



Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

Mukwa Giizis ◁ Bear Moon

February 21, 2014 ◁ Vol. 35 No. 2

Six Sault Tribe board seats up for election

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

It's that time again folks — a tribal election will be held for the board of directors, with a spring primary and a general election this summer.

There are six seats up for election, with two in Unit I currently held by Deb Pine and DJ Malloy; one in Unit II held by Catherine Hollowell; one in Unit III held by Keith Massaway; one seat is up for election in Unit IV held by Denise Chase and in Unit V one seat is also up for election and is held by Joan Carr Anderson.

All board members are seated for four-year terms.

According to the official Notice of Election on page 3 of this issue:

“A candidate for nomination must be eighteen years of age or older by June 26, 2014, a qualified voter, and have established one year residency within the election unit which they seek to represent. Any member, who holds appointed/elected position in another unit of government, has been convicted of election fraud, misdemeanors involving gambling, theft, dishonesty or fraud, or a felony offense is ineligible for election to office. Any

person elected shall voluntarily resign employment position and/or surrender any rights under any contract with the tribe prior to assuming office.”

Tribal members who will be 18 years of age or older on the date of the general election (June 26) are eligible to vote. If you are not already registered to vote, call the executive assistant at (906) 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660 or the tribal registrar's office at (800) 251-6597.

In order to register, you must complete and return a voter registration form to the Tribal Election Committee before 5 p.m. on March 28.

The last day for potential candidates to submit their letter of intent is also March 28 at 5 p.m. A list of eligible candidates will be available on April 24, and on May 1 primary ballots will be mailed to voters with the primary election date set for May 22.

Ballots for the general election will be mailed to voters on June 5, with election day on June 26. The deadline for contests relating to vote counts is June 30.

See page 3, “Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Notice of Election, Jan. 31, 2014,” for further details.

JKL celebrates with drum social



Photo courtesy JKL School

On Jan. 22, 2014 JKL Bahweting Grant School had its second drum dance social of the year to celebrate the accomplishments of the second marking period and to welcome the third marking period with excitement. David McKelvie was able to attend and celebrate by dancing with his daughter, kindergarten student Journey McKelvie.

Congressional bill would restore some funding for tribal programs

BY RICK SMITH

Reports indicate the U.S. House and Senate recently passed a \$1.012 trillion omnibus spending bill for fiscal year 2014, which provides appropriations for a bundle of bills that would fund the U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service.

The omnibus bill does not include limits on contract support cost amounts. The National Congress of American Indians indicated in a summary that excluding caps on contract support funding was largely due to the fact that earlier recommendations for the caps were developed without tribal consultation, “and the committees heard from numerous tribes voicing strong opposition.”

Other highlights the bill would provide, according to the NCAI summary, include \$2.531 billion for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Education, a significant increase from levels in the last two years. The Indian Health Service would receive \$4.3 billion, a jump of \$78 million from last year and Health and Human Services would receive \$8.6 billion for Head Start programs.

According to Matt Doss of the Great Lakes Commission, the omnibus package includes full funding of \$300 million for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, a \$15 million increase

over last year. In addition, the bill would also provide \$1.45 billion for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and \$906 million for the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program.

“This is another important victory for our regional Great Lakes restoration program and testament to importance of this work and the effectiveness of our ongoing communications with Congress,” Doss noted. “Thank

you to everyone who is contributing to our restoration efforts and communicating their importance to Congress. Your voices make a difference!”

The National Indian Health board applauded the move by Congress, calling the legislation important because it is the first time in a very long time that Congress passed a full appropriations measure for many Indian programs.

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Newberry Tribal Community Health Center

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Manistique Tribal Health Center

906-341-8469
Jennifer Sitkoski Kellie Lakosky

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906-387-4721
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More information is available on www.healthcare.gov
Applications will become available in October 2013

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Contact Contract Health Services for more information.
Carol Pages-Montie at (906) 632-5220.



NMU Learning to Walk Together Powwow set

Northern Michigan University's Native American Student Association will be hosting its 21st annual Learning to Walk Together traditional powwow on Saturday, March 15, 2014. This all-day event takes place at Vandament Arena on NMU's campus, with grand

entries at noon and 6 p.m. Doors open to the public at 11 a.m. A feast meal and hand drum competition is scheduled for 4 p.m. at the Jacobetti Complex.

When this powwow was first being organized over 20 years ago, student planners chose the name Learning to Walk Together

as their theme because they felt that, in addition to being held at an institution of higher learning, the name would also reflect that we are all in various stages of learning in this life and would like others to learn more about Native American culture and traditions. If you are just beginning

to seek out a deeper understanding of our heritage and culture, or if you have been attending powwows all your life, we hope you will join us in sharing in the learning process as we move forward together.

This year's event will feature Tony Davis as head male dancer

and Lisa Brunk as head female dancer. The host drum will be Bahweting Singers with other invited drums including Buffalo Bay Singers, Four Thunders, Little Horse and Stone Boy.

Admission is \$5 for the general public and free for NMU students with current identification cards.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Notice of Election, Jan. 31, 2014

The Election Committee of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians would like to inform you that a tribal election will be held for the tribal board of directors this year; with a primary held in spring and the general election held this summer. Below are important dates and information pertaining to the election.

The timetable for the election process is as follows: (All deadlines are 5 p.m. ET).

March 28 deadline for voter registration. Last day to receive Letter of Intent for potential candidates. Roll of registered voters prepared and posted. Nomination petitions available.

- April 17: Nominating petition deadline.
- April 24: List of eligible candidates available.
- April 28: Deadline for contests relating to nominations and voter registration.
- May 01: Blank primary ballots mailed to voters.
- May 22: Primary election date.
- May 27: Deadline for contests relating to vote count.
- June 05: Blank ballots for general election mailed to voters.
- June 26: General election day.
- June 30: Deadline for contest relating to vote count.

OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED

Unit 1: 2 members; Unit 2: 1 member; Unit 3: 1 member; Unit 4: 1 member; Unit 5: 1 member

The term of all officers will be four years.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Tribal members who will be 18 years of age or older on the date of the general election are eligible to vote. The Tribal Election Code states all resident members in an election unit shall automatically be registered and non-resident members can choose one of the five election units in order to vote in tribal elections. Registration is permanent unless you move in/out of an election unit. Registration forms must be received by the Tribal Election Committee, ninety (90) days prior to the general election, in order to vote in the upcoming elections. Voter registration is open and tribal members who need to register (all previously registered members are considered permanently registered) can contact the Tribal Election Committee at the address given below or call the executive assistant at (906)635-6050 or 1(800)793-0660 or the tribal registrar's office.

In order to register, you must complete and return a voter registration form to the Tribal Election Committee, P.O. Box 102, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, before 5 p.m. on March 28, 2014. Registration forms received after that time or not completed will be deemed unregistered for this election.

VOTING PROCEDURE

All ballots will be mailed to registered voters by first class mail. In order to be counted, ballots must be received by the Tribal Election Committee by 5 p.m. at the United States Post Office, Sault Ste. Marie location, on May 22, 2014, for the primary election and on June 26, 2014, for the general election. A post office box is provided by the United States Post Office for return of the ballots. The address of the box will be included on the ballot.

Address correction requested: The election will be conducted by mail to the address shown in the tribal registrar's records. It is the responsibility of the tribal member to ensure that the address shown for him or her is correct. Please contact the tribal registrar's office for any changes at Tribal Registrar's Office, 2428 Shunk Road, mailing address: P.O. Box 1628, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, phone 635-3396 or (800) 251-6597.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

Any tribal member who meets the requirements detailed in the Tribal Election Ordinance is eligible for election to office. A candidate for nomination must be eighteen years of age or older by June 26, 2014, a qualified voter, and have established one year residency within the Election unit which they seek to represent. Any member, who holds appointed/elected position in another unit of government, has been convicted of election fraud, misdemeanors involving gambling, theft, dishonesty or fraud, or a felony offense is ineligible for election to office. Any person elected shall voluntarily resign employment position and/or surrender any rights under any contract with the Tribe prior to assuming office.

To be nominated, a candidate must file a letter of intent, background investigation forms, nominating petition, campaigning financing forms, etc. with the Tribal Election Committee in accordance with the Election Ordinance. A nomination petition must bear the original signatures of the proper number of registered voters from the unit to be represented. A voter may sign only as many petitions as there are offices to be filled from their unit. Petitions must be submitted on the forms provided by the Election Committee obtained at the designated offices.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Finance Reporting: The Election Committee requires candidates and others who expend money on the election to file reports on campaign fundraising and spending. If you plan to spend money on the election, you must contact the Election Committee to obtain the proper forms before doing so. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in criminal prosecution.

Election contests and complaints: Any tribal member may raise election disputes before the Election Committee. All disputes must be stated in writing, addressed to the chairperson of the Election Committee, contain the original signature and received under procedures provided in the Election Ordinance. The Election Committee will review disputes according to the Election Ordinance.

Election Ordinance: This letter is a narrative statement of the requirements of the Election Ordinance and the Constitution. Any discrepancies the Election Ordinance and Constitution are controlling and superlative. Questions regarding the election should be directed to the Tribal Election Committee.

Designated offices: Designated offices are the tribal offices as to which additional election material is available and for delivery of correspondence. Each designated office is defined in the Election Ordinance. Please note: Unit 1 the designated office shall be The Tribal Court office, located at the George Nolan Judicial Building, and Unit 3 shall be the Human Resource Office, located at 3015 Mackinac Trail.

Blood drive coming March 21

Not all heroes wear capes. March is Red Cross Month, every donation you give helps us do more of what we do.

Blood drive at the Sault Tribe Health Center auditorium, 2864 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Friday, March 21 from 10 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Sponsored by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

To schedule an appointment, log on to redcrossblood.org and use sponsor code SaultTribe or call Jodi Hoglund at 632-5210 or call the Red Cross at (800) 733-2767.

Support groups meet in Sault Ste. Marie

Families Against Narcotics (FAN) meets on the third Wednesdays of the month, 5:30 p.m., at the Huntington Bank meeting room in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information, call (906) 203-8959, email Chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org or visit www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org.

The meeting dates for March and April are March 19 and April 16.

FAN — your connection for information, resources, and support. It is our mission to raise awareness of the prescription opiate drug abuse epidemic, reduce the stigma, change the face of addiction, educate about the dangers of prescription drug abuse and its potential to lead some to illegal narcotic use and to support those affected by drug abuse or

Membership Liaisons

Members are encouraged to contact liaisons when they need help with tribal issues:

Units I, II and III, Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, (906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net.

Units IV and V, Rita Glyptis, Manistique/Munising centers, (906) 450-7024, rglyptis@saulttribe.net.

addiction.

Also look into the Prescription Drug Abuse Support Group. Have you experienced loss, heartbreak or diminished relationships due to someone else's use of prescription drugs? The Prescription Drug Abuse Support Group meets the first and third Mondays of each month at 6 p.m. at the Huntington Bank in Sault Ste. Marie. Coming meetings take place on March 3 and March 17 as well as on April 7 and April 21.

Please call Linda at (906) 440-7252 or Suzy at 248-3545 for more information.



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

**February 21, 2014
Mukwa Giizhiz
Bear Moon
Vol. 35, No. 2
Circulation 20,000**

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Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
Rick Smith.....Staff Writer
Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary

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

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.

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

call for 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.

Advertising: \$8.50/column inch.

Submission and Subscriptions:

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E-mail: saulttribenews@saulttribe.net.

Board measures from Jan. 14, Jan. 28 meetings

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened a meeting on Jan. 14 in Newberry, Mich., with all present.

Authorization was given to enter into a grant agreement with the Great Lakes Fishery Trust for development of Epoufette Harbor. The grant is in the amount of \$610,000 with an additional \$50,000 as a match towards completion of the project.

Approval was authorized on behalf of the tribe for the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan to apply for a five-year grant from the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration, which would provide home visiting services to prevent infant mortality and improve the health and wellness of women, children and families.

An application was approved to acquire funding through the U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women for a legal assistance program.

The name of the Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnaabe Public School Academy was officially changed to the Joseph K. Lumsden Anishnaabe Grant School.

Consent was granted to waivers of tribal immunity and tribal court jurisdiction in order for the Architecture, Engineering, Consulting, Operations and Maintenance Technology Corporation USA of Michigan to contract with the tribe for design and construction on Shawano Drive and associated cul de sacs.

Inland Conservation Committee recommendations were accepted to amend Tribal Code Chapter 21: Inland Fishing and Hunting and become effective upon compliance with the

2007 Inland Consent Decree notice of regulation change requirement.

A loan of \$1 million from the Gaming Authority to the tribe was approved to upgrade the J.D. Edwards system and other computer upgrades.

Key team members listed in Resolution 2005-199 was amended to delete the general managers of all Kewadin Casinos, vice president of hotel operations, vice president of marketing and sales along with the director of retail and support services, and the director of food and beverage services.

A sum of \$625,300 was appropriated for the 2014 fiscal year governmental capital purchases budget, of which \$402,425 will come from tribal support and \$222,875 will come from other revenue.

A total of \$621,884 was approved for the 2014 fiscal year capital purchases budget for enterprises.

Approval was given for a 2014 fiscal budget for a tribal climate change program with carry-over federal funds of \$16,123.28 and no effect on tribal support.

The establishment of a 2014 fiscal year budget was approved for Great Lakes Fisheries Trust Epoufette Harbor with trust revenues of \$610,750 and a transfer in from Trap Net Consent Decree of \$41,250, no effect on tribal support. Further, modification of a 2014 fiscal year budget was approved for Trap Net Consent Decree (COFTMA) increasing state trap net revenue \$41,250, no effect on tribal support.

A budget modification was approved to 2014 fiscal year J.D.

Edwards for an increase in transfer-in funds of \$399,722 from loan acquired funds designated for computer upgrades.

A fiscal year 2014 budget of \$50,000 was established for the National Congress of American Indians Partnership for Tribal Governance, with no effect on tribal support.

Budget modifications were approved for the 2014 fiscal year to change personnel sheets and re-allocate expenses for the American Indian substance abuse services and IHS aftercare services.

Under new business, Bernard Biron was reappointed to a four-year term on the Housing Commission.

The board authorized the publication of board attendance at official board functions or assignments such as meetings, workshops and other duties. The measure excluded publishing voluntary attendance at functions such as elder's committee meetings and other similar engagements.

The board convened another meeting in Sault Ste. Marie on Jan. 28 with all board members present.

Ten resolutions were presented to the board for their consideration and all 10 were adopted by unanimous votes.

A resolution was passed authorizing the chairperson to enter into a contract with Corradino Group of Michigan, Inc. for professional consulting services to develop a transit implementation plan.

Funding was also approved for the MDCH Cardiovascular Health, Nutrition and Physical Activity Section Contract through a memorandum of agreement

with the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan for \$10,000 with an in-kind match of 25 percent.

An ACFS Access to Safe Shelter budget modification increase in Department of Justice (DOJ) revenue of \$29,407 was approved. An additional ACFS fiscal year 2014 budget modification was approved for 2011 tribal governments for an increase in DOJ revenue of \$22,630.

Additional fiscal year 2014 budget modifications were approved for ACFS tribal foster care; Health Center x-ray machine purchase and repairs to existing equipment; and the St. Ignace clinic for a change to the personnel sheet and reallocation of expenses.

Resolution 25 was passed in pursuit and support of 2014 low-

income housing tax credit funding from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority for the development of 20 new low-income elder apartments within the boundaries of the tribe's reservation.

Tribal Court established a fiscal year 2014 budget for Tribal Court Strategic Planning with DOJ revenues of \$34,473 and no effect on tribal support. The board also approved the fiscal year 2014 budget modification to the Trap Net Consent Decree for an increase in State trap net revenues of \$10,000.

For further information about roll call, voting matrix or to see the resolutions in their entirety, go to saultribe.com to the board downloads section.

Unit III members meetings

Third Mondays of the month — Board of directors Unit III representatives Keith Massaway and Bridgett Sorenson are pleased to invite you to attend a Unit III meeting on the third Monday of the month at 6 p.m., at Enji Maawanji' Iding, the McCann

Center, 399 McCann Street, St. Ignace.

Please come share your ideas, questions and concerns with your tribal board representatives. For questions, call Keith Massaway at 643-6981 or Bridgett Sorenson at 430-0536.

Traditional healer clinic hours

Keith Smith:

March 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 19, Sault Ste. Marie, 632-5268
Tony Abramson, Jr., 632-0220
Peggy Hemenway, 632-0236
Laura Collins.

March 13 Hessel 484-2727.
March 17, Escanaba, 786-2636.

March 18, Manistique, 341-8469, (866) 401-0043.

March 20, Munising, 387-4721, (866) 401-0043.

Harlan Downwind:

March 18, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27, 28, Sault Ste. Marie, 632-5268
Tony Abramson, Jr., 632-0220
Peggy Hemenway, 632-0236
Laura Collins.

March 19, St. Ignace, 643-8689, (877) 256-0135.

For Traditional Medicine Program information, call Anthony Abramson Jr., Peggy Hemenway or Laura Collins at 632-5200.

Smithsonian issues challenge to all students to solve world problems

The Smithsonian is hosting the Spark!Lab Invent It Challenge. It is a challenge that encourages students of all ages to identify a world problem and come up with a solution.

Prizes include fun educational toys, a Camp Invention Scholarship, and a Nelson-Mullins Patent.

Student entries must demonstrate the seven key steps in the

invention process. Templates are available for students to use for submissions or students may submit videos.

For additional challenge information, see the entry guideline and scoring guide. Entries must be submitted by mail by April 8 or online by April 11.

Check it all out at <http://challenges.epals.com>.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Employment Opportunities

Reply to Sault Tribe Human Resource Department, 2186 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, phone 635-7032 or toll free (866) 635-7032, fax (906) 635-4992, apply online at www.saultribe.com.

Food and beverage director, Sault Ste. Marie, closing date: 02/28/14. The food and beverage director, under the direction of the chief operating officer, is responsible for the overall supervision and direction of all beverage and food outlets including restaurant, deli, cafeteria and banquet departments for Kewadin Casino in the Sault and for the oversight of the outlying Kewadin Casino properties. The position is responsible for providing attentive, cheerful, courteous and professional service to all customers, internal and external, striving to always exceed their expectations.

High School diploma or equivalent required. Minimum of seven years food or beverage management at the level of restaurant manager or bar/beverage manager required. Bachelor's degree in business required. Will accept related fields in hospitality management or food service industry related degrees. Will accept an equivalent combination of education, food/restaurant management or beverage management experience in lieu of degree.

Community health educator, Manistique, open until filled. The community health educator, under the direction of the health education supervisor, is responsible for promoting, maintaining, and improving individual and community health by assisting individuals and communities in adopting healthy behaviors and lifestyles. This position is responsible for working with the health education team to plan, organize, implement and evaluate programs designed to encourage healthy lifestyles, policies and environments.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Bachelor's degree in health education required. Certified health education specialist preferred. One year of experience working as a health educator or in community health preferred.

Community health nurse, Manistique, open until filled. The community health nurse, under the direction of the community health nurse supervisor or Rural Community Health Program manager, is responsible for providing health promotion/disease prevention services, community health nursing services and home health services based on current community health nursing concepts and standards of practice for members of all ages of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. The position is responsible for direct

in home, office, clinic, school and work setting services for individuals and groups and for conducting patient education sessions and health screenings, monitoring and health promotion services during group education sessions, community health fairs, activities and events. The position is responsible for community health nursing practices and promoting and preserving the health of the Native American population by integrating the skills and knowledge relevant to both nursing, public health, and tribal and cultural traditions. The practice is comprehensive, and general and is not limited to a particular age or diagnostic group, it is continual and not limited to episodic care.

High school diploma or equivalent required. Minimum of three years of experience as a registered nurse required; four years of experience preferred. Associate degree in nursing required; bachelor's degree in nursing preferred. Must have and maintain current R.N. with licensure in the State of Michigan. Must have and maintain current CPR certification and comply with recertification on a regular basis. Knowledge of nursing theory, skills and best practice standards required. Knowledge of prevention, transmission and treatment of disease required.

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GAO reports on IHS Contract Health Services

By RICK SMITH

As mandated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, often called “Obamacare,” the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) recently released a review of the Indian Health Service Contract Health Services (CHS) program with recommendations to improve timeliness of processing payments for CHS care.

The 40-page report examined actual promptness of completed CHS transactions, agency standards for completing transactions, elements affecting the time it takes to complete transactions and how coverage under the new health care law could impact the program.

The GAO studied data from fiscal year 2011 and found a majority of claims were paid within six months of patients receiving service, but some took much longer. About 73 percent of claims are paid within six months while about 8 percent took more than a year.

The report indicated the payment process involves the local CHS programs issuing purchase orders authorizing payment for care, the health care providers submitting claims for payment and IHS remitting payment.

The GAO found that the first step in the process, receiving purchase orders from local CHS programs, usually takes the longest length of time, often taking

in excess of two months.

Further, the GAO found, the complexity of the CHS program also impacts payments to health care providers.

The Indian Health Service makes payments on a case-by-case basis evaluating the eligibility of each case through numerous steps, which can lead to delays.

Compounding the possibility of delays are staffing shortages at CHS facilities, reported below the standards set by the Indian Health Service.

On the bright side, the report noted that new coverage options in the Affordable Care Act may include opportunities to simplify Contract Health eligibility requirements.

The new law brings significant changes to the Medicaid program and includes new health care coverage options that may benefit many American Indians beginning in 2014.

The GAO recommended that the Indian Health Service revise its standards to improve timeliness in handling purchase orders and use available funding as appropriate to improve staffing levels at CHS facilities. Further, the report noted the health service should develop options to streamline Contract Health eligibility requirements.

Once it is confirmed what actions have been taken by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Indian

Health Service, the GAO indicated it will provide an update on any progress.

Often called the “congressional watchdog,” the GAO investigates how the federal government spends taxpayer dollars, according to the agency’s website. It provides Congress with objective, fact-based, non-partisan information to support the performance and accountability of the federal government on behalf of the American people.

The full report, titled *Indian Health Service: Opportunities May Exist to Improve the Contract Health Services Program*, can be view or downloaded at <http://www.gao.gov/assets/660/659602.pdf>.

Munro appointed DHS director of tribal affairs

By RICK SMITH

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recently announced the appointment of a citizen of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians of southern California as the agency’s new director of tribal affairs. David Munro, who holds a doctorate in public policy and administration, was named to the post.

In his new position, Munro will preside over strengthening the government-to-government relationships between all federally recognized tribes and the DHS, according to the agency’s blog. Further, he is charged with serving as the main official in implementing the DHS tribal consultation policy as established by an executive order of the president.

According to the official DHS blog, the department strives to engage tribal officials in collaborations under an executive order by President Obama.

Prior to accepting his new post, Munro served as director of the DHS Office of Emergency Management and Grants Administration for the past seven years. Prior to that, he was the Morongo Band’s coordinator for emergency management program and also worked in the city manager’s office in Yucca Valley, Calif., where he covered disaster preparedness, governmental and legislative programs, planning coordination, grants management and other duties.

Munro had a 10-year stint in the U.S. Marine Corps where he was appointed as an environmental protection officer for the U.S.

Department of the Navy.

“We are excited to have Dr. Munro here at DHS,” noted Phillip A. McNamara, assistant secretary for intergovernmental affairs, “and we look forward to continuing our commitment to working with tribes and tribal governments to make our nation safe, secure and resilient.”

The DHS Office of Intergovernmental Affairs is the parent bureau of the DHS tribal desk, which is the designated contact point for tribal relations and consultation for DHS. Online, the tribal desk offers documents, resources and contact information of interest to tribes who wish to work with the DHS or other federal agencies at dhs.gov/tribal-desk.



Photo courtesy of U.S. DHS

David Munro of the Morongo Band of Mission Indians takes helm as the new director of tribal affairs for the Department of Homeland Security.

NCAI launches PSA video against NFL team name

By RICK SMITH

Respect. The word is never used in a new two-minute public service announcement (PSA) video commissioned by the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), but that’s the subtle yet unmistakable message conveyed in the work titled *Proud To Be*. In essence, the spot communicates what should be obvious to anyone — American Indians are human beings too, deserving of common courtesy and respect accordingly, including popular, multi-million dollar sports franchises.

Goodness Manufacturing, a six-year-old company based in Los Angeles, Calif., produced the video on behalf of the NCAI to help the case of changing the current name of the National Football League’s Washington, D.C., franchise, the Washington Redskins. It’s something the simple but eloquent work appears capable of doing without actually mentioning the offending moniker, and the final image in the production leaves no doubt about the issue involved. Further, the PSA draws attention to the website changethemascot.org, brought online late last year by the Oneida Indian Nation, headquartered in Verona, New York.

The spot opens with what appears to be a sunrise in Monument Valley, Ariz., while a sustained note from an acoustic guitar plays on the soundtrack.



Screenshot acquired by permission of the NCAI

It shifts through a short series of motion images as a deep bass voice over enunciates, “Proud. Forgotten. Indian.” The sustained guitar notes pause, replaced by melodious finger picking gently joined by a bass line accompanying brief still and motion images of a wide variety of Indian people past and present. “Navajo. Blackfoot. Inuit, and Sioux,” the voice over continues.

More images, “Survivor. Spiritualist. Patriot.” Images continue as the music tempo picks up and a vocal chorus joins in sounding like the wind in wires. Then come black and white, still images of famous individuals from life and legend, “Sitting Bull. Hiawatha, and Jim Thorpe.” Back to motion images in splendid colors, “Mother, father, son, daughter, chief.”

A drum slips in on the soundtrack as mixed imagery

continues, “Apache, Pueblo, Choctaw, Chippewa, and Crow.” Scenes of desolation, “Underserved. Struggling. Resilient.” More images of famous Indians, “Squanto. Red Cloud. Tecumseh, and Crazy Horse.” More colorful motion images of modern folks, “Rancher. Teacher. Doctor. Soldier.” Continuing, “Seminole. Seneca. Mohawk, and Creek.”

Still more black and white stills, “Mills. Will Rogers. Geronimo.” Back to color motion imagery, “Unyielding. Strong. Indomitable.”

A variety of images of Indian Country people continues, “Native Americans call themselves many things,” the music begins to slow. Then, more images flash in rapid succession and, as the music slows into silence, the voice says, “The one thing they don’t . . .” The frame

“Those who would like to see the work for themselves now and have access to the Internet may do so by logging on to YouTube and entering ‘Proud To Be’ in the search field.”

goes black momentarily, then one last image appears, a football helmet emblazoned with the logo of the National Football League’s Washington, D.C., franchise.

The final image fades to black and the web address changethemascot.org is shown as is a visual tag indicating the public service announcement was made in association with the NCAI.

Those who would like to see the work for themselves now and have access to the Internet may do so by logging on to YouTube and entering *Proud To Be* in the search field.

Melinda Warner, NCAI senior communications director, said while many favored the idea of airing the spot during the Super Bowl, a cost of \$18 million prohibited airing the two-minute spot as air time during the game sells for \$4.5 million for 30 seconds.

However, along with the placement on YouTube, the spot has

been picked up on the websites of the *Washington Post*, *Deadspin*, *CBS DC*, *Salon* and *Indian Country Today Media Network*. Warner said a growing number of other media outlets are showing interest in *Proud To Be*, but there is no certainty currently about how widespread the coverage will become.

While mounting pressure to change the name has been put on Dan Snyder, the owner of the Washington, D.C., NFL franchise, from many sources, including some members of Congress, media outlets and a coalition of over 200 organizations, Snyder has so far resisted any changes.

On the heels of the video’s release, the *Washington Business Journal* reports that the spot motivated Washington, D.C., councilman Marion Barry to call on Snyder via Twitter to change the name. Among several tweets, Barry noted in one, “It’s Super Bowl time. 4 Washington, we should reflect not on the loss of games, but our loss of honor. Dan, YOU CAN redeem it. Do what’s right.”

In another, Barry, an African-American tweets to Snyder, a Jewish American, “Dan, just as I hate the N word, & you hate the K word, they do NOT want 2 be slurred either. U can afford 2 do this. It will be your legacy.” The “K word” Barry referred to is kike, a derogatory term for a Jewish person.

Heat and energy assistance available through TrueNorth Community Services

Serving 61 Michigan counties with a focus on rural communities

FREMONT, Mich. — Heat and energy assistance is available to low-income families through emPower, a program of TrueNorth Community Services, a nonprofit agency providing focused services to primarily rural residents of Michigan.

The program's 61-county service area includes all 15 Upper Peninsula counties, plus 46 lower peninsula rural counties.

"The funds provided through emPower will make a significant

difference to those living in rural Michigan, especially with the various heating methods such as wood, fuel oil, and pellets," TrueNorth President and CEO Bev Cassidy said.

The agency is encouraging low-income residents to start the process now to receive heat and energy assistance before their utilities are turned off or run out of energy. Cassidy added, "As long as a household meet's emPower's requirements, we can

provide the help needed to keep their home heated, especially since many of our households have senior citizens and young children."

The requirements for TrueNorth's emPower program, include a past due notice or a shut-off notice on an energy bill, a fuel tank containing less than 25 percent of fuel, a below minimum balance on an account and within household income guidelines.

Along with the financial assistance, emPower will also provide additional supportive services.

"We have expanded our heat and energy services to include energy optimization and education, along with self-sufficiency programs which helps households reduce their bills," Cassidy said.

If you are interested in the emPower program, you can download an application, along with a service area map at <http://www.truenorthservices.org>.

Applications are also available at Department of Human Service offices, and other nonprofit agencies within each county. If you have any questions concerning the emPower program, call (855) 300-8013 or email awishka@tnempower.org.

You are also encouraged to visit www.michigan.gov/bewinterwise to find out more information on additional energy assistance opportunities available.

Marchand chairs Inter-Tribal Law Enforcement Committee

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Chief of Police Robert Marchand was recently appointed to a one-year term as chair of the Inter-Tribal Law Enforcement Committee.

The Law Enforcement Committee (LEC) was established under the 2000 consent decree for consultation and collaboration on enforcement issues under the decree. Part of the duties of the LEC include appointing one person from each tribe and the state to work with a mutual-aid enforcement team to engage in and schedule group patrols at least eight times a year.

The LEC also investigates and makes recommendations to the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) on improvements in marking and identification of fishing gear and equipment.

The LEC is also responsible for maintaining an information system allowing the sharing of patrol plans, activity records,

actions and other law enforcement information that is accessible in as close to real-time as possible to all authorized enforcement personnel. The agencies have all worked together to establish a common communications protocol as established by the decree.

The committee meets four times a year, in January, April, July and October and upon request of a committee member additional meetings can be scheduled.

Marchand said, "I am happy to be this year's LEC chair. It's great to work with such a diverse group of personal that are committed to not only law enforcement issues throughout the 1836 Treaty area, but the protection of our natural resources for future generations. Being able to sit down and discuss a variety of topics allows us to be able to better coordinate and share resources, training and information."

The 2000 consent decree, according to the MDNR is: "...an

agreement that governs allocation, management, and regulation of State and Tribal fisheries in the 1836 Treaty waters of the Great Lakes. It was signed in August of 2000 by Bay Mills Indian Community, Grand

Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the State of Michigan, and the United States

and will be in place through 2020."

The Sault Tribe Police Department is located on the tribe's reservation at 2175 Shunk Road in Sault Ste. Marie.

Three tribal VAWA pilot projects granted

BY RICK SMITH

Applications from three tribes of the western United States were granted for pilot projects to begin exercising law enforcement authority in domestic violence cases under the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013, or VAWA 2013.

The new law goes into effect on March 7, 2015, but it allows for voluntary pilot programs to go into effect as soon as Feb. 20 of this year so that certain tribes may begin exercising their sovereign powers to investigate, prosecute, convict and sentence both American Indians and non-Indians who assault Indian wives or dating partners, or who violate protection orders in Indian Country, according to the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ).

Tribes granted authorization for pilot projects are the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation of Oregon, Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona and the Tulalip Tribes of Washington, according to a Feb. 6 announcement from the DOJ.

Crimes not covered by the new law include crimes committed outside of Indian Country, crimes between people who have no tribal affiliation or between

two strangers, crimes committed by people lacking sufficient ties to tribes through residency or employment and child or elder abuse cases where protection orders are not involved.

Under the new law, a tribe must protect the rights of defendants under the Indian Civil Rights Act of 1968, the U.S. Constitution's Bill of Rights and the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010. The laws protect rights of due process and provisions for effective assistance of counsel for defendants; free, appointed, licensed attorneys for indigent defendants; law-trained tribal judges licensed to practice law; publicly available tribal criminal laws and rules; and recorded criminal proceedings. Further, juries will include non-Indians to contain a fair cross-section of the communities and inform detainees of their right to file federal habeas corpus petitions.

With the passage of VAWA 2013, Congress authorized up to \$25 million total for tribal grants in fiscal years 2014 to 2018, according to the DOJ, but the funds have yet to be appropriated. But the tribes can continue to apply for federal funding through the DOJ and other channels.

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Tribe receives federal funding for Sugar Island road repairs

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) recently approved the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians to receive up to \$820,000 in emergency relief funds to help the Chippewa County Road Commission repair Sugar Island roads damaged by flooding in the natural disaster last September.

Roads, driveways and culverts were washed out and homes were damaged due to a strong storm system that slowly moved through the area overnight dumping between four and six inches of rain in a four-hour time span. “I am so proud our tribal team was able to contribute onsite during the disaster,” Sault Tribe Board of Directors Chairperson Aaron Payment said. “In times of need, community comes together. I wish to acknowledge and thank Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and Emergency Preparedness, Chippewa County Sheriff’s Dept., Michigan State Police, Sugar Island Volunteer Fire Department, Chippewa County road crews, Chippewa County Road Commission, Kewadin Cares and everyone involved in helping out. I am grateful for our transportation planner Wendy Hoffman’s great skill and diligence in seeking out grant funds in these circumstances.”

After Sugar Island roads were damaged due to the flooding that occurred on Sept. 9, Sault Tribe requested emergency relief for

NCAI President Brian Cladoosby delivers 2014 State of Indian Nations Address

By RICK SMITH

Speaking before members of the U.S. Congress, fellow representatives of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), federal administration officials and others, NCAI President Brian Cladoosby delivered the 12th annual State of Indian Nations Address on Jan. 30, 2014, in Washington, D.C.

The event marked the first such address in the four-year term by the recently elected 21st NCAI president.

After the usual cordial greetings, salutations and introductory opening, Cladoosby said, “The aspirations of Native people and tribal governments are not unlike non-Native people and their governments. We all want good schools and sustainable employment, safe communities and new opportunities, drinkable water and breathable air. And like all people, what we want above all is a bright future for our children and grandchildren, a future of limitless possibilities. We can achieve these goals, if we work together.”

He spent some time on details of how some tribes are strengthening their cultures and improving living conditions and building economies and opportunities for their people and others as well.

Cladoosby also commented on recent events in the government halls of the nation’s capital and the excitement of Indian Country’s role as host of the coming United Nations World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

Further, he pointed out long-awaited positive initiatives of the which were implemented by the



Photo by Rick Smith

Sault Tribe representatives present a ceremonial check in the amount of \$820,000 from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to the Chippewa County Road Commission. The funding comes through the U.S. Department of Transportation Emergency Relief for Federally Owned Roads Program to repair damages to roads on Sugar Island, Mich., caused by heavy rains last September. Pictured, from left, Sault Tribe Police Chief Robert Marchand, tribal board Unit I Representative Dennis McKelvie, tribal board Chairman Aaron Payment, tribal transportation planner Wendy Hoffman, Chippewa County Road Commission Chairman Richard Timmer, tribal board Unit I Representative Jennifer McLeod and tribal emergency manager, Matthew Carpentier.

federally owned roads (ERFO) funds through the BIA-Midwest Regional Office. The tribe was able to apply because several of the damaged roads are on the tribe’s road inventory.

J. Eric Wright, ERFO coordinator with the Federal Highways Administration, confirmed that funding is forthcoming to assist

with repairs. Wright, BIA engineer Jeffrey Bradley, Chippewa County Road Commission Superintendent Bob Laitinen and Hoffman were on site in mid-October to assess the natural disaster. BIA engineers developed a repair plan with cost estimates for each road project. The tribe will continue to collaborate with

the road commission to complete identified upgrades and assist with costs.

The regional BIA office approved the ERFO funds after assessing the natural disaster. BIA engineers will develop a repair plan with cost estimates for each road project.

“I’m excited we received the funds to help the Sugar Island

residents and County Road Commission,” said Hoffman. “The residents really pulled together to help each other and the dedicated road crews and superintendents put in countless hours on-site to establish emergency access right after the flooding. Everyone involved worked diligently to restore full access to the roads.”

Obama administration and welcomed by Indian Country.

“Of course, there is much more work to be done,” he noted. “For too many Native communities, prosperity remains a distant dream. Yet, tribal leaders and advocates have never been more optimistic about the future of Native people.”

Cladoosby expressed delight over the development last June of a historic partnership between the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Native Contractors Association that, he said, “will catalyze small business development in Indian Country.”

He expounded about how the ability of Indian Country to contribute to the collective prosperity of the nation is threatened by the federal government’s failure to keep its promises. “You see, long ago, we ceded land to the United States,” the president said. “In exchange, the federal government became our trustee and promised three things: to provide funding for essential services and self-sustaining prosperity, to guard our right to govern ourselves on our remaining lands, and to help manage those lands and resources in our best interests. This is the basis of our government-to-government relationship.

Unfortunately, these trust and treaty obligations are often the first on the federal budget chopping block... and tribes are left scrambling to provide essential services. At the same time, federal tax law makes it difficult for tribal governments to raise our own revenue.”

He detailed examples of how the sequester adversely impacted

everything in Indian Country from tribal courts to road maintenance.

He called on Congress to uphold its obligations to tribes, reform outdated federal tax policy to treat tribal governments the same as state and local governments to enable tribes to provide services to their citizens. “Give us that power and we will invest our revenue well,” he said, “to help educate our children, to care for our elders and the disadvantaged.”

Focusing attention on the controversy of Indian mascots, Cladoosby said, “We want our young people to live proudly as First Americans, while also embracing, and being embraced by, non-Native America. That’s why the mockery of Native celebrations and dress in the name of sportsmanship is not just offensive, but insidious . . . because it asks us to accept the denigration of our heritage. It erodes our children’s sense of self. And that is simply unacceptable.”

He urged the federal government to evolve its policies to catch up to the realities of Indian Country. Indicating the federal government, including the U.S. Supreme Court can and has been an impediment to progress.

“The federal government must be an ally that promotes sovereignty instead of subordination,” Cladoosby noted. “An ally that fulfills its contracts instead of neglecting them. An ally that honors our trust instead of breaking it. An ally that encourages growth, because when tribes succeed, our neighbors and our nation succeed too.”

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Tribe's food program staff enlightens congressman

BY RICK SMITH

The director of the Sault Tribe Food Distribution Program based in Sault Ste. Marie, Tony Nertoli, and his staff recently hosted Congressman Dan Benishek at the program's Sault facility for a familiarization tour. Benishek represents Michigan's First District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Nertoli began working with Benishek's office some time ago regarding new program regulations for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations that went into effect last September. Benishek is on several House committees including a couple concerning Indian affairs and agriculture. Further, he has several tribes in his district. One of his aids believed Benishek and his constituents would benefit from becoming acquainted with commodity programs as a viable resource for tribal populations. He called Nertoli and asked if the congressman could pay a visit to the Sault Tribe operation. Benishek arrived on the clear but frigid morning of Jan. 21.

Some members of the tribe's board of directors were on hand for the visit. Unit I Representative Jennifer McLeod presented



Photos by Rick Smith

Congressman Dan Benishek recently toured the heart of the tribe's food distribution network. Above, he stands with most of the staff of the facility. Left, Benishek discusses matters with tribal officials.

Benishek with a handsome beaded bolo tie she made. The gift was created by McLeod as a response to a jest by Chairman Aaron Payment who, in a previous meeting with the congressman some time ago, suggested to Benishek that McLeod could make such an item for him. Payment was also on hand for the congressman's visit, and he provided Benishek with a variety of information about the tribe. Other members of the board on hand were Unit I representatives Debra Ann Pine and DJ Malloy along with Unit III Representative

Bridgett Sorenson.

Nertoli gave Benishek a general overview of the operation from working in concert with federal agencies, including the Department of Defense, in procuring foods to distributing them over a 15-county area in addition to giving him highlights on the program's nutrition and food preservation education services. He later led the congressman on a tour of the facility. At times, Benishek seemed quite surprised about some of the facts and details he learned. The program's certification supervisor, Carmen



Wagner, briefed Benishek on the process of how members of the tribe qualify and apply for the program's services. The warehouse supervisor, Arlene King, spoke with the congressman about the operation's provisions and functions.

Afterwards, everyone was invited to enjoy snacks set out which were prepared in the facility's kitchen wholly from ingredients carried by the program.

"I didn't know these kinds of things existed," Benishek said between bites of apple betty, "this is amazing." Asked what most

impressed him about the program, Benishek replied, "It's so well organized." Overall, Benishek indicated he found the visit very enlightening. Another example, "I thought all your members were only in the eastern Upper Peninsula," he said.

For the tribal officials, the visit afforded an opportunity to impress upon the Republican representative about the necessity and value of such programs, especially among Indians in the state. Republicans are notorious for their dim views on relief programs — at least for the poor.

LSSU hosts Anishinaabe author Jim Northrup visit

BY RICK SMITH

Multiple award winning Anishinaabe author Jim Northrup hails from the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Reservation in northeast Minnesota. He recently appeared at Lake Superior State University as part of the university's new Visiting Writer Series, which brings acclaimed authors to the campus so area residents may have exposure to a variety of literary experiences and become more aware of the school's Creative Writing Program.

Northrup conducted a master writing class on the afternoon of Feb. 3 at the Cisler Center on the LSSU campus. Later in the evening, he read some of his works and told jokes to a full room just prior to a reception in honor of the prolific writer.

Books by Northrup include the autobiographical works *Walking the Rez Road* originally published in 1993, *Rez Road Follies: Canoes, Casinos, Computers and Birch Bark Baskets* released in 1997, *Anishinaabe Syndicated*, *A View From the Rez* came out in 2011, and the more recent *Rez Salute*. He has also written three plays, *Rez Road 2000*, *Rez Road Follies* and *Shinnob Jep*. His poetry and prose have been included in numerous anthologies. In addition, he writes a regular syndicated column, the *Fond du Lac Follies*, carried by American Indian newspapers and other media outlets.

In addition to writing, the author is also busy in academic circles making appearances for speaking engagements, judging literature competitions and mentoring. In his spare time, Northrup lives a life infused with the ways of his ancient ancestors. Among those ways, he continues to har-



Jim Northrup at LSSU.

vest wild rice, something he has been doing for over 50 years, and produces maple syrup.

Here's a caveat about Northrup, where some folks might find his ideas and works a bit frightening or even offensive, others are going to strongly relate and rejoice in finding a kindred spirit. For example, he respectfully declines to carry the Euro-Christian baggage brought to his ancestral lands so long ago, even when it comes to the more popular parcels found in that baggage, such as Christmas.

"I believe Christmas is used as an assimilation tool," he wrote in a recent *Fond du Lac Follies* column. "Christmas is used to make us forget we are Anishinaabe and turn us into brown-skinned American consumers. It seems to have worked quite well. Instead of saying or writing Christmas I shall use the word Assimilation."

He might not be for everyone, but no doubt some would take to him like a loon takes to water.

Still, it seems most folks would appreciate the dry and sharp sense of humor found in even the darkest of his works. Those who read Northrup's works will find he has a talent for pro-

ducing humor, especially in dark situations. Sometimes one can't be sure whether a passage is actually humor or an honest portrayal of the humanity in a given scenario.

Then, too, there are times when the dark places which he

takes you just become murkier, as in the haunting last line of his poem of a combat incident titled *My Grandma's Hair*.

Northrup is a veteran of a reform school, a Wesleyan boarding school and the U.S. Marine Corps. His introduction to writ-

ing and publishing developed at the boarding school. Soon after he graduated from high school, he joined the Marine Corps and served in Vietnam during the mid 1960s. He also goes by the Anishinaabe name of Chibenashi (Big Little Bird).

Open Enrollment

Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School 2014-2015 School Year Open Enrollment & Lottery Information



Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is a public school academy where all students attend free of charge. Open enrollment for the 2014-2015 School Year begins on March 5, 2014, and ends at 4:00 p.m. (EST) on March 19, 2014, with evening hours from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 6.

Only those who complete and turn in an enrollment application during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery. The lottery will be held in the school cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, March 21, 2014 for those wishing to attend. **Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.**

Applications may be picked up from the school office or from the school web site at www.jklschool.org beginning March 5, 2014.

Those selected from the lottery will be eligible to attend the 2014-2015 school year provided they respond within 3 school days of notification. If the deadline is not met, those children will be dropped from next year's roster and the next name on the waiting list will be accepted.

Kindergarten Open Enrollment



Joseph K. Lumsden
Bahweting Anishnabe School

Kindergarten Roundup for 2014-2015 School Year

Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is a public school academy where all students attend free of charge. Open enrollment for the 2014-2015 School Year begins on March 5, 2014, and ends at 4:00 p.m. (EST) on March 19, 2014, with evening hours from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 6. Applications may be picked up from the school office or from the school web site at www.jklschool.org beginning March 5, 2014.

Only those who complete and turn in an enrollment application during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery. The lottery will be held in the school cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, March 21, 2014, for those wishing to attend. Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.

The parents of those children selected from the lottery will be notified by phone to set up the appointment for Round Up. The dates of Kindergarten Round Up are set for April 16 and 17.



Laakso accepts ACFS caseworker post

By BRENDA AUSTIN

Lindsey Laakso knows what it's like to stand before a judge and present a case for her clients, often charged with neglect and abuse of a minor. Now she is offering her expertise and help from another direction, as a caseworker for the tribe's Anishinabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) program.

Laakso is a Sault Tribe member and lifelong resident of Ishpeming until moving to the Sault to begin her new year with a new job on Jan. 2.

She holds an undergraduate degree from Northern Michigan University in criminal justice, graduating from there in 2006. Then, pursuing a law degree, she graduated in 2012 from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Grand Rapids

She is a licensed attorney and practiced law in Marquette County for a little under a year, mostly representing clients in family court, probate court and in criminal proceedings. "I'm about helping people. I care about kids and families and felt that by taking this job with ACFS I could be more hands on, proactive, and helpful to tribal members."

Laakso will be working to provide tribal families involved with ACFS services such as facilitating employment opportunities, helping clients find housing and other



Lindsey Laakso

necessities such as gas cards to meet more immediate needs.

The 30-year old former attorney turned caseworker has a younger sister, Kaylee, who is currently serving in the U.S. Army, and her parents are Bruce and Marijane Laakso of Ishpeming. Still getting her feet settled under her in her new home, Laakso said she enjoys traveling, reading a good book, watching and participating in sports and an occasional movie.

Smithsonian studies Indian depictions in post office murals

By RICK SMITH

The Smithsonian Institution is seeking to set the record straight on the accuracy in portrayals of American Indians in about 400 of 1,600 post office murals in 48 states originally commissioned during the five-year New Deal era of the 1930s. Essentially, the New Deal involved many programs enacted by Congress or by executive orders of then President Franklin D. Roosevelt to provide relief from widespread poverty, aid economic recovery and reform financial standards in the wake of the Great Depression.

The project, titled *Indians at the Post Office: Native Themes in New Deal Era Murals*, is a collaboration between the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and National Postal Museum along with the United States Postal Service.

According to Sandra Starr, senior researcher at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian and the project's leader, the murals were part of efforts to create employment through public art. However, most of the artists were unfamiliar with the regional and indigenous people's histories of their assigned post offices. Further, the artists were largely influenced by local opinions.

Consequently, as far as serving as visual stories, some murals succeeded in capturing appropriate images of regional Indians while others were wholly inaccurate or even bizarre.

The long-term goal of the project is to evaluate all 400 murals for accuracy from a contemporary standpoint, and critique each on their historic depictions in preparation for a virtual exhibition on the Smithsonian National Postal Museum website.

Launching with the documentation of 27 murals, work will continue on the remaining 370 with periodic displays on the website as the project progresses.

"Our focus is to have all of the future mural research essays written by American Indians, particularly from the areas and cultures depicted," Starr noted on the website of the National Museum of the American Indian. "Collaboration with tribal and state college faculties and students from the various regions is contemplated in order to address the over-300 murals left to be interpreted and commented upon."

Those interested in seeing the mural exhibits and reading about them online or becoming involved should visit nmai.si.edu, open *Indians at the Post Office*.

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Schedule: A-I : Tuesday, March 11 J-R: Wednesday, March 12 S-Z: Thursday, March 13	Please bring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child • Official birth certificate • Immunization Record • Social Security No.
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Kindergarten Roundup
SAULT STE. MARIE AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
March 11-13

Semi-annual reports presented to board of directors

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The tribe's semi-annual program updates to the board of directors began Jan. 22 in an open workshop and will continue on a scheduled basis until completed. The updates include 32 departments, membership and internal services and programs.

TRIBAL ENROLLMENT

Tribal Registrar Julie Salo with the Sault Tribe Enrollment Department gave the first update; her staff includes Enrollment Coordinator Melissa Morehouse and Enrollment Clerk Carrie Sayles.

Salo gave the BOD a breakdown of services provided by the department, the number of members receiving those services and the department's revenues. She also informed the BODs the tribe's total membership is now 41,422 people.

Because the reports are semi-annual reports, the first number after each category is for the quarter from Oct. 1 – Dec. 31, 2013, and the following number is for the entire year. Address changes for the quarter totaled 1,480, and for the year 6,475. Blood quantum certifications 45 and 226; card renewals 896 and 4,427; card replacements 152 and 680; reviewed files 120 and 774; copy of file 5 and 56; tuition waiver certifications 32 and 170; new registered voters 452 and 1,686; new enrollments 190 and 823; relinquishments 3 and 11;

and disenrollments 2 and 7.

Total revenues collected from services for the quarter were \$7,690 and total revenue as of Dec. 31, 2013 was \$35,970.

Fees for certain services were implemented in 2008 and include: blood quantum certifications \$15; tuition waiver processing \$15; membership card renewal \$5; card replacement \$20; and to have a file copied is \$5.

During Salo's presentation to the BOD there was some discussion about changing the \$20 card replacement fee to \$5 for elders who have a card with a worn out magnetic strip on the back after they have had it for the entire four-year renewal period. Elders would be required to bring or send in their old card with the bad magnetic strip for a reduced replacement charge. Salo is going to present the suggestion to the Enrollment committee for their review and vote.

There was also discussion about members illegally using another member's card to receive benefits and it was brought to the board's attention that a helper's card for handicapped or disabled members would be beneficial. This would allow a person designated as a helper to use the handicapped or disabled tribal member's card in their place for discounts on gas and cigarettes.

TRIBAL COURT

Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry of the Chippewa Tribal Court pre-

sented to the BOD for her department.

Tribal Court was established as a trial-level court by a BOD resolution in 1979. According to Chapter 80 in the tribal code, the court should consist of one chief judge and associate judges as appointed by the BOD, a magistrate, clerk of court and jurisdiction as provided by tribal code. And Chapter 82: Appeals, provides for five appellate judges and reserves as appointed by the BOD to four-year terms, with one appointed as chief appellate judge along with one elder, two community members and two attorneys.

Tribal Court staff includes: Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry, Court Administrator/Magistrate Traci Swan, Court Clerk Jennifer Gurnoe, Receptionist Rachel Shreve, Specialty Court Coordinator Pat McKelvie, Probation Officer Brienne Abramson, Probation officer Steve Ewing, STEP Coordinator Amanda Gil, Field Surveillance Officer James Causley and Clinical Social Worker Christina Burlak.

Fabry said there were 91 court cases filed in 1993 and in 2014 there were 832. The court's jurisdiction covers all of the tribe's trust lands, the 1836 Treaty area for conservation matters, and tribal children wherever they may be in the U.S. Tribal court doesn't provide a "service," per se, but is a function of a sovereign govern-

ment.

Tribal Court filings for 2013 included: six adoptions, one barring, 327 conservation, nine civil contempt, 16 civil infraction, 119 criminal, 17 juvenile delinquency, 55 garnishment, 50 child welfare, 53 enforcement of foreign judgment, one adult guardianship, six minor guardianships, three general civil, 101 landlord/tenant, seven PPOs, 58 traffic, and one worker's compensation – for a total (trial level) of 829 filings. There were a total of three appeals heard.

Some highlights of 2013 identified by Fabry include launching the Family Preservation Court, implementing GPS tethers and probationers performing 2,686 hours of community service work. There were three graduates from the Gwaiak Miicon Drug Court and the first Road to Recovery Relay was held in March. Other highlights include a successful Recovery Walk in September and the delivery of eight Thanksgiving baskets that were distributed to Drug Court and Family Preservation Court participants in November.

Tribal Court was the recipient of two new grants in 2013 and three ongoing grants from previous years, totaling \$1.83 million.

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT SCHEDULE

As of press time, the following departments are scheduled to present their semi-annual

reviews to the BODs: March 5, at 10 a.m., WIA Employment; 10:30 a.m., Education – Early; and at 11 a.m., Education – YEA/GED/HED. March 19, at 10 a.m., Environmental; 10:30 a.m., Inland; 11 a.m., Fisheries. April 2, at 10 a.m., Property Development; 10:30 a.m., Elder; and 11 a.m., ACFS. April 16, 10 a.m., Health.

Enrollment Services —

If you are moving and need to change your address, if you are enrolling your minor child, if you need a new tribal card — then Enrollment is the place for you.

STAFF — Julie Yacuone, tribal registrar, jyacuone@saulttribe.net.

Melissa Morehouse, enrollment coordinator, mmorehouse@saulttribe.net.

Carrie Sayles, enrollment clerk, csayles1@saulttribe.net. (906) 632-8552 632-1648 (Fax)

FEES —
 — Expired card renewal: \$5
 — Unexpired card replacement: \$20
 — Tuition waiver certification: \$15
 — Blood quantum certification: \$15
 — Copy of file documentation: \$5

TOURNAMENTS

\$15,000 Spin to Win
Kewadin St. Ignace
February 21-23, 2014

\$22,500 Mega Bingo
Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
February 22, 2014

\$30,000 Blackjack
Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
March 7-9, 2014

\$15,000 Video Poker
Kewadin St. Ignace
March 21-23, 2014

\$15,000 Keno
Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
March 21-23, 2014

\$22,500 Mega Bingo
Kewadin St. Ignace
April 26, 2014

Midnight Madness - St. Ignace
TUESDAYS

• Registration at the Gaming Pit 10 p.m.
• Tournament begins at 12 a.m.

Kewadin Party Pits

Kewadin St. Ignace & Christmas
1st & 3rd Tuesday of the Month 7-11 p.m.
Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
2nd & 4th Tuesday of the Month 7-11 p.m.
Prizes • Match Play • Kewadin Credits

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OVER \$120,000
in CASH & CREDITS!
 Earn Entries Now through
GRAND PRIZE NIGHT
March 1st 2014!

See Northern Rewards Club or kewadin.com for official rules.

ENTERTAINMENT



TRISHA
YEARWOOD

SUNDAY
MARCH 2, 7:00 p.m.
\$72.50 & \$62.50

SAULT STE. MARIE
KEWADIN CASINOS
DREAMMAKERS
THEATER



EVENTS

Spring Fever Celebration
Cash and Credits PLUS...
Win a Side-by-Side ATV!

ALL FIVE KEWADIN SITES
Earn Entries: March 10 – May 3, 2014
Grand Prize Night: May 3, 2014

EXTRA 10 BONUS ENTRY DAYS:
TUESDAYS!

FEVER PRE PARTY!
April 12, 2014

SPRING FEVER CELEBRATION!
May 3, 2014 from 6 – 11 p.m. with credit and cash draws throughout the night and grand prize draw at each casino at 11:15 p.m.

WE GOT THE FEVER!

Keys & Credits Monday

St. Ignace, Christmas, Hessel, Manistique

Every Monday: 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Your Chance to Win a Car!
PLUS ... Win Your Share of Over
\$2,500 in Kewadin Credits!

For details and official rules see kewadin.com.

Fantastic Friday Social

All Kewadin Sites

Every Friday from 4-10 p.m.

• Random draws on slots and 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.

MANISTIQUE-ST.IGNACE-HESSEL-SAULT STE. MARIE-CHRISTMAS

Ditmer accepts post as institutional researcher

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Sault Tribe recently hired Renae D. Ditmer, Ph.D., to fill the position of institutional researcher with the Planning and Development Division.

Under the direction of Membership/Internal Services Executive Director Christine McPherson, Ditmer is responsible for providing comprehensive research and analysis for all aspects of planning and development.

Ditmer, who is a Sault Tribe member, holds a BA in Linguistics and Pre-Med from the University of Michigan, an MA from Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Strategic Studies and International Economics, and a Ph.D. from Georgetown University in Government and International Relations.

Ditmer has 19 years experience working in national and international government, private and non-governmental/international organization sectors. She is an expert in business development and management, program and project management, risk management, and all source research and analysis in complex, high visibility, high threat international operational and political environments.

She is a highly experienced principal investigator, and fluent in the design, leadership, and execution of complex projects from concept to completion, with experience in the management of international, interdisciplinary research teams comprised of senior scientists and subject matter experts from both the government and private sectors.

Ditmer has lived, taught, and briefed around the world on various topics related to her expertise and interests. Her civic duties have included city planning and zoning; her professional and commercial interests have been largely centered on the development, operationalization, and commercialization of innovative biotechnology.

Ditmer began her professional career working for the Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld for the Comptroller, Dov Zakheim, the Undersecretary of the Budget.

From there, due to her extensive background in chemistry and biology, she was brought on board to work for the United States Air Force, the lead department for bio-defense following the Amerithrax letters, to be a part of the original bio-defense.

Then in 2007, Ditmer became the founder, president and CEO of STRATCON LLC, a Native-owned, woman-owned, Virginia-based small business specializing in independent research and the application of decision science to manage risk in complex governmental and commercial operational environments.

Since that time she has become the owner and managing partner of two other venture companies, Icarian Associates, which produces an application for accessing medical information from anywhere in the world; and GlobalLyz, a Colombian-based corporation commercializing the use of bacteriophages for the treatment of antibiotic-resistant bacterial infections in humans, plants, and animals, as well as bacterial contamination in facilities.

When asked how she felt about coming to the Sault, Ditmer said she had a sense of great peace in returning to her origins. The adopted daughter



Renae Ditmer

of a couple from the Lansing area, Ditmer's birthparents were originally from Sault Ste. Marie. "When my precious adoptive father died, he handed me all my adoption paperwork, which had my original birth certificate attached to it, and told me to go find them and tell them what a blessing I had been to them. It took me a long time to get to that point, but I was able to connect with both biological families after several years of looking. Although my birth mother is still alive, my birth father died about 30 years ago and I now have a good and growing relationship with his family. Both my adop-

tive mother and birth mother were thrilled when I accepted this position, both telling me that I belong here," she said. "This gave me an enormous sense of 'this is where I should go, this is where my path is leading, so I came.'"

"Pleasantly surprised" is how she described her new colleagues and welcome to the Sault. "Washington is very dog eat dog and you have to really work to get your neighbors to interact with you. Here people are friendly and are in more of a survival mode, nobody is going to leave you at the side of the road."

In addition to participating in high-level meetings with program directors, she is also working to support tribal grants, doing data

collection and management, and developing a centralized archive for tribal data and history.

"Institutional researchers are experts in methodology and in all source research, meaning we are experts at hunting down data, analyzing it, and the figuring out how best to use it," she said. "If my current 'to do' list is any indication, there is plenty of interesting and challenging work to do here. My goal is to always make a contribution wherever I go, and that is my hope here as well."

In her downtime, Ditmer is an amateur photographer, is in the process of writing several children's books and enjoys water sports of all kinds. She has three adult children and one grandchild, and resides in Kincheloe.

A1C Austin graduates



Photo by SSgt Jamie Devault

A1C Travis Austin graduated from RF Transmission Systems tech school at Keesler AFB in Biloxi, Miss. on Feb. 10, 2014. Michael S. Pearson, SSgt, USAF Instructor, pinned Austin during graduation. He will be stationed in Turkey for the next 15 months and from there he will spend two years in Italy. Congratulations Travis!

Butzin transferring to base in South Korea

SUBMITTED BY SHERRI O'CROTTY

E-5 Timothy Roy Butzin, a career military man, is being deployed to South Korea in February of 2014. He is the son of Sherri O'Crotty, a Sault Tribe member of Brimley, and Robert Butzin, a retired Grayling police officer, and is currently stationed at Fort Carson, Colo.

Butzin served four years with the Marine Corps, three years in the Coast Guard, five years in the Navy Reserve and currently has five years in the Army. He served in Kuwait and Iraq as a multi-channel transmissions systems operator, which translates as keeping our satellites in good working order. He also served



eight years as a corrections officer in Michigan.

Butzin is married to Danelle Canfield Butzin of Grayling and they have three daughters, Katelyn, 12, Abigail, 8, and Maddison, 3.

Reduce your risk for heart disease

FROM DIABETES PROGRAM STAFF

People who suffer from diabetes are at higher risk for having heart disease, but many risk factors for heart disease can be prevented or controlled.

Talk to your physician about heart disease

Share your health history, get your blood pressure, A1C and cholesterol checked. Ask if taking an aspirin each day is right for you.

Control your blood pressure and cholesterol

High blood pressure is one of the leading causes of heart disease. If your blood pressure is high or cholesterol is high, take steps to lower it. Take small steps to eat more healthful foods and get more exercise.

Eat healthful foods

What you eat has a big impact

on your heart health. When planning your meals and snacks, try to eat lots of fresh fruits and vegetables. Check labels on your food and choose those with the lowest sodium, too much sodium can increase your blood pressure. Limit foods with high amounts of saturated fats, trans fat and cholesterol. Cook at home more often. Limit sauces, mixes and "instant" products.

Get moving

Obesity can increase your risk for heart disease and stroke. Physical activity on most days of the week will help keep you at a healthy weight and will help lower high blood pressure and high cholesterol. Try to walk at least 30 minutes on most days of the week. For example, you could take a brisk 10-minute walk, three times a day, five days

a week.

Only use tobacco in traditional ways

If you smoke or chew, get help to quit. If you don't smoke or chew, don't start. Try to avoid secondhand smoke.

Remember your ABCS

An easy way to remember how to reduce your risk for heart disease is to remember "ABCS." ABCS: A1C less than 7.0, Blood pressure control, Cholesterol management and Smoking/chewing cessation.

Please contact Sault Tribe Community Health, Nutrition or Diabetes programs if you need more information or would like to be a part of the Healthy Heart Initiative. We can be reached at (906) 632-5210.

Adapted from Indian Health Service, www.ihs.gov.

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Schmidt decorates Dream Catchers in I-500 style



Dream Catchers Restaurant server, Tiffany Schmidt, was excited for the I-500 and it showed.



The restaurant at Kewadin Sault sported Tiffany Schmidt's handwork from collage boards and snowmobile flags to hand drawn snowmobile jokes and pictures. She thought of everything to bring the spirit of Michigan's premier winter sporting event into Kewadin's restaurant. "The race brings so many people into the area, it's a great event. We're always busy during that time," she said.

Beaune is Sault Kewadin Team Member of the Month



Congratulations to Tina Beaune, hotel front desk clerk and Sault Team Member of the Month! Tina started working with Kewadin in 2002 as a slot attendant and transferred to the hotel front desk in 2004. She was born in St. Ignace and has three children, Alysha, Elizabeth and James. "Meeting new people and getting to see all of our regular customers is the most rewarding part of my job," she said. "I never expected this and I really appreciate it!" And we appreciate you, Tina! Nice work!

McKerchie and Farley are Kewadin Casino team members of the month

Christina McKerchie, group tours sales coordinator, was recently named Kewadin Sault's Team Member of the Month. She started working for Kewadin Casinos in 1999 and prior to working in group tours, she was a front desk clerk and supervisor. Christina is from Bruce Mines, Ont., and relocated to work at Kewadin so she could be more involved with the tribe.

"It's nice to be appreciated for something you enjoy doing," she said after receiving her award. She said the most rewarding part of her job is when she's able to help guests or team members.

Christina is married to Michael McKerchie and has three children.

Congratulations! And we send congratulations to Keith Farley, Manistique secu-

rity supervisor and team member of the month. He started working with Kewadin in September of 2001, hails from Garden and has two children.

"It feels good to be recognized," said Keith after receiving his award. "I enjoy my job making sure the customers are having a good time and that they are safe."

Congratulations, Keith!

Askwith honored by EUP United Way



Photo courtesy of United Way of the EUP

Sault Tribe member Susan Askwith was recently recognized as the Individual of the Month by the United Way of the EUP for her volunteerism. She was nominated by the Hearthside Assisted Living Facility where she visits residents on a regular basis to tell stories, share her musical talents and assist with whatever is needed. Pictured, from left, Susan Askwith with Stephen Carey of the United Way of the EUP.



Kewadin Casino's Carol Eavou and Tony Goetz congratulate Christina McKerchie.



Keith Farley, Manistique security supervisor and Team Member of the Month. He started working with Kewadin in September of 2001, hails from Garden and has two children. Lisa Fisher (right) congratulates Farley.



Radon is leading cause of lung cancer in non-smokers

By **BRENDA AUSTIN**

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that you can't see, taste or smell. It comes from the breakdown of uranium, which is commonly found in soil worldwide. When radon decays, it produces microscopic solid particles that attach themselves to lung tissue when inhaled. If you live or work in an indoor environment with elevated radon levels, you have an increased risk of developing lung cancer.

Radon is also the second leading cause of lung cancer deaths among smokers. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), there are 21,000 radon-related lung cancer deaths each year.

The state of Michigan, on average, has a low potential for elevated radon levels. However, there are commercial buildings and homes across the state that tested high for radon. The EPA and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) are encouraging people across the country and throughout Michigan to have their homes and businesses checked. Test kits are simple to use, easy to acquire and inexpensive – and are sometimes offered free.

Indoor radon specialist with the MDEQ, Leslie Smith, III, said, "The MDEQ distributes radon test kits throughout Michigan to county health departments and eight tribal com-

Through with Chew Week

FROM COMMUNITY HEALTH STAFF

Through with Chew Week is right around the corner. This annual health campaign takes place Feb. 16-22, with the *Great American Spit Out* on Thursday, Feb. 20. The goal of *Through with Chew Week* is to increase awareness about the health dangers of chewing tobacco, the myths surrounding these products and to encourage people who use them to quit.

A survey from Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth conducted in 2011-12 in Luce, Chippewa and Mackinac counties showed that 9.9 percent of high school students have used chewing tobacco in the past 30 days.

Smokeless tobacco is very addictive and can contain three to five times the amount of nicotine as one cigarette. Ten dips a day equals the same amount of nicotine a smoker gets in 30-40 cigarettes a day. Chewing tobacco contains at least 28 carcinogens, which are cancer causing agents.

Possible long term effects are cancer of the lips, tongue, floor of mouth, cheeks, gums, throat and voice box/esophagus, tooth loss and receding gums. Smokeless tobacco has also been associated with cardiovascular disease, strokes, stomach cancer and pancreatic cancers.

For information on the Nicotine Dependence Program, call Sault Tribe Community Health at (906) 632-5210, or for *Through with Chew Week*, go to www.throughwithchew.com.

munities that also participate, including the Sault Tribe." He said the Chippewa County Health Department charges \$14 for a test kit.

Smith said a number of test kits were distributed by the Sault Tribe between 2001 and 2012 across the U.P. and 270 were returned for analysis. Of the 270 that were returned and analyzed, the highest level was 18.9 and the lowest 0.3, which is close to what the ambient outdoor radon level is. "About 17 of those test kits out of the 270, or about six percent of the kits, returned results that were greater than or equal to the 4.0 Pico Curies per Liter (pCi/L), which is the EPA action level for fixing a home," he said. "Even in counties that have a low potential for radon, you will still have homes that test elevated above the action level."

Smith said data from almost 150,000 test results from across the state show that Marquette

on average is around 5.5 pCi/L, which is above the recommended action level of 4. He said Dickinson and Iron counties, on average, are also at 5.5 pCi/L. Chippewa County runs around 1.9, which is a lower potential – but that doesn't mean there haven't been any test results above that number. Schoolcraft County averages 1.5, Luce County about 1.2, Mackinac 2.9, Alger 3.3 and Delta County 2.2 pCi/L.

"To test for radon it's recommended you use a short term test first to gage what is happening in the home or office. Then based on the information from the initial test, that will determine what the relative risk is and if additional testing is recommended," he said. A short-term test takes three to seven days, and the long-term test takes 90 days to one year. "Radon levels fluctuate daily and with changes in seasons and weather conditions," Smith said.

"The short-term test is a snapshot in time over a three to seven day period. It may be running high at that particular time, but there may be other times when it's running low. If you do a long-term test, it will take into account the seasonal and daily fluctuations. If over the course of 90 days to a year the radon levels come back at a 2 or 3, you know the risk is relatively low."

Smith recommends that if your radon levels are low on your initial testing, that you retest every three to five years to make sure they haven't changed. As homes continue to age and shift and develop cracks in the foundation or slab, these are new entryways for radon gas. If you are planning an addition or building a new foundation, he recommends following up with a test. And if a mitigation system was installed in your home due to high radon levels, it is recommended a test be performed every two years to

make sure the radon reduction system is operating correctly.

Radon reduction systems in Michigan generally cost between \$600 and \$1,500 to have installed.

Smith said he has a Citizens Guide to Radon, a children's storybook written by a tribal community about radon, and a consumers guide to radon reduction all free of charge for anyone interested.

If you are going to build a new home, there are radon-resistant construction techniques that home builders can use to prevent this health hazard. More information on how to test, find a qualified radon professional, obtain a test kit or contact your state radon office is available at <http://www.epa.gov/radon> or by calling 1-800-SOS-RADON. Less Smith with the MDEQ can also be contacted by call toll free: (800) 723-6642 or by email at: SmithL9@michigan.gov.



Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare")

Enrollment Event

St. Ignace Kewadin Shores Casino

Thursday, February 20, 2014

9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Call 906-643-8585 to schedule an appointment
Walk-ins welcome

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA)-also known as health care reform, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) or "Obamacare"-is changing health care for EVERYONE.

You can now find a quality health insurance plan that fits your needs and your budget, if no affordable employer-sponsored plan is available to you. Under this law:

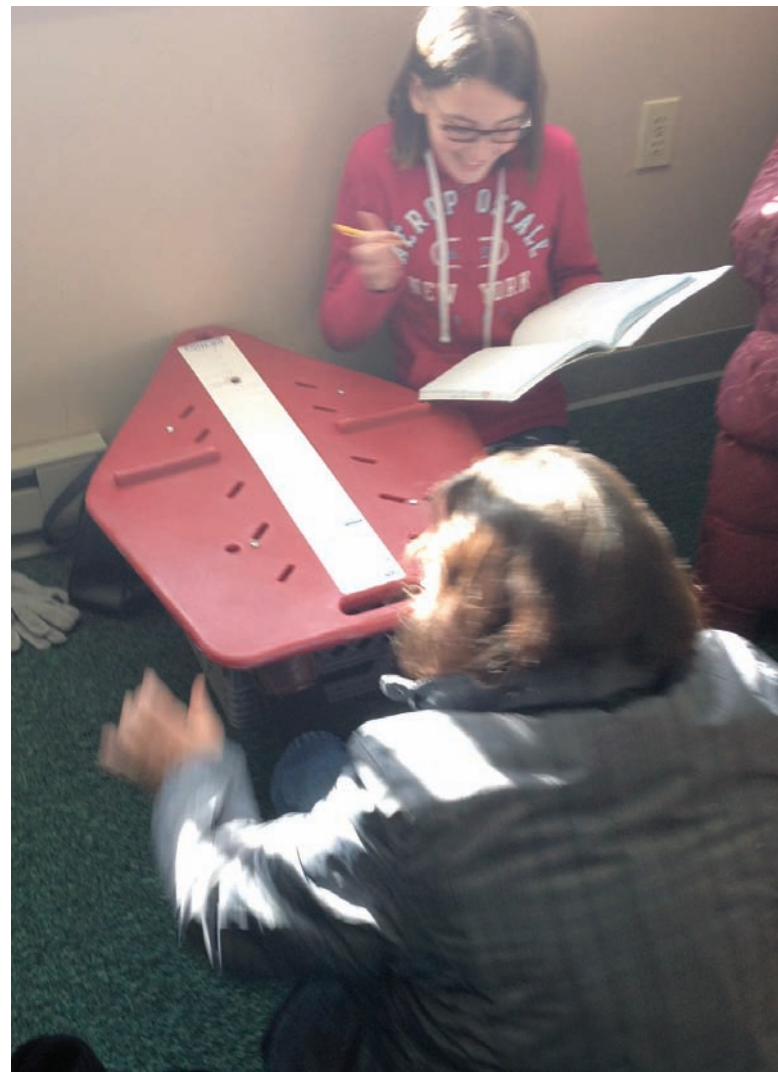
- All plans must cover the care you need, including doctor visits, hospital stays, preventive care, prescriptions, and more.
- Low-cost and free plans are available and financial help is available based on how much money you earn.
- No one can be denied coverage because they have a pre-existing condition.
- There is no sales pitch or fine print, just side-by-side comparisons of each plan.



Committed To Giving You Our Very Best

Elders help seventh grader with school project

Jenna Homminga, seventh grade JKL Anishnaabe Grant School student, visited the Sault Tribe Elder Center seeking the elders' help with collecting data for her science fair project. Jenna's project is titled, *Flexibility and Age*, and involves testing a sample population of varying age groups in the sit and reach test. The sit and reach test is often used in gym classes and other fitness testing settings to test the flexibility of hamstrings and lower back muscles. The elders were happy to help and enjoyed rooting each other on while they were testing. They told Jenna the biggest challenge was getting up off the floor.



Jenna Homminga, a seventh grader at JKL, enlisted the help of local elders for her science fair project.



Elders Heating Program opens

FROM DIRECT ASSISTANCE STAFF

Anishnabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) opened its Elders Heating Program on Jan. 1, 2014.

The program will run until funds are exhausted or Dec. 31, 2014.

If eligible, this program will provide a \$500 credit directly to a tribal member's heating

vendor.

For eligibility, applicants must be Sault Tribe members aged 60 or older who live in the tribe's service area with a household income at or below 200 percent of federal poverty level.

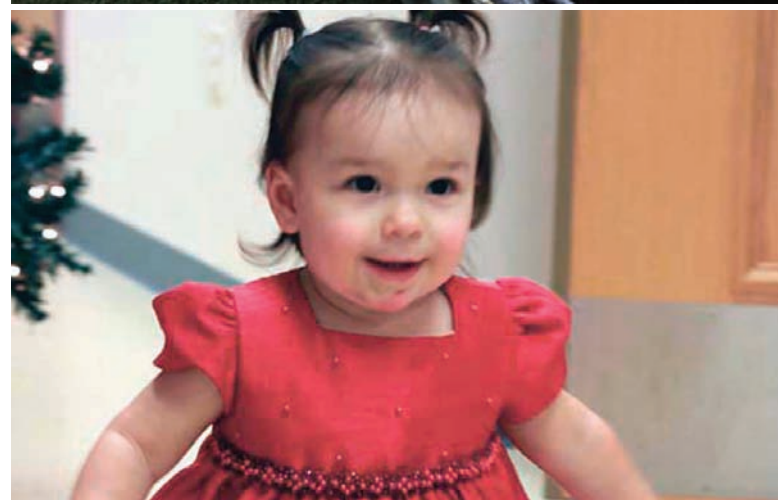
Please note, households may not receive help from the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program assistance and the Elders Heating Program

in the same fiscal year.

Elders Heating Assistance applications are available at any ACFS office by mail or by calling 632-5250 or toll free (800) 726-0093 or visit online at <http://www.saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/acfsdirectservices/68-membership-services/acfs/acfs-direct-services/86-elder-heating-assistance>.



Munising's children's Christmas party and dinner.



Baby Ruby at the Munising children's Christmas party.

Munising elders dinner and Christmas party



A few Munising elders relax at their annual Christmas dinner.



OPEN HOUSE

Each One Story Newly Remodeled Home Consists Of

- 3 Bedrooms
- 1 Bath
- Appliances
- Immediate Occupancy

Sold As Is



Sault Tribe Housing Authority is having an Open House.
Thursday, March 13th, 2014
1:00—4:00 p.m. & 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
 Also available by appointment
 March 14th - March 24th, 2014



1973 JK Lumsden Way
Asking Price \$ 54,450.00



1801 JK Lumsden Way
Asking Price \$53,550.00

Must be
Income eligible
** Meet requirements to Hold Land Lease **
** Be able to Secure Conventional Financing**
30 days to submit sealed offer

Need more information
 contact a
Homeownership Specialist
 Dana Pippo or Annie Thibert
 with the
Sault Tribe Housing Authority
 906-495-1450 or 1-800-794-4072



An excited young man visits with Santa.



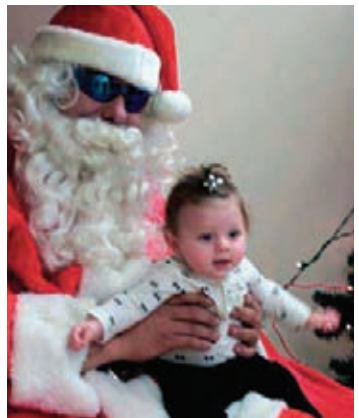
Aidan and Wyatt dishing up some hotdogs.



A styling Santa with movie star glasses, Ryder and Aubri.



Santa and Landyn



Smile Aundraya!


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- Share minutes and save with a FamilyTalk® plan.
- Choice of plans and features to fit your needs.




If you have questions please email Isaac McKechnie at: imckechnie@saulttribe.net

Tribal AmeriCorps planning grant awarded

Sault Tribe was awarded a one year planning grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service to assist with developing an AmeriCorps program. The tribe intends to develop a service program that would provide opportunities for youth to gain work experience and support for continued education.

There is a need in the community to reach out to youth aged 14-24 who are disconnected from school and work. According to the Annie E. Casey Foundations Kids Count Indicator Brief Reducing the number of Disconnected Youth, Native American youth are nearly twice as likely to wind up without a high school diploma or be employed between the ages of 16 and 19 years. The national average for disconnected youth is eight percent for all youth and 15 percent for Native American

youth.

By developing a service program through the AmeriCorps for the tribal community, we can expand educational opportunities and build future leaders. The rewards are endless for the participant and the community. The AmeriCorps members gain new and useful skills, advance their education and become more connected to their communities. A longitudinal study has shown that AmeriCorps alumni are more likely to be civically engaged, to go into public service careers — such as teaching, public safety, social work and military service — and to volunteer in their communities.

Elaine Clement is serving as the planning consultant for the grant and will facilitate a community-based planning process for the youth, families and tribal staff and other stakeholders to identify

why tribal youth and young adults are disconnected from school and work. She will gather information and propose solutions for addressing unmet needs and gaps in services and focus on how community service can improve education and employment outcomes for tribal youth and young adults. Clement will be working with Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities Program to hold community forums in the seven-county service area. Clement is a Sault Tribe member and holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Lake Superior State University. She previously worked as a cultural training specialist for Sault Tribe. For more information contact Elaine Clement, planning consultant, at (906) 440-6801 or email at elaineyoung1@yahoo.com.

Barb Smutek is serving as

the evaluation consultant for the grant. She will design data collection tools, train staff, analyze data and prepare evaluation reports. Smutek is a Sault Tribe member and a graduate student in a hybrid doctoral program in educational psychology and educational technology offered by Michigan State University. She previously served as the Sault Tribe Alive Youth project manager and has extensive experience working with youth and community partners in Michigan.

AmeriCorps engages more than 75,000 men and women in intensive service each year at more than 15,000 locations including nonprofits, schools, public agencies and community and faith-based groups across the country. AmeriCorps members help communities tackle pressing problems while mobilizing mil-

lions of volunteers for the organizations they serve. Members gain valuable professional, educational, and life benefits, and the experience has a lasting impact on the members and the communities they serve.

AmeriCorps consists of three main programs: AmeriCorps State and National, whose members serve with national and local nonprofit and community groups; AmeriCorps VISTA, through which members serve full time fighting poverty; and AmeriCorps NCCC (National Civilian Community Corps), a team-based residential program for young adults 18-24 who carry out projects in public safety, the environment, youth development, and disaster relief and preparedness. For more information about AmeriCorps visit <http://www.nationalservice.gov>.

Nominations solicited for LSSU Native student award

The Native American Student Organization (NASO) of Lake Superior State University is now accepting nominations for the Outstanding Native American Student Award. The award will be given to a graduating senior at LSSU who has shown remarkable character during their time at LSSU.

Candidates may nominate themselves or be nominated by a peer. Nomination packets must

include GPA, at least one letter of recommendation explaining why the candidate is an outstanding student, any activities they participate in on or off campus, tribal affiliation (Canadian students may apply), and a brief letter stating goals after graduation. Nominations may be hand delivered, emailed, mailed or faxed to LSSU, Attn: Stephanie Sabatine, Director, Native American Center and Campus Diversity,

650 West Easterday Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783; phone (906) 635-6664 or fax (906) 635-2848 or email ssabatine@lssu.edu. Deadline for nominations is Friday, March 7, 2014.

The Native American Center Award Committee is looking forward to choosing the recipient for this award and wish all applicants the best of luck.

Attention graduating seniors: Tuition Incentive Program eligibility

The Michigan Student Scholarships and Grants (SSG) office will mail applications and eligibility letters to TIP eligible high school senior students at the end of January.

Students can also check on their eligibility by calling the SSG office at (888) 4-GRANTS or (888) 447-2687.

Recently, SSG produced a TIP promotional video coming in February for viewing in Michigan Department of Human Services lobby stations, Michigan high schools and on our website. The video is an overview of the eligibility requirements and program details.

Student Incentive Program for the 2012-13 School Year

A student incentive program is being offered by the Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) to recognize students who achieve all "As" for a marking period as well as students who achieve perfect attendance for a marking period.

There will be a minimum of \$3,000 available to fund this program this year; \$25 will be awarded for each qualified entry, up to the minimum available funds in the Program. In the event that the number of qualified entries exceeds the funds available, the winners will be determined by lottery.

See www.michiganindianelders.org/ for an application.

Here are the conditions to qualify:



— The student must be an enrolled member or be a direct descendant of an enrolled member of one of the MIEA constituent tribes.

— The student must be in grades K-12 at a public or private

school (home schooling not eligible).

— A student must be in grades 4-12 to qualify for the straight "A" award. (A-, A, A+)

— For a school system that uses a grading system based on numbers, the equivalent to straight "As" will be acceptable.

— A student must be in grades K-12 to qualify for the perfect attendance award.

— Perfect attendance means exactly that. A student must be in school or at a school sponsored function each day of the marking period. Excused absences for anything other than a school sponsored/approved function do not constitute perfect attendance.

— The first two marking periods of this 2013-2014 school year

will be used to determine the winners for this lottery.

— A student can qualify for both the perfect attendance and straight "As" for both marking periods. For example, straight "As" and perfect attendance for both marking periods would mean four chances to win.

— A parent of the student must complete and sign the Student Incentive Program Application Form in order for the student to qualify for an award.

— A copy of the child's report card signed by the parent or a letter from an administrator of the student's school, must be submitted with the completed application form to verify the achievement of straight "As" and perfect attendance.

The drawing to determine the winners will be held at the April 2014 meeting of the Michigan Indian Elders Association hosted by the Little Traverse Band of Odawa Indians in Petoskey, Mich.

VERY IMPORTANT

— **NECESSARY!!!**

You must follow these directions for your child to be considered for an award. The completed application form, a signed report card or verification letter of achievement from a school administrator and copy of student's or parent's tribal identification card must be received at the following address not later than 5 p.m. on April 1, 2014:

Leann Stindt
103 Big Bear Rd.
Iron River, MI 49935

Moving? Call Sault Tribe Enrollment at (800) 251-6597 or (906) 635-3396 and let them know. They will update your new address so you will continue to receive your tribal mail, including the tribal newspaper and any election mailings.

If you are an employee it is also important to call the Insurance Department, Human Resources, and when necessary the Gaming Authority.

The tribal administration receptionist can be reached by calling 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660.

Need to contact Kewadin Casinos?

Call 1-800-KEWADIN.

Vote Nichole Causley Unit I Representative



Meet N Greet!

**The Antlers in SSM, Mich.,
March 1, 7-9pm; March 29, 5-9pm**

BIO: 31 years old, family of six, lifelong Sault Ste. Marie resident, spending the 11 years on the reservation raising four children, working for our Tribe and finishing my Bachelor's Degree at Lake Superior State University. Presently working as Planning Specialist for the Planning and Development Department.

MISSION: Bring unity and balance to our Board by

providing a fresh, new perspective to age old issues.

GUARANTEE: Full time representation to all of our members using self-sustainable goals and innovative approaches.

CONTACT: Contact me at 906-440-9676 to speak more directly to your concerns and issues. Follow me on facebook: [causleynichole](https://www.facebook.com/causleynichole)

OVER 10 YEARS EXPERIENCE
Casino & Government Employee
Community Service
- Head Start
- Powwows
- Housing Commission



Paid for by the Committee to Elect Nichole Casuley

Birth...



Kaysen L. Hendrick

Kaysen Lee Hendrick was born on Tuesday, Jan. 21 at War Memorial Hospital, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Andrea Matson and Ryan Hendrick and older brother Easton Hendrick. He weighed 7 lbs 8 oz and was 21 in long. Grandparents are Lisa Holcomb, Cathy Mutter and Rick Hendrick all of Munising, Mich., and Victor Matson Jr of Petoskey Mich. Great-grandparents are Lizet and Victor Matson Sr. of Sault Ste. Marie, Clare Mutter of Munising and Barbara LaMouria of Phoenix, Ariz. Great-great-grandparents are Dwight and Jean Davis of Phoenix.

MacArthur makes LSSU dean's list

Sault Tribe member Alexis MacArthur of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., was included on the dean's list for fall semester at LSSU. To make dean's list, students must achieve a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. MacArthur is majoring in psychology at LSSU. She is the daughter of Carolyn MacArthur and Alan MacArthur of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

LSSU is in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., along the U.S./Canada international border. With an enrollment of about 3,000 students, LSSU offers an undergraduate experience that features small classes, individual attention and faculty/student research opportunities that are not always readily available at larger schools. LSSU students choose from a blend of liberal and technical studies in more than 45 areas.

Roddy appointed to U-M chair

The Board of Regents of the University of Michigan Dearborn, has appointed Juliette Roddy as chair of the newly formed College of Health and Human Services. Roddy has been with U of M Dearborn for six years as a tenured assistant professor of public policy. She is a graduate of LaSalle High School in St. Ignace and the daughter of Bob and Mollie Boynton. She is a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Did you know the tribal paper is available online? Visit saulttribe.com and click on the "newsroom" link on the top of the page then "Sault Tribe newspaper." The downloads are located in the tan box on the left side of the page.

Abramson completes Probation Academy

Tribal Court probation officer Brienne Abramson recently completed the Tribal Probation Academy through the National Criminal Justice Training Center. The Tribal Probation Academy is a comprehensive training academy that provides an opportunity for new and experienced probation officers to obtain up-to-date information and critical skills needed for effective case management, officer safety and career development. In order to complete the academy, Abramson attended four weeks

of intensive classroom training, one week each month from September to December in 2013 at the Washington State Patrol Academy in Shelton, Wash. At the end of each week, she was required to complete and pass an exam covering that week's material, which meant a lot of studying involved.

Topics covered in these training sessions included domestic violence, substance abuse, sex offenders, youth gangs, juvenile probation, case management, use of force, search and seizure

safety, weapons familiarization, communicable diseases, courtroom hearings and testimony, peace making courts and peace making circles.

Juvenile and adult probation officers from Maricopa County in Arizona covered various material over the four weeks. Judge David Roush from Minnesota taught about peace making courts and peace making circles, where Abramson gained valuable information. She also learned a series of self-defense tactics, visited the Washington

State Corrections Facility, participated in search and seizure simulations and was educated on the importance of physical health.

Abramson passed the four-week academy with flying colors, which wasn't an easy task and she is the first Tribal Court probation officer in a number of years to attend and receive certification from the academy. Tribal Court is very proud of her accomplishment. She even took a first place in the mile run among her peers.

Hudak receives awards for outstanding play

Colt Hudak received numerous awards for his outstanding play as a standout on the Cheboygan Chiefs football team. He was voted to the Detroit Free Press first team all-state in division four, Associated Press first team honorable mention in division

four, Gaylord Weekly Choice northern Michigan's outstanding offensive lineman of the year and outstanding defensive lineman of the year. Colt was a three-year varsity player who anchored the line on both sides of the ball as a two-way starter and was a team leader as captain

in his senior year, voted by his teammates as one of the Chiefs most valuable players.

He carries a 3.4 GPA and plans to attend college to continue his education with a focus on studying wildlife biology. Colt is the son of Chris Hudak and Tammy Bedell of Cheboygan.



Best Way Forward

RE-ELECT

CATHERINE
HOLLOWELL



UNIT 2
Board of Directors

906 484-6821

Paid for by the Campaign to Re-elect Catherine Hollowell

My grandmother & mother circa 1928.

JOHN J. ANDREWS

John J. Andrews, Jr., 82, of Seville, Ohio, formerly of Hessel, passed away peacefully on Jan. 2, 2014, in Seville. He was born on Aug. 11, 1931, to John and Cecelia (nee Wagaganese) Andrews in Hessel.

He graduated from Cedarville High School in 1950 and served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, from 1951 to 1954.

Mr. Andrews retired from B and W in Barbarton, Ohio, where he was a welder and pipefitter. He was selected by President Eisenhower to manufacture Trident submarine missiles.

He married Beverly Jones May 6, 1962, in Hessel.

Mr. Andrews was a charter member of Wadsworth Moose Lodge and an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

He is survived by his wife, Beverly; his children and their families, Twila Andrews-Domer and John and Angela Andrews IV; three grandchildren and their families, John Domer, James and Amanda Hankinson, and Shauna and Dustin McGeorge; four great-grandchildren; two brothers and their families, Joseph Andrews, and George and Gail Andrews; many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, great-nephews and a special friend, Debbie.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his son, John Andrews III; his brother, James Andrews and two sisters, Mary Willis and Patricia Andrews.

Visitation is scheduled for May 8 and May 9, at the Hessel Tribal Center. Services take place on May 10 at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church in Hessel followed by traditional Native American interment in the Weyquaoc Cemetery.

Dodson Funeral Home of St. Ignace is assisting the family with arrangements.

DARRYL J. BEBO

Darryl J. "DJ" Bebo, son of Joseph Bebo and Dora (nee Lavalley) Bebo of Forest Lake, passed away on Dec. 23, 2013, in Kenosha, Wisc., at age 91. He was born on May 24, 1922, in Marquette, Mich.

From 1942-1945, DJ served in the U.S. Navy during WWII aboard submarine chaser 1319.

On June 15, 1946, he married Jeanette Shaw.

Darryl was employed with Ladish Tri-Clover Co. for 31 years as a machinist and polisher retiring in 1986. He was a member of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Zion-Benton Moose Lodge 667, VFW, the American Legion of Flint, Mich., and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He was an avid fisherman and hunter in Michigan, Wisconsin and Canada. He designed his own arrows for hunting and built his own model airplanes as hobbies. He loved picking blueberries, especially with his family, and visiting with his neighbors on Twin Lakes.

Darryl is survived by his wife, Jeanette, of 67 years; brothers, Francis, Raymond and Joseph

Bebo; sister, Anita (James) Nelson of Munising; several nieces and nephews.

His parents, Joe and Dora; brother, William Bebo; sisters, Verna O'Neill and Mary Wills, preceded him in death along with his spaniel hunting companions, Cookie, Mitzi and Meggin.

Church services took place at his church in Kenosha on Jan. 6, 2014. Graveside military honors will take place in the spring-summer at the Maple Grove Cemetery in Munising. He will be buried next to his parents.

The family would like to thank Dr. Irish and staff at the Grand Island Chippewa Health Center in Munising and the Manistique Sault Tribal Pharmacy for their years of service to Darryl.

Darryl's French-Indian Ancestry dates back to the early 1800s on Sugar Island Baie de Wasi, Crane Clan, through his grandmother Mary (nee Bebo) Lacoy.

GAIL E. DILL

Gail Eloise Dill, 75, of Kincheloe, died on Jan. 23, 2014, in her home.

She was born on March 18, 1938, to Richard and Dorothy (nee Leonard) Gereau in Wells Township.

She lived most of her life in Muskegon where she married Douglas Dill

March 21, 1959. Every year they would come to the Upper Peninsula to visit family.

Mrs. Dill was employed as an elementary and high school secretary for many years. She also worked in real estate and was a real estate broker.

Mrs. Dill was active in school activities at Muskegon Oakridge.

She returned to the Upper Peninsula in 1987, after the death of her husband.

Most recently, she was a senior office worker for Anishnabek Community Family Services.

She was a member of the New Hope Church in Kincheloe where she participated in Bible study and worship team. She also volunteered at the food pantry. She was an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Mrs. Dill was an avid reader. She loved to put puzzles together and she enjoyed playing card games.

She is survived by a son, Richard Dill of Kincheloe, and a sister, Dolores Walsh of Las Vegas, Nev.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by a brother, Richard Gereau.

A celebration of Mrs. Dill's life took place on Feb. 2 at New Hope Church. Burial will be in Mount Hope Cemetery in Shelby.

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

CHARLES B. KEMPF

Charles B. Kempf of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died on Jan. 29, 2014, at War Memorial Hospital. He was born on Oct. 22, 1947 in Sault Ste. Marie.

He worked as a housekeeping supervisor at Tendercare Nursing Home for many years and loved

to hunt, fish, listen to music and watching movies. He especially enjoyed the company of his grandchildren and will always be remembered for having a big, booming voice but a gentle, caring heart. He was an elder of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and a proud veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and was stationed in Quantico, Va., where he received commendations as a sharpshooter.

He is survived by his wife, the former Sandra Willis, whom he married on Aug. 19, 2000; son, C.B. Kempf of Sault Ste. Marie; daughter Diane Kempf of Sault Ste. Marie, step-sons, Brent (Carlene) Wilton of Tecumseh, Mich., Bryan (Kathryn) Wilton of Dansville, Mich., Todd (Tara) Wilton of Sault Ste. Marie; siblings, Herman and Gary Kempf, Joe Hoffman, Robert (Mary) Hoffman all of Sault Ste. Marie, and Audrey Truckey of Menden, Mich.; grandchildren, Amanda (Andrew Malpass) Kempf, Tadd Hill, Cassandra Dias, Clay Wilton, Paige Wilton, Grant Wilton, Emily Wilton, Madison Wilton and Kyle Wilton; great-granddaughter, Hayden McLean; many nieces and nephews, including a special nephew, Walter Struckmann, Jr.

He was predeceased by his parents, Herman and Arbutus Biron Kempf; brothers, George, Dutch, Bernard and John; sisters, Catherine Struckmann and Sheila Woolf; and his beloved dog, Cricket Ann.

Visitation took place at the Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home and Cremation Center with services conducted at St. Mary's ProCathedral on Feb. 1 with Father Sebastian Kavumkal officiating. His final resting place will be in the Riverside Cemetery.

DELORIS LAVICTOR

Deloris "Rose" Lavictor, of Sault Ste. Marie, passed away on Jan. 27, 2014, after an admirable battle with cancer that lasted nearly five years. "Rose" passed away in the comfort of her daughter's home in Ortonville, Mich. She was born on Jan. 11, 1929, to Samuel and Delia (nee Mastaw) Wright from Sugar Island.

"Rose" married Ruben LaVictor on Feb. 25, 1946. They lived and raised their six children in Sault Ste. Marie where he later passed away on Aug. 26, 1995.

Rose was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe and was part of the original band that fought for the tribe's federal recognition. She loved old ballads, westerns, singing and had a strong faith in God.

She is survived by her six children, Carolyn Angle (James-deceased), Valerie LaVictor, Lee Mayer (Raymond), Pam Frazier (Howard), Michael LaVictor (Tonya) and Daria LaVictor; 15 grandchildren, one great-grandchild and her sister, Edith Synett



(Gerald).

She was preceded in death by her sisters, Freida Hansen and Bertha Wright; brothers, Michael J. Wright and Raymond Wright.

Visitation took place on Jan. 31 at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home in Sault Ste. Marie and services were conducted on Feb. 1 at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church. She will be laid to rest next to her husband at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens.

KENNETH D. MARBLE

Kenneth Donald "Sonagun" Marble of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died on Feb. 2, 2014, he was born in Sault Ste. Marie on Jan. 31, 1968.

He was a fisherman like his father and was so proud of that fact. He enjoyed fishing and hunting, but most of all his whole life revolved around his daughter, Katherine. He would walk in 20 below weather just to put her on the bus for school. She was his world and if you asked him what his greatest accomplishment was he would tell you "Katherine."

He is survived by his son, John Henry; daughter, Katherine Marie Marble; sisters, Donna Marble and Maria (Frank) Parr.

He was predeceased by his parents, Kenny and Pearl Marble; daughter, Sadirea Marie Marble; sister, Kathy Jo; aunt, Gotnee; and Lil Joe.

Visitation and services took place on Feb. 5-6 at the Niigaanaagizhik Ceremonial Building with Rev. James Colegrove officiating. Final resting place is Wilwalk Cemetery on Sugar Island, Mich.

Memorial Contributions to the family of Kenneth Marble would be appreciated.

Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home and Cremation Center assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com

DONALD W. MASSEY

Donald W. Massey, 77, of St. Ignace, passed away on Jan. 17, 2014, at McLaren Northern Michigan hospital in Petoskey, following a lingering illness. He was born on Feb. 25, 1936, to Herman and Lila (nee Latva) Massey in St. Ignace.

He married Judy Reiman on Nov. 10, 1956, in Cheboygan.

He was a commercial fisherman, owning Don Massey and Sons Fisheries for more than 35 years.

Mr. Massey was an avid bowler. Among his accomplishments, he scored one perfect 300 game and a 742 series. He also scored games of 299, 298 and 297. He continued bowling, even when he was ill this last year.

An avid deer hunter, Mr. Massey made several trips to Canada for hunting. He also enjoyed working in his yard and gardening, particularly planting



and trimming.

He was an elder member of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church.

He is survived by his wife, Judy; his children and their families, Tony and Marcella Massey of Cheboygan, Jamie and Margaret Massey of St. Ignace, Kelly and Xinia Massey of St. Ignace, Tammi and Mike TerAvest of Holland, and Melissa and Kevin Laver of Parker, Colo.; six siblings and their families, Jim and Faye Massey of St. Ignace and Florida, Ed and Phyllis Massey of St. Ignace, Clayton and Maryann Massey of Saginaw, John and Lisa Massey of St. Ignace, Katie and Mike Frosland of St. Ignace, and Carol and Ray Halberg of St. Ignace; 13 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two infant sisters, Suzanne and Linda, and two nephews, Jeff Massey and Ben Schieding.

A gathering for Mr. Massey's family and friends took place at Fred's Pub and Bowling Alley on Jan. 25.

Memorials may be directed to a charity of the donor's choice.

Dodson Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.

PENELOPE J. MCKEAND

Penelope J. McKeand, age 66 of Bethel Township, passed away on Jan. 17, 2014. She was born in Troy, Ohio, on April 4, 1947, to the late, Joseph and Carrie Marshall. Penelope was preceded in death by her brother, William Marshall.

She is survived by her husband, Michael Litteral; sons, Lance (Karen) McKeand and Ryder McKeand; grandchildren, Jenna Leigh McKeand, Connor John McKeand and Garrett Joseph McKeand; sister, Jo Ann Michel of New Carlisle; numerous family, friends and beloved, Bella.

Penelope was a lifelong resident of Bethel Township and worked and retired after more than 30 years of service from WPAFB in financial management. After retirement, she was employed at Delphi in Vandalia and made many dear friends. Penelope was an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She spent many summers as a youth working and vacationing with her extended family on Mackinac Island.

She spent many hours and days with her grandchildren, being ever so involved with their lives and spoiling them with her love.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice, in Penelope's memory.

CHERYL A. ORDIWAY

Cheryl Ann (nee Leask) Ordiway passed away peacefully with her family at her side on Feb. 2, 2014, at War Memorial Hospital. She was born Jan. 8, 1951, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.,

See "Obits," page 19

From "Obits," page 18

to her parents Edward and the late Shirley Leask.

Survived by her only surviving aunt, Mary Catherine (late uncle, Robert) Quinn; devoted mother of Tamara (Rich) Roche, Chris (Sabrina) Leask and Chuckie Leask; best friend of Tammy Flowers; devoted sister of David (Kim) Leask, Joe Leask, Sharon (Oscar) Orazetti, Mike (Connie) Leask, Angie Leask, Linda (Eric) Ayers and Mark (Melanie) Leask; much loved grandma of Haley, Helenna, R.J. Krull, Maddie and Lizzie Leask, Cheryl is survived by 17 nieces and nephews, 24 great nieces and nephews and countless cousins.

She was predeceased by her mother, Shirley Leask; sister, Janet; and uncle, Bob Quinn.

Cheryl was all about family, always lending a hand to help anyone and everyone, opening her home to anyone in need. She was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and an avid pool player. Cheryl taught all of her family members to cook and bake.

Visitation and services took place on Feb. 8, 2014, at Holy Family Catholic Church in Barbeau, Mich., with Brother John Hascall officiating. Memorials to Holy Family Church would be appreciated. Interment will be in Holy Family Cemetery at a later date.

Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home and Cremation Center is assisting the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com.

DANIEL G. POPE

Daniel G. Pope, 67 of St. Ignace passed away peacefully on Jan. 27 surrounded by his family at home after fighting a year-long courageous battle with cancer.



Danny was born on Dec. 31, 1946, to Allan and Ardith (nee White) Pope in St. Ignace. He graduated from LaSalle High School in 1965 and served in the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Georgetown. He became a photographer for the *St. Ignace News* (then *Republican News*) and worked there several years. After receiving a diploma from the American School of Photography, he also became a wedding photographer. He later worked for the U.S. Post Office in St. Ignace, and retired after 33 years of service. He was a member of the St. Ignace United Methodist Church and taught Sunday school and was a very active youth leader. He was a member of a band group at church, a passtime he loved. He was a member of the Thomas F. Grant Post 62 and was a past commander. He was an elder of the Sault Tribe Chippewa Indians. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, golf, tennis and camping with his children and grandchildren. He also enjoyed using Facebook to share the gospel all over the world. He took classes to become an ordained minister in order to teach accurate information about the Bible.

On April 15, 1972, he mar-

ried Mary Fair who survives along with their children; Carrie and Chris TerVree of Gaylord, Dr. Sherwood and Areli Pope of Belleville, Andrew Pope of St. Ignace, and Sarah Pope of Ann Arbor; four grandchildren, Isaiah, Isaac, Natalie and Rebecah; siblings, Wayne and Sherry Pope of Union Grove, Wisc., Jeff and Mary Pope of St. Ignace and Nancy and Bob Rhome of Cheboygan; uncles and aunts, Jerry and Darlene White, Aaron and Marie White, Teresa and Jim Johnson; several cousins; nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother and sister in law, Jack and Gayle Pope; nephew, Darry Pope; and his granddaughter, Esther Nina Pope.

Visitation and services took place on Feb. 1 at the United Methodist Church with Pastor Susie Hierholzer officiating. Burial will be in the spring at Lakeside Cemetery in St. Ignace.

Memorials may be directed to the church or the Mackinac Straits Oncology Department, with envelopes available from Dodson Funeral Home in St. Ignace.

JAY M. PRESEAUNO

Jay M. Preseau, 69, of Cheboygan, passed away on Jan. 30, 2014, at McLaren Northern Michigan in Petoskey.

A resident of Cheboygan for the past two years, moving from Birch Run, Jay was born Jan. 13, 1945, in Cheboygan, the son of Joseph and Beatrice (nee Jerioux) Preseau. He was a 1963 graduate of Cheboygan High School, and soon after graduation he was employed at General Motors, at

the Buick Plant in Flint, where he was employed for 30 years, retiring in 1993. He enjoyed softball, baseball, garage sales, wind chimes, collecting old radios and listening to and sharing his vast knowledge of the music of the 1960s. He also attended St. Mary/St. Charles Catholic Church.

Surviving are his children, Robert Preseau of Ann Arbor and Dawn Preseau of Boston, Mass.; his special friend and companion, Jackie Passino of Cheboygan; a sister, Joyce Borowicz of Cheboygan; three brothers, Dean (Bonita) Preseau, and Merle (Carol) Preseau of Cheboygan, and Gary (Linda) Preseau of Clio; many nieces and nephews; and his dog, Blackie.

He was preceded in death by his parents and three brothers, Howard, Bob and Jack Preseau.

Funeral services took place on Feb. 4, at St. Mary/St. Charles Catholic Church and Rev. Craig Haider officiated, burial will be at Mt. Calvary Cemetery in the spring.

Memorials may be made to St. Mary/St. Charles Catholic Church.

ROBERT F. THOMAS

Robert "Bob" F. Thomas, of Waukesha, died on Jan. 14, 2014, at Waukesha Springs at the age of 80 years old. He was born in L'Anse, Mich., on May 23, 1933, the son of John and Hattie (nee Green) Thomas.



He was a 1951 graduate of Ashland High School and proudly served his country in the United States Army during the Korean War. On Dec. 23, 1958, he married Marjorie Miller of Milwaukee, formerly of Ashland. Bob worked for Waukesha Motors, retiring after 48 years of service in 1998. He was an avid cribbage player, pool player and enjoyed bowling, playing on many leagues in the Waukesha County region. Bob was a member of the Grand Island Band of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

He will be sadly missed by his wife, Marjorie of Waukesha, and their children, Linda (John Kerr) Widmar of Arkdale, Wisc., Roberta (Randy Cliff) Thomas of Lake City, Fla., Diana (Thomas Pike) Thomas of Waukesha; John Thomas of Eustis, Fla. and Jewell (Keith Braun) Thomas of Waukesha; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; sister, Gladys Nahbenayash of Superior, Wisc.; brother, John (Chris) Nahbenayash of Ashland, Wisc; nieces, nephews other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sisters, Jewell Zoldos Knopf and Mary Anderson, and two brothers, John Donald and Roger Thomas.

And as he would say, "Miiw! That's it!"

Burial will be in the spring at St. Agnes Cemetery in Ashland.

Randle-Dable-Brisk Funeral, Cremation and Preplanning Services served the family.

Tributes may be left online at www.waukeshafunerals.com.

Letter: Mother says get to know her

To the members,

I am an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, an honor of which I am very, very proud. I am also the mother of Unit I Director Jennifer McLeod, another honor of which I am very, very proud.

As mothers and fathers, no one knows our children better than we know our own.

It is a sad thing to know that many of you members have missed out on getting to know a very warm, loving and caring young lady and she is most definitely a lady.

Her love and caring of the elderly and children are truly amazing.

I have heard from friends and family of things said about her and I personally have read remarks about her in our paper that is absolutely absurd.

Members, please read all your directors' articles, read each and every one; you will be quite surprised at what you will learn. Don't read just one, read them all including Mr. Payment's articles.

I felt it was time for me to write to the members on behalf of my daughter. I was told of three things that are very disturbing. Her beloved pipe was referred to as a pipe bomb; her sacred pipe, a pipe bomb. When I was very young, at every gathering the sacred pipe was always present and respected, never ever shamed. To the person who made such a



Ann Jane Perry, Lloyd O'Berry and Jennifer McLeod's mother, Dew Drop, at age two.

remark: shame on you, you need to learn what the pipe stands for.

A remark was made on the Internet in the form of a question as to "what would your uncle think now?" I can tell you what my beloved brother would think of her, his last words to her was, "Keep strong for the people and do as you always have, what is right for the good of our people."

I have also been told of members saying she is not doing her job, she misses board meetings. Well you need to talk to her about such sad talk, you will be quite amazed at what you learn.

Jennifer has been a great comfort to members who have lost loved ones; for that, my daughter,



A young Jennifer McLeod

I am very, very proud, you are an amazing person.

Enclosed are pictures of Jennifer's ancestors, all very strong people and many, many of them.

There is her great, great uncle, Chief Black Cloud (George Cota); her great grandmother, Blue Moon (Ann Jane (Cota) Perry); her grandfather, Mundasku, Medicine Man (Lloyd O'Berry); myself, her mother, (Dew Drop), at 2 years old; and this beautiful young lady is Jennifer at a very young age. This is a few of her family.

Jennifer comes from a very strong and plentiful family. As I have said before, get to know Jennifer; she is an amazing, won-



Jennifer McLeod's great-great-uncle, Chief Black Cloud (George Cota).

derful lady.

She was judged by many before the time and opportunity was taken to know who she is and what she stands for. She is for the good of the people and she is strong in her beliefs. She will never break or bend to what is not right and honest.

As her mother, these things I tell you.

— Carleen, Jennifer's mom Remus, Mich.

PHLEBOTOMY EDUCATION

"Teaching the art of professional blood collecting"

Phlebotomy Education Inc. is now enrolling medical and non-medical professionals interested in learning phlebotomy. Students learn how to properly collect blood for laboratory analysis, clinical research, newborn screening tests, in-home insurance exams, DNA/paternity testing and more. Participants receive hands on experience in class Phlebotomy Education Inc. also provides in-services to medical professionals faced with the responsibility of drawing blood.

This course prepares students for entry-level positions in the Phlebotomy field.

Location: Phlebotomy Education Inc. at War Memorial Hospital (we are not affiliated with this site so please do not call them in regards to the class)

Dates: Feb. 24-28, Monday through Friday, 30 hours (0 absence policy).

Time: 3 -9 p.m.

Cost: \$995

Offering 10 percent discount to Sault Tribe members.

To enroll please call for more information. Enrollment is complete when we receive half of the tuition—remainder of tuition is due on the first day of class.

www.phlebotomyeducation.org; (313) 382-3857.

Holt brings two decades experience to community

MICHIGAN WORKS! HAS LOCAL JOB LISTINGS AND NEW OPPORTUNITIES ON THE HORIZON

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Planning and Development Resource Specialist Jeff Holt has worked for the Sault Ste. Marie community and the tribe for over two decades helping promote our area to new business, bring in jobs to support local families and has helped build the tribe's relationships with federal and state offices – infusing the community and tribe with millions in grant funding.



He has been involved with Michigan Works! for 19 years and is currently their board secretary. He has sat on the Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Commission for 18 years and has served the past seven as their chairman. And, he has been an employee of the Sault Tribe for the past 21 years.

So when great opportunities come along, Holt is enthusiastic to be able to share them with the tribal community.

If you are a job seeker, dis-

located worker, seasonally laid off, underemployed or just need a change of pace, there are some good local opportunities available now and coming up soon through your local Michigan Works! office located on the corner of Easterday Ave. and Seymour Street.

Holt said Michigan Works! is seeking people who are interested in online training for various medical office certifications,

and people who are prepared to take truck driving training, being offered in Gladwin and Escanaba. Tuition is available for qualified, eligible applicants – particularly dislocated workers. “Our responsibility is for job creation and job training in Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac counties,” he said.

And, according to Holt, the Department of Corrections is projecting a large number of openings for corrections officers in the near future due mostly to upcoming retirements. These positions are local and statewide and start at \$16 per hour. If enough people are interested, a concentrated series of five required classes may be offered by Lake Superior State University. The following link provides more information about testing for an entry-level corrections job:

http://agency.governmentjobs.com/examinations/job_bulletin.cfm?JobID=710687

Job fairs! It's that time again

with spring right around the corner. There are a number of job fairs being sponsored by Michigan Works!, with the first one at LSSUs Cisler Center on March 26 from 4-6 p.m., with free parking available. The St. Ignace job fair is tentatively scheduled for April 15 and Newberry after that with a date and time to be announced. The fairs are free and for all ages and will have information about seasonal and year round opportunities. Holt said last years job fairs were successful, so don't miss out on this opportunity if you are looking for work, are underemployed, or dislocated.

For those with a background in forestry, some great opportunities are now available. There are seven open positions within the state and several in the Sault Ste. Marie area. Forestry technicians make \$34,000 - \$38,000 a year and district zone fire management officers make \$47,000 - 57,000 a

year. Visit USAjobs.gov for more information on those job postings.

New businesses are also moving into the Sault area soon and will be offering a number of manufacturing jobs with good pay. “Michigan Works! can guide job seekers on computer training, how to update or create a resume, and with interview and dress for success skills.

Holt said there is often funding available through Michigan Works! to help with transportation, car repairs or the cost of uniforms or work boots and other job related tools.

So, visit one of your local Michigan Works! offices located in Sault Ste. Marie, Newberry and St. Ignace and see what they have to offer. Or call (906) 635-1752 or 1-800-285-WORKS for more information. Jeff Holt can be contacted by calling 635-6050 or by email at: jholt@saulttribe.net.

Young Writers Workshop for teens and tweens held bi-weekly at Pickford Community Library

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Teens and tweens who love to write and would like to learn about the publishing industry have a wonderful opportunity to be instructed and learn from published authors and owners of JLB Creatives Publishing, Dar Bagby and Janet Beasley. The Young Writers Workshop welcomes high school students and interested tweens at the middle school level and meets every two weeks for an hour at the Pickford Community Library.

The group is in their second year and has 11 participants, six of who returned from last year.

Library Manager Ann Marie Smith said she had been looking for new and innovative programs to engage youth from the community and knew of the work of Bagby and her sister Janet Beasley. “We were talking and came up with the idea for a Young Writers Workshop,” Bagby said. So the sister duo held their first creative writing workshop at the Pickford High School in October 2012. During their presentation they asked the group who might be interested in coming to the library for a class in creative writing and had six students sign up. “We worked in conjunction with Melanie Bolton, who is now a retired English teacher, and we winged it. It has since turned into a full-fledged course, we are very excited that we have a strong teenage group that participates,” she said.

The sisters developed a curriculum and with the backing of local Judge Elizabeth Church, furnishings were purchased and set up in a corner of the library for the group to hold their meetings. The Young Writers Workshop group designed the young adult corner, and the “architects” who worked on the project with Smith were students Chelsea Ross and Taylor Green.

Bagby and Beasley have writ-

ten, illustrated and published the Hidden Earth series of six and in early January celebrated the opening of their publishing company, JLB Creatives Publishing. Beasley said, “Ann Marie was behind a lot of the inspiration that made the publishing company happen.”

With Bagby doing the editing and illustrations and Beasley the writing, they quickly began to discover the publishing industry and how drastically trends are changing. “For the past three years we took notes on key points of what authors are looking for in publishers,” Beasley said. “There are five of us on the publishing team who have experience in both self-publishing and trade publishing, that is how we were able to work strongly together as a team for the past year to put in place the best features of both worlds for the authors.”

Last year the writers group published an e-book on Smashwords.com, titled the “2012-2013 Pickford Young Writers Workshop Anthology, Short Stories and Poetry. “There is nothing more exciting than helping an aspiring writer and taking these dedicated kids who have this dream and vision and helping them become published,” Beasley said.

This year's group consists of two courses, one for beginners and one for returning students. The classes are free and open to all teens interested in writing in any genre. Beginners will again be publishing an anthology and the more advanced students will have novellas published by JLB Creatives, who donates their services to the students at no cost.

Bagby has a degree in vocal performance and was an operatic soprano before returning to school and becoming a music teacher. Since then she has worked in the construction industry, as a veterinary assistant, med-



Photos by Brenda Austin

Teens and tweens who love to write and would like to learn about the publishing industry have a wonderful opportunity to be instructed and learn from published authors, sisters and owners of JLB Creatives Publishing, Dar Bagby (above left) and Janet Beasley (below by Skype). Library Manager Ann Marie Smith (above, right) had been looking for new and innovative programs to engage youth in the community.

ical assistant and then a medical transcriptionist. She said that is the point at which she became an English language specialist and turned to editing.

Beasley was the dancer of the family and was involved with theater from a young age. With her husband, they started an audiovisual company and did theater design and installation, also working in local churches. She also has experience in directing and producing. After being battered by four hurricanes on the Florida coast and losing almost everything, she took a secret family recipe for dog treats and started a bakery selling over 20 flavors and a bakery to cater to the people on the other end of the leash. Going through some physical hardships, she then decided to brush the dust off an unfinished novel and write full time from home.

Smith said it has been exciting participating in the development of such an innovative writing program for young adults. “In the



past 18 months since I have been at the Pickford Library, amazing things have happened because of the contributions of people in the community,” she said. “This group is our pride and joy, I see how it inspires each of the young adults and it makes us feel like we are making a difference. We have a lot of programs going on here, and I am more and more

seeing the library becoming the cultural hub of the community.”

For more information about the Young Writers Workshop, contact Pickford Community Library Manager Ann Marie Smith at (906) 647-1288 or amsmith@uproc.lib.mi.us. The library is located at 230 East Main Street in downtown Pickford.

Drug Court helps clients celebrate holidays

FROM DRUG COURT STAFF

Drug courts are unique and specialized systems of justice aimed at reducing drug and alcohol abuse in our tribal community. Tribal Court's Drug Court and Family Preservation Court programs are designed to

address the offenders' or parents' underlying problem, with sanctions and incentives comprising an integral part of the program.

Our adult criminal drug court had three successful graduates in 2013 while our family preservation court had one – resulting in

giving our community sober parents and citizens. When someone feels we actually believe in him or her, the benefits are

widespread. The results are real. To recognize their progress in recovery, last fall, Tribal Court surprised each participant

and their families with all the fixings for a full Thanksgiving Day meal – complete with pumpkin pies.



Above, surprise baskets were prepared by Tribal Court staff, left to right, receptionist Rachel Shreve, STEP coordinator Amanda Gil, probation officer Steve Ewing and Specialty Court coordinator Pat McKelvie. Right, Drug Court participant Aaron Endreson with his girlfriend, Chelsey, receives a nice surprise for Thanksgiving.

Pure Michigan Talent Connect offers job seekers employment services and resources

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Pure Michigan Talent Connect site at MiTalent.org is designed as Michigan's one-stop talent marketplace for job seekers, employers and career explorers. With nearly 60,000 jobs currently available on the site, both seekers and employers can use the services offered through the website to interact about jobs, training and employment opportunities.

A section of the website is designed specifically for veterans, and can be easily accessed from the homepage. Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) manager of talent programs, Joe Quick, said, "The section for veterans includes information about the veterans

employment services program offered statewide and is accessible through the Michigan Works! Association (MWA) one-stop sites. There are veteran services representatives on hand at each of the MWAs to assist veteran job seekers."

Quick said the average number of visits to the MiTalent.org website is nearly 770,000 per month, with over 9 million visits in 2013. "There are currently over 70,000 job seeker accounts on the Pure Michigan Talent Connect (mitalent.org) website, over 9,000 of which have been active in the system in the last 90 days. We see great activity from veterans on the Talent Connect website, and invite all veterans looking for employment to use our state of

Michigan labor exchange (mitalent.org) and veterans services resources."

Information about education and training opportunities is also just a click away, as is information for employers seeking to hire a veteran.

Job seekers can use the website without signing up for an account, but those interested in filling out online applications or signing up for a newsletter must first establish an account. "When veterans sign up for an account they can identify themselves as a veteran, which allows employers looking for skills associated with the veteran population to look specifically for veterans," Quick said. "There are a lot of benefits for veterans when they sign up on

the site, including being the first to view job postings before they are made available to the general public."

There are three newsletters available through the website, one is for employers seeking information about best practices and hiring events, another is for job seekers called "Job Connect," and there is also a "Veteran Connect" newsletter that provides information about job opportunities and resources for veterans.

Another service tailored to meet the needs of veterans includes military skills translators. "A lot of the great skills that veterans come out of the military with are translatable to skills that employers are looking for in Michigan," Quick said. "Because different terminology is used in the armed forces for those skills, there is often a translation gap. Michigan is dedicated to providing access to existing skills translators, and between the Workforce Development Agency, the MEDC and the Michigan

Veterans Services Group, we have all dedicated time to providing those translators. There are differences in the way skills are talked about from military to civilian life – the translators are valuable in helping veterans talk about their skills with employers and translate them to workforce skills."

Other benefits for veterans accessible on the website include a veterans benefits and services booklet, disabled veterans outreach program specialists, a career development support program called "Shifting Heroes," and a new no cost IT career training program.

If you are exploring the idea of a new career, are entering the workforce for the first time or are searching for training opportunities, changing jobs or reentering the workforce after military service or being out of the workforce to raise children, there are resources to address your specific needs. Visit www.MiTalent.org for more.

A few words about credit

Credit is your reputation as a borrower. It tells others how likely you are to repay your loans. Credit is made up from information about your borrowing history. Most of the information comes from your credit reports. Lenders use the five Cs of credit to evaluate a borrower's ability to repay a loan or line of credit. The five Cs:

- Capacity — the ability to repay a loan or line of credit by your income to your debt ratio helps the lender establish if you can afford to payback your obligation as well as your other bills.

- Capital — the amount of money you have saved to put towards a purchase such as a car or a home.

- Character — your willingness or ability to fulfill your financial obligations.

- Collateral — something of value that guarantees repayment of the money borrowed.

- Compensating factors — the most elastic of the five C's, "conditions" encompass such things as the purpose of the loan; the specifics of the loan agreement, including the term, interest rate and payment schedule; and the overall lending environment, from the market for the type of loan you're seeking all the way up to the condition of the economy as a whole.

For what is credit used? Credit was originally used for

lending decisions. Now credit scores and reports are also used in other areas of your life, such as employment and getting car insurance approvals.

The three main credit reporting agencies are Trans Union, Experian and Equifax. Everyone can receive a free credit report once a year at annualcreditreport.com.

Look for future articles on building good credit, keeping it and credit repair. If you are interested in learning more about credit, please contact the Homeownership Department at (906) 495-1450.

Pathways Home: Banking. about.com

In memory of Nancy Allard

We thought of you with love today but that is nothing new.

We thought of you yesterday and days before that too.

We think of you in silence as we often speak your name.

All we have are memories and your picture in a frame.

Your memory is our keepsake with which we'll never part.

God has you in His keeping. We have you in our hearts.

We all love you and miss you. Love,
Dad, Linda, Theresa, Lori and Michael



Bob Flowers teaches pressure cooking class

Apple crisp

Ingredients:

3 Granny Smith apples, cored, pared and sliced ¼ inch thick
1 cup rolled oats
1/3 cup all-purpose flour
½ cup Stevia Sweetener (or dark brown sugar)
1 tsp. molasses (omit if using brown sugar)
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
½ tsp. salt
4 tbs. butter, melted
1½ cups water for the pressure cooker

Hardware:

Pressure cooker/canner
Oven safe stainless steel, or tempered glass baking dish (must fit into the pressure cooker)
Aluminum foil
Heat-proof trivet (steamer insert works well when the stem is removed)

Peel, core, and slice/dice the apples. Place them into a mixing bowl and sprinkle with the lemon juice.

Combine the stevia with the molasses and stir until they are well combined. Add the flour, oats, salt, and, cinnamon. Melt the butter and fold it into the flour mixture, again making sure that it is well mixed.

Place a thin layer of the crumble on the bottom of the bowl. Layer in apples to cover the flour mixture. Cover the apples with more crumble, then more apples, finishing with the crumble mixture on top.

Insert the trivet into the pressure cooker. Pour in the water. Cover the bowl tightly with aluminum foil to keep water out. Place it on top of the trivet. Place the cover and pressure regulator onto the pressure cooker taking care to lock the cover in place.

Place the pressure cooker over medium-high heat until the regulator just starts to rock. Reduce heat to maintain a gentle rocking motion on the regulator. Cook for 25 minutes.

After 25 minutes has elapsed, release the pressure by placing the still-covered pot under cold water until the safety valve drops, telling you that all of the pressure has been released. Remove the lid and the container. Place the container onto a cooling rack for 10 minutes before serving. Serve with vanilla ice cream, or sweetened whipped cream (Chantilly Cream).

Lasagna

Can you make lasagna in a half hour or so? I can; and most of that is prep. time. The best part is that your lasagna will taste like you've been baking it for an hour,

and then refrigerated it overnight. Here's how you do it.

Serves 6

Ingredients

1 Tbs. olive oil
1 onion, diced
1 lb. ground beef
salt
pepper
1 12-oz. jar pasta sauce
1 12 ounce can crushed tomatoes
1/4 C. water
2 lbs. ricotta
2 lg. eggs
1/3 C. parmesan, grated
2 tsp. garlic, minced
½ tsp. Sweet Basil
½ tsp. dried Oregano
¼ tsp. dried Thyme
¼ tsp. crushed Rosemary
8 oz. fresh, sliced mushrooms (white button, or cremini (baby portabella))
2 tbs. butter
8 oz. lasagna noodles, no-boil variety
2 lbs. mozzarella cheese, shredded
Large tub cottage cheese

Place the crushed tomato, pasta sauce, garlic, and herbs into a saucepot over medium heat. Stir and cover. When it begins to boil, reduce the heat to simmer.

In the opened pressure cooker, put the butter into the pot, and heat at medium until it bubbles. Add the mushrooms and salt. At the same time, in a heavy, hot frying pan, brown the ground beef, seasoning it with salt. Alternately, stir both until the mushrooms just begin to soften, and the ground beef is browned. Turn off the burner that holds the ground beef. Transfer the meat to the pressure cooker along with the onions. Mix well.

Add the pasta sauce and water to the beef and onions. Stir and remove from heat into a large bowl. Let the pressure cooker cool.

Drain the cottage cheese in a colander. While it is draining, grate the mozzarella into a mixing bowl. Add the drained cottage cheese, eggs, parmesan, and garlic.

Fill the bottom of the cooled pressure cooker with 1/4 inch of water. Ladle enough beef and sauce in to cover the bottom of the pot. Top with a layer of noodles. Cover the noodles with a third of the cheese. Cover the cheese with another layer of sauce, meat mixture, cheese, then noodles. Repeat until all of the pasta has been used. Cover the last pasta layer with sauce and cheese.

Lock the lid in place, and bring to pressure. Reduce heat until the regulator is barely moving. Cook for 7 minutes. After the time has elapsed, use the quick-release method until all of the pressure

to inform the community about new developments on Sault Tribe lands. We host our next public meeting on Thursday, April 10, at 7 p.m. at the Bayliss Public Library at 541 Library Drive in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

In addition, the Brownfields Program developed a public



Photos by Brenda Austin

Bob Flowers (third from left), a Sault Tribe member and employee with the tribe's MIS Department, is an enthusiastic cook who loves sharing his expertise with others and has several cookbooks under his belt. He was recently invited to teach a pressure cooking and knife skills class held Feb. 12 at the Sault Elder Center kitchen. This was the first of a series of four Family Mealtimes Classes sponsored by the Sault Tribe Traditional Foods Grant in collaboration with USDA Commodities program and Sault Tribe Nutrition. Participants of the classes will learn new ways to cook healthy for and with their families. The next class will again feature Bob Flowers, this time teaching the art of soups, stews, and chowders. To sign up, contact Connie Watson at cwatson@saulttribe.net. For information on additional events and workshops, visit www.healthysaulttribe.com. The recipes he shares with you here are ones they prepared in their class.

is gone. Remove the lid, sprinkle with any remaining cheese, and put the lid back on for about 5 or so minutes. Bring that pot of goodness to the table and serve.

Egg-Drop Soup

If you've ever eaten egg drop soup, then you know how wonderfully flavorful a soup can be. But just how do you get that rich broth, and those great, long, stringy strands of egg?

Ingredients:

3 lb. whole chicken
2 stalks celery
2 yellow onions
1 bunch chives
¼ tsp. ginger
4 large eggs
Salt
½ tsp. granulated garlic
¼ tsp. cayenne pepper (optional)
1 quart of water

Chop the celery and set aside. Spatchcock the chicken (butterfly it) Remove the skin. Remove the meat from the bones. Place the chicken skins into the pressure cooker with a tbs. of cooking oil. Lightly salt it. When the skins are mostly rendered, crack the chicken bones with the back of a heavy knife. Place the bones into the pressure cooker and brown on all sides. Add the salt and chopped celery. Add 1 quart of water (4 cups) to the pot. Place the cover onto the pan and lock it into place. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce the heat when the regulator begins to rock. Cook for 25 minutes.



From left: Vicky Gordon, USDA Nutrition Educator Arlene Porcaro, Bob Flowers and Annette King.



Bob Flowers (left) shows Paul Hill how to use an apple corer/peeler.

Strain the broth into a large bowl. Discard the bones, celery, and skins. Place the water back into the pot, along with the onion, herbs, spices, and chives. Bring to a light boil. Taste and correct the seasonings.

Break the eggs into a large, liquid measuring cup. Beat until

the yolks and whites are homogenous. Reduce the heat until the chicken broth has stopped moving. Gently pour the beaten egg into the broth in one continuous movement, making thin strands of cooked egg. Serve as an appetizer. Or, make more and serve as a meal.

Getting easy access to the tribe's Brownfields Program

The mission of the Environmental Department's Brownfields Program is to rehabilitate tribal land for future use in the development of resources, securing the well being of present and future Sault Tribe members.

One of our major duties is to hold annual public meetings

access website that provides the public record of Sault Tribe properties. We invite all members to check out our electronic public record at <http://saulttribeenvironmentalbrownfields.wordpress.com/>. The purpose of having the public record is to inform the Sault Tribe community of

any changes, issues, presence or potential presence of hazardous substances on tribal lands and to update members of local revitalization.

The Environmental Department has files in the departmental office as well as online for the community to access. Having

both an online site and physical building allows access to the public record early and conveniently.

Our offices are at 206 Greenough St. Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. We are open Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Call us at (906) 632-5575 or email apeters@saulttribe.net.

Take the Tribal Survey: Your Input is Valuable!



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

This Tribal Survey will gather your input on a few Tribal matters. The results are intended to help shape the direction of our Tribe.

JUST GO ON-LINE

Just go on-line and type the link to the right into your web browser. Your responses are anonymous & confidential. Your name is not even requested, but, submitting the first letter of your last name and your date of birth will help make sure only one survey is submitted per person.

\$1,000 DRAW CHANCE!

To enter to win, just complete the on-line survey and get to the final panel on-line which contains contest entry information. Then just click on a link to leave the on-line survey and enter the draw chance registry which is not connected to your responses.

Too often, elected officials get elected and forget the will of the people. I value your input. Please take just five minutes out of your day to help shape the direction of our Tribe.

To Enter to Win \$1,000...

Just go to the link below and take the survey. Once you are done, you will be rerouted to another link to enter to win \$1,000. It is that easy!

www.surveymonkey.com/s/2014STMemberSurvey

If you have questions, please contact Aaron Payment at (906) 440-5937 or via email at aaronpayment@yahoo.com

OBSTINANCE & RESISTANCE: THREATENING TO BECOME THE NORM IN OUR TRIBAL GOVERNMENT

Like you, I am frustrated with what has become a "do nothing" government. A key item Tribal voters insisted on was to either lower your elected representatives' salaries (Item # 7 below) of allow you to chose the appropriate level of pay via referendum. I admit I set this aside in hopes of garnering cooperation among the Board. This was in vein as little progress has been realized on key items Members want addressed. Since returning to office (in earnest) I have tried to fulfill these progressive reforms.

MANDATE FOR CHANGE

1. Develop new technologies for regularly gathering Tribal Member & Employment Team Member priorities;
2. Identify Constitutional Amendments you feel are imperative to pass now (Separation of Powers);
3. Build on Members' diverse and vast experience to draft an economic diversification blueprint;
4. Draft a Revenue Sharing Plan & Schedule a vote;
5. Draft and Codify a Tribal Ethics Code;
6. Enact Tribal Labor Law with Civil Judgments;
7. Identify & Deploy Upper Management & BOD Savings;
8. Codify Indian Preference & T.E.R.O.;
9. Reforms to require a Special Election to Fill Tribal Chairperson and Board Vacancies.

While some of these have been accomplished (at least in part) I am not at all satisfied. When voters put me back in office with a 13% margin, I believe they also ratified this Tribal agenda. With 56% of the vote and having won in all units and the overall vote both inside and out of the service area, Members everywhere created a **MANDATE for change** toward a better government.

"I haven't read the draft" REASON OR EXCUSE?!

With days of being sworn in, I submitted (August 2012) for review and approval, a draft **Ethics Code** (Item #5) to address the long standing corrupt activities of incumbents with:

- Targeting individuals for termina-

tion for political retribution;

- Hiring based on nepotism;
- Failing to disclose secret business dealings with business partners;
- The exodus of \$2.6 million on election night in 2004;
- \$241,000 embezzled by a Board member who was convicted;
- \$330,000 by Chair McCoy paid to his attorney friend after the Board said NO;
- Individual Board Members lobbying the Board to drop lawsuits against family Members in conflict with the Tribe's interests; and
- Allowing fellow Board members sign off on 2% to make their way back into their own pockets, etc.

I realize Members are sick of hearing of these items; I am sick of talking about them. What is more sickening, however, is that without reforms, these types of activities become commonplace and perpetual. While several Board members have given lip service to ethics reform, these same individuals have done **NOTHING** to move a Tribal Ethics Code forward.

In July 2012, I was approached by the Chair of the Tribal Elder Advisory Board, to ask if I would support the Elders' effort to move Tribal Constitutional reforms forward. Recall that in 2005 this project was started based on the will of the people. Two years later, the Constitutional Committee reported their results. For the entire time I was out of office (2008 to 2012) the Board did **NOTHING** to move this project forward! It is one thing to take exception to aspects of the project, but to do **NOTHING**??!

I am proud of our Elders for not accepting this deficiency in our elected Board. Instead, they voted as an Elder Advisory Board to compel the Board conduct a final review. A few Board members elected in 2010, publicly announced not having even read the document (email me for who). I have submitted both a final rewrite and individual amendments (Item # 2). I have scheduled review sessions, workshops, and even special meetings which were met with Board members making all sorts of excuses for not

attending. Nearly two years has passed! Whether you agree with a rewrite or individual amendments, it is simply not acceptable for a Board Member to collect \$268,000 for a four year term of office and not significantly contribute to reforming our government to *separate the powers* which will protect against corruption for generations. Make no mistake, those who oppose reforms do so for a very selfish reason: to leave themselves in an all-power and discretionary governmental position. To desire to be judge, jury and executioner is obscene.

Instead of reforms, Board Members have even fought the live-streaming of our meetings (Item #1) such that I have had pay over \$4,000 to-date for the cost of this service (Item #1) Board Members have even proposed to outlaw live-streaming our meetings! Board discussion items included outlawing your participation in social media. Another item included criminalizing our US Constitutional right to free speech while manipulating this issue as one of

"bullying" Board Members when they fail to represent their constituents! When I requested the number of registered voters, this lead to a motion to conduct a "criminal investigation" for having requested this information. Really?!

The Board did pass my resolution to hold a Special Advisory Election to fill Board and Chair vacancies (Item #9). They have failed for two years, however, to address the over the max issue (Item # 7) leaving \$600,000 on the table for the wealthiest while failing to give raises again for six years! With a Board Member targeting a team member for retribution and termination then violating our open meetings act by breaching confidentiality, now more than ever item # 6 is not only justified, it is imperative.

RESISTANCE: THE NEW NORMAL?

I get very little cooperation and a great level of filibustering from Board members who wish to maintain the status

quo (email me for name). While I work diligently to balance the budget, manage operations, and advocate for our Tribe and new funding at a national level, some on our Board actually believe they are being useful in filibustering and proposing nonsensical legislation like an hourly accounting of my activities when I already submit my calendar (see below). This was NOT expected of any other Chairperson or the Board.

Finally, I wish to disclose that I did apply for and was one of three finalists for a position within a federal agency which would have paid 1/3 more than my current salary. However, with hope that we can improve our tribal government and progress forward, I chose to discontinue my candidacy. It is my sincere hope that by July, we can once and for all move forward with a reform oriented government who will make positive change, NOT EXCUSES.

Chi McGwitch,
Negee! *Aaron*

Clip & Save

2014 SAULT TRIBE Chairperson's CALENDAR FEBRUARY & MARCH											
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY						
10am Leave for Washington DC	10 Arrive in DC by 1pm	11	12	13	14	15					
In DC: HHS Secretary Tribal Advisory Council 2/12 to 2/13 & Travel Days											
8am Signatures 9am Member Services Monthly 10am Executive Director Monthly 11am CFO Monthly 1pm Law Enforce/Natural Resources 2pm Legal 2:30pm Legislative Planning/Budgets 3:30pm Gaming Commission Executive	8:30am JKL 10am Workshop: Legal/Budgets/HR 12pm Lunch 1pm Afternoon Workshop 3pm TBOD Meeting/Agenda Review 5pm Membership Issues 6pm TBOD Meeting - St. Ignace	18	8am Signatures 10am-12pm Semi Annual Reviews 12-1pm Sault Elders 1pm Executive Team 3pm Division & Program Directors	19	8am Signatures 9am Audit Committee 12pm Gaming Expansion 2-3:30pm Budget Forecasting 3:30pm Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority Conference call	20	8am Signatures 9am Budget Team 12pm MITW at casino 1:00pm Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority Conference call				
24	25	26	27	28	MARCH 1						
In DC: CONTACT SUPPORT COSTS WORKGROUP & CONSULTATION & IHS BUDGET FORMULATION											
8am Signatures 10am-12pm Team Member Office Hours 1-4pm Members' Office Hours 4pm Inland Conservation	3	10am Workshop: Legal/Budgets/HR 11am Gaming Commission Meeting 12pm Lunch 1pm Afternoon Workshop 3pm TBOD Meeting/Agenda Review 5pm Membership Issues 6pm TBOD Meeting - Sault	4	8am Signatures 10am-12pm Semi Annual Reviews 12-1pm Sault Elders 1pm Executive Team 2pm NCAI Conference Call	5	8am Signatures 10am-12pm Team Member Office Hours 1-4pm Members' Office Hours	6	10am Budget Team 10am-12pm Team Member Office Hours 2pm Bd Address Meeting	7	8am Signatures 10am-12pm Team Member Office Hours 1-4pm Members' Office Hours	8
W.A.N. N.C.A.I. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL WINTER SESSION IN DC 3/10 to 3/14 & travel days											
8am-4pm Govt. Financial Reviews 6pm - Great Lakes Conservation	17	10am Workshop: Legal/Budgets/HR 12pm Lunch 1pm Afternoon Workshop 3pm TBOD Meeting/Agenda Review 5pm Membership Issues 6pm TBOD Meeting - Manistique	18	8am Signatures 10am-12pm Semi Annual Reviews 12-1pm Sault Elders 1pm Executive Team 3pm Division & Program Directors 4pm Drive to EL	19	8am Signatures 10am-12pm Team Member Office Hours 1-4pm Members' Office Hours	20	8am Signatures 10am-12pm Team Member Office Hours 1-4pm Members' Office Hours	21	8am Signatures 10am-12pm Team Member Office Hours 1-4pm Members' Office Hours	22
arrive for M.A.S.T. by Sunday	24	25	26	27	28	29					
M.A.S.T. LEGISLATIVE IMPACT WEEK 3/23 to 3/26 & Travel Days											
8am Signatures 9am Member Services Monthly 10am Executive Director Monthly 11am CFO Monthly 1pm Law Enforce/Natural Resources 2pm Legal 2:30pm Legislative Planning/Budgets 3:30pm Casino & Enterprise Fin Reviews	31	KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS IHS STAC: Health and Human Service Secretary's Tribal Advisory Council C.S.C.: Contract Support Costs, Estimated amount owed to Sault Tribe is \$5 million N.C.A.I.: National Congress of American Indians M.A.S.T.: M3-West Alliance of Sovereign Tribes I.H.S.: Indian Health Services B.I.A.: Bureau of Indian Affairs									

Important to be educated about tribal committees



**KEITH MASSAWAY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT III**

I had the pleasure of sitting in on a meeting of our TAP committee this month. Although I am not a member of this committee, it is important to follow and to be educated in all the tribe is doing within the tribe and its surrounding area. TAP is an acronym for Tribal Action Plan. The plan is to work towards saving our people from harmful drugs and addictions, a monumental task indeed.

Many of our board members and our chairman are on this committee. They expend time and effort on this worthy cause. Many of our employees and business professionals and some members-at-large also dedicate their expertise and passion to this endeavor. I applaud them all. Speaking of committees, I would

like to give an update on some of the committees I sit on.

Cultural Committee — We currently are writing the committee bylaws to better explain what the group is to be concerned with and its parameters it has to work within. The committee has reviewed and has presented to the board of directors, which has requested the committee to rework them again with their suggestions and resubmit to the board as soon as possible.

Audit Committee — One of the most important committees, I believe, to sit on. Working with fellow board members, the treasurer and outside professionals with financial staff, we pore through audits and procedures to amend, correct any deficiencies or weaknesses in our tribe. Many potential problems are identified and some turn out to be substantial. The committee, when it finds material weaknesses, immediately brings its findings to the whole board of directors for its action.

Tax Committee — This committee looks at the taxes we collect from our tribal enterprises. This concept was explained in previous unit reports. The original basis for this committee was in response to federal rumblings about how tribal governments worked and questioning if we didn't collect taxes are we a true government and, if we are not,

then maybe it would impose taxes on our businesses. The tribe set up its own tax code and procedures and we tax our businesses for governmental operations. We are currently awaiting year-end numbers and reconciliation of the audits.

In a coming unit report, I will

also explain the other committees I sit on, which include the Risk Committee, the Recreation Board for Little Bear and the Gaming Expansion Committee. Please note that we had to change our unit meetings from the fourth Monday to the third Monday for Unit III because it conflicted with

my Cultural Committee meeting dates.

Thank you for all the e-mails and phone calls.

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

SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2014 CALENDAR

January 14**	Newberry	January 28**	Sault Ste. Marie
February 4	Sault Ste. Marie	February 18	St. Ignace
March 4	Sault Ste. Marie	March 18	Manistique
April 8**	Kincheloe	April 22**	Munising
May 6	Sault Ste. Marie	May 20	Naubinway
June 3	St. Ignace	June 17	Escanaba
July 1	Sault Ste. Marie	July 15	Manistique
August 5	Kincheloe	August 19	Marquette
September 2	Sault Ste. Marie	September 16	Munising
October 7	Sault Ste. Marie	October 21	St. Ignace
November 4	Sault Ste. Marie	November 18	Hessel
December 2	Sault Ste. Marie	December 16	Sault Ste. Marie

Per the Constitution and Bylaws, Article 1 – Meetings of the board of directors, Section 1:provided that at least one meeting per year shall be held in each of the five election units established pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the tribal constitution.

General meetings of the board of directors are held the first and third Tuesdays of the month with the exception of the months of January and April.**

All general meetings start at 6 p.m. All Sault meetings will be held at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center, other locations to be announced. All special meetings will be announced.

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

Hiawatha East RAC solicits member candidates

The U.S. Forest Service Hiawatha National Forest and Hiawatha East Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) are seeking candidate volunteers to serve on the resource advisory committees (RAC), which will determine how some federal funds are spent in Chippewa and Mackinac Counties. The funds are returned to the counties annually as part of a federal revenue-sharing program for counties that contain National Forest System lands.

The committees will be a mechanism for local community collaboration with Forest Service managers by developing and recommending projects that benefit national forest land in the affected counties, monitoring the projects, and providing advice to the Forest Service. The Act directs that projects will focus on road,

trail, infrastructure maintenance or obliteration; soil productivity improvement; forest ecosystem health; watershed restoration; or non-native invasive species.

Fifteen members and three alternates are needed in order to form each committee; the current solicitation will be used to fill existing vacancies. Committee members serve four-year terms and are selected by the Secretary of Agriculture. There's no pay, but committee members can be reimbursed for travel expenses to meetings.

The 15 members for each RAC represent the following interests as described in the Secure Rural School Act and reauthorized by Congress in September 2008, and must reside in the state of Michigan:

Category I- 5 persons repre-

senting the following interests:

- (a) Organized labor or non-timber forest product harvester groups;
- (b) Developed outdoor recreation, off highway vehicle users, or commercial recreation activities;
- (c) Energy and mineral development, or commercial or recreational fishing interests;
- (d) Commercial timber industry; or
- (e) Hold Federal grazing permits or other land use permits or represent non-industrial private forest land owners.

Category II - 5 persons who represent:

- (a) Nationally recognized environmental organizations;
- (b) Regionally or locally recognized environmental organizations;
- (c) Dispersed recreational activities;
- (d) Archaeological and historical interests; or
- (e) Nationally or regionally recognized wild horse

and burro interest groups, wildlife or hunting organizations, or watershed associations.

Category III - 5 persons who: (a) Hold State elected office or their designee; (b) Hold County or local elected official; (c) Represent American Indian tribes within or adjacent to the area for which the committee is organized; (d) School officials or teachers; or (e) Represent the affected public-at-large.

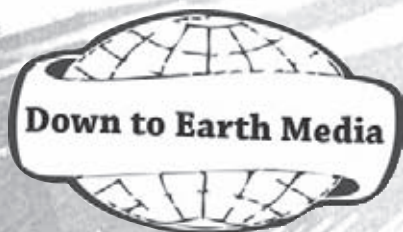
Replacement members don't vote but as with voting members, have undergone required clearance reviews so they can fill RAC vacancies more quickly.

The current Secure Rural Schools law authorizes 2012 and 2013 payments to states and counties based on the amount of national forest land in the county and other factors. Counties des-

ignate a portion of the funds to projects reviewed by the RAC. Funding available for Title II projects for Chippewa County is \$61,000 for Fiscal Year 2012 and about \$58,000 for Fiscal Year 2013.

Any Michigan resident interested in serving on the committee must complete an application form that will be used for a required background check.

For more information on the Secure Rural School Act, go to the website <http://www.fs.fed.us/srs/>. For more information on the Hiawatha East RAC, please contact Jim Ozenberger at (906) 643-7900, ext. 113, or Janel Crooks at (906) 428-5800. You may also download the application quick link at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/hiawatha/workingtogether/advisorycommittees>.



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Distributing 2 percent funds evenly in service area



DARCY MORROW, DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

The next board workshop on Feb. 11, the board will hold a discussion on how to distribute our 2 percent long term and short term more evenly throughout our seven county service area. Above is a table of the distribution per unit for 2012 and 2013.

<i>Long Term</i>	
<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Unit I \$801,916	\$801,916
Unit II \$29,000	\$29,000
Unit III \$329,298	\$185,900
Unit IV \$75,000	\$75,000
Unit V \$41,000	\$73,000

As you can see from the totals, we need to see some consistency in how these dollars are distributed. An example, Unit I received \$940,524.34 total combined long and short term dollars for 2013 and Unit IV received \$163,606.90

<i>Short Term</i> Spring & fall totals	
<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>
Unit I \$101,697.54	\$138,608.34
Unit II \$101,696.25	\$88,607.83
Unit III \$101,696.25	\$194,004.68
Unit IV \$101,698.03	\$88,606.90
Unit V \$101,696.25	\$88,606.90

the same year. I hope my fellow board members can come to an understanding that we need the 2 percent distribution to be fairly distributed. The purpose of this information is to show the membership that, at this time, we do

not have consistency or a formula on how each unit receives their 2 percent. The way we start to right the wrongs is to put into place impartial plans that distribute the 2 percent fairly around our seven-county service area.

Update on the TAP committee's progress: On Feb. 5 and 6, the Tribal Action Plan (TAP, drug task force) Committee met with two consultants from Fox Valley Technical College and a senior associate from the Center for Court Innovations. These three individuals and our committee reviewed and discussed our community survey, developed a plan of action for the remainder of our project year and discussed additional project tasks. These three professionals gave us a lot of good input on our draft community survey. The community surveys are the next step in helping us identify areas where we can

improve on providing services to the membership. The final surveys should be mailed out in the month of April. When your survey arrives please take a few minutes and fill it out, your input is very important to us. These surveys will allow us to create a plan that is specific to area needs.

Just a friendly reminder to all tribal members, make sure your children under the age of 18 are enrolled members with the tribe. If they are not enrolled, please call enrollment at (800) 251-6597; the staff will be able to help you with any questions you may have.

If I can any answer questions, feel free to give me a call at (906) 203-6699 or email dmorrow@saulttribe.net or darcymorrowforunit4@yahoo.com.

Thank you,
Darcy Morrow
Unit 4 Director

What is the role of a culture committee in our tribe?



DEBRA PINE, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Ahniin kina gwaya! Hello everyone! How is everyone this fine winter season? Good, I hope! I love the winter months! I

believe it is an awesome time to re-charge your batteries, get creative and spend good quality time with your family. Our favorite is sledding and beadwork. I recently visited with the elders and had to confess that I absolutely love this time of year, they laughed and forgave me since I wished them good health during this rough time of the year for them. We are pretty blessed to have such a good group of strong-hearted individuals in our community.

Recently the Anishnaabe Cultural Committee was in front of the board. They had been painstakingly reviewing the old by-laws and trying to resurrect the committee.

I'll be honest, I have watched the difficulties the past committee had and I was skeptical. Since I

do have a dedicated background in cultivating and maintaining our traditions, I am very hesitant to impose any type of belief I may carry on anyone else. That is the difficulty with a committee like this and it begs the question, what is their role in our tribe?

It quickly becomes messy, emotional and complicated when speaking about our cultural beliefs. Some families practice elaborate ghost feasts while others offered simply plates to the fire or placed out in the woods. Who's way is right? This argument goes back to the respect we have for each other's way of doing things but when you are talking about "maintaining" a culture, how do you handle all of this, especially when passionate

personalities are involved. See? Messy, emotional and complicated.

During our time with the newly formed committee, the board was asked our opinions on the topic. I had to take a step back and look at it from a broader perspective. Given my choice, I offered up the following: Assess, protect, revitalize and promote.

Since we were asked our opinions and in order to avoid the conflicts of the past, this is the direction I would love to see the committee go in. Since I am one of those people who like action and not meetings, I believe the group should "assess" what types of cultural activities we currently do and are active in, like, hunting, fishing, drumming, medicine

gathering etc. Second, "protect," set up policies that would protect what we have, like continued repatriation. I just now added "revitalized" to the list. We have things we have lost, like canoe making or cedar mat weaving. I would like to see the committee make it a goal to revitalize what was lost if at all possible. Lastly, "promote," set up venues that allow our citizens to actively learn our culture. We do offer camps, but lets take it a step further, post videos on the website for people who can't attend.

Gitch miigwech to the people who are making an effort to resurrect the committee.

Baamaapii kawaabmin!
Debra-Ann Pine, (906) 440-1334, debrapine@yahoo.com.

Board attendance, heating assistance and powwow



DENISE CHASE, DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

Board attendance

A motion was made regarding board attendance at two different board meetings and this is the final result: a motion was made to publish the tribal board attendance at regularly scheduled meetings and Tuesday workshops, financial reviews — which include governmental, casinos, and enterprises — special meetings, elder meetings, Gaming Commission meetings, Gaming Authority meetings and Gaming Authority workshops since July 2012. The list shall include absences due to attending official tribal business.

The majority of the board voted to approve this motion so the attendance record will be published on the tribal website.

Human Resources director update

The committee assigned to interview the human resources director applicants completed their final interviews and have presented their recommendation back to the board for hiring. At the Feb. 4 board meeting, the board approved its recommendation. The individual that was selected and approved by the board has accepted the position. This has been a long process. The Human Resource Department has been without a director for over 1.5 years. The tribe's executive director has been overseeing the department's day-to-day operations. Hopefully, within a month, we will have the HR director on site filling the void in the HR Department.

Heat assistance

The Anishnaabek Community and Family Services program have the following programs available for heating assistance:

1. Crisis Heating – Open to a specific target group; Sault Tribe elders 60 and older, or individuals receiving SSI or dis-

abled, or Sault Tribe household with an enrolled Sault Tribe child 5 and under.

2. Elders Heating – Open to Sault Tribe elders 60 and older who didn't qualify for the regular heating assistance.

To find out more information about the program guidelines or to receive an application call or stop into your local tribal office and talk to a direct services worker:

ACFS – Sault: 632-5250 or (800) 726-0093

ACFS – Viola Neadow, 5698W Hwy US-2, Manistique, 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137; or Willow Creek Professional Bldg., Escanaba (across from St. Francis Hospital) on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Manistique Gathering of the Clans Powwow

The powwow planning committee will be starting to meet to plan and organize the annual powwow. The powwow will be held the second weekend in June, 14 and 15. We are also accepting donations for the auction. If you would like to volunteer or donate an item, you can drop it off to the ACFS window for Viola Neadow, or call 341-6993. Thank you and I look forward to seeing you there.

The board will start a discussion on long and short-term 2 percent allocations on Feb. 11. I'm sure this will be one of many workshops on this subject. I will update you as we progress along with this topic. The goal should be that all units get a fair percentage of the long-term 2

percent distributions dollars.

Thank you. If you need to reach me, my contact info is below. I look forward to your input.

Denise Chase,
Vice Chair
(906) 322-3819, 341-6783 or dchase@saulttribe.net

Adult drug users more likely to consider suicide

Adults using illicit drugs are far more likely to seriously consider suicide than the general adult population according to a new report by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The report finds that 3.9 percent of the nation's adult population aged 18 or older had serious thoughts about suicide in the past year, but that the rate among adult illicit drug users was 9.4 percent.

"Suicide takes a devastating toll on individuals, families and communities across our nation," said Dr. Peter Delany, director of SAMHSA's Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. "We must reach out to all segments of our community to provide them with the support

and treatment they need so that we can help prevent more needless deaths and shattered lives."

Those in crisis or who know someone they believe may be at immediate risk of attempting suicide are urged to call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or go to <http://www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org>. The Suicide Prevention Lifeline network, funded by SAMHSA, provides immediate free and confidential, round-the-clock crisis counseling to anyone in need throughout the country, every day of the year.

The complete survey findings are available at: <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/spotlight/spot129-suicide-thoughts-drug-use-2014.pdf>

New director of human resources starts in March



BRIDGETT SORENSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT III

I am proud to announce that we will finally have a new director for the Human Resource Department in March. The position has been vacant for about two years.

At the Jan. 14 meeting in Newberry, the board voted to change the casino key employee position resolution which previously had about a dozen positions including casino managers. These positions were to be hired and fired by a majority of the board, now only the COO position will be voted on by the board. The COO will have complete authority to hire and terminate any staff that report to him in his chain of command. He will still need to follow all policies but when they are terminated they will be able to appeal their termination to the appeal board.

The agenda also included a report of board of directors' attendance on Tuesday workshops

and meetings. This turned into a fiasco as the chairman had put this on the agenda to prove that his favorite director had great attendance. Several directors did not agree with just accounting for Tuesdays because the board has many other meetings on other days of the week such as financials, gaming authority workshops, semi-annual reviews, committee meetings, elders meetings, etc. This to me was to stir up dissension. Even thou the board can only take action at a duly called meeting; I believe many of our other meetings are just as important. How can we make educated decisions when we are not there? I have no problem publishing my attendance because I attend nearly everything.

Proposed amendments continue to plague our meeting agenda and have been tabled several times because the board has not had an opportunity to dedicate the time to discussing these proposals with our staff and legal department. We would also like to get input from our communities on any constitutional change. So far we have only met on the right of recall or removal and about half of the board was not in attendance. The reason I said "plague" was because I do not like when items are added to the agenda and are not ready to be voted on. The membership comes to meetings because they want to see the action the board will take on these items and when the board is not ready for action the members are upset and I cannot blame them when they wait for

sometimes hours and waste their time.

We have passed another resolution for the housing division to re-apply for tax credits for the proposed elders living complex in St. Ignace. We had to make some changes since previously applying and have our fingers crossed that we will gain approval.

The tribe has recently hired an institutional researcher to help with statistics, data collection and grant writing. This position will greatly aide our mission to make the federal government realize the true needs and shortcomings our communities face.

On Jan. 21, the board was invited to join Congressman Dan Benishek on a tour of our USDA building in Sault Ste. Marie. Tony Nertoli and his staff took the time to explain to the congressman the process for applying for food assistance, the various distribution sites and toured the facility. Classes are offered by a nutrition educator to educate families on how to prepare home cooked nutritious food. The warehouse and food choices are very impressive. In addition to the famous blocks of cheese, choices now include frozen hamburger and chicken breast; fresh fruit and vegetables.

Families may be running out of unemployment soon and there have been changes to the program that you may now be eligible for commodities. You can reach the USDA office at (888) 448-8732. There were 685 families served in the month of January with total recipients of 1,187. The dol-

lar value of the food was \$126,298. Thank you to the staff at the USDA for all your hard work and years of dedication to feeding our members!

There have been many allegations posted on social media and in print about past chairmen and board members stealing from the tribe. I hate to see things posted without back up documentation and the willingness to take action. Talk is cheap and if you know there have been unethical actions, then bring them forward. I understand why people lose faith in their government when someone continues to put out this kind of propaganda and does not bring it forward to the board for discussion and action. Certainly things have happened in the past, but this is a new board and if the system is broken we need to fix it. We have directed our general counsel to research a fair process to have investigations conducted such as by an outside agency if need be.

The notice of election was posted on Friday, Jan. 31. The politics will continue to get worse as the election approaches. When in doubt contact the person for clarification.

On Feb. 5 and 6, our Tribal Action Plan Advisory Board met for training with staff from Fox Technical Valley to analyze a proposed survey to the membership on drug and alcohol abuse. The group took the proposed survey and decided it was rather lengthy. We want to make sure the questions that we use can be measured and used to promote

prevention, intervention, treatment and after care. Surveys should be mailed out in April or May. Please make sure to fill out the survey honestly and completely so we can try and provide the necessary services to combat these addictions.

The St. Ignace Family Fun Day will take place on Saturday, March 22 at the Little Bear Conference Center from noon to 3 p.m. The event is sponsored by the tribe and organized by Shirley Goudreau. If anyone is interested in volunteering or donating to this wonderful event, please call Shirley at (906) 430-7919.

Please mark your calendar for May 7, from 6-8 p.m., for a presentation sponsored by Mackinac Straits Hospital and the Sault Tribe Health Center on drugs and suicide. The event will take place at the St. Ignace Casino Event Center with guest speakers to include the Lucas Izzard Foundation.

I would like to congratulate four of St. Ignace's hockey teams for qualifying for the state finals. Many of our youth are tribal members that learn teamwork and promote physical activity through this awesome sport! One is my son Kody who did a great job! My other son, Konnor the goalie, had a learning year but did a great job with many saves in his districts!

Thank you for your calls and emails. I can be reached at 643-2125, 430-0536, bridgett91@yahoo.com or bsorenson@sault-tribe.net.

Treaty rights: Hollowell says use them or lose them



CATHERINE HOLLOWELL, DIRECTOR, UNIT II

Greetings. The State of Michigan is planning to sell off 11,500 acres of state-owned land to the Graymont Corporation, an international company involved

in limestone mining, extraction and processing.

The forestland rests in the Rexton area in Unit II of our tribal nation. It is within the Newberry Moraine, contains large blocks of high quality mesic northern hardwood forest type, and also contains the headwaters of the South Branch of the Carp River, the Black River and other streams that flow into lakes Huron, Michigan and Superior. The size of this sell-off is unprecedented, at least in modern times.

We got wind of this potential sale over two years ago and immediately approached the state for more information. Let's just say the state has been less than cooperative in sharing information about this land transaction.

I am aware that many folks are supportive of the Graymont sale because it will enhance tax revenue for local government, promises jobs and it will not hurt our water sheds or air quality (according to Graymont and the DNR). I certainly understand those sentiments, but setting aside all the science, economic and regulatory arguments for a moment, I respectfully ask you to look at this issue as a citizen of our tribal nation. This is an affront to our federally protected treaty rights in our ceded territories — plain and simple. If we don't assert our rights, we are going to lose our rights. The 2007 Consent Decree in *United States v. Michigan* specifically recognizes our sovereign rights when it comes to managing this shared resource.

In January, the Sault Tribe passed a 'Resolution of Opposition' to the planned land transaction between the State of Michigan and Graymont Corporation, because the project will result in the closing of existing access roads and will otherwise restrict or eliminate access to large areas of land that are now open, thereby causing a substantial detrimental impact to hunting, gathering and other activities protected under the 2007 Consent Decree. And, on Feb. 25, we will be formally discussing the proposed land transaction with the state of Michigan.

Remember, the 2000 Consent Decree (Great Lakes fishing) expires in 2020. Sometime along the way, we have fallen into a

mindset that our only role is to regulate 'internally' and spend our resources 'proving' compliance to the states, feds and other related jurisdictional entities. I know that is a frustration across the board to our fishing community. We need to change that dynamic and recognize that our sovereignty is not subservient to the state's sovereignty. As we prepare for the 2020 Consent Decree, we want to speak with a strong unified voice at the negotiation table. We cannot afford to stand mute on this issue. Sometimes you have to stand up and speak out.

It's campaign season. I am up for re-election and restricted to 500 words. So, please call with your questions and concerns: (906) 484-6821 Miigwech and Creator bless.

Thankful for cultural building and traditional use



CATHY ABRAMSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

I would like to take this time to thank our past leaders for their infinite wisdom and insight when they planned and developed the Niigaanighizik (Cultural) Building. What keeps it from being an empty building? The community! This is a place where many ceremonies take place. Here, I have attended talking circles, water teachings, naming ceremonies, storytelling, feasts, drum ceremonies, traditional foods and language classes and above all funerals and wakes. Here, we have a large kitchen area where we can cook our meals, areas where family may

take turns sleeping so that they can be with their loved ones all night, an area where chairs are set up and family and friends may come to services whether they be Catholic or traditional pipe ceremony. Outside, we have an enclosed building where a fire remains lit for a number of days while our loved one is on their journey crossing over to the other side. It is here where our fire keepers stay to make sure the fire continues to burn. This small building helps protect them from the elements of nature. I am extremely thankful for this.

I am also thankful for all the

community members who help out our grieving family members by volunteering to keep the fire going, sing and drum, bring their pipe for ceremony, cook and bake food, serve food and clean the kitchen and area. I'm thankful for those that offer to give teachings every step of the way, especially when there is a funeral. They do it because they care. They do it from the kindness of their heart. Those deeds do not go unnoticed. Thank you everyone!

On Christmas Eve, my little sister, Carol, passed on to the other side. She had cancer throughout her body so, indeed,

it was a true blessing that she went quickly. Because it was the holidays, we really did not want to interfere with anyone's Christmas. We did not want to call on anyone. However, Creator blessed us as always and our good friends and family came to us and offered their help. My beautiful little sister with the big smile and laugh brought this big diverse group of colorful people together again and we received many teachings. Miigwech for the teachings from Bahweting, Batchewana and Red Lake. I was so happy that we all came together.

See "Cultural," page 27

Malloy says economic diversification, separation from government needed as much as constitutional reform



**DJ MALLOY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I**

For the past several months, I have been talking about constitutional reform. This month, I am going to talk about something else we need just as much, economic diversification and separation from the purview of our government.

Our businesses are not unique from non-native businesses. We have the same issues to plan for and deal with everyday, economic downturns, market saturation, marketing and labor issues that affect our businesses just as they do any other. The difference is, in business outside the tribe, top management is made up of people who are experts or experienced in that particular industry. Or

perhaps the owners themselves have grown up in a business and decided to venture out using all of the skills they have attained during their career.

In our tribe, our elected officials are tasked with making decisions for ALL of our businesses as well as our governmental operations. No skill set is mandated to be on the Gaming Authority or Gaming Commission. Our other businesses are run through the governmental offices as "enterprises" and receive direction from the same entity as the casinos, the tribal board of directors. To date, our tribe has not been very successful in creating long term business models capable of sustaining themselves without financial support. There are a few exceptions, but for the most part, we have probably closed ten failed businesses for every one able to maintain a profit margin.

The answer to this is simple and has been proposed several times. We actually have a mechanism in place that would provide expert advice and guidance for our businesses. It is called a corporate charter. It also has the ability to expand opportunities for tribal member businesses and create incubators for start ups.

Our corporate charter has already been proposed to and accepted by the BIA over two years ago. It is currently sitting idle as the board has failed to put in place the corporate board of business experts.

Can you imagine the growth possibilities for business ventures led by a panel of business minds and experience? The benefit would be realized by both the tribe, as a whole, and tribal members. If you would like to know more about this corporate charter, please call your board members and ask them why we are waiting so long to put real experience and oversight behind our businesses.

As our population grows, it is more important than ever that we have a plan in place to sustain our services. As a member of the board, I have the privilege and opportunity to serve our people. It is through that service that we get an understanding and feeling for the needs of our people and communities. Our elders population is expanding at a phenomenal rate. This population is going to require more funding and expanded services to meet their needs: housing, home health care, assisted living, medical equipment, nutritional programs and support

for families who prefer to care for their relatives in the home rather than send them to a nursing facility. All these things need to be thought out and planned for BEFORE the need is imminent. We do not have the luxury of waiting any longer! Time is closing in on these issues and we have nothing in place dedicated to finance the needs of our grandmothers and grandfathers. I am open to suggestions and again, I always welcome anyone who is willing to provide the benefit of their education and experience to tackle these issues. If you have the time and inclination, please feel free to share!

Biboon (Winter) — winter is the time we share our traditional stories and take time to reflect. We have time during these long, cold months to look thoughtfully upon everything from our culture, our people, our lives and our goals/dreams.

This winter, we have lost so many people. Death has not been fickle. It has stolen the lives of the young and the old, the sick and the strong. And only one thing has remained constant — the unpredictability of our time here on earth. We sometimes forget how much we can impact the

lives of others during our short stay here. We also forget how others have impacted our own lives and that tomorrow is never promised.

Take time to recognize all your blessings. Take time to embrace the gift of family and friendship. Take time to thank those who have made a difference in your life. It doesn't have to be something big that you have to plan for. Just a simple phone call or a hug and a kind word of thanks or a plate of hot food can turn someone's whole day or life around, including your own! Take time to hug your family, look them in the eyes and tell them you love them. Be aware of all the love and blessings that surround you, recognize them, be thankful for them and soak them up. Life changes forever in an instant, and it isn't until we lose someone that we truly understand how our lives have been touched and changed by their life.

In closing, I was without phone or email for about two and a half weeks. So if you tried to contact me and I haven't responded, you now know why. All is back on track and I can be reached by phone at (906) 440-9762 or via email dmalloy@saulttribe.net.

New office opened at Chi Mukwa Recreation Center



**JENNIFER MCLEOD, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I**

Aanii Anishnaabek! It is a sacred time for Anishnaabe people, and especially so for people of the Bear Clan (Mukwa Dodem). Despite the severe cold, it is the time when baby bears are being born. In the darkness of a den, babies are born while their mothers sleep. Tiny cubs must find their way and latch on to their moms without help from anyone. It is a life or death struggle that plays out every year during the time of Mukwa Giizis, the Bear Moon (February). Anishnaabe Bear Clan people will often hold feasts at this time, to honor the bears. There are Anishnaabe teachings that tell us of the many gifts that Mukwa has given to our people, and for that we are grateful. At Bear Clan feasts, foods include the favorites of bears (fish, berries) as well as the favorites of people (mmm, frybread!). Sometimes there is drumming, singing, ceremonies, dancing and always great visiting. It is in this way that we perpetuate our way of life. Holding

fast to our traditions, and sharing them with our communities ensures that our ways will never disappear, that seven generations from now, during the month of February, Anishnaabe people will still be honoring the bears and all of the blessings they bring.

The month of February saw another "new life" of sorts, I have a new office! I've rented an office in the Chi-Mukwa (Big Bear) Recreation Center and it has been working out GREAT! The benefits over the space I was allowed to use in the downtown administration building are well worth the money. Unlike admin, parking is FREE, and readily available. There is no "sign-in" sheet. Big Bear is open after 5 p.m., and also on Saturday if I need it. PLUS, I don't have to haul all of my things back and forth! I use the public Wi-Fi, provide my own computer and phone, so there is no additional cost to the tribe. In the short time I have been there, I have had many more people coming to talk with me about their ideas and concerns. I have office hours on Thursdays, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., barring other meetings that I must attend, or if I am out of town. I am also very willing to meet at other times by appointment, just give me a call or a text! I am located on the second floor, in the Big Bear administration offices.

On a personal level, I am announcing the "birth" of my website. You can find it at <http://jmcleodsaulttribe.com>. I have been working on this with Brila Media, which is Native owned and operated business (www.brilamedia.com). My website is

a "work in progress" and it is my hope that it will become a useful communication tool. Please feel free to visit, and give me your feedback/suggestions. Although I'm told that I'm "pretty tech-savvy for someone in your generation," I would like this to reach beyond my fifty-something years, and be useful for all.

At the board level, I am seeing some positive change. There have been increased instances where the votes have been nearly unanimous! This does not mean that we are in total agreement with each other, but it is an indicator of cohesion. This is exciting because we are focusing on the development of a tribal strategic plan, and having cohesion will be helpful in creating a shared vision. Businesses, organizations and tribal nations need to have a shared vision in order to move forward, without it, there is chaos. We have had enough of the chaos! Granted, we are now in an election cycle, and elections come with their own "special chaos," but it is my fervent prayer that our tribal leadership will not allow it to derail the efforts to create the very necessary "SHARED VISION." Our children, and the children of the next seven generations are counting on us.

Speaking of our children, I have increased my efforts to be involved with the education of our tribal students. I am the chairperson of the JKL Fiduciary Committee, and we are working to solidify the vision and policies of our grant school, to ensure academic gain of our students and to work more closely with

the JKL Baweting Public School Academy. I am involved with their curriculum committee, am participating in educational events at the school (Science fair and Reading Month), and helping to develop links to our Anishnaabe Community. It is an exciting time of growth, and working in cooperation with Superintendent Theresa Kallstrom, I believe that we will continue to see academic growth and success for our children.

In closing, this Mukwa Giizis is seeing the beginning of many new things. Miigwetch to those of you who have been contacting me with your new ideas and sugges-

tions. I recognize your love for our tribe, and I want you to know that you are appreciated. Working together, we can move into the future with strength and confidence, secure in the knowledge that we are Anishnaabe gagige (Anishnaabe for always)!

If you're in the Sault sometime, stop in for a visit! If not, visit me in cyberspace at <http://jmcleodsaulttribe.com> Until we meet again, stay safe and warm, Jen. (906) 440-9151, jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com.

PS: March 28, 2014, is the DEADLINE to register to vote in the upcoming election. DON'T DELAY! Call (906) 635-6050!

Thankful for cultural building and traditional use

From "cultural," page 26
-er for Carol.

Again, I am writing this because I want you to know that our past leaders planned and implemented something really important when the Niigaanighiizik Building was built. This is a place where our families gather, for a variety of reasons, many of which I already listed. Here, if you listen, you will hear our oral history, who is related to who, how they fish, hunt, trap and gather. You will hear our language. You will eat our foods. You will reacquaint yourselves with your family and friends

and you will feel loved and belong. It's a place where we can help come together, build each other up and strengthen our ties with one another. We need that desperately. We are a good people who have much to contribute. I'm proud of who I am and where I come from. I plan to help keep our traditions alive so that my children and my grandchildren will enjoy everything that I have enjoyed from our lands.

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

DON WILLIAMS

Thursday, April 3

at 7:00 p.m.

\$48.50, \$42.50



DREAMMAKERS THEATER

KEWADIN SAULT STE. MARIE, MI

FEBRUARY

Cheap Trick

20th | 7 p.m. | Thursday | \$52.50, \$42.50

On Sale Now

Chip Coffey

22nd | 7 p.m. | Saturday Presentation | \$30.00

22nd | 5 & 9 p.m. | Gallery Readings | \$50.00

On Sale Now

MARCH

Trisha Yearwood

2nd | 7 p.m. | Sunday | \$72.50, \$62.50

On Sale Now

APRIL

Don Williams

3rd | 7 p.m. | Thursday | \$48.50, \$42.50

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