



GREEKTOWN SPECIAL SECTION *inside*

July 14, 2009 • Vol. 30 No. 7

Miin Giizis • BlueberryMoon

Win Awenen Nisitotung

Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Unique donor search for Hessel lad is now urgent

\$10,000 reward for suitable donor offered, more lines of communication opened, see announcement on page 10.

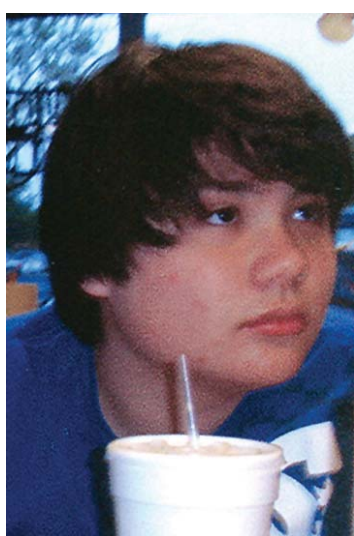
BY RICK SMITH

Anthony Lee, a 16-year-old resident of the small enclave of Hessel, Mich., urgently needs a bone marrow transplant. So far, there's been just one major obstacle: A suitable donor needs to have ancestry similar to the lad's — a mix of American Indian, Korean, German and Scot.

Doctors diagnosed aplastic anemia in Lee about two and a half years ago. Since then, according to the Web site, www.helpanthonyjaylee.org, doctors have learned he suffers from a disease which is a form of myelodysplastic syndromes.

According to the National Cancer Institute, myelodysplastic syndromes, or MDS, are a group of diseases in which the bone marrow does not make enough healthy blood cells. Lee has endured several types of treatments since his original diagnosis and has undergone treatment since he was diagnosed as having an MDS.

He briefly showed some positive response last fall, but his cellular regeneration began to decline later in the year and became worse by winter. More recently, a stem cell procedure was tried but it failed to take hold. Doctors determined there is only one last possible hope



Anthony Lee

for him — find a suitable bone marrow donor and perform a transplant as soon as possible.

Bone marrow transplants, according to the Mayo Clinic, are most successful if the matched donor is a relative, but Lee has no compatible matches in his family. So, he needs to find a healthy, unrelated donor with similar ancestry between the ages of 18 and 60.

Eric Trosko of the National Marrow Donor Program in East Lansing, Mich., says many people don't realize how easy it is to register as a marrow donor and to actually donate, "You simply complete a registration form and swab the inside of your cheek.

That's it, no blood draw and the entire registration process only takes about 10 minutes," he noted.

"If you match a patient, donations can now be made through a simple blood draw procedure instead of the old surgical procedure through the hip. There is no cost for members of any American Indian tribe to join the marrow registry or to donate," he said.

Anyone wishing to register as a bone marrow donor can contact Trosko on his cell phone at (517) 488-2670, call him toll free at 1 (800) 471-3020, extension 101, or e-mail etrosko@nmdp.org. He said he will provide kits for anyone who wants to join.

Anthony Lee loved participating in sports at Cedarville High School and was active in skiing, basketball, football and track.

He would like nothing more than to simply resume his studies, extracurricular activities and pursue the joys of life offered to a young man in the rural Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Eventually, he would also like to embark on a career, perhaps to become a doctor as he has mentioned.

But first, a suitable donor must be found.



Photo by Brenda Austin

Young shawl dancer takes wing during the Sault Tribe powwow.

Governor, tribes sign climate accord

BY RICK SMITH

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm and the leaders of Michigan's 12 federally recognized tribes signed an accord on June 11 in Sault Ste. Marie to address global climate concerns by reducing "greenhouse" gases.

The summit, hosted by Sault Tribe, took place at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center and featured roundtable discussions with state economic and transportation officials. In addition, representative groups from the individual tribes were able to have private meetings with the governor. Handsome table displays accompanied by appropriate Sault Tribe staff stood nearby for perusal by interested parties; the displays highlighted assets of our tribe such as Anishinaabek Community and Family Services, programs for elders and other entities.

The accord signing was one of the follow-up measures of a 2002 state-tribal accord stipulating cooperative efforts between the state and tribes through

annual meetings to explore various improvements in living conditions for all concerned.

Granholm expressed pleasure in working with the tribes to "reduce the threat that greenhouse emissions pose to our environment, economy and quality of life."

The accord mandates that representatives from the state and tribes will meet at least twice a year to address global warming issues and develop action plans to control pollution, pursue clean technologies and enhance conservation.

Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy welcomed the gathering and spoke on the importance of treating Mother Earth and her gifts with respect and conservation, he said such is the traditional way of the Anishinaabek nation. He said our tribe pledges to work with the other tribes and the state, especially for the benefit of the growing generations and those yet to come.

Granholm said the state is committed to strengthening relationships and understanding with the tribes.

See "Summit," page 8



Photo by Brenda Austin

Pictured above (L-R) at the annual state-tribe summit on June 6 at Sault Tribe's Kewadin Casinos and Convention Center, Sault Tribe's Mike McCoy; governor's tribal liaison, John Arnet; Sault Tribe Unit Directors Shirley Petosky and Cathy Abramson; Governor Jennifer Granholm; Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy and Vice Chairwoman Lana Causley; and Joanna Miller of the governor's office.

Free fitness club access reinstated



Fitness Club memberships are now free for Sault Tribe members at the Chi Mukwa All-In-One Fitness Club in Sault Ste. Marie.

Summer hours are noon to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sunday.

The All-In-One Fitness Club is on the second floor of the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center on the reservation.

Call 635-4935 for more information.

Navy vets eligible to claim Agent Orange disabilities

Navy Vietnam War veterans are now eligible to claim service connected disabilities due to exposure of Agent Orange in the Republic of Vietnam, as a presumptive, if their ship tied up pier side.

Veterans must provide proof their ships tied up in the Republic of Vietnam through records in cruise books or ship's logs. If you were denied before, re-open your claim.

The following conditions are presumptive from exposure to Agent Orange: Chloracne, diabetes type II, chronic lymphocytic leukemia, multiple myeloma, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, acute or sub-acute peripheral neuropathy, porphyria cutanea tarda, prostate cancer, respiratory cancers (lung, bronchus, larynx or trachea), soft tissue sarcoma (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma or mesothelioma) or amyloidosis.

Veterans, widows or widowers need diagnoses or death certificates to file claims with the Veterans Administration for service connected disability compensation or death benefits.

For more details, call your veterans organization's service officer or James Shogren, Chippewa County Veterans Affairs at (906) 635-6370 or the Veterans Administration at (800) 827-1000.

Junior Police Academy 2009 starts soon

The 2009 Junior Police Academy conducted by Sault Tribe Law enforcement is scheduled for August 3-7 at Boedne Bay, Moran, Mich., for Sault Tribe members 11-15 years of age.

The academy is free of charge and transportation may be provided, if needed. Recreational activities will include canoeing, swimming and games.

Law enforcement activities for the week include:

- Physical training
- Felony traffic stops
- Evidence collection
- Legal updates
- Taser presentation
- Building entry
- MILO simulator
- Writing reports
- First aid training
- Water safety
- Swat team techniques
- Fingerprinting
- K-9 unit presentation
- Fire safety

Contact Robert Marchand, interim chief of police, at (906) 635-6065.

SUBMIT REGISTRATION FORMS TO:
Sault Tribe Law Enforcement Department
P.O. Box 925, 2175 Shunk Road
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

-----PLEASE RETURN THIS BOTTOM PORTION-----

REGISTRATION FORM:

CADET'S NAME: _____

LEGAL GUARDIAN: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

DAYTIME PHONE: _____ **NIGHT TIME PHONE:** _____

AGE: ____ **GRADE:** ____ **TRIBAL MEMBERSHIP:** _____

REGISTRATION FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED ON OR BEFORE JULY 20, 2009.

UPON RECEIPT OF REGISTRATION FORM AN APPLICATION PACKAGE WILL BE MAILED WITH RULES & REGULATIONS TO BE SIGNED AND PHYSICAL & CONSENT FORMS TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED PRIOR TO CAMP.

SPACE IS LIMITED SO PLEASE RETURN FORMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CADETS WILL BE SELECTED ON A FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE BASIS.

Want ads now available in Win Awenen Nisitotung!

As a service to our members and employees, we now offer inexpensive advertising to help you get the word out about your garage sales, items and services for sale, hire or trade along with items and services wanted.

Plain language text with a flat rate of 25 cents per word or numerical group per month. Groups consist of one or more characters. Here are two examples:

**"Peachy keen adult size snowshoes for sale. Excellent condition. Call 555-1234."
 (11 groups at 25 cents each for one month: \$2.75)**

**"I do snow removal, yard work and odd jobs. Reasonable rates. Call 555-1234 anytime."
 (14 groups, 25 cents each for one year: \$42.00)**

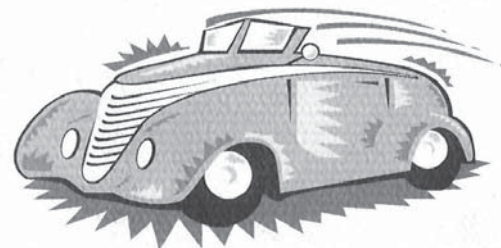
Orders must be paid in advance by check or money order. Send ad text, number of months to run, contact information and remittance to Want Ads, Communications, 531 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.



The National Network of Libraries of Medicine offers a place for people to get information about community health issues, especially in underserved communities.

You can see what they have for you by logging on to their blog at www.nlm.gov/mcr/bhic covering the mid-continental region.

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Win Awenen Nisitotung

THE SAULT TRIBE NEWS

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

July 14, 2009

Miin Giizis~Blueberry Moon

Vol. 30, No. 7

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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 tribal members and non members about the activities of the tribal government, membership programs and services and cultural, social and spiritual activities of Sault Tribe members.

Our name: Win Awenen Nisitotung, in our native language, means, "One who well or fully understands," pronounced "Win Oh-weh-nin Nis-toe-tuhng"

Visit us online: This issue can be viewed online at www.saulttribe.com beginning on its publishing date.

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.

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Elderly Advisory Committee meeting summary for June

Chairperson Menard opened the Elderly Advisory Committee meeting on June 22 with a quorum present. Sault Tribe Vice Chair Lana Causley and Elder Services Director Holly Kibble were present. The agenda and minutes of the May 19 meeting were approved as submitted.

Causley addressed questions on the Greektown Casino situation; the hunting, fishing and gathering agreement; burial fund status (currently \$1,000); and the Lands Claim Fund (there will be elders' checks). She suggested we ask Eric Clark, Inland Hunting and Fishing biologist, to come to the next meeting to discuss the hunting, fishing and gathering agreement along with Jeff Holt of tribal planning and development to report on stimulus money received by the tribe.

Old business: Elders decided to sponsor a scholarship program again this year and each subcommittee should donate \$122.22 to fund the program. All but three have sent funds to Holly. The program shall be for any college student meeting the qualifications and requirements and not limited, as last year, to first year entering freshmen. On a motion by Jerry Miller, seconded by Dolores LeVeque and carried, with Jerome Peterson

in opposition, there will be two \$500 scholarships awarded subject to the aforementioned change in requirements. On a motion by Jerome Peterson, seconded by Jerry Miller and carried, Bob Menard will act as coordinator for the program, make necessary revisions, ensure notice gets to the tribal newspaper for the July edition, evaluate applications, arrange for judges and prepare the applications to allow for objective decisions. The group recognized Ilene Moses for donating \$150 to the Elder Scholarship Program. The money came from the Title VII Indian Education Parent Committee for sweet grass pins Ilene made for graduating seniors.

Only two board members (Cathy Abramson and DJ Hoffman) responded to the request for donations by board members to the Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) Student Incentive Program. Causley said there was board discussion regarding the matter and it was questioned how the money would be conveyed to MIEA. Menard indicated he prefers the money be sent to him and he would see that it gets to the MIEA treasurer and donors recognized. Lana said she was in contact

with JKL Bahweting School staff and a donation may come from there. She also indicated Tony Goetz, general manager of Kewadin Casinos, most likely will not respond until after he meets with his board later this month.

New business: None. Holly Kibble, director of elders' services, spoke briefly about a summer student volunteer program funded by grant money. She is in the process of submitting budgets for the meal programs and reported on how the budget affects the programs in all units.

Unit reports: Three subcommittees had something new to report: Unit II, Newberry – they just returned from a very enjoyable trip to Deadwood, S.D. Unit V, Munising – Dolores LeVeque passed out flyers about a powwow scheduled for Sept. 12, 2009. Unit V, Marquette – secured a location for their annual family picnic Aug. 1, 2009.

Questions and comments: Kim Eddy asked if lunch should be prepared for the next meeting. Everyone agreed the Newberry group should prepare a lunch and Eddy said the group will prepare a lunch for the next regularly scheduled meeting on July 27, 2009, at 12:30 p.m.

ACFS receives Recovery Act funding

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) announces funding availability through the Recovery Act Program.

Funding opened July 1, 2009, and may provide time-limited case management and support to assist low-income members to obtain and maintain long-term employment.

Possible services include trade school or apprenticeship fees, relocation assistance to our tribe's service area, auto expenses, rental assistance, utility assistance and expenses for work clothing or tools.

For more information or to apply, please call your nearest ACFS office.

Chippewa and Luce coun-

ties: (800) 726-0093

Mackinac County: (877) 444-5608

Schoolcraft and Delta counties: (800) 347-7137

Alger and Marquette counties: (800) 236-4705

For more information on the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act, please visit www.recovery.gov.

Elders Scholarship Program for 2009

Elders of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians offer two one-time \$500 scholarships for qualified students enrolled in public colleges, universities or trade schools. The application deadline is Aug. 10, 2009.

Qualifications — Applicants must be registered Sault Tribe members who have successfully completed and passed all five GED equivalency tests with a minimum score of 40 and an average score of 45 and must possess a G.E.D. certificate or have graduated from an accredited high school with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50. Applicants must be accepted or enrolled in any two or four-year public college, university or trade school in any field of study as a full-time student.

Requirements — Applicants must submit letters of application to include their names, addresses, telephone numbers, proofs of tribal enrollment, social security numbers, transcripts from high schools or, in the case

of returning college students, appropriate transcripts showing grades from last terms or semesters attended and verifying accumulative grade point averages; or, for other students entering their freshman year, proof of having achieved the GED requirements stated above; acceptance letters from the colleges, universities or trade schools for the 2009-10 school year; identify intended academic majors or courses of study; and a 300-500 word essay describing how you feel a college education will benefit you, your career objective and why this scholarship will help you achieve your goal.

All requirements noted above must be packaged and received no later than Aug. 10, 2009, by the Elder Services Division, Nokomis/Mishomis Place, 2076 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

If you have any questions, please call Robert S. Menard, program coordinator, at (906) 485-5364.

Please note! Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Low-income pet owners • Chippewa Co. residents

Free pet spaying and neutering Aug. 6, 7 and 8 in Kinross, vaccinations available. The following family income guidelines apply:

Size	Limit	Proof of income or public assistance is required to receive the services. Acceptable forms of proof are any one of the following:
1	\$22,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • W-2 (2007), letter from employer, pay stub or other proof of income. • Bridge card. • Medicaid or AMP – mihealth card. • SSI – Supplemental Security Income letter. • Letter from a public housing authority on established letterhead. • Other evidence of public assistance.
2	\$28,000	
3	\$36,000	
4	\$40,000	
5	\$44,000	
6	\$47,000	

Contact Deb Green at 440-6770 or dgreen3@charter.net.

Financial Fitness Class

Strengthen your finances with the Sault Tribe Housing Authority's financial fitness class. Your money is a big part of your life. It can determine what you can do and where you can go. Learning how to manage your money the right way is an important step toward taking control of your life.

FREE to All Sault Tribe Members

Classes will cover:

- developing a spending plan,
- working with checking and savings accounts,
- understanding credit, credit report, and accessing credit

Coming to your area in 2009:

Hessel Community Center
122 Nopaming
June 24th, 2-6p.m.

Sault Ste Marie
Niigaanagizhik Building 11 Ice Circle
July 28th, 2-6 p.m.

Wetmore Warehouse
N6379 Atik Ameg
August 12th 2-6 p.m.

Newberry Community Center
4935 Zeez-Ba-Tik:
July 21st, 2-6p.m

Escanaba Bay De Noc Community College
2001 North Lincoln Rd
August 10th, 2-6p.m.

Kinross Recreation Center
Woodlake
August 6th, 2-6 p.m.

St. Ignace
St. Ignace School
July 8th, 2-6p.m.

Manistique Community Center
6596 W US2
August 18th,
2-6pm. pm

Marquette
Peter White Public Library
August 4th, 1:30-5:30p.m



If there are any questions please contact Dana Patrick or Ryan Madigan at 495-1450 or 1-800-794-4072.

Are you a tribal member who owns a home or would you like to become a homeowner?

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- ✓ Purchase of existing home
- ✓ Purchase and remodel existing home
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- ✓ Refinance and remodel existing home
- ✓ Refinance of existing home for cash out or debt consolidation
- ✓ Construction of a new home



Chippewa Valley Bank
Contact: Eppy Sundberg
P.O. Box 5 – 5150N Main Street
Winter, WI 54896
Toll Free 1-866-282-3501

Rural and Ready conference at LSSU

BY BRENDA AUSTIN
SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — In an effort to provide training and education to help prepare health care and emergency preparedness professionals to respond to a public health event, this year's Rural & Ready symposium was held on the campus of Lake Superior State University.

Over 130 professionals from 62 agencies in the U.S., Canada and tribal jurisdictions participated in a variety of presentations from the "Willingness of Health Care Personnel to Work in a Disaster," to the "Great Lakes Border Health Initiative."

The program offered continuing education units for health professionals. A wide variety of disciplines were represented including physicians, nurses, law enforcement, public health, hospital preparedness, bridge authority, mental health, infection control, corrections and fire and emergency medical services. Emergency preparedness coordinator for the Chippewa County Health Department, Diane Krueger, said, "Feedback from this year's attendees was extremely positive. We look forward to continued successful collaborations and future symposia."

The Rural & Ready planning team spent about five months planning for and organizing the symposium. According to Sault Tribe Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, Gail Marsh, the symposium was a collaboration of agencies and government sectors working together and establishing one plan, including across international borders. Having your family prepared at home for emergencies and being able to monitor events as



Captain Mary Chaffee

they unfold is an important element in the National Response Plan.

According to Mary Schwiderson, RN, emergency preparedness coordinator for the Bay Mills Indian Community, "The area of the Eastern Upper Peninsula has been recognized for being ahead of the curve in terms of the collaboration between different agencies. The reports we have received about other areas is that they can be really turf-minded and not want to be cooperative or share their resources. It's been just the opposite in our experience. Because our communities in the UP are so rural, we have a very profound sense of how we are dependant on each other. That carries over into a lot of the committee work that we do. People are very willing to commit resources and say, yes, we can help with that."

The symposium was held June 3 from 8 to 5 p.m. For information about preparing your family for an emergency visit www.chippewahd.com or call Sault Tribe Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Gail Marsh, at (906) 632-5200 ext. 23370.

E-911 info form saves lives!

The Chippewa County Enhanced 9-1-1 automatic detail information form can save your life, but only if you complete the form and send it in.

Chippewa County residents can use this form (attached) to provide dispatchers with important emergency information about their residences. Residents are urged to report changes in occupancy, telephone numbers or change

of access to a dwelling or driveway conditions. Important information emergency responders need to know about can be listed on the form, such as medical conditions and other special needs, storage of hazardous materials and spare key locations. Those who already have a form on file can use the form anytime they need to update their information.

County residents can help

their elderly or disabled loved ones and neighbors complete and mail the forms, too.

Completed forms can be mailed to the address on the form or dropped off at the Sault Tribe Health Center for Gail Marsh to deliver to Central Dispatch. Call Marsh at 632-5200, extension 23370 with any questions.

E-911 information is strictly confidential by law.

Chippewa County Enhanced 9-1-1 Automatic Detail Information Form

The 9-1-1 system will automatically display your telephone number and special conditions or instructions you provide to the Chippewa County Central Dispatch. Please fill in the requested information below. Use ink only. The information you provide is critical in assisting local authorities to respond to an emergency at your location. ALL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL. All information is valid for one year and will require annual updates to continue validity.

If you are updating information already on file and have a new phone number or address, please fill in the old information below.

Old telephone number: _____ Old address: _____

Current Information: Telephone number: _____

Last name: _____ First name: _____

Street address: _____ Apt number: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

This address is a House Mobile Home Farm Business Apartment

Landlord: _____

THE FOLLOWING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EXIST AT THIS ADDRESS:

Gasoline Diesel LPG Other Chemicals Ammunition Explosives

Pesticides Poisons

Radioactive materials Watch dog // Any other pertinent information: _____

Person with special needs at this address: Last name: _____ First name: _____

Date of birth: _____ Hearing Impaired Sight Impaired Mentally handicapped Alzheimer/memory impaired Bedridden On oxygen supply Physically handicapped Under medical care for heart problems

Other: _____

There is a key or keyholder at: _____

Return this form to:
Chippewa County Central Dispatch, 4657 West Industrial Park Dr., Kincheloe, MI 49788

www.nativevillage.org
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New Year New Rollover



Over the past couple of years, the government passed some of the most significant changes in the tax code. One such change is most retirement plans can now be rolled into an IRA. (Restrictions, limitations and fees may apply.)

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Childhood health promoted with marathon bike ride



Photo by Rick Smith

Youngsters representing tribal youth councils throughout the Sault Tribe service area gathered in Sault Ste. Marie on June 8 to ride bicycles nearly 50 miles in support of ending childhood obesity. Riders braved inclement weather and roads slippery from rain. The riders left Sault Ste. Marie about 10 a.m. bound for St. Ignace.

BY RICK SMITH

About 32 members of youth councils affiliated with Sault Tribe Youth, Education and Activities (YEA) embarked on a long, cold, wet bicycle trek on June 8 calling for the demise of childhood obesity. Riders ages ranged from a 6-year-old to older folks up to 58 supporting the run.

They departed Sault Ste. Marie southbound on Mackinaw Trail at 10 a.m. under foreboding cloud cover with a chill in the air and under escort of the Sault Tribe Police Department and the Mackinac County Sheriff's Department. The convoy

included mobile safety and support volunteers.

A banner across the front of one of the vehicles urged, "Get up and play an hour a day, together we can combat childhood obesity." Light rain-fall and wind became steady around the time of their arrival in Rudyard, gaining severity as they progressed south to their final destination – St. Ignace.

After traveling 47 miles through the inclement weather, up and down hills, seven cold, wet and tired riders reached the conclusion of the run still aboard bicycles.

Sponsors of the event were the Robert Wood Johnson

Foundation and the Celebrate Native Health Project of the United National Indian Tribal Youth organization with support from entities of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

YEA coordinators are grateful to all of the Sault Tribe supporters, Hometown Security, the Mackinac County Sheriff's Department, Marj Reamer, Jeanete Landreville, Dorothy Currie and Mona Gugin, YEA staff and volunteers along with all of the brave young people who rode in the event.

Maybe weather conditions will be better next year.

Free water screening offered July 20

The Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program provides free drinking water screening on July 20 for nitrates, nitrites and triazine pesticides in Mackinac, Luce and Chippewa counties.

Results are confidential and will be mailed directly to the well owner or renter in six to eight weeks.

Water bottles and sampling directions are available now from county MSU Extension offices. Contact the MSU Extension office in Chippewa County at (906) 635-6368 or 300 Court Street in Sault Ste

Marie.

Instead of getting bottles and directions from extension offices, a clean, small glass jar, such as a baby food or jelly jar, may be used. Directions and forms are online at www.msu.msue.edu/grandtraverse.

Samples need to be taken on Monday, July 20, and delivered to the participating MSUE office before noon.

Unlike public water that is tested regularly, many rural wells are never tested after their initial installation test. Each year, our screening has

revealed that 3 to 5 percent of well water samples were above the EPA standard for nitrate. Consumption of water with high nitrate levels can cause tiredness, oxygen stress and blue skin. The disease is called blue baby syndrome or methemoglobinemia. It can be fatal to babies or fetuses. Livestock consuming high nitrate water may be unthrifty and also abort.

Everyone with a drinking water well is encouraged to take advantage of this free service; we do not know if it will be available next year.

For more information, Dr. Roberta Dow at (231) 922-4858.

Sault Tribe home show makes debut at Chi Mukwa



Photo by Brenda Austin

Lori Gaskin takes some literature on planning for emergencies at home from emergency preparedness coordinator Gail Marsh.



Photo by Rick Smith

A family peruses some realtor information at the first home show on June 12-13. The event showcases all manner of interests and sources for the home.

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The first Sault Tribe Home Show on June 12 and 13 was at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

The event was geared toward homeownership – buying, selling or building a home – or making home improvements. The event was open to the community and showcased many services, products and information for all.

The home show is anticipated to continue as an annual event each spring.

Gail Marsh, emergency preparedness coordinator for the Sault Tribe Health Center, and Diane Krueger of the Chippewa

County Health Department, manned a booth featuring education material about emergency planning including how to prepare your home, family and pets for different types of emergencies.

A preparedness kit for your vehicle should include a flashlight with extra batteries, cellular phone, blanket, jumper cables, maps, shovel, flares, bottled water, tire repair kit and pump and foods able to survive long periods of storage such as granola bars, canned nuts, hard candy, trail mix, peanut butter and crackers.

More information on emergency preparedness is at www.ready.gov.

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Tribal members organize “Save our Greektown”

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON

SAULT STE. MARIE — Sault Tribe members are organizing to do whatever it takes to save the tribe's ownership of Greektown. Their main goal is to insert themselves into Greektown bankruptcy proceedings so they can be heard by U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge Walter Shapero, who is presiding over the Greektown bankruptcy.

“We want the bankruptcy judge to hear from the people and how it affects us. And, how it affects Michigan,” said Debra Pine.

“Losing Greektown will have a tremendous impact on the state.”

Losing Greektown will also have a tremendous impact on the tribe, because all the debt incurred by the tribe isn't going to go away. “Our children and our children's children will be paying this debt,” said Cathy DeVoy, another organizing member, who added that coming out of bankruptcy without Greektown will mean years, if not decades, of debt. That means the tribe's revenue will be used for debt, not programming.

The group also wants to let the membership know that Greektown is “our most valuable asset and our most profitable.” Not only for the tribe, but all of Michigan. If Greektown goes to a private owner all the benefits to the tribe, the state of Michigan and its citizens will all be lost. If the tribe remains Greektown's owner, the billions that the tribe has pumped into the state will continue.

“We have shown over time that we are good citizens of the state,” said Pine. “We share with everybody, not just members, employees and vendors. Our enterprises benefit people, not businesses. From 1986 to 2001, we distributed \$4.38 billion dollars to Michigan, half in the U.P. and half in lower Michigan.”

The group hopes they can add to the tribal board's actions with their own grassroots effort. “We are not an adversarial group,” said Cathy DeVoy. “We are behind our tribal leaders and we're hoping our actions will complement the tribal board's.”

A petition is out for tribal members' signature and letters of endorsement are being solicited from those benefitting from the tribe all these years — through 2 percent contributions, employment, donations and community participation such as United Way.

Tribal members wishing to help can send e-mail to the group online via savegreektown.saveourfuture@gmail.com and they will send a PDF of the petition to download, sign and send back. Please send signed petitions to Debra-Ann Pine, 1702 E. 7th St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783; Tony Nertoli, 541 Cedar St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783; or Arlene King, 918 Superior, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

The group also encourages tribal members, and anyone else who supports the tribe in its endeavour, to contact their elected officials. Since it's a federal matter, that would be U.S. Congressional members and the White House.

They don't have much time to get a lot of work done and all tribal members are encouraged to join in the effort. A plan

filed by the main creditor, Merrill Lynch, on June 1 includes no Sault Tribe ownership and a hearing for the plan is set for July 20. The tribe has until that date to file its own plan.

“We would like to recognize and thank those tribal members who are so passionate in their campaign to try to help with Greektown Casino,” said Tribal Chairman Joe McCoy. “They believe strongly, as many tribal members do, that we must do everything to try assure the

*From 1986 to 2001,
we distributed \$4.38
billion dollars to
Michigan, half in the
U.P. and half in Lower
Michigan.*

*— Debra-Ann Pine,
Sault Tribe member*

best possible outcome given the very difficult circumstances we face. I think we all recognize this is an uphill fight.”

Others involved in Members United to Save Greektown include Jen McLeod, Tony Nertoli, Arlene King, Rose Menard, Cathy DeVoy, Jolene Graham, Janet Liedel, Luci DeVoy, Debra-Ann Pine, Edye Nichols, along with and a number of tribal members who helped with developing the language for the cover letter and the petition.

Members of the group said they aren't interested in seeing the tribe shortchange anyone. “As honorable people with integrity, we want to pay off the debt. We want a reaffirmation of the agreement,” said Pine.

*Here's how you
can help*

E-mail: savegreektown.saveourfuture@gmail.com

Sign: Save our Greektown petition and send it back.

Speak: To those who benefitted from Sault Tribe and ask them to write a letter.

Write: Your representatives to Congress and the White House.

GREEKTOWN CASINO TIME LINE

1985 Sault Tribe opens its first tribal casino in Sault Ste. Marie. Gaming is seen as a sound business strategy to help achieve economic self sufficiency and reduce the tribe's reliance on federal government programs and services.

1992 Tribe and prominent Detroit developers launch effort to open a Native American casino in Greektown.

1994 City of Detroit voters approve ordinance legalizing casinos in the city (this was an advisory vote only because state law still banned non-Native casino gambling in Michigan). Tribe helps fund the campaign.

1995 Gov. John Engler rejects tribe's request to open Native American casino in Greektown. Engler urges Tribe to take its proposal to Michigan voters on the 1996 statewide ballot.

1996 (November) Michigan voters approve Proposal E, legalizing three state-regulated casinos in the City of Detroit. The tribe funds and leads the campaign.

1997 (November) After appointing a blue ribbon panel of business and political leaders to evaluate bidders for the three Detroit casino licenses, the City of Detroit selects Sault Tribe, MGM and Atwater Entertainment (a group of investors later bought out by the Ilitch family). Nearly every major gaming company in the world bids on one of the licenses.

1998 Three Detroit casino operators acquire land, finalize plans and hire architects and construction firms for their temporary Detroit casinos.

1999 Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, based in the western Upper Peninsula, files lawsuit claiming the process used by the City of Detroit to select the three casino operators was discriminatory. (July) MGM Grand Detroit becomes first temporary Detroit casino to open, with attached garage. (December) Temporary MotorCity Casino opens with attached garage. Issues concerning the state licensing of certain investors (not members of the Sault Tribe) delays opening of Greektown Casino.

2000 (November) Temporary Greektown Casino opens with no attached parking garage.

2001-04 Three Detroit casino operators seek locations for their permanent casino resorts, which must have 400-room hotels and 100,000 square feet of gaming floor space. MGM decides to build in a new location near its temporary casino. MotorCity and Greektown Casino decide to expand at the sites of their interim casinos.

2004 State of Michigan raises state gaming tax paid by the three Detroit casinos by 33 percent. The tax increase hurts profits and cash flow at all three properties, causing immediate layoffs at Greektown Casino.

2005 (November) The Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB), the state gaming regulators, approve the financing plan to build the permanent Greektown Casino. The MGCB requires that the casino meet certain financial performance benchmarks (based on debt service to revenues) or they can force the tribe to sell the casino.

2006 (April) After months of delay, Greektown Casino closes on the purchase of the land where it would build a 2,900-space parking garage. On the land is an old city parking garage that would have to be demolished. The delays in buying the land causes delays in starting construction on the permanent casino, which drives construction costs higher and jeopardizes the financial benchmarks imposed by the MGCB in 2005. (June) Construction on the permanent casino begins with demolition of old city parking garage.

2007 (October) MGM becomes first Detroit operator to open its permanent casino and hotel resort. (June) MotorCity Casino opens its expanded gaming floor and (November) its permanent casino hotel. (November) Greektown Casino opens its 2,900 parking garage (the casino hotel would be built on and adjacent to the garage).

2008 Nation and state fall into worst recession since Great Depression. Nation's credit markets collapse. (May) Greektown Casino files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. The bankruptcy, construction blocking key roads into the casino, construction on I-375, and the recession cause casino to have worst revenue performance year since 2001.

2009 Bankruptcy case continues. (January) New management company hired to operate Greektown Casino; new casino management board is seated with only one tribal representative. Exit from Chapter 11 expected as early as September, with ownership uncertain.

Update on the 2010 Census

It's about a year until Census Day 2010, but area residents were out in force in the first public field operation of the massive Decennial Census. Recently employed Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia residents took to the streets in April through May to verify every address in the region.

Census workers used hand-held computers to ensure the accuracy of the mapping process. In addition, address canvassers occasionally knocked on doors to verify the information verbally.

"This address verification process uses the best of 21st century technology and is part of our ongoing commitment to accuracy," said Detroit Regional Director Dwight P. Dean. "We are laying the foundation to get a Census questionnaire to each and every household in the state."

The address canvassing operation is a phase of the Census Bureau's address verification process that began with a master address file corroborated with local municipalities. That program, the local update of



Address canvassers are equipped with a hand held computer and wear an official identification badge. Many address canvassers carry a U.S. Census Bureau bag, making them easier to identify.

Census addresses, took place last year. There will be one final opportunity to add new home construction in early 2010 prior to the mailing of the Census questionnaires.

Census workers can be identified by the official Census Bureau badge they carry. During the address canvassing operation, census workers were asked to verify a housing structure's address and whether there are additional living quarters on the property.

For all operations, 2010 Census workers will never ask for bank or social security information. All census information collected, including addresses, is confidential and protected by law. By law, the Census Bureau cannot share respondents' answers with the FBI, the IRS, CIA, welfare, immigration or any other government agency.

In addition, no court of law or law enforcement agency can find out respondents' answers. All Census Bureau employees — including temporary employees — take an oath for life to keep census information confidential. Any violation of that oath is punishable by a fine of up to \$250,000 and five years in prison.

The coming U.S. Census Day is on April 1, 2010.

Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan awarded \$4.5 million grant

SAULT STE. MARIE — Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan (ITC) in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., will receive \$4.5 million over the next five years through the Healthy Start program.

Administered by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Healthy Start is a nationwide program that provides assistance to low-income and disadvantaged pregnant women and their families. Services include outreach, home visitation, case management, health education, perinatal depression screening, inter-conception care and other approaches to ensure healthy pregnancies and healthy births.

"I am thankful the Inter-tribal Council of Michigan has been selected to receive this fund-

ing," said U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow. "Healthy Start is exactly the type of community-based prevention program that helps save lives, reduce costs and provide quality care to the mothers and families who need it most."

"Senator Stabenow has been a true champion for our program," said Rick Haverkate, director of the ITC Healthy Start Project. "This funding will allow Healthy Start to continue providing community-based services to improve the health of mothers and babies."

ITC Executive Director Sharon Teeple said, "The majority of these funds are subcontracted to six tribal and two urban American Indian communities around the state of Michigan, including Grand

Rapids and Detroit, which have been hit very hard by the recent economic hardships."

Teeple added that the sub-contracts allow for local control of the program and at least one nurse and a part-time outreach worker at each of the eight sites.

The maternal-child health program at the ITC of Michigan is one of 100 Healthy Start sites across the country specifically focused on reducing infant mortality, reducing the incidence of low birth weight babies and eliminating racial disparities in perinatal outcomes. An area is eligible for Healthy Start if it has an infant mortality rate 1.5 times the national average.

For more information, call Rick Haverkate at (906) 632-6896.

Agreements support American Indian business expansion

BY RICK SMITH

Several agreements were signed last March between major businesses and the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development with the intent of furthering expansion of American Indian business opportunities.

The signing ceremonies took place at the 2009 Reservation Economic Summit (RES) in Las Vegas, Nev., March 9 to March 12. The purpose of the annual summit is to offer a forum for networking between Indian businesses, tribal entities, major corporations and federal contracting resources. The center says the summits attract thousands and generate millions of dollars in contracts.

According to the information from the center, it was originally named the Urban Indian Development Association when it was founded in 1969 by seven American Indian community leaders in California who visualized a better way of life for Indian population through economic development. The small organization evolved to meet the growing needs of American Indian businesses throughout the United States and changed its name to National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development in 1980. It is the oldest and largest business development organization in the nation specifically for Indians.

The organization says it has

a network of offices throughout the country, each providing management and technical assistance to clients operating a variety of industries supplying goods and services to commercial and government markets. The center is also known for their six annual networking and economic development events including the summits. The 2009 RES in March premiered the organization's American Indian Business Trade Fair set to be part of the annual summits.

More about the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development and the annual Reservation Economic Summits can be found online at www.ncaied.org.

IHS continues to lose millions through lost or stolen property

BY RICK SMITH

A U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) study reveals little has changed since the agency issued a report last year that the Indian Health Services (IHS) is losing millions of dollars annually through lost or stolen property. The June 2008 report detailed findings of audits and analyses that found over 5,000 items belonging to the IHS with an accumulative value of \$15.8 million were lost or stolen in fiscal years 2004 through 2007. The GAO attributed the losses to property mismanagement and insufficient internal controls.

In spite of 10 GAO recommendations agreed to by the IHS, a follow-up report issued in June 2009 after an extensive exploration indicates the health agency continues to lose property at an alarming rate, about \$3.5 million in little over a year.

The 2009 report notes, "Aside from issuing a memorandum from the IHS director that restated and refined existing policies, IHS has taken little action to ensure that employees are aware of and complying with property policies."

In addition, the GAO indicated the senior service executive in charge of IHS property was given a \$13,000 bonus after the 2008 mismanagement exposure.

Another unsettling revelation is that the "IHS could only provide one example of

an individual held financially liable for lost or stolen property over a one-year period; but at the time of our audit, the individual still had not reimbursed the government for the loss."

The report cited equipment losses such as laptop computers, ultrasound units, mammography machines, dental chairs, vital sign monitors and other medical items. A house trailer that was used as an emergency medical clinic and a John Deere tractor were among other missing items.

The GAO said a "weak tone at the top persists at IHS with senior leadership failing to fully implement and enforce eight of the 10 recommendation we made in June 2008." Furthermore, that failure is a strong contribution to the continued loss and theft of IHS property.

A 1997 memo by a former IHS director showed the GAO that problems with lost and stolen property has existed in the IHS for 12 years and, even though the memo said individuals will be held financially liable for missing property, there is no evidence that IHS ever implemented such measures.

GAO recommendations made this time around included strengthening the agency's overall control by fulfilling the prior recommendations, updating and enforcing property policies and procedures and establishing deadlines to update inventories.

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Senate mulling entrepreneurial programs bill for veterans and American Indians

BY RICK SMITH

A bill making its way through Congress calls for the Small Business Administration (SBA) to establish business centers and programs to help military veterans and American Indian entrepreneurs. The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Job Creation Through Entrepreneurship Act of 2009, HR 2352, on May 20. The Senate received the bill on the following day where it was referred to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

The House Committee on Small Business hailed the

bill as a positive major effort that gives required tools and resources to small businesses and start-ups. The bill is part of a package of seven bi-partisan bills that form the first overhaul of entrepreneurial development programs of the SBA in over 10 years.

In addition, the bills allow the expansion of Small Business Development Centers, Women's Business Centers and the Service Corps of Retired Executives.

According to the Congressional Research Service, the bill authorizes the director of the SBA to make ini-

tial annual grants of \$200,000 for no more than five years to establish veterans business centers. After five years, centers may receive annual grants of \$150,000 for no more than three years.

The veterans' business centers will provide training and counseling to aid new and established entrepreneurial developments by veterans through individual and classroom instruction.

The Job Creation Through Entrepreneurship Act also establishes an SBA associate administrator for American Indian affairs to develop and

increase Indian businesses through training and access to capital and federal small business contracts. As with veterans, the Act directs the SBA to develop tribal business information centers and entrepreneurial developments programs.

The bill specifically allows the small business development centers to apply for additional funding for outreach, development and enhancement of start-ups on Indian lands and to expand businesses owned by Indian tribe members.

Included in the bill is a provision stipulating training for entrepreneurs in procuring gov-

ernment contracts.

The bill was introduced on the House floor on May 12 by Representative Heath Shuler (D-N.C.) and co-sponsored by 14 other representatives – 10 Democrats and four Republicans.

Incidentally, a woman from the Navajo Nation of Lupton, Ariz., was recently named director of the U.S. Small Business Administration Office of Native American Affairs. Clara Pratte is charged with making sure American Indians benefit from the agency's programs.

President appoints Cherokee Indian affairs advisor

BY RICK SMITH

Kimberly Teehee, a Cherokee fluent in English and her ancestral language, will have the ear of the president of the United States when he needs reliable advice on matters concerning American Indians.

President Barack Obama announced the appointment of Teehee on June 15 as the first senior policy advisor on Indian affairs as she assumed a new post on the White House Domestic Policy Council.

The appointment fulfills one of the campaign promises



Kimberlee Teehee

Obama made to give American Indians a stronger voice and higher profile in the halls of the federal government.

According to the White House, the Domestic Policy Council coordinates the domestic policy-making process in the White House and offers advice to the president. The council also supervises the execution of domestic policies and represents the president's priorities to Congress.

The president made the announcement in a videotaped address to the National Congress of American Indians during the organization's mid-year conference in Niagra Falls, N.Y.

Teehee, an attorney by

training, has extensive experience working for American Indian interests in governmental realms including several positions with the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and, most recently, as a senior adviser to the U.S. House Native American Caucus. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in political science and received a Juris Doctorate from the University of Iowa College of Law. She was honored with a prestigious award and served as an officer in the National Native American Law Student Association and Iowa Native American

Law Student Association.

In addition to Teehee's appointment, the president mentioned a tribal nations conference at the White House is coming this fall and indicated he was looking forward to working on issues facing Indian Country with tribal leaders.

No further information from the White House about the conference was found and appears to have no connection to a Department of Justice tribal conference loosely set for later this year at a time and location yet to be determined.

From "Summit," page 1

Three roundtable discussions were led by Leslee Fritz, director of the Michigan Economic Recovery Office; Greg Main, chief executive officer of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation and Leon Hank, chief administrative officer for the Michigan Department of Transportation.

Fritz discussed how the \$18 billion from the Recovery Act will flow in Michigan and is estimated to create about 109,000 jobs. She also talked on sources to learn about state grant opportunities for tribes to develop or enhance "lasting, long-term benefits."

Main spoke mostly on developing relationships between tribes and the state's economic development services and forming economic strategies

Hank, a native of Sault Ste. Marie, discussed facets of government-to-government efforts for quality transportation in the state.

Other native nations of Michigan that attended the summit were the Bay Mills Indian Community, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Hannahville Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomis Indians, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Heritage Act enacts Native American Day

BY RICK SMITH

A new federal holiday is coming soon. The U.S. House and Senate passed a joint resolution introduced last January "to honor the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States and for other purposes." The sole sponsor of the bill was Representative Joe Baca (D-Calif.)

According to the Congressional Research Service, the

Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009 designates the Friday immediately succeeding Thanksgiving Day of each year as an appropriate day to encourage the people of the United States, as well as federal, state and local governments and interested groups and organizations, to honor American Indians. The Act indicates appropriate activities to observe Native American

Heritage Day shall include observances regarding the historical status of American Indian tribal governments, the present day status of Indian populations, American Indian cultures, traditions, languages and the American Indian legacy.

The resolution passed in the House of Representatives on June 2 by roll call vote. The totals were 385 ayes, 0 nays,

48 present/not voting. The vote was held under a suspension of the rules to cut debate short and pass the resolution, needing a two-thirds majority. This usually occurs for uncontroversial legislation.

It passed in the Senate on June 9 by unanimous consent. The Act is now bound for the desk of the president of the United States to be signed into federal law.

It's nice to be appreciated!



Photo courtesy Veronica Hickman

DeMawating Development is a Sault Tribe enterprise offering home sales or leasing in Kincheloe, Mich. Twice a year, summer and winter, the company sponsors customer appreciation days for those who bought or lease homes from them. The events feature picnics, prizes and fun. Pictured here is a recent party in progress.

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First American Indian woman to lead IHS confirmed

BY RICK SMITH

Dr. Yvette Roubideaux stepped into history as the first American Indian woman to head the Indian Health Service (IHS) on May 6 when the U.S. Senate unanimously confirmed her presidential nomination. She was welcomed by Kathleen Sebelius, director of the U.S. Health and Human Services, the principal agency of the IHS, in ceremonies on May 7.



Larry Echohawk

Larry Echohawk, a Pawnee who was serving as the first American Indian attorney general for the State of Idaho at the time of his nomination, was confirmed as the new head of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. His confirmation came nearly two weeks after the Senate approved Roubideaux's nomination.

In an official announcement, Sebelius said, "Dr. Roubideaux has spent her life working to improve health care for Native Americans. She has seen the IHS through the eyes of a patient and a doctor, and I know she is the leader we need to strengthen IHS and ensure we keep our promise to provide quality health care to Native Americans."

As reported previously in the April 3 edition of *Win Awenen Nisitotung* after her nomination by President Barack Obama,

Roubideaux, 46, hails from the Sioux Rosebud Indian Reservation in South Dakota and was an assistant professor at the University of Arizona, College of Medicine, Department of Family and Community Health prior to her confirmation.

According to the White House, Roubideaux has experience working in the IHS as a physician and director of clinical services in American Indian communities in Arizona. She also has extensive experience in research into American Indian health problems and issues. She received her MD and MPH from the Harvard University. She completed a residency at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Mass., and a fellowship in 1997.

Additionally, Roubideaux was co-director of the coordinating center for a special diabetes program of diabetes and cardiovascular projects in 66 American Indian communities and served as director of two programs focused on recruiting American Indian students into health and research professions. She was appointed to the Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's Advisory Committee on Minority Health from 2000 to 2002 and served as president of the Association of American Indian Physicians from 1999 to 2000.

Roubideaux is a recipient of numerous awards and is co-editor of the American Public Health Association book titled *Promises to Keep: Public Health Policy for American Indians and Alaska Natives in the 21st Century*. She has authored several monographs and peer-reviewed publications on American Indian health issues, research and policy."



A ceremonial swearing-in ceremony was conducted on June 29 at the National Museum of the American Indian for Dr. Yvette Roubideaux as she took the helm of the Indian Health Service (IHS). The ceremony took place in the Rasmuson Theater of the museum. Sault Tribe officials Tony and Cathy Abramson were in Washington, D.C., on other business and met Roubideaux along with Mary Beth Skupien, a former tribal health director. Roubideaux became the ninth director of IHS and the first American Indian woman to hold the position. She is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of South Dakota. Pictured left to right, Skupien, Roubideaux and the Abramsons.

For its National Library of Medicine Celebrating America's Women Physicians series, Roubideaux told the National Institutes of Health, "I decided to become a doctor because I wanted to help improve the quality of health care for American Indians. My first encounters with the health care system were as a patient in the Indian Health Service. The IHS is severely under-funded and under-staffed, and I often waited four to six hours to see a doctor. As a teenager, I realized that I had never seen an American Indian physician and felt that by becoming a physician I could do something to help improve health care for American Indian communities."

Soo Locks hosts "Music in the Park" summer concerts

The 2009 Music in the Park summer concert series scheduled weekly in the Soo Locks Park.

For 12 summers the Downtown Development Authority has arranged a 12-week concert series, beginning June 10 and running through August 26. The concerts are heard in the Soo Locks Park at Osborn Blvd. and Water St. The music begins each Wednesday night at 7 p.m. and usually runs to about 8:30 p.m.

The concerts are free and open to residents and visitors of Sault Ste. Marie.

The series is sponsored by the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs, The Hudson Foundation, Lynn Auto, the law office of Moher and Cannello, Scott Shackleton, Sunrise Rotary International, Soo Locks Visitor

Center Association, Downtown Development Authority, 99.5 YES FM, Sault Printing and Grooves Music.

The remainder of this summer's schedule:

- July 15 - Blue Water Ramblers
- July 22 - Petoskey Steel Drum
- July 29 - Sault Swing Band
- August 5 - Rich Eddy's Rock-n-Roll Oldies
- August 12 - Rainbow
- August 19 - No Strings Attached
- August 26 - Gentleman George

The Music in the Park concerts are a part of the Sault International Arts Festival, which runs the entire summer in the twin Saults.

For more information, contact Lee Brown at the Downtown Development Authority office, 105 Arlington St, or call 635-6973.



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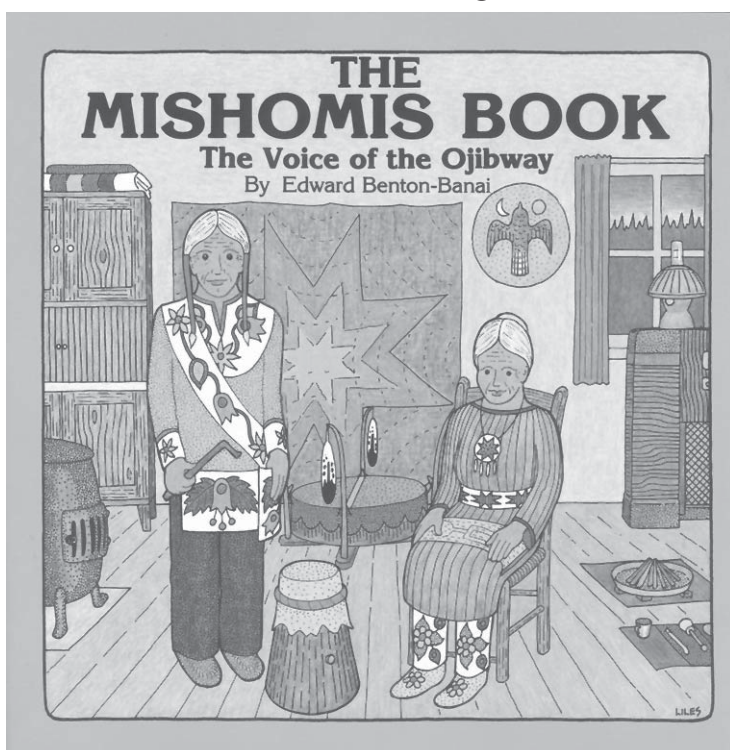
The Mishomis Book, very useful reading for families

By RICK SMITH

If you've ever wished you knew an old storyteller conversant in Anishinaabe legends from whom you could learn the lore of your ancestors, you may want to acquire a copy of *The Mishomis Book: The Voice of the Ojibway*, as the next best thing. With this book, not only will you learn the lore yourself, but you will have the vehicle to pass it on to your following generations.

The book is authored by Edward Benton Benai who is a full-blooded Anishinaabe from Wisconsin.

Mishomis is the Anishinaabe word for grandfather. The author notes in the book's acknowledgements that the work "comes from the words passed down by grandfathers and grandmothers. The author wishes to recognize the contributions of his elders from the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation and other Indian communities



This book is an offering from the Sault Tribe Michigan Indian Press. Mishomis translates as grandfather in the original language of our ancestors. The book is written with the feel of a grandfather telling ancient stories.

in Wisconsin."

He adds, "There are countless others who should be recognized; men, women, elders, scroll teachers, participants and believers of the original way, the midewiwin. This book is the result of many periods of fasting, meditation, consultation, dreaming and listening to the quiet voice of the Creator who speaks not to the ear, but to the soul. Perhaps the highest and most important influence in the development of this material was prayer and belief in the sacred way of the midewiwin."

The book has 15 narrative chapters, each beginning with a traditional greeting before launching into the stories. Fittingly, the first chapter is the Anishinaabe creation story. Subsequent chapters are about the original man, the earth's first people, the Great Flood, Waynaboozhoo, the Seven Grandfathers, the clan system, sweat lodges, the Anishinaabe

migration and more. Many of the chapters end in a traditionally fashioned farewell. The concluding chapter addresses Anishinaabe roles in recorded history.

The chapters are easy to read and understand. The book seems an ideal choice for parents or grandparents who want to share ancestral culture in the old oral tradition by reading the stories to their children or grandchildren.

The book is sold exclusively by Sault Tribe's Michigan Indian Press for \$20; or one can buy used copies on amazon.com, but be prepared to pay anywhere from \$45 to \$120.

If you'd like to order a copy of *The Mishomis Book: The Voice of the Ojibway*, send check or money order to the Michigan Indian Press, 531 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. If you have any questions, call (906) 632-6398.

McBride publishes book: *One Foot in Two Canoes*

By BRENDA AUSTIN

BRADENTON, Fla. — Beverly Waters McBride, a former employee of the Sault Tribe, has written and published her first novel: *One Foot in Two Canoes*.

The first in a series of seven books, the story is set in parts of the Upper Peninsula and revolves around the town of Maryville, which often resembles life in Sault Ste. Marie.

The main character in the first book is Dan Walkin, a modern day Native American in his mid-30s whose work con-



Beverly McBride tacts take him to places such as Paris, Amsterdam and Africa.

McBride said she has had the Sault and the people there in her thoughts for the past two years and is hoping to visit the area for some book signings in the fall. Some local places she refers to in her book are the tribe's cultural building, Penny's Kitchen, Super Valu, the old American Café and Chi Mukwa Recreation Center.

Aware of the interest in modern Native lifestyles, McBride has combined cultural awareness, balance and adventure to reflect her characters interests. Her main character Dan Walkin

mused: "Lately it's hit home to me that I actually live in two worlds, one allows for goodness and one doesn't. Everyone knows how that usually comes out. Natives have called that phenomenon having one foot in two canoes. Eventually you have to jump into one philosophical canoe and leave the other. Clearly my values, which include native principles that really matter such as connection to the earth, nature and family, spill over to my concentration and determination when working and traveling."

Her second book in the series, *Up The Creek*, is being edited and McBride hopes will be published by the end of the year. The point of view in the second novel is that of Dan Walkin's girlfriend, Beth. All novels revolve around the same major characters.

Today McBride works for the state of Florida as a consultant doing vocational rehabilitation.

One Foot in Two Canoes is listed on Amazon.com, Barnes and Nobel, Books-a-Million and Target.com and sells for \$16.95.

Writing competition offers \$60,000

By RICK SMITH

Would you like to make a cool \$10,000 for a short, original essay about how American Indians can contribute to the success of the United States in its latest transition? Read on.

Think you couldn't possibly compete in a writing competition because your writing ain't too good? Don't matter none, keep on reading, "The essays will be judged on the substance of the ideas," says Erin Fogg, consultant for the Native Insight Competition. "Not the quality of the writing."

Maybe you think you're too old or too young, "The competition is open to anyone within our Native communities," says Fogg. "No age limit!"

The Native Insight Competition is offering six \$10,000 awards to those who submit the best 500 to 1,600-word opinions addressing one of three sets of questions by Sept. 15.

The first set of questions dwell on how American Indians can best participate in economic renewal and unique contributions to "jumpstart" the economies of the country and the world.

The second set asks about your confidence in economic growth in 2009 and 2010 in addition to how economic

recovery will happen.

The final set dwells on changes that must be made to fully recover from the current economic crisis, steps needed to be taken by the president and Congress and how American Indians can help with any changes.

Competitors only need to address one of those sets of questions.

Submission deadline for the competition is Sept. 15. Winners will be selected and notified on Oct. 22 by phone or e-mail followed by public announcements of the results.

The official theme of the competition is *Native Insight: Thoughts on Recession, Recovery and Opportunity* and intends to encourage thinkers to publicly put forth their wisdom and ingenuity towards dealing with the current economic stagnation and political picture.

Entries can be submitted online at www.nativeinsight.org or by mail. All entries must be accompanied by an official entry form, which may be downloaded on the organization's Web site. Rules of the competition are also posted on the site and the organization recommends all entrants read them.

The competition is a project of the National Congress

of American Indians, Alaska Federation of Natives, Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

According to the competition organization, panels of five judges from three competitive groups, Alaska, Hawaii and Indian Country, will review and rate submissions. The panels will include at least one Native leader, one business leader and one non-profit leader. The top six essays from each group will undergo a final review by the president of the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) and a designated committee of the AFN Board of Directors. The authors of the top three Alaska Native essays and the top three national essays will each be awarded \$10,000 in prize money.

More complete information on details, rules and full-color posters for downloading are available on the Web site. Requests for brochures about the competition can be taken by calling the AFN at (907) 274-3611.

And, by the way, if you're not sure how long an essay containing 500 to 1,600 words would be, this item contains 545 words from the by-line to end; simply multiply to get an idea of the length of larger essays.

ATTENTION!!!



HELP ANTHONY LEE FIND A BONE MARROW DONOR!

Two years ago Anthony Lee was diagnosed with Aplastic Anemia, a condition where the body stops producing enough blood cells to replenish the dying ones. He has gone through many treatments and just recently had an unsuccessful operation. He is currently down at Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor and the doctors say they believe his only hope is to find a suitable bone marrow donor. It's hard for Anthony to find a donor because his ethnicity consists of half South Korean, as well as Anishinaabe, German, & Scottish.

How To Donate:

If you haven't already been tested it's easy! There are a few ways.

- 1) Contact Eric Trosko. He is an National Marrow Donor Program Recruitment Specialist. Work Number: 1-800-471-3020 ext. 101. Email: etrosko@nmdp.org. We are encouraging people to do this since it will be easier & faster.
- 2) Contact a women named Amanda. She will get you a kit free of charge. Email: amanda@dkmsamericas.org Cell: 1-212-209-6704.
- 3) Go to www.marrow.org and click on Join The Registry. Through there you can search for upcoming drives in your area or order a kit online which will be sent to you

If you have already joined the bone marrow registry then thank you!

Please spread the word to help Anthony.

Anthony's need for a donor has reached a critical point!

Anthony's family is now offering an award of \$10,000 to a person whom turns out to be a bone marrow match for Anthony and is willing to donate their bone marrow to him.

Website: www.helpanthonyjlee.org
Phone: (906) 430 7728
Email: rosemary.hitchens@yahoo.com
or
barbiedoll_05@msn.com

Anthony urgently needs your help. If you know of anyone who may be a donor or help find one, please contact us soon. Anthony has taken a turn for the worse!

Committee looking for new direction

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs approved the Sault Tribe Constitution and bylaws on Nov. 13, 1975, making the tribe's constitution a valid working document on that date.

Then in January 2005, the board of directors approved the formation of a Constitution Committee, which was given the task of developing a new constitution to present to the board and membership. The committee consisted of 29 members, with John Causley elected chairman.

In October 2005, two attorneys familiar with tribal constitutional law were brought on board to assist and guide the process. After meeting for two-and-a-half years and attending informational meetings with the tribe's members, on Feb. 9, 2008, the committee voted to approve the proposed constitution.

According to Causley, the committee has not met since that time. "We accomplished what the board asked us to do, which was to draft a new constitution for the tribe. I would like to see the new document put into place. Maybe not exactly the way it is right now, it still needs some work. When this document is completed, we all have to agree with it. We have to support each other," he said.

Causley said that because of the political environment at the time, the document was left sitting. "As chairman of the committee I would like to reestablish who would like to be on the committee, put some goals and objectives in place and move forward."

Although the committee was directed to steer clear of political influences, Causley said it was influenced by politics from day one. "The board took away certain agenda items we had in place, such as double dipping," he said. "We had addressed that as a committee in the new constitution; then the board changed that and addressed the issue themselves by sending out a referendum to the membership."

"The last meeting we had as a committee with the board, I asked the chairman to put in writing what he wanted the committee to do to make sure the proposed constitution was going to be completed. As far as I know the Constitution Committee is still an active committee," Causley said.

Committee member Bill McDermott said, "One of the major changes in the proposed constitution is an independent court system. Judges would be elected by the membership, not appointed by the board. The powers would be separated; the

board would become the legislative branch, the chairman the executive branch and then the judicial branch.

"It is a major shift from what we have today," McDermott added. "I would like to see interest generated by both the membership and the board to strengthen the role of the membership in tribal government. I feel very strongly that tribal members should have more of a voice and be able to hold elected officials accountable. If you actually sit down and take the time to study our current constitution, it's a tangled web with the board at the top. Everything flows back to them."

A constitution is a strong document that, according to McDermott, should be interpreted in a legal manner. "Words mean things when you get into a court of law. The legal system has a language unto itself, you don't want people who are not legally proficient making legal decisions," he said.

McDermott said that a ruling by the Supreme Court in the 1880s determined the U.S. Bill of Rights does not apply to Native Americans. In 1968 the Indian Civil Rights Act (25 U.S.C.) came about and a few years later was deemed unenforceable. "As it sits right now, Native Americans in reality have no civil rights," said McDermott. "We refer to the ICRA of 1968 in our constitution – but to refer to a law that is unenforceable leaves you with no rights."

McDermott added that the U.S. Supreme Court decision was "highly technical." The ICRA cannot be attached to the U.S. Constitution and the U.S. cannot impose a Bill of Rights on the tribe's Constitution because it is a sovereign nation.

"It just kind of hangs out there in limbo," he said.

Once the board approves the proposed constitution, a resolution would then be drafted and the document would be submitted to Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for review and any suggested changes. The tribe could choose to make the suggested changes or inform the BIA the document is acceptable as it is. Once that process is complete, the BIA would hold a secretarial election.

"It would take a minimum of another year before the new constitution would be at the point for a secretarial election," said McDermott.

To read a copy of the current Sault Tribe constitution, or review the proposed new constitution, go to www.saulttribe.com to the "committees" link. Click on the link then again on the words "constitution committee."

The Culture Department is working on the Baawating Anishinaabek Interpretive Center and Resource Library. We are looking for a community driven display that represents our Ojibwe culture and request culturally significant items by loans or donations for a permanent display. Donors will be recognized for their contributions. Call Cecil Pavlat to make a donation or to get more information at (906) 635-6050, extension 26140.

Priest offers non-profit funerals

Could something like this happen here?

BY PAT MCCAUGHAN

The Rev. Claudia Windal of Minneapolis believes everyone, regardless of income, deserves a dignified burial. So the Episcopal priest became a mortician to help make it happen.

Since she opened the non-profit Oyate Tawicohan Funeral Services about two years ago, Windal estimates she has provided low-cost burials to about 223 people; about 90 percent of whom were American Indian. But the no-frills, shoestring-budget burials are available to anyone who can't afford standard funeral fees.

Now she hopes her efforts will catch on elsewhere. "Oyate Tawicohan means 'the way of the people' in Lakota," said Windal, 59, of mixed Lakota ancestry. "I'm so excited to have the ability to bring some dignity and respect to poor people to give them some choices in funeral care. What we do, we do in a good way."

For Windal "death care" is as



Rev. Claudia Windal

much about "doing death in a good way" for the living as for those she buries.

Windal never desired "to do funeral work" but in 2000, a Lakota elder from nearby Red Lake called, asking for help "to return her cousin to a final resting place here on the reservation. The funeral home wanted \$2,000 to transport the body and she couldn't pay it," Windal recalled.

The two women rented a van, drove to Chicago and brought

the body back to Minnesota themselves. "On the way home, she told me that I 'must do this for our people'," Windal recalled. After that, the phone calls kept coming.

She estimated her basic, no-frills funeral fee at about \$2,500, often reduced to county allotments of \$1,900-\$2,200 provided for the indigent or those on public assistance. Comparable services in a mainstream funeral home would typically start at \$6,000.

She helps make up the difference using "cremation caskets" and has used some donated graves but acknowledges that keeping costs low is increasingly a struggle. Her funeral home has space for a small coffin display and an embalming room. Visitations are at nearby St. James on the Parkway Episcopal Church, where she serves as a priest in residence.

"Cremation caskets" are wood with a pine or oak veneer

See "Funeral" page 22

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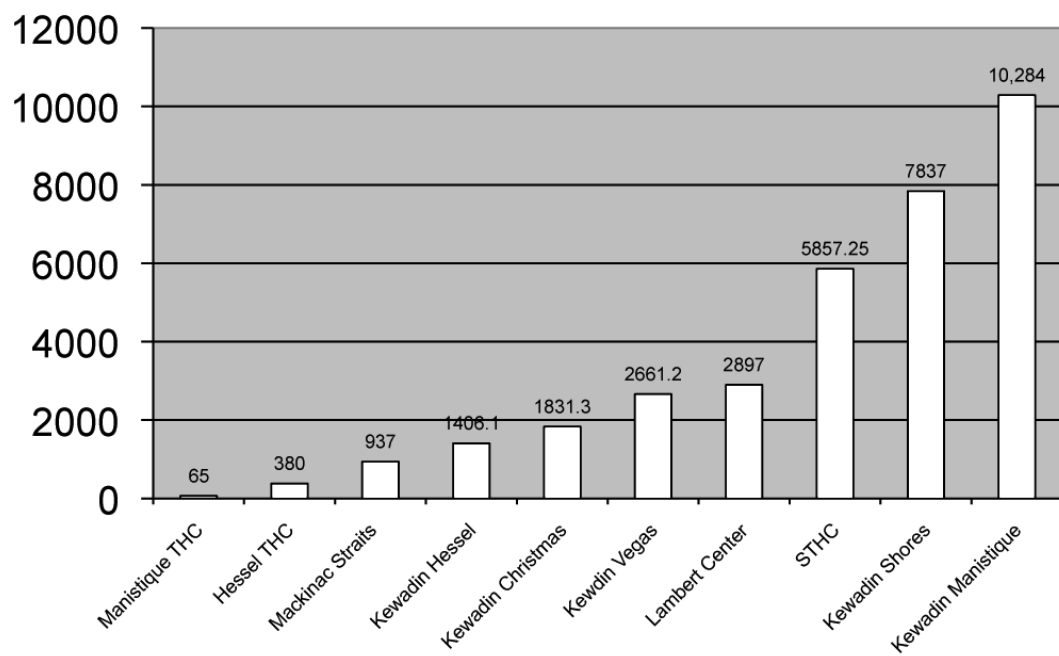
Trust the Eastern Upper Peninsula's oldest community bank, celebrating 121 years of continuous service to the area.



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Make the commitment to keep moving on Mondays

Let's Get Moving 2009



Let's Get Moving Kewadin! nears completion with five casino teams, five tribal health center teams and four other work site teams actively competing to see who can log the most healthy lifestyle "miles." With one more week to go, Manistique Casino is leading all of the sites with 8,470 miles. The Sault Tribe Health Center is in second place with 5,181 miles.

We all need a little encouragement and support to maintain our healthy lifestyle habits. One great Web site I came across is www.healthy monday.org. It's a movement of people and or-

ganizations who commit every Monday to the behaviors and actions that will end preventable disease in the U.S.

The Healthy Monday campaign was created in 2006 by the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University, in association with the Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University and the Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.

The message of the campaign is to adopt Monday as the day to get back on track by engaging in healthy behaviors. According to

the campaign, "Monday is the January of the week, the day to set goals, refocus and recommit. It's a logical day to commit to improving health and wellness — the day to trigger and sustain healthy behavior."

So, even though the Let's Get Moving Kewadin! program is ending, don't let that be an end to your goals to increase your physical activity, eat more fruits and vegetables or stay quit from commercial tobacco use. Use Mondays to revisit your caloric intake or your daily minutes of physical activity. Let's keep moving to better health.

Blades Sports Bar goes smoke-free



Left to right, Julie Trotter of the Chippewa County Health Department, Chi Mukwa events coordinator Rex Matchinski and Lauren Eveleigh of Sault Tribe Community Health Services.

The Chippewa County Tobacco-Free Living Coalition recently added Blades Sports Bar to the steadily growing smoke-free food service establishment roster in Chippewa County and the State.

Blades joins 40 plus smoke-free restaurants in the county and over 5,700 smoke-free food service establishments in Michigan.

Blades is on the second

floor of the the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. It overlooks a hockey rink and a basketball court.

The recreation center itself is a smoke-free facility built in 1996 by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and has been the center of various community recreation activities over the years.

"It was a given that Blades would be a smoke-free bar

since the building was already smoke-free," said assistant events manager, Rex Matchinski. "Our main clientele are athletes and their families and friends."

He added, "Many of our customers comment that it's their favorite place to go because it is smoke-free."

Blades is open based on events held, much like the Pro Shop and the food concession.



Sault Tribe member Norma Castro, elders' garden worker, keeps an eye on a batch of strawberry jam in the water bath canner. She participated in the master canner course in the MSU Extension nutrition training kitchen at the USDA food distribution site in Sault Ste. Marie. The course was offered by Janet Rathke, an educator with MSU Extension of Chippewa County. The Sault Tribe Traditional Foods Grant Project will be offering canning and preserving classes in the fall to community members. Classes will include pressure canning, water bath, drying and freezing fruits, vegetables, meat, poultry and wild game. If you are interested in becoming a master canner or learning more about canning and preserving food, contact the extension office in your county or call Sault Tribe Community Health at (906) 632-5210.

Coalition recognizes World No Tobacco Day



Back, (L to R), James McKelvie, Karen McKelvie, Angela Jackson, Justin Frazier. Front, Zack Frazier and Micah Sebastian, Bahweting Anishnabek Tribal Youth Council members, Rachel Mandelstamm, Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities coordinator and Lauren Eveleigh, Sault Tribe Community Health educator.

The Chippewa County Tobacco Free Living Coalition with representatives from the Chippewa County Health Department and Sault Tribe Community Health Services teamed up with the Sault Tribe Bahweting Anishnabek Tribal Youth Council from Sault High School to recognize World No Tobacco Day on May 28, 2009, by hosting a table outside of the Sault Ste. Marie Wal-Mart store, raising awareness of the dangers of commercial tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure.

The public took part in the event by picking up brochures and resources on secondhand smoke exposure and tobacco cessation services and taking balloons with stickers reading "Celebrate Smoke Free Air in

Chippewa County!"

As part of the World No Tobacco Day celebration, the day was designated as Smoke-free Chippewa County Day. Local restaurant owners who still provide designated smoking sections were invited to go 100 percent smoke-free for the day with the hope that they would see the benefits of providing a smoke-free environment.

Studebaker's Restaurant in Sault Ste. Marie participated in the event by being 100 percent smoke free for this day. World No Tobacco Day was officially recognized on May 31, 2009, and is an annual event created by the World Health Organization to draw global attention to the tobacco epidemic and the preventable death and disease it causes.

Community Health Services
(906) 632-5210

Bahweting Singers open for powwow concert



The Bahweting Singers, the official drum of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, opened for the American Indian rock group Redbone and the blues and rock band Los Lonely Boys (right) at the Kewadin Casinos DreamMakers Theater on July 3. All three groups, pictured here, took time to between shows to meet with fans. The concert took place in conjunction with Sault Tribe's 28th annual powwow.



Casinos campaign wins three Telly Awards

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Kewadin Casinos marketing team along with Red Circle Agency of Minneapolis, Minn., are the winners of three Telly Awards as recently announced at the 30th annual presentation event.

The casino and agency unveiled a new brand campaign in June 2008 which included three television commercials. All three commercials were submitted for the awards and as a brand which won a Silver Telly, the highest honor. Two of the com-

mercials, "Red Dress" and "Frank's Steak" each received individual Bronze Telly awards, which is the second highest honor.

"We are very pleased to receive this award," said Alan Bouschor, vice president of marketing and sales for Kewadin Casinos. "This is the second national recognition we've received from our campaign with Red Circle this year and we couldn't be happier."

Earlier in the year, the casino and agency were winners of the RE:Design award as

published in the January 2009 *Dynamics Graphics+Creative Magazine*. The casino and agency were one of the "12 winning eye-opening re: Designs."

Bouschor explained that the commercials and the new brand have much potential. "We anticipate using this branding for many years. It has a long shelf life and that is one of the reason we chose to use it," he said.

The goal of the casino's new campaign was to help bring all five Kewadin Casinos

under one brand. The solution is the casino's current campaign, "There's no place like Kewadin." The campaign is focused on special 'moments' which are highlighted in all of the new brand advertising, including the three television commercials, new billboard and print advertising artwork, web site, radio spots and a new logo.

Founded in 1978, the Telly Awards honor outstanding local, regional, and cable television commercials and programs, video and film

productions and online film and video. The awards annually showcase the best work of the most respected advertising agencies, production companies, television stations, cable operators, interactive agencies and corporate video departments in the world. The magazine receives over 13,000 entries annually from all 50 states and countries around the world.

Kewadin Casinos, in operation for over 20 years, has five casinos in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Kewadin Casinos team members of the year



The Manistique Team Member of the Year with her family.



The Kewadin Christmas team member of the year, Jeanne Bogart (center) with her family.

Manistique team member

The team members of the year winners are chosen by their peers and receive personal plaques; \$200, entertainment tickets, dinners and hotel stays and are listed on plaques found in each casino.

Bridget Robitaille was

recently selected as the Manistique Team Member of the Year. She has been a cage cashier with Kewadin since May of 2005 and has been a member of the casino's quality control team for many years. "Bridget is an excellent worker in the cage department," said Barb

Burton, co-worker. "She provides excellent service to our customers, internal and external, treats everyone with respect and has a great personality."

The award presentation was a surprise for Bridget. "I'm shocked," were the only words Bridget could say.

"Bridget is an outstanding team member and deserves this award very much," said Terry LaVinge, cage manager. "I am very proud to have her on my staff."

The award was given to Bridget during a special presentation with her family and other team members. She lives in Manistique with her husband, Joe, and nine children, four at home.

Christmas team member

Jeanne Bogart was recently selected as the Christmas Team Member of the Year.

Jeanne has been with the Christmas Kewadin Casino for two years as a prep cook at Frosty's Bar and Grille. Her responsibilities include preparing all the food for the day and she also helps cook on the line.

"Jeanne is always willing to help out in any area," said Lisa Hanson, food and beverage manager. "She is a joy to work with, has a very positive attitude and an upbeat personality."

She was given her award in a presentation with casino staff and her family.

When not working, Jeanne enjoys being outdoors riding her four-wheeler and spending time kayaking.

Jeanne moved to Munising

from Charlevoix, Mich., and has two daughters, Morrie and Kasha. She also enjoys spending time with her nine grandchildren.

Sault team member

Congratulations to Ken Quinn of the Sault Kewadin Casino bar and beverage staff for earning June's Team Member of the Month award.

Ken has worked for Kewadin since July of 2004 in this department. He said he was surprised and excited after he realized he had won.

Ken lives in the Sault with

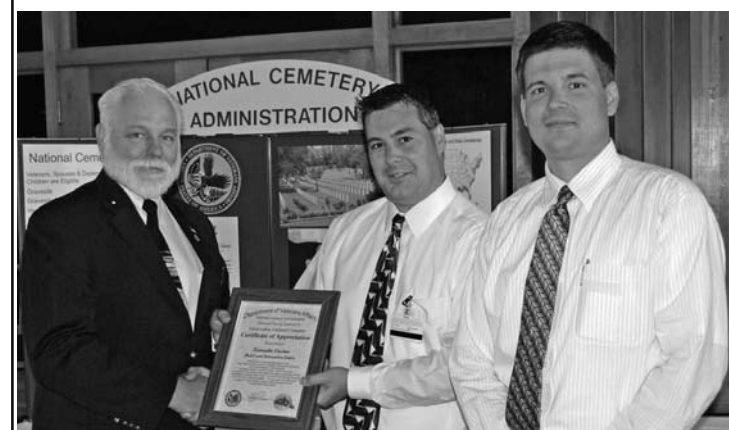
his girlfriend, Martha Scheitler, and two children.

Congratulations, Ken! Keep up the great work.

Kewadin Casinos operates recreational gaming facilities in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique and Christmas. It is the largest employer in the beautiful Upper Peninsula of Michigan with approximately 1,300 team members in a wide variety of positions supporting the gaming operations.

The casinos in turn support Sault Tribe members and help the regional economy.

65th annual state American Veterans Convention



Over 150 Michigan veterans gathered at the Sault Kewadin Casino and Convention Center recently for their annual state conference. This is the third year the group has come to the Sault area for their convention. Above: The Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration presented Kewadin Casinos convention sales team with a plaque of appreciation for their work in promoting the National Cemetery memorial services during the 65th annual state American Veterans Convention. Richard Anderson (left), director of the Great Lakes National Cemetery presented the plaque to Cory Wilson, convention services coordinator and Todd Olmstead, convention sales manager.

28th Annual July 4 Sault Tribe Powwow and Summer Gathering a fun family event



In addition to contest dances there were intertribal dances where everyone was invited to participate.



Young dancers from Wisconsin getting a feel for the drum in between songs.



Women traditional dancers visiting in between songs.



This fancy dancer was participating in a contest dance.

Photos by Brenda Austin



Men's fancy dancer.



Eddie Benton Benai, traditional dancer.



Women's jingle dress dancer.



Little shawl dancer Autumn Wright, 3, and Elaine Clement, jingle dress dancer.



Women's traditional dancer.



Men's traditional dancer.



Men's traditional dancer.



Boy's traditional dancer.



Boy's traditional dancer.



Boy's grass dancer.



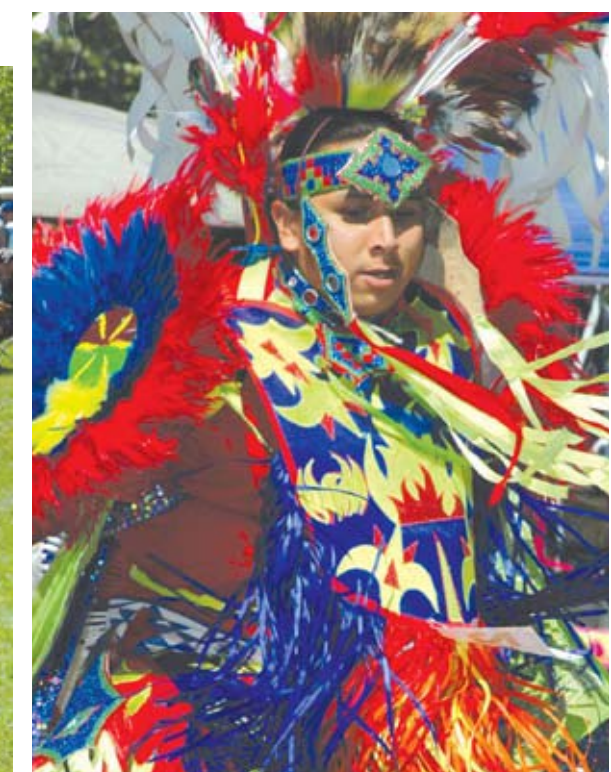
Men's grass dancer.



Men's grass dancer.



Men's grass dancer.



Men's fancy dancer.

H.O.P.E. fourth annual therapeutic riding program



Left: Amanda Felty, Mikala Stoppa with Penny the pony and her owner Norma Osborn and Carl Ball (right).



Left: Diane Horst, Paul Tadgerson riding his pony Copper, Barb Caldwell and horse leader Dennis Campbell.

Photos by Brenda Austin



Caiden Rogers doing a group exercise with a parachute.

The Chippewa County MSU Extension 4-H program sponsored their fourth annual therapeutic riding day camp called H.O.P.E. — Helping Other People Excel, from June 28 to July 2. Ten Chippewa County youth participated, including some Sault Tribe members. The program provides a safe environment for children with physical, cognitive and emotional disabilities to ride and practice horsemanship skills with trained instructors and volunteers. For more information call Amber or Lisa Myers at the MSU Extension office at (906) 635-6368.



Fiore' Cappelli with his palimano horse Sunny.



Sean Schell and Carl Ball from the Dept. of Homeland Security wait for their turn to ride in the arena.



Left: Jamie Rifenberg and Niimaanakwit Memegos with his pony Rosie.



Maddie Snyder with her painted horse Sugar.



Left: Karen Kucharczyk, Dakota Passage with his painted horse Koda and Denise Goldade.



Left: Steve Gilbert, Libby Schell riding Butter, Tiffany McCord (front right) and Meghan Stan.



Kacey Fitzpatrick (right) with her father Tom. Her quarter horse is named Cheyenne.

Kerr graduates

Michelle Lynn Kerr, a native of St. Ignace, Mich., and a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribe graduated with honors on May 15, 2009, from New River Community and Technical College, in Lewisburg, W.Va., with an associate's degree in general business-accounting and a certificate in technical office procedures and skills. She is the daughter of Roger C. Kerr, of Iron Mountain, and Rose M. Kerr and Tommy Moody, of St. Ignace.



"A special thanks to all who encouraged me throughout my life's journey," said Kerr. "Keep learning — it is never too late!"

Births...

ELIJAH LEE FURLONG



Dustin and Leah of Mission Viejo, Calif., son of Edward Furton of Newberry, Mich., received a new baby boy, Elijah Lee at 8:53 a.m. PST on June 23, 2009. He weighed in at 9 pounds, 1 ounce and measured 21 inches in length.

CHLOE' LAYNE ZALEWSKI

Chloe' Layne Zalewski born March 22, 2009, at Providence Hospital in Novi, Mich. Chloe', daughter of Chad and Jennifer (nee Preseau) Zalewski, weighed 5 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Chloe's grandparents are Dean and Bonita Preseau and Anthony and Antoinette Zalewski of Cheboygan, Mich.

Great-grandparents are Lilalee Hoglund and Thomas and Marlene Boyd of Cheboygan.

Grandpa Dean, mom Jennifer, and baby Chloe' are members of Sault Tribe.

LOGAN LEE NEDEAU

Mike and Trina Nedeau, of Fayette, are the proud parents of a baby boy, Logan Lee Nedeau. Logan was born on June 12 at St Francis Hospital in Escanaba. He weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce and was 20.5 inches in length.



He is joined at home by brother Jacob and sister Ellie.

His grandparents are David and Lyndell Farley of Fayette and Nina and the late Leonard Nedeau of Isabella. Trina is a member of Sault Tribe.

McKelvie-Schmidt vows

Pat and Julie McKelvie and Lou and Kathy Schmit are proud to announce the wedding of their children, Ann Marie McKelvie and Louis Daniel Schmit. Louie and Annie were joined in holy matrimony on March 21, 2009, at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church by Brother John Hascall.

Annie wore a full length white satin halter and her colors were black and red. Her maid of honor was Hali McKelvie with bridesmaids Kariann MacArthur, Katelyn Myers and Kelly Schmit. The Best Man was James McKelvie with groomsmen Dan Schmit,



Ryan Schmit and Stevie K. The flower girl was Leah Mae Kabke and the ring bearer was Patrick James (PJ) Gardiner. All are from Sault Ste Marie.

They celebrated their nuptials later that evening at Bruce Township Hall with family and friends.

The Schmits will begin their life in service to their country as Louie has enlisted in the United States Air Force. Louie departed for boot camp on June 2, 2009. The couple has not yet learned where they will be stationed, however, they are excited to begin their adventure.

Welcome home Doug Pine

Postcards from Afghanistan

Douglas P. Pine
Operations & Maintenance
Project Manager, Kabul
Afghanistan Engineer District

Hello to all my family, friends and coworkers!

As my tour comes to a close here in Afghanistan, I am looking forward to returning to my job as a lock and dam operator at the Soo Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

My deployment in Afghanistan has been a truly rewarding experience. Since I arrived in June 2008, I have completed 55 projects worth \$2 million, and have 45 projects currently in progress worth an additional \$5 million. Things happen fast here!

As a former Marine, I volunteered because I wanted to do more for my country. After being here almost a year, my reasons for deploying have expanded. I have a stronger appreciation for our own great country, and the privilege of being American, and have had the opportunity to see Americans at their best, helping the Afghan people.

I have also learned that the Afghans aren't much different than Americans; they simply want to make a better life for their families, educate their children, and to live without fear.

One of my favorite people here is my friend Obaidullah, an Afghan Engineer Cadet in his fourth year at the National Military Academy of Afghanistan. He is one of the Cadets I helped mentor, and our relationship has expanded into a great friendship. The Afghan Military Cadet's desire to learn and make their country better is truly inspiring, and I will never forget my time here.

I'd also like to thank all my friends and coworkers back home. Your support made this possible for me, and I really appreciate it. I also have one more important "Thank You", I'd like to extend to my wife and daughter. Deployments require the love and support of the entire family and it asks a lot from them. I could not have done it without the constant love and support of my family. I love you and can't wait to see you soon.

Yours truly,
Doug

(above) Doug poses for a photo on a hillside overlooking Gardez, Afghanistan.
(background photo) Metal conex storage boxes are used to form temporary classrooms at the National Military Academy of Afghanistan.

I would like to welcome back my husband, Doug Pine. He has been deployed to Afghanistan for a year and came home for good on June 25, 2009. Although it has been a hard time for both of us, we got through it. He has done a great service for our country and the Afghan people. His daughter Yvonne and I want to say gchi megwetch for your sacrifice. He is a proud Marine Corps veteran and has done a great job. I also want to thank our family. Thank you to my parents, Henry (Tiq) and LouAnne Bush. Thank you to Doug's parents Mike and Becky Pine. Thank you to Doug's brother and sister in law David and Elisabeth Pine. A special thanks to my sister, Paula Finfrock. Gchi megwetch for all your help and support. Without you, all our lives would have been much more difficult.

—Dana Pine

deBeauclair-Hanna united in marriage

Tara deBeauclair and Shawn Hanna were married on Nov. 8, 2008, at Arthur County Baptist Church, in Arthur, Nebr., with Pastor Ben Keene officiating.

The bride is the daughter of Shari and Donn deBeauclair of Linwood, Mich., and the groom is the son of Karen and Bud Hanna of Arthur.

The bride wore a strapless ivory silk gown trimmed with a band of crystals woven into Celtic knots around the hipline and crystal clusters between the silk buttons that went from the back of the gown to the bottom of her chapel length train. She carried a bouquet of red roses and stephanotis, with ivory satin ribbons wrapped around the stems.

Matron of honor was friend, Amanda Hus, and best man was Cory Hanna, brother of the groom.

Bridesmaids were Heather



Hanna, Amy D'Alessandro, Annmarie Boyl and Marissa Gross. The attendants wore apple red chiffon gowns with empire waistlines banded in crystals and they carried bouquets of red and ivory gerbera daisies.

Groomsmen were Wade Kramer, Shane Gorwill, Mat Jageler and Troy deBeauclair. The men wore black tuxedo jackets with ivory shirts, red silk ties and silver and black brocade vests.

Ushers were Mark Swanson, Riley Weems and Reed Kramer.

Piper deBeauclair, daughter of the bride, and Bryce Hanna, nephew of the groom, served as flower girl and ring bearer. Piper's gown was ivory satin, trimmed at the top and hem in apple red. Bryce was suited as were the groomsmen.

The reception followed the ceremony at the Figure Four Center, Haythorn Ranch, in Arthur. During the evening, the couple spent their time with many friends and family who traveled from near and far to share in their joy.

At the time of the wedding, the bride was employed by Labelle Management as general manager of the Fairfield Inn-Marriot in Mt. Pleasant. The groom was employed at Tractor Supply Store in Midland. Tara, Shawn and Piper moved to their ranch in Arthur.

United



United in marriage — Gary Carr and his bride, Carol, on their big day.



These three first cousins are shown at Gary Carr's wedding to his bride, Carol. Pearl Paquette Perry, on the left, is the daughter of Mable Carr Paquette. Gary Carr is the son of Jay Carr. Dolores Kroupa LeVeque is the daughter of Belle Carr Kroupa. All three cousins were born in Indiantown.

Thank you

I would like to give a huge thank you to the Sault Tribe, Sault Tribe wildlife biologists Eric Clark, Jason Grondin, Dustin MacLeod and the Forresters for helping me with my elk hunt in which I bagged the official Michigan record elk.

Also, thanks to Fuzz for covering for my dad at work.

I really appreciate everything.

Courtney Williams

Dallas LaPrelle receives award

I would like to thank the Sault Tribe Education Department for their help. We are so thankful to have been able to apply for the Cultural Diversity Award at Westmont College. Dallas won an award for \$32,000 for the Deans Scholarship from Westmont College and the \$12,000 Cultural Diversity Award. Without the tribe, we could not have applied.

Thanks again,
— The LaPrelles

WORK BEE

Saturday, July 18 at the Sault Tribe administrative complex in the Sault. We are working to make the new Bahwet-ing Anishinaabe Interpretive Center and Resource Library presentable. Wear your work clothes and be ready to work and eat starting at 9 a.m.

BERNICE SHELL

Bernice (nee Cairns) Shell of Tillamook, Ore., passed away May 26, 2009. She was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on Nov. 28, 1925, the daughter of Elmer and Agnes (Cadreau) Cairns. She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the Eagles.

Bernice loved the great outdoors, camping, gardening and fishing. She liked watching nature and walks on the beach. The ocean was a wonder to her. She enjoyed collecting many things, colored glass, books, shells and rocks. Life was her adventure!

She is survived by her children, Roger Shell of Tillamook, Eleanor (Virgil) Boyke of Davison, Mich., Denise Shamp of Burbank, Ohio, and Robin (Gail) Shell of Wooster, Ohio; grandchildren, Megan (Chad) Cassio, Austin Shamp, Kerrie Shell, Clint (Nina) Shell, Sarah Shamp and Deena Boyke; great grandchildren, Corbin, Lilliana, Meakenna, Hope, Hudson, Isabelle, Alicia and Kaimen; sisters, Deanna (Don) Bailey and Rita Maitland, both from Portland, Ore.; nephews Edward Zagaiski, Ron Maitland and many other nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, George, Elmer and Don Cairns; and sisters, Eleanor Zagaiski and June Gieger.

CLARK J. KING

Clark J. King, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died June 12, 2009. He was born Oct. 25, 1934, in Sault Ste. Marie.

Clark loved the water and was a very avid fisherman. He was also a fan of all kinds of sports. Clark was a member and worked for the Seafarers Union and the Inland Boatsman's Union.

He is survived by five sons, John (Michelle), Rick (Kathy),

Rodney (Patti), Clark (and his friend Laura) and Cortney (Karen); one sister, Jacqueline (nee King) Lee; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He was also married to Marilyn Harrington but later divorced.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Marie King; six brothers, Frank J. King, Gerald King, William R. King, Raymond S. King, Gene R. King, Jackie J. King; and one sister, June T. Ouellette.

A funeral mass took place June 17, 2009, at St. Issac Joques Catholic Church with Brother John Hascall officiating.

Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home assisted the family.

FRANK E. LACOY

Frank E. LaCoy of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died at his home surrounded by his loving family on May 29, 2009. Born on Oct. 19, 1938, in Detroit.

Frank is survived by his loving wife, Florence (Molly) LaCoy of 44 years. He is survived by seven children: two sons, Frank, Jr. (Glenda), John A. (Patti) of Sault Ste. Marie; five daughters, Debra (Jerry) Conrad of St. Clair, Mich., Cynthia Bilow-Black of Bullhead City, Ariz., Robin Jackson, Karen (Dan Hummer) LaCoy and Tracy LaCoy of Sault Ste. Marie. He is also survived by 10 grandchildren, Scott LaCoy of Shreveport, La., Brandi Ellis, David and Daniel LaCoy of Santa Barbara, Calif., Angela Jackson, Michael and Taylor LaCoy, Trevor and Trena Mounts, Madeline LaCoy and Ashley (Chad) Macklin of Sault



Ste. Marie, and Brian Vogel of Dallas, Texas.

He is survived by one brother, John W. (Ruth) LaCoy of Alpena; and three sisters, Diane Moore, Barbara (Ronald) Bertram and Joyce (John) Odell of Sault Ste. Marie; as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins. Frank will be dearly missed by his cat Neegee and dog Holly and all other family pets.

Frank is preceded in death by his parents Antoine (Chappy) and Rosena LaCoy and granddaughter Taren Mounts.

Frank retired from the Chippewa County Courthouse in December 2003 after 30 years of service in a job that he took great pride and pleasure in for those many years. He was a Sault Tribe member and worked for the tribe for 15 years. He also worked for many years at the Veneer Plant and sailed the Great Lakes aboard the Thomas W. Lamont.

Mass was on June 2, 2009, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church with Father Pawel Mecwel as Celebrant. Pallbearers were all of his grandchildren.

Memorials may be left to Hospice of Chippewa County or to his daughter Tracy LaCoy, 908 Young St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, who is battling ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). Burial was in Mission Hill Cemetery followed by a luncheon for family and friends at the O'Callaghan Hall of St. Joseph's Church.

Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home assisted the family.

WALTER CHARLES ST. ONGE

Walter Charles St. Onge, 80, of Hessel, died June 18, 2009, in Sault Ste. Marie.

He was born Oct. 2, 1928, in Marquette Township, to Raymond John and Velma Viola (nee Lewis) St. Onge.

Mr. St. Onge grew up in

Hessel and joined the United States Navy at the age of 17, serving for 20 years. He held the rank of senior chief when he retired.

After his Navy service, he studied forestry and worked for Hammermill Paper in Alabama. Later, he studied wastewater management, working in this field mostly in Texas.

In the early 1980s, Mr. St. Onge retired and made his home in Hessel.

He enjoyed fishing in the summer and winter, hunting, woodworking and traveling in his motor home.

Mr. St. Onge is survived by two sisters and their families, Dorothy Nye of Hessel and Audrey and Paul Howells of Highland; two brothers and their families, Raymond and Pat St. Onge of Toledo, Ohio, and Gary and Sally St. Onge of Hastings; many nieces, nephews and a dear friend, Laurel Tigner.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Colleen Joan (nee Andrews) St. Onge; one sister, Leona Nordquist; and one brother, William St. Onge.

Interment is in Cedar Cemetery in Cedarville.

Reamer Galer Funeral Home in Pickford assisted the family with arrangements.

ROBERTA CECELIA GREEN

Roberta Cecelia Green, known as Bertha Green, died on June 10 at Northern Michigan Regional Hospital in Petoskey. Bertha was the oldest resident on Mackinac Island.

She married James "Jay" D. Green on Mackinac Island and he died April 22, 1989. She worked for the State of Michigan at the governor's mansion for eight years and was a member of Ste. Anne's Catholic Church and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

To this marriage was born 15 children, two of whom died near birth: Raymond and a baby girl. Surviving are three sons, Stanley of Mackinac Island, Robert, St. Ignace and Russell of Wayndotte; daughters, Loretta "Peg" Cowell of Mackinac Island, Kathleen Cowell of Wyandotte, Lorna "Pudge" Livernois of Globe, Ariz., and Judi (Rick) Hesperheide of Palmeto, Fla.

At last count, there were over 200 grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by James, Alan, Gerald, Mary Wuest, Patricia Gallagher, Stella Bodwin and her husband, Jay.

Funeral services were on June 13 at Ste. Anne's Catholic Church with Fr. Rey Garcia officiating. Visitation was at the family home with prayers led by Fr. Rey.

Burial was in Ste. Anne's Cemetery beside her son, James "Jimmie" Green, and her other sons.

Dodson Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.

Pallbearers were eight grandchildren.



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9:30-5:30; Sat 9:30-1:30.

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body parts, metal fencing, con-
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**To help local families in need, we
need your donations! Drop off or
call 632-6616 for more information.**

**Flea Market & Community Yard Sale**

Are you a flea market vendor of planning a yard sale this summer? Consider the North Star HFH Flea Market/Community Yard Sales:

Friday, June 26, 1-7 p.m.

Saturday June 27, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday July 10, 1-7 p.m.

Saturday, July 11, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 7, 1-7 p.m.

Saturday Aug. 8, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sites are \$10 for a weekend. Call 906-632-6616 for information.



2009 Household Hazardous Waste RECYCLING

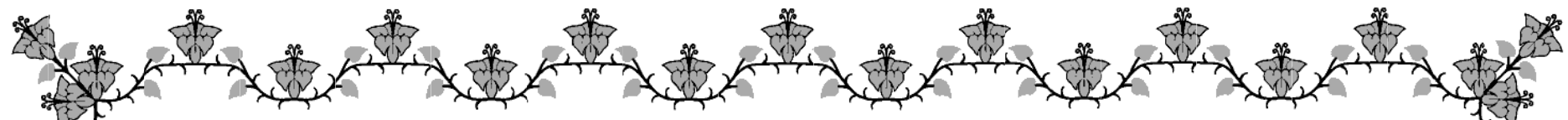
**Chippewa County
Recycling
2009 Collection Dates:**

**July 18
Sept. 19**



**Reminder:
Household Hazardous Waste
will only be collected
on site on the above dates.**

**PLEASE CALL
632-0525
to schedule your pick up.
(Appointment required.)**



Mii azhigwa mawinzoyang miinan! Mii iw wenji-ezhinikaadeg "Miinigiizis" noongom. Biidaasigekwe gaa-dibaaajimootoon imaa omazina'iganing "The Dog's Children" ezhinikaadeg. (Now is the time to gather blueberries! That is why July is called Miinigiizis. Angeline Williams told a story there in the book "The Dog's Children," as it's called.) Here it is:

Abinoojiinyag niibiwa miijiwaad aniw miinan ozhaabozogonaawaan. Geget igo aniw miinan abinoojiinyag wegwen' go gichaya'aag gaye gwa mii iw enishkaagod wayeshkad oshki-miijid. Gaye wii go mashkikiwanoon aniw miinan. Gaa win awiya gichi-niibiwa odaa-miijsiinan. Odaa-ozaamikaagonan niibiwa ozaam niibiwa odaapinang. (If children eat much

of those blueberries they get diarrhea. In fact, when children or any grown person, for that matter, for the first time eat those blueberries, they have this same effect. Blueberries have a medicinal quality. No one should eat much of them. If one takes too many, they have too much effect.)



Angeline Williams, known to her grandchildren as "Grandma Toto."

If you have any comments, questions or suggestions for the language section, please call language instructor Amy McCoy at (906) 635-6050, extension 26064.

Aaniin binoojiinyag! Miskwaanakwadookwe Amy McCoy indizhinikaaz. Aamoo dash indizhinikaanig Catherine "Tapun" Young. Miish i'iw waa-aabajitooyaan noongom. Gidaa-manajji'aanaanig igo Baawating chi-ayaa'aag. Giishpin waabaminaan, gidaa-izh "Aaniin Aamoo!" Aapiji geget giwii-ojibwemotooninim. Nashke! Ganawaabandan gaa-izhichigewaad binoojiinyag oodi Chi-mukwawigamigong niibino-gabeshiiwin. Kawe, ingii-kagwekendaamin aaniin keyaa weweni ge-izhi-aazhooskaayang miikanaang ojibwemoyaang. Miinawaa aabiding ingii-shiibiimin dibishkoo "yoga" ezhinikaadeg ojibwemoyaang. Dibaabandan i'iw mazinaakizon gaye. YEA "Little Learners" ezhinikaazowaad gaye niin ingii-biindaakoojigemin ji-gagwe- gikendamaang ojibwemowin.

Hey, kids! Miskwaanakwadookwe Amy McCoy is how I am called. But Bumblebee is the name Catherine "Tapun" Young gave me. And so that is what I want to use. We should honor the wisdom of Baawating elders. If you see me, you should say "Hey, Bumblebee!" Truly, I would like to speak Ojibwe with all of you. See! Look at what the kids did in the Big Bear summer program. First, we learned to safely cross the street while we used Ojibwe language. Another time we stretched like "yoga" as it is called while we spoke Ojibwe language. Check out that picture too. The YEA "Little Learners," as they are called, and I made an offering to try to learn Ojibwe.

Aabajitoon Biidaasigekwe odibaajimowinens ji-gagwekendaman anow ikidowinan. (Use Angeline William's paragraph to learn these words.)

- abinoojiinyagchildren
- niibiwa.....many, a large amount
- miinan.....blueberries
- awiyasomeone, somebody, anyone
- miijid.....eat something
- odaapinang.....pick something up, take something
- enishkaagod.....affect someone in a certain way
- aniw.....those
- geget.....really, truly, indeed, in fact
- gaye.....and, also, too

Word Search: Angeline Williams' Kidowinan (Words)

Abinoojiinyag	A B I N O O J I I N Y A G
geget	P N C I K Z H P P E H X T
aniw	N I I B I W A Z X F S U U
miijid	F L A T U X Z M O A N I W
awiya	H S C Y N V R K C E W R S
Miinan	R W F D I J I I M B A K H
enishkaagod	T A P G K W Y H H T R E W
Niibiwa	E N I S H K A A G O D Z C
gaye	G Q G E L N H T Z G A Y E
odaapinang	E M Z G N A N I P A A D O
	G F E D A D S N E J F D I
	Y Z G K V U E S F X S T C
	R Y E W F M M I I N A N H

Anishinaabemowin Pronunciation Key

Short vowels (are said short, or quick)

- /a/ = "uh" like u in up
- /i/ = "ih" like i in hippy
- /o/ = "oh" like o in wrote

Long vowels (must say twice as long, or just longer)

- /aa/ = "ah" like a in father
- /ii/ = "ee" like ee in keep
- /oo/ = "oo" like o in nope
- /e/ = "eh" like eh get

As you read a word, look for syllables with consonant+vowel or consonant+vowel+ consonant combinations.

For example:
Babaa - About, around, here and there
Ba + baa (Buh + Bah)



"Yoga" zhiibiwin with "A Bear Necessity."

Mii onow ge-izhichigeyeg gojijing jibwaa-aazhooskaayeg miikanaang.

Here are the words you can use outside before you cross the street.

- Nagaataan! Stop!
- Inaabin! Look!
- Bizindan! Listen!
- "Inaabin Look again!
- miinawaa go!"



Weweni gidaa-aazhooskaa miikanaang. You should cross the street carefully.

Biindaakoojigeyin, gidaa-aabajitoon onow ikidowinan.

When you make an offering, you can use these words.

- "[name] Indizhinikaaz"
- "[where you're from] Indoonjibaa"
- "[clan] Indoodem"

"Gaawin nigikenimaasii indoodem."
"I don't know my clan."



Biindaakoojigewin, making an offering, with YEA Little Learners from St. Ignace and Sault Ste. Marie.

Doll maker honored in state competition

By **BRENDA AUSTIN**

HASTINGS, Mich.

— Almost three decades ago, Doris Parker Allarding saw a porcelain doll in a magazine she wanted to buy, but it was too expensive. Instead, with the encouragement of some friends, Allarding purchased a mold and made her own doll.

Now, 28 years and thousands of dolls later, she won second place with her Old Chief doll in the statewide seventh Indigenous Peoples Art Market in Mt. Pleasant last October. Allarding also won the Elder Award for people over 60.

After retiring from Flexfab in 1992, she began making Native American dolls to reflect her own heritage. Allarding, 77, is a member of the Sault Tribe from the Crane Clan.

Displaying Best of Show, first and second place ribbons from many competitions, she said, "I get a lot of pleasure out of my dolls. I feel honored that my dolls have been purchased by well-known entertainers



Doris Allarding (above) modeled her doll's regalia after a 4-year-old's she saw at the Mt. Pleasant powwow in 2008. He poses at right with the completed doll.



\$200 and \$300 each, she tries to find ones she can use for both

who have performed at the Mt. Pleasant Casino, including Aretha Franklin." Her dolls are on display at the Naanooshke Art Gallery located inside the Soaring Eagle Hotel.

Allarding said making a doll takes from one to two weeks. With molds costing between

genders. She pours the molds and 45 minutes later removes the arms, legs and head. While the head is still soft, or "greenware" cured, she cuts open the eyes, mouth and nose and sets them aside for five days to dry. Then she sands them, dowels out the eyes so they will fit properly and places them in the kiln. After spending about eight hours in the kiln, the parts can be called bisque. They are sanded again and painted using china oil paints and go back to the kiln for another five hours.

Next come the cloth body and armature, which holds the doll upright and allows its arms to be adjusted. Occasionally, she said, the bodies are also made of porcelain.

Allarding makes the dolls regalia from leather purchased at powwows, which she hand punches and then laces together. Some of the dance shawls are made from fabric with a floral or woodland pattern. The glass or acrylic eyes and wigs are the only parts on the dolls she

doesn't make herself.

She has made dolls by request that match the clothing worn by a real child in a photograph. Last September at the Mt. Pleasant powwow she met a 4-year-old boy who was a chicken dancer. After receiving permission from his mother, she took his photo and later made a doll that looks very similar to the little boy. She saw the boy and his mother again at the art show last October and took a picture of him with the doll.

Allarding has been married to husband Vern for 57 years. Together they have two sons, Bryan and Larry, and four grandchildren. "Vern has helped me a lot with my work," she said. "He made me a cleaning table and a place to drain my molds. He is supportive of what I do and has been an inspiration to me."

Allarding's dolls sell from \$300 to \$1,000 at the Naanooshke Art Gallery. For more information, Allarding can be reached at (269) 948-8192.

Artist paints scenic Upper Peninsula

By **BRENDA AUSTIN**

His talent for art became apparent when he picked up a crayon and drew on his parent's walls as a toddler. And as his family sat in church on Sunday mornings he drew stick men in every hymnal within reach until they were full of jumping, twirling and gun-toting figures who moved when the pages were riffled through.

As he grew, he became aware of people's criticism and learned to fear his art. He was worried that his art might not please those looking at what to him was something very personal.

He spent part of his teen years attending Brimley schools before joining the Naval Air Force where for 21 years he flew as a naval crewman for Naval Airborne Reconnaissance Intelligence.

After retiring a year ago, he picked up a paintbrush and bought some oil paints and for the first time in his life began painting. "I have realized that my job as an artist is not to make people like or dislike my art, but to bring out an emotional response with my paintings, a sculpture, poem or writing; it's all art," said Kevin Keenan.

Today, Keenan and his mother, Sammy Heald, who was visiting the area with him, live in Gadsden, Ala.

Although oil painting is still new to him, he has spent time refining and honing his skills using pen, ink and pencil. "Art relaxes me, I have drawings all over the world," he said.

His favorite painting technique is from the French, called "en plein air" meaning "in the open air." Plein air painting is done outdoors using vibrant colors. The subject is quickly roughed out on the canvas and finished later in a studio setting. According to Keenan, French impressionist painters such as Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro, and Pierre-Auguste Renoir advocated en plein air



Artist Kevin Keenan paints a sunset scene on the beach at Iroquois Point Light House in Bay Mills.

painting, and much of their work was done outdoors.

While visiting the Brimley area he has painted the Iroquois Light House and beach, the Soo Locks area on Portage Street and the Tahquamenon Falls. On his return visit in July he plans to visit the woodlands of Mission Hill in Bay Mills, Lake Michigan, the Back Bay of Brimley, Mackinac Island and Mackinaw City.

Photography also plays a role in his artwork. One of his favorite paintings is of a bridge draped with vines and covered in beautiful flowers. His inspiration for the painting was a photograph he took while he was in Guam.

The Dancing Crane coffee house in Bay Mills has one of his paintings on display and the Alberta House in Sault Ste. Marie has three others.

"If you have the talent don't be afraid to use it," he said. "Art is something you can do

for the rest of your life. If you find someone who is a good teacher and is willing to let their students make mistakes and learn from them, you have won half the battle. The last thing I want when people look at my art is indifference. Even dislike is an emotional response."

Hoping to improve his portrait painting skills, he plans to take an anatomy class and also practice painting skin texture and tones.

He has a son, Kevin Keenan, who works for the Sault Kewadin Casino as a security guard.

Instead of doodling inside every hymnal in sight, he now teaches men's Sunday school. "The only difference between an adult artist and a 6-year-old kid is age. We love playing with color," he said.

If you would like to see examples of his oil paintings or drawings, email him at kevin-keenan21@yahoo.com.



Mackinac County Animal Shelter

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Clancy



Mocha Joe



Pepper



Bella

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All donations are greatly appreciated.

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P.O. Box 92, Moran, MI 49760

Pendills Fish Hatchery hosts kids fishing day

Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery hosted its first children's fishing event June 20. Hatchery staff assisted youngsters while fishing equipment and bait were provided. Left: Kids took turns fishing in designated groups for 20 minutes each to make sure everyone had a turn to toss in a line. Right: Sierra McClellan, 8, from Rudyard (center), caught a 1 pound, 4.5 ounce lake trout measuring 15 inches, which Julie Timmer (right) and Dave Anderson (left) cleaned for her.



Photos by Brenda Austin

Smokey the Bear (Lyn Hyslop) greeted kids and provided a good photo opportunity while kids waited for their turn to fish. Kids 16 and under were given a good chance to catch the biggest fish of their lives on June 20. Those who caught fish had them cleaned by fishery staff so they could take them home and enjoy them. Children were provided with a free hot lunch, a grab bag of goodies, prizes and some great memories. A volunteer group, Friends of Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery, joined forces with the staff and management of the hatchery to host the event. Kids fished in a fenced pond behind the hatchery where hundreds of lake trout — ranging from 1 pound to 5 pounds or more — were planted in the pond for the event. The Michigan DNR loaned 100 rod and reels for kids to use.



Krull, Perron set school record this year – twice



May 18, 2009, the Sault Area Middle School girls and boys track team placed first in the Straits Area Conference held in St. Ignace, Mich. The girls 400 relay team members pictured above, left to right, Sault Tribe member Helenna Krull, Hailey Perron, Maddie DeVuono and Katie Nicholls, set a school record with a time of 56.4 seconds. Krull and Perron were also part of the 800 relay team, which also placed first at the meet. This is the second school record Krull and Perron have set this year. They were part of a team that captured a record for an 800 relay earlier in the track season.

McCoy marks 80th birthday with family, friends

Photo by Rick Smith

Joyce Marie Leask-McCoy recently celebrated her 80th birthday with family and friends in Sault Ste. Marie on May 23, including several of her siblings and eight children. Here, she sits with most of her 21 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. The family indicates two more great-grandchildren are due to arrive later this year.



Elders spruce up Indian Point Cemetery



SPRING CLEANING — Volunteers came together to rake up leaves at the cemetery this spring.



A JOB WELL DONE — Betty and Jack Majestic, Jerry Miller, Judy Feathers, Richard and Joyce Feathers, Bill Hardwick, Al Kesick, Ron Miller, Jim and Barb Tardiff, Sharon Skjolaas, Denise Chase and Viola Neadow (Missing from group photos: Al Kesick, Judy Feathers, and Sharon Skjolaas) finish up their work and gather round the sign.



Submitted by Viola Neadow

The Escanaba Area Sault Tribe Elders organized a clean up of the Indian Point Cemetery located in Nahma Township on May 16. Volunteers raked and lifted bushels of leaves for hours. We would like to say “Miigwech” to these volunteers for their hard work: Betty and Jack Majestic, Jerry Miller, Judy Feathers, Richard and Joyce Feathers, Bill Hardwick, Al Kesick, Ron Miller, Jim and Barb Tardiff, Sharon Skjolaas, Denise Chase and Viola Neadow. We would also like to thank Connie and Bill Hardwick, who provided a luncheon for the volunteers at their home.



Jerry Miller of Escanaba takes a rake to all those pesky leaves from last fall.

From “Funeral,” page 11

“but not cardboard at least. It is very nice looking,” Windal said. “It’s called a cremation casket simply because the sidebars, the handles don’t move, don’t swing so they’re stationary because they don’t expect to carry it very far.”

Tradition figures prominently elsewhere. She invites family participation in body preparation, includes ceremonial drums and smoldering sage at funeral services, and helps next-of-kin fill graves in with dirt.

“Most funeral homes don’t let you get too near the body once someone’s died and is in the funeral director’s care,” Windal said. “But there is a real beauty in being able to as closely as possible approximate the way families have been involved with death care in our Native American communities.”

A few months after graduating from a Chicago high school, she entered the novitiate of the Roman Catholic order of Dubuque Franciscan Sisters. She trained to become a registered nurse.

When she graduated from St. Ambrose University in Iowa in 1975 “the Episcopal Church was talking very seriously about ordaining women.” She left the order after seven years, joined the Episcopal Church and in 1981 earned a Master’s of Divinity degree from Seabury Western Theological Seminary in Evanston, Ill. After she was ordained to the priesthood she served in congregations in the Diocese of Minnesota and also ministered to people living with HIV/AIDS.

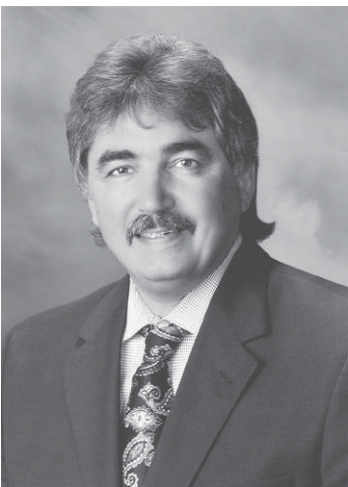
She has a doctorate of ministry and in November 2008 professed perpetual vows in the Ecumenical Order of Servant Franciscans. Her business is also known as the Franciscan Funeral Services because “helping the poor is very Franciscan.” She enrolled in a one-year licensing program for morticians at the University of Minnesota after “it became obvious that funeral directors wouldn’t talk to anyone but other funeral directors,” she said.

Maureen Davidson said Windal stepped in “from start to finish” when Davidson’s 58-year-old brother died suddenly with few funds in early January. “We hadn’t had much time to think about anything. He was diagnosed with cancer on Monday and he died on Saturday. There hadn’t even been time for hospice to get involved,” recalled Davidson, director of senior services at the West 7th Community Center in St. Paul.

“When you’re in that situation, you need a compassionate person, a good listener. Claudia was phenomenal. She has such a passion for what she does and such a belief in it. She did a beautiful job of putting together a funeral at a very low cost, that was respectful and dignified, and she did the service for my brother.”

Reprinted by permission of Episcopal News Service. Rev. Pat McCaughan is a Episcopal Life Media correspondent based in Los Angeles.

Chairman McCoy reports to the membership



DARWIN "JOE" MCCOY
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

Aanii! Hope this report finds you well.

It was once again my honor to welcome everyone at this year's Fourth of July powwow — it's hard to believe that it has been a year since I was elected chairman. It has gone quickly and has not, by any means, been an easy year.

Many tough decisions had to be made as soon as I and the new and re-elected board members took office to bring us back to the point where we were not spending more than we bring in and to get our tribe's financial situation to a more manageable level.

The board of directors, our staff and I have worked very hard together to get us back to a place where we were not in such a critical situation. With every decision made, consideration was given to have the least amount of impact on our membership services as possible.

It is unfortunate that any positions or services had to be eliminated, but because of the state of the overall economy, increased casino competition, increased competition for grant funding and many state and federal grant opportunities that were either eliminated or we didn't qualify or funding was reduced, we simply no longer have the resources to sustain the level that we were able to many years past.

2008 started with an approximate \$15 million deficit and, when I became chairman, it was still around \$8 million. By the end of 2008, we had the situation under more manageable control, but 2009 brought its own challenges, including Greektown Casino and the \$1.6 million northern deficit we still face at this point in time.

The board of directors and I are working with staff to determine where else we may be able to make adjustments without affecting our membership services to balance our budget for 2009.

I have never encountered such a wide variety of personalities as I have since becoming chairman. This position has provided me the opportunity to work with the board of directors, tribal staff, and it has also allowed me the privilege and honor of meeting and talking with so many of you about our tribe and I'd like to say g'tchi miigwech for taking the time to talk with me. This has allowed me to learn and understand

what many of the member needs are in our different areas. While we still have a number of unmet needs, we have many more positive good things going on for our membership.

This past year has shown me that we should be proud of the contributions our tribe makes to the communities we live in and beyond. We have a health center in each of our units: Sault, Manistique, Munising, St. Ignace and Hessel and community health nurses who travel throughout the more rural areas to ensure our members receive needed services. With the rising costs of health care, and the limited funding available, this is something that we should never take for granted.

Our leaders are working to increase the level of funding we receive from the federal government, but in the meantime a large portion of our casino and business profits are put right back into these critical services. We have social service programs available to eligible members, housing in each area, youth programs, powwows and other cultural activities including language classes. I've said it, past and current leaders have said it, we will never be able to meet all the needs of all our people, but we can strive to meet the most basic needs of our members who have limited alternatives.

OFFICE HOURS

I attended the Unit V-Munising elders meeting on July 9 with Director Shirley Petosky. The next area I will be traveling to is St. Ignace on Wednesday, Aug. 26 for the Unit III meeting at 6 p.m. hosted by directors Keith Massaway and Pat Rickley. This meeting is held at the McCann Building, 399 McCann Street. If any members in the Unit III area would like to meet with me, I will plan to arrive early. Please call 635-6050, or toll free (800) 793-0660, and Lona will schedule a time with you.

I make every effort to attend the many membership and elder meetings I am invited to, but there are times when other priorities come up that I have to focus on, specifically at this point in time, our Greektown Casino. Please feel free to call my office to confirm that I am still able to attend the Unit III meeting. I also remain open to meeting with any tribal member who calls or e-mails me or my office with a request.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Our employees have been working on the strategic planning process and all membership services divisions and internal services have submitted an initial plan to the board of director's office.

A vital component that was missing was the necessary input from our membership through surveys and community meetings. Michelle Hank, planning specialist, applied for the Integrated Resource Management Plan grant to begin this process. We were awarded this grant and Michelle is working with the board of

directors to develop a schedule for these community meetings. By this Fall, we hope to have a firm schedule of membership input meetings and hope to see a large number of members participating in helping your leadership set the direction for the future of our tribe. Your input and participation in this process is absolutely necessary for the successful development of the tribe's master strategic plan. If you have any questions, or suggestions, please contact Michelle at administration, 635-6050 or toll free (800) 793-0660.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

As I mentioned last month, the board of directors and I voted to approve Resolution No. 2009-105: Submitting to Secretarial Election a Constitutional Amendment Separating the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Positions.

I campaigned on this separation and I strongly believe in and support it. I want to again caution our board and members that we need to make sure it is done correctly.

The ballot question proposed in the resolution is as follows: "Do you approve to separate the chairman and chief executive officer by amending the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians at Bylaws, Article II-Duties of Officers, Section 1, to state: Section 1. The chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the board of directors and exercise any lawful authority delegated the chairperson by the board of directors. The chairperson shall vote only in case of a tie unless otherwise provided in the tribe's Constitution and Bylaws."

Again, I am in full support of separating these positions as I believe it would protect the tribe for future generations.

Your CEO should not be an elected official; instead this should be an employment position that is required to follow policies and procedures enacted by the board of directors just like every other employee.

Currently, the CEO is an elected position not required to do so. It should be an individual who takes their direction from the board of directors and chairman, but this isn't spelled out clearly anywhere either.

I want to again caution that before this separation occurs, we (myself, the board of directors and our legal and other staff) need to work together to develop a plan for implementation in the event our members vote to approve the separation, to include the responsibilities and powers that will be given to each position; the language for the Constitution will need to be very clear and concise in this regard. Currently, the proposed ballot language only separates the two positions without designating which has what authority and responsibility.

In an update we received from the Bureau of Indian Affairs regional office on July

8, we were notified that our ballot language is being forwarded to the BIA solicitor's office for technical comment soon. What they look at is whether the language would violate any federal laws. The regional office voiced concerns that the ballot language is too ambiguous and ripe for future "conflicts of power." They would also prefer that we add other amendment language (which we are working on several others). Please note that the BIA has no authority to stop this vote from going forward, but they do provide their opinion regarding any concerns they may see with proposed language.

We still need to develop a job description for a CEO and identify the funding source to cover the costs of the position, especially considering the \$1.6 million deficit we still face this year; we also have to identify and work out any other details and concerns there may be before sending this out for a vote. I would again encourage our members to contact myself and your board representatives with any input and suggestions on how we can make this separation work for our tribe.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS WORKSHOPS

We continue to hold Wednesday workshops for the purpose of reviewing quarterly updates of our membership services, internal services, business updates and casino updates.

Please contact the board of directors office for additional information on the coming month's schedule or to inquire about any changes to posted agendas toll free at (800) 793-0660 or 635-6050. All quarterly reviews are held at the Sault Kewadin Casino location and begin at 9 a.m.

July 29, 2009, quarterly reviews: Chi Mukwa, Enrollment Department and the Housing Division.

GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

This is an ongoing effort. To be treated by other units of government as an equal, we must responsibly exercise our rights of being one. This

includes making decisions that are for the overall good and not just a few; consulting with other governments on matters that impact us or that we have an inherent responsibility for. My office receives many notices of requests for consultation from a variety of other governments and numerous federal and state agencies.

Our state-tribe summit was organized wonderfully and our staff should be commended for their hard work and dedication to making our tribe proud to be this year's host.

Governor Granholm and representatives from the other 11 federally recognized tribes in Michigan commented on how well organized it was and how nice everything looked. It was great to see and meet everyone and we look forward to next year's summit and continued improved working relationships with the governor's office and the other tribes in Michigan.

HEALTH SERVICES

I, along with the board of directors' liaisons and various health staff, continue to work on improving systems and processes within the health division to address the issue of recruitment and retention of health professionals.

Through this process, several issues have been identified that affect not just the health division but the tribe overall. It is our overall goal to improve recruitment and retention, while at the same time increasing the productivity of how we offer various health services.

In addition to that, we are identifying the areas where we have process issues that affect the entire tribe's operations and streamline those for more effective and efficient operations.

We will continue to update you on the status of these reviews as more information becomes available and changes are made to our systems.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office or e-mail me at jmccoy@saulttribe.net.

Miigwech

Chairman Darwin "Joe" McCoy

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Causley reporting to Unit II membership



LANA CAUSLEY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT II

In June, our tribe hosted a state-tribe summit with Governor Jennifer Granholm. I'm very pleased to say that all Michigan tribes were represented by their chairs or vice chairs. This is the first time in many years all invited were in attendance and all committed to addressing concerns each tribe has as well as concerns and needs as sovereign nations.

Miigwech to the chairman and board members who attended to speak on our behalf. It was a very positive event and was very beneficial to Indian people. Our staff did an excellent job in hosting the summit and we were all very proud and honored. The chairman spoke on our behalf, discussing Greektown, Indian gaming, St. Marys River, education and other concerns we have as our tribe struggles in this economy.

The board was recently given an in-depth presentation on our financial position for 2009. In 2008, we faced a \$15 million deficit. Through reorganization and reductions, we brought that number down significantly and we did balance 2008 by borrowing from our internal funds. We did not use any additional funds from the Land Claims Fund, which has a balance of \$6.2 million. For 2009, we have reduced our expenses but are also experiencing a decrease in gaming revenue. As a result, we

are facing a deficit of approximately \$1.6 million for the 2009 fiscal year.

The chairman and board recently met with our communication staff and compiled a communication plan on our position with our casino in Detroit. Please look for the special insert and if you have additional questions please call.

Staff has done a great job in applying for stimulus funds. Although funds are not set to be released until later this summer, we have received word that almost \$7 million in projects have been funded. Included in this funding are projects within the Health Division at the Sault, Munising and Manistique sites, an energy efficiency project for our buildings within the service area, additional roads/transportation dollars and several rehab/energy efficiency projects within our Housing Division. We continue to submit grants and applications for additional funds and resources to improve our ser-

vices to members and to provide employment opportunities.

On the Fourth of July, the Hessel casino staff along with our drum group and tribal youth came together and built a Kewadin float for the community parade in Cedarville; I had the honor of being invited to ride with two special elders, my great aunts, Margaret Vassar and Catherine Lapoint, along with our community drum and youth dancers. Miigwech for the good message you sent (elders teaching the youth) to our area as well as the promotion for our casino. Well done.

I would also like to take this time to recognize those who worked very hard on the completion of the River of History Museum. I recently spoke to one of the tribal members who had an opportunity to work on the project and he was inspired and proud to be part of this project with the rest of the crew who were involved: Lynn Ailing, Tony Mckerchie, Duane Gurnoe

and Mike Sylvester. Miigwech for your hard work. The museum is next to the administration building on Ashmun Street, please take the time to stop in.

I would like to invite you to call me if you would like to discuss any concerns with me or you can meet with me when I am visiting your community. I will be at the Hessel elders meeting on July 29, the Naubinway elders on July 27 and the Newberry elders meeting on July 31.

In closing, I would like to recognize the Sault Powwow Committee for the planning and preparation of the recent powwow. A respected tribal member commented to me, "This powwow has a light good feeling." Miigwech to all who participated. It truly was a very good powwow.

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

Staying vigilant to persevere over new threats



CATHY ABRAMSON, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I

Our people have had to fight many battles to obtain the funding resources that we have today. Our elders before us worked hard and made many contacts with the federal government to simply be recognized as a tribal government. Because of their efforts, we eventually became known as the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

With the advent of our federal recognition, we were eligible to receive health and education funds from Indian Health Services and the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Up until the early '90s, we had a fairly small enrollment of tribal members. With the opening of our Vegas Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie, opened on our then newly acquired land base on the Mar-Shunk area, our membership exploded and continued to grow into the 38,000-plus enrolled members of today.

The investment in this casino did not come easy, as our leaders took great risks to even opening its very doors. In the early years, financing questionable operations such as tribal gaming ventures was often unheard of. The questions surrounding legality and liability left our access to capital limited. Our people made signifi-

cant sacrifices to ensure that this initial investment occurred.

Because of the hard work and dedication of our employees, we have enjoyed tremendous success in our casino ventures and were able to expand casinos in St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique and Munising. Because we had a virtual monopoly in the Michigan casino industry, our gaming businesses could only flourish. Because of that financial wealth and success, we were able to provide tribal financial support to our delivery of services in health, education, recreation.

Our tribe decided to take on another high risk, high return venture by investing in another casino in Detroit, which we know today as Greektown Casino. This casino was the first tribally owned casino in the nation that was not on tribal land. This investment obviously has not yielded the promising results as hoped.

I have never written about Greektown in my unit report due to the fact that there are so many proprietary issues that we had been constantly reminded of by legal representatives. Because our membership would like to know more about Greektown and the fact that we are in the final phases of Chapter 11, this newspaper has included stories related to the process. I have been asked to describe our current status in Greektown. To sum it up in one sentence, "We need a miracle."

Generally, I prefer to write about more upbeat accomplishments and events, but I strongly believe our membership needs to know that we have more battles to fight. Greektown, while presently our largest challenge, is not the only obstacle that faces our tribe.

For example:

In *Carciere v. Salazar*, the Supreme Court of the United States limited the Secretary of

Interior's authority to take land into trust for those tribes who were "under federal jurisdiction" in 1934. The Court rejected the Interior Department's decision to take a parcel of land in Rhode Island into trust for the Narragansett Indians. This decision has possible negative implications for tribes that obtained federal recognition after 1934.

The Court held that the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) allows the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust "for the purpose of providing land for Indians." The Court then explained that the IRA defines "Indian" to "include all persons of Indian descent who are members of any recognized Indian tribe *now* under federal jurisdiction." The case was decided on the proper interpretation of "now under federal jurisdiction." The Court looked at the plain dictionary definition of the word "now," and determined that the IRA extends to those tribes that were under federal jurisdiction in June 1934, when the IRA was enacted. Because the Narragansett Indian Tribe was not federally recognized until 1983, and not under federal jurisdiction until that time, the Court reversed the lower courts' decisions permitting the parcel to be held in trust.

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs recently held a hearing and took testimony regarding the implications of the decision. The main criticism is that this decision creates different classes of Indian tribes. At this point, it is unclear whether Congress will act to legislatively correct the Court's decision. Because of *Carciere*, the Department of the Interior will likely make a determination regarding whether each tribe seeking trust land was under federal jurisdiction in

1934.

What does this mean? This may have a devastating impact on our tribe's future ability to take land into trust. A decision such as this could ultimately halt our tribe's ability to place any land into trust. So what must we do to prevent this? We must prepare our tribe to face these challenges.

Another example is health care:

As national health care reform gains momentum, we must work diligently to make sure our voices are heard and our people are not left out. We must remain proactive to ensure the federal government fulfills its trust responsibility regarding health care for our people.

Since 1992, Indian Country has been working hard to reauthorize the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCIA). With health care reform in the forefront, many are concerned the work into the IHCIA will be left aside. Right now, there is movement to take parts of the IHCIA and place it into the health care reform plan. Another concern is the eligibility to receive Indian health care benefits. Senator Coburn from Oklahoma is advocating that there should be a blood quantum to receive Indian health care services. This is a deliberate attempt to divide tribes and in reality a termination policy. All tribes across the nation must give input now because health care reform is moving

fast. Your job is to make sure that your tribal leaders stay on top of this issue.

On a good note, I had the opportunity to meet our new director of Indian Health Services, Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, M.D., M.P.H. She is a member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and is the first American Indian to serve in this position. I had an opportunity to speak with her about the health disparities in the Bemidji area (which includes Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin.) With the changes that are now being made, it is important that we seek an equitable distribution of funding for our area. We receive a much smaller portion of funding than tribes in other regions. She is very interested in developing and improving our tribal consultation process.

As a people, we have always faced many challenges. We have endured these past trials and have persevered. The issues facing our tribe today may appear complex, however, as we have proven, we are very resilient people. No one can predict what will happen regarding these issues. One thing we can do as tribal leaders is to make sure we continue to work diligently on your behalf to ensure the future success of our tribe.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at cabramson@saulttribe.net or call me on my cell phone at (906) 322-3823.

Moving ?



Tribal members!
Before you move to your new address, call tribal enrollment to let them know where you are headed! That way you won't miss one issue of your tribal paper.

Call (800) 251-6597.

I DISAGREE



**DJ HOFFMAN, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I**

THERE ARE SOME WHO CAN SPEAK FOR HOURS WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING. IN FACT, THERE WILL BE THOSE WHO STATE THEY "DO NOT DISAGREE" WITH THE CONTENT IN THE ENCLOSED P.R. PUSH REGARDING GREEKTOWN CASINO. ONCE AGAIN, WHAT ARE THEY EFFECTIVELY SAYING?

MYSELF, PERSONALLY, I DO DISAGREE.

I BELIEVE THE INFORMATION YOU ARE RECEIVING TODAY IS NEARLY A YEAR OVERDUE AND IS, IN EFFECT, A "CYA" IN CASE THE WORST HAPPENS WITH OUR GREEKTOWN PROPERTY.

DOES THIS MAKE CERTAIN CONTENTS OF THE INFORMATION ANY LESS FACTUAL? NO.

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES SELDOM SHY AWAY FROM BASKING IN THE GLORY OF SUCCESS. WE MUST ALSO BE WILLING TO TAKE OUR SHARE OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR OUR CURRENT STATE. INACTION IS NOT AN ACCEPTABLE EXCUSE.

ALL BOARD MEMBERS SHARE THIS RESPONSIBILITY.

IN THE MOST IRONIC OF GAMBLING ANALOGIES, OUR TRIBE HAS BEEN PLAYING AGAINST A STACKED DECK TO A CERTAIN EXTENT: WE HAVE BEEN TREATED INEQUITABLY BY REGULATORS IN COMPARISON WITH OUR COUNTERPARTS AT MOTOR CITY AND MGM. WE HAVE BEEN TREATED DIFFERENTLY BECAUSE WE ARE A TRIBE. WE HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO INHERENTLY POORLY STRUCTURED HISTORICAL PARTNERSHIPS AND FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS. WE HAVE BEEN TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF BY OUR "CONSULTANTS." HOWEVER, WE

HAVE NOT TAKEN AN AGGRESSIVE NATURE REGARDING HOLDING MANAGERS OR CONSULTANTS ACCOUNTABLE EITHER AT THE NORTHERN LEVEL OR IN GREEKTOWN.

IN ADDITION, WE HAVE YET TO TAKE AN AGGRESSIVE STANCE AGAINST THOSE WHO HAVE STEERED US IN OUR CURRENT DIRECTION.

WHILE THERE ARE THOSE WITHIN THE BOARD WHO HAVE STATED THAT "IT'S OVER," OR THE PROVERBIAL "FAT LADY HAS STARTED TO WARM UP."

I DISAGREE WITH HOW THE BANKRUPTCY HAS BEEN HANDLED THUS FAR.

I DISAGREE WITH THE MANNER IN WHICH THIS MATERIAL IS BEING PRESENTED.

I DISAGREE THAT "IT'S OVER," AND THAT WE SHOULD ADOPT A DEFEATIST ATTITUDE.

"There's only one thing that can guarantee our failure, and that's if we quit."

The problems facing our tribe are serious. It would be easy to excuse myself by making statements such as, "I did not support the bankruptcy, nor did I vote for it." While this may be true, I was not success-

ful in convincing the majority of the board to agree with my stance. Instead of taking the "wasn't me" mentality, I assume my share of responsibility.

It has become a common practice by some of our representatives to "stir" the proverbial pot. They provide no source of solution to issues facing the tribe, no legislation to move our tribe forward, and yet proliferate our workplace and tribal community with rumors, innuendos and finger pointing.

These are not the actions of leadership. The next time an individual decides to grace you with their commentary about other members of the board or issues facing our tribe, I ask that you make a simple statement to them: "What are you going to do to fix it?"

I intend to continue to push legislation to separate our tribal businesses from politics. In fact, we will soon be having a secretarial election to amend our tribal constitution to eliminate the term "CEO." This will effectively ensure that the chairperson does not perform the duties of an employee, and that the CEO/tribal manager role is filled by a qualified individual based upon their respective work performance and not purely a vote count.

Effective separation of the two positions is necessary to remove issues such as favorit-

ism, cronyism and overall poor management.

I will also continue to work members of the board to ensure that we become innovative in our approach to economic diversification, membership services and stepping out of the non-progressive box that we appear to be confined to.

In closing, the Web site that I have had developed for communication on a daily basis with the membership is now active. Please visit djhoffmanblog.com for updates regarding issues such as Greektown, legislation aimed at "fixing" issues facing our tribe and ensuring that we never repeat the mistakes of the past.

If you are looking for daily updates on the filings regarding Greektown, including those from the very inception, you may access them at www.kccllc.net/greektowncasino.

Please feel free to contact me anytime.

Sincerely,
DJ Hoffman
Unit 1 Representative
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

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Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
Home (906) 635-6945
Cell (906) 322-3801
djwhoffman@hotmail.com
www.djhoffmanblog.com

Volunteers made annual powwow a success



**DENISE CHASE, DIRECTOR,
UNIT IV**

On June 13 and 14, the third annual Gathering of The Clans Powwow was held in Manistique. I would like to thank the Powwow Committee members for organizing and working this yearly gathering; they are Tim Derwin, Tina and Remy Floreck, Tom and Shirley Shampine, Betty Neadow, Sharon Hutchinson, Viola Neadow and Mary Lester.

Without the dedication of these individuals and the community volunteers we wouldn't be able to put on this gathering.

Everyone had a good time, enjoyed themselves and the weather was good. Unfortunately, the only thing we couldn't prevent were those pesky mosquitoes. We served just over 200 people for the feast meal and I would like to thank everyone who

helped set up, prepare, cook and clean up for the feast meal. We couldn't have done it without your help. After the meal, everyone went outside and enjoyed the auction just before the 7 p.m. grand entry.

The Powwow Committee wants to say miigwech to all of the volunteers (elders, youth, and community members) who helped out preparing for and during the powwow — our gathering could not be done without all of your assistance. I am not going to name people individually because I don't want to miss anyone, but there will be an ad in the local paper thanking everyone and their names will be listed there.

I would like to recognize members of the Manistique Tribal YEA youth group who painted the arbor and arena. They also volunteered to work at the powwow and their help was greatly appreciated.

A huge miigwech to the community members who brought dishes or donated items for the feast. If you want to volunteer for next year, call (906) 341-6993 and give your name and telephone number.

The dental services at the Manistique facility are up and running full time; children and elders have priority and can call any time Monday through Friday for appointments. All others can call 341-9547, Mondays, 8-9 a.m. for an

appointment.

ACFS received \$51,042 in stimulus dollars for the CSBG program (emergency assistance). The funding will be used for tribal members with employment barriers and will assist clients (who meet program guidelines) with car repairs up to \$1,000, gas for work, job training, tools/clothing for work. If you want more information call (800) 347-7137 or 341-6993.

The board of directors met with representatives from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan and NGS American at a workshop last week and went through a presentation from both companies.

The board and staff are reviewing the health plans and costs and then will make a decision on which health care plan or insurance company to go with for the tribe's employees.

The tribe had asked that BCBS provide them with the exact plan/coverage our employees currently have through NGS. The board will review the cost for coverage and then make a decision on what insurance to go forward with. According to the preliminary cost savings projected by going with BCBS of Michigan, the tribe could save a substantial amount of money while still giving the employees the same insurance coverage and with an insurance card

that is recognized anywhere.

Greektown

There is a special insert in this issue of the tribal newspaper to update the membership on Greektown. The tribe is currently working on a financing plan with Jerry Campbell, a well-known Michigan entrepreneur. The terms, plan and percentage are still being

negotiated and will be brought to the entire board prior to submission for a vote.

The goal would be to retain all of or majority ownership of Greektown. The board will update the membership as soon as a decision is made.

Thank you,
Denise Chase,
Unit IV board member

Bouschor reports



**BERNARD BOUSCHOR,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Dear members,

I am concerned about our financial condition, the bankruptcy of Greektown Casino and the potential impact, if any, on the Kewadin Gaming Authority and the Sault Tribe.

The Sault Tribe is a party to a lawsuit in a Detroit casino related property and the court ordered a financial judgment against the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe. The court completely dis-

regarded that we did not waive our governmental immunity. The case is on appeal.

As a member of the tribal council, we work on committees that have impact on tribal members, I would like to report on one such committee — the health retention and recruitment committee. The issue that needs to be addressed is the loss of health staff has impacted the delivery of services to our members. We have lost doctors, nurse practitioners, registered nurses and other health professionals. The work committee has identified various areas that need improvement and are working with those departments to make it easier to hire staff at a competitive. The committee has three council members, our chairman and staff. We are making progress at a slow pace, but we can see improvements that will benefit the entire tribal structure.

Thank you,
Bernard Bouschor
Tribal council, Unit I

Inter-Tribal Fisheries & Assessment Program

assists Big Bay de Noc walleye stocking

Each year at about this time walleye spring fingerlings are stocked in managed waters throughout the state. A limited number of walleye eggs were collected this year due to Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) concerns statewide.

DNR Fisheries staff collected walleye eggs in April from Little Bay de Noc for pond rearing and eventual stocking into Big Bay de Noc this year. The Inter-tribal Fisheries

Program, based in Sault Ste. Marie, also collected eggs from Little Bay de Noc in a cooperative effort to stock other Great Lakes waters.

This past week, ITFAP made available to the Michigan DNR approximately 70,000 spring fingerling walleye that they have reared. These fish are in excess to the tribes' needs and were offered for stocking back into Big Bay de Noc. These fish were stocked July 10.

Big and Little Bays de Noc are stocked on an alternate year basis due to their large size and the number of walleye required. Management plans required Big Bay stocking this year.

"We are very appreciative of this offer to help assist the state in rehabilitating the Bay's walleye fishery" said Jim Dexter, Lake Michigan Basin Coordinator for Fisheries Division.

The state's Fisheries

Division is operating only two rearing ponds in the Upper Peninsula this year. These ponds did not produce as well as expected due to a later than normal harvest necessary to accommodate further VHS disease testing. The Bays de Noc Great Lakes Sportfishermen's club also assists the DNR in

operation and partial funding support for these ponds in order to provide walleye back to the Bays.

The combined stocking efforts should result in nearly 250,000 spring fingerling being stocked this year into Big Bay, well below the 750,000 fish requested.

Crews will survey Chippewa County streams to find lampreys

A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service assessment crew will conduct surveys in the Tahquamenon and Waika rivers July 7-16 to estimate the abundance of sea lampreys. The information gathered will be used to determine the need for sea lamprey control.

A first step in the control of sea lampreys is to survey streams tributary to the Great Lakes to determine the presence of lamprey larvae. Sea lampreys invaded the Great Lakes during the 1920s and have been a permanent, destructive element of the fishery ever since. Sea lampreys attach to fish with a suction cup mouth, rasp a hole through the fish's scales and skin, and feed on blood and body fluids. The average sea lamprey will destroy up to (40 lbs/ 20 kg) of fish during its parasitic phase.

Sea lamprey larvae hatch from eggs laid by adult lampreys in gravel nests, and drift into silty bottom areas where they burrow and live for several years. Also, larvae sometimes drift out of streams and settle in the immediate offshore areas near stream mouths. Failure to detect and subsequently eliminate larvae allows the lampreys to transform into parasitic

adults and kill Great Lakes fish.

Fishery biologists and technicians conduct surveys for sea lamprey larvae in hundreds of Great Lakes streams each year. Most surveys are conducted by electrofishing, but in deep waters crews use Bayluscide 3.2 percent Granular Sea Lamprey Larvicide, a lampricide approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Health Canada Pest Management Regulatory Agency. This lampricide is specially formulated onto sand granules and covered with a time-release coating. The formulation is sprayed over a measured surface area of water where it sinks to the bottom, rapidly dissolves, and causes the larval sea lampreys to leave their burrows and swim to the surface where they are collected.

The EPA and Health Canada have reviewed human health and environmental safety data for the lampricides, and in 2003 concluded that Bayluscide poses no unreasonable risk to the general population and the environment when applied at concentrations necessary to detect larval sea lampreys.

Applications are conducted

in accordance with State permits.

The sea lamprey control program is formulated and implemented by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, in partnership with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Geological Survey. The commission initiated chemical control of sea lampreys in 1958. Since that time the highly successful program has contributed significantly to the maintenance of the \$4 billion Great Lakes sport and commercial fisheries.

The Commission is committed to delivering a sea lamprey control program that practices good environmental stewardship. To support the continued safe use of lampricides the Commission recently conducted a series of studies at a total cost of \$6 million to assess the effects of the lampricides on human health and the environment. In addition to these studies the Commission has implemented a research program to develop alternative control techniques. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada



ITFAP raises walleye for its spring stocking program.

are currently evaluating the release of sterile male sea lampreys as a control measure on the St. Marys River. The Commission also is developing a strategy to increase the number of barriers on sea lamprey-producing streams, and is conducting research into barrier design, traps, attractants, and biological control.

For additional information in the U.S. call 1 (800) 472-9212. TTY users may reach the Marquette or Ludington Biological Stations through the Michigan State Relay Service at 1 (800) 649-3777. Information about sea lampreys and sea lamprey control is available online at www.gllfc.org.

Best ribs in the Sault

FROM BOB FLOWERS KITCHEN

Summer is here, a perfect time to break out the grill. A perennial favorite for this season is succulent, smoky spare ribs. Though the baby-back ribs are all the rage these days, meaty spare ribs are less expensive and have more meat on them. When treated properly, in my opinion, they beat baby-back ribs for flavor and texture any day of the week.

As every barbecue pit master will tell you, phenomenal ribs take a day's worth of loving care in a smoker that will cost you a month's salary, with 300 pounds of hardwood fuel — right? Wrong. I'm giving you a recipe that will produce fall-off-the-bone tender, juicy and succulent ribs that require a night in the fridge and 40 minutes in a covered kettle or gas barbecue, plus a few sticks picked up from the woods or a bag of cheap hickory chunks that can

be had at the supermarket.

Here's how I did them a few days ago, to rave reviews from guests and family alike. I was told by one guest that these were the only ribs she'd ever had that required no sauce and, by my wife, that they were the best ribs she'd ever eaten. Best of all, these are easy and inexpensive. What more can a guy ask for?

Bob Flowers' smoky spare ribs

- Ingredients:
- 2 racks pork spare ribs
 - 3 tbs. salt
 - 4 tbs. mild chili powder
 - 1 cup dark brown sugar
 - 1 tbs. granulated garlic powder
 - 2 tbs. granulated onion powder
 - 1 tbs. rubbed sage
 - Wood chunks or thick branches cut into 6-inch lengths, maple, hickory, mesquite, cherry or tag-alder wood.

Combine the salt, chili powder, brown sugar, garlic, onion and sage in a bowl and blend

together until evenly mixed. Lay out the ribs on a covered working surface. Rub both sides of the ribs, massaging the seasoning mixture into the meat. Place in a suitably sized plastic bag and seal. Refrigerate overnight.

To cook, place the ribs in a large roasting pan, cover and place into a 200F oven for eight hours or place into an electric turkey roaster, set for 200F and let it hang out for eight hours or so. An hour before serving, fire up the barbecue and let it heat up for 15 minutes. Place the wood on top of the charcoal or wrap in heavy-duty foil and put on the fire in a gas grill and place the ribs on the grill. Cover and reduce heat by either closing all vents by half on the charcoal grill or at lowest setting on the gas grill. Let the ribs cook in the smoke for 45 minutes. Remove and serve with your favorite barbecue sauce.

Make a hoop house for winter vegetables

MSU Student Organic Farm 2009 Workshops

Join MSU Student Organic Farm's outreach coordinator Adam Montri for an all-day workshop focusing on using hoop houses on your farm. Workshop topics will focus on:

- Choosing and building a hoop house
- Crop selection and planning for year-round food
- Hoop house economics
- Winter marketing
- Soil health

The day will also include a tour of the six hoop houses at the Student Organic Farm with time throughout the day for

questions. There is no charge for these workshops due to funding from the USDA Risk Management Agency. Space is limited to 25 people so please e-mail Adam at admontri@msu.edu to register.

Please plan to bring a lunch for the day. We will provide water and a place to store lunches.

When: 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 23 and Tuesday, Sept. 22

Where: The MSU Student Organic Farm, 3291 College Road, Holt, MI 48842

Sault Ste. Marie

Anishinaabemowin classes, Thursdays, 6-8 p.m., at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building.

The classes are immersion in the Ojibwe language and begin with a potluck dinner. Bring your favorite dish.

It's a great time to eat, visit and enjoy our culture.

Everyone is welcome.

Call (906) 635-6050 for more information.

Drumming, Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building.

The drum is the heartbeat of the Anishinaabe people.

Hear different songs and styles of singing. It's a great time for the family participation in singing and dancing or just listening.

For more information, call 635-6050.

Anishinaabemowin language class, Wednesdays, 12-1 p.m., at 531 Ashmun Street.

No registration is necessary. Please bring your brown bag lunch.

For more information, call 635-6050.

July 20-23: Environmental camp at the Mary Murray Cultural Camp on Sugar Island for children in grades 5-9.

Swimming, gardening, map reading, alternative energy, recycling, astronomy, pollution, hands on activities and more with a dance on Wednesday night.

Please make checks payable to the Sault Tribe Mary Murray Cultural camp. Limited space is available.

For a registration packet or more information, please contact Laura Porterfield at either lporterfield@saulttribe.net or 635-6050 extension 26145.

July 28: Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting, 6 p.m. at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center.

Open community hour, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

For further information, call 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660, extensions 26337 or 26338.

Aug. 4: Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting, 6 p.m. at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center.

Open community hour, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

For further information, call 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660, extensions 26337 or 26338.

Aug. 5: Unit I Elderly Committee meets after the noon meal at 2076 Shunk Road.

For questions, call 635-4971 or (800) 711-7356.

Aug. 5: Culture Committee meets, 6 p.m. at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building.

For more information, call Jackie Minton at (906) 322-4975 cell or 495-5165.

Aug. 14&15: Sault Area History Fest. The Chippewa County Historical Society sponsors the area's first ever history fest.

It happens on Water Street's historic block featuring an 1814 military and voyageur encampment, a Civil War encampment, American Indian traditional crafts, early American crafts, programs on historic plants, antique fishing equipment, cars, buggies, canoes, music, entertainment and children's games and crafts.

If you would like to help or have ideas, please contact Ginny Cymbalist at 632-9523 or ggcybalist@yahoo.com.

St. Ignace

Anishinaabemowin language classes, Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m., at the McCann Center.

Participants will enjoy a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. followed by a language lesson at 7 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information, call 635-6050.

July 22: Unit III constituents meeting, 6 p.m., at the McCann Center.

Share your questions and concerns with your tribal board representatives.

For more information, Keith Massaway at 643-6981 or Patrick Rickley at 440-5149.

Aug. 14: Unit III Elderly Committee meets after the noon meal at the McCann Center.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Hessel

Anishinaabemowin classes, Mondays, 5-7 p.m., at the tribal center.

For more information, call 635-6050.

July 20: Unit II Hessel Elderly Committee meets after the noon meal at the tribal center.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Newberry

July 24: Unit II Newberry Elderly Committee meets, 11 a.m. at the tribal center.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

July 27: Elderly Advisory Board meets, 12:30 p.m. at the tribal center.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Manistique

Aug. 12: Unit IV Manistique Elderly Committee meets after the noon meal at the tribal center.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Naubinway

July 29: Unit II Naubinway Elderly Committee meets at 6:30 p.m. at the pavilion.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Escanaba

July 16: Unit IV Escanaba Elderly Committee meets at 5:30 p.m. Location to be announced.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Aug 20: Unit IV Escanaba Elderly Committee meets at 5:30 p.m. Location to be announced.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Munising

Aug 3&17: Unit V Munising Elderly Committee meets at 4:30 p.m. at the tribal center.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Aug. 13: Unit V constituents meeting, 6 p.m. at the tribal center.

For more information, call Shirley Petosky at 387-2101.

Marquette

Aug. 6: Unit V Marquette Elderly Committee meeting, 6 p.m., at the Holiday Inn.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Announcements

Use of the Chi Mukwa All-In-One Fitness Club in Sault Ste. Marie is now free for all Sault Tribe members.

Prepare to show membership identification when visiting.

The club features weight machines, free weights, treadmills and other equipment, showers, locker rooms, saunas and a spa whirlpool.

Summer hours are noon to 9 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sunday.

Facilities are in the community recreation center on the reservation on Ice Circle Drive. For more information, call 635-7465.

May 15-Dec. 31: Starline Ferry gold tokens offer at all Kewadin Casinos.

Explore Mackinac Island by day and Kewadin Casinos by night. Bring in your ticket stub from the Starline Ferry and redeem it for \$5 in Kewadin gold tokens.

Just earn 25 points on your Northern Rewards Club card on the same day you redeem the coupon on the back of any Starline Ferry ticket.

For more information, call (800) KEWADIN or visit www.kewadin.com.

July 20-Aug. 3: Porcupine quill box three-day workshop, Mondays, July 20, 27 and Aug. 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., all materials provided.

Bring your own lunch. Cost is \$100. Send your check or money order for full amount payable to Ron Paquin, 1200 E. 11th Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Your reservation is confirmed only upon receipt of your payment. First come, first served. Classes fill quickly.

Should I have to cancel for any reason, I will refund your total amount. All classes will be at 1200 E. 11th Ave. in Sault Ste. Marie.

For more information, call

Ron Paquin at (906) 635-8158 or email ramp@lighthouse.net.

Aug. 17-18: Birch bark tulip basket, two-day workshop, Monday, Aug. 17 and Aug. 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., sew panels of birch bark with sweet grass into a four-panel basket; all materials provided.

Bring your own lunch. Cost is \$75. Send your check or money order for full amount payable to Ron Paquin, 1200 E. 11th Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Your reservation is confirmed only upon receipt of your payment. First come, first served. Classes fill quickly.

Should I have to cancel for any reason, I will refund your total amount. All classes will be at 1200 E. 11th Ave. in Sault Ste. Marie.

For more information, call Ron Paquin at (906) 635-8158 or email ramp@lighthouse.net.

Aug. 24: Etched Mukak workshop, Monday, Aug. 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., etch design on winter bark; all materials provided.

Bring your own lunch. Cost is \$45. Send your check or money order for full amount payable to Ron Paquin, 1200 E. 11th Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Your reservation is confirmed only upon receipt of your payment. First come, first served. Classes fill quickly.

Should I have to cancel for any reason, I will refund your total amount. All classes will be at 1200 E. 11th Ave. in Sault Ste. Marie.

For more information, call Ron Paquin at (906) 635-8158 or email ramp@lighthouse.net.

Aug. 25: Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting, Hessel, 6 p.m. Location to be announced. Open community hour, 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.

For further information, call 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660, extensions 26337 or 26338.

Crossing the Canadian border became much more complicated after June 1.

Sault Tribe members may no longer use tribal cards to cross the border, since they are not approved by the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative.

Fortunately, you can easily obtain an enhanced driver's license rather than applying for a United States passport.

For more details, visit your nearest Secretary of State office or www.michigan.gov/sos.

If you would like more details on the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative, visit the U.S. Department of Homeland Security online at www.dhs.gov.

Foster homes provided by Sault Tribe members are needed for our young.

Make a difference in the life of a child, consider being a foster parent.

Call Anishinaabek Community and Family Services at 495 1232 or (800) 347 7137.

Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities needs your help.

We are looking for volunteers to serve on our Parent Advisory Committee.

The committee is instrumental in developing programs for our children throughout the seven-county service area, creating policy and representing their communities to determine where spending will be most beneficial to the greatest number of our youngsters.

The committee is comprised of volunteers from throughout our tribe's service area and meets once a month on the third Wednesday.

We encourage all relatives of children or anyone interested in their welfare to join us.

All meetings are open to the public and we welcome your participation.

For more information, please call Youth Education and Activities at (906) 635 -7010.

Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities in Sault Ste. Marie offers many fun and educational services to youth from kindergarten age to high school seniors.

Computer lab, Monday through Friday, 3:30-6:30 p.m., and on Saturday, 11-4 p.m.

Computers are available for use in a relaxed atmosphere with opportunities for socializing and other fun.

Free tutoring is available daily for everyone. Young folks can learn how to animate objects, customize Web sites and other exciting media projects every Monday.

On Tuesdays, we can conduct science experiments concentrating in school core subject areas such as chemistry and physics.

We dabble in art on Wednesdays, creating all sorts of masterpieces.

On Thursdays, the local tribal youth council works on developing projects for our community and gets some play in as well.

We have parties on Fridays, we show off our moves in Dance Dance Revolution tournaments.

Board game lovers of all ages can enjoy a peaceful afternoon dueling in a fierce game of Scrabble or other games every Saturday.

Come visit for a good time and to meet new people or old friends. Free drinks and snacks are everyday.

We're waiting for you at 2428 Shunk Road next to the enrollment office.

If you have any questions, please call Rachel Mandelstamm at 440-4494.

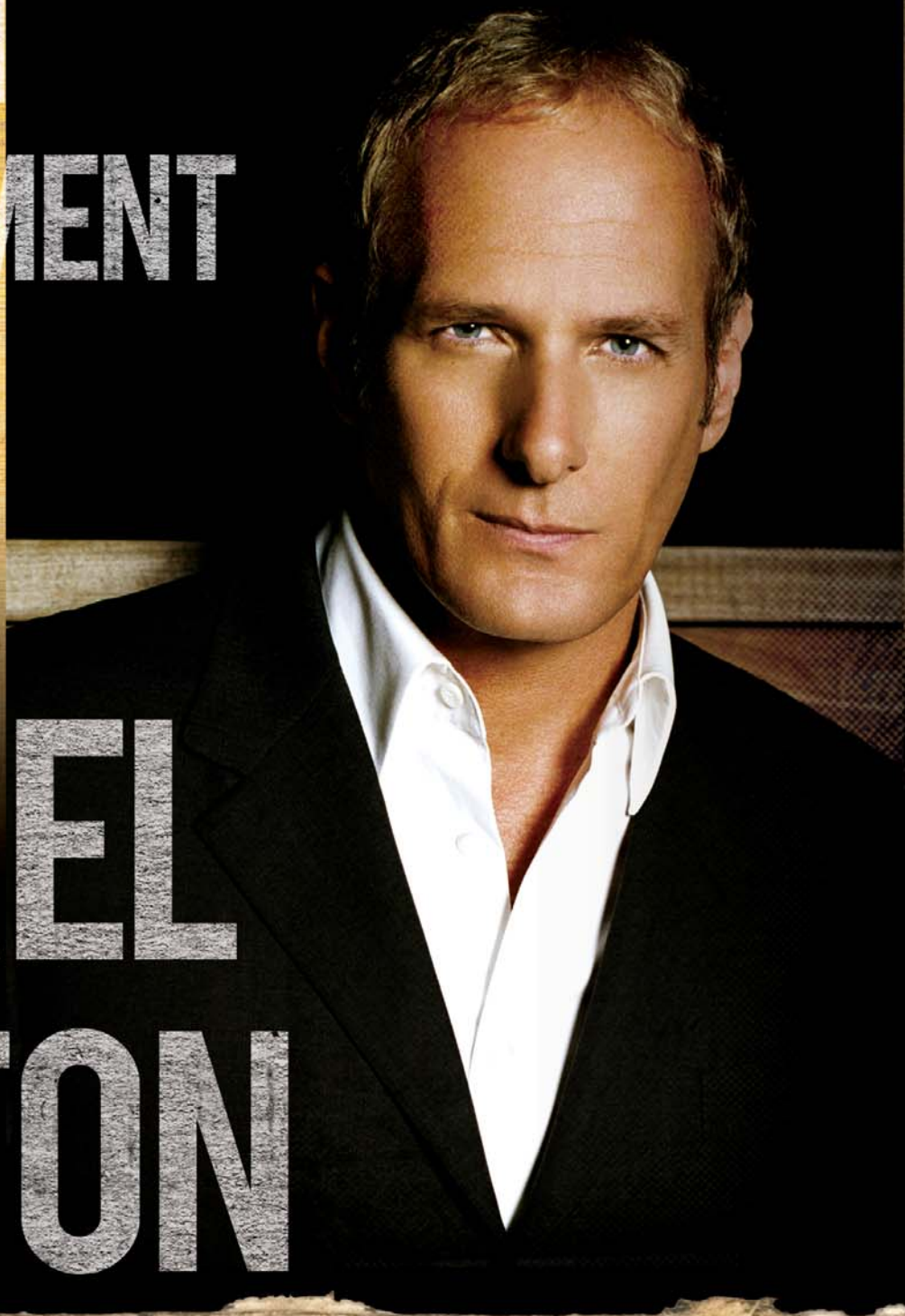
Book your party at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center.

We're equipped to accommodate skating parties, group parties and birthday parties and we rent our hospitality room, basketball and volleyball courts.

Call (906) 635-7465.

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13th | 7:00 p.m. Monday | \$22.50 | On Sale Now

King of the Cage - Sault Ste. Marie

25th | 7:00 p.m. Saturday | \$30.00 - \$75.00 | On Sale Now

Michael Bolton - Sault Ste. Marie

30th | 7:00 p.m. Thursday | \$48.50 | On Sale Now

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The Greektown Challenge

“Many things happened” to cause Chapter 11 filing

Editor’s note Most tribal members know Greektown Casino, majority owned by the Sault Tribe, is in Chapter 11 bankruptcy. The Detroit casino will likely “exit” from Chapter 11 before the end of the year and as early as late this summer. This special section is designed to help members understand the history of the tribe’s involvement in Greektown Casino and the possible outcomes for the tribe when Greektown emerges from bankruptcy.

How Greektown Casino tumbled into bankruptcy

DETROIT — General Motors, Chrysler, Visteon, Lear, Delphi, Twin Lake Casino, Tropicana Entertainment, Trump Casinos, Eddie Bauer, Greektown Casino.

The list is long of prominent U.S. and Michigan manufacturing, retail and entertainment companies tumbling into Chapter 11 bankruptcy in recent weeks and years.

A close look at various bankruptcy cases suggests no single mistake, circumstance or action causes the level of financial trauma that forces a company into U.S. bankruptcy court. In most cases, multiple things happen, over time or at the same time, to trigger bankruptcy.

“Many things happened that contributed to the bankruptcy,” said Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy. “Perhaps we could have done some things differently. I’m sure the same thing can be said of General Motors, Chrysler, Visteon, Delphi, K-mart, Tropicana casinos, Trump Casinos, Twin Lake Casino and the many other companies in Michigan and the nation that are also in Chapter 11.”

McCoy said he and other tribal board members feel it’s unfair and inaccurate for critics to only blame the tribe.

“A lot of things happened that were completely beyond the control of the tribe or any one person or organization,” he said.

A review of the performance of Greektown Casino suggests the tribe did a lot of things right when it was providing management control and oversight of the property.

From the date Greektown Casino opened for business in November 2000 until earlier this year, the facility was largely governed by a management board made up of Sault Tribe board members and operated by casino executives. But in January — at the insistence of some of the other parties in the bankruptcy case — a Las Vegas-based management company called the Fine Point Group was hired to take over casino operations. Under Sault Tribe management, Greektown Casino’s financial performance — in gross revenues and market share — often “far exceeded any numbers the Fine Point Group has posted.” (See related story on page 2 of this special insert.)

“There were many months over the years under the tribe’s management control when gross revenues were higher than any-

thing that has been achieved so far this year, and we did it without the benefit of revenues coming in from a 400-room hotel, a buffet, an attached parking garage and 25,000 additional square feet of gaming space,” McCoy said. “There were also years when the casino’s market share was better than any single month so far this year.”

Factors that caused Chapter 11

Multiple bad things happened that forced Greektown Casino into Chapter 11, some that could be attributed to management and some that were beyond the control of any person or organization.

Michigan’s economic depression, and the nation’s economic recession, took a toll on Greektown Casino — and many other companies with significant debt on their balance sheets. The recession was at its deepest point in 2008, just as Greektown Casino’s 400-room hotel and gaming floor expansion were in critical stages of construction. At times, the construction blocked or closed key roads leading to the casino, making it difficult to impossible for guests to access the property for weeks and months at a time.

As Michigan continued to lead the nation in job losses and unemployment, and with construction outside the property driving even some regular customers away, the casino’s cash flow began to strain under the weight of daily bills and hotel construction invoices. Soon, it became clear 2008 would be the worst revenue year on record for Greektown Casino since the property’s first full year in operation in 2001.

By winter 2008, the casino needed significant additional funds to complete construction of the hotel and gaming floor. But with the nation mired in a worsening recession, the U.S. financial services industry collapsed under tens of thousands of bad residential housing and commercial loans. Some of the biggest and most respected banks and brokerage firms on Wall Street and in the world failed in a matter of days and weeks. Others were sent limping to Washington for a federal bailout. As a result of all of this, the cost of borrowing money for major construction projects such as casino hotels and expansions skyrocketed, adding to the financial troubles at Greektown, MGM, Twin Lake Casino, Trump casinos, and many other companies.

State, City of Detroit make things harder

Certain actions by state government and the City of Detroit also significantly hurt Greektown’s profit margins and raised the costs of completing the permanent casino hotel and gaming floor.

In August 2004, for example, the governor and legislature increased by 33 percent the state gaming tax paid by the three Detroit casinos. This action alone reduced Greektown’s profits by nearly \$1.8 million a month and put a serious hurt on cash flow. Among the many taxes the state levies, gaming and cigarette taxes tend to be relatively easy political votes because they target controversial items — they are called “sin” taxes in the capitol. Republicans justify them as taxes on questionable behavior, while Democrats justify them as taxes on the companies that enable the questionable behaviors.

The tax increase hurt Greektown Casino even more than its two crosstown competitors, MGM and MotorCity. Under the legislation passed by Lansing, when one of the casinos fulfilled its agreement to open a 400-room hotel, a portion of the tax increase would be eliminated for that particular casino. Because both MGM and MotorCity would open their hotels sooner than Greektown, the two competitors ended up paying the higher tax rate for a shorter period of time than did Greektown.

“Were it not for the state gaming tax increase, Greektown Casino’s financial difficulties would never have been as severe as they became,” McCoy said.

Greektown Casino has paid \$79.2 million because of the tax increase. “With almost \$80 million, we could have had the funds to help our financial situation and not have to file for bankruptcy,” he added.

In November 2005, the Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB) was considering the tribe’s proposal to fund the permanent casino expansion. Publicly and in private meetings, the MGCB and its staff were expressing concerns about the amount of debt being accumulated to pay for the casino’s expansion and to pay off other financial obligations. While the tribe and its lenders were comfortable with the financing plan, the MGCB staff was not. As part of the plan, the MGCB staff required the casino to meet certain financial

performance milestones, or “covenants,” in the future. If the casino failed to do so, under the plan, the MGCB could force a sale of the property.

“The covenants imposed on us by the MGCB made the casino even more expensive to complete by making it even more expensive for us to borrow money,” McCoy said. “We objected as strongly as we could, but it was clear to our experts that we had to swallow them or the MGCB was not going to approve our financing.”

Making matters worse, the tribe faced significant delays in the start of construction on the permanent casino. Phase one of the permanent casino was to build a 2,900-space parking garage on land owned by the city. The garage would eventually be attached to the 400-room hotel and the casino. The City of Detroit agreed to sell the property to the casino, but then dragged its feet on completing the sale. The city also failed to provide related zoning approvals in time to meet initial construction timelines.

“The delays caused by the city drove construction costs even higher,” McCoy said.

By late May 2008, Greektown’s profits were sufficient to pay the daily bills of the casino, but not enough to pay the daily bills and construction costs.

“We needed a significant amount of additional cash to complete the construction of the hotel and gaming floor expansion,” McCoy said. “We were told by our outside consultants the bank would only agree to provide the capital if we entered Chapter 11, where other debts could be reorganized.”

The tribe was faced with two choices: Seek Chapter 11 protection or stop construction on the hotel and gaming floor. If work on the hotel and gaming floor stopped, the tribe would be in violation of its “development agreement” with the City of Detroit. A development agreement is a contract with the city that requires each of the three Detroit casinos to have a 400-room hotel and 100,000-square-foot of gaming space by a specific date in time. If a casino violates its development agreement, the city can ask the state to suspend the facility’s gaming license for noncompliance.

With no completed hotel, no gaming floor expansion and no gaming license, chances were good that the tribe would have lost the casino almost immediately.

Greektown Casino seeks higher revenues, market share

DETROIT – As the last casino to open in the intensely competitive Detroit gaming market, Greektown Casino's financial performance has consistently lagged behind its cross town rivals, MGM Grand Detroit and MotorCity.

Some blamed the casino's location. While popular for decades with suburban tourists, the Greektown entertainment district can be nightmarish for parking. That was especially true for Greektown Casino's first seven years of operations, when the casino lacked the convenience of an attached parking garage. Both MotorCity and MGM had spacious garages, easy to enter and exit and free of charge.

Parking in Greektown becomes even more challenging on the nights the Detroit Tigers are playing at home in Comerica Park, just a few blocks to the north. And in 2008, when the permanent Greektown Casino was under construction, key roads outside the property were either blocked or closed, driving even loyal patrons to slot machines and gaming tables elsewhere. Making matters worse, I-375, the main freeway leading to and from Greektown Casino, was under construction much of 2008, creating traffic bottlenecks for motorists heading to and from downtown Detroit.

Others were critical of Greektown Casino management. From the date Greektown Casino opened for business in November 2000 until December 2008, the facility was largely run by former Las Vegas casino executives and governed by a management board made up of Sault Tribe board members (only one Sault Tribe member sits on the board today). During those years, Greektown Casino's market share at best hovered around 30 percent. Every month, gross revenues and market share were last in the market. Still, during many of those months, the casino performed better than during any month to date in 2009.

It's also important to note that the Sault Tribe has operated five northern Michigan casinos profitably for many years. In fact in calendar year 2008 — with the state and nation mired in recession and revenues tanking in casino markets across the country — profits were up modestly at the tribe's five northern Michigan casinos.

In January of this year, at the insistence of some of the parties in the Greektown Casino Chapter 11 bankruptcy case, a Las Vegas-based management company called the Fine Point Group was hired to take over casino operations. In addition, the size of the Greektown Casino Management Board was reduced to three members — two outside professionals and one Sault Tribe board member. **Greektown performance, 2003 to now**


In the months and years the

GREEKTOWN CASINO MARKET SHARE TRENDS

This chart shows Greektown Casino's percentage share of the Detroit gaming market between 2003 and May 2009. The highest market share achieved to date by the Fine Point Group was 25.7 percent in April. By comparison, the casino's market share was higher than 25.7 percent in 50 of the previous 72 months, when the Sault Tribe was largely in management control of the property.

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
January	22.8%	24.3%	26.0%	26.7%	25.6%	27.0%	27.8%
February	23.5%	24.0%	27.6%	27.5%	26.0%	27.6%	29.5%
March	25.0%	26.0%	27.0%	28.1%	25.7%	26.6%	30.0%
April	25.7%	24.6%	27.2%	26.1%	26.0%	28.0%	28.9%
May	25.6%	22.9%	25.9%	27.9%	28.6%	26.0%	30.2%
June		21.1%	26.0%	25.5%	28.5%	27.3%	28.2%
July		22.0%	25.8%	26.3%	29.2%	26.6%	29.3%
August		22.7%	24.9%	26.0%	27.6%	26.2%	30.1%
September		23.8%	25.9%	26.7%	26.7%	27.7%	28.0%
October		22.3%	21.7%	25.2%	27.6%	27.6%	28.4%
November		22.3%	24.8%	25.6%	28.3%	26.5%	28.6%
December		22.9%	24.1%	26.0%	28.0%	25.7%	26.1%

Source: www.michigan.gov/mcgb 2003-2009 Detroit Casino Revenues




 = indicates month when market share was higher than the highest percentage achieved to date under Fine Point Group management

GREEKTOWN CASINO REVENUE TRENDS

This chart shows Greektown Casino's monthly revenues between 2003 and May 2009. From the casino's opening in November 2000 through December 2008, the Tribe was in management control, holding most of the seats on the Greektown Management Board. In January of this year, management of the casino was turned over to the Fine Point Group of Las Vegas at the insistence of parties in the casino's bankruptcy case. Only one Sault Tribe member now sits on the Management Board.

	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003
January	24,331,489	27,534,938	28,439,734	27,814,930	25,786,446	25,234,741	24,460,452
February	27,507,992	26,999,351	28,998,669	29,971,115	26,598,968	28,011,188	25,992,945
March	29,974,562	32,230,050	33,427,503	32,215,131	28,109,573	27,081,668	31,156,777
April	28,589,867	28,572,471	30,060,693	27,632,205	26,993,224	31,338,542	26,758,352
May	30,153,069	28,131,129	27,394,026	29,958,490	30,337,967	28,280,670	31,236,522
June		23,227,140	28,490,061	27,069,222	26,401,893	25,476,629	25,913,056
July		25,423,936	29,281,395	28,956,884	31,285,995	27,387,306	27,802,132
August		26,823,124	27,795,699	28,247,544	28,515,413	25,757,196	28,603,427
September		25,216,180	26,308,064	29,297,277	25,283,145	25,493,993	25,159,217
October		24,743,552	25,633,603	25,895,110	28,659,219	26,442,742	26,850,644
November		23,514,418	28,115,302	27,759,223	28,314,521	24,719,193	26,840,528
December		23,882,692	27,375,748	30,196,616	29,347,001	24,663,520	24,538,726

Source: www.michigan.gov/mcgb 2003-2009 Detroit Casino Revenues

 = indicates month when revenue was higher than the highest revenue to date under Fine Point Group management
 = indicates month when revenue was higher than the second highest revenue to date under Fine Point Group management
 = indicates month when revenue was higher than the third highest revenue to date under Fine Point Group management

tribe ran Greektown Casino, revenues largely came only from gaming. The 400-room hotel did not open until earlier this year, after the new management company was in charge. The expanded gaming floor, with 25,000 square feet of additional gaming space for more slot machines, also did not open until this year. Just as important: the casino did not have an attached parking garage most of the years the tribe and other managers were running the property.

"Given the fact that we had no attached garage most of those years, and we did not have revenues from a hotel, from a bigger gaming floor and from a buffet, it's a bit puzzling that market share this year has not increased even to the levels of past years now that all of those revenue-generators are open at Greektown Casino," said Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy. "The new management team at the casino is riding the

wave they came in on. They took over almost exactly at the moment when all the construction work ended and the new hotel and expanded gaming floor opened. We handed them a much more viable and competitive property."

Revenue figures posted by the Michigan Gaming Control Board show the following about the performance of Greektown Casino:

• So far in 2009, the best market share month was 25.7 percent in April. By comparison, the casino's market share was higher than 25.7 percent in 50 of the previous 72 months, when the Sault Tribe was largely in management control of the property.

(See chart: Greektown Casino Market Share Trends)

• Market share is increasing again in 2009 after dropping in the final eight months of 2008, when permanent casino construction had blocked and closed roads outside the prop-

erty, making it hard to drive and walk to the casino.

• So far in 2009, the best revenue month for Greektown Casino was \$30.15 million, also in April. By comparison, total revenues exceeded \$30.15 million nine times in the last several years, when the tribe was largely in management control of the property.

(See chart: Greektown Casino Revenue Trends)

"It's good that market share is rising again, so clearly some progress is being made," McCoy "But we are stunned the casino has not even posted 30-percent market share this year when they have everything we had plus a fully open hotel, hundreds more slot machines, a buffet, an attached garage and no construction blocking access to the property."

"People criticized us, but obviously we did a lot of things right when we were in charge at Greektown Casino."

Tribal members organize “Save our Greektown”

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON

SAULT STE. MARIE — Sault Tribe members are organizing to do whatever it takes to save the tribe's ownership of Greektown. Their main goal is to insert themselves into Greektown bankruptcy proceedings so they can be heard by U.S. Bankruptcy Court Judge Walter Shapero, who is presiding over the Greektown bankruptcy.

“We want the bankruptcy judge to hear from the people and how it affects us. And, how it affects Michigan,” said Debra Pine.

“Losing Greektown will have a tremendous impact on the state.”

Losing Greektown will also have a tremendous impact on the tribe, because all the debt incurred by the tribe isn't going to go away. “Our children and our children's children will be paying this debt,” said Cathy DeVoy, another organizing member, who added that coming out of bankruptcy without Greektown will mean years, if not decades, of debt. That means the tribe's revenue will be used for debt, not programming.

The group also wants to let the membership know that Greektown is “our most valuable asset and our most profitable.” Not only for the tribe, but all of Michigan. If Greektown goes to a private owner all the benefits to the tribe, the state of Michigan and its citizens will all be lost. If the tribe remains Greektown's owner, the billions that the tribe has pumped into the state will continue.

“We have shown over time that we are good citizens of the state,” said Pine. “We share with everybody, not just members, employees and vendors. Our enterprises benefit people, not businesses. From 1986 to 2001, we distributed \$4.38 billion dollars to Michigan, half in the U.P. and half in lower Michigan.”

The group hopes they can add to the tribal board's actions with their own grassroots effort. “We are not an adversarial group,” said Cathy DeVoy. “We are behind our tribal leaders and we're hoping our actions will complement the tribal board's.”

A petition is out for tribal members' signature and letters of endorsement are being solicited from those benefitting from the tribe all these years — through 2 percent contributions, employment, donations and community participation such as United Way.

Tribal members wishing to help can send e-mail to the group online via savegreektown.saveourfuture@gmail.com and they will send a PDF of the petition to download, sign and send back. Please send signed petitions to Debra-Ann Pine, 1702 E. 7th St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783; Tony Nertoli, 541 Cedar St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783; or Arlene King, 918 Superior, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

The group also encourages tribal members, and anyone else who supports the tribe in its endeavour, to contact their elected officials. Since it's a federal matter, that would be U.S. Congressional members and the White House.

They don't have much time to get a lot of work done and all tribal members are encouraged to join in the effort. A plan

filed by the main creditor, Merrill Lynch, on June 1 includes no Sault Tribe ownership and a hearing for the plan is set for July 20. The tribe has until that date to file its own plan.

“We would like to recognize and thank those tribal members who are so passionate in their campaign to try to help with Greektown Casino,” said Tribal Chairman Joe McCoy. “They believe strongly, as many tribal members do, that we must do everything to try assure the

*From 1986 to 2001,
we distributed \$4.38
billion dollars to
Michigan, half in the
U.P. and half in Lower
Michigan.*

*— Debra-Ann Pine,
Sault Tribe member*

best possible outcome given the very difficult circumstances we face. I think we all recognize this is an uphill fight.”

Others involved in Members United to Save Greektown include Jen McLeod, Tony Nertoli, Arlene King, Rose Menard, Cathy DeVoy, Jolene Graham, Janet Liedel, Luci DeVoy, Debra-Ann Pine, Edye Nichols, along with and a number of tribal members who helped with developing the language for the cover letter and the petition.

Members of the group said they aren't interested in seeing the tribe shortchange anyone. “As honorable people with integrity, we want to pay off the debt. We want a reaffirmation of the agreement,” said Pine.

*Here's how you
can help*

E-mail: savegreektown.saveourfuture@gmail.com

Sign: Save our Greektown petition and send it back.

Speak: To those who benefitted from Sault Tribe and ask them to write a letter.

Write: Your representatives to Congress and the White House.

GREEKTOWN CASINO TIME LINE

1985 Sault Tribe opens its first tribal casino in Sault Ste. Marie. Gaming is seen as a sound business strategy to help achieve economic self sufficiency and reduce the tribe's reliance on federal government programs and services.

1992 Tribe and prominent Detroit developers launch effort to open a Native American casino in Greektown.

1994 City of Detroit voters approve ordinance legalizing casinos in the city (this was an advisory vote only because state law still banned non-Native casino gambling in Michigan). Tribe helps fund the campaign.

1995 Gov. John Engler rejects tribe's request to open Native American casino in Greektown. Engler urges Tribe to take its proposal to Michigan voters on the 1996 statewide ballot.

1996 (November) Michigan voters approve Proposal E, legalizing three state-regulated casinos in the City of Detroit. The tribe funds and leads the campaign.

1997 (November) After appointing a blue ribbon panel of business and political leaders to evaluate bidders for the three Detroit casino licenses, the City of Detroit selects Sault Tribe, MGM and Atwater Entertainment (a group of investors later bought out by the Ilitch family). Nearly every major gaming company in the world bids on one of the licenses.

1998 Three Detroit casino operators acquire land, finalize plans and hire architects and construction firms for their temporary Detroit casinos.

1999 Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, based in the western Upper Peninsula, files lawsuit claiming the process used by the City of Detroit to select the three casino operators was discriminatory. (July) MGM Grand Detroit becomes first temporary Detroit casino to open, with attached garage. (December) Temporary MotorCity Casino opens with attached garage. Issues concerning the state licensing of certain investors (not members of the Sault Tribe) delays opening of Greektown Casino.

2000 (November) Temporary Greektown Casino opens with no attached parking garage.

2001-04 Three Detroit casino operators seek locations for their permanent casino resorts, which must have 400-room hotels and 100,000 square feet of gaming floor space. MGM decides to build in a new location near its temporary casino. MotorCity and Greektown Casino decide to expand at the sites of their interim casinos.

2004 State of Michigan raises state gaming tax paid by the three Detroit casinos by 33 percent. The tax increase hurts profits and cash flow at all three properties, causing immediate layoffs at Greektown Casino.

2005 (November) The Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB), the state gaming regulators, approve the financing plan to build the permanent Greektown Casino. The MGCB requires that the casino meet certain financial performance benchmarks (based on debt service to revenues) or they can force the tribe to sell the casino.

2006 (April) After months of delay, Greektown Casino closes on the purchase of the land where it would build a 2,900-space parking garage. On the land is an old city parking garage that would have to be demolished. The delays in buying the land causes delays in starting construction on the permanent casino, which drives construction costs higher and jeopardizes the financial benchmarks imposed by the MGCB in 2005. (June) Construction on the permanent casino begins with demolition of old city parking garage.

2007 (October) MGM becomes first Detroit operator to open its permanent casino and hotel resort. (June) MotorCity Casino opens its expanded gaming floor and (November) its permanent casino hotel. (November) Greektown Casino opens its 2,900 parking garage (the casino hotel would be built on and adjacent to the garage).

2008 Nation and state fall into worst recession since Great Depression. Nation's credit markets collapse. (May) Greektown Casino files for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection. The bankruptcy, construction blocking key roads into the casino, construction on I-375, and the recession cause casino to have worst revenue performance year since 2001.

2009 Bankruptcy case continues. (January) New management company hired to operate Greektown Casino; new casino management board is seated with only one tribal representative. Exit from Chapter 11 expected as early as September, with ownership uncertain.

Greektown: A chance for self-sufficiency

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Many Sault Tribe elders remember when dirt floors were common on the reservation, when unemployment was rampant and educational opportunities and adequate health care services for members were almost non-existent.

For generations, the only services available to the tribe came from the state and federal governments.

“The tribe had no way to generate revenues or create jobs,” said tribal Chairman Joe McCoy. “The dream was to become self-sufficient, to not have to rely on anyone but ourselves for jobs and critical programs and services. It seemed so much like a dream.”

Then came 1985. The Sault Tribe opened the first of its five northern Michigan casinos.

“Getting involved in gaming, especially through our Kewadin Casino properties, has provided additional resources to supplement the funding provided to the tribe by the state of Michigan and the federal government under past treaty obligations,” McCoy said.

Thanks to the success of the northern Michigan casinos,

the tribe has created a myriad of health and social programs and services for its members, especially those on and near reservation lands. The tribe helps to send hundreds of young people to college. It has comprehensive health care, elder care, education services, foster and adoptive care, housing, cultural, and recreational programs and services. The tribe has also become one of the largest single employers in the Upper Peninsula.

“Because of our gaming revenues, we are better off today as a tribe” McCoy said. In the early 1990s, when gaming was starting to make a positive difference for the tribe, it was clear the northern casinos — as successful as they were — could never meet all of the needs of more than 38,000 members and their families.

“We still had members on, and many more off, reservation lands that were not getting the health care and other help that was so desperately needed,” said Sault Tribe board member Bernard Bouschor, who was tribal chairman when Greektown Casino was initially contemplated. “Back then, the tribal leaders saw an

opportunity in Detroit and went for it.”

What the leaders saw in Detroit was a financial opportunity to establish a casino in what analysts estimated to be an annual gaming market of between \$1.1 billion and \$2 billion.

In short, tribal leaders saw an opportunity to establish a business that could significantly move the tribe toward economic self sufficiency.

Commercial gaming comes to Detroit

In the early 1990s, non-Indian casino gaming was banned by state law.

The tribe teamed up with two Greektown developers who had strong political connections in Detroit and Lansing. They approached then Gov. John Engler about the possibility of establishing a Native American casino in Detroit. A casino had opened in Windsor, Canada, directly across the river from Detroit, and was drawing thousands of daily visitors and millions of dollars from southeast Michigan. Engler declined to support the Indian casino in Detroit and suggested, instead, that voters statewide be given the opportunity to decide the matter.

Ultimately, thanks in large part to the Sault Tribe, Detroit voters in 1994 and statewide voters in 1996 passed ballot questions to legalize casino gaming in Detroit and Michigan and allow up to three commercial casinos in the state’s largest city. The tribe contributed a lot of time and resources that played large parts in the successful 1996 statewide ballot question.

Every major commercial gaming company in the world competed to win one of the three Detroit gaming licenses because they saw significant opportunity in the untapped market. Perhaps the highest profile bid came from casino tycoon Donald Trump, who partnered with pop star Michael Jackson and a prominent Detroit business leader in an attempt to gain a license. Trump casinos are also in Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

Ultimately, the City of Detroit in late 1997 awarded casinos to MGM, Mandalay Resort Corp., which had partnered with Detroit’s Ilitch family and dozens of other local people, and the Sault Tribe.

Commercial gaming began in July 1999 when MGM became

the first of the three casinos to open. MotorCity casino opened its doors a few months later. The opening of Greektown Casino was delayed until November 2000 largely over licensing issues with non-Sault Tribe partners.

The Detroit gaming market quickly exploded. In 2001, the first full year all three casinos were open, the Detroit market generated more than \$1 billion in gross revenues. Today, the Detroit gaming market is the fifth largest in the nation, according to the American Gaming Association. In 2008, revenues at the three Detroit casinos exceeded \$1.36 billion.

“As a sovereign government, the Sault Tribe must constantly search for ways to fund and expand the programs and services our members need and deserve,” McCoy said. “I think the potential for a commercial casino inside one of the nation’s largest metropolitan areas was simply too great to ignore, especially for a tribe trying to fund programs and services for future generations.”

Tribe’s future ownership of Greektown Casino uncertain

DETROIT — As the Greektown Casino Chapter 11 bankruptcy case moves toward resolution, the Sault Tribe’s future ownership of the casino remains in doubt.

Experts say there are three possible outcomes for the tribe when the casino “exits” from Chapter 11, which could occur as early as September:

- The tribe could retain majority ownership,
- The tribe could end up owning a minority stake in the casino, or
- The tribe could end up with no ownership.

“Between now and exit, the tribe is considering all its options,” said Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy, who also serves on the Greektown Casino Management Board. “Ultimately, our goal is to choose the path that, given the circumstances, is in the best interests of tribal members and is financially and legally possible.”

Because of the recession, the tight national credit market, the financial difficulties facing the tribe and the significant levels of debt that pushed Greektown Casino into Chapter 11, it will be difficult for the tribe to retain majority ownership when the casino emerges from Chapter 11.

“Many people believe we will be unable to retain any

ownership, and they may be right,” said McCoy, who was elected tribal chairman in the summer of 2008, several months after the casino entered Chapter 11. “The board of directors and I are doing everything possible to choose the course of action that is best for our members and that we are financially and legally able to pursue, which includes exploring every means to keep some level of ownership.

“The end result is difficult to predict at this time.”

Jockeying for ownership

Greektown Casino owes various creditors about \$800 million in debt, reflecting funds that were borrowed to build the interim casino, buy land and build the permanent casino’s attached parking garage, build the 400-room hotel and expand the gaming floor. Under their development agreements with the City of Detroit, each of the three Detroit casinos were required to build facilities with at least 100,000 square feet of gaming space, 400-room hotels and other specific amenities. Merrill Lynch is owed \$550 million, making it the casino’s largest secured lender and the first to be paid in the bankruptcy case.

During the Chapter 11 process, the bankruptcy court will seek to sell the casino, most likely to the highest bidder to

raise the most cash to pay as many of the casino’s debts as is possible. According to media reports, one company — Merrill Lynch — has submitted a proposal to buy the casino so they can own it on exit from Chapter 11. Typically, these types of plans in Chapter 11 cases offer a purchase price and contain other management and ownership details.

According to the stories, under its plan, Merrill Lynch would receive payment in full through a debt repayment and a conversion of debt into equity. Under the Merrill Lynch plan, the tribe’s equity in the casino would be “extinguished.” In addition, Greektown Casino bondholders, who are owed \$180 million, would be paid nothing.

Currently, the tribe is working on an ownership plan with a highly regarded Michigan businessman and entrepreneur. Under the plan, the tribe would retain an ownership position in Greektown Casino, though the exact terms and percentages are still being negotiated.

“If the plan is solid and makes sense for all parties, it is our intent to move forward with it,” McCoy said.

Up to the U.S. bankruptcy judge

Ultimately, which ownership plan is selected will be decided by the U.S. bankruptcy judge.

Various parties will be asked for their input on the ownership plans that are submitted, including Merrill Lynch; the Michigan Gaming Control Board; the City of Detroit; the Greektown Casino Management Board; and other creditors.

McCoy said it is too early to say if the tribe will ultimately be part of an ownership plan and if it would be the one approved by the bankruptcy court.

“We know we are facing an uphill battle, as is any company in Chapter 11 that is not getting a bailout from the federal government,” he said. “Debt and the bad economy combined to push a lot of companies into Chapter 11. Even General Motors and Chrysler, which are being bailed out by U.S. taxpayers, are being forced to make significant management changes while in Chapter 11. The owners of many privately held companies in Chapter 11 are losing their companies to other bidders during the process, which may very well be the tribe’s fate in this case.”

McCoy said the tribe will continue to update members on important Chapter 11 developments on the Sault Tribe Web site, www.saulttribe.com, on the blog www.futureofgreetown.wordpress.com, in *Win Awenen Nisitotung*, and via e-mail messages.

Prominent Companies in Chapter 11 Bankruptcy

Some of the most prominent companies in the state, nation and world have tumbled into Chapter 11 bankruptcy in recent weeks, months and years. Here is a list of some companies in Chapter 11 that are reorganizing and seeking to “exit” financially stronger:

1. General Motors
2. Eddie Bauer
3. Six Flags
4. Extended Stay Hotels
5. Star Tribune
6. Visteon
7. Atlantic City Casino
8. Twin River Casino, R.I.
9. Metaldyne Corp.
10. Metromedia Int’l Group
11. Chrysler
12. Building Materials Holding Corp.
13. SandTec
14. MagnaChip
16. Fontainebleau Las Vegas LLC
17. Megacolor Corp
18. Aviza Technology Inc.
19. RH Donnelley Corp
20. Northfield Laboratories
21. Michael Beaudry
22. Ion Media Holdings
23. Arcade Publishing
24. Pink Elephant
25. Delphi Corp.
26. Greektown Casino
27. Genmar Holdings (Carver, Four Winns boats)