

# Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

Sucker Fish Moon  
Namebini Giizis



## Sequester hits tribes, related programs

The federal government enacted sequestration of the federal budget, making across the board cuts of 9 percent to most programs, including many that affect the tribe. But the tribe has been preparing for the possible sequestration for months and has worked out a plan to ensure services continue with no layoffs.

“We’ve been getting ready for the worst and hoping for the best,” said tribal Chairperson Aaron Payment. With programs already under-funded or cut, the tribe cannot afford to lose a single penny of federal funding. The tribe has also suffered from the same economic hardships as the rest of the nation as far as generating revenue for services.

The sequestration made cuts to federally funded programs. Many programs in the tribe are fully or partially funded by the federal government, along with grants and tribal support. All tribal programs were asked to look for

budget cuts that would minimize impact on tribal members and membership services. This means program directors were to avoid cuts to direct services and personnel in order to ensure membership services continue. Some examples of savings would be waiting to fill vacant positions, avoiding cuts to revenue generating activities and prioritizing travel costs.

The tribe has taken a number of actions concerning the sequestration.

In government-to-government personal visits, board members met with our representatives in Washington to tell them face-to-face why tribal programming should not be cut and what would happen if it were. Directors presented “white papers” prepared by tribal staff outlining the federal government’s obligations and how tribal members would be hurt by budget cuts.

The federal government’s obligations to the tribe funded in

the federal budget are the result of treaties negotiated and agreements made between Indian tribes and the U.S. in exchange for land and resources, known as the federal government’s trust responsibility. The authority to fund programs that fulfill the trust responsibility is founded in the Constitution, specifically the Indian Commerce Clause, the Treaty Clause and the Property Clause.

The abrupt and arbitrary nature of the across-the-board cuts from sequestration will have damaging effects on the progress made in addressing the serious problems facing our tribe, especially for the full implementation of the recently passed Indian Health Care Improvement Act and Tribal Law and Order Act.

As U.S. Deputy Secretary of Commerce Rebecca Blank said in remarks to the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) on March 5, “These cuts will hurt

communities across the U.S., including Native-owned manufacturers, exporters and other businesses that rely on services and data from places like the Commerce Department. These cuts will hit the programs that our communities depend on every day ranging from education for our children, to services for our seniors, to workforce training programs and much more.”

Tribal leaders joined forces with inter-tribal organizations such as Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST) and United Tribes of Michigan to educate Congress on why tribal funding should not be included in the sequestration. The National Congress of American Indians has been an invaluable resource for information, research and advocacy for tribes across the country.

The tribe also urged the membership to call and write letters to the representatives in Congress.

Now that sequestration has occurred, despite the tribes’ best efforts, it is affecting Indian Country.

Some of the tribes most essential services, such as ACFS, Head Start and Early Head Start, Early Childhood Programs, Education, Housing and Health

Programs, Tribal Court and Law Enforcement, will feel the impact of the sequestration.

Especially vulnerable is health funding. Although the Congressional Research Service reported that sequestration may only reduce funding appropriated to the IHS by 2 percent in any fiscal year, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) subjected the IHS discretionary accounts to the 9 percent across-the-board cuts. Because of recent reductions to tribal programs, the percentage cut will be deeper than 9 percent because the year is already past the first quarter.

Sault Tribe has effectively used the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) funding to address the acute housing needs of its people. Already in 2011, Congress reduced funding for NAHASDA’s Indian Housing Block Grant program by more than 7 percent (\$50 million). Reducing NAHASDA funding by an additional 7-10 percent through sequestration, rescission or other across-the-board funding cuts will hurt the tribe’s ability to address the ongoing shortage of safe, affordable housing.

See “Sequester,” page 11



Photo by Linda Grossett

**WINTER ACTIVITIES**  
— Students from the JKL Bahweting Public School Academy in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., visited the Mary Murray Camp on Sugar Island on Feb. 22. The fifth graders enjoyed some fun involving storytelling, snowshoeing and, as evidenced by the photograph, lots and lots of smiles.



National Indian Health Board elected officers March 5, re-electing Cathy Abramson as chairperson. The newly elected NIHB Executive Board is pictured

Photo by Jennifer McLeod  
above (L-R), member at large and Portland Area Representative Andrew Joseph Jr. (Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation), NIHB secretary and Alaska area Representative H. Sally Smith (Yup’ik Eskimo and Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation chair), treasurer and Navajo Area Representative Rex Lee Jim (Navajo Nation) and chairperson and Bemidji Area Representative Cathy Abramson (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Unit I director and secretary).

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This ribbon is a lifeline. It carries the message that there are those who care and will help. If you are in need and don’t know how to ask for help, take this card to a counselor, teacher, clergy, doctor, parent or friend and say, “I need to use my yellow ribbon.”

The Yellow Ribbon Program is in loving memory of Michael Emme.

**Canning, preserving workshops and classes MARCH**

Cook once, eat twice chicken, March 20, 5-7:30 p.m., elder's center, Sault.

Venison, March 23, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, St. Ignace.

Jams and jellies, March 26, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., USDA training kitchen, Sault.

Cook once, eat twice beef/venison, March 27, 5-7:30 p.m., elder's center, Sault.

**APRIL**

Cook once, eat twice chicken, April 3, 5-7:30 p.m., elder's center, Sault.

Master food preservation, April 4-5, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Hudson Twp. Hall, Rexton.

Venison workshop, April 9, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Grand Island Community Center, Munising.

Cook once, eat twice vegetables/beans, April 10, 5-7:30 p.m., elder's center, Sault.

Master food preservation, April 30, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., USDA training kitchen, Sault.

**MAY**

Master food preservation, May 1-2, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., USDA training kitchen, Sault.

For more information or to register for workshops, please contact Connie Watson at (906) 632-5211 or cwatson@saulttribe.net.

Workshops are free and made possible with funding from the Traditional Foods Grant Project. Visit [www.healthysaulttribe.com](http://www.healthysaulttribe.com).

**Special presentations on drug abuse**

Did you know that Vicodin, Oxycontin and Percodan are narcotics? So is Heroin.

Please join us in one of two free special presentations about drug abuse. Treatment and referral information will be available and refreshments will be served.

The presentations are scheduled for April 9, 2013, at the Boys and Girls Club in Bay Mills from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. and April 10, 2013, at Lake Superior State University in the Cisler Center from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

The featured presenter is Mark Rudolph of Families Against Narcotics.

These events are brought to you by Families Against Narcotics, Lake Superior State University, Boys and Girls Club of Bay Mills and the Chippewa County Health Department.

For more information please call Karen at (906) 253-3103.

**[www.freerice.org](http://www.freerice.org)**

Have fun building your vocabulary while helping the hungry all over the world. It's fun and it's free!

**Win Awenen Nisitotung**

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

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Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor  
Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer  
Rick Smith.....Staff Writer  
Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary

Opens  
April 1st

## Weatherization Program

**The Sault Tribe Housing Authority is currently accepting applications for its Weatherization Program. The program opens April 1st, 2013 and runs until funds are exhausted.**

The purpose of the Weatherization Program is to provide energy conservation improvements targeting features of owner occupied homes that require repair/replacement to make the home more energy efficient.

**Description of services to include:**

- Air-sealing measures such as caulking, weather stripping, and foundation
- Repair/Replacement of windows, exterior doors, and roof
- Insulation of pipes, skirting, roof area/attic

- Must Own Home & Land \*No Rented Lots
- Must be a Sault Tribe Household
- Must reside in the seven county service area
- Must meet income guidelines
- Program can be utilized every 5 years

Please contact the Sault Tribe Housing Authority Home Ownership Program  
Annie Thibert @ 906-495-5555 or 1-800-794-4072

**Sault Tribe committee and board openings**

The **Child Welfare Committee** currently has two vacant seats, the Higher Education Committee has five vacant seats, the Great Lakes Conservation Committee needs to fill three vacant seats, the Sault Tribe Health Board has three seats open and the Cultural Committee needs 10 men and women to fill vacancies.

Interested tribal members should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation to Tara Benoit, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Please direct questions to (906) 635-6050 or email [tbenoit@saulttribe.net](mailto:tbenoit@saulttribe.net).

Candidates selected for the **Sault Tribe Higher Education Committee** will help review scholarship essays for the annual scholarship competition and

**Traditional healers clinic hours scheduled**

Keith Smith, March 6, morning, Sault clinic, call (906) 632-5268, Tony Abramson Jr.; 632-0220, Peggy Hemenway; or 632-0236, Laura Collins.

March 6, afternoon, Hessel clinic, call (906) 484-2727.

March 7, Newberry clinic, call (906) 293-8181.

March 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, mornings, Sault clinic, call 632-5268, Tony Abramson, Jr.; 632-0220, Peggy Hemenway; or 632-0236, Laura Collins.

Traditional teachings, Keith

**Check out MedlinePlus.gov for health info**

The National Institutes of Health's award-winning website MedlinePlus.gov is for patients and their families and friends. The site provides reliable information about conditions, diseases and healthy living. MedlinePlus.gov is available in Spanish, too!

We invite you to browse MedlinePlus.gov, where you'll

review and recommend policies regarding the Higher Education Program. Preference will be given to individuals who have either completed a higher education program or have a child currently enrolled in a higher education program.

The **Great Lakes Conservation Committee** vacancies are for large boat captain's license holders.

Openings on the **Sault Tribe Health Board** are open to members who live in the seven-county service area.

The **Anishinaabe Cultural Committee** openings are for five men and five women to review and make recommendations on all cultural activities of the Sault Tribe along with five members of the board of directors.

Smith, March 13, Newberry Tribal Health Center, 2-4 p.m.

March 17, Munising Tribal Health Center, 1-4 p.m.

March 20, Manistique Tribal Health Center, 1-3 p.m.

Harland Downwind, March 20, 23-26, Sault Ste. Marie, call 632-5268, Tony Abramson, Jr.; 632-0220, Peggy Hemenway; or 632-0236, Laura Collins.

March 27, St. Ignace 643-8689 877-256-0135

Traditional teachings, March 26, Sault clinic, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

**CORRECTION:** Anyone attempting to log on to [www.aaron-carapella.squarespace.com](http://www.aaron-carapella.squarespace.com) regarding the U.S. maps of Indian Country should omit the "www." prefix. Visitors can access the site without the prefix but not when using the prefix. We apologize for any inconvenience.

**Changes coming to GED testing program**

All tribal and community members interested in earning a GED should be aware that changes are coming to the GED testing program. On Jan. 1, 2014, the GED test series now in use will be replaced by a new computer-based test series that will more closely align with current academic standards. Accordingly, all students pursuing a GED credential who do not finish the requirements in 2013 will sacrifice passing test scores and will be required to start over in the new test series. In preparation for the 2014 GED changes, Consolidated Community School Services (CCSS) established a computer-based testing (CBT) center at the Sault Ste. Marie Michigan Works! Agency.

In partnership with Pearson Vue, a leading CBT provider, CCSS now offers the current GED test series and many other certification and licensing exams in the online format. New GED students may opt to take official tests via computer, which will allow for immediate test results.

In addition, rather than traveling long distances to take career-related exams, many people now have the option to save time and money by testing locally.

For additional information about the coming GED changes or available computer-based testing, please call Tanya Pages, Sault Ste. Marie Adult Education Coordinator, at (906) 632-6098. You may also email at [tpages@eup.k12.mi.us](mailto:tpages@eup.k12.mi.us).

**Tribal Law Enforcement community open forums**

**SAVE THE DATE:** Sault Tribe Law Enforcement scheduled community open forums on the following dates at the listed sites, all sessions begin at 6 p.m.:

March 20, St. Ignace casino events center.

March 28, Hessel Tribal Community Center.

April 10, Manistique Tribal Community Center.

April, 2013, Munising (More information to come)

Attend to learn more about who we are and what we do, and give us your input into how we can work together to improve our communities. Refreshments will be provided.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at (906) 635-6065. We hope to see you at one of them!

**Paquin traditional crafts workshops announced**

Small fully quilled porcupine quill box – Mondays, July 8, 15, and 22, three full days 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All materials provided, bring your own lunch. Learn the basics of quillwork on a fully quilled, small box rimmed with sweetgrass. \$100.

Small quilled four-sided birch bark tulip basket sewn with sweet grass – Monday, July 29, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All materials provided; bring your own lunch. \$45.

Medium woven basket – Monday, Aug. 5, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All materials provided; bring your own lunch. Weave birch bark & other splints; rim with sweetgrass. \$45.

Quilled birch bark fan – Monday, August 12, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All materials provided, bring your own lunch. Imitation eagle feathers, quilled, trimmed with sweetgrass. \$45.

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Quill box, \$100.

\_\_\_\_\_ Tulip, \$45.

\_\_\_\_\_ Woven basket, \$45.

\_\_\_\_\_ Fan, \$45.

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Ron Paquin, 2433 Polish Line Road, Cheboygan MI 49721, available by phone at (231) 268-3344 or email at [mmpaquin@charter.net](mailto:mmpaquin@charter.net).

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark Your Calendars: Announcing upcoming Constitutional Review Meetings**

**Tentative Schedule for meetings to be held in Sault Ste. Marie:**  
**April 4 – 12 to 8 p.m.**  
**April 5 – 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.**  
**April 6 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**  
**April 11 – 12 to 8 p.m.**  
**April 12 – 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.**  
**April 13 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**  
**April 18 – 12 to 8 p.m.**  
**April 19 – 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.**  
**April 20 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**

other foreign countries. Subscribe by sending your name and mailing address to the address below with your check or money order made out to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Or, call (906) 632-6398 to pay by credit card.  
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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 Anishinaabemowin, 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).

**Subscriptions:** The regular rate is \$18 per year, \$11 for senior citizens and \$30 to Canada. Please call for

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

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

Win Awenen Nisitotung is funded by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of

# Michigan sues schools over Indian mascots

By RICK SMITH

The Michigan Department of Civil Rights filed a complaint on Feb. 8 with the U.S. Department of Education Office of Civil Rights against 35 public K-12 schools and their 12 respective school districts for using sports mascots with American Indian names, nicknames, chants or imagery. The state filed the complaint on behalf of all present and future students descended from American Indians after learning of extensive studies that show such mascots are indeed harmful and contradict the primary mission of public education.

The federal office is asked to withhold funding to schools that continue to employ mascots derived from Indian Country as well as withholding funds to school districts that allow the practice to continue.

Schools and their respective districts named in the complaint include three in the Upper Peninsula serving Gladstone, Marquette and Newberry. The nearest school and district named in the lower part of the state is in Cheboygan, the remainder serve areas further south throughout Michigan.

According to documentation supporting the complaint, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights has grappled with the issue for years taking individual complaints, studying the issues and working with students, communities and schools for successful resolutions to facilitate change when possible. Some schools

cooperated in resolving issues while others opted to retain controversial mascots as “symbols of honor” and expressions of their identity.

Citing the issue in the past as difficult to resolve, the Department of Civil Rights indicated the situation has changed as indicated in a document supporting the complaint, “Neither the good intentions of mascot proponents nor the general acceptance of their usage should matter if actual harm results — and recent studies objectively establish harm does result.”

The use of the controversial mascots promotes skewed, romanticized and inaccurate perceptions of American Indian civilizations past and present. Out of the 35 schools named in the complaint, as one example, nearly half of the schools couple Michigan locales with the term “redskins” or “warriors” and over half of the mascot images are of males wearing war bonnets, a symbol of honors some plains nations bestowed upon individuals not only for feats of bravery in combat, but also for any significant accomplishments in advancing the well-being of their nations outside of combat. American Indian nations around the Great Lakes region used other devices to reflect honors bestowed upon individuals, they did not employ the showy, feathered bonnets of the Great Plains. It would seem conscientious educational institutions would view the use of such mascots as sloppy academics.

Further, American Indians are not the only people in the United States or the world who have proven themselves adept at combat, so it remains a mystery that, along with a few exceptions, American Indians are singled out to be “symbols of honor.” If people genuinely want to honor American Indians, they should honor treaties.

An interesting development regarding the complaint is the attention the move is receiving from mainstream media that is rarely seen with issues involving Indian Country. The story is making headlines in newspapers from the East Coast to the West Coast and is on the airwaves of radio and television across the country.

The Entertainment and Sports Programming Network (ESPN), noting that as arguments raged on both sides of the issue, it was clear that most of the folks heard from were not of American Indian ancestry. With that in mind, ESPN reported on a recent symposium at the National Museum of the American Indian on the subject of Native American imagery in sports. The report included several quotes from American Indians on the topics that the practice of using Indian mascots and team names somehow “honor” American Indians and that it creates a false impression that American Indian cultures are something that “has been relegated to the mists of history.”

On the subject of “honoring” American Indians through mascots, ESPN quoted John

Orendorff, a American Indian colonel in the U.S. Army, “I often feel that the underlying point of these ‘honors’ is that my Indian heritage is owned by others. The message I’m constantly getting is, ‘We own you. We will define how we honor you. Don’t tell us whether you like it or not, because we own you. When we hunt down Osama Bin Laden, we can refer to him as Geronimo — which happens to be my son’s name — because we own you. You don’t control how you’re perceived. We control that, because we own you.’”

On the matter of cultural relevance, a professor from Dartmouth said, “It’s part of viewing Indians as a dead culture, as a plaything that’s essentially become part of the public domain. Because if something is dead, you can use it how you want.”

In the meantime, even though the Michigan Department of Education formally adopted a resolution in 2003 that strongly recommends schools eliminate the use of American Indian mascots, nicknames, logos, fight songs and gestures and reaffirmed its stance in 2010, some school districts have complied while others have not.

Soon after the state’s Department of Civil Rights filed the complaint with the U.S. Department of Education, Republican House Representative Lisa Posthumus, chair of the Michigan House Education Committee, called on the civil

rights office to rescind the complaint, indicating in her opinion that it is inappropriate for the state office to go directly to the federal government.

If a state ban on American Indian mascots comes to pass, Michigan would be the third state in the nation to take measures to phase out the practice, behind Wisconsin and Oregon.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association issued a prohibition after a 2005 evaluation that 19 colleges using Indian mascots and imagery shall not display them in post-season play nor host tournaments.

In other sports news, the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) issued a statement on Jan. 11 in support of Washington, D.C., Mayor Vincent Gray’s decision that a serious exploration of changing the name of the National Football League’s Washington Redskins is necessary before the team may return to the city. Currently, the team plays out of Landover, Md., with offices in Ashburn, Va.

The NCAI noted in the statement, “Mayor Gray joins a chorus of common sense voices in the Washington, D.C., area and beyond, who view the archaic and outdated mascot and name of the team as a blemish on the otherwise outstanding reputation of the people of the D.C. region, and the players and fans of the team.”

See related item below by Daniel M. Levy, director of law and policy at the Michigan Department of Civil Rights.

## MDCR: “Keep the pride, change the logo”

By DAN LEVY  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS

When the Michigan Department of Civil Rights asked the U.S. Department of Education to end the use of American Indian mascots, we expected that many people’s first reaction would be to defend the traditions they represent. Pride runs deep in our state and nowhere is that pride more evident than in our local public schools.

But people who’ve gotten past their initial reaction and read our supporting argument know that we are not saying that every school with an American Indian mascot should be ashamed of it. In fact, we acknowledge that the opposite is true. Mascots were often chosen with the intent of paying tribute to American Indians, providing a unifying

symbol, under which all could gather in shared spirit.

But good intentions only go so far. New studies establish that harm is caused to students even when the mascots are limited only to positive images. These harms include decreased academic performance and lower feelings of self-esteem, self-worth and achievement. When we know an action (or in this case, a symbol) causes harm to the very students we are called upon to protect and nurture, change is needed.

We believe schools that recognize this new body of research and act in the interests of students can always be proud of their mascots — past, present and future. We also believe that if a school insists on keeping its mascot after discovering doing so harms students, it is that school

and not this department who tarnishes the mascot.

Many have questioned why we took our complaint to the federal government. We view this as the next step in a conversation that started decades ago. In 1988, the Michigan Civil Rights Commission issued a report calling for an end to American Indian mascots; then passed a similar resolution in 2002. The State Board of Education did likewise in 2003, 2006 and 2010.

Asking for the creation of a national standard allows the decision to be made by experts, removed from the community strife these discussions cause. We seek a remedy that acknowledges the information requiring change is new, and thus does not order schools to change everything overnight. We would like to see name changes as soon as pos-

sible, but gym floors and various uniforms changed only when otherwise replaced.

What about the Fighting Irish, others ask? First, the schools Irish founders chose the name and non-Irish fans don’t wear Irish face-paint and costumes to “play” Irish.

Additionally, whereas images of Irish people are not presented everywhere, from sports to television and movies, as a singular savage/warrior stereotype, limited depiction of American Indians as anything other than mascots gives inordinate power to those images. But most important, America never paid bounties for the scalps of dead Irishmen (yes we scalped the Indians, it’s where the term “Redskins” comes from); we did not round the Irish up for forced death marches; we did not make the Irish sign trea-

ties we’ve failed to honor; and schools using an Irish mascot are not built on land forcibly taken from the Irish people who once called it home.

As we wrote to the Department of Education, “this complaint is not based upon whether the use of American Indian imagery, or even of the team name ‘Redskins,’ is offensive. It is instead based on evidence that the use of American Indian imagery promotes stereotypes that, whether offensive or positive, disadvantage a group of minority students by denying them the advantages and privileges received by others. This is an issue on which guidance from a single, authoritative, national entity is required.”

This item originally appeared in *Bridge Magazine* on Feb. 25 at [bridgemi.com](http://bridgemi.com) and is reprinted with permission.

## Get e-literate

Keeping up with computer technology and the Internet can be difficult, but as teachers and parents it is important to understand the digital world in order to help students with school work and to teach kids to safely navigate the internet and to be good online citizens.

Visit [www.digitalliteracy.gov](http://www.digitalliteracy.gov) is a great site to learn the basics. Among all of the other features on the site, there is a “Find Educator Tools” section that will help you locate educational resources.



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# President signs Violence Against Women Act

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

On March 7 President Obama signed into law the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013. This Act strengthens the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) with further protections for Native women and victims that were previously left vulnerable by gaps in the law.

According to a White House press release, during the signing ceremony the President emphasized, "Tribal governments have an inherent right to protect their people, and all women deserve the right to live free from fear. And that is what today is all about."

Sault Tribe board member and Unit I Representative Cathy Abramson was at the signing and said, "What an awesome and emotional experience to witness this signing. I couldn't help but think of all the hard work and advocacy that our very own Lori Jump and her staff did to make this a reality. Chi megwetch Lori! You helped make a big difference in so many women's lives."

If you haven't heard of the Violence Against Women Act that's not surprising, because the law has been reauthorized twice with little fanfare – until last year. And in a 78-22 vote on Feb. 12, the Senate passed the latest ver-

sion of the bill, which was voted on in the House Feb. 28, passing by a vote of 286 to 138, much to the grateful relief of those throughout Indian Country.

VAWA helps strengthen services and programs offered to victims of domestic violence - but tribe's wanted and have been asking for criminal jurisdiction over all persons on reservations, including non-Native men to be added as a protection. Jurisdiction over domestic violence committed on a reservation falls to federal and state law officers who often lack the incentive or means to take legal action, according to Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center Manager, Lori Jump. Which in effect has made non-Native men immune from prosecution for acts of domestic violence that happen on reservation lands.

House Republicans had stalled the bill because the Senate asked that protections be extended to LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender), Native American victims of domestic violence on reservations and allow temporary visas for undocumented immigrants. The just-passed Senate version extended protections to all the above except undocumented immigrant women.

Many House Republicans

had taken the stance that if tribal courts were given the authority to prosecute non-Native American men who are domestic abusers on tribal lands that tribal courts wouldn't uphold the constitutional rights of those non-Native Americans. And that became the biggest obstacle to the bill not being reauthorized for the first time since 1994.

Millions more women will now be protected under the renewed law that authorizes \$659 million over the next five years for programs. Jump said, "The tribal provisions in the reauthorized law will provide equal access to justice for victims of domestic and sexual violence regardless of who you are or where you live. It will close a jurisdictional gap that allows perpetrators of violence against Native women on reservation lands to go free. I'm grateful that members of the House worked together, regardless of politics or party lines, to ensure that the tribal provisions remained intact. These are critical provisions that provide real access to justice to Native women living on reservations, who deserve no less access to justice than any other woman living in this country."

Before the Feb. 28 vote, it was anyone's guess if House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio)

and House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (R-Va.) would take up and amend the VAWA reauthorization that had already passed the Senate or introduce a new bill.

The White House released a statement Feb. 28 from President Obama on the passage of the House Act: "I was pleased to see the House of Representatives come together and vote to reauthorize and strengthen the Violence Against Women Act. Over more than two decades, this law has saved countless lives and transformed the way we treat victims of abuse. Today's vote will go even further by continuing to reduce domestic violence, improving how we treat victims of rape, and extending protections to Native American women and members of the LGBT community. The bill also reauthorizes the Trafficking Victims Protection Act, providing critical support for both international and domestic victims of trafficking and helping ensure traffickers are brought to justice. I want to thank leaders from both parties and especially Leader Pelosi, Congresswoman Gwen Moore and Senator Leahy for everything they have done to make this happen. Renewing this bill is an important step towards making sure no one in America is forced

to live in fear and I look forward to signing it into law as soon as it hits my desk."

Attorney General Eric Holder issued the following statement Feb. 28 after the House passage of the Act: "I am pleased that Congress has voted to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), a landmark law that has transformed the way we respond to domestic and sexual violence.

"Congress has also taken an historic step to finally close the loophole that left many Native American women without adequate protection. With this bill, tribes and the federal government can better work together to address domestic violence against Native American women, who experience the highest rates of assault in the United States. The bill also provides funding to improve the criminal justice response to sexual assault, ensuring that victims can access the services they need to heal. And it will help to build on evidence-based practices for reducing domestic violence homicides and prevent violence against our nation's children, teens, and young adults.

"The Department of Justice looks forward to implementing this historic legislation after it is signed into law."

## Jump takes reins at Uniting Three Fires Against Violence

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

After dedicating 27 years of her life to the Sault Tribe, Advocacy Resource Center Program Manager Lori Jump has made the decision to accept the position as the executive director of Uniting Three Fires Against Violence (UTFAV) – a job she helped to create when she wrote the original grant for the program a number of years ago.

Jump, who has spent about half her life as a tribal employee, said she is excited about her new position because she believes there is great potential for the coalition, but at the same time she is sad to be leaving behind everything she has known. Although she is leaving the tribe she won't be going far and will still be located in Sault Ste. Marie, with her new office a block from the Sault Tribe administration building.

UTFAV is a statewide domestic violence and sexual assault coalition serving the 12 federally recognized Michigan tribes. The nonprofit membership based coalition plans to help

tribes reduce violence for the approximately 125,000 Native Americans living in Michigan.

Tribes and their victim advocate programs are encouraged to access the coalition's website and Facebook pages for resources, including grant assistance, program development information about tribal judiciary systems/laws, victims services, shelters, cultural enrichment, public awareness and referrals, training materials, a resource library and information sharing.

The mission of UTFAV is to "unite and empower Native American Communities in Michigan to end domestic violence and sexual assault. We collaboratively promote positive change for individuals experiencing violence or abuse. We provide resources for safety and advocacy to ensure the physical, mental, spiritual and emotional well-being of Native Americans victimized by violence."

UTFAV helps to empower tribes and their programs so they can help meet the needs of victims within their communities.



Lori Jump

Ten years after the Sault Tribe had gained federal recognition, Jump was hired at the age of 18 in 1982 as a bus driver for the tribal pre-school. A year later she moved out of the Sault area, returning home to full-time employment with the tribe in 1986. She has worked as a greeter and bartender at the casino, as a dispatcher for law enforcement and began her work with victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in 1990 when she became a victim advocate. In 1993 she became a probation officer and

victim services grant manager for tribal court and in 2000 accepted her current position as Advocacy Resource Center Program Manager.

She said her proudest accomplishment was the purchase and renovation of the current building the program and shelter are housed in. "This has been the crowning accomplishment," she said. "Everything I know I have learned from the tribe. How to do a budget, reports, grant writing, financial management – I have learned all that since I have been here. I know what a great opportunity I've had here, it's going to be hard for me to leave the tribe."

Jump said that everybody in her immediate family has worked for the tribe at some point in their lives. "We have always been very involved as far as being on committees and helping out at employee and cultural events. Its been more than just a work environment, it really has been a big family here," she said.

Her mother and father – Cecil and Edna Pavlat – had 10 chil-

dren. As elders, her parents were very involved with the tribe's elder program and her father, she said, was the first person to become an honorary tribal member. "They recognized him for his work with the elder committee and he was very surprised and really honored. He had a card that said he was an honorary Sault Tribe member and it wasn't worth anything but the paper it was printed on, but it made him really happy," she said.

For more information, visit [unitingthreefiresagainstviolence.org](http://unitingthreefiresagainstviolence.org).

*Studies have shown that Native Americans consistently suffer from a much higher rate of victimization than any other race in America.*

*According to a study by Amnesty International, more than 1 in 3 Native American women will be raped in her lifetime. And according to Bureau of Justice Statistics between 2001 and 2005, Native Americans experienced violence at rates more than twice that of any other race. (Taken from UTFAV website).*

## ISHPI named top Native firm in South Carolina three years straight

BY DIVERSITYBUSINESS

MOUNT PLEASANT, S.C.– For the third consecutive year,

Ishpi Information Technologies, Inc. (DBA ISHPI) was selected as a top business recipient by

DiversityBusiness. ISHPI ranks number one in the state of South Carolina in the Native American owned business and the disabled veteran owned business categories in 2013.

ISHPI was also selected as a top 100 U.S. Native American owned business and top 100 disabled veteran owned business. The 13th annual business survey strives to recognize companies that have differentiated themselves at both national and state levels. Resulting data determines the top businesses and the most

successful entrepreneurs across the United States, which are cornerstones of economic growth in America.

"I am proud of the men and women of ISHPI who continue to meet and exceed our client's missions and needs. Our substantial growth and success is evidence of that," said Noah T. Leask, ISHPI's co-founder, chairman, CEO and president. "Without their hard work and devotion to our clients, we would not be able to sustain the level of excellence that made us a three time top busi-

ness and now the top in South Carolina. All awards are about the employees and we are always proud of our team."

Launched in 1999, DiversityBusiness is the largest organization of diversity owned businesses throughout the United States that provide goods and services to Fortune 1000 companies, government agencies, colleges and universities. DiversityBusiness provides research and data collection services for diversity including the top 500 diversity owned companies in America and others.

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# Sault Tribe continues to pursue right to develop casino in downtown Lansing

In a March 5 ruling, U.S. District Judge Robert J. Jonker granted the state of Michigan's preliminary injunction, denying Sault Tribe's motion to dismiss a lawsuit brought by the state of Michigan to stop the tribe's development of a Lansing casino.

The injunction puts the casino project on hold pending outcome of the state's lawsuit.

But, the judge did dismiss individual tribal officials being named in the state's complaint.

According to the tribe's gen-

eral counsel, John Wernet, the tribe's motion to dismiss was based primarily on the tribe's claim of sovereign immunity. Judge Jonker rejected this claim and instead accepted the state's argument that the tribe's immunity had been waived by the federal Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Now that these preliminary issues have been resolved, the case will move on to a full consideration of the merits.

While the tribe is "disappointed by the decision, this is

really just a preliminary skirmish," said Wernet. "We remain confident of our legal theory," he added.

Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment said the tribe expects to prevail. "The Sault Tribe remains undeterred and steadfastly committed to pursuing our legal right to develop our Lansing casino," he said.

"Anyone who understands tribal gaming and the trust land process also understands that this is going to be lengthy process with multiple legal steps

along the way," said Payment. "Today's ruling is simply the first step in the legal process."

The tribe's legal theory is based on specific language in the 1997 federal Land Claim Settlement Act clearly, which Payment said "clearly gives us the right."

Payment added the the project will "generate substantial economic benefits for the people of Greater Lansing and the members of our Sault Tribe."

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero concurs. "I remain excited

about the casino project and its tremendous potential for jobs and economic development for Lansing," he said.

Bernero added, "I also remain confident in our legal team and that our proposal to build a casino in downtown Lansing will ultimately prevail. We always knew that there would be hurdles to overcome on this long legal road, and this is just one of them. We are committed to continue the fight and believe that we will be successful. Don't bet against Lansing."

## Organizations developing Native food alliance

By Rick Smith

The First Nations Development Institute of Longmont, Colo., and the Taos County Economic Development Corporation, based in Taos, N.M., are working on the development of the Native American Food Sovereignty Alliance, or NAFSA. The alliance is intended to become a national American Indian organization concerned with food, hunger and nutrition issues in Indian communities at the national, tribal and local levels and becoming a voice in controls and policies surrounding those issues. Further, it will serve as a collaboration network for various entities involved in American Indian food systems.

According to an announcement, organizers see the NAFSA playing a crucial role in matters of health, nutrition, cultural identity and promoting economic development among communities of Indian Country.

While the founding organizations develop the NAFSA structure, it is recruiting formal members. Interested folks are invited to attend the Food Sovereignty

Summit in Green Bay, Wisc., on April 15-18. The event, sponsored by the First Nations Development Institute, Oneida Nation of Wisconsin, Intertribal Agriculture Council and Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, features a networking opportunities, speakers, breakout sessions, general sessions and tours of the Oneida Nation's cannery and sustenance and sustainability program.

Those interested in attending the summit can view the agenda and learn other information online by visiting [www.firstnations.org/summit](http://www.firstnations.org/summit).

"The alliance is intended to be a broad-based movement, covering different intersections of food systems work including culture, health, community and economic development and human services," said Raymond Foxworth, senior program officer for the First Nations Development Institute. "Thus we would hope folks from these different areas would engage the work of the alliance and shape the overall direction we will take. Ultimately, anyone concerned or interested in working on strategies

to positively change Native food systems, including working to change diet, education and policy, and work toward increasing those systems is encourage to join.

"The summit is intended to be a forum for tribes and Native organizations to learn from one another. In other words, Native communities are engaging in dynamic work all geared toward controlling local food systems. Thus, the summit is intended to showcase that work so other Native communities can learn from current innovative, dynamic and successful models."

According to the institute, the formation of the NAFSA

came from a expressed need by American Indian nations and grassroots organizations for the development of an organized and sustained food movement in Indian Country. The NAFSA will serve as a vehicle to facilitate changes in tribal, regional and national policies on issues that involve American Indian food production and diet. Further, the alliance serves as a support network for grassroots efforts to revive traditions and community-based food systems.

The summit is part of a larger body of work by the institute in helping American Indian communities to control assets under

its Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative. Numerous projects across the United States receive funding from the initiative which receives financial support from other organizations such as the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, AARP Foundation, Walmart Foundation, Christensen Fund, CHS Foundation, Kresge Foundation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Anyone interested in making donations to the institute or acquiring funding to support "crucial food-systems work" in American Indian communities may visit the institute's website at [www.firstnations.org](http://www.firstnations.org).

## Beware of online "sweetheart scams"

By Rick Smith

The U.S. State Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) released warnings about increasingly common Internet dating and romance scams, commonly called "sweetheart scams." The FBI also gives advice on measures to take against sweetheart scams.

Typically, scammers target people through online dating profiles, social media networks and employment sites. Using attractive but phony identities, scammers feign attraction or other interest in potential victims and work toward forming apparent bonds. Once scammers believe bonds are established, they indicate they desire to meet in person but begin to report they are having incredibly bad luck and dire circumstances over the course of a couple of months and start asking for money.

One telling clue comes from scammers who claim to be native-born U.S. citizens but use the poor grammar of non-native English speakers. "The victims are residing here in the United

States," said Nickolas Savage, assistant section chief of the FBI Cyber Division, through government channels, "but the individuals responsible for the criminal activity tend to be somewhere abroad."

Savage said victims are mostly women between the ages of 50 and 59 who are convinced they've formed real relationships with the fronts put up by scammers. "The average financial loss from these romance schemes is between \$15,000 and \$20,000," he said. Nearly double the amount of a decade ago.

The FBI investigates and collects data on sweetheart scams through its Internet Crime Complaint Center, referred to as the IC3. Collected information is analyzed to build cases and organize work with foreign partners to bring the scammers to justice.

Anyone with complaints about Internet scams should visit [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov).

More about sweetheart scams can be found at [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov) or by contacting your local FBI office.

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# Tips for an eco-friendly home

Many think an environmentally friendly house means spending thousands of dollars on solar panels or planting a garden on the roof to keep the house cool during the summer time.

That's not really the case. Many things can be done to help the environment without having to transform your home or even spend too much money. In fact, you might end up saving hundreds of dollars per year in the process.

These tips will help you get started: Use Energy Star household appliances — refrigerators, microwave ovens, air conditioners, heaters, dishwashers — these are the appliances that eat up more than half of the \$2,200 an average family spends in energy costs per year. However, you can help the planet and save up to 30 percent of the electricity bill by using energy efficient products with the Energy Star symbol.

Replace the five most used light bulbs in the home with energy-efficient bulbs. This

could save you \$65 per year in electricity bills.

Replace, whenever you can, old and energy inefficient appliances such as air conditioning units and heating equipment. These devices alone typically consume more than half of the energy in a house.

The Energy Star website has tips for saving energy and finding Energy Star products, visit [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

Use eco-friendly cleaning products — an easy way to reduce damage to the environment is to use cleaning products that are biodegradable and have low toxicity levels. These products could also make your home safer, as the lower toxicity might reduce the chance of accidental poisonings.

To use eco-friendly cleaning products:

- Avoid those products that are highly flammable and are labeled as dangerous or poisonous.

- Buy solvent free or bio-based products such as those

made with citrus or pine.

- Buy products certified by third parties such as Green Seal or Scientific Certification Systems.

You can also clean your house by using simple, non-toxic household substances such as white vinegar, baking soda, lemon juice and borax. However, be careful because these substances don't work well on all surfaces.

Recycle, recycle, recycle. The Environmental Protection Agency says that recycling is one of the best ways to help the environment. But beyond recycling, it's important to properly dispose of household items like cleaning products, oils, batteries, pesticides and other products containing hazardous components that can harm both humans and the environment.

Your local government's recycling program can give you more information on which products can be recycled and how to dispose of dangerous household items.



**WINNER** — Tribal member Kara Rivera of Sault Ste. Marie won the mini iPad in a drawing done by the Communications Department. Everyone who sent in forms to sign up for the digital editions of the newspaper in lieu of the hardcopy editions was entered. Congratulations to Kara!



Photos courtesy of JKL Bahweting PSA

**READING MONTH AT JKL BAHWETING PSA** — everyone is excited and involved in reading month. The kitchen staff wore Dr. Seuss hats to get the students' attention as soon as they entered the cafeteria and what better dish to serve for the first day of reading month but a Dr. Seuss favorite? Left, Patti Albon and Lesley Sturgeon hint at what was for lunch. Above, Lisa Brunet, Jonelle Killips and Zelda Pancheri serve the magificently made green eggs and ham.

# Keel delivers 2013 State of Indian Nations Address

BY RICK SMITH

National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) President Jefferson Keel delivered the 11th annual State of the Indian Nations Address on Feb. 14 before an audience of representatives from the U.S. presidential cabinet, tribal leaders and citizens in Washington, D.C.

In his introduction, he touched briefly on his own observations about Indian Country and the United States, progress made and his hopes for continued advances in Indian Country.

Keel indicated progress is possible thanks to greater trust between American Indian nations and the United States government. "In President Obama and his administration we have a partner committed to strengthening tribal sovereignty, who believes in our right to determine what we've always known to be true, that Indian nations are best governed by Indian people," he said.

He noted the partnership between the U.S. and Indian Country has had a "meaningful, measurable impact on Indian people's lives. Today, more tribes are managing resources instead of managing poverty programs."

Also attributed to the partnership, more highly skilled and educated young people returning to their communities to serve as needed professionals in the fields of medicine, law, education, engineering and business.

Further, tribes developing vital economies are becoming "key players in America's economic recovery." Moreover, many of the nations in Indian Country are developing international trade agreements and soon tribal businesses will reach around the globe.

Pointing to the state of Oklahoma, Keel related how residents of rural areas there drive to Indian Country health facilities first, because that's where the best services are to be found. In addition, he said,

"Other governments seek our traditional knowledge of natural resources. Non-Native people come to us for jobs and educational opportunities. And companies partner with us to set up new businesses on reservations."

Also boosting Indian Country progress, according to Keel, is the positive response to a massive grassroots movement pushed by the NCAI to get out the vote in U.S., state and local elections. But, "even as we applaud the efforts of the 2012 Native Vote movement, we know this is just the beginning and we have much more work to do to ensure that every Native vote is cast and counted."

Commitment to democracy goes beyond the ballot box, Keel said referring to the more than 22,000 active duty American Indians serving in the U.S. military at posts near and far.

Every day, Keel noted, Indian Country is strengthening the unique nation-to-nation relationship tribes have with the United

States, "a relationship of mutual respect, mutual obligation and mutual trust."

While noting progress made, the president indicated much more work remains to protect and strengthen tribal sovereignty and develop security in Indian Country communities, nations and their futures.

He called on the U.S. Congress to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act that gives tribal governments the authority to prosecute non-Native men accused of violence against women on tribal lands.

Keel further called on the Congress to pass a "clean" Carcieri fix "right now!" In addition, he said tribes must be authorized to collect and manage their own taxes just like ability of the federal, state and local governments.

"We will continue working with our federal partners to fix these policies so that the economies of Indian Country grow and become a source of strength in

our family of nations," said Keel.

The greatest challenge for Indian Country, Keel indicated, is securing the future. He said 25 percent of American Indians live in poverty; a statistic he said is twice the national average. And with the unemployment at 16 percent, that rate is also double the national average of eight percent. "For too long," said Keel, "these statistics have been accepted as the way it is in Indian Country. The goal, it seemed, was just survival. But we must do better. And when tribes can develop their own priorities and make the right investments, they don't just survive — they thrive."

Keel said the task at hand is for the United States and Indian Country "to move together toward a more perfect union" and strengthen the trust relationship between them, "That trust, ultimately, is the principle that must guide us — all of us — as we go forward and do right by all of our children and grandchildren."

# NMU groups fighting proposed wolf hunting

BY GREG PETERSON,  
EARTHKEEPERS II VOLUNTEER  
MEDIA ADVISOR

MARQUETTE, Mich. — Northern Michigan University students and others crossed campus in wind-driven heavy snow showers on the night of Feb. 27 to sign the petition to save Michigan gray wolves from being hunted.

About 50 signatures were gathered from registered voters during an event sponsored by the NMU EarthKeepers II Student Team and the Native American Students Association (NASA) organizers said.

Keep Michigan Wolves Protected organizers have until March 27 to get 161,305 signatures in the effort allow voters to decide the fate of the wolf hunting bill.

A larger event involving many student organizations is being planned for the day before the deadline at NMU, and organizers hope to have on hand representatives from the office of the Michigan Secretary of State to register people to vote.

Only registered Michigan voters can sign the petitions provided by Keep Michigan Wolves Protected that is seeking enough signatures to force a November 2014 referendum on the wolf debate.

Before the petition signing Native American students and members of the EarthKeepers II Student Team spoke to audience about wolf preservation efforts in Michigan and presented a video.

While many opponents describe wolf hunts as trophy hunting, it's really a hate of wolves, said Adam Robarge, Upper Peninsula coordinator for Keep Michigan Wolves Protected.

Robarge says to him trophy hunting involves polar bears, rhinos, elephants and other large species.

"This is hatred," Robarge said. Wolf hunters would be "proud they killed something that they hate. I see zero reasons that are out there to hunt the wolf — you can't come up with one that is scientifically backed, when it comes to the deer population, those two species were allowed to evolve with each other for thousands and thousands of years — we don't need to place our hand into that."

Wolves "just got off the endangered species list so to hunt them seems premature," said EarthKeepers II member Adam Magnuson, 21, of Marquette.

"It is interesting that people want to hunt an animal that they rarely see," said Magnuson, who has only seen a Michigan wolf in the wild a few times. "It seems abstract to me given there are less than 700 wolves in the U.P."

"When you don't see an animal, my immediate thought is not to go out and try to kill it and eliminate the population," Magnuson said.

"A lot of the people seem to think that the wolf is some big bad animal but there has never been a recorded attack on a human in Michigan history," said Magnuson, an NMU environmental studies and sustainability major. "People need to do their research and find out that wolves

aren't so scary."

Wolves were previously "in the U.P. for a very long time and they are really only just getting re-established firmly now," Bingner said.

"We need to be careful to consider the ecological and biological aspects of what a relatively large-scale wolf hunt would do," said student Katelin Bingner, 20, a sophomore biology major from Spring Harbor, Mich. "I think it's important to let the public give their vote on such an important issue, wolves are an apex predator of the food web, they are a vital aspect to the ecosystem in the U.P. Frankly, I think there is still a lot broken in the world in our understanding on how things connect but I think people's eyes are opening to the reality of the connectedness of humans to the wider world and everything in the world that we live with."

Among the reasons the NMU EarthKeepers II Student Team is involved in the wolf hunting debate is "we are standing by the Native American tribes because it is so important to them," said Magnuson, who acted as emcee.

Because the NMU EarthKeepers II team is a faith-based group, Magnuson said, "We need to defend what they (Native Americans) believe in."

"In the Catholic tradition we have St. Francis of Assisi who befriended a wolf and he is often depicted in images with a wolf, and he is one of our great saints," said Tom Merkel, a peer minister at NMU Catholic Campus Ministry in St. Michael Parish.

Merkel said Emeritus Pope Benedict XVI is known "as the green pope and he is very pro-environment saying the church has to get in the game here and protecting God's creation. He has made the Vatican very green which is pretty cool. As EarthKeepers, we are standing with the native tribes up here — and the wolf is one of their religious symbols and we have to protect that."

Bingner said the wolf "isn't our enemy, the wolf is closer to being something like our brother."

"I am ma'iingan-doodem so I am wolf clan — and we believe that we are related (to wolves) and we are kin," said Hannah Vallier, co-president of the NMU NASA and citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. "If I killed a wolf it would be almost like me killing my own brother."

Vallier added that wolves and humans have similarities including "we are both family-oriented. Our mothers as humans are just as protective of our children as the wolves are to their pups."

Wolves "are important to tribal people" and are significant in

Anishinaabe heritage and culture, said Amanda Weinert, 21, of Garden, Mich., a senior and co-president of the NMU NASA and citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Weinert explained a traditional story from elders that "the first Anishinaabe man was lonely and asked for a companion." G'tchi Manitou — the Great Spirit — gave him a wolf or ma'iingan," Weinert said. "They went on a journey to name all the plants and animals. When the journey was done they were told they could no longer be companions but they would still stay connected and would live parallel lives."

Weinert added that, today, Native Americans and wolves continue to "live parallel lives. You can see the connections between Native people and wolves — we've both been relocated we've both been slaughtered, we've both been misunderstood."

Weinert said the thought of a wolf hunt in Michigan makes her "sad and is very distressing" as she feels if the hunt starts people will "go overboard and shoot them whenever."

The State of Michigan has "management practices" to handle livestock depredation because "there are nuisance animals" but a wolf hunt will not stop the relatively few cases of annual livestock deaths, Robarge said.

"There is no evidence that exists that randomly hunting wolves that are existing in the wild behaving like a wolf should would actually lessen the chance that the other wolves that have learned to predate on livestock would actually decrease. Wolves deserve to be saved for their own existence."

Fear alone is not a reason to hunt wolves, several NMU students said. "I want to minimize human impact on wolf populations," said NMU junior and ecology major Alex Graeff of Grand Rapids. "I see humans as a kind of species that likes to destroy things and feel we have a dominance over everything else. We've already destroyed wolf populations in the past and now they are making a rebound, I don't think we should all of a sudden go back to trying to control them when really their populations are pretty low."

NMU senior Max Wojciechowski, a NASA member from Illinois, said it's important to keep wolves a "protected species because traditionally it's a very sacred animal and its not supposed to be hunted. It coincides with my traditional values to try and protect the wolves."

NMU graduate Dorothy Feltner of Skandia said, "We have to keep our wolf population healthy. Wolves are worth

protecting because they are an important member of the food chain and they keep everything at the same levels. Wolves are very important to the ecosystem."

"Wolves are unique to the U.P.," said NMU sophomore Monica Murzanski. "I am from Illinois so we don't get many cool rare animals like moose and wolves. I think wolves are special animals. I don't think hunting them is very fair at all."

Hunting Michigan wolves would be "more of a sport hunting thing," said NMU senior Rachael Raspatello, a native of Lombard, Illinois. "If you are going to eat everything then its fine — but I don't think if you are just going to hunt for fun that it is okay, I am not really for hunting too much unless it's for food."

In 2011, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service removed western Great Lakes wolves from Endangered Species Act.

In a lame-duck session, Republican Governor Rick Snyder signed Public Act 520 in late 2012 turning the wolf into a game animal and giving the Michigan Natural Resources Commission the power to decide the creation of a wolf hunting season.

Keep Michigan Wolves Protected organizers have until March 27 to get 161,305 signatures in the effort allow voters to decide the fate of the wolf hunting bill.

Anti-wolf hunting groups are actively trying to defray fears about wolves and are attempting to educate the public about reasons the predators should be protected — especially those unfamiliar with the U.P. wolf packs

The NMU petition signing to protect wolves included watching the short video *The Timber Wolf of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan*.

If the proposed wolf hunts occur during the fall of 2013 in the U.P., Michigan would be the seventh state with a wolf hunting/trapping season, according to wolf hunting opponents who say wolves once roamed most of North America until being overhunted and destroyed by humans

Wolves have had little effect on Michigan deer population, anti-wolf hunting groups have said, adding Michigan needs to increase compensation to farmers suffering related livestock losses

instead of slaughtering wolves for trophies.

Restoring federal protections for gray wolves in the western Great Lakes region that ended in 2012 is goal of recent federal lawsuit that charges the removal of wolves from the endangered list in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin is threatening wolf recovery throughout most of their historic range.

The February 2013 lawsuit was filed against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, and U.S. Secretary of the Interior Kenneth Salazar by the Humane Society of the United States, Center for Biological Diversity, Friends of Animals and Their Environment, Help Our Wolves Live and Born Free USA.

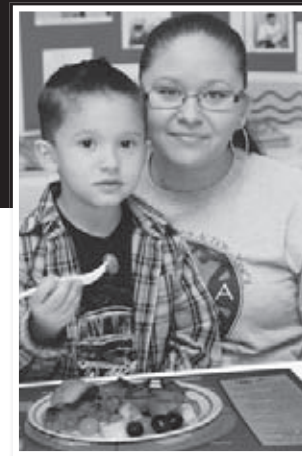
Minnesota had an estimated 3,000 wolves before they came off the endangered species list, while Michigan and Wisconsin had 687 and 782, respectively.

## Did you know?

You are entitled to a FREE credit report from each of the three credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion) once every 12 months. You can request all three reports at once, or space them out throughout the year.

It's important to review your credit report to ensure that your personal information and financial accounts are being accurately reported and that no fraudulent accounts have been initiated in your name. If you do find an error on your credit report, you can dispute the error.

## 3 STEPS TO HEALTHY EATING



You can help your family members eat healthy by taking these 3 steps:

1. Use smaller plates.
2. Divide the plates into 4 equal portions of vegetables, fruits, grains, and meats/poultry/fish.
3. Watch portion sizes by stacking food no higher than 1 to 1½ inches.

To print out My Native Plate placemats showing these steps, go to:

[www.diabetes.ihs.gov](http://www.diabetes.ihs.gov).

Click on *Printable Materials, Nutrition*, then *My Native Plate*.



Produced by IHS Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention, [www.diabetes.ihs.gov](http://www.diabetes.ihs.gov)

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# Wildlife babies and injured wild animals — when do they really need our help?

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Wildlife rehabilitators are trained and licensed specialists who can tell you if a wildlife baby or injured animal needs rescued, or should be left alone.

With spring fast approaching on March 20, even though in the U.P. it may not seem likely right now, area wildlife will begin nesting and giving birth soon. People have good intentions when “rescuing” a baby animal, but the truth is most die if removed from their natural environment – and some have diseases or parasites that can be passed on to pets and humans.

Here are a few tips from Northern Wildlife Rescue’s licensed rehabber, Susan Good, located in Cheboygan, Michigan:

These animals are in need of rescue when: Eyes closed mammals found out of the nest, wildlife babies found with a dead mother or dead siblings close by, babies brought to you by a dog or cat, young squirrels that follow you around, fawns on their feet wandering and crying, naked nestling birds found on the ground, ducklings/goslings alone or wandering in a group without a mother.

What to do? Wear gloves. Place the baby in a container and bring them indoors to a warm, quiet area away from children, pets and noise. Do not feed, give them water or handle them, as this may result in their death. Call a wildlife rehabilitator for further instructions.

The quicker you can get your wildlife baby to a rehabilitator, the better its chances of survival are.

Capturing adult animals, large waterfowl or birds of prey that are sick or injured is not a good idea, you can become injured in the process and these animals require special handling. Call a rehabilitator for instructions.

Good said, “When you don’t know the history and background of animals and the diseases they carry you are opening yourself and your pets up to something that could be dangerous. If you care enough to rescue them, you should care enough to follow through and make sure they get good care by a licensed rehabilitator so they will survive. Chances are they will not survive if you try and care for them.”

Good started her journey helping wild animals 11 years ago. She is a retired R.N. who owns 140-wooded acres with a



Photos by Susan Good

Young raccoons in one of the outdoor cages Susan Good has on her property. Below, left, rescued baby doves being cared for by Good and below, right, a baby squirrel being fed from a syringe.



water source in the country and has helped and released over 1,600 animals. She takes care of between 150 and 200 animals each season, has large indoor and outdoor cages and releases the animals on site. Good finances her own wildlife rehab endeavors but says she never turns down donations. “If people take the time and gas money to drive the animals to me, because I don’t pick them up, that is their contribution,” she said.

She said that by law if you find an injured or orphaned animal you are allowed to keep it up to 48 hours with the intention of delivering it to a rehab facility. In that time period the animal should be kept warm and quiet but not fed or given water. “If you find a bird that you can’t identify then you won’t have a clue what it eats – and that’s the case almost 100 percent of the time,” she said. “I have had people bring me what they thought was a hawk and it was a chicken. I had one lady who swore she had a puppy and it was a little baby squirrel.”

Good is permitted to accept state mammals, deer/fawns, federal songbirds and federal water-

fowl. The animals she accepts include: squirrels, rabbits, opossum, fawns/deer, rodents, porcupine, chipmunk, beaver, woodchucks, non-protected birds, ducks, geese, pigeons and a limited number of songbirds. “I don’t take predators but I know people who do,” she said. “If you have an animal that I don’t take I can refer you to someone else who does. If people want to send me pictures of the animal from their cell phones sometimes I am able to determine things from those pictures.”

Her day starts at 6:30 a.m. and she begins feeding animals right away. Cages are cleaned daily and supplies restocked. If she has songbirds they are fed from every 20 minutes to two hours depending on their age and mammals are fed every two to three hours – the feeding goes on all day. However, she does not feed at night.

She said she finds it very rewarding when she is able to help a wildlife baby to the point where she can release it on her property. She has cared for newborn squirrels not much bigger than a quarter that she was able to release as adults. “It’s a lot

of work but it feels very good at the end of the season when you are done – I love what I do,” she said.

Becoming a state or federally licensed wildlife rehabilitator is not an easy accomplishment, Good said. “Years ago it used to be all you had to have was a letter of recommendation from your vet. Now it’s more complicated and I’m very happy to see that it is,” she said. “Education is definitely needed to do this work. In

order to get a state permit you have to first apply and then take a two-day mandatory course on basic rehabilitation skills put on by the International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council. Once you do that you have to determine what kinds of animals you want to accept and enclosures need to be built for them. When that is done the DNR inspects them and if you are in compliance they issue you a permit.”

To get a federal permit, Good said you must first get a state permit and some experience caring for animals. Then you have to locate a federally licensed rehabilitator who is willing to allow you to mentor under them for 100 hours and fill out and return the application for a federal permit. Federal permits, unlike state permits, are specific for songbirds, raptors, water birds, ect. Both federal and state officers then inspect your enclosures and if you are in compliance and pay the fee they issue you a federal permit. You have to be a dedicated person who really loves helping wildlife and has the resources to do it to make it through the entire licensing process.

To learn more, visit [NorthernWildlifeRescue.org](http://NorthernWildlifeRescue.org) or email her at [sfgood@hughes.net](mailto:sfgood@hughes.net). She can also be contacted by phone at: (231) 597-9662.

Licensed wildlife rehabilitators can also be found by calling the DNR in Lansing (517) 373-2329 or Gaylord (989) 732-3541. After hours use the RAP line (800) 282-7800. For a list of wildlife rehabilitators in the state of Michigan go to: [www.michigandnr.com/dlr](http://www.michigandnr.com/dlr). There are nine licensed rehabilitators listed in the DNR directory for Michigan’s U.P.

Visit [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov) to find health insurance that’s affordable and meets your medical needs. You can also use this website to compare hospitals and other medical facilities, learn about preventive services to help you stay healthy and read about the Affordable Care Act.



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## Free small business training online

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The U.S. Small Business Administration offers FREE online courses to help you start a business, manage a business, finance a business, work with the government as a contractor, and more.

Visit [www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/counseling-training](http://www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/counseling-training) to see the offerings.

Did you know the federal government has an auction website? Shop for anything from homes to computers and jewelry at [www.govsales.gov](http://www.govsales.gov).

Visit [JobCenter.U.S.A.gov](http://JobCenter.U.S.A.gov) for information about professional certifications, registered apprenticeships, occupational licenses,

and other opportunities that may help you get ahead.

In addition to education and training resources, you can use the job center to search for a job and learn about various career paths.

To look for loads of other helpful U.S. government websites, visit the official web portal of the federal government at [www.usa.gov](http://www.usa.gov).



# Causley joins tribe's Planning and Development

Sault Tribe member Nichole Causley recently joined the staff of the Sault Tribe Planning and Development Department as a planning specialist.

Causley works in grants management and compliance, assisting with development of planning projects and providing technical assistance. She is working on developing a central repository database to track information on tribal grant activities. "I look forward to getting to the grant writing stage," she said.

She began working with the tribe as a teenager through the Job Training Partnership Act in the tribe's Accounting Department. She also worked the concession stand at the Chi



**Nichole Causley**

Mukwa Community Recreation Center before training to become a blackjack dealer at the Sault Kewadin Casino, a position she held for five years.

She earned a bachelor's degree in political science with a concentration on public administration and courses in business management and accounting.

Causley returned to work with Sault Tribe in 2009 with Planning and Development assisting under the Integrated Resource Management Planning grant until the grant expired in 2011.

Along with working with the tribe, she is a member of the Tribal Action Planning Advisory Board.

"I have four beautiful children and a loving companion, Karl Kubont. My children are Taylor, 10; Anthony, 8; Karlie, 5; and Nicholas, 4," said Causley. "We are involved with the

JKL Bahweting Public School Academy Parent Advisory Council, Girl Scouts, Sault Michigan Hockey Association and the tribe's cultural activities."

Regarding her long-term hopes in her new position, "I look forward to helping to develop the

tribal membership databases we need for assessments as well as developing the ability to track other needed information."

Her short-term aspirations include drafting standard operating procedures for the grants department and securing funding for more projects and services.

# Baker joins Manistique ACFS

Sault Tribe elder Bill Baker of Naubinway, Mich., recently accepted the first position as a parenting educator for the Manistique office of the Anishnabe Community and Family Services. He will be serving the western region of the Sault Tribe service area.

Specifically, he will be teaching parents how to better connect with their children before any legal actions are taken against families. Further, he will be teaching other parents how reconnect with children after having been removed by courts. "We're trying to get them back together somehow, it's not an easy thing



**Bill Baker**

to do. Hopefully, we can eliminate problems for families before

going to court hearings," said Baker. Baker will be offering 14 to 26-week courses on parenting skills and constructive personal behavior conducive to keeping families together.

Baker has a bachelor's degree in education with a discipline in the field of public affairs and community service from the University of Toledo along with four years of graduate studies in liberal science.

"It's very challenging," said Baker, "but that's why I'm doing it, it's a chance to rectify some of the problems going on among our families."

# Gaus, Lowes take positions with ACFS

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Maggie Gaus began working for ACFS as a direct assistance case manager in October and a short while later Austin Lowes was hired as a caseworker.

Both Gaus and Lowes were born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, graduated from Sault Area High School and attended Lake Superior State University. Gaus graduated in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in human services and associates degrees in social work and counseling. Lowes graduated in 2011 with a degree in political science with a pre-law concentration.

Previous to her employment with ACFS, Gaus worked as a receptionist for the Department of Human Services (DHS) for five years – starting her employment with DHS at the age of 17 through a program offered by Michigan Works in conjunction with the high school. As a direct assistance case manager, Gaus will be helping tribal members and their families with emergency needs, such as shut off notices. She will be overseeing the General Assistance Program and the Native Employment Works Program, in addition to others.

Gaus has a 9-year-old daughter, Khloey, who attends JKL Bahweting School.

Lowes coordinated a service-learning program for a local middle school to provide youth an opportunity to get involved in community service by planting trees and helping out in soup



**Maggie Gaus**



**Austin Lowes**  
kitchens.

As a caseworker, Lowes works with at risk youth and their families. He said his current position came about at the perfect time, allowing him to transition right into his new job the day after his contract for his previous one expired.

Among other commonalities, Lowes and Gaus both share a love of helping people.

# Last chance to sign wolf petition to put wolf hunting on ballot

Wolves have been protected in Michigan for almost 50 years after they were hunted to the brink of extinction. Even after four decades of protection, there are fewer than 700 wolves in the entire state. However, despite the population's fragile status, some politicians rushed to open a sport hunting season for wolves — opening the door for the same practices that virtually wiped out the entire wolf population in the first place.

All Michigan-registered voters! Please sign a petition TODAY to stop this senseless hunt. Call the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Chairperson's Office for a petition: 635-6050.

**THE WOLF IS A SACRED ANIMAL.**

The Wolf (Ma'iingin) is a sacred animal to the Anishinaabeg. Nanaboozhoo and Ma'iingin were brothers on the Earth, naming all of Creation together, until the Creator told them to go their separate ways. He said to them, they would never be together again, but what happened to one, happened to the other.

After arrival of European settlers, the Anishinaabeg diminished in numbers and culture, and the wolf was hunted to near extinction. When we revived our sovereignty and culture, the wolf regained its numbers under federal protection. What will happen to the Anishinaabeg when the wolf is again hunted?

**A WOLF HUNT WOULD REVERSE YEARS OF PROGRESS TO SAVE THE WOLF FROM EXTINCTION.**

The country spent tens of millions of tax dollars to restore healthy wolf populations back from virtual extinction. And now politicians want to throw away all of the money spent and all of the progress that has been made. They want to bring back the same practices that virtually wiped out the entire wolf population in Michigan decades ago. That is irresponsible and wrong.

**THERE ARE ALREADY TWO PUBLIC LAWS IN PLACE TO DEAL WITH PROBLEM WOLVES.**

Farmers, ranchers and other landowners in Michigan are already allowed to kill wolves to protect their livestock or dogs. Though cases of wolves killing livestock are rare, Michigan's wolf management policy gives property owners the legal authority to protect their livestock. There is even a state program that compensates ranchers for any livestock losses from wolves. Allowing a wolf hunt would accomplish nothing to solve conflicts between property owners and wolves.

**THE PUBLIC IS SAFE FROM WOLVES.**

There has never been a recorded wolf attack on a human in Michigan. Wolves are afraid of people and do all they can to avoid them. We should not let an irrational fear of wolves drive the trophy hunting of these majestic creatures.

**WOLVES ARE AN INVALUABLE PART OF MICHIGAN'S ECOSYSTEM AND THEREFORE OUR LIVES.**

The Upper Peninsula is a special place—nature at its best. Natural predators like wolves are an essential part of the Upper Peninsula's ecosystem. Wolves play a significant role in the Upper Peninsula ecosystem by reducing densities of deer, beavers and other species. Their presence will bring benefits to agriculture, public safety, water quality and ecosystem health.

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# Making moccasins at the Mary Murray Camp



Carol Pages-Montie, Lori Jump and Diane Pavlat were cutting and sewing moccasin patterns to fit their own feet. Materials for the moccasins were provided by the Culture Department.

Moccasins date back centuries to our ancestors who used soft tanned leather stitched together with sinew to make them.

Though the basic construction of moccasins was similar throughout Indian Country, moccasin patterns were different in subtle ways in nearly every tribe. Indians could often tell each other's tribal affiliation from the designs of their shoes. The common names of some large nations like the Blackfoot and the Chippewas refer to their characteristic moccasin styles.

Tribal differences included not only the cut of the moccasins but also the bead and quill work and painted designs.

In some tribes, hardened rawhide was used for the sole for added durability and, in others, rabbit fur or sheepskin was used to line the moccasins for added warmth.

To continue the moccasin making tradition of our ancestors, the Sault Tribe Culture Department hosted a camp on Feb. 22 and 23 to make moccasins at the Mary Murray Culture Camp on Sugar Island. Patterns were traced for each participant onto a large piece of moose hide and then were cut around, so as not to waste the hide, and handed to each individual to complete the cut out process.

Quick with the thread and scissors and the first participant to complete a pair was Fred Carr.



Tiffany Menard is doing bead work while waiting for her pattern to be cut off of the main piece of moose hide by Jackie Minton.



Fred and Joanne Carr worked together to make their moccasins. Fred was the first participant to complete a pair.

## *Photos by Linda Grossett*



Moccasin camp had 12 participants and instructors who participated over the weekend of Feb. 22 and 23.



Bea Leighton of Sugar Island was preparing to sew the top of her moccasin.

# Sequestration digs deep into Indian Country

From "Sequester," Page 1

According to the OMB report released on March 1, the following cuts will affect:

## INDIAN COUNTRY

<b>Indian Student Education (Dept of Education)</b> .....	<b>\$7,000,000</b>
<b>Indian Health Service</b> .....	<b>\$198,000,000</b>
<b>Indian Health Service facilities</b> .....	<b>\$22,000,000</b>
<b>Native American Housing Block Grant</b> .....	<b>\$33,000,000</b>
<b>BIA and Bureau of Indian Education</b> .....	<b>\$126,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$386,000,000</b>

## PROGRAMS WITH SIGNIFICANT IMPACT IN INDIAN COUNTRY

Judicial branch cuts, from Supreme Court to Sentencing Commission.....	\$410,000,000
Minority Business Development Agency .....	\$2,000,000
Commodity and child nutrition .....	\$8,000,000
Wildland fire management.....	\$125,000,000
(NOAA) Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery .....	\$3,000,000
Impact Aid.....	\$65,000,000
Education Improvement Programs .....	\$228,000,000
Special Education .....	\$633,000,000
Accelerating Achievement and Ensuring Equity.....	\$789,000,000
Office of Innovation and Improvement.....	\$77,000,000
Career, Technical and Adult Education .....	\$87,000,000
Higher Education .....	\$116,000,000
Student Financial Assistance .....	\$86,000,000
Student Financial Admin .....	\$71,000,000
Institute of Education Sciences.....	\$30,000,000
Defense Environmental Cleanup.....	\$394,000,000
Energy science .....	\$245,000,000
Bonneville Power Administration Fund.....	\$6,000,000
Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Programs.....	\$20,000,000
Health Resources and Services.....	\$365,000,000
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention .....	\$298,000,000
National Institutes of Health.....	\$1553,000,000
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration .....	\$168,000,000

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (Admin).....	\$40,000,000
Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund.....	\$5330,000,000
Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund.....	\$5752,000,000
Medicare Prescription Drug Account .....	\$588,000,000
Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control .....	\$57,000,000
Low Income Home Energy Assistance.....	\$175,000,000
Supporting Healthy Families and Adolescent Development.....	\$28,000,000
Children and Families Services (Including Head Start).....	\$503,000,000
Aging and Disability Services Program .....	\$75,000,000
Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund .....	\$38,000,000
United States Secret Service.....	\$84,000,000
Customs and Border Protection .....	\$83,000,000
National Park Service .....	\$153,000,000
Department of Justice .....	\$459,000,000
Federal Bureau of Investigation .....	\$552,000,000
Drug Enforcement Admin.....	\$120,000,000
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives .....	\$58,000,000
Federal Prison System .....	\$339,000,000
Office of Justice Programs.....	\$138,000,000
Department of Labor.....	\$296,000,000
Unemployment, benefits & admin.....	\$2679,000,000
Bureau of Labor Statistics .....	\$27,000,000
Occupational Safety and Health Administration .....	\$28,000,000
Mine Safety and Health Administration .....	\$19,000,000
Federal Aviation Administration.....	\$637,000,000
Federal Highway Administration .....	\$463,000,000
Internal Revenue Service .....	\$827,000,000
Environmental Protection Agency .....	\$262,000,000
EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants .....	\$210,000,000
Executive Office of the President .....	\$22,000,000
National Science Foundation .....	\$361,000,000
Small Business Administration.....	\$92,000,000
Social Security Administration .....	\$286,000,000
Corporation for Public Broadcasting.....	\$22,000,000
Smithsonian Institution.....	\$51,000,000
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$31,700,000,000</b>

## TOURNAMENTS

**\$15,000 Video Poker**  
Kewadin St. Ignace  
March 22-24, 2013

**\$8,000 Spin to Win**  
Kewadin Hessel  
April 26-28, 2013

**\$22,500 MEGA BINGO**  
Kewadin St. Ignace  
Saturday April 20, 2013

4 - Warm Up Games + 7 - Two-Part Games  
2 - Three-Part Games

Pre-register in person at Kewadin Sault, Manistique, Christmas, or Hessel Cashiers Cage or the DreamMakers Box Office from March 11 until April 12 for \$75.

Pre-register at Kewadin St. Ignace until April 18 for \$75. Pre-registered players receive \$5 in Kewadin Credits.

Credit card or check orders call DeAnn at 1-800-KEWADIN, ext. 34027 or

Direct to DeAnn at 1-906-643-7071, ext. 1. Packages available at the door on April 20 for \$90.

**One Big Mega Bingo Jackpot game for \$7,500!**

**WEEKLY SLOTS OF FUN**  
January - December 2013  
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Every Tuesday - Manistique

## POKER MANIA

**Weekly Texas Hold'em Poker**  
Every Sunday - 4 p.m. - Sault Ste. Marie  
Every Wednesday - 6 p.m. - St. Ignace



## SHOWERS OF CASH

Saturday April 27, 2013  
from 6 p.m.-11 p.m.

**Win Your Share of \$60,000!**

Grand Prize Draws at the top of each hour!

Random draws to step inside our MONEY MACHINE!

Start earning Grand Prize entries April 1.

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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.**

## TWO FOR TUESDAY

All Kewadin Sites

Earn 25 points on your Northern Rewards Club card to receive \$5 in Kewadin Credits.

Earn an additional 25 points and earn another \$5 in Kewadin Credits during regular Club hours.\*

## PLAYERS DAY SUNDAY

All Kewadin Sites

Earn 25 base points on your Northern Rewards Club card during regular club hours\* to receive \$5 in Kewadin Credits and be entered into random cash drawings from 4-8 p.m.

## 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!**

\*Please note that Club hours vary by site.

# During National Nutrition Month, enjoy foods that suit your budget, meet nutrition needs and tastes

FROM MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH

Each March, the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the Michigan Department of Community Health encourages Michiganders to renew their appreciation of healthful eating through National Nutrition Month. This year's theme, *Eat Right, Your Way, Every Day*, emphasizes the inclusion of foods people already enjoy as part of an overall healthy eating plan.

A common misperception is that eating healthfully means giving up favorite foods. According to the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, in 2011, 82 percent of U.S. adults cited not wanting to give up foods they like as a reason for not eating more healthfully. However, the most important focus of healthful eating is the total diet, rather than any one food or meal. All foods can fit within the overall plan when enjoyed in moderation and combined with physical activity.

Tips for eating right, your way, every day:

**On the job** — Busy work days and business travel can lead to on-the-fly meals. For desktop dining, keep single-serve packages of crackers, fruit, peanut butter,

low-sodium soup or canned tuna in your desk.

**On the go** — Tuck portable, nonperishable foods in a purse, briefcase or backpack for a meal on the run. Try granola bars, peanut butter and crackers, fresh fruit, trail mix or single-serve packages of whole-grain cereal or crackers.

**Students** — The student lifestyle can be fast-paced and low-budget but that doesn't mean sacrificing health for low costs. Stock snacks that combine protein and carbohydrates such as apples with peanut butter, carrots and hummus, hardboiled eggs and fruit, banana and yogurt, almonds with low-fat cheese or whole-grain cereal. These also double as a quick grab-and-go breakfast to wake up the brain and muscles for the day's activities.

**At the cafeteria, salad bars** are a great choice, but go easy on the cheese, bacon, creamy dressings and other high-calorie add-ons. Follow the national MyPlate guidelines, found online at [www.choosemyplate.gov](http://www.choosemyplate.gov) and make half your plate fruits and vegetables.

**Families** — Caring for and feeding a family can be a handful. However, family meals allow parents to be role models to pro-

mote healthful eating. And, just because a meal is made quickly doesn't mean it can't be nutritious.

Keep things simple. Build a collection of recipes for quick and easy family favorites. Choose ingredients that you can use for more than one meal. For example, cook extra grilled chicken for chicken salad or fajitas the next day.

Ask for help. Get the kids involved making a salad, setting the table or other simple tasks.

Additionally, the Michigan WIC Special Supplemental Nutrition Program also supports National Nutrition Month by providing supplemental food, nutrition education and counseling, and referrals to low and moderate income pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, infants, and children up to age 5.

To learn more about enrolling in WIC, call (800) 26-BIRTH, or 211 to find a local WIC clinic. Visit the WIC website for more information at [www.michigan.gov/wic](http://www.michigan.gov/wic). For more tips about eating right and eating healthy, visit the Academy's National Nutrition Month website at [www.eatright.org/nnm/handoutsandtipsheets](http://www.eatright.org/nnm/handoutsandtipsheets).



## Quick, nutritious, good tasting chili in minutes

What could be more healthful and tasty than a big bowl of venison chili — low fat with quality protein, with lots of nutrients and fiber. You can whip this up so fast you family's heads will spin.

Put your chili pot on your stove set at medium and add one to two pounds of ground venison. Add a finely chopped medium onion. Stir to evenly cook onion and meat. When meat is browned and onion is transparent, add 1 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon pepper, 1 to 2 teaspoons cayenne pepper, 2 tablespoons cumin, 2 teaspoons paprika, one pinch cinnamon and one pinch cocoa. All spices are to taste. Stir to evenly distribute spices. Add one beef boullion cube. Add two cans diced tomatoes of your choice: fire roasted is nice. Add one can of black beans, one can of red beans, one can of white beans, and one can of chili beans spiced to your taste. Add 2 cups water. Depending on what you have in the house, you might add cilantro, japapeno peppers, chipolte pepper or roasted red peppers. Stir and let simmer about 15 minutes. Serve with sour cream. It will taste even better tomorrow.

Makes 16 Servings

AMOUNT PER SERVING

Calories 126.2

Total Fat 2.9 g

Saturated Fat 1.3 g

Polyunsaturated Fat 0.3 g

Monounsaturated Fat 0.7 g

Cholesterol 27.8 mg

Sodium 333.0 mg

Potassium 350.1 mg

Total Carbohydrate 13.7 g

Dietary Fiber 4.2 g

Sugars 0.8 g

Protein 11.8 g

Vitamin A 3.9 percent

Vitamin B-12 0.0 percent

Vitamin B-6 3.8 percent

Vitamin C 6.6 percent

Vitamin D 0.0 percent

Vitamin E 0.6 percent

Calcium 5.4 percent

Copper 6.0 percent

Folate 9.9 percent

Iron 16.5 percent

Magnesium 7.0 percent

Manganese 12.1 percent

Niacin 2.3 percent

Pantothenic Acid 1.5 percent

Phosphorus 5.9 percent

Riboflavin 2.9 percent

Selenium 1.0 percent

Thiamin 5.5 percent

Zinc 3.3 percent

## NACF announces artist fellowships

The Native Arts and Cultures Foundation is proud to announce the call for entries for the 2014 artist fellowships. Online applications are due before May 3.

"Through the fellowship program, we hope to foster the creative voices of our indigenous artists," said foundation Program Director Reuben Tomás Roqueñi. "We believe in the beauty and inspiration of the work of Native artists and the fellowships provide a significant resource for their practice."

The \$20,000 fellowships awarded by the foundation recognize the creativity and expression of exceptional Native artists who have made significant impact in the field. American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian artists are encouraged to apply for this unique national fellowship honoring excellence by Native artists in six disciplines: dance,

filmmaking, literature, music, traditional arts and visual arts.

In past years, artists living in the Midwest, including Bobby Bullett (Chippewa), Brent Michael Davids (Mohican), Emily Johnson (Yupik), Bennie Klain (Navajo), Ronald Paquin (Chippewa) and Rosy Simas (Seneca) were honored with this award.

Artists who are members of federally and state-recognized U.S. tribes, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities can review criteria in full and apply by the May 3 deadline at [nacf.us/2014-fellowships](http://nacf.us/2014-fellowships).

We will announce recipients in November of 2013. For questions about this opportunity, contact Program Director Reuben Roqueñi online at [reuben@nativeartsandcultures.org](mailto:reuben@nativeartsandcultures.org) or call (360) 314-2421.

Since it was launched in

2009, the Native Arts and Cultures Foundation has awarded \$1,341,000 in grants to 72 Native artists and organizations in 20 states. In addition to awarding Native artist fellowships, NACF has funded organizations including the American Indian Center of Chicago, the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries and Museums of Oklahoma City, the First People's Fund in Rapid City, S.D. and the Northwoods Nijjii Enterprise Community in Flambeau, Wisc.

Created after decades of visioning among the nation's first peoples with the support of the Ford Foundation and others, NACF is a national charity solely dedicated to supporting the revitalization, appreciation and perpetuation of Native arts and cultures. Learn more about the foundation at visit [www.nativeartsandcultures.org](http://www.nativeartsandcultures.org).

## U.S. House passes veterans EMT bill

BY RICK SMITH

The Veteran Emergency Medical Technician Support Act recently passed the U.S. House of Representatives on Feb. 12. The bill, if enacted into law, will amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to states to streamline requirements and procedures for veterans with military emergency medical training to become civilian emergency medical technicians.

Most military veterans have

some degree of emergency medical training; some even have training and experience as emergency medical training instructors. The Veterans EMT Support Act is intended to take advantage of the trained and experienced veterans to address a chronic nationwide shortage of emergency medical technicians.

Grant funding through the law would be used to meet the spirit of the measure by determining the extent that veterans have required

training and skills and identifying qualifications for waivers on equivalent state requirements.

In order to qualify for grants under the measure, states must demonstrate they are short of emergency medical technicians.

The bill, in its present form, authorizes \$1 million to carry out the measure from 2014 through 2018.

If the bill passes the Senate, it will go on to the president's desk to be signed into law.



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# Native American Business Institute provides business basics for high school students

The Native American Business Institute is a week-long pre-college summer program for Native American high school students who will be in grades 10 through 12 during the fall 2013-spring 2014 school year. Participants work with MSU admissions officers, college counselors, tribal community leaders and corporate representatives in a seven-day "business boot-camp" that prepares students for college and exposes them to numerous academic and professional opportunities.

- At the institute, students will:
  - Develop time management and study skills
  - Receive tips and strategies for gaining admission to college
  - Learn how to navigate the financial aid/scholarship jungle
  - Form lifelong friendships with other Native youth, MSU students and MSU support staff
  - Strengthen communication and interpersonal skills
  - Attend corporate, cultural, and leadership development workshops
  - Cultivate a deeper appreciation and understanding of their culture
  - Foster networks with business leaders and other professionals
  - Expose students to various careers and opportunities in business
  - Most importantly—they learn how to work hard and play hard!

**APPLICATION PROCESS:**  
Total participants admitted into the summer program will be set at 40 students.  
Priority will be given to applications submitted on or before Friday, May 3, 2013.

Selected students and parents will be sent an acceptance letter with additional documents and required forms to be completed and sent back to multicultural business programs accepting and confirming their son or daughters attendance to NABI 2013.

The Native American Summer Business Institute takes place at the Michigan State University campus during the following dates and location:

Shaw Hall, East Lansing, Mich. — July 20-26 (Sat-Fri), 2013

Orientation date for parents: July 20, 2013 (After student drop-off)

**APPLICATION PERIOD/ DEADLINES:**

First round of applications are due by Friday, May 3, 2013

Late applications will be placed at the "end of the line" for review and students are accepted on a space available basis.

**ELIGIBILITY:** To be eligible, each student must:

- Be a current high school student
- Have a 2.8-3.0 cumulative grade-point average
- Submit a completed application packet by the established deadline

**APPLICATIONS:** Download an application at <http://mbp.broad.msu.edu/nabi>

Mail, fax or email applications to:

Kevin Leonard  
Multicultural Business Programs  
645 N. Shaw Lane, Rm. 419  
East Lansing, MI 48824  
(517) 353-3524/ (fax) (517) 355-0970  
[leonard1@msu.edu](mailto:leonard1@msu.edu)

# Member exercising constitutional right

Dear Editor,  
As tribal members we only have two constitutional rights, referendum and removal. Everything else is controlled by the tribal board. Even these two basic rights have been made so difficult the average member now has difficulty understanding them, much less exercising them.

In our Constitution, the removal process is detailed in three short paragraphs and the referendum process is only one short paragraph. Over the years the board has added 12 pages of rules to the removal process and five to the referendum process clearly designed to protect the board. Most of us agree that removal is a drastic measure but, in the absence of any other means for members to exercise their

political power, sometimes it is necessary.

If we had a new Constitution, with a separation of powers, perhaps removals would not be necessary. But we do not, and waiting for this to happen is like waiting for that proverbial ship that may never come in. Our group was actually able to get through the tangled mess of regulations and develop a bona fide removal petition. The time to act is now. Petitions of removal are currently being circulated.

To request more information send an email to [saulttribeinfo@yahoo.com](mailto:saulttribeinfo@yahoo.com). Join the effort and show the board that the members have a voice and are not afraid to use it.

CJ Mosher  
Manistique, Mich.

Opens  
April 1st


## Owner Occupied Rehab Program

The Sault Tribe Housing Authority is currently accepting applications for its Owner Occupied Rehab Program. The program opens April 1st and runs until funds are exhausted.


The purpose of this program is to remove issues of substandard heating systems and water heaters that is not due to the fault of the applicant; that impedes or threatens the safety of the household; in which the household is not able to resolve the substandard heating system and water heater with their own funds. These funds will be distributed to eligible applicants who meet the eligibility criteria and who have demonstrated a need, based on an emergency situation and it has been determined that providing assistance will remedy or eliminate the emergency situation.

- Must Own Home & Land
- Must be a Sault Tribe Household
- Must reside in the seven county service area
- Must meet income guidelines

Please contact the  
Sault Tribe Housing Authority  
Home Ownership Program  
Annie Thibert @ 906-495-5555  
or 1-800-794-4072



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 Sault Ste. Marie 906-632-5250 or 800-726-0093

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- > Never hurt my girlfriend or boyfriend physically, verbally or emotionally.
- > Not be controlling or manipulative in my relationship.
- > Accept responsibility for my actions.

Signed by \_\_\_\_\_

Pledge Adapted from [LoveIsRespect.org](http://LoveIsRespect.org) National Helpline 1-866-331-9474

DatingPledge.org

DatingPledge.org and StopDatingViolence.org are projects of The EMILY Fund, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

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# Massive open pit mining operation coming to a backyard near you

By **BRENDA AUSTIN**

Growing up and living among the Great Lakes is a privilege. Swimming in smaller inland lakes that are fed by tributaries from watersheds that we don't see, but depend on to be clean and pristine is something we take for granted. We usually don't give a second thought to the quality of the water in the beautiful lakes we swim in, but rather how cold it is when we first jump in. Or if the fish are biting today, or are there enough camping spots left to pitch a few tents.

Then in the evening as we watch the sun set over the lake we enjoy the smell of a good campfire and maybe make S'mores, or brew coffee or enjoy a cold one as we visit with family and friends.

Most of us know not to dump trash or oil from a recent engine change or other toxic chemicals into the lakes we swim in. That when we camp we put trash where the animals can't reach it and when it's time to leave, we leave our lakes and camping spots as clean, or cleaner than we found them.

Wisconsin and Michigan share more than just boundaries on a map. We also share water. From headwaters and wetlands that empty into tributaries, inland rivers and lakes that flow into Lake Superior. Our pristine beaches where you can walk for miles without seeing another soul and the cold water that washes over your feet as you walk along the sand looking for agates or pretty rocks to take home – may not always be so pristine unless we care enough to pay attention to what is going on next door.

A mining company, Gogebic Taconite LLC, (GTAC) based out of Hurley Wisconsin with headquarters in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, whose parent company is Cline Resource and Development of West Virginia, is threatening that water, our water – and the health of the people, animals, air quality and surrounding land.

Including the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians reservation in Northwestern Wisconsin. More than 95% of the reservation's 124,234 acres, according to their website, remain undeveloped and natural. The reservation is located along Wisconsin's northern most coast of Lake Superior, which is the largest freshwater lake in the world – and is just six miles downstream as the crow flies from where a proposed 4 1/2-mile long open-pit iron ore mine would be dug to a depth of 900 feet. And that is just phase one of the proposed project.

The mine would eventually stretch up to 22 miles long, be one-and-a-half miles wide and be 900-1,000 feet deep. What GTAC is proposing to build could become the largest open-pit iron-ore mine in the world.

Cline Resource and Development has the option to purchase the mineral rights on thousands of acres of property between Upson and Mellen. Wisconsin for development of the mining project. The proposed project would mine what is referred to as "lean ore" – a magnetite that would be concentrated and made into taconite pellets for shipping to steel mills.

The Bad River, from which the local tribe takes its name, empties into Lake Superior at the Kakagon Sloughs, which are the largest wetlands complex on Lake Superior. The Sloughs contain large beds of wild rice that is important for food, cultural heritage and income for the tribe – and is also a pollution-sensitive plant.

The proposed mine would sit right in the middle of the headwaters of the Bad River system and the underground Penokee Aquifer, which feeds wells throughout the basin to the north, including the O'Dovero Farms and Meat Market off of Hwy 77 and East of the small town of Mellen. The mother, her daughter and son and their families who own the farm say it has been in their family for five generations, but now they fear for their livelihood, their livestock's health and their well being – because they all depend on the water quality in their 150-foot deep well. If their well water becomes contaminated, they will not pass mandated inspections of their dairy and meat products.

The iron ore formation targeted for development and de-regulation includes 56-miles of perennial river and stream frontage on more than 20 waterways, all of which ultimately flow into the Bad River. The proposed mine would generate about 560 million tons of tailings and 350 million tons of waste rock during the first phase alone. Studies clearly identify the presence of acid-producing sulfide minerals, which would be wastes. But the mining company and some legislators are ignoring that. The parent company of GTAC, a coal mining conglomerate, has been cited 25 times for degrading the water quality at four mines; including 19 times at the Deer Run Mine in Illinois, which opened only three years ago. — Information taken from the Bad River tribe's How Mining Impacts the Landscape brochure, which can be found on their website: [www.badriver-nsn.gov](http://www.badriver-nsn.gov).

nately can compromise much of the economy in northern Wisconsin. And that's just talking about economics, which is a very limited tool when talking about the quality of life and the reason people choose to live in northern Wisconsin.

"The Bad River Tribe not only has treaties that protect the resources that they depend upon and have protected for generations, but have a stake in the quality of the water, lands and air as part of their very essence, identity and community and want to pass it down to future generations and ensure they have the same opportunity and quality of life that current and past generations have protected," he said.

Hester said the Bad River Tribe is one of the poorest tribes in the state and are very limited in their capacity just to provide basic infrastructure and housing. Hester repeated a phrase he had heard the tribal chairman, Mike Wiggins Jr., say many times, "The tribe may be economically poor, but we are rich in natural resources and the quality of life that the land provides for us."

Questioning if it has come too late in the process, Hester said there has recently been media coverage about the presence of sulfides both in the overburden, which is the rock they will have to remove to get to the iron formation, and in at least one of the layers within the iron formation – most likely he said in the form of iron pyrite. He called the sulfide deposits significant, saying they create enough of a concern that there is a need for further research to be done. "There is significant acid generating potential in those rocks based on a recent study by Lawrence University," he said. "You can see very quickly there is a serious number of topics that need to be addressed meaningfully. There are a number of risks associated with these types of projects and we have had no meaningful discussion of that in the legislature and very little in the media as well."

Hester said the mine would also have a significant impact on air quality from the taconite processing. The processing facilities that will be beneficiating, or refining the ore, are the number one source of mercury emissions in the Lake Superior basin. "Mercury is of great concern for many tribal communities because of the subsistence nature of fish consumption, which is part of a traditional diet and in many cases, a daily diet. The movement of metals from waste stockpiles, or the mine wall itself during taconite processing, can be carried by air or water off-site and be a concern to the environment and to people exposed to them in sufficient quantities," he said.

Asked what the next steps would be for the mining company to move forward with the project, Hester said they still have to do exploration – and that they turned down a permit to do exploration last year because they said they needed new laws passed first. Mining permits would have to be filed and go through some type of state review process, with some of the permits most likely also undergoing a federal review from the Army Corps of Engineers or the EPA. "By then," Hester said, "they will have to define their project and we will see where it goes, if they apply at all. I think they can expect to be in court for a long time and I think that is more likely given the changes they have proposed under the law."

Hester said the state's legislature is thinking about the promise of jobs and busy looking like they are promoting economic development, but they are forgetting about how much change the proposed mine really means. "It's not all boom and bonanza," he said. "We have seen that in the past and have many examples to learn from."

Mother, grandmother and dairy farm owner, Monica Vitek, said, "If we were given the opportunity, we would tell state legislators that this is not the proper place to set a mine. You cannot mine here without polluting and taking our fresh waterways and our beautiful countryside away from us. We thank God for all the help anyone has given us in trying to bring the light of day to this situation."

As of press time, calls to Governor Scott Walker's office had not been returned.



Photo by Mike Wiggins Jr.

**Ricing:** Bad River Tribal members harvest wild rice in the same manner that their people have for generations. Threats to wild rice from mining range from changes in flow regimes to sulfate pollution in mine wastes that can act as a poison to the sensitive wetland species.



Photos by Diane Farsetta

**Taking a tour of the Penokee Hills** - Pete Rasmussen, Gil Halsted, Liz Bruno, Tom McGrath, Bill Heart and Todd Dennis. Pete Rasmussen and Bill Heart are local residents with the Penokee Hills Education Project and gave Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice (WNPJ) board members and volunteers a tour of the proposed mine site.



Photo by Diane Farsetta

**Bad River headwaters** - Liz Bruno, a WNPJ board member and Stefania Sani, a WNPJ volunteer and past board member. Below: Examining a banded Iron formation - Stefania Sani and her partner Gil Halsted.



**Left:** (Photo by Ed Wiggins) Aerial photo of the Bad River where it meets Lake Superior. All surface waters (and the pollution they may carry) leaving the mine site via streams, rivers and runoff would eventually flow through this channel. Above: (Photo by Pete Rasmussen) An aerial photo of the proposed mine site in the Penokee Hills, in the headwaters of the Bad River watershed.



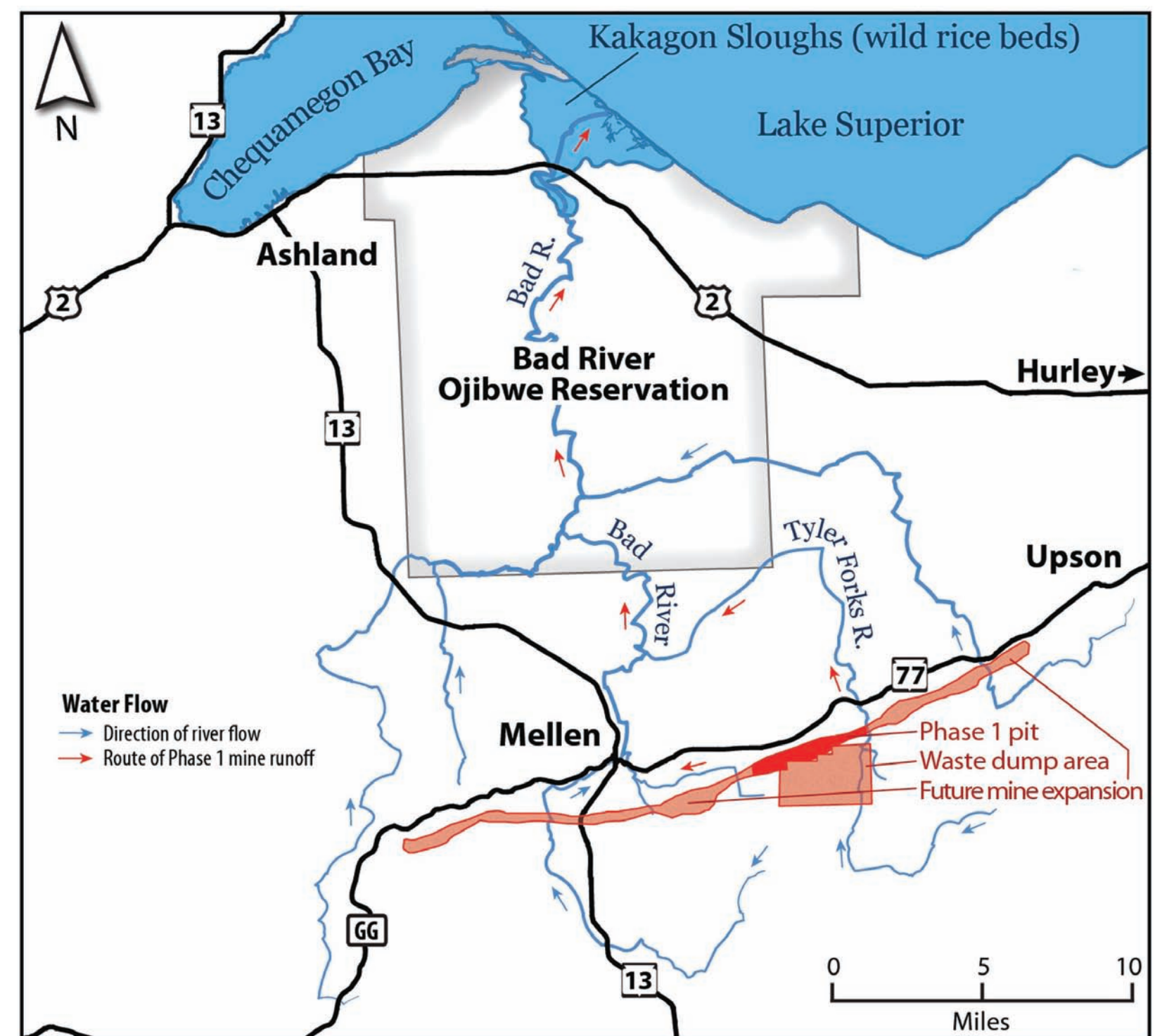
Photo by Carl Sack

The Tyler Forks River where it flows past the mine site.



Photo by Carl Sack

The Tyler Forks River falls where the proposed mine site would be.



Map created by by Carl Sack for the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice

## JANET CELESKEY

Janet (nee Malkowski, Peterson) Celeskey, 73, of Kaleva, died on Jan. 9, 2013, at home surrounded by her loving family.

She was born on March 30, 1939, in Manistee, the daughter of Anthony and Justine (nee McCormick) Malkowski.

Janet worked as a nurse aide in nursing homes and she was a very caring person. She will be remembered as a strong-willed, outspoken woman who was fiercely loyal to her family. She enjoyed shopping and, most of all, spending time with her beloved children and grandchildren.

Janet is survived by her children, Leonard (Peggy) Peterson of Westland, Shari Peterson of Bear Lake, and Mark (Rachel) Celeskey of Jerome; 11 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; her sisters, Marie Smith of Kaleva and Bette Superczynski of Manistee; and numerous nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Janet was preceded in death by her first husband, Leonard Donald Peterson; her second husband, Richard Celeskey; her sons, Wayne Peterson and Timmy Peterson; her grandson, Richard Peterson; her granddaughter, Melissa Polen; her sister, Marilyn Maxwell; and her parents.

Private funeral services and in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Celeskey family or to the Pulmonary Hypertension Association.

The Terwilliger Funeral Home, in Kaleva, is in charge of arrangements.

## JENNIFER CLEMENT

Jennifer Lynn Clement, 31, of Kalamazoo, passed away on Feb. 14, 2013, after a six-year bout with cancer.

She was born on Dec. 7, 1981, in Sault Ste. Marie to Rush and Christine Clement.

She graduated from Loy Norrix High School and was a student at Western Michigan University, studying molecular biology with dreams of becoming a scientist.

Miss Clement loved visiting the Upper Peninsula and also particularly enjoyed stopping on the beach near the Mackinac Bridge on her way back home to Kalamazoo.

She had dreams and goals and went after them with a passion, said her mother, no matter the physical cost. She was an artist, creating pencil and ink drawings, and an antiques collector, and she loved to search for good deals on antiques and vintage clothes, particularly black ones, and shoes. She had a flair for dressing with style, her mother said, and often wore boots, even wearing black army boots with her white dress on the day of her high school graduation. She especially loved her cats and they brought her comfort during her illness. While she was ill, her mother said, she wholeheartedly believed she would be healed and her will to live was an inspiration to family and friends.

Miss Clement is survived by her mother, Christine (nee Maki) Clement, of Kalamazoo and formerly of Cedarville; her father and

his wife, Rush and Julie Clement, of Portland; siblings and their families, Laura, Eric and Elaine, Marshall, and Holly Clement; grandparents, Peggy Clement and Wayne and Sue Maki; three aunts and their families, Stacy and Mitch Cain, Sheila Berger and Lindel "Aagi" Clement; two uncles, Bill Maki and Landan Clement; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Miss Clement was preceded in death by her grandfather, Lewis Clement, her grandmother, Gayle Maki, and an uncle, Steven Maki.

A memorial service took place on Feb. 16, at Agape Christian Church. Memorials may be made to Rose Arbor Hospice.

Arrangements were made by Langeland Family Funeral Homes of Kalamazoo.

## MARGARET FLEMMING

Margaret Flemming, 61, of Mackinaw City, passed away on Feb. 2, at Mackinac Straits Hospital.

She was born on Mackinac Island on June 4, 1951. Her parents were John and Mary (nee Bodwin) Fisher Sr. She graduated from high school and worked for Audie's in Mackinaw City for 43 years, retiring recently because of health.

She is a member of Sault Tribe Chippewa Indians and Ste. Anne's Catholic Church, Mackinac Island. She has lived in the Mackinaw City-Levering-Carp Lake areas much of her life.

She is survived by a daughter, Susan (Will Critchfield) Mallory of Kannapolis, N.C.; son, Larry (Heather Bishop) Schiller of Levering; step-son, Larry (Brandi) Flemming of Rogers City; sister, Wilma Green of Mackinaw City; brother, John (Barb) Fisher of Mackinac Island; sister-in-law, Jeri Bodwin of Carp Lake; and three grandchildren, Brady, Sophia and Stanton.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Mike Flemming in 1996; brothers, Melvin "Oscar" Bodwin in 2012 and Anthony Fisher in 1982; and a sister, Barbara Lynn, as an infant.

Cremation took place at Northern Michigan Crematory of Cheboygan and a graveside service is scheduled in June on Mackinac Island at Ste. Anne's Catholic Cemetery. A gathering took place on Feb. 7 at Audie's banquet room in Mackinaw City for friends and family to share their love for Margaret. Those wishing to remember Margaret with donations, please send to Dodson Funeral Home, 240 McCann Street, St. Ignace to help with funeral costs for the family.

## SAMUEL LONGTINE

Samuel Louis Longtine, age 56, of Skandia, passed away on Feb. 19, 2013. Sam was born in Marquette on July 17, 1956, a son of Louis and Betty (nee Trevillion) Longtine.

A 1975 graduate of the Gwinn High School, he was a lifelong West Branch Township resident. Sam enrolled in the Bricklayers and Allied Crafts Workers Apprenticeship Program, later joining the laborers union where he worked for several contrac-

tors, most recently for Closner Construction.

Sam loved the outdoors, especially gardening, enjoyed woodworking and took special pride in his restoration of a 1956 Allis-Chalmers tractor, his special, beloved project with his grandson, Jacob.

Throughout the years, Sam was very supportive of the union, having membership in Laborers Local 1329 and previously Bricklayers Union Local 9. Sam possessed an honest, hardworking nature, but those who knew him, knew his excellent sense of humor and love of practical jokes and pranks.

Survivors include his wife of 35 years, Brenda (nee Barnett) Longtine; daughter, Cora Lee Longtine of Negaunee; son, Andrew Louis Longtine of Skandia; grandson, Jacob Samuel Bossom of Negaunee; three sisters, Mary Gail (John) Grace of Hopewell, Pa., Paulette (Pete) Farmer of Ishpeming, and Laurie (Fred) Beauchamp of Skandia; his brother, Louie (Kathy) Longtine of Skandia; numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; and his canine companion, Toby.

Sam was preceded in death by his parents.

Friends gathered at the Fassbender Funeral Home on Feb. 26 for visitation and services with Rev. Leon Jarvis presiding. Interment will be in the West Branch Township Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to U.P. Honor Flight. Condolences may be expressed online at [www.fassbenderfuneralhome.com](http://www.fassbenderfuneralhome.com)

## CHRIS A. MARTIN

Chris Alan Martin, 41, passed away on Feb. 20. Chris was born in San Diego, Calif., on Jan. 8, 1972.

However, he lived all but his first six months in Cheboygan. His Cheboygan roots are deep. His great-great-grandpa, Charles Martin, came to Cheboygan around 1870. He also has deep roots in Mackinac County where his ancestors were French-Canadian/American Indian. One of his great-grandmothers was listed as an "Indian woman" in a long ago Census. Chris was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Services were conducted on Feb. 27 in Cheboygan at the Nordman-Christian Funeral Home, Rev. Joyce Brown-Moore officiated.

He was a gentle, sweet person who loved nature and all critters. He loved the outdoors, and went on many outings with his brothers and friends sledding, hiking, canoeing and more. He spent the past couple of years dog sitting for Cole (now deceased) and Africa, he deeply loved those dogs, and he really enjoyed playing cards with his mom and dad and brother David. The three brothers loved just hanging out with one another.

At the services, a friend shared this: she arrived at a car-deer collision to find Chris hugging and mourning the death of a deer he just hit.

Chris thought much on total awareness of self and death. He had strong belief that when he died his energy force or spirit would

transcend to a new level. Death, he once wrote, is just another "experience," a "change of worlds." In some ways, nature was his religion, and the earth was his temple.

When Chris acquired friends, they became friends for life—to know Chris was to love him. Chris was a natural born artist and he expressed much of himself in his art. Chris worked for years at the Kewadin Shores Casino in St. Ignace and most recently he worked for the Cheboygan Tribune, a job he loved very much.

Chris is survived by his parents, Denny and Karen, his very close brothers, Jeff and Dave Martin, in addition to Sheila Serra, Peggy Woiderski, "Africa" and Jarvis. He also leaves behind loving aunts, nieces, nephews, cousins, and hundreds of friends who will miss him dearly.

Chris loved all animals and if you wish to leave something in his memory, consider a contribution to the Cheboygan County Humane Society.

Online condolences at [www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com](http://www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com).

## ROBIN T. MCNALLY

Robin Therese McNally, aged 58, of Munising, Mich., died on Feb. 27 at

Marquette General Hospital following a two-year illness. She was born on April 21, 1954, in Munising to Wayne and Marvel (nee Lord) McNally.

Robin graduated from Sacred Heart School and then Wm. G. Mather High School in 1972. She served in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. She married Gary Taylor and together they had four children. They lived in Lombard, Ill., and Hortonville, Wisc. Robin was a homemaker, beautician and an accounting clerk for the Oneida Indian Reservation. She had a deep faith and was respectful and loyal. She was a bit of an adventurer and free spirit, which moved her around the Upper Peninsula. Robin was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and was proud of her Native heritage. She enjoyed sewing, music, dancing, woodcarving and riding her bicycle. She was a good cook and had a green thumb.

She is survived by her children, Renee (Joel) Taylor of Appleton, Wisc., Isaac Taylor of Kaukauna, Wisc., Herbert (Elizabeth) Taylor of Madison, Wisc., and Kyle Taylor of Appleton; grandchildren, Dante, Avra, Sienna and one on the way; mother, Marvel McNally of Munising; brothers, Michael (Kym) McNally of South Haven, Mich., Kenneth McNally of Munising and Vincent (Mary) McNally of Kalamazoo, Mich.; sisters, Lou-Ann (Henry) Bush of Kinross, Mich., and Mary Jo Purtee of Munising; and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

Robin was preceded in death by her father, Wayne McNally.

Visitation took place at the Bowerman Funeral Home. Services were conducted by Father Chris Gardiner on March 5 at the Sacred Heart Church in Munising.

## BETTY SUPERCZYNSKI

Betty Jane Superczynski, 82, of

Manistee, Mich., died on Jan. 30, 2013, at her home surrounded by her family.

She was born on April 18, 1930, and was the daughter of the late Anthony and Justine (nee McCormick) Malkowski. Betty married Donald E. Superczynski on Aug. 16, 1947, at Saint Joseph Catholic Church in Manistee. Donald preceded her in death on April 4, 1992.

She was employed at the Glen of Michigan in Manistee for many years. Most of her life was devoted to being a homemaker and raising her family. She enjoyed spending time with her children and grandchildren, as well as tending to her flower and vegetable gardens. She was a member of Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Shrine Church of Manistee, the Catholic Daughters of America and a life member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Betty is survived by her son, Donald E. Superczynski; daughter and son-in-law, Judy and Richard Superczynski-Lonsberry all of Manistee; two sons-in-law, Donald Alfred of Manistee and Phil Mackin of Charlevoix, Mich.; 11 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; sister, Marie Smith of Kaleva, Mich.; and several nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by two daughters, Susan A. Mackin and Karen Alfred; son, Bryan Superczynski; and two sisters, Marilyn Maxwell and Janet Celeskey.

Mass from The Order of Christian Funerals was celebrated on Feb. 4, 2013, at Saint Mary of Mount Carmel Shrine Church in Manistee with Reverend John McCracken celebrant. Burial will follow at Mount Carmel Cemetery, also in Manistee.

The Herbert Funeral Home of Manistee is in charge of funeral arrangements.

## SARA WEESAW

Sara Gayle (nee Mandoka) Weesaw, age 50, of Athens, Mich., passed away on Feb. 4, 2013 at the Lifespan Good Samaritan Hospice Residence in Battle Creek.

Sara was born on Oct. 16, 1962, at Kinross Air Force Base in Kinross, Mich., to Paul and Lucy (nee Gabow) Mandoka. She graduated from Athens High School in 1980.

She was a member of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi in Athens.

Sara enjoyed her work maintaining the three sisters tribal garden and other outdoor reservation maintenance.

She was a life member of the Athens VFW Post 5319 and an active Ladies Auxiliary member.

She is survived by her father, Paul Mandoka of Athens, sisters, Ruth Hackworth and Jackie Minton of Sault Saint Marie, Mich.; step-sister Danielle Jacobs of Fulton, Mich.; brother, Brian Willis of Canada; and a special niece, Ashley Hackworth of Sault Saint Marie.

Visitation was on Feb. 8, 2013, at the Spencer Family Funeral Home in Athens with special sharing time conducted by Charlene McConihay.



# Kings celebrate 50 years

Wayne "Teto" and Janet King of Romulus, Mich. celebrated their 50th anniversary January 5. Hosted by their daughter, Tammy King, a sit down dinner was conducted at the Deluca Italian Restaurant in Romulus. Thirty friends and family attended.

In July the couple will celebrate their anniversary again in their hometown of Naubinway with Janet's sister and brother-in-law Karen and Don Frazier, who have their 50th anniversary on July 6.

The sisters have celebrated their 25th, 40th and, God willing, their 50th together.



# Introducing Gerald and Sharon Oven



Gerald Oven and Sharon Puckett, both of Naubinway, were united in marriage January 23, 2013. The 6 p.m. ceremony took place at the Hiawatha Sportsmen Club Activity Building in Engadine. The service was performed by Pastor Tim Miller.

Matron of honor was the bride's aunt, Sharon Kingren, of Naubinway. Bridesmaids were the groom's daughter, Gracie Oven, and the bride's daughter, Camille Puckett. The flower girl was the bride's daughter, Claire Puckett.

Best man was the groom's son, Kenny Oven. Groomsmen were the groom's son, Brett Oven, and nephew Andrew Davis. Ring bearer was the bride's son, Jackson Puckett.

Parents of the couple are Jim and the late Mary Oven, of Naubinway, and Jacquelyn Schmetzer and David Schmetzer, of Kentucky. Grandmother of the bride is Jane Schwartz.

The flowers and wedding cake were made by the bride.

The couple will reside in Naubinway.

# Announcing baby Giraldi

## OTTO GIRALDI

Proud parents Eric and Kendra (nee Hill) Giraldi and big sister, Darla Rose of Los Angeles, Calif., are happy to announce the birth of their son and little brother, Otto Maxwell Giraldi. He was born Dec. 27, 2012, weighing 8 pounds 13 ounces and was 21.5 inches in length.

Grandparents are Ray and Heide Giraldi of Oyster Bay, N.Y., and Craig and Debbie Hill (nee Rutledge) of Berkley, Mich.

Great-grandparents are the late Raymond and Anne Giraldi of Oyster Bay and Elfriede Binder and the late Johannes Binder of Oyster Bay, and Janet Hill and the late John Hill of Troy, Mich., and the late Ping and Lorraine Rutledge (nee Leask) of Sugar Island, Mich.



# Ariella Grace Welsh is born

Proud parents Dale and Sarah (Bruski) Welsh are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Ariella Grace Welsh. She was born on Nov. 12, 2012, in Fairbanks, Alaska. She weighed 6 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Grandparents are Patricia (Harris) Welsh of Bentonville, Ark., Dale Welsh of Gwinn, Mich., and Jeff and Donna Bruski of Alpena, Mich.



# Saying goodbye to Sharon Barnett



After 45 years of work, Elder Health Fund coordinator Sharon Barnett is retiring. She has been with Elder Services since October of 2006. Sharon is planning to move to Monroe, Mich., with her mother, Alice Greenly. She is looking forward to being closer to her daughter, granddaughter,

great-granddaughter, nieces and nephews.

Sharon is also looking forward to meeting with some old classmates, pursuing old hobbies and acquiring new ones.

Here at Elder Services, we will miss Sharon — her smile, her laughter and her friendship.

# Frazier, O'Keefe make deans' lists



## WHITNEY FRAZIER

Sault Tribe member Whitney Frazier (left) of Brimley, Mich., made the Alpena Community College dean's list for the 2012 fall semester. She is involved in volleyball and basketball but plans on going on for a nursing career.

She is the daughter of Dwight and Brenda Frazier, and sister of Josh, of Brimley. Grandparents are Don and Karen Frazier of Naubinway and Richard and Sally Merrill of Gaylord.

Best wishes from your family.

## KATELYNN O'KEEFE

Katelynn O'Keefe of Marquette was named to the fall semester dean's list at the University of Detroit Mercy. O'Keefe is pursuing a degree from the College of Engineering and Science at the University of Detroit Mercy.

The University of Detroit Mercy is one of 28 Jesuit colleges and universities and the largest of 16 Mercy institutions of higher education in the United States.



# Manistique receives Roadmaps to Health prize

## MANISTIQUE'S WORK ON CREATING A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY GAINS NATIONAL ATTENTION

**FROM SAULT TRIBE STRATEGIC ALLIANCE FOR HEALTH PROJECT MANISTIQUE, Mich.**

— Manistique is one of six inaugural winners of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) Roadmaps to Health Prize. The prize honors outstanding community partnerships across the United States which are helping residents live healthier lives.

Manistique received a cash prize of \$25,000 in recognition of its efforts and was honored Feb. 20 at an event held at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in Princeton, N.J. A local community celebration is planned for May 15 in conjunction with opening day of the Manistique Farmers' Market.

The City of Manistique is recognized for its innovative strategies to improve health, including partnering with the Sault Tribe Strategic Alliance for Health (SAH) Project, developing the Manistique Farmers' Market, working to create easier access for non-motorized modes of transportation, and partnering with Manistique Area Schools to create access to healthy choices throughout the school day.

The City of Manistique is extremely appreciative to the SAH Coalition headed by Kerry Ott along with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for their combined efforts and support in making Manistique a destination and a better place to live for our residents.

"The City of Manistique has

many assets, but our greatest asset of all is the people," commented Kerry Ott, Manistique coordinator for the SAH Project. "What has brought us to this recognition is the desire of individuals and agencies and businesses in our community to not settle for what we have, but to work together toward a healthier community and a strong, vibrant economy. We have more work to do, and the Roadmaps to Health Prize will help us build upon the successes we have already had."

The projects such as the Farmer's Market, the Safe Routes to School Sidewalk Program, along with the proposed Non-motorized Pathway Project have and will put Manistique on the map. These projects place Manistique in the forefront of promoting physical activity and let our citizens and residents know how important they are to us.

Manistique was one of six communities selected for the award from more than 160 applications. Other winning communities are Santa Cruz County, Calif.; New Orleans, La.; Cambridge, Mass.; Fall River, Mass.; and Minneapolis, Minn. Learn more about the RWJF Roadmaps to Health Prize and watch a video of Manistique and the other prize winners at [www.rwjf.org](http://www.rwjf.org). The Manistique video may also be viewed at [CityofManistique.org](http://CityofManistique.org), [ManistiqueFarmersMarket.com](http://ManistiqueFarmersMarket.com), and [SchoolcraftCountyChamber.org](http://SchoolcraftCountyChamber.org).



Peter Murphy

**RWJF Roadmaps to Health prize celebration - Team Manistique receiving the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Roadmaps to Health prize in Princeton, N.J., on Feb. 20. Left to right, Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, president and CEO of the foundation; Sheila Aldrich, Manistique city manager; Connie Diller, director of the Schoolcraft County Chamber of Commerce; Judie Zerilli, Manistique Farmers' Market volunteer; Susan Phillips, medical social worker, Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital; Lisa Myers, Sault Tribe Strategic Alliance for Health project coordinator; and Erik Mason, Principal of Emerald Elementary School in Manistique.**



Gail Sulander

**Manistique Farmers' Market, one of several projects that led to the RWJF award.**

zine, *Health for Native Life*. It features writings to inspire people to bring homemade, healthy foods to gatherings for themselves and those in the community who have health issues.

People who have high blood pressure should avoid salty foods to help blood pressure stay normal. Others who have diabetes must watch out for foods high in carbohydrate or starch so that they can better manage their blood sugars. Community member who are at risk for or have heart problems are looking for foods with the least amount of fat in them.

Many people express how hard it is to resist the dishes

that are heavier in sugar, fat and starch at a feast, especially when on a daily basis they are trying to make better choices and restricting those types of meals for their health.

There have been many wonderful soups made with a variety of vegetables and salads with vegetables and fruits at feasts, they are considered welcome choices. Less convenience food is chosen and changes are seen.

Connie Watson, health educator with Traditional Foods Grant Program says, "We are striving to put foods from the earth, foods that we have grown into our feasts. We are doing more family style serving, the

salads go to the table first and we portion the meat serving by wrapping and baking individual portions. The people attending seem to like it." Congratulations to Connie and the people she works with for making a great effort to bring healthier dishes to the table.

Strength comes from within us all. We have only one body which was given by our Creator to carry our spirit, let's make sure we honor that body each day and eat as best we can.

For information regarding diabetes management, contact Linda Cook, in the Sault at (906) 632-5210 or Bridget Beatty in St. Ignace at 643-8689.

## Food is both social and spiritual for Anishinaabe



Wild rice field

**BY LINDA COOK, RN, DIABETES CASE MANAGER**

We eat to survive. We eat to nourish our bodies. Our bodies need certain nutrients and substances to be in good working order. Too little and too much food can cause health problems. Where is the balance to eating right? Food is prepared to nour-

ish, sustain and keep us alive, happy and healthy.

Food is both, social and spiritual in our culture. We revolve our ceremonies, our celebrations and most every event where we gather, around food.

*Can You Taste the Love?* is an article written for Indian Health Services national maga-

# Using insulin as prescribed to manage diabetes

BY LINDA COOK, RN,  
DIABETES CASE MANAGER

People who have diabetes may need to use various types of insulin to manage their disease.

Insulin is a very good and necessary medication for treating all forms of diabetes because it helps to improve diabetes by lowering high blood sugars. It is a very safe medication when taken right and lifestyle changes have been made. Insulin saves lives. It is critical for people who take insulin to test blood sugars and eat meals at regular times.

Insulins are categorized by how they act in the body. Background insulins are designed for longer coverage, long-acting (Lantus, Levemir) and intermediate-acting (NPH) are both considered background insulins.

The next category is mealtime insulin, rapid-acting (Humalog, NovoLog, Apidra) and short-acting (Regular, HumulinR, Novolin R) insulins are designed to help the blood glucose that rises when a meal is eaten.

These are the main types of insulins, there are others but here

we will only focus on the more common insulins.

Insulin is stored according to manufacturer's instructions. Unused vials and pens should be refrigerated and extreme temperatures (less than 36F to more than 86F) should be avoided to prevent weakening the insulin. Unopened vials can be used until the expiration date on the label if the medicine has been stored in a refrigerator. Once a vial or pen is opened it can be kept at room temperature. Any unused insulin in an open vial or pen

must be discarded after 28-30 days because insulin weakens as it gets older. Only Levemir can be kept longer (42 days, then throw it away).

Before using insulin, each vial should be examined closely to make sure there are no changes in the insulin consistency (no clumping, frosting and change in color or clarity). Air bubbles in the syringe must be eliminated because they reduce the amount of insulin given. Patients should inspect filled syringes for air bubbles and, if present, should point the needle up, tap the syringe once or twice with the forefinger and push the plunger to allow the bubbles to escape. For insulin pens, air bubbles in the cartridge can be prevented by removing the needle between injections. Dose accuracy is very important when insulin is used.

Needles and lancets are called "sharps." Do not throw them in the trash because they could injure other people. Never reuse needles or syringes. War

Memorial Hospital has developed a plan for disposal of needles and lancets in Sault Ste Marie.

Hypoglycemia (also known as low blood sugar) is one of the most common side effects of insulin administration. As a precaution, all individuals on insulin therapy should be instructed on appropriate prevention and treatment of hypoglycemia and carry with them at least 15g carbohydrate to be taken if a low blood sugar happens.

Persons with type 1 and type 2 diabetes who are on more than one daily injection should carry glucagon (a fast acting glucose source) and they and their family should be trained on how to use it.

Watch for more about insulin next month.

For information regarding diabetes management, please contact Linda Cook, diabetes case manager in the Sault at (906) 632-5210 or Bridget Beatty, diabetes case manager in St. Ignace at 643-8689.

## CCHD gets re-accredited

The Community Health Accreditation Program Inc., (CHAP) announced Feb. 27 that the Chippewa County Health Department was awarded CHAP accreditation under the CHAP Home Health, Hospice and Private Duty Standards of Excellence. This is the 20th year CHAP accreditation has been awarded to the Chippewa County Health Department.

CHAP accreditation demonstrates that the health department meets the industry's highest nationally recognized standards. Rigorous evaluation by CHAP focuses on structure and function, quality of services and products, human and financial resources and long-term viability.

Through CHAP accreditation, the department is also certified as a Medicare provider.

"We are very pleased that the Chippewa County Health Department chose CHAP accreditation," said Terry A. Duncombe, CHAP president. "Voluntarily selecting to achieve CHAP accreditation and meeting our high standards of excellence demonstrates the department's commitment to quality. CHAP is delighted to work with their entire team through the ongoing process of quality improvement."

The Chippewa County Health Department provides a variety of home health services to patients and their families in

Chippewa County and parts of Mackinac County. It uses a team approach that includes coordinated care and support system designed to maximize independence at home. The assistance home health and hospice care provides allows families to stay together in the comfort, security and privacy of their own home.

## Marijuana is harmful to the human brain

BY RON BOWN LMSW

The use of marijuana is damaging to the human brain, no matter how much a person says it relaxes them or helps them deal with stress.

The two legitimately valuable uses of marijuana are for treating the following:

- Glaucoma, which is a condition of increased pressure within the eyeball, causing gradual loss of sight.

- For a person with cancer who has lost their appetite due to chemotherapy. Marijuana can help increase appetite so they are able to consume the food they need.

How marijuana damages the brain — The hippocampus is the part of our brain where long-term memories and information are stored. The hippocampus also works closely with the left frontal lobe of our brain, which controls most of our positive feelings and emotions, whereas the right frontal lobe controls most of our negative feelings and emotions. Marijuana use bogs down the hippocampus with tar, which downgrades the production and release of neurotransmitters after giving the user that initial good feeling.

Effects of regular marijuana use:

- Development of social phobia.
- Low-grade depression.
- Memory capacities are repressed; ability to learn decreases.

- Risk of chronic bronchitis and cancer is significantly increased, as cannabis smoke

contains three times the amount of tar and 50 percent more carcinogens than cigarettes.

- Depresses the reproductive system

Solutions:

Ceasing marijuana use is the first step, as this will lead to better functioning of the hippocampus and the left frontal lobe in comparison with the right frontal lobe. Even if a person doesn't make any other changes, this will help alleviate depression, help them feel more comfortable in public settings, and improve their memory and ability to learn.

Regular exercise also helps boost the production and release of neurotransmitters that the marijuana bogged down. These include serotonin, which increases one's feelings of well-being and happiness, as well as dopamine, which increases feelings of pleasure. Exercise also boosts our BDNF, a protein that stimulates the strengthening of our brain cells and the growth of new ones.

After stopping marijuana use, it is also possible to reap secondary benefits because people are more likely to interact with us positively and criticize us less.

Therapy can also be used to identify and treat specific issues people struggle with and they may be using marijuana to help them cope with. The results of therapy can be very rewarding without all the negative side effects of marijuana use!

If you have any questions or would like to learn more, please feel free to contact Sault Tribe Behavioral Health at 635-6075 or (800) 726-9105.

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# Spring sugarbush yields maple syrup

BY RANDY MENARD

Springtime in northern Michigan brings many changes in nature. The short, cold and dreary days of winter begin to lengthen and more heat can be felt from the sun. These longer, warmer days start to bring some of Mother Nature's creations back to life. To many of us Anishinaabe, these longer days are also the beginning of another season. A more traditional season that dates back over centuries, which requires many hours of personal commitment and physical labor. To us, it is not only springtime; it is also sap season.

"Sugarbush" is what we call the activity of making syrup from the trees on our land. There are many different types of trees in the woods, and each species is affected differently by the changing weather of springtime. During sap season, the only trees of any interest to us are the maple trees. We seek out a certain type of hardwood maple tree known as the sugar maple, because the sap from this particular strain of tree is sweetened by the tree's wood as the sap flows through it. This sweet sap is collected and rendered down to make maple syrup. We make syrup during this time of year because of the changes in weather patterns. The change in weather patterns becomes our partner throughout the syrup making process.

In the fall time of year, cooler temperatures will cause the sap that feeds the trees to retreat down their trunks to where it will be stored in the trees' roots for the winter. The sap in the trees is what feeds the leaves and keeps them green and healthy. Absence of sap in the trees' leaves will cause them to turn different colors. The leaves being deprived of nourishment is what causes the many different beautiful leaf colors that we witness in the fall. Eventually, the leaves will turn brown, fall from the trees and die. The warmer weather of spring reverses this process and the sap will be drawn back up from the trees' roots. As the sap begins to travel back up the trees' trunks, their branches will receive nourishment and this brings them back out of dormancy. The sap that enters the dormant branches feeds tiny buds that will then sprout into leaves. It is this sap that brings life back into the trees and helps them grow their leaves. When springtime weather begins to warm things up, this is when sap needs to be collected.

The desired weather for us to collect sap is warm days and cold nights. During the day, the heat from the sun will draw the sap up the tree's trunk towards its branches. When the nights are very cold, the sap will freeze at its current location within the tree trunk. While the sap is frozen in place, the wood from the sugar maple tree sweetens it. In the morning, as the sun rises from the east and makes its way across the sky towards the west, the heat from the sun will thaw the south side of the tree's trunk first. As the sap in the tree's trunk starts to thaw, it begins to flow upward towards the tree's branches again.

Because the sap will flow longer on the south side of the tree, this side is our desired location to collect sap from.

There are several factors that regulate the amount of sap each sugar maple can produce and care should be taken when selecting each tree. Most importantly is the overall health of the tree. A tree with a lot of dead branches on it will not be a quality sap producer. Diameter of the tree should be no less than four inches; anything smaller usually will not produce any significant amount of sap. Since on average, it could take anywhere from 25 to 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of maple syrup, it is important to verify the overall condition of the tree. A healthy, proper-sized tree will produce about 1.5 gallons of sap per day provided weather conditions are favorable. This is because the flow of sap in trees can be affected by such uncontrollable factors as wind and seasonal temperatures. When the days are warm, the nights are below freezing and there is little to no wind, the sugar content of the sap will be higher. The higher the sugar content, the less sap is needed to make syrup. As one can see, choosing the right tree combined with the proper conditions is important.

Once a tree is selected, we can then begin to extract the sap from it. The majority of us Anishinaabe use the same sap gathering process we adapted to when traders came with metal. We strap on our snowshoes and sashay above the knee-deep snow to our specially selected grove of sugar maples. These trees are usually the same ones that we have been using for decades to collect our sap from. To draw the sap from these trees, we use a method called tapping. We use a half-inch paddle bit that is chucked into a hand driven drill known as a brace. Using this brace and bit combination, we bore a hole on the south side of each tree trunk about three to 4 feet up from the ground. The hole is bored just over an inch deep into the tree's trunk at a slightly upward angle. Once the bored hole has reached the required depth, it is cleaned out of any access wood chips. A metal spout that is designed to be slightly larger than the bored hole is then driven into it with a hammer. When the spout is driven into the hole, it forms a tight seal between itself and the inside diameter of the hole. (Other people buy or whittle wood spouts that expand to form that same tight seal between the spout and the wood.) The tree sap accumulates in the hole and then flows out of the spout to drip into a container that is hung below the spout. When the container is full of sap, it is collected and emptied into holding barrels.

When the holding barrels are full of sap, they are placed over a fire and brought to a boil. As the water content in the sap is turned into a vapor and dissipates into the atmosphere, a maple-wood sweetened liquid is left behind. The sap is continuously boiled until all the liquid is condensed into one barrel. When almost all

the moisture is evaporated from the remaining barrel, the remaining liquid is a highly concentrated mixture of tree sap that needs to be closely attended to from this point on. It is very important not to let the concentrated liquid burn or allow the temperature to rise above 219°F, because higher temperatures will ruin it. When the sap reaches 219°F, it has been transformed into maple syrup. The syrup is then removed from

its heat source and allowed to cool slowly until it reaches ambient temperature. Once the syrup has cooled, it will be strained, filtered and poured into glass canning jars. The jars are then pressure sealed and our syrup-making task is complete.

A lot of folks feel this is too much hard work and hassle to go through when it is much easier to purchase manufactured syrup from the local grocery market.

However, many Anishinaabe who live in northwoods are still willing to go through this kind of hard work. To us, not only do we feel we are getting a better tasting product, but we also get personal pride and satisfaction from the experience. By using our own land and our capabilities, we are able to enforce our sense of personal independence and carry on a tradition that has been practiced for over hundreds of years.



A 1908 photo of an Anishinaabekwe tapping for maple syrup in the old way. (From the Library of Congress).

## Ninaatigo-Ziiwaagmide

### *The making of maple syrup*

Come learn how to make Maple Syrup in the Traditional Way on Sugar Island!

**MARCH 22-23**

**Mary Murray Cultural Camp**

**Ages 8-18**

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We will be outside most of the day on Saturday, *So Please*  
**BE SURE YOUR CHILD HAS APPROPRIATE WINTER GEAR**

**Heavy Coat, Snowpants, Boots, Mittens and Hat**  
Children who are not appropriately dressed for weather conditions will not be able to participate in outdoor activities.

If you need a ride to camp meet at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Bldg. At 5:30 p.m. on Friday, March 22

**PERMISSION SLIPS AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING Jackie Minton at 906-635-6050 or you can stop by the Sault Tribe Administration Office located at 523 Ashmun.**

**You can also get permission slips through the intranet and from any YEA Coordinator**

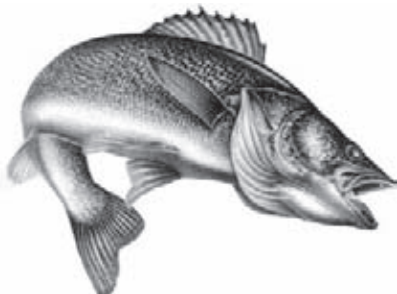
# Tips for one of our earliest traditions: fish spearing

BY CLARENCE HUDAK, INLAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

The spring walleye spearing season is almost here, so I would like to offer a few suggestions to members who wish to exercise their treaty right and engage in one of our earliest traditions.

Now, I am well aware that there may be a few members who do not agree with spearing fish because they don't believe it's sporting. While those few are certainly entitled to their opinion, our members should clearly understand that our ancestors did not retain our treaty rights for sporting activities but solely for subsistence. We spear fish to put food on the table, not to win a tournament.

All members should keep safety in mind. Spearing typically takes place from a boat late at night when there are few, if any, people around who could immediately come to your aid in case of an accident. Never go out alone. You should always have at least one and preferably two members with you at all times. And always remember, fast moving currents and frigid water



temperatures pose a life-threatening risk to anyone, regardless of swimming abilities, so keep your life vest on or nearby at all times.

Another subject I'd like to address is the permitting system itself. You must call the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department to get a permit issued for any lake system you are wishing to spear on. These permits are only good for the 24-hour period that you declare you may be on the water and there is something very important to keep in mind when asking for one. You see, even if you only harvest five fish on that permit, the tribe must take 10 fish out of the set allocation for that particular lake system. This seems a bit strange, but it was agreed to during the 2007 Consent Decree negotiations as

a way to not accidentally over-harvest in a lake system. The actual number of fish that can be speared from each lake system is very minimal and is limited by population estimates that are done by the state or tribes with the states approval.

So, speaking from experience, keep an eye on the weather to see how much wind is in the forecast. The slightest bit of wind will cause the surface tension of the water to break. A rippling surface will not allow you to see the fish on the bottom and this could result in 10 fish being taken out of the lake's allowable harvest, without having harvested any. Always wait for a calm weather forecast to apply for a permit.

Members must also be aware that there could be times when someone shows up and becomes confrontational because they are uneducated in regards to the Consent Decree and our treaty

rights or they just don't care and will always harbor animosity towards those of us who use spearing as a method of harvest. If you are harassed by one of these people, please do not respond to them. Quietly go about your business and harvest your fish, but if the harassment escalates then you should definitely call a law enforcement agency and file a report.

In closing, I would like to emphasize that if you choose to harvest spring walleye with a spear you should do so with the utmost respect for these fish. Be humble and reserved, don't go out into your community and brag about spearing as that will only cause social tension and animosity. Also, don't be a glutton who takes more than they can use, it's not our traditional way and it's not good resource management.

And remember, as always, if you have a good night out on

the water and you fill your permit, gift some of your catch to a tribal member who is in need or ask an elder over for a fresh fish dinner. They will be very appreciative and you will continue to retain and strengthen our cultural identity.

## Conservation Committee meetings

Great Lakes and Inland Conservation Committees vacant seats were filed at the March 5 Sault Tribe Board meeting. Paul Barbeaux, Jim Gleaso and Al LeBlance were appointed to four-year terms on the Great Lakes Conservation Committee. Jackie Minton, Tom Derwin, Clarence Hudak and Jennifer Dale-Burton were appointed to four-year terms on the Inland Conservation Committees.

The Inland Conservation Committee meets every first Monday of the month (except holidays) beginning at 4 p.m. at the Sault Kewadin Casino.

The Great Lakes Conservation Committee meets the third Monday of the month.

Please call Tara Benoit concerning meeting dates, times and locations and agenda items.

## Snow melt: Where does all the snow go?

BY CRYSTAL BOLE, SAULT TRIBE WATER QUALITY SPECIALIST

It's March, and it's that time of year to start looking forward to beautiful sunny days and all the fun that spring brings! Before jumping into spring, though, all this snow has to melt away, and that means messy streets, pot holes and a large amount of snowmelt going into our streams, rivers and lakes.

Have you ever wondered where all the snow goes?

Some of this snow seeps into the ground, helping to replenish ground water; the rest of it flows across the land, also known as runoff. Runoff is important because it feeds streams and rivers and keeps them flowing. Unfortunately, before runoff reaches a stream, river or lake, it may travel a long distance, picking up everything and eroding the land in its path. Therefore, the characteristics of the landscape play a very important role in runoff. In a heavily forested area, there will be a lot less runoff since vegetation and root systems act as a buffer between runoff and surface waters. Vegetation slows the runoff, giving it time to infiltrate the ground and replenish ground waters.

Runoff is beneficial for replenishing surface waters as well as ground water; however, as vegetation is continually removed and replaced with hard surfaces that do not allow the water into the soil, the amount of runoff and contaminants is often too much for an aquatic system. Snow can function as a significant source of water pollution since it accumulates a variety of contaminants

such as soil, debris, waste, oil from cars, salt and sand. During the time of snowmelt, many water bodies get overloaded with these different types of substances with many of them acting as pollutants and affecting the aquatic habitat, our beautiful lakes and fish.

When no vegetation is present, runoff cuts into the earth, causing erosion, harming the landscape as well. Soil — also known as sediment — can cloud water to the extent that it destroys the habitat in which fish and aquatic organisms live. While, in small doses over time, sediments can be filtered out, when snowmelt happens, all these pollutants come at once, often wreaking havoc on any given aquatic system.

So what can we do to help reduce the negative impacts of runoff? When the snow starts to melt, watch where it goes in your own yard. This will identify problem areas on your own land, giving you the opportunity to plant some vegetation to help slow the flow and encourage infiltration. You may also use the snowmelt to your advantage by investing in a rain barrel and capturing the snow melt from your roof. You can then divert the water to a vegetated area, encouraging infiltration. Don't forget to continue to collect rain water for your garden throughout the summer months to save water and cut down on that water bill.

Thanks to the interconnectivity of land and water ecology, whatever is on the ground will eventually end up in your water, so be cautious about litter, pet waste, salt, and sand. If it's not cleaned up, it will be in the water that we use for drinking and swimming.



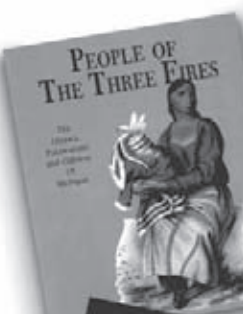
## Few changes from Inland's previous season

Not much has changed in Inland Hunting and Fishing Regs, Chapter 21 of the Tribal Code, for the upcoming season. For next winter's trapping season, the bag limit on pine martens has been reduced to two. For the upcoming season, the

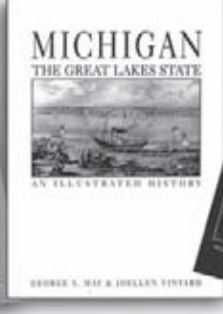
required size of lettering on a blind (license holder's name and number) has been eliminated. For the upcoming bear season, bear license transfers have been eliminated. Lastly, fall turkey season was changed to Sept. 15 through Nov. 14.

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# BOOKS



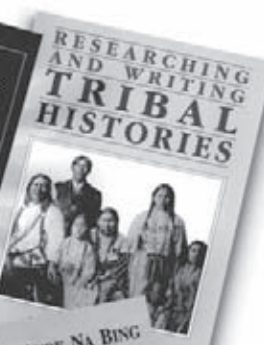
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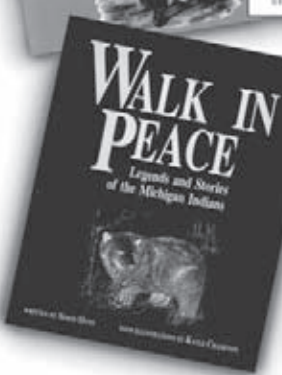
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RESEARCHING AND WRITING TRIBAL HISTORIES



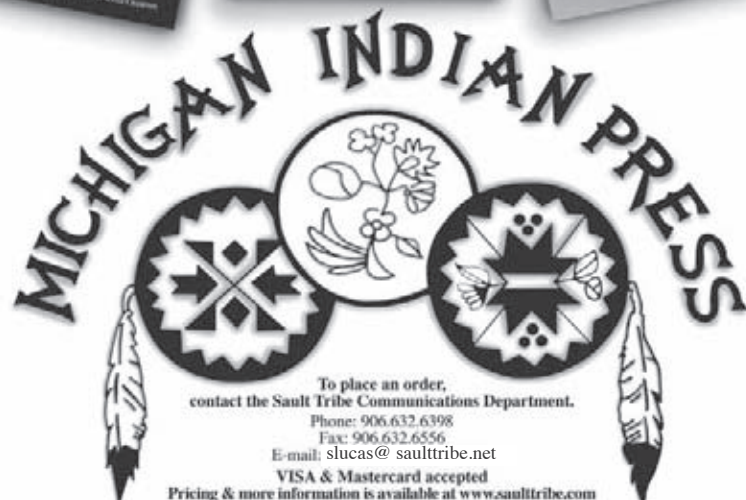
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**Aaron A. Payment, MPA**  
Tribal Chairperson  
“Representing All Members Everywhere”

Last month, I published a survey link for you to weigh in on the direction of the Tribe. **The deadline is March 15** to be entered into the draw chance to win a \$1,000! However, I would still like to know your opinion. I am publishing the results so far with a total of 1,736 responses with representation from all units.

# AND THE SURVEY SAYS... MEMBERS EXPECT A PROGRESSIVE APPROACH

For now, I will present the results as of this date. I have the ability to run data reports per individual Units and will provide this information for your respective Unit Board reps. For now, the data is not disaggregated by Unit. What follows is the results with only a minimal explanation and analysis.

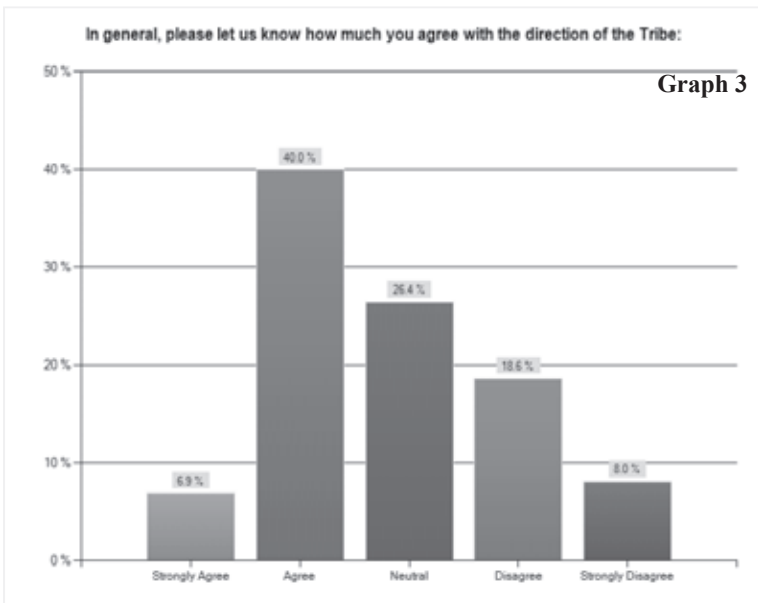
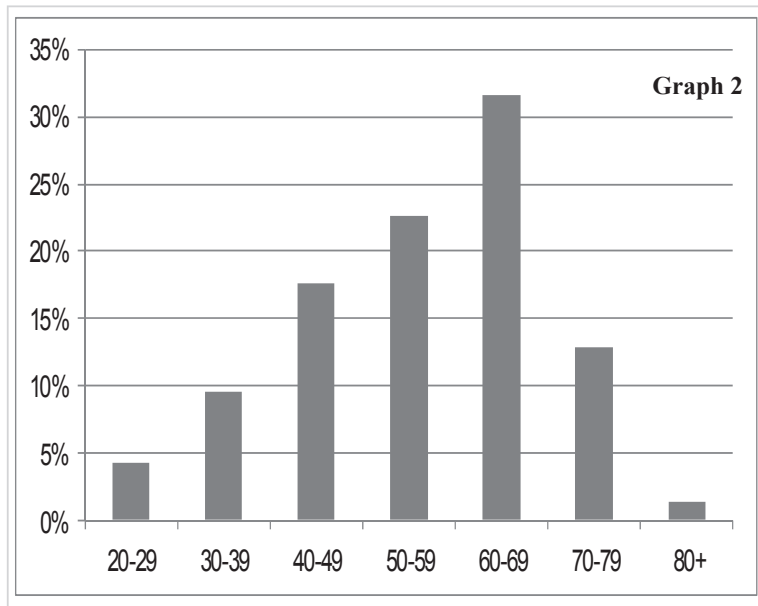
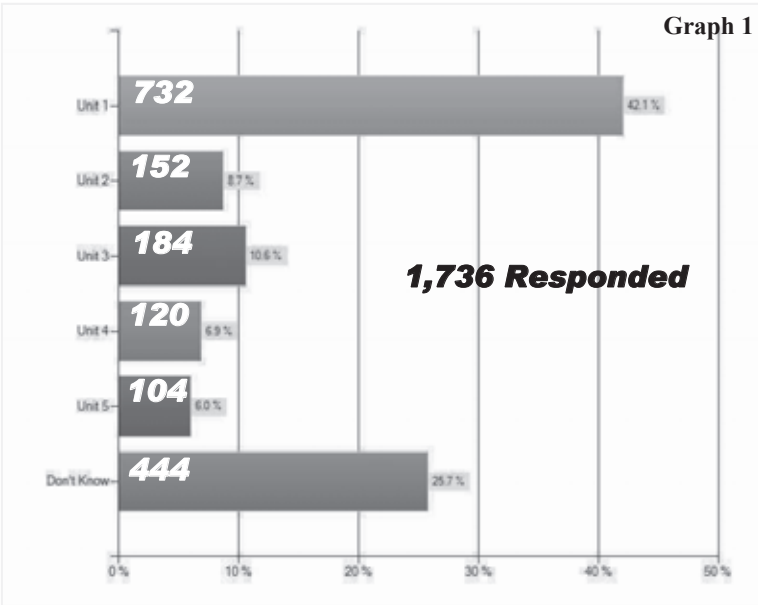
Above in Graph 1, you can see the percentage breakdown of those who took the survey by unit. Graph 2 shows an age breakdown of those who responded. Beyond basic demographics, Members were surveyed on their opinions of the general direction of the Tribe. Graph 3 shows some positive results with 6.9 percent strongly agreeing

**Key:** Each dot represents a tribal member. Notice the large concentrations of members in lower Michigan. About 1,500 live within a 60 mile radius of Lansing. While this is a solid justification for a casino in lower Michigan, a long term plan must be approved to ensure representation and eventually services.

## Where Sault Tribe Members Reside in MI

**Approximately 34% live in the service area in the UP of Michigan while 66% live outside of the service area. About 38% live in lower MI.**

### Does Where You live Make You Less of a Member?



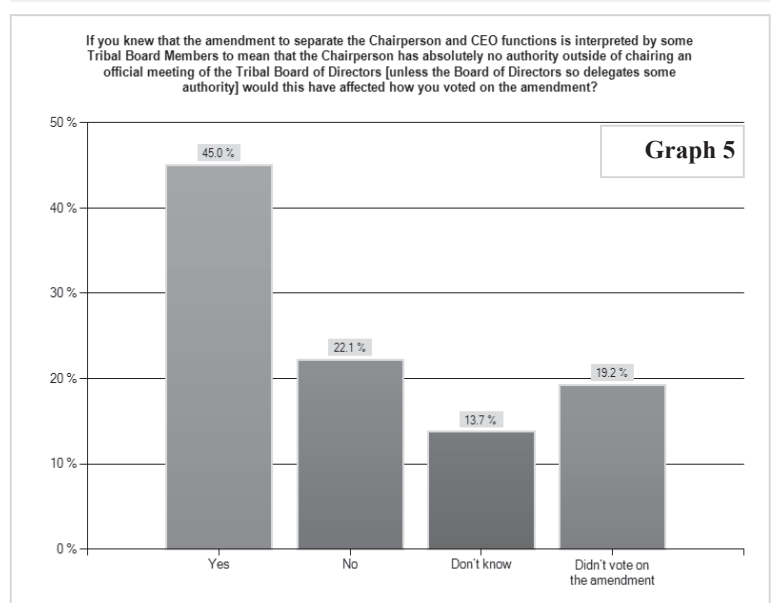
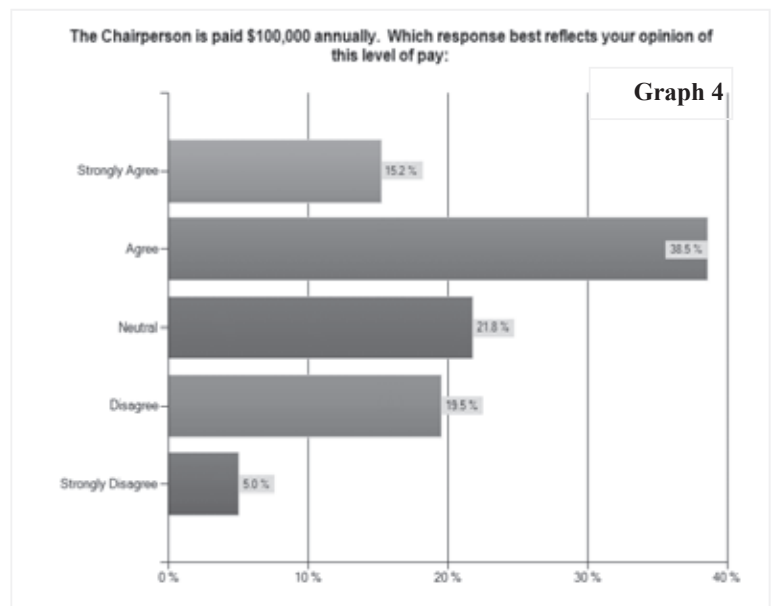
and 40 percent agreeing or a 46.9 percent total. Compared to the total who disagree (26.6 percent) the margin of those agree over those who disagree with the direction of the Tribe is greater than 20 percent.

Graph 4 shows that a majority (53.7 percent) support the Chairperson’s pay at the current rate while less than one-half of this (24.5 percent) disagree. This is called a “positive quotient” where the positives outweigh the negatives — in this case, two to one.

Regarding the question of how you voted in the 2010 Constitutional Amendment to separate the Chair and CEO functions, you get one result with 38 percent reporting they voted for the measure; 18.3 percent voting against, 17.2 percent who did not want to answer the question and 25.5 percent saying they did not vote. What is unusual is only a minority reporting they approved. With the large number of who said they would rather not say, this may suggest they did not understand the amendment question. This would reinforce widespread reports from a number of Members who said they did not understand the

question posed in the amendment. Graph 5 reinforces this notion. With 45 percent suggesting they did not realize the amendment

would strip the chair of any direct authority and render the Chairpersonship as serving at the pleasure of the board.



The following series of graphs deal with responses to questions related to the Tribal Constitutional amendment process. Graph 6 shows that our people recognize that we do not have a separation of powers in our Tribal Constitution. Over 60 percent see this. It also appears to matter to our Members with 85.7

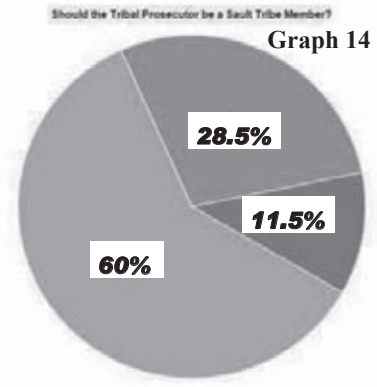
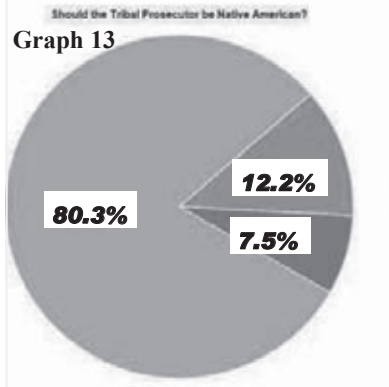
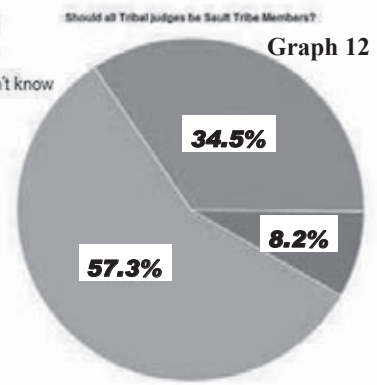
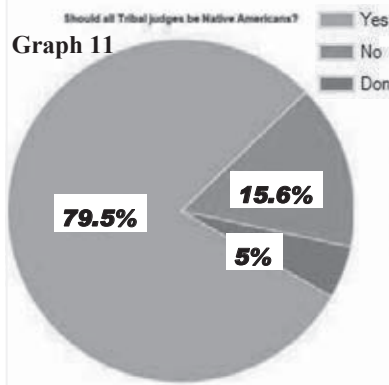
percent reporting (Graph 7) that it matters to them and over 90 percent feel it is important (72.3 percent said very important and 18% said somewhat important). A very small 2.3 percent total said it was not important (Graph 8).

Graph 9 reveals what elected Tribal officials should heed with a phenomenal 75.4

percent asserting that they will not vote to re-elect a seated Board Member if they do not support a separation of powers doctrine. So not only is it the right thing to do, it is also a politically wise thing to do.

Through the Constitutional review process, some Board Members have claimed to support a separation but that the Court should continue to serve under the Board. This is in stark contrast with the collective will of the Membership with just about 25 percent saying Tribal Judicial Staff should be hired or fired by the Board (Graph 10).

The Constitutional Review Committee has then wrestled with the idea to have elected judges. A subsequent question of who should be eligible to run was then posed. The results for Tribal Judge was that nearly 80 percent felt that judges should be Native American but about 60 percent concede that if they are not Sault Tribe, they would be satisfied if they are at least



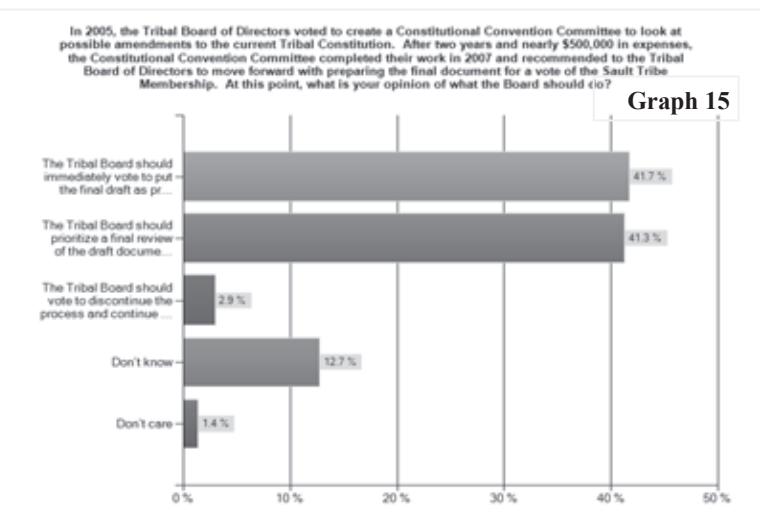
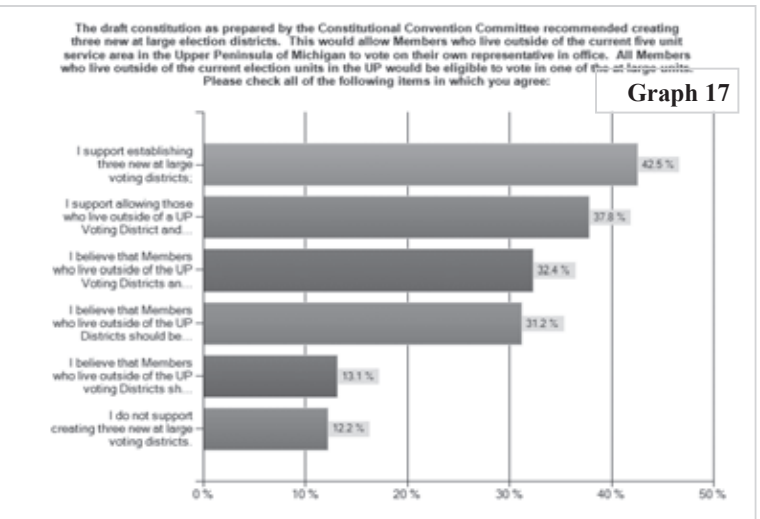
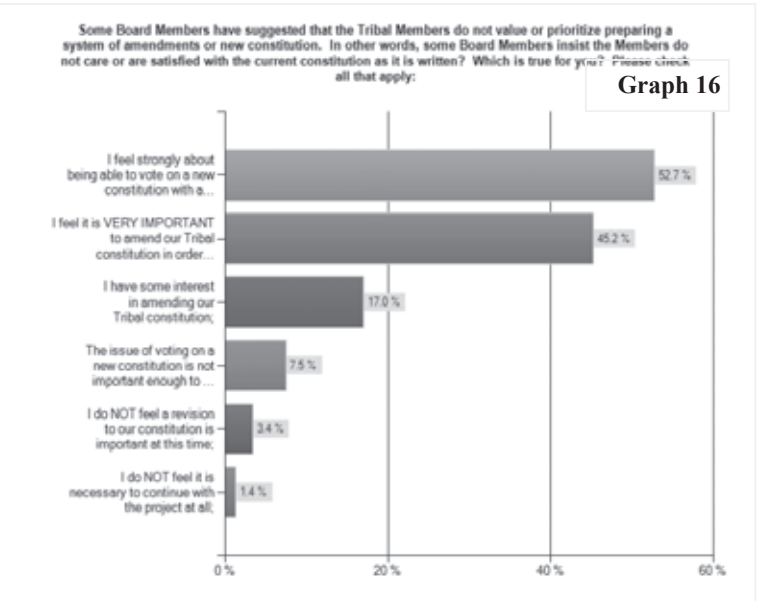
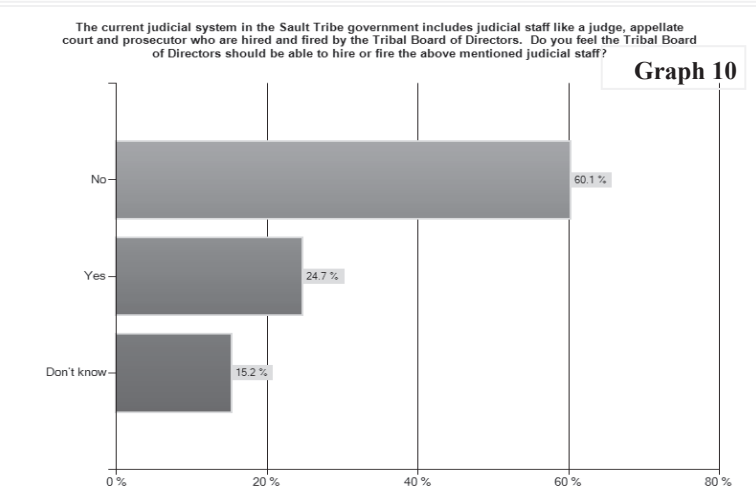
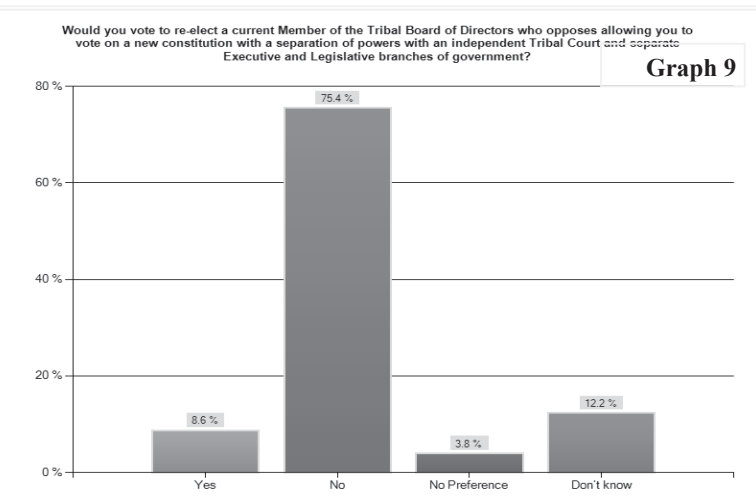
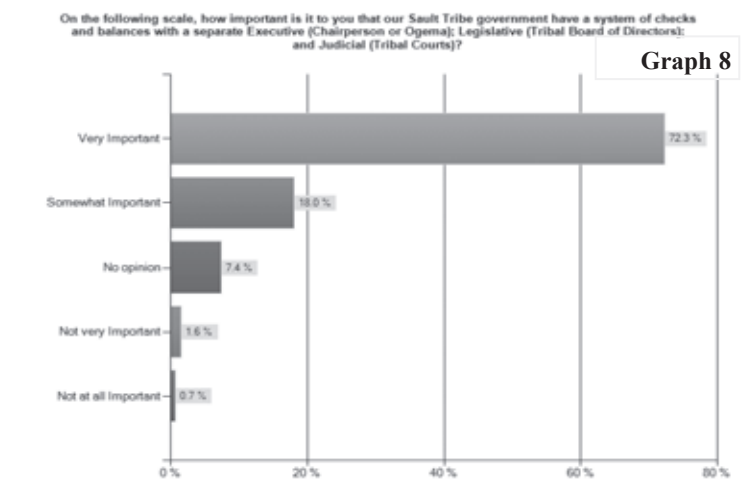
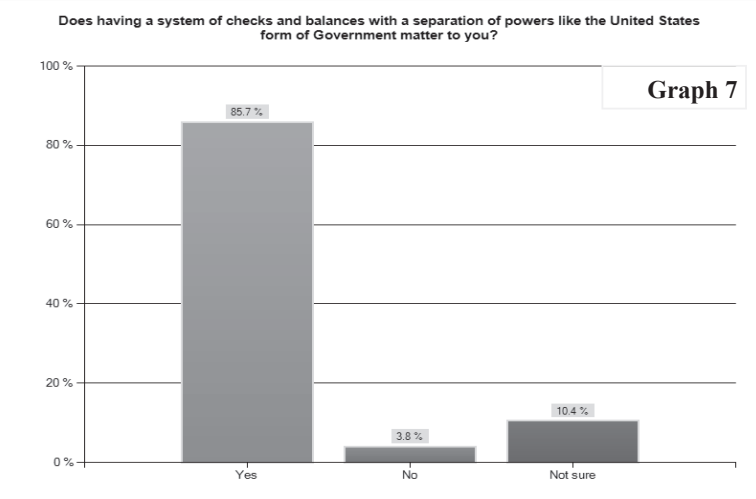
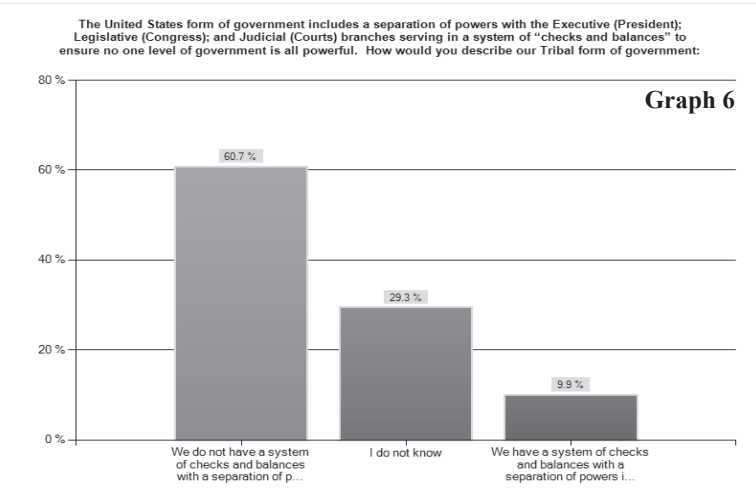
Native American in general. This is important to know as there may not currently be a cadre of Tribal Members who are attorneys who are interested in being either a judge or a prosecutor.

When asked how the Board should proceed with respect to how to move forward on the constitutional project (Graph 15), only 2.9 percent feel the process should be halted while the percentage who feel the document should simply be to put to a vote of the people "as is" versus a final mark us is virtually identical. Again, as an internal validity check, 53.7 percent said (Graph 16) they would not vote to re-elect a Board Member who denies voters the right to decide this issue.

Finally, there is strong support for creating one to three at large voting districts for Members who reside outside of the seven county service area of the UP of Michigan. As you can see on the map to the far left of where our people live, a greater percentage live in lower MI than in the voting districts. The Board members, the Constitutional Committee and the Elder Advisory Board are in agreement that at least one at large representative is needed. Graph 17 shows that there is support for allow those currently register in their unit of choice to remain registered there unless they so choose to register in an 'at large' district. Once they do, however, they would be locked in.

The deadline is March 15. Please go to the link below to fill out the survey. And you will receive instructions of how to enter to win a \$1,000. As usual, I am interested in your input. The new results will be presented to the Board and in a power point on the tribal website.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/>



**Chi McGwitch, Negee, Aaron**  
 Office: 906-635-6050 Cell: 906-440-5937 Email: aaronpayment@yahoo.com  
 On Facebook 'Aaron Payment' and on the 'Sault Tribe Guide' on Facebook.

# Sequestration devastating for Indian Country



**CATHY ABRAMSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

By now you have all heard on the news that sequestration will occur. While this is horrible news for the entire country, it will be devastating for Indian Country.

This will affect the 2013 funding with a 5 percent cut for all of our federal government programs with the exception of the Special Diabetes Program for Indians, which will be subject to a 2 percent decrease in funding. For example, Indian Health Service discretionary lines – IHS services and facilities accounts – will be subject to a cut of \$195 million for services and \$22 million for facilities for fiscal year 2013. The Special Diabetes Program for Indians will result in a cut of \$3 million. This will affect ALL of our program services to our tribal citizens.

We fought hard to stop that from happening, but it is now a reality. As board members who represent our tribal citizens across the country, our work is not done. We must continue to educate our congressmen and senators about their trust responsibility to our tribes. They must honor the treaties that were signed by our ancestors. This funding is not

free. It is already paid for when our ancestors formally agreed to services in exchange for our lands. When new legislators are elected, we have to begin again to teach them and their staff about who we are and the responsibility that they have to us. The funding we now receive is severely inadequate to serve our people. Any cuts to any tribal programs should never occur. Because of the federal government's trust responsibility to us, our funding should be held harmless to such cuts. Obviously, we must develop those government-to-government relationships and improve our lines of communications with tribal, federal and state governments.

Our staff is working hard to make the necessary budget reductions and have been instructed to do everything possible to not cut into direct services to our people.

I have been busy advocating on your behalf in the following areas: On Feb. 4-6, I attended the Centers for Disease Controls (CDC) Tribal Advisory Committee in Atlanta, Ga. This was an extremely important meeting as CDC had approved their tribal consultation policy without the input and approval of tribal leaders. It was important that our advisory committee take a stand on this issue. I will tell you it was an extremely uncomfortable meeting with top administrators of CDC but the end result was that Dr. Thomas Frieden, director of the CDC and administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), admitted that he made a mistake and that he would send a "dear tribal leader" letter to all tribes with the draft consultation policy and ask tribes for their input. Mission accomplished!

President Obama signed into

law that all agencies must consult with tribes. All federal agencies must do so. I have been in a position to see just how important this process is. For the first time, the various federal agencies are having open dialogues with tribes and documenting their input, and some are actually putting tribal input into action. Tribes have a long way to go and it's important that we make sure that the federal agencies follow the established policies when it comes to our tribal nations across the country.

I attended the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST) legislative summit in Washington, D.C. This was an extremely important meeting. MAST, which includes tribes from Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa, meets annually in D.C. After a series of presentations from various federal agency administrators, congressmen and key Hill staffers, we broke into groups and stormed the hill to bring our issues to the legislators. Directors Bridgett Sorensen, Jennifer McLeod and I teamed up and met with the staff of Congressman Huizenga (R-Mich.), Congressman Upton (R-Mich.), and Congresswoman Bachmann (R-Minn.). I was so happy and very proud to see my fellow board members in action. Director Sorensen and Director McLeod are very well spoken and they learned very quickly how to get their points across. We brought forth issues such as the protection of our environment, sequestration, holding IHS harmless to sequestration, USDA and the Farm Bill, to name a few. It's good to know that we have board members who have the ability to speak with conviction on behalf of our people.

Our entire board met with

Congressman Dan Benishek (R-Mich.). We were able to spend more time with him and discussed the aforementioned issues. I will say that Congressman Benishek is much more open and interested in our issues since I first met him and would like to learn more about our tribe and others. We intend to educate him! We appreciate that he voted to approve VAWA. Congressman Benishek also expressed interest in helping our area achieve our goal of improving our funding discrepancies. I look forward to meeting with him again!

While in D.C., our Midwest Regional Health Board had its inaugural meeting. Our Bemidji Area (Midwest region) was the only region that did not have a regional health board in Indian Country. Our region is the lowest funded with the highest health-care disparities. It has taken over 15 years to establish this health board but with persistence and hard work, we now have one. We believe this board will strengthen our position in the areas of health care. During this initial meeting, the Regional Health Board reconfirmed my seat on the National Indian Health Board and selected Mr. Sam Moose from the Mil Lacs Tribe as the NIHB alternate.

On Feb. 19-20, a large contingent of board members attended the United Tribes of Michigan (UTM) meeting in Lansing, Mich. All 12 federally recognized tribes in Michigan are members. Highlights of this meeting were 1) The wolf hunt discussion. Our tribes oppose the opening of the wolf hunts and we are taking a strong stand against it. 2) Support for the State of Michigan in joining Arizona and other states in the filing of an amicus brief in support of the

Indian Child Welfare Act in the United States Supreme Court in the case of *Adoptive Couple v. Baby Girl* et al., 12-399. A UTM resolution was approved by all tribes. 3) Discussion regarding the Affordable Health Care Act implementation and the MI DHS Medicaid Exchange — our tribes stood strong that the state has NOT consulted with our tribes as stated by law. It was very clear that the state staff members who work in this area had a lot of catching up to do in this area. There is much work to be done by our state and our tribal health and insurance staff. Fortunately, we have a well-informed staff, probably the most versed in health care reform than any other tribe in Michigan.

We had an excellent membership meeting in Lansing while we were there. Over 100 people attended and the meeting was very organized and respectful. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting everyone and listening to your concerns. I look forward to seeing you again!

I would like to thank all our staff for all the hard work you do on behalf of our tribe. Over the years, there have been many changes and reductions in staffing that have been necessary for us to move forward so that we may continue to provide the important direct services to our people. Because of these changes, many staff members have taken on many other duties as were assigned to them. Please know that your efforts do not go unnoticed and that you are appreciated and valued.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact me at (906) 322-3823, or e-mail: cabramson@saulttribe.net. I look forward to hearing from you!

## Tribal chairperson testifies at HHS tribal consultation

Tribal Chairperson Aaron A. Payment, made the following testimony March 8 in Washington D.C., at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 2013 annual budget consultation. Payment was testifying on tribal needs for the 2014 HHS budget, educating Congress and HHS staff and officials on tribal unmet needs and needs that continue to require full funding:

"The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is the largest federally recognized tribe east of the Mississippi. I am providing testimony on behalf of our 41,000 citizens with ancestral ties to the eastern half of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

"The Department of Health and Human Services is paramount to the upholding of federal trust responsibility and honoring treaty rights, because the programs funded through this department are critical to the daily health and welfare of our tribal citizens.

### "OVERALL HHS ISSUES

Federal trust responsibility to tribes must be emphasized and integrated into any federal legislation. This includes the Affordable Care Act and any future legislation.

"Under ACA, states are authorized to either accept or

reject Medicaid expansion for all their citizens, including Native Americans. If a state rejects Medicaid expansion, expanded coverage for low-income populations up to 133 percent of the poverty level would not be eligible for health coverage benefits. In effect, the state is determining coverage for Native American citizens and the federal trust responsibility is handed over to the state to carry out in the manner it determines as best. In states where Native American populations are low or there are strained relationships between the tribes and state, there is little political pressure to make the best choices for our Native American people. Even the requirement for tribal consultation has little impact in these instances, since there may be minimal penalty for noncompliance.

"Tribes are recognized in law as sovereign entities that have the power to govern their internal affairs. Government-to-government block grant funding process from the federal government is essential for tribes to receive fair and equitable funding. Tribes should receive block grant funding for these essential programs and services directly through the federal government without hav-

ing to pass through state agencies.

"For example, much of the state funds available for needed alcohol and substance abuse services come to our rural areas in block grant funds. These funds are appropriated to regional coordinating agencies that disseminate funds to service providers and agencies who provide alcohol and substance abuse services. These programs are seriously under-funded — only 10 percent of the alcohol and substance abuse financial need is funded in Michigan. Significant gaps exist in the continuum of care required to successfully rehabilitate clients. Michigan tribes that have a proportionate share of alcohol and substance abuse needs receive little direct funding for these services through the state.

### "ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (ACF)

"Head Start serves our most vulnerable children and the need is overwhelming. Although our children make significant gains through our Head Start program, they are coming to us behind the national norms. Those on our lengthy waiting lists miss out altogether on the comprehensive services including educational preparation, social-emotional

preparation and persistent health monitoring. School readiness is not a gift we give our children — it is their right.

"Administration for Native Americans has been a vital partner in our race against the clock to preserve and revitalize our language before we lose our fluent speakers of Anishinaabemowin. Our tribe depends on ANA grants to help fund the enormous task of regaining Anishinaabemowin, which was taken from us in misguided attempts to matriculate our people into mainstream society by sending our ancestors to boarding schools, teaching English over Anishinaabemowin in mission schools and taking away our land base. For example, ANA grants have helped us devise plans for rekindling our language and gathering our few fluent speakers with new speakers in immersion camps. Next steps in our plan include developing a Native language mastery certification program and expanding instruction into public schools throughout our seven-county service area.

"Low Income Heating Assistance Program provides energy assistance funding to include heating, crisis, cooling and weatherization. Our tribe is in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan

with winter temperatures falling below zero for several months out of the year. This critical service allows us to assist our members with their energy needs. Although energy costs have substantially increased over the years, our award has remained the same. LIHEAP assistance may be a family's only ability to meet their energy needs.

### "INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES (IHS)

"Contract Support Costs (CSC) should be fully funded, as promised, so that self-determination and self-governance tribes such as Sault Tribe can properly administer and maintain health care systems without reducing direct services.

"Funding formularies of the Indian Health Service must be re-examined, and more equitable measures utilized for funding distribution among the 12 service areas of the IHS. Our area — the Bemidji Area — experiences the lowest funding of any service area. We incur greater CHS costs due to purchasing providers and services at market driven rates. While Medicare-like rates do assist our cost reduction efforts, they only apply to hospital-based

See "Testimony," page 25

# Causley's February and March unit reports



LANA CAUSLEY, DIRECTOR,  
UNIT II

I want to apologize for my last month's unit report that was not printed; it was submitted but accidents happen and it was not included. The report was online and is available in this edition.

**February report** — We have had a very busy month. Throughout this report period, we've had many discussions on the financial health of our tribe. We have been presented with many concerns, factors and funding needed for the coming year. Every budget comes with increased costs, struggles and necessary funding that we will need for the year.

One major cost looming for our tribe is the upgrade and security systems for our telecommunications and MIS throughout our administration and casinos. The total amount requested for the mentioned upgrades and capital expenses for 2013 is \$2.3 million dollars. In the past few years, we have prioritized and always attempted to plan properly, these items need to be completed and I'm confident we will figure the budget and move in a direction that is stable and affordable for our tribe.

It's very difficult but I'm happy to report that we have a board that, so far, has held the line on our spending and continues to stay the course on our debt reduction plan. Back almost nine years, when I was first elected, we were in debt well over \$700 million dollars, through proper planning, constraints, restructuring, reorganization and resolving Greektown, we are now \$33 million dollars in debt and a little over four years from paying that amount in full. This is so important to the elders and members I speak with, I always want to give raises, increase services, buy land

and open new businesses, but all this takes revenue that we simply do not have at this time. I'm proud that we are becoming financially healthy. It is never popular to be frugal and a bean counter, but it is necessary.

Two major projects I have personally been working on is the tribal drug action plan and increased access to health services for our members in Unit II, both have not been funded through tribal dollars at this point, and it's time consuming and takes many people at the table to figure out how to get things done with either just grant dollars or existing funds in the budgets. Both priorities are on track and Director Hollowell and I were able to hold a unit meeting this month to talk with members and ask for input on our outlying areas' needs and concerns on health services.

Our housing division and commission presented some amazing information on housing tax credits and plans we can look into for increased housing throughout our service area. The department has been working with professionals in the business of tax credits exclusively for Indian tribes and diligently came forward with plans for our Odenaang site and spoke about plans throughout the service area in other units. As reported in past reports, we are always in demand for more elder and family units. With input from surveys of community members and the need-based information, the division and commission are moving forward to address those needs. I'm grateful for the hard work all have put into this and it truly was a breath of fresh air to see the department so prideful and excited about the plans for future housing needs.

As stated above, Director Hollowell and I held a unit meeting on Drummond Island this past month, we will be scheduling throughout the unit as well. The board's schedule has been changing weekly with meetings in the Sault at least three days a week, financials, workshops, legislation preparation and constitution reviews. Many items are outstanding and creating plans to move on things are slow. It seems it's been difficult to add items of importance to our agenda when all aren't in attendance or other non-pressing issues come up. We have a lot of business to get resolved

and the last nine years have demonstrated that agendas change quite fast, hiring a CEO, constitutional amendments, additional health services and our tribal drug action plan are the four priorities for me and I will keep them at the forefront.

In closing, I will be in attendance for the downstate Lansing meeting on Feb. 20 and our unit's regularly scheduled elder meetings. If you would like to meet or discuss any items, please contact me at your convenience at [Lcausley@saulttribe.net](mailto:Lcausley@saulttribe.net) or (906) 484-2954. Baamaapii. Lana Causley.

**March report** — We have been working on many items with the board of directors, our meetings are filled with items requested by our departments and the following is a list of some items that have been requested to be scheduled by the board: Website update, livestream, sufficient utilization of the site, child welfare, human resource policies, health 24-hour access line, constitution review update, tribal action plan update, existing ethics resolution discussion to implement additional policies and many others.

Along with all the requests from the board that must be scheduled for discussion, day-to-day meetings and business are active. We held our bi-weekly health access workgroup meeting and, during the discussion, many facts and insights were given from those present on the services we have available now and the Affordable Care Act structure we have to look at, including a total of 54,570 visits in 2012. The clinical manager brought forward a draft plan on delivery of medicine thru the U.S. mail, although this would benefit greatly to many, there are many restrictions to this process that include many medications that CANNOT be delivered thru the mail. One item that is completely available to implement at this time is to increase the areas for pick up, again the clinical manager committed to bringing a draft plan to implement the prescription delivery/pick up sites in rural areas for our next meeting.

We also spoke at length about the difference between increased services to rural area members vs BETTER access to services for members, meeting the needs of medical services for our members with the funding we have now is the priority I explained. Outside

units aren't asking for big fancy medical centers, we just want better access with the two existing clinics we have and collaboration with the clinics/private physicians already servicing members in areas. Next month is the deadline for the solid plan to be presented to the board of directors, please keep the calls, ideas and concerns coming, this assists greatly to what is needed.

We also held our first focus group for our drug abuse tribal action plan, we presented the forum with the Hessel elder group and it was very informative. In this meeting I had a first hand look at how much the elders are concerned about the dangers of drug abuse these days compared to the situations in their days. They answered many questions about what abuse means to them, how it affects our tribal communities, what resources they think would work to reduce it and many others. Miigwetch to our group who gave time to our commitment. We will be planning for the other two elder groups along with full community meetings in the next few months. Please look on our website to keep track of the dates and times, we will also have the dates posted at our two centers in Unit II.

We attended the United Tribes of Michigan meeting and legislation conference in Lansing this past week, we met and educated many representatives and state agencies (assigned tribal liaisons) to encourage them about fair, serious tribal consultation and the history of our nation. A full report will be in this article.

During the visit to Lansing, we also held a membership meeting, we had a great turnout and many questions and concerns were brought up. The meeting was relaxed, respectful and a great invite to advance scheduling quarterly meetings in areas in lower Michigan. I am fully supportive of this and will keep it on our schedule for board discussion. I'd like to thank my family members who attended who live down state, it was nice having you there. Thank you to the members I met and for making me feel welcome as well.

One last report on board activity is that the chairman and many board members (I did not attend this year) attended the MAST conference in Washington, D.C., and had success in legislating and educating on behalf of our tribe. Miigwetch to them and to those (staff described each need in their

departments) who prepared them to attend on our behalf.

Holding meetings and being out in the community always brings up the discussion of what our Youth Education and Activities Program has to offer in our area. Our coordinators, Lisa Burnside, Robyn LaTour and Dawn Griffin are in our schools and tribal centers holding these programs for our youth. The lessons are taken out of the Building Circles of Support Partnerships for personal healing, cultural pride and positive change curriculum as well as the Natural Helper Curriculum, both of which is made available with funding from the STAY Project.

Building Circles of Support focuses on creating change with the individual, offering a better understanding of self and others while building trust in the classroom and community, thus creating positive change with the acceptance of self, others and our beliefs.

The Natural Helper Curriculum involves a lot of team building exercises, as well as building positive self-esteem at the same time learning how to identify a possible bullying situation and becoming a peer helper. Lessons from both curriculum's are to provide a fun, safe learning environment for all participants. Listed are just a few of the activities presented in our schools:

- Introduction/setting ground Rules and what's in a name
- Labeling
- Name tag game
- Understanding state of mind
- Mud mind
- Listening and trust walk
- Faces around a bullying circle
- Do you know your neighbor
- Creating bullying scenarios
- Understanding differences
- Build your circle of support
- I'm so grateful to these woman for their dedication to our youth.

If you have questions or want to make sure your child in our area is involved please contact Lisa Burnside (906) 484-2727. She is always approachable and looks for input from parents.

P.S. I've been in the youth van when she picks kids up off the street to attend our activities (with parents permission, of course).

With that I have to close. I will be at our regular scheduled elder meetings this month and hold office hours as requested. If you would like to meet contact me anytime: [lcausley@saulttribe.net](mailto:lcausley@saulttribe.net), (906) 484-2954.

## Testimony, from page 24 —

grant to network local facilities and providers to share and exchange health care information and facilitate the coordination of care. It is vital that implantation funds are available to continue moving forward on this matter. Planning without adequate funding for implementation is a cruel exercise of identifying needs and then leaving our community without resources to do anything about it.

"Recruitment and retention of health care professionals to our rural, seven-county service area is an ongoing struggle. The shortage of primary care physicians, dentists, and mid-level provid-

ers is growing and the demand on services is increasing. We support greater incentives and innovative solutions designed to address the Indian health care professional staff shortages. This can be accomplished through the increase of scholarships and loan programs available through the Indian Health Service; increase of funding and support for alternative health care providers (i.e. community health aides, etc.); and the allowance of Indian health care programs to place National Health Service Corps personnel in assignments based upon tribal health care service area populations.

"SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA)

"Suicide has devastated our tribal communities. We implemented a tribal youth suicide prevention grant – the Sault Tribe Alive Youth (STAY) Project – through the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act and trained over 2,200 caring adults and peers to recognize warning signs and access resources for help. Not only does the GLS funding need to be maintained, but also tribal set-asides would ensure that more funding reach tribal communities who currently must

compete with states and other institutions.

"Gaps in alcohol and substance abuse continuum of care impact our tribal community on a daily basis. We have tribal members who must hope for an opening at exactly the right time in their treatment path – the member who gets detoxification services but then must wait three weeks for the next bed to open at a residential services facility. All too often, the continuum of care is a precarious set of theoretical assumptions that do not hold up under the harsh glare of reality.

"NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)

"Support targeted research and best practices most appropriate for Native Americans. Any federally-funded population survey or collection of data to establish best practices or benchmarking must ensure that Native Americans are over-sampled to establish statistically reliable estimates; there must be a comprehensive national health needs assessment for off-reservation Indian communities to measure undocumented need; and funding should be made available to Native American health care programs to create and maintain comprehensive data collection systems."



# Working hard and looking to the tribe's future



**DEBRA PINE, DIRECTOR,  
UNIT I**

Elections don't define us as tribal leaders. I know that even if I lose the next election, I'm still a tribal leader. I know this because I work with many of them and they don't have an election to run in. I am blessed to be working with people who were elected as tribal leaders, served many years, lost and yet they still make the decision to serve our community and I learn from them. I am blessed to be working with people who never ventured out in this non-Native arena of elections and yet, the community still views them as leaders. Our tribe is fortunate to benefit from their efforts and strengths. More importantly, I have the wisdom to take the time and really absorb

what they have to offer from all their years of service as tribal leaders and, more importantly, I will continue to serve my tribal community like I did before I was ever elected.

Very few tribal leaders are born, most are cultivated as young children, like the corn our ancestors grew, we were brought up with love and attention. We are taught our history, we are given the lessons of our ancestors to survive in this modern world and many times, when I was young, they loved our fighting spirits. Our elders challenged us and in the same vein, did not squash our spirit. They took joyful pride in the young who exhibited this exuberance. They were happy and relieved at the same time, to know our people would continue and exist into perpetuity. There is a relief when you see it, because I watch my own children and their efforts at leadership. I, too, am relieved to know I have warrior spirits who are willing to carry on our way of life.

It's difficult to navigate in this imposed world of "tribal elections." Growing up here in the tribal homeland, we always knew who our leaders were without the need for an election. You could always tell who the people respected and gravitated toward, along with the fact, most were hereditary chiefs anyways.

What you hoped for was that they were groomed with the smarts and the knowledge of the past minus the ego, with the vision to get us through the current obstacles, each era having its own issues. Could each leader deal effectively with its own era of issues, build consensus with Native and non-Native leaders and still get things accomplished for our people? That is the big question; that is the general standard we all have to live up to and that is what we strive for as tribal leaders in this day and age.

In spite of a tribal chairman who wants to stir up the past to create instability of things that have been LEGALLY settled, I prefer to move forward and focus on the future.

8(a) — This is a nut that we have been trying to crack for a number of years. The government sets aside a certain amount of government contracting for disadvantaged groups or areas, like the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. At this time, a viable company has come forward and wants to collaborate with us in order to capture extensive government contracts that have been set aside for financially disadvantaged areas like Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

501-3 c status — This is another tool in our tool box we have yet to use. Though there is

some debate as to whether or not we even need to use this designation due to being a tribe, and we are already considered to be non-profit just by the very essence. We still need to convince the foundations we apply to of such. At this point, it may just be easier to comply with the guidelines set up for 501-3 c status. The biggest issue with this is designating a separate board to handle this, which I think is fine, however there may still be board members not willing to give up the control.

IHS — With the unfolding of ObamaCare, our people are trying to set us ahead of the curve by being proactive versus reactive. We are making plans to handle this new environment thrust upon us by the federal government. We are trying to make sense of all the new requirements and how best to incorporate this into Indian Country while, at the same time, making sure that we are not left in the dust.

One of my main interests is spinning off IHS with its own board of commissioners who deal with its issues and is separate from the tribal politics that can drag down a division. So far, JKL School and Housing are doing this and both are flourishing. These are good examples of what could be for our Health Division. Currently, IHS has been used to plug financial holes on

the governmental side and I don't feel that this is appropriate. Like the American government, our tribal government needs to learn to live within its means. Our tribe needs to focus on building up a reserve that cushions us when the federal government fails to live up to its obligations and I just don't see that happening at this point. As a tribal leader, I am interested in seeing our government position itself to be proactive and not live in this reactive state we have been residing in for the last six years. These are big ideas from just one board member, however, with the hiring of our new executive director, Christine McPherson, I hope that we can set forth on a path to develop a strategic plan that our tribe can follow for the next ten years.

In closing, I would like to say that I, as a board member, have only one agenda and that is to get our tribe back on its feet and prosperous again. I am a no nonsense type of leader, I prefer to follow the rules as written and not make interpretations of the law that allow the board to do what it pleases. This upsets our chairman but, oh well, I was elected by the community to make sure we don't repeat the mistakes of the past.

Sincerely,  
Debra-Ann Pine  
(906) 440-1334

## Greatest threat? Loss of language and culture



**JENNIFER MCLEOD, DIRECTOR,  
UNIT I**

Aaniin Anishinaabek, Four times, now, I started this article and erased what I had written. I started to write about the federal legislators I met with in Washington, D.C., imploring them to stop the sequestration; I began to write about the state legislators in Lansing, the many regional tribal leaders who pulled together during the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes impact week, as well as the state tribal leaders during the meetings of the United Tribes. I wanted to mention how hard our staff is working and the positive things that they are doing. I thought to tell you of the elders' meetings, the membership meeting held in Lansing and the JKL Bawating MEAP scores. But as I looked back over the events of the month, I found that I needed to write about something bigger. Something so important it touches every man, woman and child of this tribe.

In my opinion, we have a threat to our sovereignty that is

more dangerous than cuts to programs and grants, decreased revenues and increased costs (not that these are NOT important, because they certainly ARE).

The greatest threat to our tribe is the loss of our language, our culture and everything unique to being Anishinaabe. If we lose that, we have lost everything. If we no longer speak our language or practice our culture, there are those who say that we no longer have the right to call ourselves Anishinaabe. That thought has been brought home hard to me this past month.

One of the elders of my family died this month. My uncle, Owen, crossed over into the spirit realm and took much of his knowledge with him. He called me often over this past year, encouraging me, guiding me, sharing things he knew, and now he's gone. He left quickly with so much left unsaid. The stark reality of my loss, and the realization that every year there are many of our elders leaving this earthly realm, has brought clarity, an increased urgency and a call to action to our people to reclaim your language, learn the ways of your people and teach it to your children and grandchildren! If you want to learn, I will help.

I am an educator by profession and I KNOW that everyone can learn! I do not claim to know everything, and I am not a fluent speaker, but I will share what I know. Beginning next month, I will include language and cultural lessons in my monthly article. I will share links and resources.

At the membership meeting in Lansing, I shared this message,

"We are Anishinaabe. Speak your language. Practice your culture." Many of our people came to me after the meeting asking for help, and that made my heart soar!

As you all know, our tribal Constitution lists the "perpetuation of our way of life" first. It is what makes us Anishinaabe. My Uncle Owen told me often how

important those ways were and he shared those ways with me and many others. Today, my mother presented me with my drum. Holding it in my hands, I could hear him tell me he loved me, and I remember the last words I ever heard him say, "Stay strong for the people." And so I am sharing his last words with all of

you, urging you to "stay strong." Reclaim your language. Learn the ways of your people. Teach it to your children and your grandchildren. My Uncle Owen unselfishly shared his knowledge with me and I offer to share with you as well, "for the people!"  
(906) 440-9151  
jmcleod1@saulttribe.net

## Access to health care survey



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

I want to thank the DeTour and Drummond Island communities for participating in the recent survey regarding access to health care. Your personal experiences provided valuable feedback for the Adhoc Access to Healthcare Committee and shined a spotlight on how difficult it is (and in some instances, how unacceptable it is) for tribal members to access the care they need. Thanks to our health service staff for thinking outside the box and proposing both immediate short term solutions, as well as strategic long term solutions for our under-

served rural tribal members.

Another community meeting will be held in DeTour in April. A letter will be sent announcing time and date. We continue to meet biweekly in order to restore services in all outlying areas (Escanaba, Marquette, Newberry, Kinross). It's important to remember that this is not an expansion of health services, but access to services we already provide.

Our various funding sources — IHS, BIA, BIE and other federal dollars, along with our own tribal revenue from casinos and enterprises — determine the budget we have to work with. It is within this financial framework that improvements — both in services to our citizens and workforce investment — have to be made. The truth is, we face a lot of challenges and solutions will have to be found within the realities of the resources available to us. For the most part, federal dollars are restricted to specific program line items. The only real discretionary dollars we have is tribal support (around \$17 million) from our casinos

and enterprises. This month, we will have the final report on 2012 expenditures and will be able to see exactly where every dollar of our discretionary tribal support was expended. It is imperative that every dollar of tribal support is prioritized and appropriated for maximum benefit. This is our opportunity to evaluate and make midcourse corrections to the 2013 budget to ensure fair, equitable and effective appropriations of tribal support dollars.

Sequestration: The federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reports that IHS services and facilities are subject to a 5 percent budget cut, or \$195 million in services and \$22 million in facilities for 2013 (with only seven months remaining to absorb those cuts). How that will impact our funding dollars remains to be seen, but we will remain vigilant to ensure our underserved rural communities don't shoulder the brunt of the funding reduction. How sequestration will affect other programs such as Head Start and Housing remains to be seen but "doing

See "Survey" page 27

# Sorenson attends MAST gathering in capitol



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

On Feb. 10 I flew to D.C. and arrived that evening. On Feb. 11 we met with the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST), which consists of 33 tribes from Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Indiana and Iowa. During the three days, we had many guest speakers from D.C., such as assistant secretary of the Department of the Interior, Kevin Washburn; director of Indian Health Services, Dr. Yvette Roubideaux; staff director of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, Mary Pavel; Congressman Dan Kildee; staff director of the House of Indian Affairs Subcommittee, Chris Fluhr; and NIGA Chairman-Ernie Stevens.

Some of the issues that were discussed were drug abuse in Indian Country, the sequestration, losing our treaty rights because

of environmental issues, the farm bill, adoptive couple vs. baby girl case and the changes to FEMA where tribes can ask directly for disaster assistance.

MAST passed a resolution to support Sally Jewell's appointment as secretary of the Interior and a resolution calling for new Obama Native nations policy which details support beginning with President Johnson through President George W. Bush.

After the MAST meeting, Darcy, Denise, Joanie, Mike McCoy and I got to spend about 40 minutes running through three floors of the National Museum of the American Indian. It is awesome and we could have spent several hours there.

On the afternoon of Feb. 12, Cathy, Jennifer and I went on Capitol Hill to visit senators and congressman to discuss our concerns with sequestration and telling them that IHS should be exempt from cuts, like Medicare will be. We talked about the effects of mining on the Great Lakes, invasive species in the Great Lakes, our support for the Violence Against Women Act, the farm bill, etc. Our whole Sault Tribe group met with Dan Benishek. These leaders really do like to hear from tribal leaders. Some have no idea about Indian Country issues so it allows us to educate them and make those connections.

On Feb. 19, I rode with Catherine and Lana to Lansing.

We met with legislators where Chairman Payment presented a power point on the Indian tuition waiver. Many colleges and universities are waiving thousands of dollars so Native Americans can achieve a higher education. Universities such as LSSU and NMU waive \$350,000 and Grand Valley waives \$600,000 a year.

That afternoon, the United Tribes met with state liaisons to discuss open lines of communication with the tribes. We want to ensure the government-to-government relations that encompass our sovereignty. We would like to be included when there are discussions such as the wolf legislation and environmental issues. We want to work with the State of Michigan as a team to resolve issues.

Our tribe had a reception with Michigan legislators (Frank Foster, Howard Walker, etc.) to get to know each other and then went to the United Tribes reception for a brief period. We had a private dinner with the assistant secretary of the Interior of Indian Affairs, Kevin Washburn. We discussed the Indian tuition waiver, sequestration, the Baby Veronica case (ICWA) and invasive species on the Great Lakes.

On Feb. 20, we had our United Tribes meeting and discussed the Affordable Health Care Act implementation, wolf hunt, Indian tuition waiver and passed a resolution in opposition to the S.S. Badger car ferry for continued

coal discharge into the Great Lakes.

In the evening we had our "at large" membership meeting at the Lansing Center. We met with about 100 members from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. I thought the meeting went very well. Mayor Virg Bernero stopped in to introduce himself. The audience had questions about the Lansing casino, the proposed constitution, the internship program, the funeral fund, the overall casino performance, our debt, and future services. I believe the "at large" members just need to be educated and understand the tribe in general. Many only have the tribal paper and social media to be kept informed. We discussed having more meetings when we are in the area on other business so we are not spending extra money. One misconception was that members thought we used our entire membership count to get federal dollars. We can only use the numbers in our seven-county service area.

On Feb. 26, we had a workshop and meeting at the St. Ignace casino. During the board issues we were interrupted by the COO and law enforcement telling the chairman of a bomb threat to our hotel. The chairman told the board we needed to leave and the board secretary would send them an update. I helped Tom Biron pack up his audio/video equipment and went to the casino lobby. Hotel guests were asked

to leave their rooms and wait in the lobby or the restaurant. They were served food and beverages during this two-hour investigation. The COO, Tony Goetz went with the state police bomb dog through 81 hotel rooms while county and tribal officers combed the rest of the casino. The staff and law enforcement did a great job of keeping everyone calm and the investigation went like a well practiced drill. The caller left a message on the hotel's answering machine that there was a bomb in the hotel. The suspect has been caught and is awaiting charges. Chief Marchand did a great job talking with all the guests and controlling the situation. Denny McKelvie and I were present during the investigation.

There are petitions available to stop the wolf hunts, please contact a membership liaison to get more information at (906) 635-6050. The board approved an offer on our St. Ignace Lakefront Hotel which should be finalized mid-April. We will need to secure rooms with other hotels during overflows for tournaments, weddings, etc., until we can build onto our current hotel. I would like to say "thank you" to all of our staff for their daily contributions to keep our members and customers served.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

# Tribal government: a horse of a different color



**DJ MALLOY, DIRECTOR,  
UNIT I**

Tribal government is a "horse of a different color." While we receive funding from the federal government in accordance with meeting treaty obligations, we also utilize profits from our tribally owned and operated businesses to supplement our programs and services. We actually tax our enterprises a flat amount under a "corporate tax" to provide this supplemental funding. Basically, this means the more profitable our businesses are, the more we have to compliment the federal funding. The pool of funds gathered through corporate tax and used to infuse services is called tribal support dollars.

You have often seen me use the phrase "right size" the tribe in my articles. I have been asked to define what I mean by this. Because we have a limited pool of money to serve our people, it is important to insure we wring the most value out of each and every dollar. Sometimes that

means insuring we use the bulk of a program's budget for direct services and as little as needed for the cost of administering the program (some argue that part of our goal is to also create jobs. However, I am of the mind that while jobs are important, we can provide more services to more people by keeping the administrative line item as tight as possible). Think of it this way, say when you donate to a charity, do you expect most of your money should go to help those the charity serves, or for the wages and benefits of the people who are collecting and distributing the donations? Tribal government isn't much different.

With that thought in mind, every dollar we save (or make) within our businesses has the potential to provide added value to our people. This is why efficiency has been my focus of late. The buying power realized from our five casinos, ancillary customer services (hotels, bars and restaurants), several side enterprises and the myriad of other governmental department's purchasing should get us the most competitive pricing for what we purchase. And we should be buying at the best price possible! There should be little to no waste in any area of our government or enterprises. Staffing should be only as much as we need to administer services. Our wages should be in line with the market. And we should provide the best quality of service possible for

anything we make available to our citizens and customers.

I have been advocating and pushing for an independent efficiency audit to find out where we are making mistakes and where we are getting it right. I want to maximize every penny's potential in our government. Sometimes that means spending a little money to save a lot. Other times it just means changing the way we do things or whom we purchase our goods from. Waste is another critical piece of the puzzle. We MUST insure we are being diligent in all aspects of preventing waste. We have utilized grant funding to retrofit many of our buildings with energy efficient lighting but we can't stop there. We must be attentive to all aspects of waste, from the governmental side to the restaurants and bars.

Each time we save so much as a dime, we are providing more opportunity for the people. And that, my friend, is our purpose as a tribe, to provide services and enrich the lives of our citizens. We have enterprises for the sole function of infusing cash. And while some are content to "balance the budget," I believe it may be even more important to make sure that every penny we spend is maximized and what we purchase is not wasted. If that means spending a few thousand dollars on an independent efficiency audit by experts outside the tribe, then I'm all for it. Best case scenario would be that we find

hundreds of thousands of dollars in wasted spending or goods and remedy that hole in our process. The worst case scenario would be that we spend a few thousand dollars to find out we are doing everything perfectly and have peace of mind knowing we are as efficient as we can possibly be in all areas (my money is on the first scenario.) I will keep you all informed as to the progress made.

In closing, I am grateful for all who take the time to contact me

and offer your advice and expertise. I am also thankful for those of you who have entrusted me with your problems and plights in hope of finding solutions. I make every effort to ensure your voice is heard. Thank you for your continued confidence and inspiration.

I can be reached by email at dmalloy@saulttribe.net, or by phone at (906) 440-9762.

Respectfully submitted,  
DJ Malloy

## Access to health care survey

*From "Survey" page 26*  
more with less" has to be our operational goal.

Fiscal discipline and debt reduction must remain a priority.

When I came onboard in summer of 2010, we were presented with a seven-year debt reduction plan. Our external debt (casino and governmental side) at the beginning of 2012 was \$50,695,257. Payments made were \$8,763,590, leaving a balance of \$41,931,667, so we remain on target. I'm really looking forward to retiring this debt and applying that \$8.7 million toward restoration of popular tribal programs.

I will have to report on internal loans next month as I am visiting my new grandbaby and

don't have the figures in hand at press time.

With spring just around the corner (and bad weather behind us), Director Causley and I will resume unit office hours starting in April: Naubinway, snowmobile museum, last Wednesday of the month, 1-6 p.m.; Newberry, Tribal Community Center, third Thursday of the month, 1-6 p.m.; and Hessel, Tribal Community Center, third Monday of the month, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you with your questions, comments and concerns.

And I do want to say miigwech for all the calls of support I've received in the last two weeks and your faith in me.

# TERRI CLARK

## AND EMERSON DRIVE

**SUNDAY**  
**APRIL 21, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Ticket Prices**  
**\$32.50 & \$28.50**



1-800-KEWADIN | [kewadin.com](http://kewadin.com)



## ENTERTAINMENT

DreamMakers Theater • Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie, MI

### MARCH

Rick Springfield

21st | 7 p.m. | Thursday | \$38.50, \$35.00 | On Sale Now

### APRIL

B.B. King

4th | 7 p.m. | Thursday | \$58.50, \$55.00 | On Sale Now

### APRIL (continued)

Terri Clark & Emerson Drive

21st | 7 p.m. | Sunday | \$32.50, \$28.50 | On Sale Now

### JUNE

Huey Lewis & The News

2nd | 7 p.m. | Sunday | \$58.50, \$52.50 | On Sale Now

MANISTIQUE-ST.IGNACE-HESSEL-SAULT STE. MARIE-CHRISTMAS