sheriff's Department, notably Deputy Parker, C.S. Mulder Funeral Home, Sault Chippewa Tribal Court,

Anishnabek Community and Family Services, Holly Zaborun of the Probate Court, Munising High School Class of 1988, GMR Inc., Petal Pushers Flower Shop, Central Elementary School Sunshine Club and all of those at the Sault Tribe's Culture Center who made the service memorable, honorable and special. We realize that we cannot include the entire Munising and Sault communities; however, those who supported us we give you thanks.

— The family of Cheryl Thompson

—Tribe's mailbag—

Embezzlement scandal

—Continued from page 1

Bouschor and the seven former key employees — Dan Green, Paul Shagen, Jolene Nertoli, Joe Paczkowski, Dave Scott, Jim Jannetta and Dan Weaver also breached fiduciary duty by failing to disclose a secret material transaction involving them and committed an act of conversion by obtaining checks belonging to the tribe without authority and without its consent, thus constructively defrauding the tribe.

The tribe claims the defendants cooperatively and deliberately circumvented standard accounting policies to keep the payments of the severance agreements secret which ultimately prevented the tribe from stopping the payments or even having record of the transactions.

In the same motion scheduled to be presented to the court on Jan. 16, the tribe has filed suit against Bernard Bouschor and the law firm of Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone, PLC, for aiding

in the concealment of the embezzlement and conversion of \$2.66 million into severance money paid to the seven key employees, knowing that such money was embezzled or converted. If Bouschor and the law firm are found guilty or liable, the tribe could be awarded up to three times the amount of money paid out in the severance agreements, equating to over \$7.9 million.

The tribe also plans to address the defendant's counterclaim. The tribe argues it never waived its sovereign immunity as to the severance agreements and is therefore immune from any lawsuit filed against the tribe by the defendants.

The tribe's legal team anticipates the defendants will most likely also file a similar motion to dismiss all or a portion of the tribe's claims in response to the tribe's request.

If the court denies the tribe's request for a decision, the case would continue to trial as scheduled.

The tribe originally filed suit in August 2004. The lengthy legal battle has lasted nearly two-and-a-half years.

The Sault Tribe's lead attorney Bill Horton reasserts the most condemning fact of all, "In accordance with the defendant's plan, they cooperatively blocked the tribe's financial controls so that the plot could not be discovered. The employee defendants wrote themselves checks which totaled in excess of \$2.66 million, erased any record of the transaction from both the manual and computerized controls of the tribe, and then held the checks to await the outcome of the election."

The Sault Tribe will present its motion for summary judgement to the court on Jan. 16. The proceedings are scheduled to be held in Emmet County Circuit Court with the honorable Judge Charles Johnson presiding.

Revised 2007 newspaper schedule

Win Awenen Nisitotung "One Who Understands"
The Sault Tribe News

Deadline: Tuesday 9 a.m.

January 2
January 30
February 27
March 27
April 24
May 22
June 19
July 17
August 14
September 11
October 9
November 6
December 4

Distribution Date: Friday

January 12
February 9
March 9
April 6
May 4
June 1
June 29
July 27
August 24
September 21
October 19
November 16
December 14

This newspaper is published on a four-week production cycle. Please note the distribution date when submitting event information for our community calendar. Submissions can be mailed, faxed, or e-mailed. The distribution date is the earliest the newspaper can arrive in the seven county service area. The newspaper can be viewed online in its entirety via the Internet at www.saulttribe.com the date the newspaper is distributed. Note, a tribal Public Service Announcement (PSA) is free, has priority for publication and is set at discretion of the editor. Advertising is also available, for more information contact Darryl Brown at (906) 632-6398 ext. 26330.

Help improve newspaper delivery

To help improve newspaper delivery and to clean up our mailing list, a post card was sent to every Sault Tribe household to ensure that each tribal home is receiving a subscription to *Win Awenen Nisitotung* "The Sault Tribe News." Each tribal home is entitled to receive one free newspaper subscription, one per household.

If you are an enrolled Sault Tribe member and would like to receive, or continue to receive, a subscription to the *Win Awenen Nisitotung* "Sault Tribe News" the tribe's official newspaper at no cost, you must fill out the post

card completely and return it to us by mail.

In order to improve delivery time of the newspaper, tribe members receiving this post card must fill out the card and return it to us. If you do not return the card, you might not receive the newspaper in the future.

To qualify the tribal newspaper at a periodical postage rate, the U.S. Post Office requires us to have written documentation from at least half of those on our mailing list, stating they agree to receive a free subscription.

IF YOU DO NOT RETURN THE CARD, YOU COULD BE

DROPPED FROM OUR MAILING LIST.

Qualifying our newspaper as a periodical will improve delivery time. WE CANNOT SIMPLY PURCHASE THIS SERVICE. To improve delivery time, we must follow post office regulations.

We need your help, please fill out the post card and return it today. Thank you for helping us, help you.

If you did not receive a post card in the mail, you can download the post card from the tribe's Web site at www.saulttribe.com. For more information call (906) 632-6398.

Win Awenen Nisitotung THE SAULT TRIBE NEWS

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

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Cory Wilson.....Communications 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 Assoc.

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

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

Win Awenen Nisitotung is not an independent newspaper, it is funded by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

and is published 13 times a year by the Communications Department. Its mission is to inform tribe members and non-members on the activities of the tribal government, membership programs and services and cultural, social and spiritual activities of tribe members.

Our name: *Win Awenen Nisitotung*, in our native language means, "he/she/one, who well or fully understands." The complete Ojibwe spelling is Wiin Weweni Nestatang. The name is pronounced, Ween Wewe-ni Nes-ta-tongue.

Visit us online: This newspaper can be viewed online in its entirety via the Internet at www.saulttribe.com the date the newspaper is distributed.

Subscriptions: The regular rate is \$13 per year, \$10 for senior citizens, \$25 to Canada, and \$35 to other foreign countries. Subscribe by sending your name and mailing address to the address below with your check or money order made out to the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Contact Information:
Win Awenen Nisitotung
Attn: Communications Dept.
531 Ashmun St.,
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
Telephone: (906) 632-6398
Fax: (906) 632-6556
E-mail address:
saulttribenews@saulttribe.net
Web site: www.saulttribe.com

United Way Volunteer Center and tribe collaborate to open satellite volunteer center

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The United Way of Chippewa County and the Sault Tribe have teamed up to form a satellite volunteer center within the tribal community's membership services divisions. Maa Gwe Jig (Ojibwe for gift givers) will help to serve a variety of needs through volunteer services. Needs that span the range of assisting elders with daily tasks and cooking at social functions to wrapping presents for the Christmas party and even stuffing envelopes for mailings to tribe members will be among the opportunities to serve.

Initially brought to the same table to explore a funding opportunity that dealt with youth service within the tribe, Associate Executive Director Kristi Little and Volunteer Center Director Kristina Beamish began to explore ways in which the United Way of Chippewa County and Sault Tribe could partner further. "We had some board members that had already been expressing an interest in forming a coordinated program for volunteers. When I asked Kristina what we could do her reply was a satellite volunteer



Left, Maa Gwe Jig project coordinator Sonnet Quinn, Associate Executive Director Kristi Little and Volunteer Center Director Kristina Beamish.

Photo by Brenda Austin

center," says Little. A satellite volunteer center is much like a branch office of a bank.

By staying connected to the existing United Way Volunteer Center of Chippewa County, Maa Gwe Jig will enjoy membership benefits such as expert resources, training opportunities and some funding opportunities. "Team members are already encouraged to volunteer, even during working hours and we want to continue

that. This program will not only help that to continue in a more efficient manner, but it will help us provide more help in the areas where it is needed most," said Little. All members will have the opportunity to help. Serving also benefits volunteers by providing job skills and a sense of belonging and fulfillment.

The Maa Gwe Jig start up team, comprised of board members, division directors, admin-

istration and grant specialists have been meeting since June of 2006 to build the program. In November, Sonnet Quinn of Cedarville was assigned as the project coordinator through the United Way Volunteer Center as a VISTA worker. "Everyone knows that funding to hire staff is scarce. By maximizing our opportunity through the Points of Light Foundation's VISTA program we were able to assign a fulltime staff person to the project with virtually no cost to either partner," explained Kristina Beamish. "Volunteers in Service to America are members of our domestic Peace Corps and we're lucky to have such a committed individual as Sonnet."

The project, scheduled to officially launch in March of 2007, is currently assessing the needs of all membership services divisions. "There's still a lot of work to be done before we can start referring volunteers to the opportunities but we're getting closer every day," said Beamish. Currently there are over 150 volunteer job descriptions scheduled to be written. Once each division has completed

their needs assessment process, all job descriptions will be compiled into a resource directory for members to shop through. "It will be like a catalog where you can pick something that fits you," said Quinn.

"We would like to be able to offer this in all of our service areas. Once we get this office going we can replicate it in other areas," said Little. Beamish added, "There is a push to have volunteer centers in every county in Michigan by our statewide association Volunteer Centers of Michigan." There are currently only two in the Upper Peninsula.

Little explained, "Once the Sault satellite office is officially launched the next step is Mackinac County and from there to Delta by the end of the year."

For those interested in volunteering, the Volunteer Center offers their free online directory at www.1800volunteer.org, or you can contact Maa Gwe Jig project coordinator Sonnet Quinn at (906) 635-6050 ext. 26003.

Resource directories will be available beginning in March from the satellite office.

Rental assistance program available soon for tribe members

The Sault Tribe Housing Authority is happy to announce a new housing opportunity for tribe members. Effective Feb. 1, we will be accepting applications for a rental assistance program that provides rent subsidies for income qualified working families. This is a tenant-based program where the tenant is subsidized not the rental unit. Participants must find their own housing within the seven-county service area. This allows participants to select rental units that meet their needs and program requirements. Participants will be required to pay 25 percent of their adjusted income to the landlord and the Housing Authority will pay the remainder, up to the fair market rent for the areas. The rental unit must pass a housing quality standards inspection prior to leasing.

Sault Tribe Housing Authority recognizes many needs cannot be

met by the existing low-income rental program. This new program was created to expand housing opportunities while meeting the unique needs of families, thus providing rental assistance off trust land.

The funding for this program is limited. We will be able to assist a family for a maximum of two years. During those two years, we will be able to work with families to provide home ownership counseling and advocacy if they are interested.

Landlords in Alger, Chippewa, Delta, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette and Schoolcraft counties who would like to be placed on our database of eligible landlords should call Heather Alstrom at the Housing Authority office.

For more information or to request an application, you may call Heather at (906) 495-1450 or (800) 794-4072.

Down payment assistance program

Sault Tribe down payment assistance is designed to assist members in becoming home owners. The funds are HUD dollars and restricted to low-income members. Eligible applicants receive up to \$5,000 to be applied towards down payments and closing costs. This program is open to members living in the seven counties of our service area — Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac, Alger, Schoolcraft, Delta and Marquette counties.

The program is open to members with total incomes at, or below, 80 percent of the area median income, adjusted for family size. Participants must obtain mortgages with local lenders. The Housing Authority will assist applicants in demonstrating they have stable income and the ability

and willingness to meet financial obligations.

Funds will be in the form of a note applied as a lien against the property. No monthly payments apply, the amount depreciates 20 percent each year and is forgiven after five years.

Trained staff will assist eligible applicants in successfully working through the process of making applications to lenders for mortgage loans, assist with inspection concerns and aid in the real estate processes.

Borrowers are required to participate in the home buyer education sessions designed to assist the home buyer in understanding and fulfilling the responsibility of home ownership.

Call Angie Spencer at (906) 635-7702 or (800) 794-4072.

SUBMITTED BY MEGHAN KELLY POWELL, FEDERAL LIAISON

Last month, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians sent a tribal delegation to Washington, D.C. Over the course of three days, the delegates had 27 meetings with members of the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives and key Congressional staff. The meetings were critically timed and centered on topics of vital interest to the tribe. The efforts of the delegation were met with success.

Although many people were unaware, the federal legislature was poised to pass into law two bills which would have been potentially devastating to the tribe. Both the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives held bills which would have removed tribal regulatory authority over Class III gaming, submitting the power to the federal government, instead. If the legislation passed, tribes would have lost much of their powers to run the day-to-day operations of their own casinos. Both bills had strong support in Congress. The bills required all federally-recognized tribes to submit a significant amount of financial and sovereign authority to federal, state and local governments. Although tribes would have been left with little — federal, state, and local governments would have gained considerable financial and governmental authority.

Delegates met with various leaders and urged opposition. Neither bill passed. Delegates attribute their success to a number of factors: Tribal vigilance and presence on the Hill throughout the year, thorough understanding of the legislative process, the thousands of tribe members who sent their senators letters urging opposition to the bills, efforts of other tribes and inter-tribal organizations and the critically-timed meetings held between the delegates and federal leaders.

Delegates also noted many

members of the federal legislature had been prepared to ignore the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (a reauthorization bill), which is vital to funding of Indian Health Service programs. During meetings with various senators and representatives, delegates noted that under normal conditions, significant federal programs, like the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, are reauthorized every five years. Delegates pointed out that the federal government has failed to pass a reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Act for over 13 years. The results include the current policy of tribe members being served on a "life or limb" basis. Tribal leaders noted that, in simple terms, this means that unless a tribe member is literally dying or in imminent danger of losing a limb, health care is unavailable. At the end of their meetings, delegates acquired pledges of support from several members of the Senate and House, to improve the current drafting of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and to seek its passage in the 110th Congress.

In meetings with Michigan senators and congressmen, delegates obtained pledges of support regarding the St. Mary's River pollution issue. Currently, the pollution issue is managed by the U.S. State Department. Delegates argued that the State Department should identify actions-to-date regarding the clean-up of the river. Delegates also urged that the pumping of human waste into the river must be stopped. Additionally, the delegation seeks tribal involvement within the process.

In every meeting within the U.S. House of Representatives, delegates strongly supported the creation of the House Committee on Indian Affairs. Instead of using the impractical "buckshot" approach to tribal issues (in which tribal issues are dealt with by large numbers of various House committees — none

of which are familiar with tribal law), delegates asserted that tribal issues should be heard and debated within a single committee, dedicated to upholding the federal trust responsibility to the tribal nations. Currently, the push for the creation of the full committee is being led by Michigan Democratic Representative Dale Kildee, with whom our tribe has worked closely for many years.

Delegates fought successfully for the passage of the Ester Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act. This newly passed legislation will provide programs and money necessary for the preservation of tribal languages like our own. Before leaving Washington, D.C., the delegates also worked on issues pertaining to housing, economic development and education.

Members of the delegation were Chairperson Aaron Payment; Unit I Representatives Cathy Abramson, Todd Gravelle, and D.J. Hoffman; and Unit III Representative Keith Massaway.

Delegates met with Michigan Democratic Senators Levin, Stabenow and Congressman Stupak along with Congressman Johnson (D-S.D.), Kennedy (D-R.I.), McCotter (R-Mich.), Inslee (D-Wash.), key Congressional staff members of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, Senators Burr (R-N.C.), Feinstein (D-Calif.), Coburn (R-Okl.), Dodd (D-Conn.), Dayton (D-Minn.), Murray (D-Wash.), Murkowski (R-Alaska), Baucus (D-Mont.), Nelson (D-Fla.), Congresswoman Kilpatrick (D-Mich.), Congressmen Camp (R-Mich.), Kildee (D-Mich.) and Congresswoman Stephanie Herseth (D-S.D.).

The Sault Tribe delegation members also attended the National Indian Gaming Association Legislative Summit meeting.

Happy New Year 2007 membership meetings announced



Aaron A. Payment, MPA
Tribal Chairperson
Sault Tribe Board of Directors
POSITIVE FOCUS FOR 2007

Because in many cases, I am the only individual willing to provide updates on sometimes negative information, I am often the bearer of bad news. Though many Members have expressed their gratitude for updates on the 7+1+1 litigation to recover the \$2.66 million stolen on election night 2004 by the former Chairperson and seven others, I have decided this should be reported as news rather than updates in the Chairperson reports. The Tribal newspaper will continue to provide updates and will expand upon reporting of our progress as you deserve to know exactly where we are with regard to recovering the money. I will focus primarily on reports of:

- Our progress with the development and construction of our Greentown Casino;
- New developments in our markets and UP casino developments;
- Programs and services expansions and cost efficiencies;
- New legislation to expand services to members where they live revenue share plan that commits the chair and board to a long term plan that can only be changed by the members;
- My view of the constitutional amendment progress and updates;
- Proposals I'll sponsor to create a functional separation of powers in the interim (including autonomous authority to challenge the actions of your government);
- Proposals I'll sponsor to require all legislation for the Tribe be submitted in advance, for 'Notice and Comment' in our Tribal newspaper before possible enactment;
- Proposals I'll sponsor to create a body of Tribal labor regulatory law to provide employees of the Tribe an opportunity to seek administrative remedies for labor issues;

• Member input on creation of a Unit VI At Large Election Unit with two to three representatives for the two-thirds of our population who live outside of the service area or UP;

• Proposals I'll sponsor to create a Tribal member preference in vendor and company selection (ie. Contractors, etc.) that affords preference for member owned companies and an additional preference for those who employ greater than a majority of their employees that are Sault Tribe members;

• Proposals I'll sponsor to create a Sault Tribe job bank data base to assist members in gaining employment within our Tribe or to help facilitate outside companies with hiring Tribal members;

• Legislative updates on our progress with the Michigan and federal legislatures to protect our fiduciary interests;

• Updates from our progress in the U.S. v MI Case (Inland Hunting and Fishing) including what benefits you as a member will have and how your treaty rights will be regulated by your own government;

• Threats to the constitutional authority of the chairmanship (ie. eliminating travel to member meetings, communications, etc.);

• Removal from office updates (believe it or not, just before Christmas this was contemplated by an angry constituent and a member of the Tribal board);

• Additional items suggested and supported by Tribal member constituents, this is intended to be a dynamic process, so you'll have the opportunity to directly participate in the creation of those items we introduce as legislation.

MORE FREQUENT UPDATES VIA EMAIL

In preparation for the coming year, I am refining my email list and adding new emails for Tribal members. Recently, I sent out an email to determine if you wish to receive regular email updates from me that will be sent more frequently than what you can receive in the Tribal paper. My email data base is large and needs constant updating. All the emails contained therein, have been volunteered. They were not collected through the Tribal Web page or webmaster. Your emails are confidential to their intended purpose to receive updates from me.

INCENTIVE FOR NEW EMAILS

If you know other Tribal members who would be interested in receiving regular updates, please have them send an email to: apayment@saulttribe.net with the word ***SUBSCRIBE*** on the subject line. There is no cost.

For all of those who subscribe, along with those who maintain their current email in my database, I will hold a monthly drawing (first Monday of each month) for a \$20 gift card. If the individual you got to subscribe mentions your name in their email, we'll give you an additional chance to win. I contemplated a Midjim gas

certificate, but realized that only has value for those within driving distance to a Midjim. I thought of an Internet subscription, but that gets complicated with the various vendors. The funds involved in offering this incentive will be provided by myself and not the Tribe.

REIMBURSEABLE TRAVEL SICK & VACATION BENEFIT?

When I ran for office in 2004, I pledged to lower the chair's salary from over \$800,000 to \$100,000. I voted on this as a member of the Tribal board before taking office as chairperson. My predecessor was paid multiples of this plus a flat travel stipend and reimbursement for his travel expenses.

FORMER CHAIRPERSON INCOME

YEAR	SALARY	TRAVEL STIPEND	TRAVEL REIMBURSE
2000	\$ 328,711	\$ 7,200	\$ 7,700
2001	\$ 277,247	\$ 7,200	\$ 7,700
2002	\$ 756,151	\$ 3,600	\$ 7,700
2003	\$ 856,275		
2004	\$ 700,000+		

Recall that that some members of the Tribal board of directors (one who is still on the Tribal

board) denied that the former chair made this kind of money or argued that he only did so because he was the CEO of Greentown. Even before he received his salary as chairperson and Greentown CEO, he received compensation as chair and Tribal CEO with over \$300,000 a year. If nothing else, over the course of my four year term, my chairpersonship will save \$200,000 X 4 years or \$800,000!

When we voted to change the salary for the chairperson to \$100,000 we neglected to set the vacation and sick pay benefit that every full time regular employee of the Tribe accumulates. My predecessor accumulated vacation and sick as an employee. I do not. The optimist in me believes this was an oversight, so I have drafted a resolution to correct this. This was scheduled for the 12-19-06 Tribal board meeting but was tabled. I reintroduced the same resolution at the 1-2-07 meeting and it was once again tabled. If the issue is not resolved administratively, I will introduce the legislation until the board addresses this issue.

Quite frankly, if the board decides the chairperson is not entitled vacation and sick benefits, I'll have to accept the outcome, but such a decision should be for the position not specifically to deny me. I also want you to know the inconsistency for those Board members who approved the salary and benefits of my predecessor but have chosen to exclude me from these standard benefits all Tribal employees receive. I will update you next month on the outcome.

I hope your Christmas was spirit-filled and your New Year's Eve was safe. I'm grateful for the opportunity to serve you as your chairperson. As a Tribe, we face many challenges. With unity of purpose, we will see even greater days ahead.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments please contact me by Email at: apayment@saulttribe.net or call (906) 632-6578 or toll free at (888) 94-AARON.

2007 TRIBAL MEMBER MEETINGS: MORE LOCATIONS TBA

Unit	1	Time	Location
Jan	15th	6pm	Kewadin Casinos, Sault, MI
Feb	19th	6pm	Brimley: BMCC—Room 103
Mar	19th	6pm	Sugar Island Culture Camp
Apr	16th	6pm	Kincheloe: Kinross Recreation Ctr
May	21st	6pm	Kewadin Casinos - Ontario 1
Jun	18th	6pm	Brimley: Location TBA
Jul	16th	6pm	Sugar Island Culture Camp
Aug	20th	6pm	Kincheloe: Kinross Recreation Ctr
Sep	17th	6pm	Kewadin Casinos, Sault, MI
Oct	15th	6pm	Brimley: Location TBA
Nov	19th	6pm	Sugar Island Culture Camp

Unit	2	Time	Location
Jan	17th	5pm	Newberry Tribal Center
Feb	21st	5pm	Hessel Tribal Center
Mar	21st	5pm	Naubinway: Location: TBA
May	16th	5pm	Newberry Tribal Center
Jun	20th	5pm	Hessel Tribal Center
Jul	18th	5pm	Naubinway: Location: TBA
Sep	19th	5pm	Newberry Tribal Center
Oct	17th	5pm	Hessel Tribal Center

Unit	3	Time	Location
Jan	24th	6pm	McCann School, St. Ignace
Mar	28th	6pm	McCann School, St. Ignace
May	23th	6pm	Mackinac Is: Location: TBA
Jul	25th	6pm	McCann School
Sep	26th	6pm	Mackinac Is: Location: TBA
Nov	28th	6pm	McCann School

Unit	4	Time	Location
Jan	3rd	5pm	Escanaba Heirman Center
Feb	7th	5pm	Manistique Tribal Center
Apr	4th	5pm	Escanaba Heirman Center
May	2nd	5pm	Manistique Tribal Center
Jul	11th	5pm	Escanaba Heirman Center
Aug	1st	5pm	Manistique Tribal Center
Oct	3rd	5pm	Escanaba Heirman Center
Nov	7th	5pm	Manistique Tribal Center

Unit	5	Time	Location
Jan	13th	11am	Marquette: NMU University Cntr (Nicolet Rm)
Feb	10th	11am	Munising: Tribal Center
Apr	14th	11am	Marquette: NMU University Cntr (Nicolet Rm)
May	12th	11am	Munising: Tribal Center
July	14th	11am	Marquette: NMU University Explorer Wing—Nicolet Room
Aug	11th	11am	Munising: Tribal Center
Oct	13th	11am	Marquette: NMU University Dining Room
Nov	10th	11am	A—Off of food court
			Munising: Tribal Center

Detroit	Time	Location
Jan	14th	12pm
Mar	11th	12pm
May	19th	12pm
Jul	8th	12pm
Sep	9th	12pm
Nov	18th	12pm
		Greektown Casino- Detroit—Olive Room

Mid Mich.	Time	Location
Jan	28th	12pm
Feb	25th	12pm
Apr	22nd	12pm
May	20th	12pm
Jul	22nd	12pm
Aug	26th	12pm
Oct	28th	12pm
Nov	25th	12pm
		Nokomis Center - Okemos, MI
		Grand Rapids: Days Inn—310 Pearl Street NW11-196

N Lower	Time	Location
Jan	28th	6pm
Feb	25th	6pm
Mar	25th	6pm
May	20th	6pm
Jun	24th	6pm
Sep	23rd	6pm
Oct	28th	6pm
Nov	25th	6pm
		Cheboygan: Inverness Township Hall
		Petoskey: Comfort Inn—1314 N US31
		Cheboygan: Inverness Township Hall
		Gaylord: Hampton Inn—230 Dickerson Rd
		Cheboygan: Inverness Township Hall
		Petoskey: Location TBA
		Cheboygan: Location TBA
		Gaylord: Location TBA

Please call toll free to confirm locations and dates of meetings you may be attending: 1-888-94-AARON (22766)

High school class of 2007 to inaugurate Michigan Promise scholarships

By RICK SMITH

Most high school students in Michigan, beginning with this year's seniors, will now be eligible for a \$4,000 scholarship thanks to Governor Jennifer M. Granholm and the Michigan Legislature. The legislation creating the Michigan Promise scholarship was sponsored by Senator Deborah Cherry (D-Burton) and Representative Tupac Hunter (D-Detroit) and passed both legislative chambers last month by nearly unanimous votes.

"The Michigan Promise scholarship opens the doors of education to every student in Michigan," said Granholm. "A \$4,000 scholarship makes earning a college degree or technical certification a real possibility for every student. It's an amazing opportunity for our students and a critical necessity for our economy."

Beginning with the high school class of 2007:

- Students may use the \$4,000 scholarship to attend any public or private college or university in Michigan along with a wide variety of technical training programs.

- Students who do well on high school assessment tests can earn \$2,000 of their scholarships while still in high school during their freshmen and sophomore years.

The remaining \$2,000 can be earned by successfully completing two years of post-secondary education; students must earn an associate's degree, advancement to junior status at a four-year institution or technical certification.

- Students not receiving qualifying scores on assessment tests can still earn the full scholarship by successfully completing two years of post-secondary education. The state will consider such students as having demonstrated their merit by earning credentials in demand by employers.

- Students must maintain a 2.5 grade point average (overall grade of C+) in their post-secondary academics.

The Governor's Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth, chaired by Lieutenant Governor John D. Cherry, Jr., recommended making college more affordable to more students as part of a strategy to double the number of college graduates in Michigan in the next decade. The committee recommended that the state create a new "compact" with its residents where all students can achieve a post-secondary degree or credential with a guarantee of state financial support in pursuit of that goal.

In her 2005 State of the State

address, Governor Granholm first proposed the Michigan Promise scholarships. The governor said the scholarships are a critical step for Michigan's economy. "The evidence is clear: the states with the highest education levels have the most thriving economies and lowest unemployment rates," she said. Granholm signed the legislation into law last Dec. 21.

The Michigan Promise scholarships replaces the Michigan Merit scholarships which provided up to \$3,000 for the first two years of post-secondary education to students who scored well on assessment tests.

According to John Sherry, principal of Sault Area High School, students aiming for a Michigan Promise scholarship should consult with school guidance counselors.

Angeline Matson, Sault Tribe education director, advises students who are members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians to also seek guidance from the tribe's higher education services for additional information on tribal scholarships and the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver.

Sault Tribe has a toll free number to call for higher education assistance, (800) 793-0660.

President signs Indian language bill into law

By RICK SMITH

President George W. Bush signed a bill into law on Dec. 14 that establishes grants for governments, colleges and other organizations working to preserve American Indian cultures and language. The bill, passed by the U.S. House of Representatives last Sept. 27, received unanimous consent from the U.S. Senate last Dec. 6.

The Esther Martinez Native Languages Preservation Act amended the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide for the revitalization of indigenous American languages through language immersion programs and for other purposes.

The Act is named after a 94-year old Tewa storyteller and linguist who died in a traffic accident earlier this year after returning to New Mexico from an awards ceremony at the National Endowment for the Arts. Martinez was known for her stories and life's work preserving her native language and traditions.

New Mexico Republican Representative Heather Wilson sponsored the bill that became the Martinez Act along with six bipartisan co-sponsorships by U.S. representatives from Arizona, Colorado, Guam, North

Carolina and New Mexico.

"The Native languages were precious to Esther Martinez," Wilson said. "And this Act is designed to help preserve them. It is a fitting tribute to her life's work."

"When we discuss Native American language preservation, we are not simply talking about a method of communication within tribes," said Representative Howard P. Buck (R-Calif.), chairman of the U.S. House Education and Workforce Committee. "This issue is far deeper than that. It represents the preservation of an important part of our nation's history, culture and legacy. I commend Representative Wilson for taking the lead on this issue — and for doing so in a fiscally responsible way, within the confines of existing programs."

Wilson said only an estimated 20 of more than 300 pre-colonial indigenous languages will remain by the year 2050. She said 175 indigenous languages remained in 1996 and now they are dropping into extinction at a rate of 12 languages every three years.

The Act appropriates five years of funding for programs designed to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of indigenous languages from 2008 through 2012.



Mackinac County Animal Shelter
980 Chessemann Road, St. Ignace (906)643-7646
Open Mon - Sat 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sun 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
or call for appointment

www.petfinder.com

Three Guesses
What I am
Wishing For



Susie



Jema



Louie Face



Cheeks



Tommy



Haley



Community Donations Welcome

Mackinac Animal Aid Association is a 501C3 non-profit - all donations are tax deductible
All donations are greatly appreciated. Send to Mackinac Animal Aid, P.O. Box 92, Moran, MI 49760

December board meeting briefs

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians met for a general meeting in the Sault on Dec. 19 at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center. All board members were present. Minutes from meetings on Oct. 31 and Nov. 14 were approved.

Approved resolutions: Voting is not noted on unanimous decisions.

A multi-year planning agreement initiated between our tribe and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency was approved for fiscal years 2007-09 to budget and plan for activities in coming years.

The tribal employee cultural leave policy and procedures was amended to streamline steps in the process as recommended by the tribal Cultural Screening Committee.

The Elderly Advisory Committee bylaws were amended to lift the requirement that the committee hold meetings during the months of November, December, February and March.

The board agreed to a Bureau of Indian Affairs request for assistance in determining the descendancy of Indians whose ancestors are on the Durant Roll but are not members of the Sault Tribe. This will be done by providing a list of the names of members enrolled in our tribe between Feb. 15, 2006, to present.

The JKL Bahweting Public School Academy Fiduciary Committee was directed to begin negotiations with the school for a new lease to commence around June 30, 2007, to run for a period between five and 10 years.

The governmental accounting staff was directed to enter into an agreement with the Local Express BP gas station in Kinross, Mich., for the purpose of acting as a tax free motor fuel retailer for tribe members in the state-tribe tax

agreement areas. Board members Joe Eitrem, Robert LaPoint, Fred Paquin and Denise Chase opposed the move.

The tribal newspaper staff was directed to revert to using Win Awenen Nisitotung as the name of the paper as was done prior to July 12, 2000. Board member Todd Gravelle abstained from voting.

The board approved fiscal year 2007 document 002 budgets totaling \$79,198,711, of which \$330,071,158 is tribal support and includes document 001. The budget supports entities listed within through Dec. 31, 2007. Board members Cathy Abramson and DJ Hoffman opposed the budgets.

Funds for governmental capital purchases budget for 2007 were appropriated at a total of \$2,060,051 with \$671,200 from governmental fund balances, \$787,651 from enterprise fund balances and the remainder of \$601,200 to come from financing or tribal support dollars. Board members Dennis McKelvie, Hoffman and LaPoint opposed.

The board approved the 2007 budget document 004 for enterprises through Dec. 31, 2007. Board member Hoffman opposed.

An interim tribal operations budget of \$158,000, not to exceed 30 days, was granted until the fiscal year 2007 budget is finalized.

The 2007 tribal newspaper budget was modified to include base pay, fringe and the reduction of sales commissions to 20 percent from 50 percent. Board members Tom Miller, Lana Causley, Chase, Paquin, Hoffman and Abramson opposed resulting in a tie. The chair voted in favor of the measure, breaking the tie.

The board meets regularly on the first and third Tuesdays of each month and members are invited to attend.

Unit II youth receive special recognition



Lana Causley
Unit II Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Happy new year! One of our accomplishments for this past year is the record amount of two percent funds we are allocated for our unit. The following are the amounts we approved for the fall distributions. Bob Lapoint and I had opportunity to go through the requests and make decisions that would be fair to our entire area and impact our youth's education and the safety of our members. The total requested for our unit for the fall distribution was \$175,915.27.

The total short term (one time payment) amount available to each unit to award was \$77,218.06. Although we cannot fund all the requests, we took into consideration awarding partial amounts requested and favored the school systems that were funding programs to assist our tribal youth. Below is a list of the funding approved:

- 92 district Court HELP program, \$8,000, (half was also contributed from Unit III).
- Clark Township, \$5,000, community playground project.
- DeTour Village, \$5,000, Sacred Heart Church renovation.
- Doyle Township, \$5,000, thermal imaging camera.
- Drummond Island Township, \$5,000, snowmobile trail grooming project.
- Engadine Consolidated School, \$5,000, youth activity program.
- Garfield Township, \$5,000, ambulance garage.
- Garfield Township \$5,000,

- operational hose equipment
- Hendricks Township, \$5,000, emergency shelter.
- Luce County, \$11,118.06, YAP teen center.
- Pickford Public School, \$5,000, computer software.
- Raber Township, \$5,000, snow removal and maintenance.
- Rudyard School, \$3,600, Indian Education Program (half will be contributed by Unit I).
- Tahquamenon School, \$2,000, middle school.
- DeTour Village, \$2,500, backhoe purchase.

As stated, all requests cannot be fully awarded but we contributed at least partial amounts to the projects. If you would like any information about these projects, please feel free to contact me or D.J. Malloy, the two percent coordinator, at 1-800-793-0660 for more information.

In 2003 we began a youth empowered powwow in Rexton during the summer. I am proud to announce our program was selected as a model program by the Prevention Network Authority in Lansing. This recognition was a great accomplishment for our youth program. The youth and coordinators work very hard to keep our cultural teaching alive. Those involved have been mentioned in past unit reports for their participation but, again, Lisa Burnside, Patty Teeple, Barb Gravelle, Michelle Willis and all the youth who coordinate and participate must be recognized for an event that has been selected for this great award.

It's our third year with this powwow and it has been a success from the start. In the 2007 budgets, I asked the board to consider increasing our cultural budget to include Newberry (\$2,000) so that we can begin planning for a powwow similar to the youth empowered we hold in Rexton. If your child has participated, please let them know how proud we are of their active role in the events. Please contact myself or Lisa Burnside at (906) 484-2298 if you would like to be part of that committee in Newberry.

As you may have seen in the last edition of the tribal paper, we

had the birth and naming of our community drum in Hessel. Many people were mentioned in the paper but we also wanted to give a special recognition to the elders in our community who were not mentioned but had a great part in the planning and direction — Basil Willis and Ron Hudak, miigwetch for your dedication and direction. During the feast, our eldest elder in our Community attended, that was my great-aunt Margaret Vasser, this made the feast complete and miigwetch for being there with us! Miigwetch to all who helped and for the Bawating Drum who sang for us.

We are almost done with the new enrollment. Here is an update of the totals as of Jan. 2, 2007: Total applications 4,567, total approved 2,624, total denied 1,477 and applications still pending 466. Hopefully, all those members who have family already enrolled have received their notices. Welcome!

In closing, a brief update on the signature authority reporting, the board has NOT received any report to date. The resolution was passed on Oct. 3, 2006, with three months passing since the authorization was given to report. There is a problem when direction from the board is given and not followed through on. A recent e-mail stated the report is in the early stages of being generated! I will continue to follow up and report to you on the outcome.

It's been a long year and we have many goals to accomplish in 2007. I am excited about hearing from you; the following is a schedule for the office hours I will be holding this month and a unit meeting for February.

- Jan. 17, Newberry Tribal Center, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Jan. 22, Hessel Tribal Center, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Feb. 1, DeTour Township Hall, unit meeting 6 p.m.

As always, please call if you would like to meet with me.

Baamaapii, Lana Causley, lcousley@saulttribe.net, (906) 484-2954.

SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS COMMITTEE VACANCIES

HOUSING AUTHORITY

1 Vacancy Unit IV

JOM COMMITTEE

3 Vacancies (different units)

HIGHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

1 Vacancy

HEALTH COMMITTEE

2 Vacancies (different units)

CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE

1 Vacancy

SPECIAL NEEDS COMMITTEE

1 Vacancy

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

1 Vacancy for a non-commercial fisherman

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 St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 635-6050, (800) 793-0660, fax (906) 632-6696
Email: jcarr@saulttribe.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

Board of directors 2007 calendar

January 2	Sault Ste. Marie	November 6	Sault Ste. Marie
January 16	Kincheloe	November 20	Hessel
February 6	Sault Ste. Marie	December 4	Sault Ste. Marie
February 20	St. Ignace		
March 6	Sault Ste. Marie		
March 20	Hessel		
April 3	Sugar Island		
April 17	Sault Ste. Marie		
May 1	Sault Ste. Marie		
May 15	Manistique		
June 5	Escanaba		
June 19	Marquette		
July 3	Mackinac Island		
August 7	Munising		
August 21	Newberry		
September 4	Sault Ste. Marie		
September 18	Manistique		
October 2	Munising		
October 16	St. Ignace		

Unit I: 10 Meetings: Sault Ste. Marie (8), Kincheloe (1), Sugar Island (1)
Unit II: Three meetings: Hessel (2), Newberry (1)
Unit III: Three meetings: St. Ignace (2), Mackinac Island (1)
Unit IV: Three meetings: Manistique (2), Escanaba (1)
Unit V: Three meetings: Munising (2), Marquette (1)

General meetings of the board of directors are held the first and third Tuesday of the month. All general meetings start at 6 p.m. All Sault meetings will be held at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center, other locations to be announced.

For further information please call Joanne or Tara at the administration office, (800) 793-0660, extensions 26337 or 26338.

Budget work



Tom Miller
Unit IV Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

I have to apologize for not being in the last edition of the tribal newspaper. But, even the best laid plans can go awry. I had my home computer go down when it was time to submit the report, that simple. Technology is great, when it works.

Well, winter is playing a game with us, it arrived in force and left us just as quickly. By the time this is in the paper (there will be a reduction in the number of issues, down to 13 I believe, and therefore, longer times between information), we could be out of the banana belt weather and back to our normal winter. I will not complain until then. This certainly beats normal winter driving, which is always a little more exciting than in the summer. As flexible as the board's schedule has been, the holiday season adds a little more to the mix. Things should settle back to normal after the new year. Please bear with us as we get through this period.

The board has been addressing the 2007 budget process as our highest priority in an attempt to keep spending in check, while maintaining the level of services provided to the tribe members. I feel that we have a good handle on what has to happen to allow us to get through our belt tightening and still provide adequate services. We are presently projecting approximately a \$500,000 deficit

for the 2007 budget year. This is not unreasonable and we will probably be able to find savings in existing revenue and such to hopefully break even. Community members shouldn't notice any difference in the program processes as most budget constraints take place behind the scenes as recommended by the program directors and approved by the board. Our enterprise system, which is the major source of tribal dollars contributed to the budget process, continues to streamline its operations, thereby making it more efficient and profitable. We have not conducted any other business that is earth shattering, but rather have been taking care of the business as usual.

At the Dec. 19, 2006, board meeting, the JKL fiduciary board was approved by the board to negotiate a long term lease with the Bahweting Public School Academy board for their use of the school building. The JKL fiduciary board is in the process of discussions with the PSA board for potential expansion (construction) to the school facility. These actions will stabilize the intent of the board for its long term commitment to the education of our children.

Denise and I have concluded the fall two percent distribution process for Unit IV with an emphasis on the schools.

There will also be updates on a monthly basis of what is happening at the Greentown casino. This information will consist of the information that can be made public.

Most of our efforts in the near future will continue to be in the completing the budget process area as we finalize all department budgets.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (906) 644-3334 or on my cell (906) 322-3827.

I hope that everyone is healthy and had a great holiday period. Merry Christmas and happy new year. Have a great 2007.

Respectfully yours



Cathy Abramson
Unit I Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

I hope that your celebration of Christ's birthday was merry and joyous. May this new year bring peace and happiness to you and your family. I enjoyed visiting with our elders at the Christmas dinner and it was good to see family and friends at the New Year's Eve Powwow. Thanks to all the workers and volunteers who coordinate and work these events.

Change in our lives continues to take place. Each year as my elders pass on to the other side and I am blessed with another grandchild (six granddaughters at this time), it's a continuous reminder of the circle of life and I move closer to that northern direction. With the retiring or changes of our longstanding leadership, we have a gap in experienced leadership. It is my continued hope that we, as a whole

board, reach out to our elder leadership for advice in some of these major projects that are, in part, attributed to the efforts of our past leaders. At this time, we are working to make the best decisions we can with the information we are given.

As new leadership comes in, new ideas and new direction come in. Keith Massaway, D.J. Hoffman and Shirley Petoskey have contributed well to our board with their unique ideas and insight. We now have a larger group of board members who support my beliefs that we must meet face to face with tribal, national state and local government officials. We are actively doing so and about a month ago we had an excellent visit to Washington, D.C. Our federal liaison, Meghan Kelly Powell, wrote an article about that visit and I hope it appears in this month's tribal newspaper. Thank you Meghan for all your hard work!

Our board of directors also supports meeting with our constituents in various cities downstate. We have now received the ambitious list of dates that our tribal chairperson has scheduled. As a matter of fact, I already attended a Lansing and Cheboygan meeting and look forward to the Jan. 14 Detroit meeting. I have received several calls from tribe members and they are looking forward to meeting us. I will do everything I can to attend these meetings. I hope we will be able to coordinate them with our Greentown Management Board meetings,

our United Tribes meetings, our Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes meetings and our National Congress of American Indians meetings. We must also make time for our subcommittee meetings and board workshops to discuss any new legislation that will be introduced at our tribal board meetings. As you can see, the role of a board member is a full time job. The downstate meetings will help in our efforts to better communicate important tribal issues.

The 2007 governmental, casino and enterprise budgets were approved. We worked hard to preserve existing programs and services and to appropriate tribal funds for the maximum possible benefit to tribe members. Part of the budget included changes implemented by the board of directors in coordination with the Contract Health and health administration staff. The Contract Health program has been actively informing members of these important changes. If you have questions, regarding these changes, please call Contract Health at (906) 632-5220.

Now that the holidays are over, I will be getting back to my regular office hours on Mondays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the second floor of the administration building. You may also reach me at home, (906) 635-3054, or by cell phone, (906) 322-3823. My e-mail address is:

www.cabramson@saulttribe.net.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Saving Anishinaabe artifacts in St. Ignace



Keith Massaway
Unit III Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

A new year has begun and I hope it finds you happy and well.

I would like to help explain the recent resolution that was passed by the board of directors to save the Fort De Buade Museum from being sold off and the artifacts dispersed around the country.

The museum is owned by Mrs. Benson, an elderly woman, who is going to sell. She would like to keep the museum in St. Ignace but all offers have come from outside investors who want to purchase and then sell off the artifacts separately to make a profit.

The Michilimackinac Historical Society tried for over a year to

secure loans, grants or local investors to keep it here but they have been unsuccessful.

The society has brought in professionals from the University of Michigan, Michigan State University, Mackinac Parks curators and several historical preservationists. All have been extremely impressed and have unanimously agreed that this collection is unmatched and undervalued.

The society then asked if the tribe could help. It was at this time that the tribe was finishing up a commitment for the debt retirement of the Little Bear Ice Arena. That money came from two percent monies.

Two percent funds are derived from the compact we signed with the State of Michigan to allow us the right to operate casinos in Michigan. The compact reads that two percent of the net revenue from the slot machines must be given to local units of governments. This money must be given freely and accounted for by the tribe as such.

You have seen the photos in the paper before. It goes for roads, fire trucks, animal shelters, sports teams and many numerous improvement projects.

Half of the monies being freed up by the retirement of the Little

Bear debt are now going to secure the artifacts of the Fort De Buade Museum.

Over 70 percent of the artifacts are related to Native culture and the peoples who interacted with them. We need to save our history. It has been repressed and taken away from us for so long, but now we have a chance to preserve and protect a large piece of it.

With the co-operation of the City of St. Ignace and the Michilimackinac Historical Society, this museum will prosper and flourish. It will show everyone who enters how rich and beautiful the area and its people are.

Mrs. Benson will sell the building, contents of the shops and fixtures for the museum, along with the artifacts for the appraised value of the artifacts done by an independent appraiser, James Hansen.

The city and the historical society are now working on a plan to make sure that this is a positive endeavor.

If you have any questions about this or any other subject, please call me at (906) 643-6981 or write Keith Massaway, 702 Hazelton St., St. Ignace, MI 49781.

If you would like to set up a meeting, please call the number above.

President appoints members to tribal college and university advisory board

President George W. Bush announced his intention to appoint four individuals to serve on the President's Board of Advisors on Tribal Colleges and Universities.

The board's new members:

Dr. Verna Fowler of Wisconsin, president, College of the Menominee Nation; member of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin.

Dr. Joseph Hiller of Arizona, assistant dean for native american programs, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Arizona; member of the Lakota Sioux Tribe.

Richard Stephens of California, senior vice president, human resources and administration, the Boeing Company; member of the Pala Band of Mission Indians.

Edward Thomas of Alaska, president of the Central Council of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska; member of the Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska.

The Board of Advisors on Tribal Colleges and Universities is charged with ensuring that tribal colleges and universities have full access to federal and private programs and funds that benefit other higher education institutions. The board makes recommendations to the president and the secretary of education on ways the federal government and the private sector can help tribal colleges strengthen and expand their resources, programs, facilities and use of technologies.

Moving? Call Enrollment at (800) 251-6597 or (906) 635-3396 to update your address and phone number.

Where's the leadership?



Dennis McKelvie
Unit I Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

I am reminded of the ad campaign of "Where's the Beef?" It was a funny commercial, but when you wonder where the leadership is, it's not funny. Recent resolutions introduced, including that of Revenue Sharing, remind me of past resolutions brought forth by this type of leadership.

A few years back this type of leadership offered 67 people a retirement plan that would have given each of them \$36,000 per year for the rest of their lives. This grandiose plan actually passed, to be later revoked due to a lack of funds. These funds were never in place, nor would they have ever been. When the Board passed it, they knew they could not fund, nor pay it. However, this issue was brought forth as "feel good" legislation. I'm betting that it didn't feel very good when those individuals found out that they were not getting what they believed they were offered.

Leadership is not about feel

good resolutions geared towards re-election. In the same spirit of those old '80's television commercials I ask "Where's the Leadership?"

Leadership is making sound decisions, not just "feel good" legislation. As I have stated before, we must become financially sound if we want to secure our children's future. This is a must, because our government, unlike others, must earn our money to expand our services. The board and the chairman must work together for the benefit of the Tribe, and put personal feelings aside. Until personal attacks between us stop, I do not believe we will ever move forward.

Like the federal government, pork barrel spending deals amongst the board members. "If I get this, then you get that..." This is not leadership! The question we should be asking is: Is it right for our Tribe? The future of the Tribe is in our hands now; we must make the best decisions for the Tribe. It may not be the best "political" decision — but it must be what is best for the Tribe. That is what leadership is about.

Here is an example of good leadership and not feel good legislation. The subscription card that you were sent will help speed up the delivery time of your newspaper. The subscription is free, but we need over 50 percent of the cards returned to provide second class postage which will benefit all of the membership. Mail will reach you faster, and will forward to you if you move.

Dennis McKelvie
(906) 632-7267

Gas and meds



Shirley Petoskey
Unit V Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Happy new year, dear friends. The weather has been great for traveling to and from the meetings. Every once in awhile I pass that woman who looks a lot like someone I know, going the opposite way.

The new year board meeting started off with a bang. Lots of hot topics but ones we have to settle nonetheless.

The gas station in Christmas has been a concern for several people, there was no gas for a while. But they are up and going now. However the prices are a lot higher than in Munising and much higher than Marquette. The Sault Tribe offices are aware of all of this and are looking into the problem.

A lot has happened in the past few weeks. We said goodbye to

President Ford, goodbye to 2006, hello 2007 and welcomed our governor back for another term.

Kids are already looking forward to spring break, but first the terrible mid-terms. As usual, the holidays went by too fast but, boy, were they fun. My tree still has to come down. I enjoy looking at it too much.

Our elders are looking at changes in the New Year, a lot of meds our tribe doesn't carry and are not life or limb necessary will have to be paid for on a sliding scale. Lets pray no one has to decide if they can afford their medication or just try to live without it. We say so often that elders won't be affected by cutbacks and yet this will certainly be a cutback for many. A lot of meds aren't life or limb, BUT are helping to make life bearable for our elders. There are meds that allow people to go out and have a social life. That alone is necessary to life. I hope we can work on this and see to it that people get what they need.

On a happier note — January looks good and so does February for entertainment being offered at the Sault and St. Ignace. Remember elders, you can sign up for free tickets to the shows. Unit V people can call me, leave a message if I'm not home, we have a window of time that we can ask for the free tickets.

Be a blessing to someone.
Shirley Petoskey
(906) 387-2101,
shirleypetoskey@yahoo.com.

On to a happy new year



DJ Hoffman
Unit I Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Happy new year to everyone! The new year has ushered in, and as you can see from the front of this paper — an old familiar name has returned:

WIN AWENEN NISITOTUNG

Win Awenen Nisitotung is once again the prominent name on the masthead of this paper. It is important that we hold on to the past as we head to the future. I am pleased that the board supported the resolution I drafted to properly reflect our tribal paper with its original traditional name.

JKL SCHOOL LEASE

In addition to the abovementioned change, the board has also initiated the process of negotiating a lease for the Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Public School Academy. While there are still many obstacles to overcome, we are working towards resolving a once delicate situation and ensuring a prosperous educational opportunity for all of our community's children.

KINROSS GAS STATION

I am also pleased to announce that, this year, tribe members who are residents of Kinross-Kincheloe area will be able to benefit from the addition of the gas tax discount. A majority of the tribal board voted to establish an off reservation site in your area. I am grateful for their support in passing this resolution. Final negotiations are not yet complete, but soon you will be able to share in the benefits received in other locations.

I look forward to working with our staff, as well as any of the board members to ensure that these types of opportunities become a reality.

INFORMATION

Many members have expressed concerns on having access to information on tribal activities.

Indian Pride TV series begins in February

Production is underway for the highly anticipated Indian Pride, a 13-part cultural magazine series to be aired on PBS stations throughout the United States in February. Indian Pride will spotlight the diverse cultures of American Indian people throughout the country.

Prairie Public Television of Fargo, N.D., is producing the weekly magazine in cooperation with Circle of Nations Publishing of Grand Forks, N.D.

The first program showcases "a historical overview" of Indian nations, and has a respected scholar from UCLA, Dr. Duane Champagne, as the in-studio guest. Champagne, an American Indian professor, is the author of over 100 articles and books on the history of Indian Country.

More recently, the concerns have been on issues such as the St. Ignace casino, budgets and our Greentown Casino. Members should be properly informed on all of the issues that face us as a tribe.

Upon my request, with the support of fellow tribal board members in attendance — Greentown will begin issuing monthly reports on their activities to this tribal paper. In addition, I, along with other board members, am drafting legislation to open the governmental budget meetings up to the membership of the tribe.

With regards to the St. Ignace project, there is a silver lining just ahead as we approach the New Year. Hopefully, we will have approval to utilize the vast gaming space available in this beautiful facility this year. We have staff working diligently to make this a reality. In addition, an independent investigator has been retained to determine what went wrong, why and so forth. We have commissioned this to determine accountability and ensure that mistakes such as this never happen again.

BUDGETS

The tribal board has worked diligently to establish the FY 2007 budgets. It was extremely time consuming and all board members should be commended for their active role in ensuring that the current budgets remained fiscally manageable.

I, however, must note that I did not vote to approve the budgets. My reasoning is simple, as I have stated we must "tighten our belts." We have several years before we reap the benefits from our Greentown investment, and I believe that we could have done more in the short term to enhance the long term fiscal future of the tribe. This is not to say that the budget adjustments will not be effective. I respect the decision of my fellow board members and will work with them to ensure future fiscal responsibility.

I would like to personally point out the actions of Director Causley with regards to accountability. Director Causley has been diligent in requesting timely reporting on all areas of the budget process. In fact, she drafted legislation to view expenditures on a variety of levels, including the chairperson's signature authority. While we have yet to see a copy of this report, I anticipate viewing it in the near future.

CAMPAIGNING

While it is still nearly a year and one half away from election

time, it apparently has begun. Resolutions are being drafted to "tweak" the interest of voters, many of you who reside outside the seven-county service area. Resolutions have been submitted pertaining to "revenue sharing" and "open voter registration." These resolutions are purely political attempts to draw interest from voters. In fact, at the present time, it is fiscally irresponsible to adopt a revenue sharing plan. As you may recall, many of our leaders have reported on the budget issues that face us as a tribe, how can we reasonably adopt a revenue sharing resolution when, in fact, there are no excess revenues to "share."

There have also been many discussions regarding the newly established membership meetings throughout the state by our chairperson. I do not believe that there is an individual on the Board who is not supportive of meeting with the membership outside the service area. It is imperative that we receive input from all of the membership.

However, I do believe that there is a difference between telling the membership what you want them to hear, as opposed to listening to what they have to say!

In addition, there is a resolution to establish sick and vacation time, **retroactively**, for the current chairperson. I do not support this resolution. Board members, including the chairperson, are paid whether they are sick or on vacation, thus there is no need to accumulate sick or vacation time. All this does is create an additional expense.

THANK YOU

In the past few weeks we have lost two truly special individuals within our tribe. Over the years they taught me a lot about life through their actions and words. They were extremely special people and I was extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to have them in my life.

Sunshine and Janis, thank you! You will be missed.

I would like to personally wish all of you a happy new year, and ask that if you have any issues or concerns to please feel free to contact me anytime.

DJ Hoffman,
(906) 635-6945, cell (906) 322-3801, toll free (866) 598-5804 or e-mail:
djwhoffman@hotmail.com.
Web site:
www.membership-first.com.

traveling the country for several months to bring the stories and scenes of American Indian culture to the television screen.

Each 30-minute episode includes three distinct segments: mini-documentaries shot on location, on reservations and around other parts of Indian country; in-studio segments featuring discussion of current issues by nationally-known American Indian guests; and original and cultural performances featuring traditional and contemporary artists, as well as storytellers.

The world premiere of the 13-week series is scheduled to begin Feb. 3. Contact your local PBS station for local dates and times.

Two percent distributions made



Denise Chase
Unit IV Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

I hope you had a very merry Christmas and wish you all a healthy and happy new year. During December we were all busy with attending community events and planning and organizing the children and elder Christmas parties. I would like to

thank all of the volunteers who donated their time to shop, wrap presents, make candy bags, help set up Christmas trees and decorate, and those who volunteered to work at the children and elders Christmas parties. Without your spirit of volunteering it would be difficult to hold these events. Our community is very lucky to have all of you!

Two percent fall distributions: Following is a list of approved requests for Unit IV:

- City of Manistique, Little Bear West kitchen renovations, \$7,500.
- Escanaba Area Schools, Native American Education Program, \$5,000.
- Garden Fire Department, fire fighting equipment, \$5,370.
- Gladstone Public School, cultural enhancement, \$5,000.
- Gwinn Area Schools, Native American Enrichment Program, \$5,000.
- Rapid River Public School,

Indian Education Program, \$5,000.

- Schoolcraft County MSU Extension office, food baskets, \$3,000.
- Ishpeming Public Schools, Indian Education, \$5,000.
- Negaunee School, Native American Education Program, \$5,000.
- Bay De Noc School District, Indian Education Program, \$5,000.
- Manistique Area Schools, Indian Education Program, 5,000.
- Village of Garden, office equipment, \$1,500.
- West Branch Recreation Center, Building a Community, \$6,478.
- City of Manistique, public safety, \$5,370.

Powwow: June 16 and 17 is the date set for the Sault Tribe Manistique Powwow which will be held on the Manistique Tribal Center grounds. We are still recruiting volunteers. If you

would like to sign up to volunteer or to be on a sub-committee please call (906) 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137.

The next powwow meetings scheduled will be held on Jan. 12 and 26 at 6 p.m., at the Manistique Tribal Center Community Room.

Elders will be receiving their lands claim distribution check this month. You will receive \$1,600, \$762 is non-taxable while \$838 is the taxable portion. There will be 3,151 elders who will receive a payment this year compared to 2,928 last year.

A workshop will be held in February between the Board of Directors, Conservation Committee and tribal fisherman. This will give the fisherman the opportunity to directly address the board and discuss the problems that are occurring in the fisheries.

According to an update we received regarding the special needs enrollment, as of Jan. 2,

out of the 4,567 applications that were received 2,624 were approved and 1,477 were denied. There are still 466 applications pending.

In the near future the board will be considering a resolution amending Chapter 11, Enrollment Ordinance, that clarifies the tribe's policy regarding adopted children. The resolution and enrollment committee recommendation was presented to the board by Ken Ermintinger and the tribe's Legal Department staff on Jan. 2. The section to be considered, code 11.116, would state any child adopted by a member of the tribe shall not be eligible for enrollment in the tribe unless the adopted child can prove eligibility for enrollment under this Code by virtue of the child's natural parents.

I can be contacted at (906) 341-6783 or (888) 667-3809.

Employment Opportunities!

For More Information Contact:
Employment Office, 2186 Shunk Rd.
(906) 635-7032 or toll free (866) 635-7032
APPLY on-line at www.saulttribe.com

GOVERNMENTAL OPENINGS

Fitness Instructor Until Filled
Youth Program Group Assistant Until Filled
Physician Assistant Until Filled
Program Clerk Until Filled
Events Coordinator Until Filled
Court Administrator/Magistrate 01/29/07

SAULT KEWADIN CASINO

No Openings

MANISTIQUE

No Openings

HESSEL

No Openings

CHRISTMAS

Gaming Shift Manager III Until Filled

Bartender (3) Until Filled

Line Cook (3) Until Filled

Casino Porter Until Filled

ST. IGNACE KEWADIN CASINO

Casino Assistant Manager 01/15/07

Bartender Until Filled

Valet Parking Attendant Until Filled

Beverage Manager 01/19/07

ENTERPRISE

No Openings

Cool Places!
Cool People!
Cool JOBS!



Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

The next deadline for submissions to Win Awenen Nisitotung is January 30 at 9 a.m.

Attention Sault Tribe Web site visitors

SUBMITTED BY NATHAN WRIGHT, SITE ADMINISTRATOR

Please check your e-mail accounts to ensure you have received our last e-mail newsletter (sent Dec. 29) titled *News from Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians* from Sault Tribe Communications. If you have previously registered on our site and did not receive an e-mail newsletter, please come and visit www.saulttribe.com to sign up.

Also, please add the following address to your e-mail address book:
do_not_reply@saulttribe.com

This will allow us to send e-mail to you, bypassing most spam filtering software. Note: do_not_reply@saulttribe.com is not an active e-mail account; it is only used to send our e-mail list from. If you want to contact someone, please visit the Sault Tribe Web site and click on contact us or use the address below. We look forward to serving your online needs.

Nathan Wright can be contacted at crane@saulttribe.org or by phone at (800) 793-0660 ext 58641.

Family movies at Bayliss Public Library will show *The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh* (1983, rated G) starting at 1:30 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 20, in the children's room. The movie is free and open to the public. Popcorn is available by donation. Bayliss Public Library is at 541 Library Drive, Sault Ste. Marie. For more information, call (906) 632-9331.



Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Housing Authority Down Payment Assistance

UP TO \$5000

Eligible applicants receive up to \$5,000 to be applied towards down payment and closing costs. Borrowers are required to participate in the Home buyers Education sessions.

- *Must be a Sault Tribe Member
- *Must be at least 18 years old
- *Must live in 7 co. service area
- *Must be a first time home buyer
- *Must be within income guidelines

Family Size	Limit
1	\$33,400
2	\$38,150
3	\$42,900
4	\$47,700
5	\$51,500
6	\$55,300
7	\$59,100
8	\$62,950

Contact Angie Spencer to receive an application.

2218 Shunk Road
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906)635-7702 / 1-800-794-4072

Stork Report...

Jason Tyler Gay was born Aug. 23, 2006, to Kristina Kelly and Terry Gay at Ormond Beach, Fla. Kristina is a member of the Sault Tribe. Jason is the great-grandson of Ronald and Sharon Martineau of Plymouth, Mich., and the great-great-grandson of the late Herman and Mary Lavina Martineau of St. Ignace.



Tyler Jacob Zamonski was born Nov. 6, 2006, at St. Joseph Mercy in Ypsilanti, Mich.

He weighed nine pounds, 11 ounces and was 21 inches in length.

Grandparents are Pete and Wendy Graham of Dundee, Mich., and Ted and Sandy Zamonski of Howell, Mich.

Mom and grandma Wendy are members of the Sault Tribe.

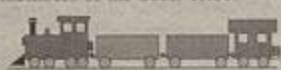


Mary Jane Elizabeth Cadotte

paid her first visit to Santa with her parents Howard and Connie (nee Hyslop) Cadotte of St. Ignace. Her grandparents are Otto and Helen Hyslop and Patricia and the late John Cadotte. She was born Aug. 6, 2006, and is named after her great-grandmothers, Mary Jane Cottle and Elizabeth Cadotte. All are Sault Tribe members. Connie Cadotte works for the Elder Care Division in St. Ignace.



Bridgette and Jacob Zamonski of Adrian, Mich., proudly announce the birth of their son,



Head Start serves our children's early educational, social and health needs

SUBMITTED BY TRISH STERLING, EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS MANAGER

Since 1965, Head Start has provided comprehensive early childhood services to low-income preschool children and their families. These services are intended to prepare children to enter kindergarten and to improve the conditions necessary for their success in school and life. Head Start today provides these services to nearly one million children across the United States.

As with all programs of the federal government, Head Start owes its existence to a public law passed by the Congress and signed by the president. The Head Start Act, as it commonly referred to, authorizes the appropriation of funds at specific levels and the methodology for allocating funds to the various functions of the program. The Act outlines the intent of the Congress for the program, the types of services provided, the population served, reports, evaluation and administrative requirements. Congress reauthorizes the Act every four years.

The current Act, as amended in 1998, provides the statutory foundation for the entire range of Head Start and Early Head Start services and activities. The purpose of the Head Start Act is to promote school readiness of low-income children by enhancing their social and cognitive development. It also directs programs to offer individualized health, educational, nutritional and social services to low-income children and their families.

Head Start reauthorization is presently under consideration by Congress. Stay posted to the Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center for updates on the progress of the legislation.

Mission

Head Start is a national program that promotes school readi-

ness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families.

Program description

The Head Start program provides grants to local public and private non-profit and for-profit agencies to provide comprehensive child development services to economically disadvantaged children and families, with a special focus on helping preschoolers develop the early reading and math skills they need to be successful in school. In fiscal year 1995, the Early Head Start program was established to serve children from birth to three years of age in recognition of the mounting evidence that the earliest years matter a great deal to children's growth and development.

Head Start programs promote school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through the provision of educational, health, nutritional, social and other services to enrolled children and families. They engage parents in their children's learning and help them in making progress toward their educational, literacy and employment goals. Significant emphasis is placed on the involvement of parents in the administration of local Head Start programs.

Head Start's commitment to wellness embraces a comprehensive vision of health for children, families and staff. The objective of child health and development services is to ensure that, through collaboration among families, staff and health professionals, all child health and developmental concerns are identified, and children and families are linked to an ongoing source of continuous, accessible care to meet their basic health needs.

The objective of education and

early childhood development is to provide all children with a safe, nurturing, engaging, enjoyable and secure learning environment in order to help them gain the awareness, skills and confidence necessary to succeed in their present environment and to deal with later responsibilities in school and in life. Each child is treated as an individual in an inclusive community that values, respects and responds to diversity. The varied experiences provided by the program support the continuum of children's growth and development, which includes the physical, social, emotional and cognitive development of each child.

Head Start offers parents opportunities and support for growth, so that they can identify their own strengths, needs and interests, and find their own solutions. The objective of family partnerships is to support parents as they identify and meet their own goals, nurture the development of their children in the context of their family and culture, and advocate for communities that are supportive of children and families of all cultures. The building of trusting, collaborative relationships between parents and staff allows them to share with and to learn from one another.

Head Start serves families within the context of the community and recognizes that many other agencies and groups work with the same families. The objective of community partnerships is to ensure that grantee and delegate agencies collaborate with partners in their communities, in order to provide the highest level of services to children and families, to foster the development of a continuum of family centered services and to advocate for a community that shares responsibility for the healthy development of children and families of all cultures.

tured at this year's event include Cynthia England, Ann Fahl, Margaret Miller, Jame Sassaman and Mary Stori. Workshop registrations will be accepted until Feb. 2.

For more information on entry rules, prizes, instructors, or for an entry form, a complete list of workshops offered or to register for any of the workshops, visit www.ihqs.org or call the Bloomington Visitors Center at (800) 800-0037.

Toddlers at Child Care Center decorate tree



SUBMITTED BY KRISTAL TALENTINO
DATA ENTRY CLERK FOR THE CHILD CARE CENTER

This is the toddler room at the tribe's Child Care Center. We have children in the toddler room ranging from age 18 months to three years. Above, the class sitting beside a Christmas tree they decorated with homemade ornaments, some garland and a star. The children do fun activities such as water play with bubbles and use shaving cream as paint. The center provides a happy and healthy environment for children to discover and grow into responsible little people.

For information about Child Care Center programs, call the Child Care Center at (906) 632-5258.

RJ Wallis school students deliver Christmas food baskets



SUBMITTED BY TAN-A HOFFMAN

FOURTH GRADE TEACHER AT R.J. WALLIS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

The R.J. Wallis Student Council along with Northern Light Church and the Kinross Lions Club put together 20 Christmas food baskets to support needy families in the area. The student council collected over 1,000 canned or boxed food items. Northern Light Church and Kinross Lions Club provided the turkeys, fresh fruit, pies and potatoes. Back row from left, Mason Stierly, Austin Peck, Shiloh Spencer. Front row from left, Michaela McLeod, Kirstin Warren, Adam Ayers, and Nic Drake.

Photo courtesy of Jude McConkey, The Evening News

Santa's elves distributed gifts to children at the Escanaba children's Christmas party



SUBMITTED BY TARA DUCHENE,
ESCANABA TRIBAL HEALTH CENTER

Escanaba folks recently enjoyed the annual children's Christmas party on Dec. 8, 2006, at the Flat Rock Town Hall. Over 400 people attended this year's party, which made it a huge success! We would like to thank everyone who donated supplies and those who volunteered their time to help with our party. Santa's elves helped in giving all the gifts to the children as they went up to see him. From left, Mallory Westerberg, Kayleigh Thibeault and Katie McNight.

Quilt show open for entries and workshop registrations

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — The sixteenth annual Indiana Heritage Quilt Show will take place March 1-3, featuring over 200 outstanding quilts from around the country. Quilters still have plenty of time to enter their works in this year's show, which will award over \$15,000 in prize money and awards. Quilted works by individual quilters or groups may be eligible for entry in one of 11 categories, but each individual can enter no more than two works

in any one category. All quilts entered in this year's show must have been completed after Jan. 1, 2003. The entry fee is \$10 per entry and entries will be accepted until Jan. 17.

If you need to brush-up on your quilting skills, the quilt show also offers several workshops throughout the three-day event. Workshops will be offered for all skill levels, from beginners to experienced quilters. Some of the nationally known instructors fea-

Holt goes to state cross country finals

Tribe member Benjamin Holt made the Michigan state cross country finals for the fourth time in the last four years.

Holt had a great season on his St. Clair High School team finishing first at the Port Huron dual meet championship and then backed it up with a second overall for the Mac Division championship. He went on to finish thirteenth at the regionals qualifying him for the fourth year in a row for the state finals where he finished 44 out of 1,800 runners. He was also the all-area, all-regional runner for the third year in a row. Holt is known throughout the state as a tough competitor according to his coach, Jon Davison. Holt also finished in second place this year in the Billy Mills run.

He is the youngest son of Chris and Danielle Holt of St. Clair, and the grandson of Don and Sally Holt of Sault Ste. Marie.



Life in the Sault Tribe Human Resource Department

BY BARB GRAVELLE, HUMAN RESOURCE RECRUITER

As some of you know, until last month I was the coordinator for the Youth Education and Activities program in the Sault. I am now the new Human Resources (HR) recruiter for the Sault Tribe Employment Department. This was a big move for me and it sure has been exciting! Now I will be recruiting our kids to come back and give to our tribe by becoming valuable team members.

Some of my duties as recruiter are to attend job fairs, advertise job openings and help our tribe find the best applicants for open positions. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a team member for the tribe, tell them to give me a call.

The HR Department consists of employment, team member representatives and advocates, compensation and training.

Let me give you an example. When I was an applicant, I filled out and submitted an application online at www.saulttribe.com. I received a phone call, an interview and a position. Easy as pie, right? Wrong! It was easy for me because of the hard work of the Human Resource department. From the beginning, when an application is submitted, to the final selection process, there are many steps and procedures the employment staff must follow. The process I took for granted is a lengthy one that has to be observed to be appreciated. Next time you see someone in Human Resources, make sure to com-

mend them for all of their "behind the scenes" work that affects all of us more than we realize.

I have a calendar of job fairs to attend and will be meeting with staff to learn their applicants' needs. I will also be accessing our current advertising, writing articles for the tribal newspaper and working with our Education Department to plan a "career showcase" for seventh and eighth grade students.

If you have any questions or are interested in being recruited to become a team member for Sault Tribe, or have fun new ideas about recruiting, please feel free to give me a call.

Call (906) 635-4937 or email: bgravelle@saulttribe.net.

Monica Skye recipient of conservation award



Monica Skye is the recipient of the United Plant Savers (UPS) second annual Medicinal Plant Conservation Award. Skye is an outstanding plant woman who works in extraordinary ways to conserve and preserve North American medicinal

plants. Skye, who has Chippewa ancestry, lives at Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota with her husband Aubrey Skye, a Lakota, and their two children. Together they steward the land, gardens, community planting projects and established a UPS botanical sanctuary in the Porcupine District of the reservation. Skye is a student of Prescott College Sustainable Community Development with an indigenous perspective. Standing Rock Sanctuary has been the recipient of two UPS community grants, including a multi-generational project planting ceremonial plants, native plants and at-risk medicinal plants. One can read about the botanical sanctuary and the first grant she implemented in the 2006 Journal of Medicinal Plant Conservation as well as on the United Plant Savers Web site

under new botanical sanctuaries and community grants. Read about the multi-generational planting project in the coming 2007 journal.

The announcement about the award was made on Aug. 26 at the annual Women's Herbal Conference in Peterborough, N.H., where Rosemary Gladstar and Nancy Scanzello (who mentored her through the projects) honored her in the presence of 500 herbalists. Skye will be a UPS guest at a coming herbal conference of her choosing where she will make a presentation and receive the award in person.

Skye graduated Dec. 2, 2006, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in sustainable community development from Prescott College. She is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

The next deadline for submissions to *Win Awenen Nisitotung* is Jan. 30 at 9 a.m.

LaFave wins gold medal

Sault Tribe member Whitney LaFave took first place and won the gold medal at the sixteenth annual turkey trot figure skating competition in Houghton, Mich., on Nov. 18, 2006. Whitney competed in the limited beginner freestyle group against three other girls. Whitney is 11 years old and has been skating for five years. Her goals are to be on the high school team and, maybe someday, compete in the Olympics. Whitney lives in Marquette with her parents and brother who are very proud of her accomplishments.



Brenda Brownlee new ACFS employee



Anishinabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) recently hired Brenda Brownlee as a secretary for the Kincheloe office.

Brownlee's past work experience with the tribe includes hospitality at Sault Kewadin Casino and Kewadin Lakefront in St. Ignace, secretary at JKL Bahweting School for three years and most recently legal secretary for Tribal Court.

Brownlee graduated from Waverly High School in Lansing, Mich., and moved home to the Sault area 10 years ago. She is certified in criminal justice with a background in records management from LSSU.

"I live in Kincheloe and love it out there. I am going to do the best I can to assist the Kincheloe community," she said.

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Our Home Equity Loans Can Help.



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1-800-562-4880.

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Children's Christmas Committee offer thanks

The Children's Christmas Committee works very hard each year to assist less fortunate families at Christmas with gifts to the children and a gift card for a food basket. The following are members of the committee: Lisa Bumstead, Teri Romano, Juanita Bye, Caryn Routhier, Dan Doyle, Kari O'Gorman, Kristi Madigan, Roxanne Mannisto, Ruth Pickem, Hiedi Cotey, Barb Christi and Heather Corbiere.

The committee would like to thank the tribal board of directors for their contributions to this committee. We would like to thank all the ACFS staff for their help with making phone calls and distributing and transporting gifts. Many hands made for lighter work.

Roxanne and Heidi received help from Denise Chase and Viola Neadow with gifts for Schoolcraft and Delta Counties. Their assistance with the purchasing and packaging of gifts was a big help. The committee members had to buy for three counties instead of five counties in the western end. Ruth received assistance from



A variety of quality toys are collected for all ages.

Melissa Matson, Deb Obeshaw and Lynn Yoder with the shopping and bagging the gifts for the families for Mackinac county. Thank you to all.

We would also like to thank the employees at the Sault Health and Human Services Center for purchasing gifts from the mitten

tree, it is always a big help. Also, thank you to the Shipping and Receiving department for assisting with delivering to the various counties. We would like to thank the Insurance Department for adopting a family, the Legal Department for adopting two families and all the individuals

who adopted families.

The Children's Christmas Committee relies on donations to assist needy children and their families during the holiday season.

Every year surplus gifts from the Sault Tribe children's Christmas party are donated. This year 410 gifts were received at a value of \$4,100. The committee also received 71 \$10 gift certificates and a Wal-Mart gift card worth \$625.08 from the folks who orchestrated the Sault Tribe Christmas party. We also received the remaining gifts from the Newberry and Manistique Christmas parties. Newberry donated 40 gifts, at a value of \$400. The number of gifts from Manistique was not available.

We also rely on dress down donations and the donation from the board of directors to meet our community needs. We received dress down money from the following departments: Gaming commission, education, MIS, telecommunications, operations, Advocacy Resource Center, indi-

rect and Sault Tribe Housing.

These donations amounted to \$5,133. The month long dress down generated \$3,036. We appreciate all the tribal employees for participating in dress down and then donating their funds to our tribe's needy children and their families across the seven-county service area.

We received donations of hand made hats and scarves from two different individuals and monetary donations from several other individuals.

The Committee would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Children's Christmas Committee. Without these donations, the committee would not be able to assist the many less fortunate children and their families.

We on the committee apologize if we missed anyone's donation. All donations are equally appreciated. All of us on the committee wishes everyone a happy and healthy new year.

Good samaritans knit hats for kids and giveaways

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is blessed with some good Samaritans for knitting hats for kids. Joanne Smith, an elder of the tribe from St. Ignace, made hats for Head Start children and the winter wear giveaway in September. She spends a lot of her time making hats for kids and plans to continue donating hats each year.

After the winter wear giveaway, ACFS was still receiving calls for winter wear items, so ACFS announced requests for more items.

Sue McLean from Davison, Mich., saw an item in *The Sault Tribe News* about the request for winter items and shared the information with her sister, Ginger Kolodica, from Corunna, Mich. Ginger makes around 300 hats each year for the Salvation Army. Because she is a tribe member, she now wants to make at least 100 hats for the Sault Tribe next year. Ginger would also like for sister Sue to make at least 50 scarves.

Mary Fraser from Greenley Colo., is another knitting angel who made boxes of hats for the children for Christmas.

Then there are the ladies from Rhino Entertainment in Burbank, Calif., who sent 66 items including scarves, scarf sets, mittens and a blanket in the tribe's colors.

Sault Tribe member Jennifer Menard Jespersion said, "We had a blast working on this and hope everything we did will benefit the people of our tribe." Jennifer wrote that she grew up in the Sault and is well aware how cold it can get. "We're hoping these hand made items will warm some members inside and out." She said these ladies get together once a week and do many different types of community service projects. Jennifer added "It's given me



Twins Matthew and Joshua Lumsden surrounded with hats made and donated by Mary Fraser.



Ladies of Rhino Entertainment (left to right), Natalie Richards, Carrie Marzo, Laura Neutra, Jennifer Jespersion, Kim Stockemer, Dee Dee Gordon and Thuy Lam.

a great opportunity to share my stories of growing up in the Sault and telling them a little bit about our heritage."

Mary's hats and the Rhino Entertainment items were included in the Christmas gifts and bas-

kets distributed by ACFS to needy families in the area.

The staff of ACFS would like to thank these ladies for their "labors of love" for children and on behalf of the children who they keep warm, a chi-miigwetch!

Anishnabek Community and Family Services



Biidaajmowin

*Bringing news
from ACFS*

ACFS fundraising news

The mission of the ACFS Fundraising Committee is to lead fundraising activities to enhance ACFS relations and sponsor youth and family community events.

Members of the ACFS Fundraising committee are Dan Doyle, Shirley Goudreau, Sharon Hutchinson, Julie Menard, Kelly Smart and Amber Visnaw.

The committee reached their goal to raise enough money in 2006 to support their 2007 community events. Some of the events to which this committee contributes are the family fun days in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace and Manistique; teen lock-in, the advocacy honor breakfast, a children's area at the Sault Tribe powwow, youth promise dance, nightmare on Bear Street, and the New Years sobriety powwow coloring contest.

On Dec. 15, the committee established a calendar of fundraising events for 2007 which includes a Jan. 17, burnito break-

fast, a Jan. 24, white elephant sale, monthly breakfasts on Feb. 28, March 20, April 4 (pictures with the Easter bunny), May 15, June 5, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 15 and Dec. 12. Spaghetti luncheons on March 3, June 20, and Sept. 19 and ice cream socials on May 18 and July 13.

The committee plans on having a children's area and sloppy joe sales at the Sault Tribe powwow and an Aug. 17 yard sale. Additional efforts include getting permission for a tribal merchandise sale, pledge forms and a Christmas sale.

In the outlying areas, St. Ignace may add additional concession sales to the popcorn sale and Manistique plans two fund raising events.

For more information about fundraising events or to volunteer or make contributions, contact ACFS at (906) 632-5250 or (800) 726-0093.

ACFS seeks wood vendors

Using a wood burning furnace is an efficient way of heating and, as fuel prices rise, more people are heating with wood. ACFS assists qualified low income families with the cost of heating their homes and would like to develop a wood vendor list with contact information and prices for families needing wood for their homes.

ACFS could use wood vendors throughout the seven-county service area.

If you have a surplus of wood you would like to sell and would like to be placed on a wood provider's list for heating homes, please contact the Sault Ste. Marie office at (906) 632-5250 or (800) 726-0093.

If you know someone with wood who might not see this article please let them know to contact ACFS.

ACFS is located at 2864 Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie.

They can be contacted at (906) 632-5250

or (800) 726-0093.

YEA program-year in review

SUBMITTED BY RACHEL MANDELSTAMM, YEA COORDINATOR

Once again, 2006 brought forth many new and exciting events throughout the seven sites in the Upper Peninsula. The Youth Education and Activities (YEA) program accomplished a lot last year and coordinated and implemented many successful events. The accomplishments of the youth are listed by sites so everyone can see how busy they have been.

Unit I — Sault Ste. Marie

The YEA program focused on five major events in 2006. The Battle of the Boards took place in January when the Tribal Youth Council and the tribal board of directors competed in a game of kickball against one another. The board won that particular game but there is no winner or loser in this event, everyone's a winner. Both the board and council participants had a great time playing and the council plans on challenging the board to another game next year.

The big event that took place this summer was the Circle of Life program where the medicine wheel was taught, field trips were taken and many different educational projects were conducted on culture and Native ways. Little Learners was for grades first through fourth and participated in the same activities as the Circle of Life program. "The kids looked like they had fun," said Justin Frazer a youth council member.

There was a three-day, two-night camping trip youth attended and learned many different things about medicine. They also learned about traditions and traditional events that, hopefully, will be passed down from generation to generation.

There were also days children were taken to Sherman Park where they could play for the day. The council put on a promise dance in September where they would then promise not to use or be involved with drugs or alcohol.

The haunted house on Halloween night was another big success for Chi Mukwa. The computer lab was turned into a scary bloody business office for the haunted hotel motif. There were about 450 people downstairs playing games and 899 people who came to Chi Mukwa to get scared in the haunted house and get candy while going from room to room. Shelby Fox commented, "I thought the haunted house was really scary and the scariest were the dead people in the weight room."

The year ended in a bang with a spectacular Christmas party where children received a picture with Mr. and Mrs. Claus, a gift, played games, won prizes and ate outstanding food.

Overall the year was a huge success and we're getting ready for the coming year with many fun and exciting events.

Barb Gravelle transferred to Human Resources after working here from 1999 to 2006. She will be greatly missed by all staff and students. Barb commented, "I think last year was really productive and fun for all the youth and YEA staff. My favorite part of the job was the activities the children did and I look forward to participating in all the youth activities in the future. Congratulations to Rachel Mandelstamm and good luck to her."



YEA participants from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Unit I — Kinross

There certainly are a lot of things happening at the Kinross Recreation Center these days. In August of last year, YEA placed a coordinator, Tim Haller, in the facility to help bring more educational services to tribal youth in that area. Haller has been working with the youth since 1999 and has a background in therapeutic recreation. Haller says he absolutely loves his job, it is one of the most rewarding jobs a person could have.

Some of the activities taking place are homework lab, time tables practice, reading groups, art class, traditions, field trips and more. Homework lab is Mondays-Wednesdays 3:30-6 p.m., times table practice is everyday at 4:30, reading groups are Thursdays at 5 p.m., and art class is every Friday at 4 p.m. Another program that Haller is running in the Kinross area is a tribal youth council. This council is normally for kids in grades eight to 12. A junior council is also possible, kids in grades five through seven would be great for this.

These tribal youth councils are affiliated with the United National Indian Youth (UNITY) Organization. They work together to make a difference in their community. They do community service, promote healthy lifestyles, actively participate in their culture and promote cultural awareness in their community. They get to travel across the seven-county service area and meet with other councils. There is always food and lots of fun. Once a year, the kids get to travel to the National Unity Conference where they meet tribal youth from all across the country. The last trip was to Buffalo, N.Y.

Unit II — Hessel

The 2005/2006 Student recognition for DeTour area students went very well with over 20 certificates passed out to students in grades one through five who made academic, social or behavioral achievements during the school year. Certificates were also passed out to students who participated in character education and the Seven Grandfathers classes on Thursday afternoons. This activity was co-sponsored by the DeTour Title VII Indian Education Program.

Character education is also held for students at Engadine Public School and is combined with the Engadine Title VII Indian Education Program. Students study the Seven Grandfathers — respect, love, bravery, humility, honesty, truth and wisdom. They learn traditional crafts such as making medicine wheels, pouches, neck-

laces and other projects related to American Indians.

Youth received cultural instruction on the Anishinabe drum



YEA participants from St. Ignace.

while participating in one of the first drum practices held at the Hessel Community Center. This activity is co-sponsored with the Hessel Community Drum Committee.

The Young Learners worked hard in preparing the cedar ring for the drum. They spent a lot of time sanding in preparation for the birth of the community drum. The Young Learners program is designed for students in kindergarten through third grade, to further enhance their math, reading and motor skills by participating in work stations set up for each category. They also worked on numbers and geometric shapes. They are reading about story bags, they will then make their own story bag and tell their story either verbally or by acting.

The coming of a new year brings exciting challenges to review activities created in the past year. This will be a bit difficult as Unit II youth completed many activities in 2006 ranging from culture, academic to social events, such as the Circle of Life summer program, a special thank you to the Les Cheneaux Community Foundation for funds received to help carry out the program.

Character education was taught in DeTour, Drummond Island, and Engadine Schools, and will soon be offered once again at the Les Cheneaux Community School.

There are culture and crafts nights for members in Newberry, as a result, our Newberry members will soon plan a mini powwow. The Hessel community drum project is now known as the Mukkwa Giizic Drum. Regalia making class was made possible by Karen Howell and the Sub-

stance Abuse Program, and there were family fun nights and many more activities.

Chi-Megwetch to our youth and community members for making 2006 such a successful one. Special thank you to Arlene Graham, youth service assistant and Judy Hamel, tutor, for your hard work and dedication to our tribal youth.

Unit III — St. Ignace

During the school year, there are homework labs, peer tutoring and a tutor in the elementary class room. The homework lab meets Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. There are also cultural activities two Fridays of the month during the school year. In the spring, there is a large organic garden at the school. Last year we had 14 classes participate in the planting of the garden and learning about seeds, how they grow and how

attended included hand drum, dance-clothing accessories and the women and young ladies gatherings. The focus was on women's health, dancing at powwows, nutrition and crafts were done.

We held a math, science and reading enrichment night. The youth brought their parent(s) with them and had a great learning and family time.

The Culture Department will be holding a flute making camp in January at the Escanaba Civic Center. I hope to see them holding many more camps in the Escanaba area in the future. One-day sleep overs took place in Escanaba and Manistique with activities such as cooking, games and talking circles.

Our year ended with a Christmas party, we had about 500 people attend and all youth were able to visit Santa, received a gift, played games, won prizes and ate delicious food. We have a great group of kids and we are so very thankful we have the opportunity to be assisting them.

Unit IV — Manistique

It is such a pleasure working with the youth in my area, they bring me a lot of joy and happiness. This year we had a lot of different activities, the hang out zone was a lot of fun. We did academic tutoring after school, cultural activities and studies, reading days, computer labs, craft and field trips.

The youth council was busy with fund raising, the elders' feast, volunteering and UNITY in New York. There was the Circle of Life summer program that lasted five weeks with lessons about the medicine wheel, camping, field trips, swimming and crafts.

The third annual Youth Empowered Powwow was a fine one and every year it gets better.

We had some camps on hand drums, smoking fish, flutes, regalia and regalia accessories in Manistique and some on Sugar Island. The math enrichment program lasted for one day or turned into sleep overs with Hessel and Escanaba, we do everything from math to cooking and games. The women's and young ladies gatherings were a success. We talked about dancing at powwows, women's health issues, nutrition and made crafts.

Unit V — Munising

Homework labs are on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays after school until 5 p.m. On Tuesdays there is a morning reading session with second grade students for two hours. On the first Tuesday of the month we have cultural crafts, on second Tuesdays we have regalia classes, third Tuesdays cooking classes or math enrichment and, on the last Tuesday of the month, we have a fitness fun day. Fridays are usually free days or make up days for any projects we did not finish.

Kids also participate in drumming activities in Negaunee on Monday evenings twice a month.

Starting in January, Bob Ruska will teach life skills training on Tuesday mornings from 8:30-11:30 for our students in grades three through six. Also starting in January, kids will be working on crafts during evenings with Peggy Derwin.

they are transplanted. This spring, we will be implementing a school wide composting program. We were able to purchase a composter through a grant we received from the St. Ignace Community Foundation. We use the garden to teach our youth about health and fitness, and also about conservation and environmental responsibility. In the summer we enjoy our Circle of Life program. We teach youth about the medicine wheel, camp, garden, fish, swim, hike, and travel. We collaborate with the Ojibwe museum and offer our youth authentic American Indian art workshops. We have made drums, painted rocks, made copper dream catchers and learned flute playing. We also invite storytellers and leaders to come speak with our youth. We also have a tribal youth council, who are a group of American Indian youth leaders from our community. They are learning that it takes planning and action to make a difference.

Unit IV — Escanaba

Here in the Escanaba area we're involved in numerous activities. Our hang out zone is here for our youth Monday through Friday. We were involved in many different activities, such as after school tutoring, reading days, math days, computer lab, cultural studies and crafts, educational games and more. The Circle of Life program is an eight-week program where kids learn about many things such as medicine wheels, talking circles, attend powwows and more.

We are also involved in physical fitness events such as swimming, walking, erecting tents, gathering firewood and collecting water. Some of the camps the kids

Holiday celebrations around our tribe



Elders of our tribe enjoyed a luncheon of fine food, company and entertainment at the annual elders Christmas gala at the Kewadin Casino in the Sault. Photo by Rick Smith



From left, Alvin Menard, his wife, Pearl, and her sister, Melvia Menard, enjoy their fare together during the elders Christmas gathering last December. Photo by Rick Smith



Javon Nygard, 20 months, at the Engadine children's Christmas party. Photo by Angie McArthur



Jessup Fosdick, 5, visited with Santa in Engadine. Photo by Angie McArthur



The winner of the drawing for Northern Hospitality's \$5,000 prize was Kathy Norberg, manager of the Christmas Kewadin Gift Shop. She plans to buy a recliner for her mother and carpeting for her house. She also thought a new couch and maybe a new bed would be nice. Photo by Brenda Austin



The winner of the United Way television drawing was Rita Vassar who gave it to her brother, Art Causley, as an early Christmas present. As of Dec. 19, the United Way received \$15,600 from Sault Tribe employees with a board match of \$10,000. Photo by Brenda Austin



Carey Mills and her daughter Taylor, 11, with the 32-inch Sharp TV they won from the children's Christmas raffle on Dec. 21. Mills works at the Sault Tribe Health Center medical lab. Photo by Brenda Austin



Health center employees, left, Theresa Little and Robert Lehto volunteered to help fill Christmas food baskets for needy area families. Photo by Brenda Austin

New Year's powwow at Chi Mukwa



Grand entry began shortly after 7 p.m. on New Year's Eve. The powwow was held on the basketball court inside Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center.



Waabishka Bijikii Onakwad, White Buffalo Cloud drum and singers from Bay Mills Indian Community. P.R.I.D.E. is the name of the children's singing group which supports the drum.

Photos by Brenda Austin

The 19th Annual New Years Eve Sobriety Powwow Bezhgodaa Anishinaabe Bemaadziwining (Let's be one in our way of life) at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, in Sault Ste. Marie rang in the New Year in grand style. Emcee was Butch Elliott, arena director, Frank Buswa, head veteran, Tony Davis, head male, Dale Anderson, head female, Rita Bouley, and the host drum was Poplar Singers. A packed crowd with standing room only greeted grand entry as it got under way shortly after 7 p.m. There were also a large number of vendors selling traditional crafts for people to choose from. A large crowd, happy from dancing, drumming and each others company rang in the New Year. This was an alcohol and drug free event.



Head female dancer Rita Bouley and head male dancer Tony Davis from Little Traverse Bay Band.



Fancy dancer Alonza Nappely from Bay Mills Indian Community.



Steve Perry carrying the American flag during grand entry.



Dorothy Campbell and Kaiya Jones from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, were participants in the New Year's powwow.

Kewadin gives back to the community during the holiday season



Accounting team members Barbara Chapman, Trish Johnson, Lorraine Rapson, Kristen Libby, and Kim Schoepfner wrapped gifts for a local family with five children. The department raised money through their dress down program.



Thanks to the support of a holiday bake sale which sold 273 dozen cookies, the Sault Ste. Marie group sales and hotel teams raised \$950 and were able to purchase gifts for two local families. Back row, left: Gloria Kemp, Jan Cooper, Christina Showman, Carrie Mycellia, Ashley Payment, Patty Fockler and Ed Thorne. Thirty-three team members from all hotel departments participated in the project.

Kewadin is first to offer interactive slots



Left: Dave Kucharczyk, slot director, and Bill Menard, slot technician, work on the new Sherlock at the Murder Mansion slot machine. Sherlock is one of the newest games Kewadin is offering to customers, providing an interactive experience. The casino is the first in Michigan to offer these games to casino patrons.

The interactive slot games including Claws and Paws®, Balls-O-Bucks® and Sherlock at the Murder Mansion®, offering more chances to win and a more interactive experience, are now available at Kewadin Casino's Sault Ste. Marie and St. Ignace gaming floors. Kewadin

is the first casino in the state to receive these games. A total of 24 new machines have been added between the two locations.

"These games, provided by ID Interactive, LLC, offer a relatively new and different concept in gaming," said Dave Kucharczyk, slot director for the five casinos. "It

The generosity of Kewadin team members from all five locations brightened many families this holiday season. From food bank donations and adopting local families to sponsoring youth parties, Kewadin team members pulled together to show what the holidays are all about.



Teen tribe members Sara Bowerman, Cassandra Bouley and Paige Akers enjoy ice cream at the Christmas party sponsored by the casino's food and beverage department.



Alan Bouschor, marketing, and Joe Nasser, administration, loading the van that delivered holiday presents to local families.



Kewadin Casinos food and beverage staff pitched in to provide a holiday party for the Friends of Anishnabe Youth Drop-in Center on Tuesday, Dec. 19, in the Whitefish Point room of the Sault casino. "We're all very happy to help out the youth group and provide a holiday party for them," said Janice Frye, food and beverage director. "It really was fun for all of us!" Back left, Jason Munsford, Rita Goetz, Stephanie Polhowski, Melody Belanger, Janice Frye, Crystal Hart, Glen Payment, Jon Mapes and in front Gail Wilson, Julie Gorsuch and Sandy Smith.



Members of the administration department helped motor-pool load all family gifts donated by the Sault casino. The deliveries were made Dec. 22.

Snowcross excitement and football frenzy at Kewadin

From the championship game to snowcross races, we've got it all this February at Kewadin Casinos!

Join us for the championship game Feb. 4 in the DreamMakers Theater in Sault Ste. Marie for a football party you'll never forget.

Ticket price is \$20 and includes hors d'oeuvres, entry into door prizes, cash prizes, 50/50 drawing and a \$2,000 grand prize. If you can't make it to the Sault, be sure to check out our football bashes at the Northern Pines Lounge in St. Ignace or the Team Spirits Bar in Manistique.

Bring your sweetheart into any Kewadin Casinos location this Valentine's Day as we celebrate with our "Show me the love" promotion! Random drawings will take place at all sites on Feb.

1-13 from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. and on Feb. 14 from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Race action heats up this month as the Michigan Snow X Series race into Kewadin St. Ignace and Manistique. Enjoy these extreme racing events on Feb. 16-17 in St. Ignace, and Feb. 24-25 in Manistique. Visitors can hear the roar of the engines and feel the spray of the snow as sleds hit the track with the Michigan Snow X Racing Association's oldest and largest snowcross circuit. For more information on the series, visit www.funpromotions.com.

For more information on any promotion or to purchase tickets for the championship game, call 1-800-KEWADIN (539-2346) or visit www.kewadin.com/calendar.

Good

news
from...



WRITTEN AND COMPILED BY MICHELLE BOUSCHOR



Left: Tony Goetz, COO Kewadin Casinos and Aaron Payment, chairperson, present two percent checks to Clark Township Supervisor Linda Hudson for the Les Cheneaux Grooming Association managed by Tony Autore.



Back row, left: Tony Goetz, Kewadin COO, Unit I Directors DJ Hoffman, Cathy Abramson and Unit II Director Bob LaPoint along with (front row, left) Unit I Directors Joe Eitrem and Dennis McKelvie present a check to Sault Area Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Dan Reattior for the Native studies program and track/cross country pay-to-play program.

Photos by DJ Malloy



Back row, left: Tony Goetz, Kewadin COO, Unit I Directors DJ Hoffman, Cathy Abramson and Unit II Director Bob LaPoint along with (front row, left) Unit I Directors Joe Eitrem and Dennis McKelvie present a check to Bill Goetz, principal at R.J. Wallis Elementary School, to fund new playground equipment and the Rudyard Indian Education Program.



Chippewa County Sheriff Jeff Moran and acting controller Kelly Beaune, accept a check for \$25,000 to subsidize law enforcement services.



Since the Sault Tribe and Kewadin Casinos has been granting two percent of its slot earnings to community governments, their impact has been astonishing. From bringing emergency response vehicles into rural areas to increasing the educational opportunities available for community and tribe members, the two percent contributions have helped improve the lives of many throughout the eastern Upper Peninsula.



In the fall of 2006, Chippewa County received \$426,984 in long term two percent agreements and \$77,218.06 in short term agreements. Back row, left: Tony Autore, Les Cheneaux Grooming Association; Spencer Nebel, Sault Ste. Marie City Manager; William Sutter Consolidated Community Schools; George Snider, Consolidated Community Schools; Jeff Moran, Chippewa County Sheriff. Middle row, left: Tony Bosbous, Mayor of Sault Ste. Marie; Betty Youngblood, LSSU President; Dr. Dan Reattior, Sault Area Public Schools Superintendent and Kelly Beaune, acting controller Chippewa County Sheriff's Office. Front row, left: Linda Hudson, Les Cheneaux Grooming Association; Aaron Payment, Sault Tribe chairperson and Tony Goetz, COO of Kewadin Casinos.



Vice Chairman Dennis McKelvie leads the congratulations to Kinross Charter Township Treasurer Vicki Ulrich, who received funds for an ambulance budget, a new ambulance and subsidy for law enforcement.



Sault Ste. Marie Mayor Tony Bosbous and City Manager Spencer Nebel, accept a check to fund governmental services from Chairperson Payment and COO of Kewadin Casinos Tony Goetz.

Niim-Ikwe arrives in Manistique

SUBMITTED BY MICHELLE WILLIS

On Dec. 9, tribe members in Manistique and a few visitors from Escanaba got together to share important health messages and lots of smiles.

Sault Tribe Community Health, YEA, Rural Health nutrition staff and others from the tribal community teamed up to present the Niim-Ikwe Workshop with funding from the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan and the Healthy Anishinabe Women's Project.

Niim-Ikwe in Ojibwe means dancing woman and the workshop is designed to bring Anishinabe ladies together for a day of sharing and learning. The agenda included discussion on topics such as the powwow and keeping physically active through traditional dancing, Anishinabe foods, nutrition, crafts and many more important issues.

This program was specially designed for women and girls



Presenter Kelly Constantino (far right) demonstrates crafting a bead bracelet to, from left, Tammy Vincent, Michelle Willis, and Kimberly Hampton.

Photo by Gail Sulander

over age 11. This event is the first in a series of three workshops which will also be available in Kinross and Munising. For more

information, please call Michelle at Community Health, (906) 632-5210.

Heart healthy meal planning

SUBMITTED BY CHARLA GORDON, NUTRITIONIST, HEALTHY HEART PROJECT

I had lunch recently with my friend Barb, and she told me one of her new goals is to start carrying her lunch to work. We talked about the money she would save and how much healthier she would eat. She asked for some ideas on making a healthy and balanced lunch.

Best heart-healthy meal planning starts with a whole-grain or "brown" carbohydrate food. Add some lean protein - "lean" meaning that it is low in fat. Add one to two servings of crisp, crunchy vegetables and finish the meal with some sweet, juicy fruit! Consider adding some calcium as yogurt, or drink milk instead of pop. Your taste buds and your heart are going to love this kind of lunch.

Making healthy lunches means you have to have the foods in the

house to work with. Take some time to make a shopping list and pick up some of the foods on the lists below. Watch your budget and save more money by using the store ads to pick up foods on sale.

Bread, starch and carb foods: Whole wheat or rye bread, pita bread, hamburger buns or dinner rolls, whole grain crackers, corn or whole wheat tortillas, leftover whole wheat pasta, brown and wild rice or baked potatoes.

Lean protein foods: Salmon, tuna, 95 percent fat-free lunch meats, leftover roast chicken, turkey, ham, venison or roast beef all make great sandwich fillings; string cheese, cottage cheese, cheeses made from lower fat milk, or refried beans are good with crackers or in burritos; and peanut butter (a heart healthy fat).

Vegetable foods: Lettuce, tomatoes and onions to pile on the sandwich; carrots, broccoli,

celery and peppers for crunchy finger foods; leftover or canned vegetable soup to reheat or carry in a thermos.

Fruits: Fresh, juicy apples, pears, oranges or bananas; individual cups of applesauce, fruit cocktail or peaches; chewy, dried cherries, raisins, apples or cranberries for lasting sweetness.

Leftovers from supper the night before make handy lunches, add fruits and vegetables to make it a complete meal to satisfy you. If you do not have a refrigerator at work, buy yourself an insulated lunch bag and use an ice pack. Reheat leftovers in the microwave in glass or Pyrex™-type dish, not plastic.

If you need more ideas, or help with meal planning, give your local nutritionist a call. She will have more suggestions for you to consider.

Smoke-free restaurant survey available online

As a member of the Chippewa County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, Sault Tribe Community Health Services is participating in a U.P. wide campaign to raise awareness about the health effects of secondhand smoke and to determine public support for smoke-free restaurants.

According to Julie Trotter, tobacco-free projects coordinator of the Chippewa County Health Department, "Smoke-free restaurants are definitely a growing trend." The Michigan smoke-free restaurant roster now lists over 4,000 food service establishments around the state compared to 172 listings in 1994. Chippewa County's roster now includes 40 smoke-free restaurants. These establishments surpass the requirements of Michigan law, which still allows for designated smoking areas. However, there are still many restaurants and bars that are not smoke-free. In Michigan, bars and restaurants are exempt from County Clean

Indoor Air Regulations and therefore cannot be regulated by the county further than what the state law requires.

"As part of an education and awareness campaign, we are asking for the opinions of our community members to determine the level of support for smoke-free food service establishments," said Donna Norkoli, Sault Tribe community health educator. "We are hopeful that we will be able to use this information at the local level to promote the health and economic benefits of a smoke-free policy to area restaurant owners. We would like to see more restaurant owners in the eastern U.P. implementing a smoke-free policy on a voluntary basis, which will protect the health of employees and customers from the dangers of secondhand smoke."

A 2006 Surgeon General's report on secondhand smoke identified over 50 cancer-causing chemicals in secondhand smoke and that secondhand smoke is in itself a known human car-

cinogen. Even brief exposure to secondhand smoke has immediate adverse effects on the heart and lungs.

To complete a smoke-free restaurant survey, please visit at www.smokefreeup.org for each county in the Upper Peninsula.

For more information, please call Donna Norkoli at the Sault Tribe Community Health Services at (906) 635-8844.



Community Health can help you quit

BY MICHELLE WILLIS

Ojibwe elders have long told the story of the four hills of life which teaches us about the challenges and responsibilities we face throughout our lives as we grow older. On the third hill of life, we are adults or parents who are responsible for tending to the sick and looking after children and elders while also caring for ourselves. Thomas Peacock wrote the third hill of life "is the most formidable of all."

Gail Carr is one adult who is mastering this third hill of life. With the help of her daughters and a lot of balloons, Carr recently celebrated a full year without smoking a single cigarette! Her motivation? Her two daughters, her husband, her health and a little support on the side.

"My girls had been after me for years to quit," she said.

After 35 years, three packs a day and some health concerns, Carr knew she was going to have to rely on some outside reinforcement.

"I wanted to quit smoking, so I e-mailed Kim Sakis (Sault Tribe's Community Health education supervisor) to get the help I knew I needed. Quitting smoking has been the hardest thing I have ever done," said Carr.

In addition to entering Community Health's tobacco cessation program, which provided her with medications to help kick the habit and one-on-one support, Gail's sisters pulled together to support her by leaving gifts or putting signs up on her door at work every Monday. Pretty soon friends were leaving notes too.

"I can say that for several months, I didn't think I would make it another day and here it is, one year," she noted.

She admits that the experience has really changed her life.

"I can breathe! I feel better and

I am doing things I haven't done in years," Carr explained.

If you are an early bird, you might be able to catch her at the gym working out or riding her bike during the warmer months. This summer she was riding 10 to 15 miles a day and even completed a 26 mile trek through Brimley.

In retrospect, Carr thinks most about her girls and the risk they were at when she was smoking.

"You don't realize what you're doing to your kids when you smoke around them, in the house and in the car," she reflected. "If you're a parent please think about how secondhand smoke effects your family."

Secondhand smoke is harmful to everyone. According to the Center for Disease Control, almost 60 percent of U.S. children aged three to 11 years are exposed to secondhand smoke. Approximately 50-75 percent of children in the United States have detectable levels of nicotine in the blood and urine. Secondhand smoke causes approximately 3,400 lung cancer deaths and 22,700 to 69,600 heart disease deaths in adult non-smokers in the United States each year. That's nearly 200 people per day. Secondhand smoke exposure is responsible for an estimated 150,000 to 300,000 new cases of bronchitis and pneumonia in children aged less than 18 months, resulting in 7,500 to 15,000 hospitalizations.

The current Surgeon General's report concluded that scientific evidence indicates that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke. Protect your children. Our future depends on theirs.

If you are thinking about quitting, please call Sault Tribe Community Health at (906) 632-5210.

World Aids Day commemoration observed at tribe's health center

The World AIDS Day 2007 commemoration was organized by Stacey Roy and Larry Klein and was observed on Dec. 1.

This event allowed us to reach many community members and update them regarding the HIV prevention program. We had many opportunities to detail the behavioral risks related to the HIV disease (teaching about how we actually get the disease).

Gaining knowledge about access to HIV prevention services is probably the most important aspect about our efforts during this campaign. Many more community residents are now aware

of where we are located and what we do. Free, anonymous HIV testing is one of the most important items of information disseminated during this period. HIV positive numbers are rising again throughout the nation and the U.P. is not an exception.

With this effort and others throughout the year, we are reeducating ourselves to reducing and eliminating this horrible disease.

A final note, if you think you have no risk for any sexually transmitted diseases, come in and ask us about the latest information on HIV, it might surprise you.

Public Health Foundation warns against "passing gas"

Don't Pass Gas, a public service health campaign from Legacy and the Ad Council, is designed to educate Americans, especially parents, about the dangers of secondhand smoke and to motivate them to create smoke-free environments for their families. Last year, U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona announced that no level of secondhand smoke is safe. Research indicates that one in five children

with a smoking parent is exposed to secondhand smoke at home, and these children are at increased risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, lung infections, ear infections and severe asthma.

Don't Pass Gas is the first national, multi-media campaign to address secondhand smoke.

Visit www.DontPassGas.org or call (888) NO PASS GAS to receive more information on secondhand smoke.

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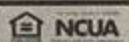
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Go for the gold in 2007

Just about one year ago, the Breastfeeding Education and Support Team (BEST) initiated a new program, called Go for the Gold, as a way to support breastfeeding moms in Chippewa County and give them an incentive to breastfeed longer. Our target was to get moms to breastfeed at least for six weeks and support them for an even longer duration.

Human breast milk has been referred to as "liquid gold" in recent times because of its excellent nutrition, extraordinary health benefits, easy access and low cost. Exclusive breastfeeding for a minimum of six months is recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Many of the "challenges" of breastfeeding come during the first four weeks after birth. Many health providers support the idea that if families can breastfeed for six weeks they will often go longer.

The Go for the Gold campaign promotes breastfeeding by providing incentive awards to mothers and families for their dedication to go beyond the six-week mark. Some of the awards include massage, movie passes, salon visits, manicures, pedicures, car washes and restaurant coupons. Special thanks to Quaker State, Clip Joint Salon, A Hair Different, The New U, Side Street Salon, Bay Mills Casino, Applebees Restaurant, A Cut Above, Cup of the Day and Bath and Body Works for their dona-

tions for prizes.

If a mom breastfeeds for six months, there is a different prize. Thanks to Old Mission Bank for six certificates for a \$50 savings bond, to the Ramada Ojibwa for an overnight stay and to the Sault Tribe for a three month fitness center certificate.

Any mom who claims her prize is congratulated and has her picture taken for our Go for the Gold wall of fame. We would love to increase this participation but we need your help.

We need more donations and hope that more businesses or individuals will contribute as a way to support breastfeeding in our community. Contributions made to BEST are tax deductible, and money can be used to purchase more incentives. Any gift certificate would be greatly appreciated, so please join the list of contributors listed above.

Members of BEST include the Chippewa County Health Department, Sault Tribe, MSU Extension, Bay Mills Healthy Start, War Memorial Hospital Obstetrical Department and the Teen Parenting Program.

Please call Nancy Heyns at (906) 635-3588 for more information on joining the BEST committee, or to donate your tax deductible prize with its great advertising potential. Thanks to all who support, promote and protect breastfeeding.

There's still time to get your flu shot

It is not too late for people to get an influenza vaccination — vaccination in December and January provides substantial protection against influenza. This year's influenza season is off to a relatively slow start, so getting vaccinated now will do much to protect you against influenza.

A good supply of vaccine is still available. Those who need it can call the Chippewa County Health Department at (906) 635-3572 and receive a convenient appointment. Thanks to the holidays, many people may postpone

or forget to get their flu vaccination, so we do want to remind people that if they or a family member hasn't gotten vaccinated, they should try to do so.

Influenza is very unpredictable (how fast it sweeps across the country, where it goes, how severe the illness it causes) and there remains the possibility that this will be a severe influenza season. And even in so-called "mild" seasons, millions of people contract influenza and tens of thousands get very ill (estimated 200,000 hospitalizations and

36,000 deaths in a typical year).

People who forego influenza vaccination are taking two significant risks. One, they are placing themselves at risk for influenza, including a potentially long and serious illness; and two, placing others, especially babies, young children and our nation's senior citizens at risk for influenza, with many of those people very vulnerable to serious complications or death.

Getting vaccinated is the single best way to protect yourself and your loved ones against influenza.

EPA focuses on ecological benefits of regulations

What benefits do people actually derive from clean air, water and land? EPA has taken a major step towards answering this question with the recent release of its Ecological Benefits Assessment Strategic Plan (EBASP).

EPA has traditionally been able to quantify human health benefits more easily than total ecological benefits when making regulatory decisions. The assessment plan will help fill this gap by enabling the agency to more comprehensively

address the full economic value of environmental protection.

The EBASP will be a vital tool for agency decision-makers, supplementing current practices for identifying and quantifying the ecological benefits of the agency's policies and actions. According to Benjamin Grumbles, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Water, "This plan will boost environmental protection by advancing knowledge of ecosystem benefits. Understanding the value of

a clean stream or a healthy coast informs decisions and improves environmental results."

The plan was a collaborative effort among EPA's Offices of Research and Development; Policy, Economics and Innovation; Water; Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances; Air and Radiation; and Solid Waste and Emergency Response.

More on the Ecological Benefits Assessment Strategic Plan is available at www.epa.gov.

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deadline for
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Win Awenen
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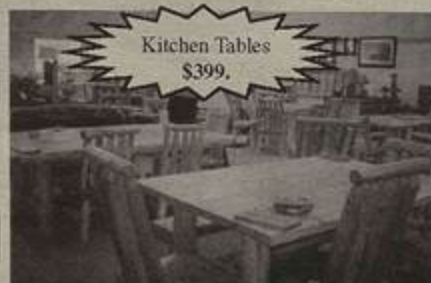
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Please pack for outside weather, warm winter coat, snowpants, boots, gloves and hat as the participants will be outside.

If you would like to register your child or would like to participate, give Josh Homminga or Melissa Causley a call at (906) 635-6050 ext. 26146 or ext. 26145. Permission slip required for youth attendance.

LIMITED SPACE, CALL TO SIGN UP TODAY.

CONGRATULATIONS, YOU'RE PREGNANT!

Your community has put together a program of classes designed to help you have a healthy baby and positive birth experience.

Early Prenatal Class: Dispel the myths, learn what to expect when you're expecting: Physical and emotional changes, common concerns, what to be aware of, what can and cannot hurt your baby, car seat safety, and lots more. This class is designed for early in pregnancy. The next two class series is scheduled for Jan. 18 and Jan. 25.

Lamaze Prepared Childbirth: Prepare for the birth of your baby and your role as a parent. Learn relaxation techniques, breathing, conditioning exercises presented, as well as the stages of labor, preparation, and child development. A new six-week series of classes start Jan. 9 - Feb. 13.

Successful Start to Breastfeeding: Breastfeeding can be one of the most joyous experiences women will encounter as a new mother. Attend this class and learn to make breastfeeding a part of your lifestyle. This class is free. The next scheduled class is Jan. 17. There is also a **Return to Work Breastfeeding Class.** This requires attendance to the Successful start to Breastfeeding unless you have already had your baby. The next scheduled class is Feb. 28.

Infant CPR & Choking Class: Learn the basics of lifesaving techniques for your infant. Receive the necessary training to help you in case of an emergency situation. This class is free. The next class is scheduled for Jan. 24.

Car Seat Opportunity
If you attend the Early Prenatal and Lamaze Classes you may purchase a Fisher Price Safe Embrace car seat for only \$20.

All classes are held monthly at the Chippewa County Health Department in the Avery Square.

If you would like more information on any of these classes or would like to sign up for one, please call the Chippewa County Health Department (906) 635-3572.

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Native American girls first annual volleyball tournament

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Saginaw Chippewa tribal gymnasium

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Feb. 10

Games start at noon

Tournament format will depend on how many teams will register for the event. Team rosters must be faxed (989) 775-4093 or mailed by 5 p.m. on

Feb. 5. Anyone interested please call

Kevin Ricketts at (989) 775-4509.

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MON. 9:30-4:30 TUE.-FRI. 9:00-5:00 SAT 9:00-3:00

Young Scholars Program offered to high achievers

Sault Tribe's Youth Education and Activities Program will be accepting applications for the Young Scholars Program for the fall semester of the 2006-07 school year. Students may apply twice a year, after the first semester and again at the end of the second semester. 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 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. To be eligible, a student

must be an enrolled member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and be in grades six through 12 at a public or private school.

To qualify for all A grades, students must receive some form of an "A" grade (A+, A or A-) in all courses for a marking period. Students in schools that grade on a numerical basis must receive the equivalent of these "A" grades to qualify. In such cases, please attach a letter stating the school's grade equivalency with the application. To qualify for perfect attendance, 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.

To qualify for the program, the following information must be received by March 2, 2007: A completed application, 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 or perfect attendance and a copy of the student's Sault Tribe membership card. Students may send a photograph if they want it to be printed in the tribal newspaper but it is not necessary.

The information can be mailed to The Young Scholars Program, Attn: Angeline Matson, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. All information must be received by March 2, 2007.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Young Scholars Program Application Form (Grades six through 12)

Student's Name:		Age:	Grade:
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
Home Phone:		E-mail:	
School Name:		Principal's Name:	
School Address:		School Phone:	
All A grades - Number of marking periods (1st semester only)	Perfect attendance - Number of marking periods (1st semester only)	Social Security Number - Mandatory	

Please attach the following:

1. A copy of the student's report card signed by his/her parent and/or a letter from an administrator in his/her school stating the marking periods for which he/she have had all A's and/or perfect attendance; (note: student must be in grades six through 12 to qualify)
2. A copy of the student's Sault Tribe membership card; (If the student does not have a card please call Enrollment to request one; if the student was previously in the program a copy is not required every semester, a copy is on file)
3. If a photograph of the student is available which could be used in promotion of the program please enclose with the completed application. **Please write the student's name on the back of the photograph.**

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's 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/or likeness for the promotion of this program.

Parent's Signature _____

Date _____

Please mail the preceding information to: The Young Scholars Program, Attn: Angeline Matson, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

All information must be received by 5 p.m. on March 2, 2007, to be eligible for the program.

The next deadline for submissions to Win Awenen Nisitotung is Jan. 30 at 9 a.m.

Sault Tribe Education Department presents College Fair 2007

At three locations this year:
Sunday, Feb. 18, Manistique
From 1-4 p.m. at the tribal center

Monday, Feb. 19, Sault Ste. Marie
From 5-8 p.m. at Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center

Tuesday, Feb. 20, St. Ignace
From 5-8 p.m. at Little Bear East

This event is open to the public.
Parents are encouraged to attend. The
Entire family is welcome!

Sault Tribe Education Department, (800)
793-0660.

College Fair activities:

- College representatives available to answer your questions.
- Workshops on:
 - Financial aid
- Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver
 - Sault Tribe scholarships
 - I.H.S. scholarships
- Sault Tribe vocational training
 - ACT test preparation
 - Chili and frybread
- Door prizes and giveaways

Win a laptop computer — Sault Tribe
card required, ages 16-19. One laptop
given away each night. Must be present to
win.

Harvard University free tuition announcement

Harvard University has announced that from now on undergraduate students from low-income families will pay no tuition. In making the announcement, Harvard's president Lawrence H. Summers said, "When only 10 percent of the students in elite higher education come from families in the lower half of the income distribution, we are not doing enough. We are not doing enough in bringing elite higher education to the lower half of the income distribution."

If you know of a family earning less than \$60,000 a year with an honor student graduating from high school soon, Harvard University wants to pay the tuition. The prestigious university recently announced that from now on undergraduate students from low-income families can go to Harvard for free — no tuition and no student loans! In addition, Harvard announces reduced fees for students from families with incomes between \$60,000 and \$80,000.

To find out more about Harvard offering free tuition for families making less than \$60,000 a year visit Harvard's financial aid Web site at www.news.harvard.edu/gazette/daily/2006/03/30-finaid Or call the school's financial aid office at (617) 495-1581.

The Sault Tribe Higher Education Department is on the second floor of the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie. Call (906) 635-7784 for information, fax (906) 635-7785, or toll free (800) 793-0660 and ask for Higher Education. Or, visit www.saulttribe.com and click on the education link on top of the page.

Affirmative action in state's top three universities continues until end of current admission cycle

LANSING, Mich. — Michigan's three top-tier universities can continue using race and gender in admissions and financial aid awards through the current admission cycle.

A ballot measure passed Nov. 7 bars public universities and governments from using affirmative action in admissions and hiring. The law was to take effect but the state and a group seeking to throw out the law agreed to delay it.

The University of Michigan, Michigan State University and Wayne State University had sought more time to implement

some of those changes since they're already accepting new students for admission next fall.

The universities want to complete this year's admissions and financial aid cycles using the same standards that have been in place since the process began earlier this year. Those cycles, which end in May 2007 or later, mostly affect students who would enter college in fall 2007.

The amendment to the state constitution was prompted by a 2003 U.S. Supreme Court decision that upheld a general affirmative action policy at the University of

Michigan's law school but struck down the school's undergraduate admissions formula, which awarded points based on race.

A pro-affirmative action group called By Any Means Necessary claims the Michigan law doesn't trump federal civil rights acts and would violate the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution.

Democratic Gov. Jennifer Granholm, who is named as a defendant in the case along with the governing boards of the three universities, opposed the constitutional amendment.

Higher Education programs

By JANICE M. LEWTON,
PROGRAM ADMINISTRATOR
2006-07 Higher Education
Self-Sufficiency Program:

As of Dec. 29, we're in the process of awarding 243 students \$103,413.

Please make sure when sending in your grades that you include your name, the school's name, fall 2006, your grades, etc.

You can mail your grades to Sault Tribe Higher Education, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste Marie MI 49783 or Fax (905) 635-7785 or e-mail them as a word document attachment to jl Lewton@saulttribe.net.

Keep in mind that it can take anywhere from four to six weeks

to receive a check.

Also, we cannot process any checks without an application on file.

If you have changed your name or address since you submitted your 2006-07 application please go to the tribe's Web site at www.saulttribe.com and under "Education" complete a W-9 form.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at any time. Call us at (906) 635-7784 or (800) 793-0660 (ask for Higher Education) or email at jl Lewton@saulttribe.net.

If you are in the area stop by 2 Ice Circle and visit us.

Grand Tribal Youth Council receive award



Sault Tribe Board of Director representatives and Youth Education and Activities Grand Tribal Youth Council members with a display from the Youth Empowerment Powwow the group organized and was recognized for by Prevention Network as a model project.

On Dec. 13, 2006, the Prevention Network recognized the Grand Tribal Youth Council's Youth Empowerment Powwow as one of the model projects of the year. The powwow is held at the Rexton Township Park, with camping at Garnet Lake.

This project reached over 200 youth from across the tribe's seven-county service area delivering the important message on staying drug and alcohol free.

Preparations for the powwow on the night before included a talking circle where youth openly expressed their experiences or concerns with substance abuse. The older teens served as role models for those younger than them.

During the powwow Sault Tribe Community Health educator, Michelle Willis, conducted prevention education on tobacco use and abuse, which included

games and a poster contest. Youth Council members from St. Ignace, Sault Ste. Marie, Manistique, and Hessel were involved in the planning. The Youth Empowerment Powwow received funding from the Prevention Network Special Populations of Color grant, OJJP, Tribal Court and the Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities Program.

IHS scholarship applications due

Indian Health Service (IHS) scholarship applications are due Feb. 28, 2007, for the 2007-2008 school cycle. Applications must be complete and postmarked by the deadline in order to be considered — absolutely no extensions are granted. The complete application includes official transcripts, letter of admission, certification of tribal membership and other documentation. For application, contact your tribal education office or go to www.ihs.gov.

IHS scholarships provide financial assistance for American Indian students. Students must intend to serve American Indian people upon completion of professional health care education.

There are several types of IHS scholarships:

- Health Professions Preparatory Scholarship Program — up to two years (full-time) or four years (part-time) to prepare for acceptance into health professions schools.

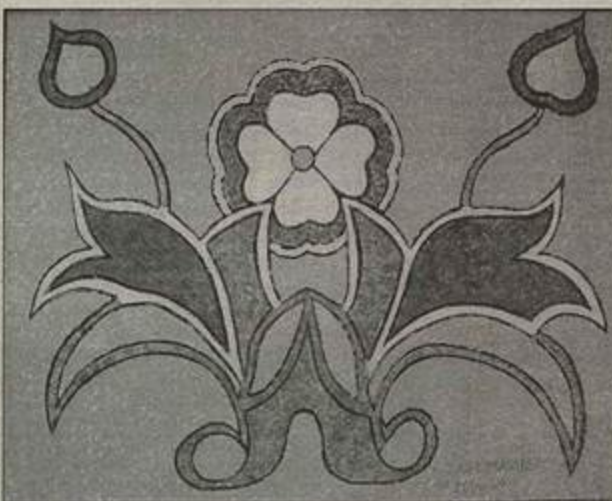
- Pre-nursing
- Pre-medical technology
- Pre-pharmacy

- Pre-dietetics
- Pre-social work
- Pre-physical therapy
- Pre-engineering
- Pre-sanitarian
- Pre-occupational therapy
- Pre-clinical psychology
- Health Professions Pregraduate Scholarship Program — up to four years (full-time) or eight years (part-time) to earn a bachelor's degree in specific pre-professional areas. Priority given to juniors and seniors with funding to freshmen and sophomores only if remaining funds are available.

- Pre-medicine
- Pre-dentistry
- Pre-podiatry
- Health Professions Scholarship Program — up to four years (full-time) or eight years (part-time) to earn degrees in health professions and allied health professions programs. Priority is given to graduate students, juniors and seniors.

- Chemical dependency counseling (BS, master's)
- Clinical psychology (PhD)
- Coding specialist (certificate)

- Dentistry (DDS or DMD)
- Dental hygienist (BS)
- Diagnostic radiology technology (certificate, Associate, BS)
- Dietician (BS)
- Health care administration (BS, master's)
- Health records administration (RHIT, RHIA)
- Injury prevention specialist (certificate)
- Medical technology (BS)
- Medicine (allopathic and osteopathic)
- Nurse (AND, MSN, CRNA, GER, NP, PED, PSY, WH)
- Occupational therapy (BS)
- Optometry (OD)
- Pharmacy (Pharm D)
- Physician assistant (PAC)
- Physical therapy (MS, DPT)
- Physical therapy assistant (Associate)
- Podiatry (DPM)
- Public health (MPH)
- Public health nutrition (master's)
- Respiratory therapist (associate)
- Social work (master's)
- Ultrasonography



Holly Roe's K-2 art students at JKL Bahweting School used their thumb prints to create an Ojibwa floral design. The finished masterpiece is hanging in the main office, and a slideshow presentation of the students working on it is available at www.jklschool.schoolwires.com under the Specialty Teachers Tab.

Scholarship for high school seniors interested in fashion design

The Jacqueline West/The New World Scholarship For Native American Youth is a scholarship for American Indian youth interested in studying fashion design at The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising (FIDM) in Los Angeles, Calif.

Applicants should send an essay of why they would like to win the scholarship, along with up to five sketches to Jacqueline West/New World, c/o Shirley Wilson, Public Relations FIDM/The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising, 919 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90015.

Sketches may be of fashions or costumes from any time period, including examples of clothing designs, American Indian, theater or film creations.

Deadline is Jan. 31, 2007. The fashion design scholarship is valued at \$22,000 and includes full

tuition, fees, books and supplies. It does not include transportation, living expenses or incidentals. The winner will be announced in April 2007 for matriculation in September 2007.

The Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandising is an accredited private college for specialized professional education. Degrees granted are Associate of Arts and Bachelor of Science in business.

Over the past 30 years, FIDM has graduated more than 30,000 students and prepared them for careers in fashion, theatre and film costume design, graphics, interior design, and entertainment.

The school is in downtown Los Angeles with other campuses in Orange County, San Diego and San Francisco.

The Web site for the college is www.fidm.com.

Emergency food and shelter grants available

Chippewa County has been awarded \$30,762 in federal funds under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program. These funds will be distributed by a local board and are used to expand the capacity of food and shelter programs.

The local board is made up of representatives from United Way, Catholic Social Services, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, the Ministerial Association, Chippewa County Commission, Sault Housing Commission, Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Community Action, the Department of Human Services,

the Sault Housing Commission and a representative of the homeless population. This board determines how the funds will be distributed among the emergency food and shelter programs run by local service agencies in the area.

Local agencies chosen to receive funds must meet certain criteria.

Contact Molly Paquin, United Way of Chippewa County at (906) 632-3700 for an application. Deadline to be received at the United Way office is 4 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 17.

Trust land veterans cemetery funding passes Congress

By Rick Smith

Reflecting an American Indian tradition, Congress passed the Native American Veterans Cemetery Act of 2006; tribes across the country may soon apply for federal funding to establish homeland burial grounds for American Indian military veterans.

A bill to amend title 38 of the United States Code was introduced to the 109th U.S. Congress last April by Senator Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii). The bill was co-sponsored by Democratic senators Daniel Inouye of Hawaii, Tim Johnson of South Dakota and Patty Murray of Washington.

The bill underwent a series of hearings by the Committee on Veterans Affairs last June and was passed by both congressional chambers last month. The measure now waits to be signed into law by President George W. Bush.

According to the U.S. Veterans

Administration, tribes currently are not eligible to apply for national cemetery grant funds to develop and maintain veterans cemeteries. The costs of such burials are prohibitive and many tribes choose to use state or federal veterans cemeteries far from their home territories. Veteran burials in state or national sites are covered by grants. The Native American Veterans Cemetery Act puts tribes on the same level as states in establishing and caring for veteran burial grounds.

Specifically, the measure states the federal government may make grants to any tribal organization to assist in establishing, expanding or improving veterans cemeteries on trust land owned by, or held in trust for, the tribal organization. The grants shall be made in the same manner, and under the same conditions, as grants made to states.

The move came as a pleasant

and welcome surprise to Sault Tribe staff members who may be involved with studying and developing any course of action to implement the opportunity. It may take quite some time before enough details can be settled before even applying for the first grant.

According to government statistics, American Indians have consistently had the highest per capita of any ethnic group to serve in the U.S. military. Yet tribes lack the needed resources to bury their veterans close to home. Some tribes have cemeteries for their veterans operated by organizations or volunteers.

The Defense Department reports nearly 20,000 American Indians currently serve in the armed forces. The VA figures that, by the end of 2006, there will be an estimated 181,361 American Indian veterans.

Snowmobilers asked to help protect sharp-tailed grouse

ESCANABA, Mich. — The Hiawatha National Forest staff requests snowmobilers to eliminate snowmobile traffic in two areas near Raco and Steuben that are key for sharp-tailed grouse wintering and breeding. The sharp-tailed grouse, not widespread in Michigan, is a management indicator species for the Hiawatha National Forest as well as being a Forest Service sensitive species.

Sharptails use open areas to burrow into the snow in the winter for warmth and to escape predators. Increased off-trail use by snowmobiles can compact the snow, reducing burrowing opportunities. Additionally, snowmobiles can flush the sharptails from their burrows which can stress the birds and cause them to increase energy use during winter when they need to conserve their energy. Sharptails also gather in these areas in the late winter to use them as dancing grounds in preparation for breeding.

Near Raco, a 480-acre opening will have a restriction on cross-

country travel over the snow. A groomed snowmobile trail on Forest Road (FR) 3366 is adjacent the north edge of the area near Raco, with Rexford Road (FR-3157) used as a snowmobile trail on the west edge and FR-3036 runs through the opening. All trails and roads remain open.

A 140-acre opening approximately six miles southeast of Steuben will also have a restriction on cross-country travel over the snow. A snowmobile trail, which parallels PS-2212, is adjacent to the area and would remain open. The opening as well as a two-track road through the opening, FR-2622, would be closed to snowmobiles.

The areas have been posted closed to snowmobiles and the service asks snowmobilers to avoid cross-country travel over these areas. Maps are available at any Hiawatha National Forest office. Questions regarding these closures can be directed to Kirk Piehler, Wildlife Biologist at the Escanaba headquarters office at (906) 789-3374.

More Indians needed in America's newsrooms

By Rick Smith

An award winning journalist urged a group of aspiring young American Indian journalism students to set their sights on the newsrooms of America; because more Indians in newsrooms would mean more stories and understanding about this country's indigenous population.

Jodi Rave, a member of the Mandan and Hidatsa tribes who covers Indian issues on a national level, spoke to students at the Native American Cultural Center at Yale University in New Haven, Conn., last Nov. 16. She spoke on "American Indian Journalism in the 21st Century."

Rave said around 60,000 reporters work in newsrooms around the country, but only about 300 identify themselves as American Indians. "I think that really affects the kind of media coverage that you get. Just having a Native person in the newsroom, even if it's just a copy editor, your views get heard and it sparks other people to do more coverage. I know in our newsroom we've got more and more reporters covering Native issues just because they're becoming more aware of it, so if you're interested in journalism, I'll give you one of my cards before I leave. I know some great programs!" Rave told the students.

Even though many of her colleagues don't, Rave said she had always wanted to cover Indian issues. "They don't want to be pigeonholed. They want to cover cooking or business or whatever, but I've never been of that mindset. I've always felt there was a lack of coverage of national issues in the daily newspapers. That's a huge perspective that's missing," she said.

But Rave soon learned there were no jobs in mainstream newspapers for someone to fill the national need for news of Indian issues. She had no luck in pitch-

ing the idea to papers across the nation until, by chance and circumstances, the paper where she works understood her message of the importance of a national American Indian news beat. "My job was created for me. The planets sometimes all align and it was one of those situations where I had an editor who was supportive, a city editor who was supportive and the managing editor. They had that much faith," Rave said.

The response to Rave's stories from the reading public was enthusiastic. She recounted, "It was just like a light had turned on for the entire community, because people hadn't seen Indian stories before. They were hearing different perspectives and they liked it. And it hasn't changed. Every day I get e-mail from people saying 'thank you for writing' or 'I'm a fan of yours' — I love to hear that. It makes me realize that it's making a difference and I'm doing what I believe in. I don't care about those other journalists who don't want to write about Indian issues, because I do and I always have."

Rave is a columnist and writes stories for Lee Enterprise, which has 58 newspapers in 22 states.

Among the top honors she has received are awards from the Native American Journalists Association, the Nebraska Associated Press, the University of Nebraska and the U.S. Army. She has been honored twice by Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism for her reporting on race and ethnicity.

Rave said there is so much more room for American Indians in the newsrooms of America. "It's sometimes just a little overwhelming thinking I'm the only Native person in the country writing about Native issues on a national beat. I'm a really strong advocate for more Native representation in the newsroom. I think it's critical now," she noted.

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Alan Wayne D'Autremont, 45, of Lake City, formerly of Waterford; died Oct. 27, 2006. He was born Feb. 9, 1961, in Pontiac to Wayne and Sandra D'Autremont; they both survive.

He was the dear father of Joshua and Leah D'Autremont, brother of Scott (Gina) D'Autremont, Mark (Kim) D'Autremont; grandson of Constance Fletcher and Juanita Thomas (who passed away six weeks after Alan); he is also survived by many aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

Alan was a member of the Sault Tribe, Lake City Masonic Lodge 408 F&AM and the Michigan Sporting Dog Association.

No services were held. Memorial contributions may be made to the Karmanos Cancer Foundation. Arrangements were entrusted to Coats Funeral Home, Waterford. To send a private condolence select guestbook at www.coatsfuneralhome.com.

Bertha Elizabeth "Sunshine" Gurnoe

Merchberger, of Sault Ste. Marie, passed away Dec. 18, 2006, at Tendercare Nursing Home. She was born June 17, 1928 on Sugar Island.

She enjoyed making baskets, music and loved attending pow-wows.

She is survived by her sons, Rick Merchberger of Cypress, Calif., and Joe Merchberger of Calif.; a daughter Elizabeth Wall of Sault Ste. Marie; a sister Emma Kay of Texas; two brothers Clayton Gurnoe of Lacy, Wash., and Earl Gurnoe of Sault Ste. Marie; 10 grandchildren, Buddy Trimble, Chantay Wall, Nina Wall, Joshua DuMont, Trina Mills, Rick Merchberger, Jr., Jeanette (Star) Merchberger, Ron Merchberger, Jr., James Merchberger, Melinda Merchberger. Many great-grandchildren also survive.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Leonard James Merchberger; a son Ronald Merchberger; and her parents, Joseph and Bertha Gurnoe.

Visitation was Dec. 20-23, 2006, at the Niigaanaagizhik Ceremonial Building. Funeral services were on Dec. 23, 2006, at the Niigaanaagizhik Ceremonial Building with Brother John Hascall as celebrant. Burial will be in Wilwalk Cemetery.

Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home assisted the family.

Dean Everett Brown, 77, of Pickford, Mich., died Dec. 15, 2006, at Tendercare in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan. He was born July 29, 1929, in Pickford Township to Gordon Robert and Beatrice Anna (nee Miller) Brown.

Dean lived most of his life on the family farm where he was born in Sterlingville. He married Arbutus "Boots" Izzard on June 16, 1951, and they raised four children. Although Dean worked as a seaman on the Great Lakes, on the construction of the Soo Locks, on road construction crews and at the limestone quarry in Cedarville, in his heart he was always a farmer. When he started working on the mainland for Mackinac Island Carriage Tours, caring for the horses, transporting them, feeding them and sheltering them, he truly enjoyed his work.

He farmed until his health no longer allowed him to.

In addition to farming, Dean enjoyed reading and country music. He enjoyed playing the guitar, fiddle and organ with his friends.

Dean is survived by his wife, Leona (nee Dutcher), whom he married July 29, 1998; one son, Wayne Brown of Pickford; three daughters, Marcy (Ervin) Belonga of Pickford, Kaye (Allan) Boal of Pickford and Sherry (Larry) Hansen of Sheboygan, Wisc.; three grandchildren, Alesha (James) Kolodziej, Julie Brown, and Richie Boal; and one great grandson, Landon Kolodziej. Also surviving are step children, Harvey (Marlene) Crisp, Howard Crisp, Yvonne "Kate" (George) Backus and Cheryl (Scott) Moser; and many step grandchildren, including Michael and Daniel Crisp; great step grandson Stefan Crisp; two sisters, Hazel "Peggy" Dutcher of Cedarville and Jean Peck of Allegan, Mich.; and three brothers, Dale (Shirley) Brown of Fairfield, Calif., Duane "Barney" (Glenda) Brown of Pickford and Ted (Wilma) Brown of Barbeau.

Dean was preceded in death by his first wife, Arbutus, in 1997.

A Memorial Service was on Dec. 19 at New Horizons Church of the Nazarene in Pickford with Pastor Craig Weihman officiating. The family received friends at the church.

Memorial contributions may be left to the Alzheimer Association, U.P. Region, 710 Chippewa Square, Suite 201, Marquette, MI 49855.

Reamer Galer Funeral Home of Pickford served the family.

Claracie May Willis, 89, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Dec. 20, 2006, at War Memorial Hospital.

Claracie was born on Jan. 21, 1917, in Garden, Mich. She married James H. Willis on Oct. 28, 1942, in Sault Ste. Marie. She was an elder of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She enjoyed sewing, crocheting, and embroidering. She also loved to go for car rides with her family.

Claracie is survived by four children, Patricia (John) Masson of Charlevoix, Mich., and James M. Willis, Sandra (Charles) Kempf, and Sherry (Thomas) Andress all of Sault Ste. Marie; seven grandchildren, Vicki (Bill) Valentine, Leesa (Alex) McCready, Brent (Leanna) Wilton, Bryan (Kathryn) Wilton, Todd (Tara) Wilton, Vanessa Owaski and Daniel Owaski; and five great-grandchildren; Candis, Christopher, Clay, Paige, and Madison. She is also survived by a sister, Lila Shaw of Sault Ste. Marie; and three sisters-in-law, Lorna Kelley of Drummond Island, Mich., May Kelly of Sault Ste. Marie and Verna McDonald of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James H. Willis; her parents, Christopher and Clara (nee LaPlaut) Kelly; seven brothers, Merlin, Arthur, Marvin, Ivan, Calvin, Vernon and Ronald Kelly; and two sisters, Ada Wollak and Bernice Bonnier.

Funeral services were on Dec. 23, 2006, at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home. Burial was at Donaldson Cemetery.

Memorials may be left to the family of Claracie Willis.

Helen McInnes, 99, of Drummond Island passed away Dec. 10, 2006, at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie. She was born April 3, 1907, on

Drummond Island to James and Lucille (nee Cadotte) LaPointe.

Helen grew up living with her family on the shore of Maxton Bay. They were surrounded by the homes of her grandmother, Mrs. Oliver LaPointe, and aunts and uncles, Alec, John, Joe and their families. Helen's mother and sister died only two weeks apart when Helen was only 14 years old. It became her job to care for the house and her two small brothers, ages two and five years. Life was not easy for this young Indian girl, but she worked hard and kept her faith in God. Helen was known as a good hunter and trapper. In her hunting and trapping days, she covered most of Drummond Island by foot or, where possible, canoe. Helen also liked fishing. She was a pioneer in every way, able to do whatever it took to keep her family thriving in a primitive setting.

Helen was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the St. Florence Catholic Church and the Drummond Island Youth Center Board. She was a charter member of the St. Florence Guild, the Drummond Island Homemakers and the Drummond Island Golf Club. Helen took an avid interest in many things. She was active in her church and community. She worked at many fundraisers, as well as donating quilts to raffles and baking countless pies and turkeys.

Helen is survived by three daughters, Jeannine McInnes Gable of Sault Ste. Marie, Bonnie McInnes (Carl) Bucht of Drummond Island and Blanche McInnes (Ike) Isaacson of Tucson, Ariz.; grandchildren, Daniel (Jan) Gable Jr., Andrew (Jen) Gable, Timothy (Katie) Gable, Robert (Suzanne) Gable, Carlene (Pat) McGregor, Michael (Amy) Bucht, Kelly (Dale) Melvin, Holly (Matt) Montreuil, Marion Layman, Sarah (Rob) Wunsche, Anne McInnes, James (Monica) McInnes and Kim (Dave) Derksen; ten step-grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lauchlan McInnes, Jr.; two sons, Lauchlan McInnes III and James McInnes; one son-in-law, Daniel Gable; one sister, Lucy LaPointe; two brothers, David LaPointe and Russell LaPointe; one grandson, Lauchlan McInnes IV; and step-daughters, Elaine Nixon and Lorraine Hirth. Mass of Christian burial was on Dec. 14 at St. Florence Catholic Church on Drummond Island with Father Sebastian Chacko celebrant. Memorial contributions may be left to the St. Florence Catholic Church.

Reamer Galer Funeral Home of Pickford served the family.

Janis Kosiewicz of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Dec. 22, 2006, at Marquette General Hospital. She was born on Jan. 2, 1948, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Janis was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She is survived by her husband, Paul Kosiewicz; three sons: Paul Kosiewicz of Sault Ste. Marie, Scott Kosiewicz of Howard City, Mich., and James Kosiewicz of Sault Ste. Marie; a daughter, Debra Michalski of Howard City; three brothers: Ronald Lee of Sault Ste. Marie, Richard Lee of Sault Ste. Marie and Raymond Lee of Sault Ste. Marie; and ten grandchildren.

Janis was predeceased by her parents, Francis and Mary Grace Lee.

Visitation was on Dec. 26,

at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home. Funeral Mass was Wednesday, Dec. 27, at St. Mary's ProCathedral Church with Father Ted Brodeur as celebrant.

Share a memory, tell a story or send the family a condolence to clarkbaileynewhouse@sbcglobal.net.

Cheryl Lynn (nee Nesberg) Thompson, 37, of Kincheloe, Mich., passed away on Dec. 8, 2006, due to an automobile accident.

Cheryl was born on Nov. 18, 1969, in Lapeer, Mich. She attended Munising public schools and graduated with the class of 1988. She was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Cheryl loved her family and especially treasured being a mother. She also enjoyed socializing, gardening, camping, swimming, going for walks and country music.

She is survived by two sons, Austin Ray Davis and Casey James Thompson; her parents, Wallace and Gail (Shaw) Nesberg of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; two sisters, Sharon Hainstock of Marinette, Wisc. and Nicole Nesberg and her husband, Henry Harrington II, of Gainesville, Fla.; and many nieces, nephews, cousins and step-children.

A memorial service was conducted on Dec. 14, 2006, at the Niigaanaagizhik Ceremonial Building.

C.S. Mulder Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Condolences may also be left online at www.csmulder.com.

John P. Plante, 79, of Garden died unexpectedly on Dec. 17, 2006, at his home.

He was born June 18, 1927, in Fairbanks Township, the son of Ernest and Odanna (nee Bouchard) Plante and attended the Puffy Creek School.

John was formerly employed with the Delta County Road Commission and prior to that, he worked on road construction and as a woodsman.

He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was a member of American Legion Post 545 of Garden.

He was of the Catholic faith. He was an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and his favorite activity was to join with other elders at the Manistique Tribal Center for conversation and noon meals.

He also enjoyed hunting and fishing.

He is survived by his sons, Gary (Sue) Plante of Garden, Joseph Plante of Kenosha, Wisc., Robert (Kim) Plante of Catlett, Va., and David (Barbara) Plante; daughters, Mary Lynn (Raymond) Carlson of Escanaba and Darla (Dennis) Walczak of Pinconning, Mich.; 12 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; sisters, Dorla (Frank) Trotti of Phoenix, Ariz., and Diann (Richard) LaMug of Huntley, Ill.; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Gerald, in 1998; sister, Carol, in 1989 and brother, Dennis, in 2005.

Memorial services will be held at the Messier-Broullire Funeral Home in Garden at a later date.

Burial will be in the New Garden Cemetery in Garden Township.

Taylor Jean Rader, 16, of Rossville, Ind. passed away Dec. 17, 2006, as the result of an auto accident in Clinton County. An

organ donor, giving of herself to others in need, she passed away at Home Hospital in Lafayette.

Taylor was born on Sept. 16, 1990, in Sault Ste. Marie to Jeffrey A. Rader and Sue Ellen Graham.

She was a junior at Rossville High School. A member of the Rossville Rockettes dance team, she placed in the 2006 state championship.

In addition to the Rossville Rockettes, she also enjoyed baby-sitting, shopping, photography, cooking, styling hair and being with her friends. She was also a former cheerleader. Taylor was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

She is survived by her mother Sue Ellen Graham of Rossville; her father, Jeffrey A. Rader of Tennessee; brother Jeffery Rader, II of Rossville, Ind.; sister Barbie Rader at home; grandparents Jerry and Mary Baugh of St. Ignace, Floyd and Deanna Rader of Sault Ste. Marie, Ted and Jackie Garrison of West Lafayette, Ind.; and special family Tony Garrison, Brent Patton and Josh Golden. Several uncles, aunts and cousins also survive.

Funeral services were on Dec. 20, 2006, at the Rossville High School Gymnasium in Rossville, Ind. Burial took place at Maple Lawn Cemetery in Flora, Ind., with Pastor Tim Rader and Pastor Pamela Ditson-McCall. Memorials may be left to the Taylor Rader Scholarship Dance Fund payable to Rossville High School. Envelopes are available from the funeral home or the high school.

Baker Funeral Home in Flora, Ind., assisted the family with arrangements.

Kristen Marie Stratton, 40,

of Hatton Township, Harrison passed away Dec. 24, 2006, at Saint Mary's Mercy Medical Center in Grand Rapids, Mich. Kristen was born January 11, 1966, in Livonia, Mich., the daughter of Arthur P. and Patricia A. (nee Nelson) Harrington. Kristen had resided in the Harrison area since 1978, coming from Farmington Hills, Mich.

Kristen enjoyed fishing, boating, snowmobiling, camping, bowling, playing bingo and crocheting. She loved her dogs and was an avid Detroit Red Wings fan.

Surviving are her loving daughters, Kiley A.E. Stratton of Harrison and Kelsey M. Stratton also of Harrison; a special companion and friend, Eric Hubble of Harrison; parents, Arthur "Art" and Patricia "Pat" Harrington also of Harrison; two sisters, Kimberly Walker of Farmington Hills and Kelly Doyle of Williamsburg, Va.; several aunts and uncles and many nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were on Dec. 28, 2006, at Stocking Funeral Home in Harrison with Rev. Steve Dobyns officiating. Burial was in St. Athanasius Catholic Cemetery in Harrison. Memorial contributions in memory of Ms. Stratton may be considered for the American Cancer Society.

To share an online condolence to Kristen's family, please visit www.stockingfuneralhome.com.



Jan. 2-Feb. 28: Sault Tribe Housing Down Payment Assistance Program applications now available. This assistance will only be available once this year. To be eligible you must: Be a Sault Tribe member, be at least 18, be a first-time homebuyer, be within the income guidelines. Qualify for a mortgage from a lender of your choice. You could receive up to \$5,000 for a down payment and/or closing costs. Please call Angie Spencer at (906) 635-7702, (800) 794-4072 or email: aspen@saaulttribe.net.

Jan. 2-March 31: Winter fitness classes at the All-In-One Fitness Club at Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie. Classes include: early birds, pilates, kickboxing, chi circuit, step-it-up, beginner pilates and toning and sculpting. For more information, call (906) 635-RINK.

Jan. 12 & 13: Constitutional Committee meeting Friday 5-9 p.m. and Saturday 8-3 p.m. at the Sault Ste. Marie Kewadin Casino. Committee meetings open to Sault Tribe members. Comments from the public shall be permitted. For more information, please call Candace Blocher at (866) 632-6281.

Jan. 13: Totzone "Snowball" theme, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. Dress your little ones in white or blue. Participants will make paper snowflakes. Enjoy a visit with Frosty the snowman. Totzones are designed for children five and under and require adult supervision. We encourage everyone to bring strollers, push toys, ride-on toys, walkers and trikes. In addition, disco lights, children's music and special activities are planned for each Totzone date. There is a \$3 fee per child to participate. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

Jan. 13: Unit V monthly chair meeting held at the NMU University Center, Nicolet Room, Marquette, Mich. at 11 a.m. Tribal membership can meet with the chairperson. For more information, call (888) 94-AARON.

Jan. 14: Tri County Detroit Area monthly chair meeting held at the Greektown Casino in Detroit, Mich. at 12 p.m. Tribal membership can meet with the chairperson. For more information, call (888) 94-AARON.

Jan. 15: Unit I monthly chair meeting held at the Ontario I, Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie at 6 p.m. Tribal membership can meet with the chairperson. For more information, call (888) 94-AARON.

Jan. 16 & 18: Act in Time to Heart Attack Signs - Know Your Risk, Honoring the Gift of Heart Health, Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. and Thursday from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Join us for this session where we will discuss the following questions: What are the signs that someone is having a heart attack? What would you do if you thought someone was having a heart attack? What things affect your heart health? How can you be prepared for emergency trips to the hospital? Honoring the Gift of Heart Health six-sessions Jan. 16-March 29 at the Sault Tribe Health Center Auditorium, 2864 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie, MI. Open to the public. For questions or to register call Community Health at (906) 632-5210.

Jan. 16: Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting, Kincheloe, 6

p.m. at the Kinross Recreation Center in Kincheloe, Mich. Open community hour is from 5-6 p.m. For further information call Joanne or Tara at the administration office, (906) 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660, extensions 26337 or 26338.

Jan. 17: Burrito breakfast, 7:45-9:30, Sault Tribe Health Center, 2864 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie. To volunteer for Anishnabek Community and Family Services fundraising activities or for more details call (906) 632-5250.

Jan. 17: Unit II Monthly Chair meeting held at the Newberry Tribal Center, Newberry, Mich. at 5 p.m. The tribal membership can meet with the chairperson. For more information, call (888) 94-AARON.

Jan. 18-23: Harlan Downwind will be holding clinic hours as follows, Traditional Medicine Clinic Sault Ste. Marie at the Sault Tribal Health Center 8 a.m.-5 p.m. For appointments, call (906) 632-5210 or (877) 256-0009.

Jan. 19-20: Winter Survival Camp - Come and join us at the Mary Murray Culture Camp and learn different winter survival techniques. This is an outdoor camp so be prepared and bring lots of warm clothing. Sign up is required, space is limited. Please call (906) 635-6050.

Jan. 19-21: Cabin Fever hockey tournament at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. For more information, please call (906) 635-RINK.

Jan. 20: Family movies at Bayliss will show The Many Adventures of Winnie the Pooh (1983, rated G) starting at 1:30 p.m. in the Children's Room. The movie is free and open to the public. Popcorn is available by donation. Bayliss Public Library is located at 541 Library Drive, Sault Ste. Marie. For more information, call (906) 632-9331.

Jan. 21: Soo Indians vs. Manitoulin at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Free admission for Sault Tribe elders and \$2 admission for Sault Tribe members. Tribe members must present tribal card. For more information, please call (906) 635-RINK.

Jan. 23: Escanaba Area Diabetic Support Group, Escanaba Health Center conference room, from 10-11 a.m. Call the Escanaba Tribal Center at (906) 786-9211.

Jan. 23-Feb. 27: Passages, Hospice adult grief support group, meets for six consecutive Tuesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at the Union Presbyterian Church, 166 Ontario St., in DeTour, Mich. The group is open to adult members of the community free of charge. Please call Hospice at (906) 253-3151 to register for the group.

Jan. 24: Unit III monthly chair meeting at McCann School in St. Ignace, Mich. at 6 p.m. Tribal membership can meet with the chairperson. For more information, call (888) 94-AARON.

Jan. 24: White Elephant Sale, 8:30-4 p.m., Sault Tribe Health Center, 2864 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie. To volunteer for Anishnabek Community and Family Services fundraising activities or for more details call (906) 632-5250. For this event a donation will go to the New Year's powwow coloring contest.

Jan. 24-25: Harlan Downwind will be holding office hours at the Traditional Medicine Clinic in

St. Ignace, Mich., at the Lambert Center, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For appointments, call (906) 643-8689 or (877) 256-0135.

Jan. 25-28: Women's Wellness Gathering Biboon 2007, Mary Murray Culture Camp, Sugar Island, Mich. from Jan. 25, 6 p.m. to Jan. 28, at noon. Cultural teachings, health workshops, stress reduction, talking circles, relationships, relaxation, discovery, music, crafts, and so much more. Bring bedding, pillows, towels, warm clothes, sweat clothes, toiletries, one giveaway gift, dishbag, sewing and craft materials (i.e., fabric, beads, sewing machine, etc.), musical instrument and best singing voice. For more information, or to get an application, please contact Karen Howell or Selina McLean at (906) 635-6075, toll free at (800) 726-9105, or send e-mail to sskarenh@saaulttribe.net or smclean@saaulttribe.net. Please bring your dishbag or dishes, silverware, and cup. Due to allergies, please refrain from using perfume or sprays. This event is funded by the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians' American Indian Substance Abuse program.

Jan. 26: CPR/first aid class at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. For more information, please call (906) 635-RINK.

Jan. 27: Totzone "Backyardigans" theme, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. Dress like your favorite Backyard friend. There is a \$3 fee per child to participate. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

Jan. 28: Mid Michigan monthly chair meeting at the Nokomis Native American Cultural Learning Center, Okemos, Mich. at 12 p.m. Tribal membership can meet with the chairperson. For more information, call (888) 94-AARON.

Jan. 28: Northern Lower Michigan monthly chair meeting at the Inverness Township Hall, Cheboygan, Mich. at 6 p.m. Tribal membership can meet with the chairperson. For more information, call (888) 94-AARON.

Jan. 28: Lonestar in concert, 7 p.m. Kewadin Shores Showroom at St. Ignace Kewadin Casino. For more information call 1-800-KEWADIN.

Jan. 31: Soo Indians vs. Blind River at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Free admission for Sault Tribe elders and \$2 admission for Sault Tribe members. Tribe members must present tribal card. Call (906) 635-RINK.

Feb. 2-4: District seven youth hockey tournament at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

Feb. 5: Lake Superior State University's Cislser Center ballroom, 7 p.m. Bev Cobain, registered nurse with credentials in psychiatric/mental health nursing and first cousin of Kurt Cobain, will speak on suicide prevention, the warning signs and appropriate responses. This presentation is free to everyone in the Eastern Upper Peninsula community. No registration is needed. For more information, call Geraldine Stelmazek at (906) 632-5467.

Feb. 6: Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting, Sault Ste. Marie, 6 p.m. at the Kewadin Casino Convention Center. Open

community hour is from 5-6 p.m. For further information call Joanne or Tara at the administration office, (906) 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660, extensions 26337 or 26338.

Feb. 8: Oak Ridge Boys in concert, 7 p.m. Kewadin Shores Showroom at St. Ignace Kewadin Casino. For more information call 1-800-KEWADIN.

Feb. 9: Soo Indians vs. Blind River, 7 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Free admission for Sault Tribe elders and \$2 admission for Sault Tribe members. Tribe members must present tribal card. For more information, please call (906) 635-RINK.

Feb. 10: Totzone "Sweethearts Theme" 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. Dress your little ones in pink or red, make a special valentines card, and decorate heart-shaped sugar cookies. Totzones are designed for children five and under and require adult supervision. We encourage everyone to bring strollers, push toys, ride-on toys, walkers and trikes. In addition, disco lights, children's music and special activities are planned for each Totzone date. There is a \$3 fee per child to participate. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

Feb. 10: Soo Indians vs. North Bay, 7 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Free admission for Sault Tribe elders and \$2 admission for Sault Tribe members. Tribe members must present tribal card. There will be a skate with the Soo Indians team after the game. For more information, please call (906) 635-RINK.

Feb. 13: JKL Bahweting Public School Academy Board of Education meeting in the school cafeteria, 1301 Marquette Avenue, at 5:30 p.m. Call JKL Bahweting at (906) 635-5055.

Feb. 16-18: NIHL youth hockey tournament at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

Feb. 18, 19 & 20: Sault Tribe Education Division presents College Fair 2007 on Sunday from 1-4 p.m., at the Manistique Tribal Center and Monday from 5-8 p.m. at Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie. Also, on Tuesday from 5-8 p.m., in St. Ignace, at the Little Bear East. This event is open to the public. Parents are encouraged to attend, the entire family is welcome. Win a laptop computer, one laptop will be given away each night. Sault Tribe card required, ages 16-19. You must be present to win. College representatives will be available to answer your questions. Workshops on financial aid, Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver, Sault Tribe scholarships, I.H.S. scholarships, Sault Tribe Vocational Training and ACT test preparation. There will be chili and frybread, door prizes and giveaways. For more information, call Sault Tribe Education Division at (800) 793-0660.

Feb. 20: Sault Tribe Elders Unit I Annual Pancake Supper, 4:30-7 p.m. at Nokomis/Mishomis Place, 2076 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie. Pancakes, sausage, eggs and beverage will be served, adults \$4, five to 12 years old \$2, and children under five free. For questions, please call the Elder

Services Division at (906) 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

Feb. 20: Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting, St. Ignace at 6 p.m. Open community hour is from 5-6 p.m. For further information call Joanne or Tara at the administration office, (906) 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660, extensions 26337 or 26338.

Feb. 23-25: NIHL youth hockey tournament at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

Feb. 24: Totzone "Dora and Diego Theme" 10 a.m.-12 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. Dress your little ones like Dora or Diego. Bring their backpack or rescue pack, and enjoy a mini scavenger hunt. Totzones are designed for children five and under and require adult supervision. We encourage everyone to bring strollers, push toys, ride-on toys, walkers and trikes. In addition, disco lights, children's music and special activities are planned for each Totzone date. There is a \$3 fee per child to participate. For more information call (906) 635-RINK.

Feb. 25: Soo Indians vs. Soo Thunderbirds, 7 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Free admission for Sault Tribe elders and \$2 admission for Sault Tribe members. Tribe members must present tribal card. For more information, please call (906) 635-RINK.

March 6: Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting, Sault Ste. Marie, 6 p.m. at the Kewadin Casino Convention Center. Open community hour is from 5-6 p.m. For further information, please call Joanne or Tara at the administration office, (906) 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660, extensions 26337 or 26338.

March 13: JKL Bahweting Public School Academy Board of Education meeting in the school cafeteria, 1301 Marquette Avenue, at 5:30 p.m. Call JKL Bahweting at (906) 635-5055.

March 17-18: The Native American Students Association (NASA) of Northern Michigan University is proud to announce our upcoming 15th Annual Learning to Walk Together Powwow. This event will take place in the Vandam Arena on the NMU campus in Marquette, Mich. Grand entries will be at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday and on Sunday at 1 p.m. Feast will be on Saturday at 5 p.m. with a hand drum contest. If you have questions or need additional information, email nasa@nmu.edu or call (906) 227-1397.

March 20: Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting, Hessel at 6 p.m. Open community hour is from 5-6 p.m. For further information, please call Joanne or Tara at the administration office, (906) 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660, extensions 26337 or 26338.

April 3: Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting, Sugar Island at 6 p.m. Open community hour is from 5-6 p.m. For further information, please call Joanne or Tara at the administration office, (906) 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660, extensions 26337 or 26338.

April 10: JKL Bahweting Public School Academy Board of Education meeting, 1301 Marquette Avenue, at 5:30 p.m. Call (906) 635-5055.

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to thank this year's sponsors of the
Children's Christmas
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Sault Ste. Marie, MI



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