

Bnakwe Giizis • Falling Leaves Moon

# Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

October 12, 2012 • Vol. 33 No. 10

## TRIBAL COMMUNITY SUPPORTS RECOVERY



Photos by Rick Smith

**T**he second annual Sault Tribe Recovery Walk conducted on Sept. 27 in Sault Ste. Marie expressed support for all involved in recovering from alcoholism or drug addictions. Members of the tribe and larger community were joined in the walk by Sault Tribe health, social services, law enforcement and tribal court officials along with the tribal chairman, a few members of the board and the Chippewa County prosecutor. The path for the walk extended from St. Isaac Jogues Church to the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center and included a pass through an area of housing on the reservation. At the recreation center, participants enjoyed hamburgers with sides. Scheduled events included speeches from officials and a drum ceremony.

## Lodge of Bravery opens new home

**SAULT STE. MARIE** — At right, staff of the new Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) stand before their new quarters at 2769 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., after a dedication ceremony on Sept. 25. Representatives at the event associated with the development of the new facility included the Sault Tribe chairman and board of directors, Anishnabek Community and Family Services (ACFS), Sault Tribe Housing Authority, U.P. Engineers and Architects, Sault Tribe Facilities Management, the tribe's Cultural Department and the Chippewa County prosecutor's office. The tribe bought the building and renovations were funded by grants. The well appointed center

will serve members involved in situations such as domestic and sexual assault. The opening is a culmination of years of effort by tribal entities. Photographed are, from left, Karen Vanwormer, shelter worker; Bridget Akre, shelter manager; Nicole Bye, ARC case manager; Lori Jump, ARC program manager; Chrissy Menard, shelter worker; Jena McKerchie, ARC case manager; Christian Hatch, shelter worker; Vanessa Owalski Patzwald, legal secretary; Juanita Bye, ACFS director; Hali McKelvie, community educator; Laura Forrest, shelter worker; and Rachel Carr, ARC case manager. ARC staff not in the photo are Justin Derhammer, Cindy Payment and Connie DePlonty.



## Membership and internal services executive director position open

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians has an opening for its membership and internal services executive director. Position summary: Under the tribal board of directors general policy level oversight with tribal chairperson operational supervision. The membership and internal services executive director ensures tribal staff and resources are aligned with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' mission and goals. Serves as strategic advisor to tribal chairperson. Plans and directs all governmental and internal services activities. Provides oversight and guidance on special projects as directed. Builds and maintains mutually supportive relationships with internal and external stakeholders. Qualifications: Native American preferred. A master's degree in

administration or related field required. Required experience in tribal communities, in progressively responsible management positions, including at least five years at senior management level. Ten years overall experience required with 15 years preferred. In-depth knowledge of Sault Tribe's mission, history, organizational plan, funding sources, laws, regulations and requirements for governmental and internal services. Standard report formats, office systems and technology. Working knowledge of contract administration, applicable laws, legislation and regulations. Knowledge of market sector, research techniques, and demographics relevant to tribal programs and services. Exceptional verbal and written communication skills. Organizational, strategic planning, project management, crisis

management, dispute resolution, contract negotiation and dynamic problem-solving skills. Financial administration skills and working knowledge of governmental accounting. Advanced leadership and team building skills. Ability to work on multiple projects and maintain tact and diplomacy under duress. Ability to work extra hours as needed to accomplish goals and objectives. Required to undergo and successfully pass a background check. Must maintain good moral character standing. Must pass a criminal background investigation done under National Indian Gaming Commission rules. Will be required to complete and pass pre-employment drug testing. For more information, contact Sault Tribe Human Resources Employment Department: (906) 635-4937 or (866) 635-7032.

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# Giving back to Mother Earth: tree planting

## OUR OPENING CEREMONY

BY KATHIE BROSEMER

The organizing committee knew we didn't want to just have a big volunteer day and plant a bunch of trees without a chance to reflect on the meaning of this day to Mother Earth (Akii), the Tribe, Odenaang and ourselves as individuals. So, we asked Cecil Pavlat about an opening ceremony.

Cecil suggested keeping it simple, which we loved. He would pray and sing and drum, we could plant a witness tree, have a few words about the day, then be off to get the work done. When Chairperson Payment offered to be there with us to plant the ceremonial mountain ash tree, we knew it would be wonderful.

And it was. The forecast was for a cold rain the whole day. I met with Cecil the day before to talk about rain contingencies, and he enlightened me – rain would be a blessing from Mother Earth for our day. Of course, I knew that an overcast and driz-



A little rain didn't stop volunteers from planting trees at Odenaang on Sept. 19 as this year's Giving Back to Mother Earth project, the first of many to be organized by the tribe's Environmental Dept.

zly day is the very best time to plant little trees, they get a nice gentle exposure and don't get fried by the sun before their deli-

cate roots can find a sip of water. But I hadn't considered a rainy day to be a blessing for human volunteers.

Photo courtesy Environmental Dept.

When I checked the forecast upon waking on the day, it had changed to partly cloudy with occasional showers. I could live

with that.

We gathered at the site of the three new elders' complexes, just built this year. As we dug the hole for our little mountain ash tree, a vehicle pulled into the driveway — the last of the elders to move into the complex had arrived. Chairperson Payment immediately greeted the gentleman and invited him to join us for the ceremony, which he did.

When the hole was prepared and semaa had been passed around, Cecil prayed in Ojibwe, asking Akii to be with us in what we were trying to do. Then he lifted his drum and sang. I felt the semaa in my hand come alive with the rhythm of the drum.

When the song was finished, Cecil asked us to go around the circle with each person having a chance to speak, if only to offer "miigwech." Many people spoke of gratitude for each other, the day and the chance to participate in this. We were part way round the circle when something happened that took my breath away.

From a field behind where I stood, very near to us, came the sound of a crane calling, loud and strong.

Cecil said, "They approve."

## WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVES PROGRAM

FROM THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) is a program administered by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), formerly the Soil Conservation Service (SCS). Formed in the 1930s, when the Dust Bowl and the Depression were both impacting farmers, the SCS primarily sought to reduce soil erosion on private lands.

In 1994, President Clinton expanded the mission of the SCS to improve and protect all natural resources, not just soil, on private lands; the new name — NRCS — reflects that more general mission.

NRCS manages 42 programs and activities nationwide, includ-

ing WHIP and its sister-program, EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program). Currently, the tribe has contracts through both these programs: WHIP to create the windbreak at Odenaang and EQIP to construct the hoop house on Seymour Road. Both contracts are voluntary agreements to improve privately held lands. However, the objectives for each program are slightly different. WHIP's priority is "to develop or improve high quality habitat that supports fish and wildlife populations of national, state, tribal and local significance," while EQIP aims "to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns and for opportunities to improve soil, water, plant, animal,

air and related resources on agricultural land and non-industrial private forestland," according to the NRCS. If one examines the tribe's two projects closely, they correlate perfectly with their respective goals. The windbreak, comprised of fruiting shrubs and seed-producing trees, will encourage wildlife proliferation, while the hoop house enhances the tribe's agricultural resources.

The Environmental Department would like to thank its partners at NRCS for their help with both projects: district conservationist Kent Dankenbring, CTAI civil engineer Erin Satchell and soil conservation technician Pat Carr.



Photo by Rick Smith

Staff from the Sault Tribe Environmental Department, Odenaang residents and Chairman Aaron Payment plant a mountain ash sapling during a ceremony commemorating the planting project on Sept. 20.

## WORLDWIDE ECOLOGICAL DEBT DAY

BY KATHIE BROSEMER

Sault Tribe Environment chose to organize our Give Back To Mother Earth day in September at the time of the worldwide observance of Ecological Debt Day, also known as Earth Overshoot Day. According to the New Economics Foundation (NEF), Ecological Debt Day is the calendar date each year when the total resources consumed by humanity exceeds the capacity of the earth to generate those resources, and we go into ecological debt.

NEF first calculated Ecological Debt Day for 1987. Before that, consumption of earth's resources didn't exceed the earth's capacity to provide. Each year since then, NEF runs through its calculations to divide earth's capacity by humanity's ecological footprint, and it publishes a new date.

It's worrisome that we consume so much, but at the same time we are also reducing the earth's capacity to provide by such things as paving land, destroying forests, causing desertification. So, each year,

humanity's footprint increases, and earth's capacity decreases — it's a nasty feedback loop.

This concept is an attempt to help people understand what we are doing to Mother Earth and how it is irresponsible and can't be sustained. Much like financial debt, if you keep taking out more loans, compounding interest and not making payments, it will eventually come to the point where you can't recover.

The ominous thing is, the date keeps moving up in the calendar. Back in 1987, it was Dec. 19, last year, Sept. 27. We figured mid to late-September this year and so we planned our day's events for Sept. 20, but after we'd planned for Give Back To Mother Earth, we found out that this year's Ecological Debt Day was actually Aug. 22. Ouch!

The tribe's environment program is planning to observe this day each year with an event you can get involved with. This year it worked out that we needed help completing the large-scale tree planting at Odenaang. Next

year, we don't know what it will be, tree planting, stream clean-ups, invasive species work, who knows? But count on pitching in to help Mother Earth cope with humanity's demands.

And in the meantime, consider ways you might reduce your own family's ecological footprint on Mother Earth:

- Weatherize your house
- Add insulation
- Drive less (carpool, bike, walk)
- Get compact fluorescent lights
- Recycle all you can
- Mend it, care for it, make it last
- Reuse goods
- Share or rent larger items you use infrequently
- Install water-saving showerheads and aerators
- Install low-flush toilets
- Use a rainbarrel
- Compost
- Use a clothesline

If you just choose one thing from this list and do it, Mother Earth will appreciate it.

### Sault Tribe's Diabetes Day

Get The Latest Information On:

Diabetes  
Nutrition  
Physical Activity

Participate in:

Flu Vaccines  
Health Screening  
Food & Exercise Demos

\*\*Prizes!

Where: Sault Tribe Health Center Auditorium, Sault Ste. Marie, MI  
When: October 18th, 9am-3pm



The More We Learn, The Better We Live!



# Stafford Act amendment passes U.S. House

BY RICK SMITH

The United States House of Representatives passed an amendment to the Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act on Sept. 19. The bill, if enacted will allow all American Indian tribes to ask for federal disaster declarations and aid directly to the White House, as state governments do now.

President Barack Obama, Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Craig Fugate and Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano expressed support for passage of the amendment last December. "Amending the law would enhance FEMA's working relationship with tribal governments and improve emergency and disaster responsiveness throughout Indian Country," said Fugate in an official release. "We look forward to actively working with our tribal partners and members of Congress to support and facilitate the passage of such a change in the law."

Presently, only state governors may request presidential disaster declarations directly to the president. When the president of the

United States declares a stricken area a disaster area, it expedites over 60 different forms of emergency assistance from 17 federal agencies in response to 15 natural or man-made types of disaster covering needs from immediate adequate sustenance and shelter to getting emergency loans.

While the Upper Peninsula territorial home of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is usually spared of disasters, it remains susceptible to winter storms, fires and flooding. In fact, the governor declared a state of emergency for Sault Ste. Marie in the winter of 1995 after the city was buried in 6 feet of snow over the course of one weekend.

However, in other areas of the country, American Indian tribes have been hit hard by natural disasters such as winter storms, flooding and fires, three types of disasters covered under a declaration of disaster by the president. Native nations throughout the country, especially on the Great Plains and the Gulf Coast, have experienced catastrophic blizzards, floods, fires and other incidents. The Stafford Act, as is

currently written, leaves Indian Country with a needless loss of valuable response time in seeking federal assistance, according to the NCAI. Last year alone, American Indian tribes suffered disasters that resulted in losses amounting to millions of dollars in tribal government infrastructure and personal property.

"Just like states, when disaster strikes, tribal nations must act swiftly to respond to protect and secure lives, infrastructure and public health," noted NCAI President Jefferson Keel on the organization's website. "We call on Congress to fix the Stafford Act and incorporate the sovereign status of tribal nations in this

important law. These changes will also provide tribes and states critical flexibility in responding to catastrophic events when communities need it most."

The amendment is now in the hands of the Senate for passage before it can go to the president to be signed into federal law.

## Federal agencies sign MOUs to improve tribal services

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Officials from the Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) signed two memorandums of understanding (MOU) designed to foster improved access to USDA and BIA programs by tribes and tribal members. The memorandums apply to programs administered by the Farm Service Agency, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Rural Development at USDA, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs at the Department of the Interior (DOI). The MOUs will further improve the important government-to-government relationships and also the services offered between USDA, BIA and the tribal governments and the communities they serve.

"The Farm Service Agency is eager to implement this agreement," said FSA Administrator Juan M. Garcia. "We respect and honor the centuries of stewardship that the Indian tribes participating in our conservation and farm programs have shown for the land we all share. We are pleased to solidify our partnership with the Bureau of Indian

Affairs and the Natural Resources Conservation Service to conserve the soil, care for our water and air, and help the tribe's maximize their agricultural production."

The MOUs set up a framework for consultation, training, coordination and the provision of technical assistance that will increase the amount of Indian land enrolled under USDA conservation and farm loan programs and improve service delivery on those lands. Farming and animal management, grazing, ranching and related food and agricultural operations will be supported through improved interdepartmental coordination.

The MOUs, which are in place for five years, also support establishment of Native rural businesses, renewable energy development and job creation. Additionally, the BIA will work with Rural Development to increase homeownership, home repair, and rehabilitation opportunities, and improve energy efficiency of homes on Indian lands through improved coordination of program delivery. Finally, the MOUs will comple-

ment the USDA's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) work with BIA to implement and administer the Substantially Underserved Trust Areas (SUTA) provision of the 2008 Farm Bill to increase affordability and availability of RUS-supported infrastructure on Indian lands.

The MOUs also help further the objectives of the Keepseagle settlement agreement, which resolved a lawsuit regarding past discrimination by USDA against Native American farmers and ranchers concerning its farm loan program.

## Bill codifies Indian Child Welfare Act for Michigan

BY RICK SMITH

The Michigan Senate passed a bill on Sept. 27 that would clarify and codify the federal Indian Child Welfare Act for courts and social agencies in the state. Senate Bill 1232 would add Chapter XIIB, the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act, to the Michigan Probate Code.

The Indian Child Welfare Act, enacted by the U.S. Congress in 1978, is a law intended to stop the erosion of American Indian communities and cultures through the loss of children placed into foster homes of people with different ancestry. The language of the law has gaps that leave room for interpretation among states, according to Senator Judy Emmons, who is the primary sponsor of the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act. The gaps cause inconsistent implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act among states and among individual state jurisdictions.

"We need to set one uniform set of guidelines and clarify as many of the misconceptions as possible," said Emmons in a release. "In many of our state courts, cases can be impacted by the ICWA, and we need to make



Michigan State Representative Judy Emmons

sure that everyone has the proper tools to preserve the tribe's most precious resource, the family."

Emmons further indicated the new chapter to the Probate Code would act as a guide for state child welfare agencies and judges for clear and consistent implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act.

The Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act, Senate Bill 1232, can be viewed in its entirety by visiting [www.legislature.mi.gov](http://www.legislature.mi.gov). The bill pends in the state House of Representatives.

## New BIA director appointed

BY RICK SMITH

Congress recently confirmed President Barack Obama's nomination of Kevin Washburn, member of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, as director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Washburn was nominated last August to replace Larry Echo Hawk, who announced his resignation from the post last March to assume duties with the Church of Latter-day Saints.

The nomination and subsequent confirmation met with enthusiastic approval from Indian Country leaders, including President Jefferson Keel of the National Congress of American Indians.

During his confirmation hearing before the U.S. Senate, Washburn indicated he would



Kevin Washburn

strive to promote and preserve American Indian cultural education, support tribal courts and review tribal issues.

Washburn has extensive experience in academia and law.

Chippewa Indians and is published 12 times a year. Its mission is to inform tribal members and the public about the activities of the tribal government, membership programs and services and cultural, social and spiritual activities of Sault Tribe members.

Win Awenen Nisitotung, in Anisnabemowin, means, "One who understands," and is pronounced "Win Oh-weh-nin Nis-toe-tuhng"

See our full, online edition at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

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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.

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## 2012 NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

Deadline	Publication
Fridays	Date
12 p.m.	

Nov. 2	Nov. 16
Nov. 30	Dec. 14

For more information, please call (906) 632-6398, and ask for Jennifer or Sherrie or email [jdburton@saulttribe.net](mailto:jdburton@saulttribe.net) or [slucas@saulttribe.net](mailto:slucas@saulttribe.net). See our newspaper online at [www.saulttribe.com/newsroom](http://www.saulttribe.com/newsroom).

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## — Upcoming flu clinics —

**ESCANABA**  
Friday, Oct. 19, Salvation Army, 18 yrs and older 10 – 2

**HESSEL AREA**  
Wednesday, Oct. 24, Hessel Tribal Health Center 9 – 4  
Thursday, Oct. 25, Hessel Casino employees 11 – 3  
Wednesday, Nov. 28, Hessel Tribal Health Center 9 – 4

**MANISTIQUE AREA**  
Thursday, Oct. 18, Manistique Tribal Health Center (adults only) 9-12 and 1-3  
Wednesday, Oct. 24, Manistique Tribal Health Center (adults only) 9-12  
Wednesday, Oct. 31, Manistique Tribal Health Center (adults only) 1-3  
TBA Manistique Kewadin

Casino employees TBA

**MARQUETTE**  
Tuesday, Oct. 16, Salvation Army, 18 yrs & older 10 – 2

**MUNISING AREA**  
Tuesday, Oct. 16, Munising Tribal Health Center 9 – 3  
Tuesday, Oct. 23, Munising Tribal Health Center 9 – 12  
Thursday, Oct. 25, Christmas Casino employees TBA  
Tuesday, Oct. 30, Munising Tribal Health Center 9 – 12  
Tuesday, Nov. 6, Munising Tribal Health Center 9 – 12

**NEWBERRY AREA**  
Tuesday, Oct. 16, Newberry Tribal Health Center 8 – 4:30  
Monday, Oct. 29, Newberry Tribal Health Center 8 – 4:30

Tuesday, Nov. 20, Newberry Tribal Health Center 8 – 4:30  
Thursday, Oct. 18, Sault Tribe Health Center (Auditorium) 9 – 3  
Friday, Oct. 19, Housing Authority (Employees only) 11:30 – 4  
Tuesday, Oct. 23, Sault Tribe Health Center (Auditorium) 8 – 4:45  
Wednesday, Nov. 7, Sault Tribe Health Center (auditorium) 8 – 4:45  
Tuesday, Nov. 27, Sault Tribe Health Center 8 – 4:45  
TBA Vegas Kewadin Casino employees TBA

**ST. IGNACE AREA**  
Thursday, Oct. 18, St. Ignace Tribal Health Center 10 – 4  
Thursday, Oct. 25, Shores Casino employees 9 – 4

## New elder care nurse

**Mark Willis** is the new elder care nurse, working out of the Nokomis-Mishomis Place. Willis has been a resident of Goetzville, Mich., for the past 18 years and graduated from Lake Superior State University with a bachelor's degree in nursing and is a board certified registered nurse. He has worked as the community health intern while attending nursing school and enjoys spending his free time fishing, hunting and snowmobiling. He is here to serve our elders needs.



**The Manistique elders Christmas dinner is scheduled for Dec. 6, 2012, at "the 40" in Manistique. Hope to see you there!**

## Sault Tribe Elder Committees meetings schedule

**Munising**  
Oct. 1 and 15: The Unit V Munising Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meetings at the Munising Tribal Center (Lincoln School), first Monday of the month; dinner is at 5 p.m. On the third Monday of the month the meeting will be at 4 p.m., the Entrance to the building is off Munising Ave. (M 28) across from the Legion. Please use the west entrance. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Nov. 5 and 19: The Unit V Munising Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meetings at the Munising Tribal Center (Lincoln School), first Monday of the month; dinner is at 5 p.m. On the third Monday of the month the meeting will be at 4 p.m., the Entrance to the building is off Munising Ave. (M 28) across from the Legion. Please use the west entrance. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Dec. 3 and 17: The Unit V Munising Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meetings at the Munising Tribal Center (Lincoln School), first Monday of the month; dinner is at 5 p.m. On the third Monday of the month the meeting will be at 4 p.m., the Entrance to the building is off Munising Ave. (M 28) across from the Legion. Please use the west entrance. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

Nov. 7: The Unit I Sault Ste. Marie Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting on the first Wednesday of every month after the noon meal at the Nokomis/Mishomis Center 2076 Shunk Rd. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Dec. 5: The Unit I Sault Ste.

Marie Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting on the first Wednesday of every month after the noon meal at the Nokomis/Mishomis Center 2076 Shunk Rd. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Marquette  
Oct. 4: The Unit V Marquette Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meetings the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Nov. 1: The Unit V Marquette Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meetings the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Dec. 6: The Unit V Marquette Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meetings the first Thursday of every month at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Manistique  
Oct. 17: Unit IV Manistique Elderly Subcommittee will be holding its monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of every month after the noon meal at the Manistique Tribal Center. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Nov. 14: Unit IV Manistique Elderly Subcommittee will be holding its monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of every month after the noon meal at the Manistique Tribal Center. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Dec. 12: Unit IV Manistique

Elderly Subcommittee will be holding its monthly meeting on the second Wednesday of every month after the noon meal at the Manistique Tribal Center. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
St. Ignace  
Oct. 12: The Unit III St. Ignace Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the second Friday of every month after the noon meal at the McCann Building. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Nov. 9: The Unit III St. Ignace Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the second Friday of every month after the noon meal at the McCann Building. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Dec. 14: The Unit III St. Ignace Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the second Friday of every month after the noon meal at the McCann Building. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Hessel  
Oct. 15: The Unit II Hessel Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the third Monday of every month after the noon meal at the Hessel Tribal Center. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Nov. 19: The Unit II Hessel Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the third Monday of every month after the noon meal at the Hessel Tribal Center. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

Dec. 17: The Unit II Hessel Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the third Monday of every month after the noon meal at the Hessel Tribal Center. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Escanaba  
Oct. 18: The Unit IV Escanaba Elderly Subcommittee meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at the Willow Creek Professional Building, second floor meeting room, 3500 Ludington Street. There will be a catered meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by the meeting. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Nov. 15: The Unit IV Escanaba Elderly Subcommittee meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at the Willow Creek Professional Building, second floor meeting room, 3500 Ludington Street. There will be a catered meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by the meeting. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Dec. 20: The Unit IV Escanaba Elderly Subcommittee meetings are held the third Thursday of every month at the Willow Creek Professional Building, second floor meeting room, 3500 Ludington Street. There will be a catered meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by the meeting. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Newberry  
Oct. 19: The Unit II Newberry Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the third Friday of every month at 11 a.m. before the meal at the Zellars Village Inn, Newberry. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

Nov. 16: The Unit II Newberry Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the third Friday of every month at 11 a.m. before the meal at the Zellars Village Inn, Newberry. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Dec. 21: The Unit II Newberry Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the third Friday of every month at 11 a.m. before the meal at the Zellars Village Inn, Newberry. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Oct. 22: The Elderly Advisory Committee will meet at 12:30 p.m. at the Newberry Tribal Center. Representatives from all Elder Subcommittees attend on the fourth Monday for months March through October. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Naubinway  
Oct. 31: The Unit II Naubinway Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the last Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Naubinway Pavilion. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Nov. 28: The Unit II Naubinway Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the last Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Naubinway Pavilion. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.  
Dec. 26: The Unit II Naubinway Elderly Subcommittee will hold its monthly meeting the last Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Naubinway Pavilion. For questions, call the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

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# Where to find hope for a new way of living

BY KAREN SENKUS,  
CHIPPEWA COUNTY  
HEALTH DEPARTMENT

There is hope.  
Insanity. Doing the same thing over and over again while expecting different results. A simple word for the complicated disease of addiction.

To watch someone close to you who has an addiction continue to drink or drug regardless of past or possible consequences can, at best, be exasperating and, at worse, heart breaking. It just makes no sense to those who are not addicted. Why won't they stop?!

If a person has cancer all are sorry for him or her and no one is angry or hurt. Not so with the disease of addiction. The disease engulfs all whose lives touch the sufferer's. It can bring misunderstanding, fierce resentment, financial insecurity, and disgusted family, friends and employers. Why won't they stop?!

Insanity.  
There is a saying in the Twelve Step recovery community, one is too many, a thousand never

enough. Modern science has proven that the brain of an addict is different from those who are not afflicted. Whether the underlying cause comes from genetics or constant substance abuse, an alcoholic or addict's brain is permanently altered in such a way that once they pick up that first drink or drug, they can't stop. At least not on their own.

Addiction is a physical, emotional and spiritual disease. It is an allergy of the body and an obsession of the mind. The allergy is arrested simply by not partaking. Eliminating the obsession, however, is not so simple. But there is hope.

It involves one addict talking to another. Whether it be one-to-one, group therapy or a Twelve Step program, the sharing of a common problem has set many on the path to recovery, to a new way of living.

By identifying with others that suffer from addiction, and through seeking a common solution, the addict learns how to live life on life's terms. They learn how to get through the daily ups

and downs of life without picking up that first drink or drug. They become restored from the insanity of addiction and the obsession is removed.

It sounds so simple and it can be if the alcoholic or addict is ready. Once an addict honestly admits to him or herself that they are addicted, that their drug of choice has got them beat, they will become ready to do the hardest thing they have ever encountered - live life without alcohol or drugs.

The alcoholic or addict who seeks recovery will learn a new way of living. Recovery does not eliminate the challenges of daily living but rather teaches the alcoholic or addict how he or she can get through a day, an upset or a crisis without picking up a drink or drug. By practicing the principles of recovery each and every day, the alcoholic or drug addict will never have to drink or use again.

There is hope, too, for the family of the alcoholic or addict.

By seeking their own recovery, a family devastated by a loved

one's substance abuse will learn how to replace despair with hope.

Counseling centers' family programs, self help groups and Twelve Step fellowships such as Alanon and Adult Children of Alcoholics, provide families with an opportunity to share with others suffering similar situations while learning new ways to cope. The family member will come to believe that their loved

one's addiction is not their fault or problem to solve. Instead, they too will discover a new way of living that promises to replace upsets and inner chaos with peace and serenity.

Contact the Chippewa County Health Department at 253-3103 or the nearest health department in your area for more information regarding local addiction services.

## Tribal court upgrades courtroom technology

BY TRACI SWAN

For many years, Tribal Court proceedings were recorded by audio only. This past month, Tribal Court purchased the video component to its recording system so that now all proceedings will be video-recorded.

The system is the latest in state-of-the-art courtroom technology. Five strategically placed video cameras throughout the courtroom focus on the judicial bench, attorneys' tables, and witness stand. The last camera is connected to our video conferencing unit. This allows us to record hearings and arraignments conducted via video conference. This system records both audio and video and embeds the information directly into audio/video files on a PC hard drive and mirrored location. Every image displayed and every sound that is heard is captured into the record. Time and date indicators are burned into the recordings to preserve record authenticity.

An important benefit of the system is the ability to play back any portion of the court record during the proceedings. This affords the judge, magistrate, attorneys, or Appellate Court the opportunity to review any portion of the "record" at any time.

The new software also allows for complete integration with our case management system. The court can now automatically incorporate important case information into the digital recording for future reference. This will eliminate the need for double entries during the hearing and provides fast access to any and all cases on the docket during and after the recording session. It will be a simpler way for organizing the court proceedings and will allow fast and easy management and easy duplication for retrieval, archival or re-distribution.

Attorneys and others may now request a copy of any public proceeding on digital DVD.

## VA approves Indian headstone emblem

BY RICK SMITH

American Indian military veterans now have another option for emblems on government-furnished grave markers or headstones that best represents their spiritual beliefs. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) approved the new design on Aug. 6. The design, which many will recognize, is designated as Emblem of Belief 53 — Four Directions.

According to reports, the new emblem came as a result of efforts of the family of a deceased veteran working with a group of Navajo, Seneca and Apache veterans who submitted a request for approval of a new emblem.

Joe Morris Sr., a World War II Navajo code talker and recipient of a Congressional Silver Medal, passed on July 17, 2011. At the time of his passing, the VA had only one emblem approved to represent American Indians, Emblem of Belief 12 — Native American Church of North America. The Morris family did not see the emblem as either an accurate or appropriate representation of the beliefs of the family and their beloved decedent. After working with the VA and the group of veterans in developing and submitting the request for a new emblem, the new emblem was recently approved.

However, the VA lists 54 emblems of belief representing a wide array of creeds from atheism to Lutheranism to wiccanism. Among those is the Emblem of Belief 48 — Medicine Wheel, which is similar in appearance to the recently approved Four Directions design.

In any case, American Indian military veterans now have three options in choosing an emblem that reflects their American Indian ancestral mores.

According to the VA, no logos, symbols or other graphics are permitted on government-furnished headstones or markers other than the available VA emblems



**Image of the new Four Directions emblem approved by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs for headstones provided by the VA for American Indian military veterans.**

of belief, the Civil War Union Shield, the Civil War Confederate Southern Cross of Honor and the Medal of Honor insignias.

An emblem of belief for inscription on a government headstone or marker is an considered an emblem or symbol that represents the sincerely held belief of the decedent that constituted a religion or the functional equivalent of religion and was believed and accepted as true by that individual during his or her life. The belief represented by an emblem need not be associated with or endorsed by a group or organization.

Emblems of belief for inscription on government headstones and markers do not include social, cultural, ethnic, civic, fraternal, trade, commercial, political, professional or military emblems. VA will not inscribe any emblem on a headstone or marker that would have an adverse impact on the dignity and solemnity of cemeteries honoring those who served the nation.

More details about VA emblems of belief and images of approved emblems can be viewed online at [www.cem.va.gov/hmhmem.asp](http://www.cem.va.gov/hmhmem.asp).

Upon request, the VA furnishes a government headstone or marker free of charge to the applicant for the unmarked grave of any deceased eligible veteran in

any cemetery around the world, regardless of their date of death. Eligible veterans who died on or after Nov. 1, 1990, and whose grave is marked with a privately purchased headstone, the VA may also furnish a headstone or marker to supplement the graves or a medallion to be affixed to the privately purchased headstone.

Complete information on headstones, markers and medallions for U.S. military veterans can be found online at [www.cem.va.gov/cem/hm\\_hm.asp](http://www.cem.va.gov/cem/hm_hm.asp).



**Images courtesy of USDVA Above, the VA also offers this headstone emblem, named the Medicine Wheel, as an option for American Indian military veterans. Below, the emblem named Native American Church of North America for veterans of that specific denomination.**



## Tribal Court seeks artwork representing 7 Grandfathers

**PROPOSALS DUE  
OCTOBER 26**

The Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court seeks tribal member artists to create artwork representing the teachings of the Seven Grandfathers. In an effort to further reflect the importance of our Anishinaabe culture in our justice system, the Tribal Court has obtained funding through a grant from the Department of Justice, award number 2011-IC-BX-0008, to purchase tribal artwork for display in the George K. Nolan Judicial Building. These funds could be awarded to an individual artist, a consortium, or divided among additional artists depending on the proposals. The committee is looking for a wide variety of proposals covering all types of artwork. All artwork acquired through this project will be owned by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

A letter of interest, including the artist's concept, proposed pricing, and installation schedule (rough sketches including scale are also recommended), a copy of the artist's tribal card, and samples of artwork should be submitted to:

Purchasing Department, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, 2186 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, Attn: Tamara Leask.

Key criteria for the selection process will include art of the highest quality; artist's qualifications and background commensurate with the scale and cost of the proposal; and the maintainability of the piece or pieces. Finalists will be asked to interview with the selection committee to discuss their ideas and concepts for the artwork.

For more information, please contact Tribal Court at (906) 635-4963 or [tribalcourt@saulttribe.net](mailto:tribalcourt@saulttribe.net). The deadline to submit a proposal is 2 p.m. on Oct. 26, 2012.

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# State Supreme Court candidates respond to Native issues

Heading to the polls, voters already have their picks for their representatives in state and federal government, their school boards and county boards. But, all too often they have no idea who they are selecting for their state Supreme Courts. *Win Awenen Nisitotung* developed three questions on Native issues and sent them to the six candidates vying for three seats on the state's Supreme Court, receiving three responses: Supreme Court Justices Stephen Markman and Brian Zahra, and challenger Bridget McCormack, a University of Michigan law school professor.

In the Q&A below, each candidate has a turn responding first, second and third:

**Win Awenen Nisitotung:** *How would you minimize jurisdictional conflicts between state and tribal courts?*

**McCormack:** Preventing jurisdictional conflicts can be best achieved by ensuring that lawyers, judges, and elected officials are aware of the dual sovereignty relationship between the State and the Indian tribes, and that this relationship is respected. This includes educating state court judges about the parameters of tribal sovereignty. The recent commission headed by Justice Cavanagh regarding Michigan's compliance with the federal Indian Child Welfare Act offers an excellent example. Our Supreme Court, in its role as the administrator of the lower state courts, can take such affirmative steps in other areas of law to help prevent jurisdictional conflicts from arising. I would be interested in working closely with Justice Cavanagh on these issues and becoming a leader in this area.

**Markman:** The responsibility to define such distinct jurisdictions largely falls within the responsibility of federal, state, and Indian country legislative and executive bodies, and, as in other areas of the law, the Michigan Supreme Court would seek in its decisions to faithfully interpret relevant laws and agreements in order to give these full effect. It should be noted, however, that in my 13 years on the Supreme Court, we have not had the occasion to address such matters, and I presume this is explained by the fact that most such tensions are being addressed and resolved by federal, state and Indian country legislative and executive branch decision makers, with disputes being addressed and resolved by federal and Indian country judicial bodies. As United States Attorney, or federal prosecutor, in Michigan from 1989-93, I sought at the time to enforce federal laws within Indian country in a manner that involved cooperation and consultation with Indian country authorities.

**Zahra:** Jurisdictional conflicts that arise must be resolved on a

case-by-case basis. The Michigan Supreme Court has taken positive action to establish amicable relationships with Michigan tribes and their judicial tribunals. The Michigan Supreme Court's senior member, Justice Michael Cavanagh, has been the Court's tribal liaison for a number of years. Justice Cavanagh has periodically reported to the Court on issues relevant to tribal/court relations. I support the continued effort on the part of our Court to maintain a dialogue to address matters, like the reduction of jurisdictional conflicts between our court systems.

**Win Awenen Nisitotung:** *What is your definition of tribal sovereignty and how does tribal sovereignty fit in to your judicial philosophy?*

**Zahra:** Like the relationship between the several states and the federal government, this issue raises one of federalism-- the relationship between the federal government and its sovereign states, which must nonetheless be in conformity with federal law. The success of our government is in large part attributed to the ability of state, tribal and federal courts to not only coexist, but complement each other. Federal courts must guard against undue intrusion into state and tribal law by recognizing and respecting the right of the individual states and tribes to adjudicate and enforce its own laws in its own courts.

**McCormack:** I view tribal sovereignty, as applied in the context of the United States, as the inherent right of native peoples to govern themselves within the borders of, and yet apart from, our federal system. Implicit in this is the understanding that the Indian tribes are the ultimate authority in certain areas of tribal governance. Tribal sovereignty has its basis in the Constitution and Congress has not always been consistent about the nature of the relationship between sovereigns.

A state Supreme Court justice should be prepared to evaluate questions, which implicate sovereign relationships, and have respect for the governing authority of separate sovereigns.

**Markman:** Definitions of "tribal sovereignty" have been articulated by the United States Supreme Court and, pursuant to our hierarchical judicial system, and the United States Supreme Court's principal authority in such matters, it is the obligation of the Michigan Supreme Court to abide by and defer to the definitions and precedents articulated by that Court.

**Win Awenen Nisitotung:** *Do you feel that Senate Bill 1232, the "Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act," will help provide clarity and reinforcement of ICWA policies at the state level?*

**Markman:** There is great concern on the part of the Michigan

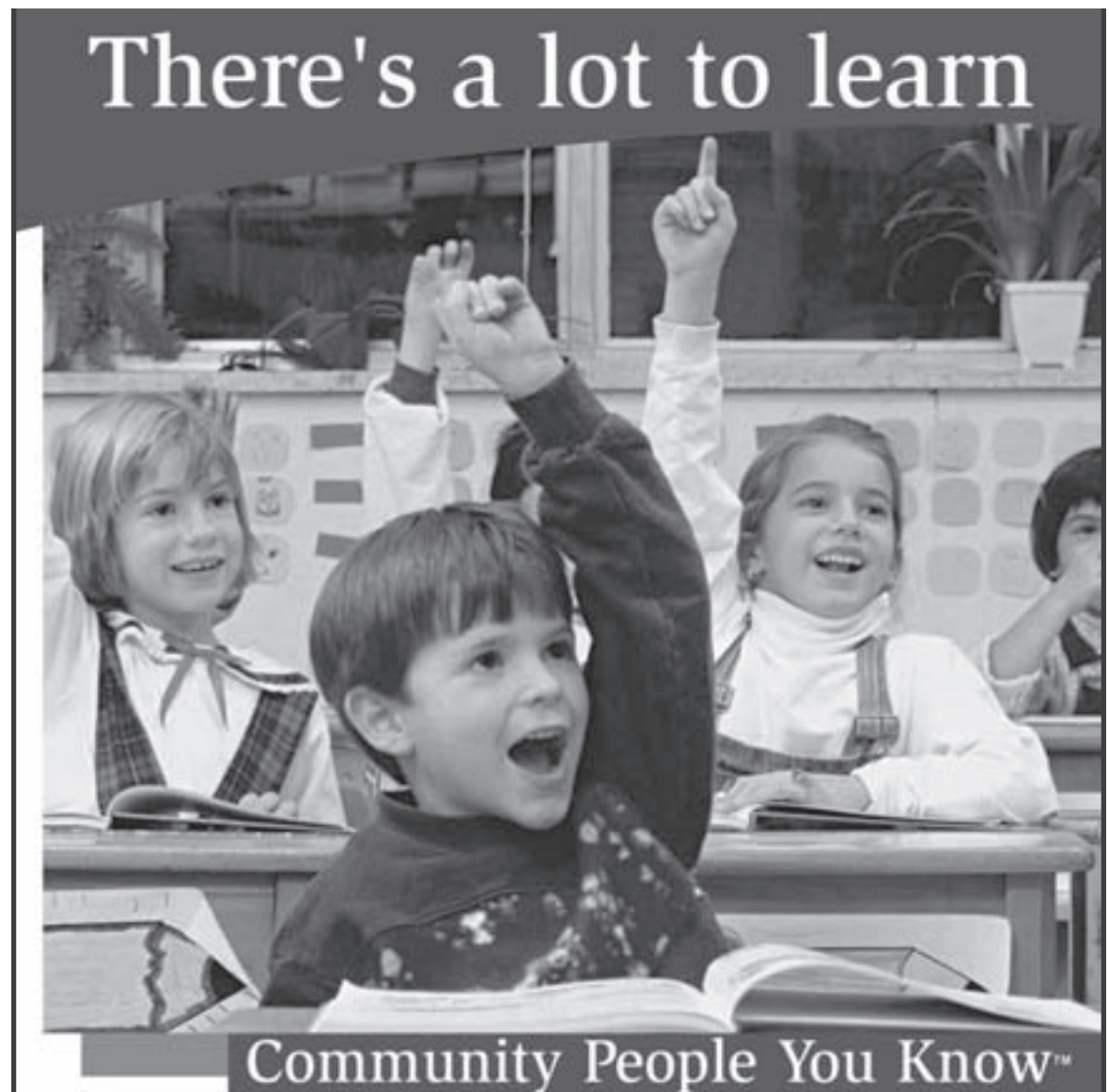
Supreme Court that Indian children be afforded effective protection from physical, emotional and sexual abuse as with all other children within Michigan, and we have striven not merely to afford such protections in a conscientious manner, but also to afford to Indian children the additional protections of the Indian Child Welfare Act. In *In re Morris* last term, the Court held that the protections of the ICWA are triggered by "sufficiently reliable information of virtually any criteria on which tribal membership might be based;" and in *In Re Gordon*, we further held that a parent of an Indian child cannot waive the rights and interests of the tribe in ICWA matters. These decisions both broadened, and rendered more consistent, the application of the ICWA, and, I believe, provided considerable additional guidance to lower state courts in their application of the ICWA. If the Michigan Indian Child Welfare Act is enacted in some form, we will do everything within the Court's authority to ensure that this statute is also interpreted in a manner that is fully protective of

the rights of Indian country children, parents, and tribes.

**Zahra:** As a sitting Supreme Court Justice, I refrain from commenting on pending or current legislation not before the Court. Such comments could be considered advisory opinions that are barred by our state constitution. This said, you should be aware of the recent decision of the Michigan Supreme Court in *In re Morris* and *In re Gordon*, 491 Mich 91 (2012), in which the Court interpreted the ICWA, and held: (1) that sufficiently reliable information of virtually any criteria on which tribal membership might be based suffices to trigger the notice requirement under ICWA; (2) a parent of an Indian child cannot waive the separate and independent ICWA rights of an Indian child's tribe and that the trial court must maintain a documentary record including, at minimum, (A) the original or a copy of each actual notice personally served or sent via registered mail pursuant to 25 USC 1912(a) and (B) the original or a legible copy of the return receipt or other proof of service showing delivery of the

notice; and (3) the proper remedy for an ICWA-notice violation is to conditionally reverse the state trial court and remand for resolution of the ICWA-notice issue. This case, in my view, makes it clear how child custody cases involving Native American children should be handled in Michigan.

**McCormack:** As a candidate for judicial office, I cannot comment on any legal questions associated with pending legislation since Supreme Court plays a central role in interpreting laws passed by the legislature, and public speaking on this specific issue would compromise my ability to decide a case involving those laws. As a personal matter, however, I do believe that the Michigan legislature can help strengthen compliance with and awareness of the federal ICWA through legislative action. This is critical to promoting and protecting the health and welfare of Indian children. I have a close relationship with Judge Timothy Connors, of the Washtenaw Circuit Court, who has been a tremendous role model for me in ICWA.



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# Sault Tribe citizen interviews President Obama



**Sault Tribe citizen Rob Capriccioso** made history conducting an interview with President Barack Obama this month on Indian-focused issues. Capriccioso is the Washington, D.C., bureau chief for Indian Country Today Media Network.

Capriccioso has worked for Indian Country Today for almost five years, and he has been pushing for an interview with Obama since the president's first campaign in 2008. He has previously interviewed members of Congress, top administration officials, tribal leaders and the president of Bolivia.

"It was a long time coming, but we finally got President Obama to answer some questions that are important to Native Americans today," Capriccioso said. "The president discussed his relationship with tribes and Indians, his support for Indian-focused legislation like the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, and he promised to keep taking action on behalf of Indian country. It was gratifying to report his words."

Capriccioso, who lives in the Washington metro area with his wife, Katrina, and their two kids, Sault Tribe citizens Bella and Loretto, said that Native American issues deserve heightened attention.

"Native journalists nationwide work very hard to report on issues that impact our communities, and it's a good feeling when we can get people in power to talk to us. It helps everyone learn just a little bit more about one another, and hopefully benefits American Indians in the long run."

Below is a reprint of a portion of Capriccioso's interview with Obama:

Claiming that his record shows he is more committed than his opponent in the coming presidential election to serving Indian country, President Barack Obama answered questions about some of the major issues facing American Indian citizens and tribes today.

"(With me) as president, you have a voice in the White House," he tells Indian Country Today Media Network. "We're moving forward, but there's more work to do. But we are seeing a turning point in the relationship between our nations, and ultimately our relationship is not just a matter of legislation or a matter of policy. It's a matter of whether we're going to live up to our basic values."

Not only is this the first time

President Obama has done a Q&A with the American Indian press, it is believed to be the first time a sitting president of the United States has conducted such an interview with Native media. It's a first that aligns with the image Obama has worked hard to cultivate in Indian country. Adopted as "One Who Helps People Throughout the Land" when he was campaigning for president on the Crow Nation reservation in May 2008, he has since hired several Native American staffers, held three annual tribal summits and taken administrative action on multiple long-standing trust and water settlements. He has also supported and signed pro-tribal legislation, including the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, the Tribal Law and Order Act and the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership (HEARTH) Act. His record has pleased many tribal leaders; some hail him as one of the best presidents for Indian country in recent history.

This landmark Q&A—conducted via e-mail—is the first installment in a series of interviews ICTMN will be conducting this election season with federal, state, local and tribal officials.

**Q: Why should American Indians vote for you this time around? What has been your proudest accomplishment to date on behalf of American Indians?**

A: (With me) as president, you have a voice in the White House. Since the earliest days of my administration, we've been working hand in hand between our nations to keep that promise through a comprehensive strategy to help meet the challenges facing Native American communities.

That starts with improving the economy and creating jobs. One of the keys to unlocking economic growth on reservations is investments in roads and high-speed rail and high-speed Internet and the infrastructure that will better connect your communities to the broader economy and draw capital and create jobs on tribal lands. That's why my administration has boosted infrastructure investments through the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Reservation Roads Program, and we've offered loans to reach reservations with broadband.

We've also made critical investments into pressing needs like renovating schools and devoting resources to job training, especially for young people in Indian Country. And we're working with you to restore tribal homelands in order to help you develop your economies. When it comes to creating jobs, closing the opportunity gap and leaving something better for our future generations, few areas hold as much promise as clean energy. Native American lands hold great potential wind and solar energy resources, and the potential for solar energy is even higher. My administration will continue to invest in our clean energy future to strengthen our economies and our energy security.

But if we're going to bring real and lasting change for our nations, one thing we need to do

is make health care more accessible and affordable. We know that as long as Native Americans die of illnesses like tuberculosis, alcoholism, diabetes, pneumonia and influenza at far higher rates than the rest of the population, then we're going to have to do more to address disparities in health care delivery. The health reform law that I signed, now called Obamacare—which I like because I do care—includes the permanent reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which authorizes new programs and services within the Indian Health Service, helping more folks get the care they need.

So we're making progress. We're moving forward, but there's more work to do. But we are seeing a turning point in the relationship between our nations, and ultimately our relationship is not just a matter of legislation or a matter of policy. It's a matter of whether we're going to live up to our basic values. It's a matter of upholding an ideal that has always defined who we are as Americans: e pluribus unum—out of many, one. And I'm confident that if we continue to work together, that we will live up to this simple motto and we will achieve a brighter future for the first Americans and for all Americans.

**Q: What does tribal sovereignty mean to you? What is the best way to resolve conflicts between tribal nations and the federal and state governments?**

A: I believe that treaty commitments are paramount law, and I will strive to fulfill these commitments as president. This means providing quality, affordable health care and improving education quality on reservations across America.

As promised, my administration has hosted annual meetings with Native American leaders to ensure that tribal nations have an opportunity to work directly with cabinet members and agency officials to craft a policy agenda together. I also issued an executive order instructing agencies to develop plans for consultation and coordination with tribal governments, which has resulted in historic levels of engagement. Additionally, I have hired Native American personnel at high levels throughout the administration to advise on policies that directly impact tribal communities. Through meaningful dialogue, together we can move toward partnerships in addressing the needs of Indian Country.

**Q: Do you believe in a clean Carcieri fix? If so, what do you think it would look like? If not, why not?**

A: The Supreme Court's recent ruling in Carcieri v. Salazar held that under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 the federal government cannot take land into trust for Indian tribes not under federal jurisdiction in 1934. To address the United States Supreme Court's decision, for the past two years my budgets have included language reaffirming the Secretary of the Interior's authority to take land into trust for all federally recognized Indian tribes.

**Q: How have you tried to balance federal budgetary**

**spending with the trust responsibility and obligations to tribes called for in the Constitution and treaties? How do you feel about the Bureau of Indian Affairs? Indian Health Service? Do you see a need for reform?**

A: I believe that strong and stable tribal governments built through self-determination are the key to overcoming great challenges. As such, my administration is engaged in a wide range of activities to support tribal self-determination, and my proposed budget increases funding to compensate tribes for the work they perform in managing federal programs under self-determination contracts and self-governance compacts.

Combating crime in Indian Country requires cooperative efforts by federal, state and tribal entities. In July 2010, I signed the Tribal Law and Order Act, which addresses many of the public safety challenges that confront tribal communities, including increased funding to operate newly constructed detention centers. My budget also proposes increased funds for tribal courts and additional law enforcement officers, coordinates community policing programs to reduce crime and protects natural resources in Indian Country.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service are critical to removing obstacles to build and promote tribal self-determination and strong and stable government institutions, while promoting job creation and access to health care. Through Indian affairs programs, tribes can improve the quality of life for their members, and support education, job training and employment opportunities. My proposed budget maintains this commitment by providing \$2.5 billion in total budget authority for such services. To build on our commitment to increase access to health care for American Indians and Alaska Natives, my budget provides \$4.4 billion for the Indian Health Service, in order to make key investments in clinical services and staffing, tribally operated health programs and health facilities construction.

**Q: Do you understand tribal and Indian concerns relating to the Keystone XL pipeline?**

A: My administration is conducting a thorough and rigorous review of the Keystone pipeline. We are weighing many critical issues involved in the decision, including impacts to public health, potential threats to water supplies, climate change and impacts on cultural and natural resources, especially across large areas of Indian Country and water sources along the pipeline's route. These issues, along with American energy security and economic factors, have been and will continue to be closely considered in the administration's future decisions. On the other hand, my opponent, Governor Romney, has said he would approve the pipeline on day one of his term, regardless of concerns like impacts on communities and the environment.

**Q: Do you see a need for more federal economic development opportunities for tribes and reservations to resolve the problem of poverty on reserva-**

**tions?**

A: While we have made progress in restarting job creation—with 4.6 million private sector jobs created over the past 30 months (as of press time)—I believe much more needs to be done to put Americans back to work. While the current economic crisis has challenged all Americans, we know this to be especially true for Indian Country, where some reservations face unemployment rates of up to 80 percent. Though the economic challenges of Indian Country are significant, I am committed to building strong, prosperous Native American economies.

My proposed budget includes funding and proposals to support business growth and access to credit in Indian Country, to continue to expand job creation opportunities, to give all children in Indian Country a fair shot at success by improving K-12 education and expanding access to college, and to assist with winter fuel costs. I have also proposed a 10 percent increase from 2012 enacted levels in grants to Indian tribes, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians and tribal non-profit organizations that provide employment and training services to unemployed and low-income Native Americans, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians. The additional funding in the coming year will allow grantees to serve more participants and expand their emphasis on helping individuals advance along career pathways.

**Q: Why do you think there is/was so much resistance to the Violence Against Women Act? Do you think tribal courts should have authority to make judgments against nontribal citizens who commit crimes on tribal territory as a means to lower crime rates?**

Native American women suffer from domestic violence at some of the highest rates in the United States. And we know that there are countless more victims of domestic violence and sexual assault whose stories may never be told. Some of the abusers of Native American women go unpunished because tribes cannot prosecute non-Indians, even if the offender lives on the reservation and is married to a tribal member.

Romney refuses to stand up to the Republicans in Congress who blocked these crucial improvements to the Violence Against Women Act. I believe that Congress should close the jurisdictional gap in the criminal justice system and provide tribes with the authority to hold offenders accountable for their crimes against Native American women, regardless of the perpetrator's race. The reauthorization addresses these issues that made it difficult to prosecute abusers on tribal lands in some cases. Tribal courts' jurisdiction over domestic violence will be recognized, and tribal courts authority to enforce protection orders will be clarified. Congress should act on this today. VAWA provides helpful resources to the tribes, but without addressing the jurisdictional gap, those tools only go so far.

(Reprinted with permission: Read more at <http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com>.)



# EMU assumes Google languages project

By RICK SMITH

Google, the Internet search engine, recently applied its technology in a global online project to strengthen thousands of languages in danger of disappearing. As planned, the Eastern Michigan University Institute for Language Information and Technology assumed technical oversight of the project on Sept. 21 with the First Peoples' Cultural Council directing outreach and publicity while the project will continue to be administered by the Alliance Advisory Committee, a group of eminent linguists, language advocates and language community organizations.

"Language is the means by which we pass on our ideas, knowledge and identity from one generation to the next," explains an introductory video posted on the Endangered Languages Project website, found at [www.endangeredlanguages.com](http://www.endangeredlanguages.com). "But, of the 7,000 languages currently spoken, it is expected that 50 percent will not survive the turn of the century. And when the last fluent speaker of a language dies, we lose the centuries of knowledge and traditions that have helped shape who we are."

One of the endangered languages already occupying pages for development on the site is Southwestern Ojibwe.

The video further relates that language loss is associated with oppression and injustice around the world and the preservation of endangered languages means the restoration of cultural identities, values and heritages of the afflicted. Google is working with a multitude of trusted organizations in attempting to help stop endangered languages from disappearing. Many of those organizations are found under an umbrella organization called the Alliance for Linguistic Diversity.

Google indicates that its technology is at the service of organizations and individuals worldwide through the project to confront language endangerment by documenting, preserving and teaching those languages. The technology provides or facilitates storage, collaboration and connectivity along with YouTube capability. People can find information about endangered languages and share it with others, especially younger



Photo courtesy of [linuistlist.org](http://linuistlist.org)

**The Endangered Languages Project Catalogue (ELCat) research team, from left, Lwin Moe, programmer; Kristen Kunkinson, researcher; Anna Belew, team leader; and Jacob Collard, researcher. Missing from photo are project directors Anthony Aristar and Helen Aristar-Dry.**

generations. The website will allow users to have access to the most current and comprehensive information on endangered languages, including samples provided by participants; users may also have an active role in putting their languages online by submitting information or samples in text, audio or video formats. Further, users can share in the study of endangered languages by joining Google groups focused on specific languages.

Anna Belew, EMU assistant project manager, indicated the website is free and open to anyone interested in endangered languages, "The project isn't just for designed for academics, but for

communities who want to protect and promote their languages as well as for anyone interested in learning about the world's endangered languages." She said one of the project's major goals is to provide information and tools for people who are interested in documenting and revitalizing languages; the project's Knowledge Sharing section has information on topics like how to create language teaching materials, what makes a good dictionary or how to plan a language documentation project. "For example," she noted, "if someone from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe wanted to record a video guide to Anishinaabemowin words related

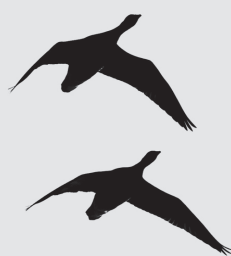
to food and cooking, they could find information on what kind of video recorders are best for language recordings, tips for safe storage of their video files and easy ways to publish their guide online. On the knowledge sharing forums, users can discuss their own experiences and exchange ideas, best practices, and resources — for example, someone trying to record their first word list could get advice from people who have recorded hundreds of word lists. Users can also share videos in their language, including language-learning videos and share

documents like dictionaries or folk tales."

Belew said the project includes information on language endangerment in general: why it happens, why it matters, and what can be done about it. "There are also some really great personal statement videos from linguists, language teachers and language advocates explaining why language loss matters to them and how they've worked to stop it.

She added that the site was designed in the hope that it would be easy to learn about a language, easy to add information or samples of a language and easy to connect with other people interested in preserving endangered languages. "In short," she said, "anybody with an interest in endangered languages can learn from and contribute to the project. And we're always looking for feedback about how to make the site more useful. If anyone has ideas for ways we could improve the Endangered Languages Project, we'd love to hear from them! Just send email to [elcat@linuistlist.org](mailto:elcat@linuistlist.org)."

Languages are enrolled in the project in one of two ways, Belew explained. Most languages on the site were included in the research team's initial list of endangered languages and some were suggested — if users believe an endangered language is missing from the listing, they can suggest it for inclusion and submit any information they have about the language. Any suggested language must fit the project's endangerment criteria and be approved by the project's research team."



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# Everything you wanted to know about Contract Health

## Mission Statement

The Contract Health Service (CHS) mission is to provide appropriate access for Sault Tribe members to achieve high quality care beyond what is available through tribal health facilities. CHS will work within financial resources and will clearly communicate its program and services to tribal members.

### What is Contract Health Service (CHS)?

It is a federally funded program to financially assist eligible patients with specialized care that is not directly available from the tribal health center. Assistance depends on eligibility, medical priorities, alternate resources and availability of funding.

CHS benefits are established by federal law and regulations and funded through appropriations from the federal government. Tribes establish priorities of coverage based on funding appropriated as to what services they are able to provide to members. Members should not rely solely on CHS for medical coverage. If members are eligible for an alternate resource such as Medicare, Medicaid, MI Child/Healthy Kids, VA, employee-sponsored insurance, etc., they should apply for those programs. CHS is the payor of last resort. CHS may be used as a secondary payor should there be a primary insurance on a "covered service" authorized by CHS to pay.

### Who is eligible?

Sault Tribe members residing in the CHS delivery area as established by the federal government. Non-Indian dependents are covered for prenatal and postnatal care and delivery and for communicable disease. Members must apply for CHS and be a permanent resident of the delivery area. The area consists of Mackinac, Chippewa, Luce, Schoolcraft, Delta, Alger and Marquette counties.

### CHS eligibility requirements

Sault Tribe members in the delivery area must have a completed application on file and be approved for CHS prior to CHS paying for a service deemed covered outside of our tribal clinics. The applicant must provide proof of income, such as a current 1040 tax return and proof of residency. Proof of residency would include a copy of one's driver's license, utility receipts, voter registration, etc. Applicants must be

enrolled in CHS 90 days prior to CHS assisting with an in-patient stay. Proof of income is used to determine eligibility for alternate resources. If members are eligible for an alternate resource, such as Medicaid, Medicare, health insurance provided by employer, VA, etc., they need to apply for those programs. CHS is the payor of last resort. CHS may be used as a secondary payor for any copays or deductibles on a "covered" service authorized to pay by CHS.

### CHS eligible tribal members' responsibilities

It is the member's (patient's) responsibility to request assistance (prior authorization/voucher) by contacting the CHS office directly for all services not provided at our tribal clinics in which they are requesting assistance. CHS staff will determine the member's eligibility for the program at this time. The request for assistance should be done prior to the service being provided unless it is an emergency visit that occurs after hours or on the weekend when tribal clinics are closed; then, members must report this to CHS within 72 hours of the event. An emergency room report or physician notes will be reviewed to determine priority to determine if service will be covered by CHS.

### Staff and contact information

CHS phone (800) 922-0582 or 632-5220.

CHS office is on the third floor of Sault Tribe Health and Human Services, 2864 Ashmun Street, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Mailing address is CHS, P.O. Box 1628, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Staff: Tina Fox, CHS utilization manager; Carol Pages-Montie, CHS certifier; Kim Menard, patient care coordinator (A-G); Nicole McKechnie, patient care coordinator (H-N); Claudette Crook, patient care coordinator (O-Z) and Barbara Dietz, elder worker.

## Sault Tribe Diabetes Day 2012

Diabetes Day is an interactive health fair with information on all things related to diabetes. Visit each booth to get the latest scoop on diabetes, nutrition and exercise. You can even stop in and get a flu vaccine as well as glucose, blood pressure and cholesterol screenings.

You can also participate in food and exercise demonstrations. Watch the dietitians cook up healthy recipes at 10 a.m., 12 p.m. and 2 p.m.

At 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., and 1:30 p.m., watch fitness expert Kristy Cleary demonstrate fun and effective exercises.

Make sure to enter at the registration table for our grand prize drawing: a top-of-the-line crock pot with a Fix it and Forget it Cookbook. Included are all the ingredients for making a delicious Beef Barley Soup!

We hope you can join us!

Where: Sault Tribe Health Center Auditorium, Sault Ste. Marie, MI

When: Thursday, Oct. 18, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

There will be great info, tasty refreshments, and fun giveaways - don't miss it!!!

*The More We Learn, The Better We Live.*



Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton

CHS staff, left to right, Niki McKechnie, Claudette Crook, Tina Fox, Kim Menard, Carol Pages-Montie and Barbara Dietz.

## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic violence is behavior used by one person in an intimate relationship to control the other person. Partners in a relationship can be married, engaged, dating, heterosexual, gay or lesbian, living separately or living together.

Examples of abuse:

- Name-calling, insults or put-downs
  - Keeping partners from contacting their family or friends
  - Withholding money
  - Stopping partners from getting or keeping jobs.
  - Actual or threatened physical harm
  - Sexual assault.
  - Stalking
  - Intimidation
- Statistics:
- Nationally, one in every four women will be beaten or raped during their lifetime
  - In Indian Country, two out of every five women will be a victim of domestic violence.
  - Nationally, one in six women

and one in 33 men have experienced an attempted or completed rape.

- In Indian Country, one in three women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime.
- Three women are killed each day in America by a current or former intimate partner.
- Roughly, 2.3 million people each year in the United States are raped or physically assaulted by a former or current partner in their lifetime.
- Women are at an increased risk of harm shortly after separation from an abusive partner.
- Children are especially vulnerable as both witnesses and victims to domestic violence. We must intercede to break the cycle and provide services to help eliminate domestic violence.
- Approximately, 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year.
- Men exposed to domestic violence, sexual assault and

physical abuse were almost four times more likely to be abusive in adulthood.

ANYONE CAN BE A VICTIM! Victims can be of any age, sex, race, culture, religion, education, employment or marital status. Although both men and women can be abused, most victims are women. Children in homes where there is domestic violence are more likely to be abused or neglected. Most children in these homes know about the violence. Even if a child is not physically harmed, they may have emotional and behavior problems.

There is help! The Advocacy Resource Center is a direct service program that provides assistance to victims of crime. If you or someone you know need assistance please call the ARC at 632-1808 or toll free (877) 639-7820.

## ITCMI awarded \$179,959 obesity grant

To address the growing obesity epidemic in Michigan, the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) released the Michigan Health and Wellness 4 x 4 Plan in June. In taking one of the first steps outlined the plan, MDCH selected six coalitions to begin implementing this initiative across the state.

"These grants will assist community coalitions in implementing strategies that impact weight status, proper nutrition, physical activity and ultimately the success of our communities," said MDCH Director James K. Haveman in a MDCH release. "I commend these coalitions for their dedication to this effort and look forward to watching their progress as we work together to reduce obesity in Michigan."

Through a collaborative effort and local partnerships, the 4 x 4 Plan will be implemented by local coalitions in their communi-

ties, according to the release. The coalitions' focus is to improve health by creating healthier communities, expanding prevention activities and empowering people to make healthy choices and ultimately adopt health as a core personal value.

MDCH issued \$900,000 in grant funding to six awardees in the state, including Inter Tribal Council of Michigan — also the only awardee in the Upper Peninsula, according to the release. The grantees are charged with creating environments that increase availability of healthy foods and access to physical activity opportunities in communities, as well as implement a multi-component community-wide campaign.

ITC, serving 12 tribes in Michigan, received \$179,959, according to the release. The council's strategies include conducting a statewide tribal 4 x 4

campaign, adopting health system guidelines to screen adults for overweight and obesity and providing education and referrals, improving healthy work environments and increasing the number of tribal food venues that offer healthier food options.

Noel L. Pingatore is the manager of ITCMI's Health Education and Chronic Disease Department. She said that the campaign targets individual body mass index (BMI), glucose, cholesterol and blood pressure.

Other ITCMI activities that will coincide with the campaign, according to Pingatore, include increasing access to fruits and vegetables, emphasizing traditional foods in tribal kitchens and food venues, conducting the "designing a healthy work environment" assessment tool, making improvements to the work site and improving clinical screening practices.



# More Than Frybread more than funny

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON

Sitting down to a showing of *More than Frybread*, Sept. 15 at the Niigaanagizhik Building, I didn't know what to expect. What I got was a pleasantly amusing mock-documentary that made fun of itself and everyone else. The "finalists" at the Arizona World Wide Frybread Association were a mixed bag of big egos, humility and lunacy as they vied for the frybread state championship.

The all-Native cast ranged from unknowns such as Jennifer Joseph to well-known actors Tatanka Means and Camille Nighthorse. One of my favorite characters was the fussy "Donothon Littlehair," president of the WWFA local chapter — you'll just have to see it. Then there was straight-faced news reporter "Tracey Lightening" covering the contest for the local TV station.

I can't tell how Travis Holt Hamilton feels about frybread. He ate some at the showing, as well as a piece of blueberry galette made by tribal Chairperson Aaron Payment. He said his idea to make a mock-doc about frybread came upon him when he realized how popular frybread was all over Indian Country. And there is some real frybread lore here

— everyone was using Bluebird flour, "THE" frybread flour of the southwest. Everyone had their own recipes and techniques, mostly passed down from grandma.

Interspersed throughout the story were interviews with health professionals, as well as sociologists and other "Indian experts" who all queued up to have their say. I feel I know them all.

When the contest boils down to the final few, someone just has to cross the line, with ensuing chaos. The moral of the story: everything is okay in moderation — even frybread (As one judge put it, a tasty treat best used sparingly). Just don't get carried away.

As usual in these documentaries, the director followed up on the fate of the frybread finalists. If you want to know what happened to them, you'll have to buy the DVD when it comes out in December.

Friend the Frybread Movie on Facebook and you can enter contests to win Frybread Security t-shirts and aprons. Behind the scenes on YouTube is as fun as the movie and you can also check out Hamilton's previous Native films, *Turquoise Rose* (2007), *Blue Gap Boy'z* (2008) and *Pete & Cleo* (2010).



Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton

**More Than Frybread** writer and director Travis Holt Hamilton, designed Frybread Queen Desiree Clewley and Tribal Chairperson Aaron Payment (L-R) stop for a photo at the showing of "the frybread movie," which will be out on DVD this December.

## Panna cotta pie, chocolate and wheat free

FROM THE KITCHEN OF BOB FLOWERS

Everyone loves a chocolate cream pie. Unfortunately, there are some who can't eat products that contain wheat, and so miss out on delectable pastries and deserts. This recipe solves that problem and the crust can be used for any cream pie or other filling. The filling can be modified as well, to provide yummy cream-pie flavors.

Pie crust:

- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 large egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 cup sugar

Mix all ingredients together and press the resultant dough evenly into your pie pan. Chill in the refrigerator for 10 minutes. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes. Remove and let cool.

Filling:

- 2 cups milk
- 2 envelopes Knox brand unflavored gelatin
- 1 dash of salt
- 6 tbs. instant chocolate milk powder of your choice

Add the instant chocolate milk powder to the milk and stir until well mixed. In a small saucepan, bring the chocolate milk to a boil and add the gelatin powder. Stir until dissolved. Stir in the salt.

Pour the chocolate milk into the pie shell and chill in the refrigerator until set. Serve with whipped cream.

Note: You can blend fruit and milk together with the gelatin to make a fruity panna cotta filling as well; bananas will give you a banana custard texture or you could add brown sugar and butter to the hot milk to make a butterscotch filling. Adding vanilla and sugar to the milk gives you the traditional panna cotta filling and it will be great in your peanut butter pie crust.

Be creative, invent your own panna cotta fillings. Anything that works with a peanut butter cookie will work with this pie.

## Soo Firehawks 2012-2013 Schedule

	White Home	Black Away	
09/15/12 7:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Michigan Ice Dogs	Big Bear I.A.
09/16/12 1:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Michigan Ice Dogs	Big Bear I.A.
09/21/12 7:30 p.m.	Great Lakes Lightning	Soo Firehawks	GLSC - Superior
09/22/12 3:45 p.m.	Great Lakes Lightning	Soo Firehawks	GLSC - Superior
09/29/12 7:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Great Lakes Lightning	Big Bear I.A.
09/30/12 12:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Great Lakes Lightning	Big Bear I.A.
10/05/12 7:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Bloomington Blaze	Big Bear I.A.
10/06/12 8:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Bloomington Blaze	Big Bear I.A.
10/07/12 1:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Bloomington Blaze	Big Bear I.A.
10/13/12 7:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Hartland Hounds	Big Bear I.A.
10/14/12 1:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Hartland Hounds	Big Bear I.A.
10/19/12 8:00 p.m.	Rhineland Street Cats	Soo Firehawks	Rhineland
10/20/12 7:30 p.m.	Rhineland Street Cats	Soo Firehawks	Rhineland
10/21/12 12:30 p.m.	Rhineland Street Cats	Soo Firehawks	Rhineland
10/26/12 9:00 p.m.	Tennyson Chevrolet	Soo Firehawks	Tennyson Arena
10/27/12 7:00 p.m.	Dayton Aeros	Soo Firehawks	Monroe MSC
10/28/12 1:00 p.m.	Tennyson Chevrolet	Soo Firehawks	Tennyson Arena
11/03/12 8:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Dayton Aeros	Big Bear I.A.
11/04/12 1:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Dayton Aeros	Big Bear I.A.
11/10/12 8:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Holland River Bandits	Big Bear I.A.
11/11/12 1:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Holland River Bandits	Big Bear I.A.
11/23/12 3:00 p.m.	Bloomington Blaze	Soo Firehawks	U.S. Cellular
11/25/12 11:00 AM	Bloomington Blaze	Soo Firehawks	U.S. Cellular
11/30/12 7:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Bloomington Blaze	Big Bear I.A.
12/01/12 8:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Bloomington Blaze	Big Bear I.A.
12/02/12 1:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Bloomington Blaze	Big Bear I.A.
12/15/12 8:00 p.m.	Hartland Hounds	Soo Firehawks	Hartland Rink 1
12/16/12 12:00 AM	Hartland Hounds	Soo Firehawks	Hartland Rink 1
12/21/12 7:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	NWO Grrrowl	Big Bear I.A.
12/22/12 7:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	NWO Grrrowl	Big Bear I.A.
01/04/13 9:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Rhineland Street Cats	Big Bear I.A.
01/05/13 7:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Rhineland Street Cats	Big Bear I.A.
01/06/13 2:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Rhineland Street Cats	Big Bear I.A.
01/12/13 12:00 a.m.	NWO Grrrowl	Soo Firehawks	Team Toledo
01/13/13 12:00 a.m.	NWO Grrrowl	Soo Firehawks	Team Toledo
01/18/13	League Showcase TBA		
01/25/13 5:30 p.m.	Holland River Bandits	Soo Firehawks	Edge Ice Arena
01/26/13 7:30 p.m.	Holland River Bandits	Soo Firehawks	Edge Ice Arena
01/27/13 12:00 a.m.	Holland River Bandits	Soo Firehawks	Edge Ice Arena
02/16/13 7:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Tennyson Chevrolet	LittleBear East
02/17/13 1:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Tennyson Chevrolet	LittleBear East
03/01/13 7:00 p.m.	Dayton Aeros	Soo Firehawks	Monroe MSC
03/02/13 7:00 p.m.	Michigan Ice Dogs	Soo Firehawks	Wayne Ice Arena
03/03/13 1:00 p.m.	Michigan Ice Dogs	Soo Firehawks	Wayne Ice Arena
03/08/13 8:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Holland River Bandits	Big Bear I.A.
03/09/13 7:30 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Holland River Bandits	Big Bear I.A.
03/10/13 1:00 p.m.	Soo Firehawks	Holland River Bandits	Big Bear I.A.

## Family Day: A day to eat dinner with your children

SUBMITTED BY SAULT TRIBE COMMUNITY HEALTH STAFF

"Family Day: A Day to Eat Dinner with Your Children" is a national movement to inform parents that the parental engagement fostered during frequent family dinners is an effective tool to help keep America's kids substance free.

Family Day reminds parents that "Dinner Makes a Difference." This year, Family Day occurred on Sept. 24, but having dinner as a family will have great benefits any day of the year.

Family meals are the perfect time to talk to your kids and to listen to what's on their mind. The more often kids eat dinner with their families, the less likely they are to use tobacco, drink or use drugs.

Here's how to get your children involved in your family dinners:

- Assign duties for them (prepare salad, vegetables, fruit).
  - Ask them to set the table.
  - Ask them to help with the cleaning.
  - Ask them to help plan a meal or give each family member the choice to have a favorite meal.
- Seven secrets to successful family dinners:
- Start the pattern of family dinners when children are young.
  - Encourage your children to create helpful menu ideas and participate in meal preparation.
  - Turn off the TV and let your answering machine answer calls during dinnertime.
  - Talk about what happened in everyone's day: school, work, extracurricular activities or current events.

- Establish a routine to start and end each meal; light candles or tell a story.

- After dinner, take a walk or bike ride or play a board game to encourage the family to continue the conversation.

- Keep conversations positive and make sure everyone gets a chance to speak.

Keeping your children healthy is an important aspect of parenting. Having healthful family meals is a great way to promote good nutrition for your children. Additionally, having a smoke-free home will protect your children from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke. If you do smoke, just moving outside and making your home and car smoke-free can greatly reduce the health effects of secondhand and thirdhand smoke on your child. Remember, a smoke-free home is a healthful home for you and your family.

For more information on healthful family meal ideas or for information and resources on how to quit using commercial tobacco, please call Sault Tribe Community Health at (906) 632-5210 or visit the website [www.healthysaulttribe.com](http://www.healthysaulttribe.com).



**Making dinner at home together is so much more fun than going out, like preparing this fiddleheads and fish plate. Plus kids learn valuable kitchen skills.**





**YOUNG ENVIRONMENTALISTS** — The Environmental and Cultural departments held their second Young Environmentalist Camp on Aug. 14-15 at the Mary Murray Culture Camp on Sugar Island. This year's campers were Austin Pifer, Nathan Benoit, Andrew Benoit, Addie Berg, Claire Leighton, Taylor Causley, Samantha Grossett, Jocelyn Dystrom, Joselyn Payment,

Ashley Hackworth, John Morgan, Mason Moorehouse and Anthony King. Among many other games and activities there were lessons on native and invasive species, braiding sweet grass and swimming. A special thanks to Hunter Captain for all the yummy food and I am sure none of the kids will forget the night time snack which consisted of three varieties of crickets and Jolly Rancher

ants. Our very own Jackie Minton even tried a sour cream and onion cricket. Austin Pifer (below) enjoyed his cheese and bacon cricket.



Tribal member Jerry Reno and his 415-pound bear from Drummond.

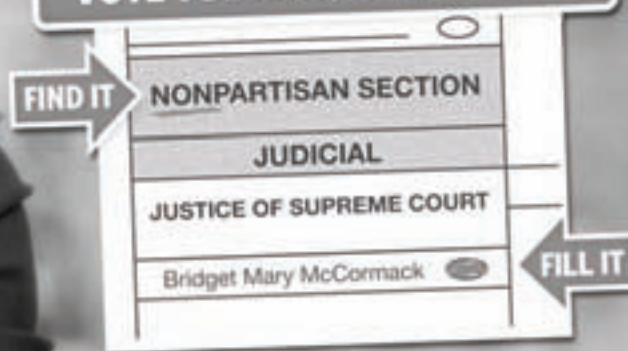
**SUBMITTED BY JODY BOND**  
Thank you, Creator, for allowing our brother bear to give his life for our family. My father, Jerry Reno, is a proud Sault Tribe man. Jerry received a bear tag through the tribe's bear tag lottery. On his first day out, Jerry shot and took a 415-pound, 6-foot, 8-inch male black bear on Drummond Island early Saturday morning on Sept. 22. The 400-plus black bear not only will

be a great source of protein for his own tribal family, but Jerry has donated a large amount to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians elders' program. Jerry has also donated all of the fat for medicinal purposes to the tribe's Traditional Medicine Program.  
All of the bear will be used and nothing will be wasted, as is the way of great hunters before him.



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**TOURNAMENTS**

**\$15,000 Spin to Win**  
Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie  
October 19-21, 2012

**Roll 'em High Craps**

\$300 seeded per each registered player  
Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie  
October 26-28, 2012

**PINKTASTIC TOURNAMENTS**

**Breast Cancer Awareness!**

For every registered tournament player at our Video Poker and Spin to Win Tournaments, we will donate \$5 to the local Health Department to help needy women receive a breast exam.

- Free pink shirt for Tournament players
- Awareness booths & drawings at each site on selected Saturdays

Random drawings 12-6 p.m. for Breast Cancer Awareness promotional items  
Saturday, October 13 at Kewadin St. Ignace, Hessel & Manistique and on Saturday, October 20 at Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie & Christmas.

**\$22,500 MEGA BINGO**

Kewadin St. Ignace Event Center  
Saturday, October 20, 2012

Packages on sale for \$75 at any Kewadin Casino Cash Cage, Sault Ste. Marie Box Office, St. Ignace Hotel Front Desk, Internet & Marketing Dept. through Oct. 14. \$75 Packages will be sold at St. Ignace (Cash Cage, Hotel Front Desk & Marketing Dept.) through Oct. 18. Packages will be available at the door from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Oct. 20 for \$90.

Credit card or check orders call DeAnn at 1-800-KEWADIN, ext. 34027 or direct to 1-906-643-7071, ext. 1.



**KEWADIN'S Oktoberfest**

Earn entries ALL SITES  
Beginning October 1 for a trip to  
**Oktoberfest Germany 2013!**

EVENT NIGHT - OCT. 26 - 5-10 p.m.  
Win up to \$500 every 20 minutes!  
Grand prize draw at 10:30 p.m.



**Olivia Newton-John**  
Sunday, November 11  
at 7:00 p.m.  
Sault Ste. Marie,  
Michigan



**Brenda Lee**  
Friday, December 14  
at 7:00 p.m.  
Sault Ste. Marie,  
Michigan

**FANTASTIC FRIDAY SOCIAL**

All Kewadin Sites 4 p.m.-10 p.m.

- Random draws on slots & tables
- Earn Double & Triple Points • Top 3 each Friday
- Plus one entry each Friday for the Grand Prize Draw!

Replaces Ladies Night!

**FOOTBALL IN THE BARS!**

All Kewadin Sites  
Sundays and Mondays  
Beer Specials and Wings\* plus Draws!  
Come watch the games!

\*Please check each location

**LIVE LOUNGE ENTERTAINMENT**

Fridays & Saturdays at Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace and Manistique starting at 9 p.m.  
Comedy Night Thursdays in Sault Ste. Marie

**THURSDAY IS SENIOR DAY**

All Kewadin Sites  
During regular Club hours\*

If you are actively gaming you are eligible for our 500 drawings between all sites for \$10 in CASH or CREDITS!

Qualifying customers can also receive \$5 in credits by earning 10 points.

Complimentary continental breakfast. Must be 50 & older to be eligible. Dining specials for everyone at all sites.

\*Please note that Club hours vary by site.

**TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT MONDAYS**

Kewadin St. Ignace, Manistique, Christmas & Hessel

WIN up to \$5,500 at Kewadin St. Ignace; \$2,000 at Kewadin Manistique & Christmas and \$1,500 at Kewadin Hessel  
That's \$11,000\* EVERY MONDAY!

\*All site total



# McClellan opens American Pawn on Wheels

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe member Ron McClellan recently opened the American Pawn on Wheels business establishment at 211 Osborn Boulevard in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. McClellan gratefully acknowledges support in the enterprise from his business partner, Cleve Ried.

McClellan said he became interested in operating a pawn shop since working in a friends shop in Grand Rapids where he learned the mechanics of the business.

In general, pawn shops operate much like other merchants in that they acquire goods from wholesalers and sell those same goods as retailers. The difference with pawn shops is that clients can act both as wholesalers and retail customers. Clients may either pawn items as collateral for monetary loans over a brief period of time or sell items that pawn brokers deem to have potential profit if resold.

People in need of a quick, short-term loan can take items of value to the shops to use as collateral to negotiate amounts for loans over a short period of time.



Photo by Rick Smith

**American Pawn on Wheels proprietor Ron McClellan stands among some of the wares in his recently opened shop in Sault Ste. Marie.**

The amount of loans depends on many variables surrounding the specific items used as collateral. The standard loan period at American Pawn on Wheels is

two weeks. Interest rates charged vary depending on the size of the loan — loans of \$500 or less cost 25 percent of the loan while loans greater than \$500 are charged at

20 percent.

If it isn't convenient for customers to come to the shop to inquire about a possible transaction, either Mr. McClellan or Mr.

Ried will come to them if they call 203-9553.

Folks who may want to rid themselves of some items of value but don't want to take too much time or trouble in selling them might consider pawn shops. As a general rule, though, they choose to avoid buying items outright, but they do make exceptions, depending on the pricing of the merchandise, demand and resale value.

The shop's inventory is usually small due to space limitations but covers a wide range of items. Anyone in need of specific items might do well to visit American Pawn on Wheels to see if sought after items might be in the shop's current stock.

American Pawn on Wheels can be found in the extension attached to the Lockview Laundromat at Osborn Boulevard and Ridge Street across from the U.S. Post Office. Folks can also visit [www.americanpawnonwheels.com](http://www.americanpawnonwheels.com) or look for American-Pawn-on-Wheels on Facebook. Business hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. seven days a week, inquiries can be made from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. by calling 203-9553.

## Original plays by American Indians wanted for competition

Scripts by beginners, amateurs and the seasoned welcomed to vie for production

BY RICK SMITH

Those interested in stepping up their storytelling skills should take note. The Native American New Play Festival seeks scripts for original plays written by members of federally recognized tribes. The deadline is Feb. 15, 2013, scripts received after the deadline will be considered for next year's competition. No scripts will be returned, including those not considered for the competition.

All submissions must be full-length plays that have never been produced for performance. The plays may be dramas, comedies or musicals either modern or historical. "Our first winning play was mainly about a family dealing with an aging parent," said Rachel Irick, artistic director for the OKC Theatre Company of Oklahoma City, Okla., the competition's sponsor. "That's actually a universal theme."

Submissions may be sent via mail or email and must include a one-page plot synopsis, list of characters with brief descriptions for each of them and a complete manuscript with the author's phone number and email address on the title page. Finalists will be announced in March of 2013.

Irick will screen all submissions as they are received. The competition will reject screenplays or teleplays submitted as theatrical plays, obvious first drafts, scripts with typos and spelling errors or scripts that do not conform to format standards of the industry. Once plays are accepted, they will be read by at least two readers to winnow the field of entries to finalists.

Those scripts selected as finalists will go through a process by the OKC Theatre Company, which will include public feedback after



Photos courtesy of the OKC Theatre Company

**Above, participation in the OKC Theatre Company's 2012 Native American New Play Festival included, from left, performances by Jeremy Tanequodle, direction under Sarah d'Angelo, and performances by Michael Edmonds and Tiffany Tuggle. Below, Jeremy Tanequodle as "Wolf" in the final moment of Salvage, a play written by Diane Glancy who was the featured playwright of the OKC Theatre Company's 2012 Native American New Play Festival.**



presentations in a readers' theater format. The winning play will receive a fully staged production at the OKC Theatre as the featured event of a future Native American New Play Festival.

Members interested in competing but may have questions should call Rachel Irick at (405) 593-6600 or send email messages to her via [rachel@okctc.org](mailto:rachel@okctc.org). She can also be reached by post at OKC Theatre Company, ATTN: Native American New Play Festival, P.O. Box 18226, Oklahoma City, OK 73154.

The OKC Theatre Company began the Native American New Play Festival about three years ago to encouragement American Indians who aspire to be playwrights. New plays from across the United States and Canada were submitted and three were chosen and presented as staged readings for the public in the summer of 2010.

In years to come, according to the organization, the festival is expected to evolve into a cornerstone event for OKC Theatre Company bringing artists to Oklahoma City from all over the continent.

Festival planners expect the festival to be two weeks of excitement, entertainment and illumination to honor the American Indian playwright.

They currently seek corporate and individual sponsors who will help to make the festival available free of charge to many and bring out-of-state playwrights to Oklahoma where their work can be brought to life.

For more details, visit [www.okctheatrecompany.org](http://www.okctheatrecompany.org).

*To find great information on jobs, education, health services and many other topics that may interest you, visit [www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov).*



# GET ON THE PATH *To Breast Wellness*

Women Are Special And Important To Their Families.

## A Healthy Pathway to Traditional Breast Wellness:

- ★ Get a yearly clinical breast exam
- ★ Get a yearly mammogram
- ★ Do monthly breast self exams
- ★ Keep Spiritual balance
- ★ Maintain family harmony
- ★ Laugh often
- ★ Stay tobacco free
- ★ Walk, dance, move your body
- ★ Avoid Alcohol
- ★ Eat healthy
- ★ Share your story

## What Your Sault Tribe's Kinoownaakwe "Navigator Woman" Can Do To Help You

- ◆ Help you schedule appointments.
- ◆ Provide or arrange transportation to and from your appointments.
- ◆ Provide assistance with working through your insurance.
- ◆ Help and address any of your questions or concerns.
- ◆ Provide you with emotional support.
- ◆ Accompany you to your appointment.

AMANDA LEONARD, LPN  
(906) 632-5237  
aleonard@saulttribe.net

Women eligible for care within the Tribal Health Clinics and meet the states eligibility requirements can apply for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program (BCCCP) which assists women with the screening and treatment costs for breast and cervical cancer.



Jingle Dress Dancers

## Three Steps To Regular Breast Health Care:

- ◆ **Do a self breast exam once a month.**
- ◆ **Get a yearly clinical breast exam by your health care provider after the age of 20.**
- ◆ **Get a yearly mammogram starting at age 40.**



AVON  
Foundation  
for Women

BREAST HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAM



Traditional Shawl Dancers



# Building a fall tradition at the Yon Farm brings fun for all, fresh foods and lasting memories



Sault Tribe member David Yon departs for another hayride tour of the Yon Farm during the second annual Pumpkin Patch Weekends on the family farm near Dafter.



Sign at the entrance of the Yon Farm along West 10 Mile Road. Young and old folks in the background are selecting fresh pumpkins to take home.



Jody Yon dispenses free hot chocolate and apple cider, friendly guidance and sells produce and crafts to visitors in the barn at the Yon Farm.



Some pleased pumpkin pickers head for the barn with their selections.

Sault Tribe member David Yon and his wife, Jody, hosted their second annual Pumpkin Patch Weekends during the last week of September and the first week of October. The special events took place at the Yon Farm just west of Dafter along 10 Mile Road.

Visitors could enjoy hayride tours of the farm, free hot chocolate or apple cider, selecting their own pumpkins from prepared patches, take family photos with a rural flavor, browse over the variety of fresh produce (at very reasonable prices) or Jody's hand-crafts and get chances on winning one of two decorative autumn harvest arrangements of cornstalks, colored corn, pumpkins and other gourds and hay bales.

After considering many different places, the Yons acquired the 40-acre farm in 2007. It features a barn built in the late 1800s. The Yons indicate the barn shows its age, but it is sound. It is used for storage and serves as the Yon Farm store.

David and Jody began planting trees in the first year of their ownership. With the help of the Natural Resources Conservation Service, 16 varieties of over 6,000 trees and shrubs were planted one at a time by David, Jody and their son, Christopher, during a four-year span. The trees are used for wind breaks and general planting.

The family planted 300 apple trees in 2010 that will be grafted to produce an orchard of apple trees that can be picked from the ground. "This orchard

will produce apples for our community and maybe for a cider mill that would go well with the fall festivities on the Yon Farm," said Jody.

The Yons report what began as a small patch of pumpkins planted in 2010 for friends and family turned into a four and a half-acre fruit and vegetables garden. They share the bounty with the community by supplying produce to Soo Super Valu and Karl's Cuisine and donating food to organizations such as the Hospice of the EUP, Tapawingo Farms, the Chippewa County Animal Shelter, fundraising events, local churches and schools in addition to the local wildlife on the farm.

David and Jody note they try to raise crops as naturally as possible by using mountains of cow manure supplied by a neighboring farm and only hands full of fertilizer used when plants are young to stimulate root growth. "We do not spray our garden with pesticides because we encourage the children and adults who visit our farm to taste our produce fresh from the stalk or vine," said Jody. "Our philosophy is 'the bugs get a little, the animals get a little and we get a little.'"

The Yons also practice and encourage cooperation by helping others sell eggs and supply local commercial outlets with produce. Further, the Yon Farm helps harvest and sell wood plus honey from local bee keepers set up on farm.

Schools from the area are invited to conduct field

trips for their students to the farm. At press time, the Yons expected about 400 youngsters to visit the farm this season.

The Yons indicate after the farm is closed for the season, they will spend the long winter months making plans for next year's garden rotation by getting advice from the Michigan State University Extension, local farmers and gardeners, on-line study, farm supply companies and federal agencies about soils, seeds, cultivation methods, fertilization, fruit tree grafting and natural insect control.

In the near future, the Yons hope to install a septic system, well and electric to support a house and a larger, full, modern barn for storage and to accommodate community events. At this point, the only structure on the farm is the old barn.

When David is not working his full-time job as a U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer and Jody is away from her full-time job as a cashier and accounting clerk at Soo Super Valu, the couple spend their time conducting maintenance on farm equipment and the property, planting seeds, tending to crops, study and research assorted matters of farming. They also do a lot of evaluation and assessment on their efforts and responsibilities in supporting the communities of the eastern Upper Peninsula and keeping their farm an ally to the environment and ecological sustainability.

The Yons extend an invitation to Sault Tribe members and organizations to learn more about their farm by visiting their Facebook page at The Yon Farm. They are especially keen on hearing how their farm might be able to help the tribe. "We'd really like to know how we might be able to help the elders' programs, for example," said David.

It appears the Yons enjoy the adventure and opportunities the farm has brought them and it seems they have exciting ambitions for it in the coming years. What is striking about these farmers is their caring attitude about the farm's relationship with everyone and everything it touches, even the bugs.

While the farm is supported in part by marketing produce, money doesn't seem to be the primary motivation for operating the farm for the Yons. They like to pass along a joke that goes, "A farmer won a huge amount of money in the lottery. When asked what he'd do with all the money, he said he figured he'd just keep on farming till it was all gone."

The Yons noted after the first weekend of the annual event this year, "It is easy to see that our community loves to support us by coming out by the hundreds, we have already had twice the amount of people that we had last year. Next year, we will have to work harder to produce more just to keep up with the families that enjoy our farm. We would like to thank everyone who came to our farm and supported us."



An appealing rustic piece of decor at the barn door invites people inside.

Story and photos by Rick Smith



Looking over pumpkins and other produce from the farm on display in the barn. Anyone who may have any questions about the farm and its opportunities and offerings may call 635-6881 or 322-6748.



Each child who buys a pumpkin gets a free chance to win one of the two autumn decorative display sets, which include the corn stalks, colored corn, the large pumpkins and other gourds along with the bales of hay.



A mother and her children look over the many options in one of the prepared pumpkin patches. Some folks enjoy taking family and high school photographs amid the various settings of the farm.





Photos by Nina Purtee and Ed Furton

The sixth sixth annual Honoring the Waters Powwow that took place in Newberry on Sept. 8 was honored with six drums and beautiful weather for dancing and visiting. Gene Reid was head veteran and Francine Wyers was head female dancer. Doing double duty as head male and spiritual advisor, Cecil Pavlat. Head youth female was Hunter Captain and head youth male was Dylan Bowie. Calvin Burnside served as emcee and arena director. A total of 15 vendors offered food, jewelry, quilts, wood carvings, smoked fish and jerky, homemade jellies and jams, decopauge and more. Powwow Committee member Shirley Kowalke and her helpers prepared a fabulous with their favorite RN, Lisa Simmons, on hand.





**RICHARD T. MACKEY**

Richard T. Mackey died Sept. 10, 2012, at Hospice of the EUP after a courageous battle with cancer.

Richard was born on Jan. 16, 1953, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., the son of Elda Mackey and the late John Mackey Sr. Richard graduated from Sault High in 1971, where he lettered in varsity football.

After graduating, Richard sailed on many United States Steel freighters. He entered the United States Air Force in 1975, working as an electrician. He later returned home to work at Kewadin Casino before spending most of the last 10 years of his life taking care of his late father, who had Alzheimer's disease. Richard enjoyed photography, reading war history and Clive Cussler books.

Richard is survived by his son, Thomas; stepson, Fernando; and their mother, Marisol, of Madrid, Spain. He is also survived by his mother, Elda Mackey (LaFaver); his sister, Diane Comley (Rick) of Marquette, Mich.; brothers, John Mackey Jr. (Mary Kay) of Sault Ste. Marie, and Jeffrey Mackey of Excelsior Springs, Mo. In addition, Richard is survived by many aunts, cousins, nephews, nieces and friends.

Richard will be sorely missed by special friends Jan Gunson, Rick Isaacson and Shelia Compton of Sault Ste. Marie. Also, missed by his best high school friends, Stan Ronquist of Newberry, Mich., and Rick Murphy of Frederick, Colo. Richard was preceded in death by his father, John Mackey Sr., and his infant son, Richie Mackey of Madrid, Spain.

Visitation was held Sept. 13 at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home followed by a funeral service with Father Sebastian Kavumkal officiating. His remains will be cremated at a later date and returned to Madrid, Spain. Richard loved all the staff at WMH Long Term Care, Infusion Dept. and Dr. Bolmer. Special thanks to all of the staff and volunteers at Hospice House for their care and compassion. Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice of the EUP.

**SHARON JONES**

Sharon Jones of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. passed away at McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital on Sept. 1, 2012. She was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on Aug. 24, 1943, to Dan and Matilda (nee LaVictor) Cody. Sharon loved to be with her



grandchildren and friends. She always looked forward to playing cribbage, cards or Bingo with Valerie and Susie along with many other relatives and friends. She was a member of the VFW Hospital Auxiliary and the American Legion.

Surviving Sharon are her daughters, Margie (Jon) Johanson, Jeannie (Randy) Place of Sault Ste. Marie; sisters, Irene (Lorne) Hartwig of Sault Ste. Marie and Darlene (Russell) Hill of Lansing; grandchildren, Calvin Hartwig and Jennifer Bouschor of Sault Ste. Marie; and great grandchildren, Gabby, Dyllon and Deacon Erickson.

Sharon was preceded in death by her first husband, Paul Hartwig Sr., and second husband Arnie Jones, her son Paul Hartwig Jr., and, recently, her son-in-law, Jon Johanson.

Memorial services were held at Hovie Funeral Home on Sept. 6, followed by a reception at the Sault Tribe's Cultural Building. Burial was at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens. In lieu of flowers memorials may be left to the American Cancer Society, FOCAS or Hospice of the EUP.

**ROBERT T. BOUCHARD**

Robert T. "Bob" Bouchard, 68, of Livonia, formerly of Trout Lake, passed away on Sept. 23 at St. Mary's Mercy Hospital in Livonia.



He was born on Nov. 9, 1943, in Newberry to Clarence and Viveka (Taube) Bouchard.

He graduated from Newberry High School and attended one year of college, then joined the U.S. Army during the Vietnam era. He served in Germany as a 1st Lt/Ord C. motor officer with the 2nd Battalion 333rd Artillery U.S. Forces. He came home and was a tool and die maker for 15 years.

In 1984, he bought the Toby's

**Chi miigwech**

Dear Editor,  
My name is Tim Clark and I am a tribal member. I'm writing to you about the staff of the Newberry Community Health Clinic.

In the past three or four years, I was at one time immobile, with multiple health issues.

These professional ladies, Lisa Simmons, Lois Bryant, Shirley Kowalke, Alice Quinlan and Criste Overland, have been there for me medically and spiritually, to overcome and move forward in my healing process. Thanks to them I have a new lease on life.

They have shown me that there are still people who care and are willing to give so much of themselves to patients, and the community overall.

I, myself, and fellow community members, would like to show our appreciation to the Newberry tribal staff. We would like this letter published as a BIG THANKS to those ladies. They are special in all our hearts and they give so much to so many. THANK YOU.

*Timothy Jo Clark*

Buckhorn in Trout Lake and owned it until 2012 when he moved to Livonia because of health issues. He was an avid sports fan, especially University of Michigan football and sports of all kinds. He was a member of St. Ignace Golf and Country Club and bowled at Gateway Lanes. He loved his springer spaniel dogs and pets of any kind. He was a member of the Newberry American Legion Post No. 74, Newberry VFW, and a life member of Newberry Elks Club. He was an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He was very proud of his military time and always flew an American flag along with a maize and blue University of Michigan flag.

On Nov. 27, 1982, he married Elsie Roberts, and she survives with with son, Daniel Kneeves of South Lyon, and daughters, Marian (David) Ross of Livonia, Christine (John) Lacy of South Lyon, Kimberly Vallier of Macomb; brothers, Patrick (Joan) Riordan of Drummond Island, William (Beth) Riordan of Munising, and Gary Bouchard of Chesterton, Ind.; sisters, Barbara Bouchard of Trout Lake, Maricarol (Mick) Wartella of Sun Prairie, Wis., and Nancy (Dan) Aho of Elburn, Ill.; 11 grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and many nieces and nephews along with a host of friends who will miss him greatly. He was preceded in death by his parents and stepfather, Dan Riordan.

Services were held at Dodson Funeral Home in St. Ignace Sept. 27, with Rev. Erik Allsgaard offi-

ciating. Military rites were held at Lakeview Cemetery in Trout Lake where he was laid to rest. Memorials may be directed to the Jacobetti Home for Veterans with envelopes available from Dodson Funeral Home, who handled arrangements. Pallbearers were Cliff, Gerry, and Bob Vallier, John Lacy, Rob Wartella and Keith McGowan.

**KENNETH L. THERRIAN**

Kenneth L. Therrian, 65, of St. Ignace passed away early Friday morning, Sept. 21, at Evergreen Living Center following a nearly year-long illness.



He was born Nov. 4, 1946, in Sault Ste. Marie to Lloyd and Catherine (Schiltgen) Therrian. He graduated from LaSalle High School in 1964 and worked for the State of Michigan much of his life — first the Liquor Commission on Mackinac Island

and Escanaba, and retired from the Mackinac Bridge in maintenance. He had also worked on the building of the Soo Locks. He is a member of St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church and the Sault Tribe Chippewa Indians. He loved to bird hunt and ice fish and also loved to take long rides.

He is survived by his sisters, Barbara (George) Yshinski of St. Ignace, Judy Feddersen of Coventry, Conn.; nieces and nephews Chris in Florida, Stephanie of St. Ignace, Jennifer (Ron) Morrison and Barbara (Brian) Fitzgerald of Chicago; great-nephew and -niece, Christopher and Hayley. He was preceded in death by his parents, Lloyd and Catherine Therrian, brother Alan and uncle Dale Feddersen.

Services were held at St. Ignatius Catholic Church on Tuesday, Sept. 25 from 9-11 a.m. when Mass of Christian Burial rites will be held with Fr. Pawel Mecwel officiating. Burial will be in Gros Cap Cemetery. Dodson Funeral Home, St. Ignace handled arrangements.

**Soo Laker's Bantam AAs say thank you**

Thank you to all the supporters of the Soo Laker's Bantam AA Hockey Team fundraiser that was held Sept. 14 at the Christopher Columbus Hall in Sault Ste. Marie. Several Sault Tribe children play on the team, and they benefitted greatly from the strong support at the Beer-Wine Tasting event, sponsored by Marchetti's Distributing and especially John Jorgenson.

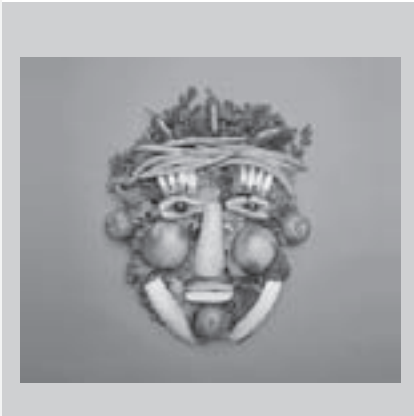
The team raised over \$5,000 and will use the money to pay for their tournament entry fees and ice expenses this season. Without the support of the community attending the fundraiser, this team wouldn't be able to compete all over the state and in Sault, Ontario. The team is coached by Joe Behling.

*Beverly MacLaren,  
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.*



**Food Day Priorities Include:**

- Promote safer, healthier food.
- Support sustainable local farms.
- Increase access to food and reduce hunger.
- Reform factory farms to protect animals and the environment.
- Promote fair working conditions for farm and food workers.



**Local Ideas & Events**

- Buy Local. Visit the SSM Farmer's Market on Wednesdays, 4-7 p.m., Corner of Portage and Ashmun St.
- Attend Lunch & Learns at Sault Tribe Health Center featuring Weight of the Nation documentaries & discussions. Oct 16 and 30 and Nov 6 and 13, 12-1 p.m., Auditorium.
- Free Packet on Healthy Food at Meetings and Fundraisers—contact Mary Bunker at mbunker@saulttribe.net
- Fun with Food – Family Mealtime Cooking Class Series first Wednesday of September, October and November 5-7:30 p.m. at Elder Center. Kids welcome. Call Connie at 632-5211 to sign up.
- Canning and Preserving workshops. Check www.healthysaulttribe.com calendar for dates and times.
- Oct. 3-16: Food Day display at Bayliss Library.
- On Oct. 6, the Sierra Club will host a speaker on Mindful Eating at the Presbyterian Church. Deadline to sign up Oct 2. with Diane Meyer: dhobmeyer@gmail.com or 635-1003.
- Screening/discussion of "Getting Real about Food in the Future" at Bayliss Library on Oct. 18.
- For more information on Food Day, go to www.foodday.org

**CORN CAMP W/ELDER GEORGE MARTIN OCT. 19-20 MARY MURRAY CULTURE CAMP**  
Come learn traditional teachings about corn, the Anishinaabe Creation Story, how the gift of corn was given to the Anishinaabeg and the traditional process of turning dried corn in to hominy. Teachings begin at 10 a.m. on Saturday. Come on down for the day! Call Jackie Minton or Linda Grossett, 635-6050, to register.





# Ondadizimagad



## BLAIR PATRICK GORDON

Patrick and Rebecca Gordon are the proud parents of a son, Blair Patrick Gordon. He was born at 11:33 a.m. on Aug. 27, 2012, at the University of Michigan hospital in Ann Arbor, Mich. He weighed 6 pounds, 2 ounces and measured 17.5 inches in length. Blair joins his big sister, Kenzie, at home.

Grandparents are Warren and Julie Gordon of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; Frances Rolston and Joseph Rolston of Waynesville, N.C.; Johnny and Amy Gouge of Bakersville, N.C.; and the late Paul J. Baier of Sault Ste. Marie. Great-grandparents include Ann and the late Herbert Gordon of Brimley, Mich.; George and Marjean Lucas of Sault Ste. Marie; Romaine and the late Millard Gouge of Bakersville; and Lucille Visnaw of St. Ignace, Mich.



## JOSEPHINE ELIZABETH & OWEN FREDERICK

Thomas and Elizabeth Suggitt of Kincheloe, Mich., are proud to announce the birth of twins born June 19, 2012, at War Memorial Hospital. Josephine Elizabeth weighed 7 pounds 12 ounces and Owen Frederick weighed 6 pounds 7 ounces. They join their

big brother Clark Thomas.

Grandparents are Edmund and Ann Umstead of Lewiston, Mich., and Alan and Anne Suggitt of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Great grandparents are Patricia Redpath of Dearborn, Mich., Annette Killips and Betty Suggitt of Sault Ste. Marie.

## LEO RAY ESSON

Ella and Maysn Esson would like to introduce their new baby brother, Leo Ray Esson, to the world. Leo was born on July 27, 2012, at 5:38 a.m. He weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and was 21.5 inches in length. Proud parents are Joe and Samantha Esson both of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Grandparents are Brad and Sue Paulsen of Menominee, Mich., Valery Esson of Sault Ste. Marie, Jeff and Sue Brott of Wisconsin Dells, Wis. Great grandparents are Sharon Downs ('GG') of Sault Ste. Marie, Wes and Sue Esson of Barbeau and Phyllis Kendrick of Sault Ste. Marie.



# Pickford resident Britany Cornwell Miss Michigan Teen USA 2013 contestant



Britney Cornwell of Pickford, Mich., competed for the title of Miss Teen USA 2013 Sept. 28-29 in Port Huron, Mich.

She would like to thank the following people and businesses for sponsoring her: Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment,

Unit II Director Lana Causley, Dr. Chunming Liu, Classic and Antique Boats, Tony's Gun Shop, M&R Autobody, Hovie Funeral Home, Autore Oil, Fernellius Cars, Hanks Body Shop, C&C, Mark's Tire and Fox Excavation.

# Deficit spending budget PASSED!



## DENNIS MCKELVIE, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

I am disappointed to report that the board of directors passed a budget that is spending \$3 million more than we will take in for

2013. I do believe that we will cut it down to meet what we will take in but this is a backward way to operate, in my opinion. The budgets should have been cut before passing.

Now, we will see if the board of directors will lead by example and not put it on the team members' backs. Each department has areas in which they can save. The board of directors can lead the way with cuts to our own budget such as unnecessary travel (we don't need three or four attending the same conference), iPads and laptops, parking passes, etc. If we want these things, we should buy them ourselves.

Retirement for a 20-year board member is now over \$1,400 per month. In the next 20 years that pay will be over \$2,000 per

month! Some board members will receive this along with Social Security and any 401K benefits from previous employment (both of which are earned individually). But for some time in the past, board members were getting matched 401K payments from the tribe on their board pay. This was wrong! This practice was stopped in 2004 but there are still seated member(s) who will benefit in this way. Board retirement must stop.

We need to start looking at the 2014 budget now and, hopefully, we will pass a budget that creates a savings and builds that savings for a rainy day. If we continue spending everything that we make, we will never get ahead to improve or expand our tribal programs.

# Benjamin Mattson completes USCG basic training May 4

Robert and Lynn Mattson would like to congratulate their son, Benjamin Lee Mattson, for completing basic training at the United States Coast Guard Training Center in Cape May, N.J., on May 4, 2012. He is currently serving at the Alexandria Bay Station on Wellesley Island, N.Y.

It makes us especially proud to know his first assignment is right next to Wolf Island — the island of which his great-great-grandfather was born and raised. We were very excited to learn this, as Ben is serving in a place with his own heritage linked to it.

He is looking forward to a long career serving his country and serving with his fellow Coast Guardsmen. Ben, your family



can't express how proud we are with your choice of a career. Especially knowing all your going to accomplish because of that choice. We give all the best to you son — and thank you.

# Board completes leadership and responsibility training



## KEITH MASSAWAY, DIRECTOR, UNIT III

The board has just completed a training called *Leadership Roles and Responsibilities*. We also had a session on rules of parliamentary procedures. This information is always helpful in keeping focus on what the board must do to keep it moving in a productive manner. Often a board can lose its way in a complex discussion and these rules help contain the debate to a reasonable time and pertinent information. The trainer did an excellent job and it was a great refresher for most of the board

and a true education for the new board members.

The board accepted the 2013 housing plan. The federal government requires a yearly plan in place so it can dispense the grant dollars. Some of the highlights are off reservation home owner rehabilitation, emergency housing financial assistance, first-time home buyer down payment assistance, owner occupied energy efficient improvements (new heating and water heaters) and a 12 to 24-unit apartment building complex in St. Ignace

possibly done by the end of 2014 and situated where the old casino building now sits.

These assistance programs are for low income families and are intended to keep those families in safe and healthy living spaces. Any questions can be answered by calling the tribal administration offices, (906) 635-6050, and asking to be connected to tribal housing.

The tribal board was served individually with a lawsuit by the State of Michigan to try and stop the application for land

into trust in Lansing. This is not entirely unexpected and is only the first shot in an extensive round of litigation that will follow. The litigation is being paid for through the development agreement with the investors and no current tribal dollars will be expended on these lawsuits.

Thank you for your calls and messages.

Keith Massaway,  
702 Hazelton St.  
St Ignace MI 49781,  
Phone: (906) 643-6981,  
Email: kmassaway@msn.com



# LAST CHANCE: ENTER TO WIN \$1,000!



**Aaron A. Payment, MPA**  
**Tribal Chairperson**  
"Representing All Members Everywhere"

**SEND ME YOUR EMAIL FOR A CHANCE TO WIN \$1,000 CASH!!!**

With some of the savings of the 'twice the chair, half the pay' motto, I am offering a draw chance for a chance to win \$1,000. All you have to do is to send me a working email by November 1st (extended deadline) so I can add your name to receive my Tribal Updates. There is no cost to enter but you must be at least 18 years of age. For spouses of Tribal Members who handle their email communications, you can also enter but please include the name of the Tribal Member in the email. Send emails to:

[aaronpayment@yahoo.com](mailto:aaronpayment@yahoo.com)

### Ahneen, Negee:

I am happy to report that we are making progress in moving our Tribe forward. A select few on our Tribal Board have still not accepted the outcome of the last election but instead have chosen to stew during meetings and vote

NO on nearly everything I have proposed. Level-headed and forward thinking Board members clearly out number the *Negative Nellies* so we will keep moving on our positive path forward. Please examine, however, the Board's voting record to see for yourself who is moving forward and who has stagnated.

For the most part, we have a very productive, unified and cooperative Board. Of course, we have our differences and the issues Members send us to represent may also differ depending on the regions we represent. The exception, of course, is the Chairperson position, which is elected to represent *All Members Everywhere*. With such decisive support in all five election Units and Members who live outside of the service area, I have been able to more affirmatively advocate for your interests.

### 'MOST' BOARD MEMBERS WORK 12 HOUR DAYS!

We have been working hard with no less than 10- to 12-hour days when we do meet to go over issues, examine revenue generating expansion opportunities, shape up proposed casino developments, identify costs savings, examine and deploy necessary management changes, and work on improving both constituent and customer service. Though a few who show up at the begin-

ning of the day, then disappear for hours on end, most of your Board is working together on these issues and many more.

### OPPOSITIONAL RESISTANCE

As previously noted, for two years after the Members voted to separate the Chair and CEO functions, a majority of the Board failed to delegate authority to the Chairperson consistent with the clear will of the people to serve as the lead administrator for the Tribe. At one workshop, it was noted that a Board Member proposed to delegate the day-to-day administrative oversight to the Chairperson until the day after the election and if "Payment wins, he'll have no authority!" Besides being a "bill or attainder" United States Constitutional violation, this approach is patently arbitrary and capricious. There is no place for this kind of spite in good governance. This same individual has propagated (rather wildly) financial claims that are simply not fact. Instead, I believe these allegations are designed to deceive you. Among these include:

**ALLEGATION 1:** Prior to Payment's election to Chair in 2004, we had a \$75 million surplus.

**FACT:** In 2004, the Tribe had a \$268 million debt to the Greeks. Even if a \$75 million reserve account existed (it did not), the

net effect would amount to a remaining \$193 million debt.

**ALLEGATION 2:** At the end of Payment's 2008 term, the Tribe was deficit spending to the tune of \$15 million.

**FACT:** In 2004, I inherited a budget that was irresponsibly overspent by \$1.5 million by the then Executive Director and \$3 million illegally spent on election night to pay out seven of the then Chair's campaign supporters. This was a projected deficit of \$4.5 million which would have come from the Elder fund. We balanced the budget that year by under-spending an additional \$4 million and balanced the budget all four years while I was Chair.

### ORGANIZATIONAL CHART RESISTED!

Immediately after I was elected Chair this year but before I was sworn in, a few Board Members who disliked the outcome introduced a resolution to eliminate all authority of the Chair and relegate the position to a figurehead who only chaired meetings. Fortunately, the Board refused to enact such an organizational chart. This same oppositional defiance has continued with 'no' votes to the new organizational chart, which was passed by the Board on September 18, 2012. The ultimate purpose in making these organizational changes was to lateralize the or-

ganizational structure to ensure better follow up, efficiency, and operational management while leading team members in a more humanistic manner.

Some functions have been moved out of the day-to-day operations of the Tribal Chairperson administration including the Gaming Authority, Gaming Commission, Housing Commission and Authority and Enrollment. These are now directly under the direction of the Tribal Board of Directors. The chain of command for leave approvals and payroll remain up through the Tribal Chairperson.

### The new direct reports of the Tribal Chairperson include:

- Membership / Internal Services Executive Director (vacant-posted)
- Chief Financial Officer
- Appropriations Team
- Health Director
- Legislative Director
- National Resources Leads
- Chief of Police
- Executive Assistant
- Membership Liaisons and
- Chairperson's Office Administrative Assistant.

As Chair of the Gaming Commission and Gaming Authority,

See Organizational Changes Below

### Organizational Changes Continued

the Tribal Chairperson has some oversight functions over these areas as well consistent with the Tribal Ordinances which govern these functions.

### INTERIM MEASURE

I see the delegation of authority of the Chairperson as the lead administrator as an interim measure until such time as the Board puts to a vote of the people, our right to separate the powers of the Chair (executive), Board (legislative) and Tribal Court (judicial). This is a critical path forward.

### FIRST 100 DAYS: REFORMS UNDERWAY

October 17 marks the first 100 days of my current term. I am pleased that things are moving along, but, I am not satisfied at the pace. One item I believe should move more expeditiously is the new Constitution. Recently, I supported our Elder Advisory Board's unanimous support to move it forward. Instead, however, the Board chose to look over the final draft more closely and hopefully bring it back for a vote. Over \$400,000 and five years later, I believe we the

people deserve to decide our fate via an up or down vote by December 2012!

I have shared a draft *Ethics Code* with our Board and I am happy to report that we recently had training on ethics that mirrors my draft code. Thus, at the next Board meeting, I will introduce a resolution to enact the ethics code I have drafted. Please contact me for a copy and to give your input. I am committed to pushing other issues like codifying Tribal Labor Law and will introduce a movement called T.E.A.M. (Tribal Employment Act Move-

ment) to ensure real due process in employment. Many of the other reforms I proposed are addressed via a separation of powers which is critical to our becoming a real government.

Finally, if we are to ever instill confidence in our Membership in our Electoral process, the kinds of glitches we experienced this year (see below) simply cannot be allowed to continue. The only way to address this is through reforms that call for an independent outside accounting firm to handle ballots. At the time I write this, I am awaiting copies of the

final election report, which is three months overdue. I have also requested the election database to determine if there was any fraud perpetrated this year. I will report the outcome next month.

### Chi McGwitch, Negee,

Aaron

Office: 906-635-6050  
Cell: 906-440-5937  
Email: [aaronpayment@yahoo.com](mailto:aaronpayment@yahoo.com)

On Facebook 'Aaron Payment'

Also, check out the 'Sault Tribe Guide' on Facebook.

DIAGRAM 1

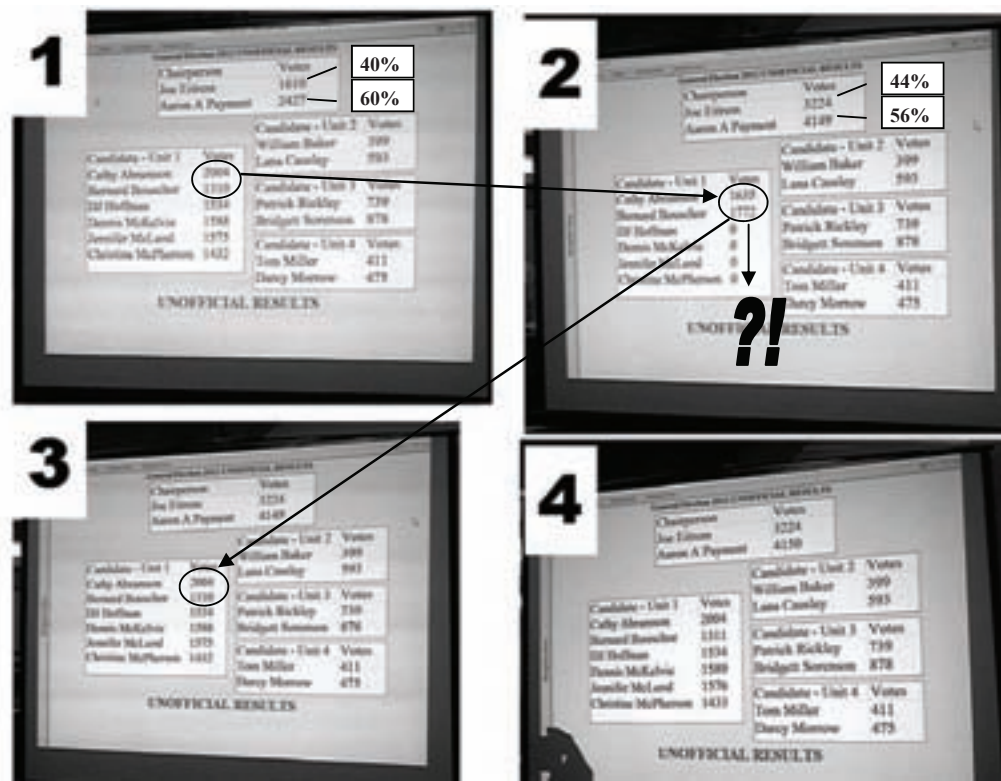
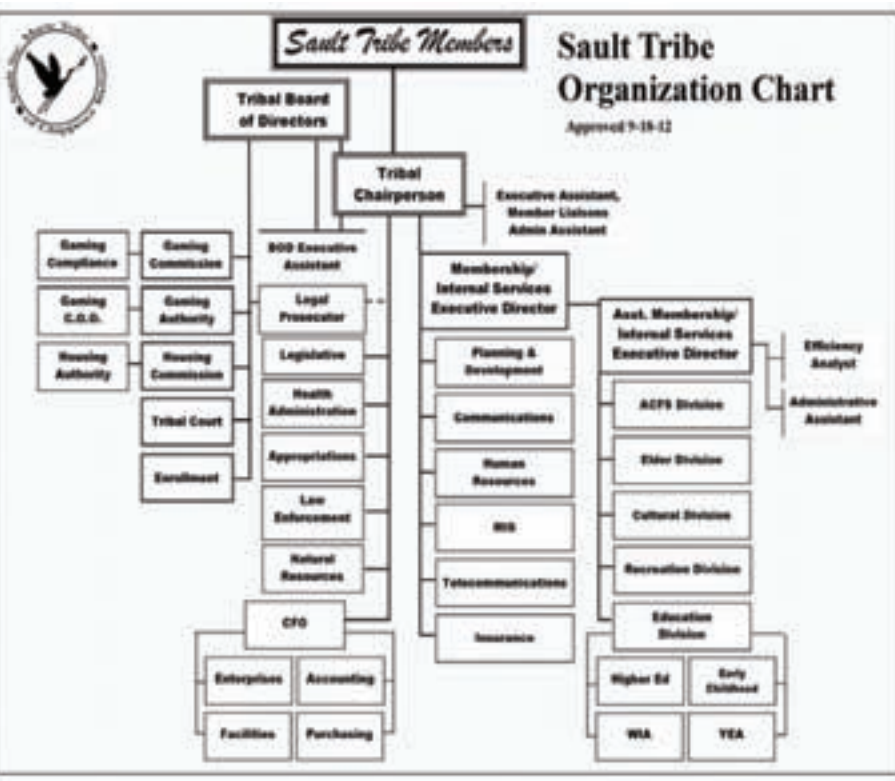


DIAGRAM 2





# Unit IV 2% funding requests to be reviewed



**DENISE CHASE, DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Director Morrow and I will be reviewing the fall 2 percent funding requests and applications in the near future and will let you know once the review is completed. Applications needed to be in by Sept. 30. Remember, under the current agreement with the state of Michigan for gaming revenue sharing, 2 percent of the tribe's gaming revenue is set aside and made available to local units of government as determined by the Sault Tribe. There are two distribution cycles,

one in the fall and again in the spring. Unfortunately, there is always more need than 2 percent funding available. The 2 percent projects we review and award are based on a number of factors. Each unit's board representatives review the applications received in their units and decide which projects receive funding.

## BOARD NEWS

The board attended an open house for the new Advocacy Resource Center, which provides assistance to victims of crimes, especially children and women in abusive situations.

Last week, the tribal board attended a workshop on leadership roles and responsibilities and Robert's Rules of Order. This was a good training for the new board members and a refresher course for the old board members.

The board amended Chapter 21: Inland Fishing and Hunting Turkey Season Rules. The starting date of the tribe's fall turkey season was moved to Sept. 15 from Oct. 1; the Inland Conservation Committee recommended this change.

## HEALTH

On Oct. 9, 5:30-7:30 p.m., area veterans and their families are invited to a Rural Health town hall meeting at the Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health Clinic, 2864 Ashmun St. Bring your issues and concerns to get addressed. On Oct. 10, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Michigan VA, IHS and tribal joint meeting will be held at Kewadin Casino in the Sault and all veterans are welcome to attend.

Rural Health Director Marlene Glaesman reported the Manistique Tribal Center Health Clinic has an active user population of over 5,717 patients. Hearing First audiologists will soon provide audiology services locally in Manistique at the clinic. Dr. Mel Golden has been providing dental services since Sept. 4, and Dr. Ian Liskiewicz has accepted the full time dentist supervisor position with a November start date.

Unit IV flu shot schedule:  
Marquette Salvation Army, Oct. 16, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Escanaba Salvation Army, Oct. 19, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Manistique Tribal Center, Oct. 18, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-3 p.m.;

Oct. 24, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; Oct. 31, 1-3 p.m.

**OCTOBER OFFICE HOURS**  
Unit IV board reps office hours for this month are scheduled for Oct. 17 at the Manistique Tribal Center, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.; and Oct. 18, 3-5 p.m. at the Willow Creek Building in Escanaba. Our schedules change every week, but we are available any time to meet with you. Just call our contact numbers to make an appointment.

## PROPOSED NEW AMENDED CONSTITUTION

At a workshop earlier this month, the board heard a presentation on the new amended constitution. The new board members had not seen the document and four board members asked that the 22-page document be put on the following week's agenda with financial and legal staff available to discuss the document. Four years ago it was estimated implementing the proposed constitution would cost \$4-5 million, maybe more.

At the Sugar Island board meeting, the board motioned to set up an ad hoc implementation committee for the amended con-

stitution. The committee will be formed of the 29 former committee members, board members and community members working within a 90-day time frame. I feel the timeline is too aggressive, especially with the other issues that need to be addressed in the tribe. I voted no against forming the committee at that time for the simple reason that when board members ask for items to be put on a workshop agenda to get updated and they are not given the opportunity of having staff attend and answer their questions, how can they be expected to vote on it? We needed to schedule time for a thorough board discussion on the subject.

Former constitutional committee members spoke up at the workshop and board meeting and stated there are issues with the document as written. There will be community meetings set up to review the documents throughout the tribe's service area. Make sure to attend one in your area to review a copy of the document and give your input.

Thank you. If you need to reach me, call (906) 322-3819 or 341-6783.

# Tribal members exempt from Obamacare premium!



**JENNIFER MCLEOD, DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin Anishnaabek, It is Binaakwe-giizis (Falling Leaves Moon). First comes the brilliant blaze of color, and then the leaves will fall. A final flurry of activity before all is still, waiting for the harsh winter winds, freezing cold and cleansing of winter snows. It has been very much that way for me, this month as a Unit I director.

This past month, I met with the children of our tribe – truly they are the brilliant colors that bring us joy. At Rudyard Area Schools, I enjoyed the high school students' recounts of the summer. Colorful stories of adventures and hardships. It is always a surprise to see how much they have grown. Each morning before class, and during lunch time, too, students would flood the classroom to play Re-zopoly, talk about homework, plan craft projects, or simply to visit. I also had the unique opportunity to spend an hour on Wednesdays with elementary students of JKL Bahweting School. They call it "Culture Wednesday," and community people are invited to spend time with the students and share their cultural knowledge. I told an interactive story of the porcupine to kindergarten and first grade students, and went home with a happy heart and the memories of

little voices singing the porcupine song.

Another brilliant highpoint of this month was the 40th anniversary celebration of the National Indian Health Board. I was so impressed by our Unit I Director Cathy Abramson, she serves as the chairperson of this organization and she was perfect at it. Because of her, I was able to sit with the director of Indian Health Services and many other major players in the Indian Health world. It was such a proud moment to realize how well represented our tribe is on the national healthcare level. I met with many of our members and laughed when other tribal people jokingly remarked about "Sault Tribe again?" We can all be very proud! I learned a great deal, and one of the most important pieces of information that I want to share is:

**When the Affordable Health Care Act takes effect, American Indians are exempt from the premium! I asked specifically if it meant ALL members of federally recognized tribes, or only those living on trust land. I was told straightforward that it meant ALL Indians, regardless of where they live within the United States. WOW! This is great news! Our tribal members, who are unable to access IHS services, and have no employer-provided health insurance, will be able to have the federally mandated insurance coverage without paying insurance premiums! Please watch my and Director Abramson's future unit reports for more information, this is exciting news!**

As Anishnaabe people, we know that there is a balance in life. This month also brought issues that at first glance, are not so good. Our tribe is being sued by the State of Michigan. This is not a first, however, it is the first time that the state has also named

individual board members as defendants. Each member of our board of directors is also being sued in their official capacity. It appears that the state does not like the idea that we intend to exert our sovereignty and purchase land as permitted in our Land Claims Settlement with the federal government. It is a complicated suit, but basically, the state believes that the intended land purchase in Lansing violates an article in a gaming agreement between the state and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Our board, and our legal counsel feel otherwise.

The state has sued a second time as well, threatening the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver, again based on their assertion of a violation of a gaming agreement. My father used to tell me to choose my battles carefully – to look closely and never shy away from fighting the "good fight." In my mind, this qualifies. Although it felt strange to see my name on the legal documents, it strengthened my resolve. I take challenges to our sovereignty seriously and will proudly go into this battle. I believe we have every legal right to purchase land as we and the Department of the Interior sees fit. Time will tell if the courts agree.

All battles, however, do not come only from outside of our tribe. As an elected official, I am subject to scrutiny and criticism from our membership. Truth be told, I welcome it. Non-supporters point out my flaws and enable me to become a better person because of it, and for that I am grateful. I had such an opportunity recently. It seems that there are tribal members who feel that I should not cast an abstaining vote during board meetings. For the most part, I agree. However, if I have a personal conflict, I will abstain. I did not foresee that a conflict would arise that would cause me to abstain as a matter of personal

ethics and principle.

Our board was scheduled to discuss and then vote on a new organizational chart. We had planned to discuss this at the workshop. We did not. As a new board member, I COUNT ON THESE DISCUSSIONS! At the workshop, we were given THREE NEW OPTIONS for an org chart (not the one that was sent to us prior to the meeting). We ran out of time and I was being asked to blindly vote with no input, no clear understanding of the differences, advantages, etc., and no explanation of why it was the best way for the tribe. I am an independent woman and I do my own thinking. No offense to anyone, but I think for myself. I believe that our members count on me to do what I believe is "best for the tribe." To ask me to compromise my integrity, give up my thinking to someone else, and to simply "trust me," was an ethics conflict for me, and I would not participate. I abstained. Even though others may have discussed the org chart for years, I was denied the opportunity previously promised (the workshop discussion), and was expected to vote based on a hasty presentation just before the vote. Some may not agree that this was a "conflict," but for me it was.

When I said earlier, that I would vote yes or no, except due to conflict of interest, I NEVER anticipated that I would be put in a position where I felt that my personal ethics were going to one day be compromised. I met the next day with Chairman Payment to make sure that he understood that my decision is not personal, and to make it clear that I am not involved in anyone's politics. I do not blindly follow anyone. Chairman Payment apologized to me and stated that he understood my position.

I could be wrong in my values and others may disagree, but

that's okay. I am a strong woman and I will not cave in when I am standing for what I believe is right.

Further, I explained that if any other board member ends up voting the same as I in any matter, I voted because I thought I was doing what was right – not because of a "political alignment."

At the board meetings, I don't concern myself with what the others do. I concern myself with the issue and facts. I do not intend to offend anyone and I apologize if I have. I am just telling you how I feel and how I operate. I listen to everyone, consider all sides, and then make up my own mind. I will continue to work hard, stand my ground when I believe that I am right and apologize when I see that I am wrong.

Please note that I will no longer have a tribal phone. It makes no sense to me to carry two phones and our tribe does not need the additional expense.

The following contact information is my personal phone and email. I appreciate those of you who have already contacted me, and I encourage others to reach out to me as well. Miigwech to all, and take some time to enjoy binaakwe-giizis.

Phone: 440-9151

Email: Jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

## Get help with telephone costs

*The Lifeline and Link Up programs help low-income households get telephone service. Lifeline provides discounts on basic monthly phone service, up to \$10 per month. Link Up provides a one-time discount off the initial fees.*

*Visit the Universal Service Administrative Company or call (888) 641-8722. You can also contact your local phone service provider or call the Federal Communications Commission at (888) CALL-FCC.*



# Prescription drug abuse action plan under way



LANA CAUSLEY, DIRECTOR,  
UNIT II

I would like to start out by apologizing for not submitting a unit report in the last edition of the tribal paper. Our unit had a very busy month with powwows and events that ended the summer. In our unit we held the Rexton Youth Empowerment Powwow, all hosted and run by our children. Newberry held an amazing event that keeps growing stronger and larger every year and Hessel celebrated our 20th year of gathering. I would like to say 'thank you' to all who donated their time to make these gatherings happen for our community. A special "chi miigwech" to our own Mukwa Giizick drum — you

guys do us so proud and we are very grateful to have you carrying on our heartbeat.

We followed up from the first meeting to discuss and implement a tribal action plan for the well known problem we are facing in Indian country — prescription drug abuse. A Fox Valley representative has come in to assist in a detailed forum. Our plans for the immediate future (October) are to create an advisory board that will develop a strategic plan, evaluate the problems and statistics within each unit, hold community meetings, provide monthly mandated reports (to membership and leadership) and formulate communication on access to resources. The goals will be developed with input and involvement from the community and after attending the first meeting, we have tribal members and employees who have a direct knowledge of the problems and affects. After attending, it's critical we take what has been worked on in the past (many said we dropped the ball before) and make a plan that will not only provide better resources for families but also reduce the painful experiences our families face.

I went in with many questions about our process and resources

available—one thing without question is our 24-hour immediate crisis service. If you or yours need immediate care, we have access to services immediately. We asked about the process and confirmed it's in place. Don't wait to call or inquire, after leaving, I saw that we have commitment and this is a priority for the tribe and for the people in distress. I will be part of this process and keep updating through my unit reports.

The board has been busy with many items requested to be discussed at the board level, by request of individual board members, tribal members and staff. Many pressing issues are facing our administration. We are without an Elder Division director or a Human Resource director and we are posting for both. Both of our executive directors, also our CFO, resigned so we have struggled in the administration set up. The chairman recommended, and a majority of the board agree, to appoint Angeline Boulley (Education director) to the position of interim executive director and has recommended to not post or fill the education director position again. Also by recommendation and appointment, our former controller, William Connelly

was selected to fill the position of the CFO. I'm not clear on the recommendation for his past position but will clarify at the next discussion and report. Both Ms. Boulley and Mr. Connelly have stepped up and I'm grateful to them. We have discussed the hiring of a CEO and the issue has many factors to consider. My position has not changed. I think it's an opportunity to fit it in and reconstruct our set up, but at this point I'm in the minority of this direction. The chairman recommended adding positions of an assistant chief of staff and an executive chief of STAFF, along with a promotion to a current staff member and three membership liaison positions. A majority of the board did not pass this, but seeing that the chairman's office is in desperate need of staffing, I made the motion for him to hire an executive assistant along with two membership liaisons for his office. This will be of assistance to all units and the office of the chairman. I will keep reporting on the status of our organization structure.

At the Munising meeting two weeks ago, a majority of the board passed a portion of our 2013 schedule B governmental budgets. The amount approved

slated a \$3.5 million spending deficit. I voted 'no' and requested if it passed we meet directly and request cost saving measures from the department managers to reduce this amount. I will not consider any cuts to the Elders budget or our youth Education budget. All priorities need to be identified and recommendations need to be selected based on what can be reduced that does not affect dollars and services to the membership. We will begin the sessions soon as we held a 30-day timeline on this.

With the five executive positions vacant, the forecasted deficit in budgeting, the needs in all our units increasing, the board has much work to do. I will be at the table for every discussion and solution to move us in a direction that is healthy and with the mind set to not destabilize our administration and workforce and keep our direct services in tact.

I look forward to hearing from you through calls, email and Facebook. As always, I can meet face to face if you would like:

(906)322-3818,  
(906) 484-2954,  
lcausley@saulttribe.net  
Baamapii,  
Lana Causley

## Gathering knowledge to make informed decisions



DARCY MORROW, DIRECTOR,  
UNIT IV

This unit report is a combination of last and this month's report. During the month of August and September, Director Chase and I spent 261 hours combined on the road and attending meetings; this time does not include constituent phone calls, emails or reading material.

A big "THANK YOU" to our Escanaba elders, volunteers and two casino staff who helped clean up the Indian Point Cemetery in Nahma Township. And "thank you" to the casino for the staff and lunch they provided. Director Chase and I were sorry we were unable to attend — we had a prior commitment to attend the United Tribes of Michigan in Lansing on Aug. 22-23.

While in Lansing, we had a chance to tour the site of the Lansing casino and meet with the Lansing mayor. At United Tribes, we were informed on many things — Special Diabetes Program For Indians, The Affordable Care Act, Native American Insurance Management Firm and Honoring Our Children Initiative, for instance. This was a good networking conference and it was very informative.

During a board meeting on Sugar Island last month, the

new Constitution was put on the agenda and at that time we asked to table the item until I and Directors Chase, Sorenson and Anderson could read the document and ascertain the true financial impact on the tribe and our membership. I asked for a copy of this document a month prior to this meeting because I knew this item would be coming in front of the board and it could not be provided from our administrative office. As your board representative, I will not vote on an item until I have read it and been provided with all of the financial impacts to the membership.

At this meeting an ad hoc committee consisting of the original 29 Constitution Committee members, board members, elders was approved along with input from all communities. Director Chase and I have provided copies of this document at all three of our elder meetings this month;

we want to ensure that everyone has input on this important document. The membership needs to be shown the pros and cons of this document and the overall impact on our tribe. Your input is very valuable, so please make sure you and your families attend these important community meetings. There is a 90-day timeline on this project and community meetings will be announced.

This past month, FEMA held a weeklong training for our staff and surrounding tribes at the Sault casino. I attended the emergency management overview for tribal leaders. This was a very informative session — our staff came away with a lot of knowledge on how to prepare our tribe for emergency situations.

A training given by James Mills on leadership roles and responsibilities and Robert's Rules of Order was held at the Sault casino. The training

touched on characteristics of an effective leader, leaders as motivators, responsibilities of governing boards, ethics and so forth — and, how to effectively run meetings using Robert's Rules of Order. This was very helpful. I was able to take a lot of good information from this training.

Flu shot clinics will be held October and November please contact the Manistique Tribal Center at (906)341-8469 for the date and time.

Director Chase and I will be holding office hours on Oct. 17 at the Manistique Tribal Health Center, from 10 a.m. to Noon, and 4 to 6 p.m.; and Oct. 18 at the Willow Creek building in Escanaba from 3 to 5 p.m.

Cell: (906) 203-6699  
Email: DMorrow@saulttribe.net  
Address: P.O. Box 441  
Manistique, MI 49854

## Anderson questions constitutional implementation review



JOAN (CARR) ANDERSON,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

On Sept. 4, the Elder Advisory Committee presented the new Constitution at our workshop. I feel Mr. Menard and the elders

did a great job. We listened and asked some questions of concerns.

But, backing up a little, our workshop started in the morning and this presentation was in the afternoon. We have an agenda to follow, so we received the copies of the Constitution late that morning with no time to really look it over. I, and others who are new board members, would have liked to have tabled this for a workshop with just the board. It isn't that I am and others are against the Constitution — we feel we need more time to go over it and do some tweaking.

After the presentation of the Constitution, I spoke with some of the members who had been a part of putting it together, and

they also had some concerns to be addressed.

So, when we went to Sugar Island for our meeting, the Constitution was brought up and a motion was made to institute an ad hoc committee, "Constitutional Implementation Review Committee." This committee will be comprised of members of the Elder Advisory Committee, the Constitutional Committee, and the board of directors and will be tasked with reviewing the proposed Constitution for implementation, make remarks, recommendations or revisions and report find back to the board within 90 days. This is what I and three other board members voted no on, if it would have been tabled, we, the board, could

have talked about this first. I had questions like, do you need all the committee again? If we do need all the committee members back, is there more money involved? Where would this resource come from? How can we fit this into our schedule, it being on a timeline?

Right now with all the restructuring, financials, budgets, meetings in all units and training, I really think we should get back to our priority list. One being the separation of powers and going on to our health needs, funeral funds, elders checks increase, Christmas gift cards, 401K plans and employee insurance dropped down from 18 months to less, getting back our small medical and meeting building hour that

were taken away and get more revenue coming in, then I would say move on. I know all working together can take care of some of these in a positive way. I know all of us have been extra busy with all our elders and regular meetings trainings, etc. Darcy, Denise and I are trying to answer questions on the Constitution in our western end and take care of business. Also, I will try to hold my Unit V members meeting again; it will start on the second Thursday of the month at 6 p.m. at the Tribal Center, which is Nov. 8. Hope to see you there. If you have questions, please call (906) 387-2802 — this number works better for me.

Enjoy this beautiful fall,  
Joan Carr Anderson



# Under discussion: improving the tribe's Constitution



**BRIDGETT SORENSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

On Sept. 4, we had our board meeting on Sugar Island and had a day of heated discussions about the proposed "new constitution." The resolution that passed in 2005 stated, "The BOD has identified the need to strengthen and improve the Constitution for all Members of the Tribe." We went from an 8-page constitution to a proposed 22-page one. It is my understanding that it was not to write a whole new constitution. I agree we need to make some changes and that this should have been worked on during the past six years, but it was not and then was thrown to us at this meeting to vote on it going to a secretarial election.

Bob Menard was present at

the workshop with some of the elders stating they support it but I later found out by attending a Unit III elder luncheon that many have not even read it. I provided 50 copies to my elders and asked them to read through it and highlight any questions or concerns and we can address them before we make any major decisions.

During the workshop and meeting there were about five members of the Constitution Committee that had negative comments or qualms and one admitted that it was a good document in theory but was not written with cost in mind. There were comments of attorneys involved who fluffed up the document. The committee was formed with 29 members but the final document was finished with about nine members.

The board ultimately decided to form an ad hoc committee comprised of board members, elders and past Constitutional Committee members to work on the project within the next 90 days. When meetings are scheduled in your area, please plan on attending so your voice will be heard and your concerns addressed.

On Sept. 17, Denny, Aaron and I attended the Great Lakes Conservation Committee meeting held in St. Ignace. Some of our fishermen want a commercial license but we are at the limit of available licenses. The commit-

tee and chairman came up with a letter to mail to license holders who have not had any fishing activity to see if they would be willing to allow someone to fish their license with or without the fisherman having to pay a lease fee or percentage. Hopefully, this will help those who desire to fish commercially.

On Sept. 18, Aaron, Joan, Darcy, Denise and I met at the old Munising Tribal Health Building to see how it has been holding up and I am happy to report it is still in really good shape and we may try to use it as a cultural center for west end tribal members.

We had our board meeting at the old Lincoln School (new health center), which the tribe has completely renovated, and they did an awesome job. It is a beautiful building. During the meeting we had intense conversation on passing the budget with a proposed \$3.5 million deficit for 2013 without proposed capital expenditures of an additional \$3.5 million. The board passed the resolution with the contingency that we will balance the budget by Oct. 15. We will be meeting with all department heads and division directors to review their budgets and see what things we need and what things we want that could possibly wait another year. I hate cutting things and I know some of our buildings need some capital

improvements. We need to really work on creating more business and diversifying.

On Sept. 21, I helped the Unit III elders with a tailgate fish fry at the McCann School. They raised over \$600 from that, a bake sale and a 50/50. They were very happy with the fundraiser and fun was had by all. It is a great place to hold a fundraiser during football season so I think there will be more in the future.

On Sept. 24, the board had parliamentary procedures and Robert's Rules of Order training provided by James Mills, who has worked with many tribes across the United States. At 2 p.m. we walked over to the judicial building to meet with U.S. Attorney Patrick Miles Jr. Many of our agencies were present to introduce themselves and what their roles are within the tribe and the services we provide.

On Sept. 25, we continued our training with James Mills and at 10 a.m. went to the grand opening and blessing of the Lodge of Bravery in Sault Ste. Marie. The building is beautiful and will be a safe haven for women who have been victims of domestic abuse. Lori Jump, Joni Talentino and their staff members worked hard to complete this project.

On Sept. 26 and 27, I attended training at the Big Bear made possible by a three-year grant awarded to Tribal Court. The grant is to help the tribe imple-

ment a tribal action plan for alcohol and substance abuse. All agencies within the tribe were present and discussed the problems in our families and community and how we want to work together to combat this crisis. The group came up with a vision and mission statement and formed an advisory board that will again meet with Fox Valley Technical Training at the end of October to continue this plan. I am very excited to be a part of the advisory board.

We have a deadline of Nov. 1 to purchase the property of the proposed Lansing **BOUTIQUE** casino so we have been trying to work on concerns to move this project forward.

Some good news is that the ballot initiative to allow eight non-tribal casinos in Michigan failed, so we will not be seeing this on the November ballot. We also finally received trust status on the Juvenile Detention Center in St. Ignace and continue to work towards getting our other properties into trust.

My office hours are set for Fridays from 9 to 11 a.m. at the old Lambert Center building. I will be canceling Oct. 26 to attend the tribal action plan training in Sault Ste. Marie, but members can call or email me for an appointment:

bsorenson@saulttribe.net, 643-2123 office, 430-0536 cell.

# Native Americans make a difference, vote this November!



**CATHY ABRAMSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Before I begin reporting my board activities, I want to stress how important it is for you to vote in this upcoming election.

While we may be a small percentage of the overall population, Native Americans can make a difference in an election. Did you know that two out of every five eligible American Indian and Alaska Native voters are not registered to vote and, in 2008, over a million eligible Native voters were unregistered? Imagine the impact we could have on elections all across the country if our people registered and voted! In our states and districts, we have a perfect opportunity to make sure many more elected office holders know that Indian Country matters. Please get out and vote!

Also, at this time, I am asking you to vote for Gary McDowell for Congress. Gary is a friend of our tribe and Indian Country. We need him in D.C.! He knows our issues and concerns. He understands and supports the federal government's trust responsibility

to our Native nations. We have lost a lot of support in D.C. in the last few years. Please get out and vote! When you do, make sure you vote for Gary McDowell for Congress. We must do our part and vote him in to office so that he may help meet our needs and help keep the federal government's promises to us.

On Aug. 30, I provided tribal consultation testimony to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention. The CDC needs to reaffirm its commitment to establishing a government-to-government relationship with tribal government by committing funding to assist in the development of tribal and public health infrastructure, capacity and programs.

It is important that funding go directly to the tribes and funding be increased. The federal government's promise to provide healthcare was made a long time ago. Our treaties did not say that Indian Health Service (IHS) would provide healthcare to our tribes. It said the "federal government" would. The federal government is made up of various agencies, not just IHS. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is another agency that is obligated to serve our people.

In late 2010, the Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius created the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee (STAC), the first tribal advisory committee established to directly advise the secretary in the history of HHS. The committee is comprised of one primary representative for each of the 12 IHS service areas, as well as

five at-large national representatives. I am pleased to be one of those members, representing the Bemidji Area (Michigan, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin). The STAC's primary purpose is to seek consensus, exchange views, share information and provide advice or recommendations; or facilitate any other interaction related to intergovernmental responsibilities or administration of HHS programs.

On Sept. 11-12, I attended the STAC meeting in Washington, D.C. We informed the secretary of HHS that tribes need to get equal footing to funding. The Secretary needs to know our priorities so that we may increase our outreach and technical assistance. There are millions of dollars in countless programs under the Department of Health and Human Services, not only Indian Health Services.

We informed the secretary that 1) the STAC needs to continue on a permanent basis; 2) Our concerns with contract support costs; 3) Importance of the completion of a matrix where all the legislative barriers are in accessing state grants and programs; 4) It is imperative that the federal travel restrictions of only meeting at federal buildings not apply to tribes. It is important that we have federal-tribal meetings on Indian land so that staff may have a better chance to learn of who we are as a people by seeing where we live; 5) We stressed the importance of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians report to Congress be completed and sent to Congress as soon as possible. (Last week, it was

announced that it was delivered to Congress.); 6) Concerns regarding the Indian Child Welfare Act.

While I was there, I met with Central Office staff and our Project Specialist W.J. Strickland, from the Office of Head Start for American Indians and Alaska Natives. We discussed more effective ways of communications and consultations with our tribes. I am happy that I am able to meet directly with the people that are in charge of our Head Start programs and funding. I will continue to do so on a regular basis.

I recently attended the NIH's annual consumer conference in Denver, Colo. National Indian Health Board advocates on behalf of all federally-recognized tribal governments, American Indian and Alaska Natives. Elevating the visibility of Indian health care issues is NIH's mission. For 40 years, NIH has continually played a role in focusing the national attention of Indian health care needs. As the NIH chairperson, I worked morning until night in an effort to meet with the various health experts and tribal leaders across the country to see how we could advocate the importance of better health care delivery for Indian Country.

Some of the tracks that were covered were as follows: veterans affairs, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, public health and health information technology. There were also workshops on the Affordable Care Act, data, diabetes, mental health and wellness and their impact in Indian Country to name a few.

Eric Shinseki, secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans

Affairs, was a keynote speaker. Our very own Dr. Mary Beth Skupien, also in attendance, informed us of all that the Veteran Affairs is providing for us in Indian Country. I am just so proud of her and all that she has done for our people!

Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, director of the Indian Health Service, was another keynote speaker. I was able to spend a lot of time with her to discuss our health care issues and concerns.

Following the passage of the Budget Control Act of 2011 and the failure of the Congressional "Super Committee," federal budget sequestration is becoming increasingly likely. During sequestration, agencies will experience significant mandatory cuts (8.2 percent) to their discretionary operating budgets. These cuts will have serious effects on the ability and obligation of agencies to uphold their trust responsibility to our people. It will be important that all tribal leaders get involved in the budget process and attend their area budget formulation meetings. It is important that all tribes give input to the distribution formula. In the meantime, we need to share our success stories about our local programs. We need to inform Congress how these cuts would hurt the services to our people. It is only Congress that can address this and correct it. We all need to work together to balance the budget.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (906) 322-3823 or e-mail me at cabramson@saulttribe.net.



# Presenting proposed constitution language

*Continued to page 26*

On Sept. 4, the board of directors met with the Elder Advisory Committee (EAC) and took action on its request to bring back the 2008 work product of the Constitution Committee.

The action was to send the document back to a committee for review, remarks and recommendations. This new committee will be made up from members of the EAC, board of directors and staff. It is to report back to the full board in December with findings for consideration and further action.

I believe it is important that our membership read and understand this document. I have my own thoughts on it, and wrote four scrapped unit reports espousing those thoughts before coming to the conclusion that my thoughts are just that; mine.

What is more important to me is what your thoughts are on the document that would govern your tribe! Luckily, the editor, Jennifer Dale-Burton, agreed to collaborate with me in order to allow you ample time to consider and critique this and contact your board members with your input.

DJ Malloy,  
Director, Unit I

## PREAMBLE

We, the Baaweting Anishinaabek of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa, in order to provide for the perpetuation of our Anishinaabe Bimaadziwin, provide for the welfare and prosperity of our People, protect our property and resources, preserve our inherent sovereignty in accordance with the teachings of our Seven Grandfathers, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

## ARTICLE I - SOVEREIGNTY

Section 1. Source of Sovereignty. The People shall be the source of all governing authority and power vested in the Tribe by this Constitution.

Section 2. Supremacy. This Constitution shall be the supreme law over the government and all the People of the Tribe. All treaties, laws, compacts, and actions of the government shall be consistent with this Constitution. All laws of the Tribe existing at the time of adoption of this Constitution shall remain in effect so long as such laws are consistent with this Constitution. The Ogemaa shall cause to be completed and presented to the Council a written assessment of the existing laws within six months of the adoption of this Constitution to determine which laws are inconsistent with this Constitution.

Section 3. Delegation of Sovereignty. The government shall exercise only the authority and powers granted by the People in this Constitution.

Section 4. Reserved Powers. Powers not granted to the government shall be reserved to the People.

## ARTICLE II - BILL OF RIGHTS

Section 1. Bill of Rights. The government of the Tribe shall not

make or enforce any law which:

(a) infringes upon religious or cultural beliefs or prohibits the free exercise thereof nor any law which establishes religion;

(b) prohibits the freedom of speech, expression, or of the press, or the right of the People peaceably to associate or assemble, and to petition the government for redress of grievances;

(c) infringes upon the right of any person otherwise eligible at any time to seek and hold elective public office;

(d) violates the right of the People to be secure in the privacy of their persons, houses, papers, electronic and telecommunications information, vehicles, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures, nor issue warrants but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation signed by a Judge and particularly describing the place, person, house, or things to be searched, the object and scope of such search, and the person or thing to be seized, nor execute an arrest without probable cause, nor exercise a detention without reasonable suspicion;

(e) subjects any person to search without probable cause or to interrogation while in custody without informing the person of their right to remain silent, to have access to an attorney, and to be advised that anything they say can be held against them in a court of law;

(f) subjects any person to criminal prosecution or punishment more than once for the same offense arising out of the same incident, nor compels any person in any criminal case to be a witness against himself or herself;

(g) discharges any person from employment without due process, or takes any private property or possessory interest in private property for public use, without due process and just compensation;

(h) discharges any person from employment or takes any other retaliation against an employee who makes public any information of misconduct by officials or employees of the Tribe;

(i) denies to any person in a criminal or civil proceeding the right to a speedy and public trial, to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation, to be confronted with the witnesses against him or her, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his or her favor, and in a criminal proceeding to have the assistance of counsel for his or her defense subject to income guidelines;

(j) requires excessive bail, imposes excessive fines, or inflicts cruel and unusual methods of interrogation or punishment;

(k) denies to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection, application, or opportunity under the law or deprive any person of liberty or property without due process of law, provided, that the government shall have the power to enact and implement laws that provide employment preferences;

(l) directs a criminal proceeding against a specific individual or group, or punishes conduct after the fact through the enactment of laws or resolutions which criminalize such conduct;

(m) denies to any person accused of an offense punishable by imprisonment the right upon request, to a trial by an impartial jury of not less than six persons, and all persons shall be presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law;

(n) denies to any person the access to his or her own personal information maintained by the Tribe;

(o) denies to any Person the right to own, bear, and use arms subject to regulation by the Tribe by law.

Section 2. Pardon Panel. There shall be a Pardon Panel comprised of the Ogemaa, the Speaker of the Council, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court or their designees, and two Members selected by the Ogemaa, the Speaker of the Council, and the Chief Justice. Upon submission of an application for a pardon, the Pardon Panel shall have the power to issue a pardon if three of the five Members vote to pardon in a public hearing, provided that no pardon may be issued until the passage of three years from the date of conviction.

## ARTICLE III - TERRITORY AND JURISDICTION

Section 1. Territory. The Territory of the Tribe shall encompass all lands which are now or hereafter owned and held by the Tribe or owned by the Tribe and held in trust for the Tribe or Members by the United States, notwithstanding the issuance of any patent or right-of-way in fee or otherwise existing now or in the future. The Territory shall include lands and waters ceded by the 1836 Treaty or any other treaty entered into by the Tribe for purposes of exercising, regulating, and protecting reserved rights of hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering, and cultural, and ceremonial activities. The Territory shall include but not be limited to, the environment, air, airspace, all surface and subsurface land and water, and any resource severable from the land, minerals, and natural resources. No Territory shall be ceded unless authorized by law subject to the approval of the voters in a Special Election. No real property, tangible property, or intellectual property, of the Tribe, shall be transferred, mortgaged, or otherwise encumbered unless authorized by law.

Section 2. Jurisdiction. The Jurisdiction and governing authority of the Tribe shall extend to all persons, property, and activities within the Territory and shall include exercising, regulating, and protecting reserved rights to fish, hunt, trap, and other usual rights and privileges of occupancy over all lands and waters ceded by the Treaty of Washington of 1836 or any other treaty entered into by the Tribe. The Tribe shall have the power to assert the Sovereignty and Jurisdiction of the Tribe over all matters that affect the inter-

ests of the Tribe. Nothing in this Article shall be construed to limit the ability of the Tribe to exercise its Jurisdiction based upon law or its inherent sovereignty.

## ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Requirements. All persons shall be entitled to membership in the Tribe who possess:

(a) Indian blood and who can trace their ancestry to any historical annuity or census roll of the seven historical bands, which shall include Sugar Island, Grand Island, Point Iroquois, Sault Ste. Marie, Garden River, Drummond Island, and Mackinac; or,

(b) Indian blood and who are validly enrolled as Members of the Tribe as of the date of the approval of this Constitution, which includes members of the Original Bands of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and their lineal descendants.

Section 2. No Dual Membership. No person shall be a Member of the Tribe who is also a member of any other tribe or band of North American Indians.

## ARTICLE V - SEPARATION OF POWERS

Section 1. Branches of Government. There shall be one Legislative branch, one Executive branch, and one Judicial branch. There shall be a system of separation of powers and checks and balances between the branches of government. No branch of government or official of any branch of government shall exercise any power granted in this Constitution or properly delegated by law to any other branch of government except as expressly directed or permitted by this Constitution and each branch shall act as a check and balance upon the actions of the other branches as permitted by this Constitution.

## ARTICLE VI - JUDICIAL BRANCH

Section 1. Composition of the Judicial Branch. There shall be one Judicial Branch. The Judicial Branch shall be made up of one Trial Court which shall be called the Court of Gweyakwaadziwin, one Supreme Court which shall be called the Court of Nbwaakawin, a Judicial Commission, and court staff including a Chief Administrator of the Judicial Branch, staff attorneys, a Chief Clerk of each Court, and appropriate subordinate clerks of court. The Judicial Branch shall also include trial level courts of special jurisdiction as established by law.

(a) Composition of the Trial Court. The Trial Court shall be made up of one Chief Judge, one Associate Judge, and any other Associate Judges or Substitute Judges as authorized by law. The Chief Judge shall have oversight authority of all matters related to the operations and administration of all trial level courts including the employment and discharge of Court personnel.

(b) Composition of the Supreme Court. There shall be five

Justices on the Supreme Court. There shall be one Chief Justice and four Associate Justices. The Chief Justice shall have oversight authority of all matters related to the operations and administration of the Supreme Court.

(c) Composition of Courts of Special Jurisdiction. Courts of Special Jurisdiction shall be made up of judges or peacemakers, including appropriate staff, as established by law.

Section 2. Election and Selection of Justices and Judges.

(a) Election of Justices and Judges. All Justices and Judges, except substitute Judges, shall be elected directly by the voters.

(b) Selection of Substitute Judges. Upon recusal of the Chief Judge and all Associate Judges, the Chief Judge shall select a Substitute Judge, subject to any restrictions imposed by rules of the Courts or by law.

Section 3. Terms.

(a) The term of office for each Judge of the Trial Court or any other trial level court shall be four years and each Judge shall remain seated, unless removed, until an oath of office is administered to a successor. The terms of office for each Justice of the Supreme Court shall be six years and each Justice shall remain seated, unless removed, until the oath of office is administered to a successor.

(b) The terms of office for Justices and Judges shall be staggered.

Section 4. Qualifications.

(a) The Chief Judge shall be a Member of the Tribe, an attorney, and reside within a fifty mile radius of the city limits of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan upon election to office. All Associate Judges shall be Members of the Tribe, at least thirty-five years old or an attorney, and reside in any voting District upon election.

(b) The Chief Justice shall be a Member of the Tribe and an attorney, and at least two other Associate Justices shall be Members of the Tribe. All Justices shall be of voting age and Native American. At least one Associate Justice shall be an attorney.

(c) No person shall be eligible to serve as a Judge or Justice who has ever been convicted of a felony in any jurisdiction unless pardoned by the Pardon Panel of the Tribe, or by the jurisdiction where the conviction occurred as long as such pardon is disclosed and consistent with the constitution and laws of the Tribe.

(d) A Judge or Justice cannot be an elected or appointed official of any other government.

Section 5. Jurisdiction of the Courts.

(a) The Trial Court shall have original jurisdiction over all cases and controversies, both criminal and civil, in law or in equity,



arising under the Constitution, treaties, laws, and customs of the Tribe, including cases in which the Tribe or its officials and employees shall be a party, except for an appeal of a final decision by the Election Commission on any election protest or challenge including challenges to a redistricting and reapportionment plan filed in the Supreme Court. Any such case or controversy arising within the jurisdiction of the Tribe shall be filed and exhausted in the Judicial Branch before it is filed in any other court or in any other jurisdiction. This grant of jurisdiction shall not be construed to be a waiver of the Sovereign Immunity of the Tribe.

(b) The Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction over any case on appeal from the Trial Court or any other trial level court. The Supreme Court shall also have original and exclusive jurisdiction over any final determination of an election dispute by the Election Commission or on any approved plan to redistrict or reapportion, and such jurisdiction shall include the power to make findings of fact and conclusions of law, and to issue all remedies in law and equity. The Supreme Court shall hear and decide all election disputes within thirty days of filing, and if no decision is rendered within thirty days then the decision of the Election Commission shall be final.

**Section 6. Powers and Duties of the Courts.**

(a) Healing. The primary duty of the Judicial Branch shall be to promote community and individual healing and forgiveness in all matters which come before the Courts in accordance with the laws, customs, and traditions of the Tribe.

(b) Trial Court.

(i) The Trial Court shall have the power to make findings of fact, interpret the Constitution, treaties, and laws of the Tribe, make conclusions of law, and issue all remedies in law and in equity.

(ii) The Trial Court shall have the power to declare the laws of the Tribe void if such laws are not consistent with this Constitution.

(iii) The Trial Court shall have the power to review and determine if actions of the Executive, including any Department, Board, Committee, or Executive Branch official are consistent with this Constitution, and to order an appropriate remedy for actions which violate this Constitution.

(iv) All proceedings of the Trial Court or any other trial court shall be recorded for purposes of appellate review.

(c) Supreme Court.

(i) The Supreme Court shall have the power to interpret the Constitution, treaties, and laws of the Tribe, make conclusions of law and make findings of fact in election disputes, and issue all remedies in law and in equity. Decisions of the Supreme Court shall be final.

(ii) The Supreme Court shall have the power to declare the laws and Executive actions of the Tribe void if such laws are not consistent with this Constitution.

(iii) The Chief Justice shall have oversight authority of

all matters related to the operations and administration of the Supreme Court including the employment and discharge of Court personnel and the preparation and presentation of an annual budget request for the Judicial Branch. The Supreme Court shall have the power to adopt Rules and Court Procedures governing the Judicial Branch subject to the Rules of the Judicial Commission and the laws of the Tribe.

(d) Rules of Court. Each Court shall have the power to make its own rules of court, procedure, evidence, and other judicial matters, subject to the power of the Chief Judge to make or modify such rules, and any rule established by any Court, the Chief Judge, or the Judicial Commission shall be subject to the power of the Council to make or modify any rule by law.

(e) Written Decisions. All orders, judgments, opinions, or final decisions of any Court shall be written and published in a timely manner.

(f) Final Disposition. The Courts shall render a final disposition in all cases properly filed.

(g) Right to Appeal. Any party to a civil action, or a defendant in a criminal action, who is dissatisfied with the judgment or verdict of a Trial Court shall have the right to file an appeal to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court shall have the right to accept or deny any appeal from a Trial Court. All appeals that are accepted for review by the Supreme Court shall be heard by the full Supreme Court.

(h) Precedent. The Courts shall develop rules regarding precedent. The Courts shall require all parties to a case to present arguments regarding the customs and traditions of the Tribe. In the absence of an applicable written law of the Tribe, the Courts shall separately consider and explain in writing the application of the customs and traditions to the disposition of the case.

**Section 7. Conflicts of Interest.** Judges and Justices shall disclose and recuse when they have a conflict of interest. Any party to a case shall have the right to request a Judge to recuse, and every decision on recusal shall be accompanied by a written explanation for the decision.

**Section 8. Judicial Commission.**

(a) Establishment. There shall be a Judicial Commission in the Judicial Branch.

(b) Composition of the Judicial Commission. The Judicial Commission shall be comprised of five seats to be filled by Members of the Tribe, three seats which shall be selected upon public nomination by the Ogemaa and two seats which shall be selected upon public nomination by the Chief Justice, all nominations to be subject to confirmation by the. Members of the Judicial Commission shall serve four year staggered terms of office.

(c) General Powers of the Judicial Commission. The Judicial Commission shall have the power to adopt Rules of Court governing the Judicial Branch subject to the Laws of the Tribe.

(d) Specific Powers to Regulate the Conduct of Judges, Justices, Attorneys, Advocates, and Officers

of the Courts. The Judicial Commission shall have the power to establish Rules of Ethics for the Judicial Branch to hear any complaints regarding Judges, Justices, attorneys, advocates, or any other Officer of the Courts, subject to law. The Judicial Commission shall have the power, after providing due process, to make recommendations to the Supreme Court to conduct a disciplinary or removal hearing.

**Section 9. Compensation.** Judges and Justices shall be paid a reasonable compensation by law.

**ARTICLE VII - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

**Section 1. Composition.** The Council shall be comprised of fifteen Council Members elected from the eight voting Districts as follows:

(a) The Upper Peninsula shall be divided into five voting Districts with a total of twelve Council Members.

(i) Unless the boundaries of the voting Districts are modified pursuant to the terms of this Constitution, the respective boundaries of the Districts shall continue as they existed at the time of ratification of this Constitution except the boundary of District Five shall be expanded to include the remainder of the western Upper Peninsula.

(ii) Unless the number of Council Members in each District is modified pursuant to the terms of this Constitution, the number of Council Members in each District shall continue as existed at the time of ratification of this Constitution.

(b) The Lower Peninsula shall be divided into three At-large voting Districts, with one Council Member per voting District as follows:

(i) The Northern At-large Voting District shall include Antrim, Otsego, Montmorency, Alpena, and all counties in the Lower Peninsula north of those counties.

(ii) The Western At-large voting District shall include Crawford, Roscommon, Gladwin, Midland, Gratiot, Clinton, Ingham, Jackson, and Hillsdale, and all Michigan counties west of the those counties.

(iii) The Eastern At-large voting District shall include all Michigan counties east of those counties listed in subparagraph (ii) and not listed in subparagraph (I).

(c) Redistricting and Reapportionment of the Upper Peninsula Districts.

(i) After the next census in 2010 and every ten years thereafter, the Election Commission shall make Findings of population patterns and demographics for purposes of redistricting or reapportioning. The Election Commission shall prepare a proposed Plan to redistrict or reapportion the five voting Districts in the Upper Peninsula to achieve an equitable redistribution of Council Members based on the Findings, but each District shall have at least one Council Member.

(ii) The Election Commission shall present the proposed redistricting or reapportionment Plan to the Council for approval or disapproval. The

Council shall have the authority to modify the Plan submitted by the Election Commission by law. If the Council fails to approve or disapprove the Plan by law within sixty days of submission to the Council, then the original plan proposed by the Election Commission shall be deemed final for purposes of judicial review.

(iii) Any Member of the Tribe shall have standing to challenge in the Supreme Court any redistricting or reapportionment Plan adopted by either the Election Commission or the Council within thirty days of approval, and any approved plan shall be subject to review by the Supreme Court which shall have original and exclusive jurisdiction, and a decision by the Supreme Court shall be final, provided that if the Court does not make a decision within sixty days of filing of the challenge, then the Plan as approved shall be final and no further judicial review shall be permitted.

(iv) Any redistricting or reapportionment plan approved pursuant to this Section shall be implemented prior to the beginning of the 2012 election cycle, and each ten years thereafter.

(d) At-large voting Districts shall not be subject to redistricting or reapportionment.

(e) Eligible Voters of the Tribe shall be permitted to vote exclusively in the voting District in which they maintain their primary residence; provided, that active duty military personnel shall continue to be residents of their respective Districts. Eligible Voters of the Tribe who do not maintain their primary residence in any of the voting Districts shall be permitted to register to vote and vote in any one of the three At-large voting Districts; provided, that once registered to vote in an At-large voting District voters shall not be permitted to change voting Districts unless they establish their primary residence in a voting District.

**Section 2. Terms.** The term of office for each Council Member shall be four years. The terms of office for all Council Members shall be staggered.

**Section 3. Selection.** All Candidates for District Council Member shall be named by District on the same ballot and elected by receiving the highest number of votes in descending order cast by eligible voters of the District.

**Section 4. Qualifications.**

(a) Every Council Member shall be a Member of the Tribe and of voting age.

(b) No persons convicted of a felony in any jurisdiction shall serve as a Council Member, unless pardoned by the Pardon Panel of the Tribe after holding a public hearing, or by the jurisdiction where the conviction occurred so long as such pardon is disclosed and consistent with the laws of the Tribe as determined by the Pardon Panel.

(c) Every Council Member shall physically reside in the District which they represent for at least one year immediately prior to the election and for the duration of their term.

**Section 5. Compensation.** Council Members shall be paid a reasonable compensation by law commensurate with a full-time job. No Council Member shall be employed in any other governmental capacity.

**Section 6. Powers.** Legislative power shall be vested in the Council.

(a) The Council shall have the power to make laws, raise revenue, borrow money, and enact an annual balanced budget for the entire Tribe by law, and take any other action as provided in this Constitution. The Council shall not have the power to make a private law.

(b) There shall be one fiscal year and one comprehensive annual balanced budget for the entire Tribe. The annual budget shall include all revenue and funds controlled by the Tribe and all revenue and funds received by the Tribe from any and all sources. The Council shall have the power to conduct one semi-annual budget assessment and make appropriate modifications to the annual budget by law. Upon request of the Executive, the Council shall have the power to make the requested modification to the annual budget at any time. No money shall be drawn from the Treasury unless it has been separately and previously authorized by law and included in an approved budget.

(c) If the Council fails to approve an annual budget by the start of the fiscal year, then the entire Tribe shall continue to function at the level of the previous year's budget, and no Council Member shall be paid any compensation until a new budget is enacted and Council Members shall not receive any retroactive compensation for the period of time when the previous year's budget was in effect.

(d) The Council shall follow a public Legislative Process to enact laws and budgets.

(i) Each proposed law and budget of the Council shall be embodied in a written Bill, unless otherwise indicated in this Constitution. Each Council Member shall have the power to introduce a Bill which shall be read into the public Legislative Record and placed on the public Legislative Calendar. The name of the Council Member who is the primary sponsor of each Bill shall be indicated on the Bill.

Every Bill shall include a section explaining how the law derives from, comports with, or affects the customs and traditions of the Tribe. Every Bill shall include a statement identifying the specific law, if any, to be amended, superceded, or repealed.

(ii) The Council or a Committee of the Council shall be required to conduct at least one public hearing in any District held outside the time of a Legislative Session which shall include time for public comment on a Bill prior to passage by the Council. The Council shall have the power to compel evidence, Records, and witnesses by subpoena. Members of the Tribe shall be afforded the opportunity to address the Council privately regarding a personal matter;



however, the Council shall not be permitted to take any action at such time.

(iii) The shall be required to publish every introduced Bill in the Tribe's newspaper, website, and in other public places at least thirty days prior to a vote by the Council, unless the Bill proposes a budget modification made upon the request of the Executive to meet a time-sensitive requirement for securing funding from a source other than the Tribe.

(iv) A majority of the whole number of seated Council Members shall constitute a quorum, and a quorum shall be required to convene a Regular Session or Special Session of the Council. The Council shall have the power to enact a Bill by a majority vote of Council Members present. The Council shall vote on each Bill in public by separate roll call votes. A Council Member shall be present to cast a roll call vote, and the names and votes of each Council Member on each Bill shall be recorded and published.

(v) All Bills enacted by the Council shall be presented to the Ogemaa for signature or veto. The Ogemaa shall have ten days from presentment to sign the enactment into law or to veto the enactment with a written explanation of objections, and if the Ogemaa takes no action on an enacted Bill, then it shall become law. The Council shall have the power to override an Executive veto by a vote of at least three-fourths of the seated Members of the Council.

(vi) No law or budget, whether enacted by the Council and signed into law by the Ogemaa or enacted by veto override by the Council, except a budget modification, shall be valid until it has been published in the Tribe's newspaper and a period of at least ninety days has passed. All laws shall be compiled into one Code which shall be published annually.

(vii) Unless otherwise permitted by this Constitution, any action by the Council which does not follow the Legislative Process shall be deemed void and shall not be implemented or enforced by the government, Ogemaa, or any official or employee.

(e) Beginning two years after the effective date of the Constitution, a permanent interest-bearing trust fund, which shall be called the Seven Generation Fund, shall be established and the principal of such fund shall remain unencumbered, unappropriated, and unspent. In the first year of the Fund, at least 2% of that part of the Tribe's annual net profit derived from the Tribe's businesses shall be budgeted and deposited into the permanent trust fund. In the second year of the Fund, at least 3% of that part of the Tribe's annual net profit derived from the Tribe's businesses shall be budgeted and deposited into the permanent trust fund. In the third year of the Fund, at least 4% of that part of the Tribe's annual net profit derived from the Tribe's businesses shall be budgeted and deposited into the permanent trust fund. In the fourth year of the Fund and in every year thereafter, at least 7% of that part of the Tribe's annual net profit derived from the Tribe's businesses shall be budgeted and deposited into the permanent trust fund. In

each annual budget, the Council may include up to ninety percent of the available interest from the permanent trust fund for services to Members and reasonable and customary fund administrative fees, and the remaining interest shall become principal of the permanent trust fund.

(f) The Council shall select a Speaker from among its Members. The Council shall have the power to create internal rules and procedures for the Legislative Branch including the power to establish Committees of the Council comprised exclusively of Council Members. The Council shall have the power to employ legislative staff including legislative counsel and a Sargent of arms.

(g) The Council shall have the power to establish executive Departments, Commissions, Boards, Offices, and other subordinate entities by law. All Commissions and Boards shall be established in the Executive Branch. The powers and duties of all Commissions shall be regulatory. No Council Member may be elected, appointed, or employed in the Judicial Branch, in the Executive Branch, or in any other government or its political subdivisions in any capacity including as a consultant, contractor, or otherwise unless specifically authorized by this Constitution, except that the Ogemaa and Council Members who are otherwise qualified may serve as unpaid members of the business board of any gaming enterprise owned by the Tribe and operated outside the Territory.

(h) The Council shall not have the power to enact, adopt, authorize, or otherwise approve any cession, diminishment, or relinquishment by law, agreement, or by any other means any treaty rights reserved to the Tribe. The Council shall not have the power to pass any law or to negotiate any agreement prohibiting or abridging the exercise of any reserved treaty right to hunt, fish, or gather except for temporary conservation purposes which shall be subject to the approval of the voters in a Special Election.

(i) The Council shall have the authority to establish by law a process for the extending Full Faith and Credit to the judicial orders and judgments of other jurisdictions.

(j) The Council shall have the authority to establish limits on campaign spending by law.

#### Section 7. Legislative Sessions.

(a) Regular Sessions. The Council shall convene in Baaweting in a Regular Session during the first full week of the month for up to seven consecutive days.

(b) Special Sessions. The Ogemaa shall be permitted to call a Special Session of the Council. A Special Session may be held in any District and the date and location of the Special Session shall be made by public notice. The purpose of the Special Session shall be explained by public notice and only that purpose shall be considered during the Special Session. A Special Session shall last no longer than one day.

(c) Every Regular Session and

Special Session shall be open to the public, unless otherwise permitted by this Constitution.

(d) Council Members may vote on matters only during a Regular Session or a Special Session.

(e) The seat of government shall be Baaweting, the traditional gathering place.

### ARTICLE VIII - EXECUTIVE BRANCH

#### Section 1. Composition.

(a) The Executive Branch shall be comprised of one Ogemaa, a Department of Administration including Offices of Property and Supply, Records Management, Personnel, Grants and Contracts, and Procurement, a Department of Culture and Tradition, a Department of Business, Department of Education, Department of Health, Department of Housing, Department of Treasury, Department of Natural Environment, Department of Labor, Department of Anishinaabek Community and Family Services, and any other Departments established by law.

(i) The Department of Business shall govern and regulate all business activity within the Jurisdiction, provided that the management, including any board of directors, of each separate business entity owned by the Tribe shall make the day to day decisions, including personnel decisions, on the entity's business management and operations subject to law.

(ii) The Office of Records Management within the Department of Administration shall be located at the government headquarters in Baaweting. The Office of Records Management shall secure and maintain all Records of the Tribe. The Office of Records Management shall develop systems to index and access all Records maintained in the Office of Records Management or any other office. The Office of Records Management shall make public the pay scale for every position by classification. Members shall have the right to inspect any Record and shall have the right to obtain copies of any Record for a reasonable fee as may be set by law. The Council shall have the power to impose by law reasonable restrictions on access to records relating to private health records, private personnel files, and private information contained in enrollment records.

(b) There shall be a Department of Public Safety comprised of a Division of Law Enforcement and an Office of Prosecutor, an Office of Compliance, and an Office of Conservation Enforcement. The Office of Prosecutor shall have the sole discretion to prosecute on a case by case basis.

(i) The Chief Prosecutor shall be elected by the voters of the Tribe to serve a four year term of office. The Chief Prosecutor shall be a Member of the Tribe, an attorney, and reside within a fifty mile radius of the city limits of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan upon election to office. If no attorney is available to serve as Chief Prosecutor, then the Ogemaa shall nominate an otherwise qualified person to serve as Chief Prosecutor until the next General Election, subject to confir-

mation by the Council.

(ii) No person shall be eligible to serve as the Chief Prosecutor who has ever been convicted of a felony in any jurisdiction unless pardoned by the Pardon Panel of the Tribe or by the jurisdiction where the conviction occurred as long as such pardon is disclosed and consistent with the constitution and laws of the Tribe.

(iii) The Prosecutor cannot be an elected or appointed official of any other government.

(c) There shall be one Director to head each Department.

(d) The Ogemaa shall be in charge of the Executive Branch of government. The Ogemaa shall be subject to the laws of the Tribe.

Section 2. Terms. The term of office for the Ogemaa shall be four years.

Section 3. Selection. The Ogemaa shall be elected by receiving the highest number of votes cast by eligible voters of the entire Tribe.

#### Section 4. Qualifications.

(a) The Ogemaa shall be a Member of the Tribe of voting age.

(b) No persons convicted of a felony in any jurisdiction shall serve as an Ogemaa unless pardoned by the Pardon Panel of the Tribe after holding a public hearing, or by the jurisdiction where the conviction occurred so long as such pardon is disclosed and consistent with the laws of the Tribe as determined by the Pardon Panel.

(c) The Ogemaa shall physically reside in any District for at least one year immediately prior to the election, and within thirty days of taking the oath of office, shall physically reside within a fifty mile radius of Baaweting for the duration of their terms.

(d) The Ogemaa shall not hold another job in any capacity.

Section 5. Powers. Executive power shall be vested in the Executive Branch. The Executive Branch shall execute, enforce, and administer the laws and budgets of the Tribe.

(a) The Executive Branch shall present a proposed balanced annual budget to the Council no later than first day of June of each year.

(b) The Ogemaa shall serve as the official representative of the Tribe.

(c) The Ogemaa shall have the power to veto a Bill within ten days of presentation to the Ogemaa. A veto shall include a written explanation of any objections to the Bill.

(d) The Executive Branch shall not have the authority to spend money unless previously authorized by law and appropriated in a budget.

(e) The Ogemaa shall be authorized to hire staff in the Office of Ogemaa. Such positions shall serve at the pleasure of the Ogemaa and shall be vacated to coincide with the expiration of the Ogemaa's term. Funding shall be included for four such positions. Any funding

for additional political staff in the Office of Ogemaa shall be authorized by law.

(f) No person shall make or participate in making an executive decision if such person has a direct and personal financial interest in the outcome of the decision.

(g) The Ogemaa shall present an annual state of the Tribe address.

Section 6. Compensation. The Ogemaa shall be paid a reasonable compensation by law.

### ARTICLE IX - RECALL, REMOVAL, AND VACANCIES

#### Section 1. Recall of a Council Member.

(a) A Council Member shall be subject to recall.

(i) A Recall Election shall be initiated by petition signed by at least ten percent of the total number of eligible voters in the District of that Council Member.

(ii) A separate recall petition shall be required for each Council Member subject to recall.

(iii) A recall petition shall be submitted only to the Election Commission. The Election Commission shall determine within fifteen days whether all requirements for the petition are met. If all requirements are met, the Election Commission shall hold a Recall Election after thirty days but no more than sixty days.

(iv) All eligible voters of the District shall be entitled to vote in the Recall Election. A Council Member shall be recalled and removed from office if at least a majority of the votes cast in the Recall Election vote in favor of recall.

(v) A recall petition shall not be initiated or submitted to the Election Commission until at least six months has passed since the start of each new term of a Council Member. A recall petition shall not be initiated or submitted to the Election Commission if six months or less remain in the term of the Council Member. Once a petition is initiated, the petitioners shall have no more than sixty days to collect the requisite number of signatures. A Council Member subject to an unsuccessful recall vote shall not be subject to another Recall Election during their term unless the basis for the recall is a conviction of a felony in any jurisdiction.

(vi) A Council Member who is successfully recalled from office shall not be eligible to run for any elected office until the original term of the Council Member would have expired.

Section 2. Removal of a Council Member. A Council Member shall be subject to removal for good cause as established by law.

(a) At least one hundred eligible voters of a District may present to the Trial Court a signed written petition stating good cause and requesting a removal hearing against a Council Member of that District. The Trial Court shall decide within fifteen days upon receipt of a petition whether the petition states good cause to conduct a removal hearing.



(b) If the Trial Court finds good cause, the Trial Court shall, within sixty days of receipt of a valid petition, conduct a public removal hearing providing due process and make a final determination whether the accused shall be removed from office, and upon a decision of removal, the seat shall be deemed vacant.

(c) The conviction of a Council Member in any court for the commission of a felony may constitute good cause for purposes of removal. Upon commencement of removal proceedings for a felony conviction, a convicted Council Member shall be suspended until a final determination is made regarding removal.

Section 3. Recall of an Ogemaa.  
(a) An Ogemaa shall be subject to recall.

(i) A Recall Election shall be initiated by petition signed by at least ten percent of the total number of eligible voters of the Tribe.

(ii) A recall petition shall be submitted only to the Election Commission. The Election Commission shall determine within fifteen days whether all requirements for the petition are met. If all requirements are met, the Election Commission shall hold a Recall Election after thirty days but no more than sixty days.

(iii) All eligible voters shall be entitled to vote in the Recall Election. The Office of Ogemaa shall be deemed vacant if a majority of the ballots cast vote in favor of recall.

(iv) A recall petition shall not be initiated until at least six months has passed since the start of the new term. A recall petition shall not be initiated if six months or less remain in the term. The petitioners shall have no more than sixty days to collect the required number of signatures. The Ogemaa shall not be subjected to more than one Recall Election during the term unless the basis for a second Recall Election is a conviction of a felony in any jurisdiction.

(v) An Ogemaa who is successfully recalled from office shall not be eligible to run for any elected office until the original term of the Ogemaa would have expired.

Section 4. Removal of an Ogemaa. An Ogemaa shall be subject to removal for good cause as established by law.

(a) At least one hundred eligible voters may present to the Trial Court a signed written petition stating good cause and requesting a removal hearing against an Ogemaa. The Trial Court shall decide within fifteen days upon receipt of a petition whether the petition states good cause to conduct a removal hearing.

(b) If the Trial Court finds good cause, the Trial Court shall, within sixty days of receipt of a valid petition, conduct a public removal hearing providing due process and make a final determination whether the accused shall be removed from office, and upon a decision of removal, the seat

shall be deemed vacant.

(c) The conviction of an Ogemaa in any court for the commission of a felony may constitute good cause for purposes of removal. Upon commencement of removal proceedings for a felony conviction, a convicted Ogemaa shall be suspended until a final determination is made regarding removal.

Section 5. Removal of a Judge or Justice. The Supreme Court, upon recommendation from the Judicial Commission and after providing due process, shall have the exclusive power to remove a Judge or Justice.

Section 6. Vacancy in the Office of a Council Member. A vacancy in the Office of a Council Member shall be filled by Special Election held after thirty days but no more than one hundred twenty days of the vacancy. If six months or less remain in the term, then the seat shall remain vacant and shall be filled in the next election.

Section 7. Vacancy in the Office of the Ogemaa. A vacancy in the office of Ogemaa shall be filled by the Speaker of the Council who shall assume the Office of Ogemaa until a successor shall be seated in a Special Election which shall be held within sixty days of vacancy.

Section 8. Vacancy in the Office of a Judge or Justice. A vacancy in the Office of a Judge or Justice shall be filled by Special Election held after thirty days but no more than one hundred twenty days. If six months or less remain in the term, then the seat shall remain vacant and shall be filled in the next election. In the respective case of a vacancy in the Office of Chief Judge or Justice, the Senior Associate Judge or Justice shall temporarily assume such duties.

## ARTICLE X - NEWSPAPER

Section 1. Official Newspaper. The government of the Tribe shall establish and maintain a newspaper which shall be separate and independent from the political branches of government. There shall be a Newspaper Board comprised of three non-elected persons with one person selected by the highest elected official of each Branch of government. The Board shall have the power to promulgate rules and regulations for the operation of the Newspaper. The Board shall have the power to appoint and remove a Chief Editor of the Newspaper using personnel practices normally used by the Executive Branch. All official actions of the Board shall be by majority vote. The Chief Editor shall conduct the day-to-day operations, including subordinate personnel matters, subject to the laws of the Tribe.

## ARTICLE XI - ELECTIONS

Section 1. Election Commission. There shall be an Election Commission comprised of thirteen Members to conduct all elections in a fair and impartial manner. Members of the Election Commission shall be chosen by a committee comprised of the Ogemaa, the Speaker of the Council, and the Chief Judge from a pool of self-nominated appli-

cants comprised of eligible voters. The Election Commission shall have the authority to promulgate written rules and regulations governing elections subject to law.

Section 2. Primary Election, General Election, and Special Election.

(a) The Primary Election shall be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in March.

(b) The General Election shall be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday in June.

(c) Special Elections shall be held when called for by the Council by law or by this Constitution.

Section 3. Eligible Voters. Members of the Tribe age eighteen or older who are registered to vote shall be considered eligible voters of the Tribe. Once registered to vote, a voter shall be considered registered to vote in all subsequent elections unless the voter changes his or her residence.

Section 4. Election Challenges. The Election Commission shall certify all election results within three days of the election. Any eligible voter may challenge the certified election results in writing to the Election Commission within three days of certification of the election results. The Election Commission shall decide all challenges within seven days of filing. The Election Commission decision shall be final unless appealed. The Election Commission shall administer the oath of office to newly elected officials within three days of the final certification of the election results by the Election Commission or, if appealed, by the Supreme Court.

Section 5. First Election. The First Election under this Constitution shall be held in the first available even-numbered year.

(a) Upon the adoption of this Constitution all persons serving as Members of the Board shall become Council Members for the remainder of their respective terms, except the Chairman who shall become the Ogemaa. For the First Election under this Constitution, the term of office for the Council Members of the Northern At-large voting District and the Eastern At-large voting District shall be four years, and the term of office for the Council Member of the Western At-large voting District shall be two years and a four year term for each thereafter.

(b) In the First Election for purposes of establishing staggered terms of office, the Chief Judge of the Trial Court shall serve for four years, and one Associate Judge of the Trial Court shall serve for two years. In the First Election for purposes of establishing staggered terms of office, two Justices of the Supreme Court who receive the two highest number of votes shall each serve a term of six years, and two Justices of the Supreme Court who receive the next highest number of votes shall serve a term of four years, and one Justice of the Supreme Court who receives the next highest number of votes shall serve a term of two years.

## ARTICLE XII - SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY

Section 1. Sovereign Immunity. The Tribe shall possess Sovereign Immunity. Nothing in this Constitution shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of Sovereign Immunity from suit unless specifically stated herein, except that the Council may authorize a waiver of Sovereign Immunity by law. Any authorization by the Council to waive Sovereign Immunity shall be specific and for a limited scope and duration.

Section 2. Immunity from Suit by Parties Outside the Jurisdiction of the Tribe. The Tribe and its Executive Officials and Employees acting in their official capacity or within the scope of their authority shall be immune from suit brought by any party not subject to the Jurisdiction of the Tribe except to the extent waived in accordance with law.

Section 3. Immunity from Suit by Parties Within the Jurisdiction of the Tribe. The Tribe and its Executive Officials and Employees acting in their official capacity or within the scope of their authority shall be immune from suit except to the extent waived in accordance with law or except for suits in equity filed exclusively in the Courts of the Tribe by any party subject to the Jurisdiction of the Tribe to enforce rights and duties established by law or this Constitution. Any Member of the Tribe may bring a suit exclusively in the Judicial Branch to enforce the terms of this Constitution. Sovereign Immunity shall not extend to Officials and Employees acting outside their official capacity or beyond the scope of their authority.

Section 4. Suits Against the Council and Council Members. The Council and individual Council Members acting in their official capacity shall be immune from suit in law and equity. When the Council or Council Member is exercising an Executive function specifically authorized by this Constitution, the Council or Council Member shall not be immune from suit in equity filed exclusively in the Judicial Branch by any party subject to the Jurisdiction of the Tribe.

Section 5. Suits Against Judges. Judges and Justices shall be immune from suit in law and equity for actions taken in their official capacity.

## ARTICLE XIII - REFERENDUM AND INITIATIVE

Section 1. Referendum. Eligible voters who reside within the Territory shall have the right to demand a Referendum election on any law the legal incidence of which falls exclusively on residents of the Territory, or on any law which disparately impacts residents of the Territory, by submitting to the Election Commission a petition signed by at least five percent of such voters. Eligible voters of the Tribe, regardless of residence, shall also have the right to demand a Referendum election on any law by submitting to the Election Commission a petition

signed by at least five percent of such voters. In either case, a referendum petition must use a form obtained from the Election Commission and such petition must be returned to the Election Commission within sixty days. Once a petition is submitted to the Election Commission, no new names shall be added, and the Election Commission shall make a determination within fifteen days whether all petitioning requirements have been met. Upon making a finding of a valid petition, the Election Commission shall conduct a Special Election on the Referendum within sixty days.

Section 2. Initiative. Voters of the Tribe shall have the right to enact a law by Initiative. An Initiative shall not be permitted to enact a budget or budget modification. Eligible voters of the Tribe, regardless of their residence, shall have the right to demand an Initiative election to enact a law by submitting a petition signed by at least ten percent of the number of eligible voters of the Tribe to the Election Commission. A petition for an Initiative election shall include the full text of the proposed law. Once a petition is submitted, the Election Commission shall make a determination within fifteen days whether all petitioning requirements have been met. Upon making a finding of a valid petition, the Election Commission shall conduct a Special Election on the Initiative within sixty days.

Section 3. Results of a Special Election. The results of a Special Election for a Referendum or Initiative shall become law immediately unless otherwise specified in the law. Once passed, the results of the Referendum and Initiative shall be binding and shall not be subject to repeal or modification except by a subsequent Special Election or by a three-fourths majority vote of the Council.

## ARTICLE XIV - AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Request for an Election.

(a) The Council may by a three-fourths vote of the whole number of seats in the Council call for a Special Election to amend the Constitution.

(b) The voters of the Tribe may call for a Special Election to amend the Constitution by submitting a petition signed by at least ten percent of the number of eligible voters of the Tribe to the Election Commission. Once a petition is submitted, the Election Commission shall verify the signatures on the petition within fifteen days, and if valid, the Election Commission shall conduct a Special Election within sixty days thereafter.

Section 2. Requirements For Approval. The Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the voters who vote in the Special Election, provided, that the amendment is approved by at least seven voting Districts. Any amendment approved by the voters shall become effective immediately unless otherwise stated in the amendment.





Tammy Tremblay



Cecil Pavlat

# Windbreaks: The facts

BY TAMMY TREMBLAY

The Environmental Department started planting the Odenaang windbreak last year. The tree planting has been done in increments. Last year, 450 trees were hand-planted by environmental staff. In June 2012, a tractor and tree planter was rented to plant 2,500 trees. On Sept. 19, the tractor and tree planter was once again used to plant about 2,000 trees. On our Sept. 20 Give Back to Mother Earth event, we planted 1,000 trees by hand. This gives us a rough estimate of 6,000 trees and approximately 14,000 feet of windbreak in Odenaang subdivision. Pretty amazing.

Windbreaks, also referred to as shelter breaks, are linear plantings of trees that are typically planted in three rows. These rows are carefully placed close together to block wind. The purpose of the windbreak will determine how far apart each tree will be planted; for instance, at Odenaang, wind-

break is intended to alleviate snowdrifts, increase wildlife habitat, reduce soil erosion and, of course, provide aesthetics to the subdivision. Therefore, we used 10-foot spacing between trees.

Because we wanted to enhance habitat, we planted an assortment of tree species that will provide food and cover for a variety of birds and animals. Purchased from the Conservation District, the trees for the June planting included white spruce, high bush cranberry, June berry, white oak, red pine, white pine and nine-bark. The survival rate was about 50 percent, which we assessed in late August. Meanwhile, the trees for our September plantings were obtained from Hramor Nursey LLC in Manistee, Mich. We selected white spruce, red oak, red maple, red osier dogwood and high bush cranberry. The survival rate of the September planting will be assessed in spring 2013.

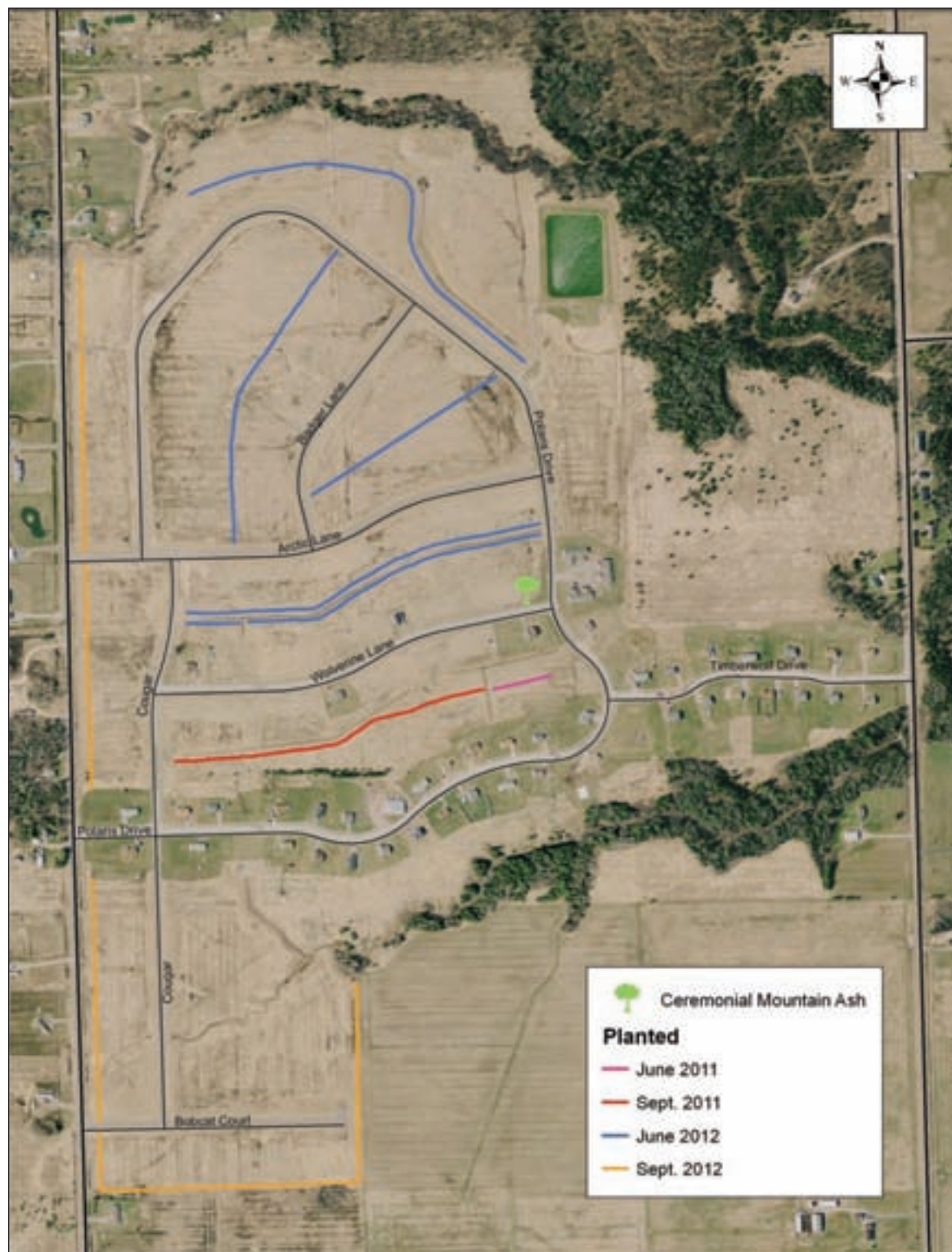


# NOTICE TO RECREATIONALISTS

The Odenaang windbreak project has had an incalculable amount of energy time, and money put into it. We would hate to see the trees get damaged by lack of awareness about the project and tree locations. We would like to remind those folks who ATV

and snowmobile in the subdivision to please not run over our saplings. All the trees are marked with flagging tape, but they can be difficult to see as the grass grows around them. The trees will not be visible in the winter months, so please make yourself

and others aware as to where the trees are located. Signage or markers for the rows are being investigated and hopefully will be put in place in the near future. Please review the map and share it with your neighbors. Miigwech.



# Chi miigwetch to our sponsors & volunteers

BY TAMMY TREMBLAY

Planting over 5,000 trees is not an easy task, and our Environmental Department couldn't have done it without help.

The Sault Tribe Housing Authority worked on this project with us from the beginning. Joanne Umbrasas assisted with the planning of the windbreak and helped organize the planting efforts. Ken Garlinghouse from the housing authority also helped by preparing the planting sites and was our equipment operator for both the June and September planting efforts.

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement has been a key player, too, with Police Chief Bob Marchand generously providing the use of their Rhinos for planting efforts and for watering trees over the summer. Special thanks to Bernard Gravelle for the idea around the Give Back To Mother Earth (GBTME) event!

Give Back To Mother Earth Committee

Joanne Umbrasas – donated port-a-johns and was a “team

leader.”

Rachel McKechnie (Kewadin Casinos) – donated bottled water, food, golf cart and shuttle with a driver.

Cecil Pavlat (Cultural) – gave a prayer at the opening ceremony.

Bob Marchand (Law Enforcement) – provided four ATVs.

Rusty Aikens (Inland Fish and Wildlife) – provided an ATV and was a “team leader.”

Kathie Brosemer (Environmental) – donated a pizza lunch, was a “team leader.”

Tesha Zimmerman (Environmental) – committee secretary and was a “team leader.”

Tammy Tremblay

(Environmental) – Odenaang windbreak project leader.

Shovel contributors

Sault Tribe Housing Authority

Chippewa-Luce-Mackinaw

Conservation District (tree bars)

Kewadin Casino Maintenance

Department

Randy Menard

Downtown Development

Association

GBTME volunteers: Melissa Causley, Nicole Causley, Eric Clark, Dan Cotter, Dwight Erickson, Ken Garlinghouse, Robert Harmon, Tammy Henning, Theresa Lewis, Joshua Libby, Charity Little, Brandy McCoy, Melissa Morehouse, Jamie Parr,

Cecil Pavlat, Annette Sheber, Brad Silet, Brian Smith, Natasha Therrien, Robin Voce, Phyllis Williams, Leilone Wonch and Julie Yacuone.

Chairperson Payment incentive – To show support and encouragement, the Chairperson Aaron Payment had originally donated \$100 to draw for those who volunteered for the event, and names would be entered for every hour that they participated.

While waiting to start our opening ceremony, the lack of participation did not go unnoticed, so Chairperson Payment generously upped the incentive to five draws of \$100 in hope to get more people out. We ended up getting a total of 23 volunteers that day and our lucky winners of the draw were Charity Little, Natasha Therrien, Cecil Pavlat, Phyllis Williams and Tammy Henning. Congratulations!

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NEWTON-JOHN**

Sunday, November 11  
at 7:00 p.m.

## OCTOBER

**Travis Tritt**

13th | 7 p.m. | Saturday | \$48.50 | On Sale Now

**Kutless, Fireflight,  
Rhett Walker Band and  
Hyland**

28th | 7 p.m. | Sunday | \$20.00 | On Sale Now

## NOVEMBER

**Olivia Newton-John**

11th | 7 p.m. | Sunday | \$54.00 | On Sale Now

**Theory of a Deadman**

12th | 7 p.m. | Monday | \$28.50 | On Sale Now

## DECEMBER

**Brenda Lee**

14th | 7 p.m. | Friday | \$28.50 | On Sale Now



**BRENDA LEE**

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