

Win Awenen Nisitotung

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



Manidoo Giisoonhs
Little Spirit Moon

Minobii niibaa-niibaa giizhigad! Merry Christmas!

Abramson recognized for Indian health advocacy

By JENNIFER DALE-BURTON
On Nov. 6, at a special ceremony in Bethesda, Md., tribal board member Cathy Abramson was honored with the IHS Director's Special Recognition Award in Tribal Leadership and Partnership.

"Ms. Abramson was selected for the IHS Director's award for her work and partnership with the Indian Health Service as a leader for her tribe and for her contributions as the chair of the National Indian Health Board," Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, acting IHS director, said. "We appreciate her dedication and commitment to improving the health and well-being of American Indians and Alaska Natives."

An 18-year veteran of the Sault Tribe's board of directors, Abramson has become a respected national advocate of the health and well being of Native Americans everywhere. "Cathy has become one of the country's foremost experts on Indian health and has worked hard to build important relationships and partnerships to improve our overall health. She advises the Health and Human Services Secretary and the CDC, testifies

to Congress, and visited our legislators to help educate and inform them of our plight," said Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment. "She's even cooked traditional feasts here in the community to help educate visiting representatives!"

Abramson has been on the National Indian Health Board (NIHB) for six years, stepping into the chair's seat three years ago, to the benefit of tribes everywhere. "Cathy Abramson's chairmanship of NIHB brought new and closer partnerships with Indian Country, Congress and the administration," said NIHB Executive Director Stacey Bohlen. "She worked hard and established herself as an expert in Indian health policy and leveraged that knowledge, relationships and a heart for the people to lead NIHB as a very effective, responsive national team leader."

Bohlen added, "She honored what the tribes expect from NIHB as the national, tribal advocate for the advancement and improvement of our people's health and health systems. As the executive director of NIHB, I am honored to have had her as a mentor and leader and I can say without res-



Photo courtesy IHS

Left to right, NIHB Executive Director Stacy Bohlen, IHS Acting Director Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, Sault Tribe board member Cathy Abramson with her award, and Bemidji Area IHS Director Keith Longie.

ervation, this award is very well deserved."

Abramson said she could count on support from NIHB board and staff to improve the health of Indian people.

"I had the honor of being the National Indian Health Board chairperson for nearly three years and committed my leadership to building strong partnerships

for the betterment of American Indian and Alaska Native health at the national level," said Abramson.

She added, "With the blessings of a supportive and committed board and a dedicated executive director and staff, we made great strides in moving forward the health agenda of our people."

Some of Abramson's extensive

work includes the six years on the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee for Health and Human Services, where she and other tribal leaders meet directly with HHS Secretary Burwell, and five years on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Tribal Advisory Board, as well as many regional and local initiatives throughout the years.

American Indians and the Affordable Care Act: what to do

FROM SAULT TRIBE HEALTH
One of the most important pieces of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is the requirement that most Americans have health care coverage. If you don't have health care coverage for you and your family, you could be assessed a tax penalty.

The Health Insurance Marketplace benefits American Indians and Alaska Natives by providing opportunities for affordable health coverage. On the Marketplace, you and your family may be eligible for lower/no costs

monthly premiums and out-of-pocket costs (such as co-pays and deductibles) based on your income. You can enroll any time.

Despite being covered for services at our health centers, the Marketplace offers new options for health coverage and supplies your tribe more money to invest in additional health care programs for your benefit.

If you have insurance – private coverage through an employer, Medicare, Medicaid, MICHild, veterans coverage or Tricare – then you have satisfied the

"Individual Mandate" and do not need to purchase additional health care coverage to avoid the tax penalty.

Federally-recognized American Indians are one of several groups exempt from the insurance mandate. The exemption may be claimed through the tax filing process or through a paper application process. The Sault Tribe Health Division is recommending that you visit the Marketplace and determine what coverage you are eligible to receive. In some cases, health insurance coverage

is available at no cost or at a very limited cost to you and your family. By enrolling in health coverage through the Marketplace, you have better access to services that our clinics may not provide.

If you do not have health insurance, please call, schedule an appointment or come in to visit with one of our certified applications counselors at any one of our clinics to see what type of health coverage you may be eligible to receive.

Here is the contact information for counselors in the tribe's ser-

- vice area:
- Sault Ste. Marie, 632-5200, Lane Barber, Jodie Hoglund, Carol Pages-Montie, Tom Sauro.
- Hessel, 484-2727, Teresa Jedele.
- St. Ignace, 643-8689, Heather Lester.
- Newberry, 293-8181, Lois Bryant or Shirley Kowalke.
- Manistique, 341-8469, Jennifer Sitkoski or Kellie Lakosky.
- Munising, 387-4721, Chris Marinoff or Nancy Beauchaine.
- Escanaba, 786-2636, Tara Duchene.

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Sault Tribe member Steve Erskine displays the Sault Tribe flag at the South Pole. Since February, Erskine work has worked in Antarctica as a facility engineer with United States Antarctic Program.

Temporary exec hired



Fred Buro (above), newly hired temporary Casino Executive Officer, has been put in charge of Sault Tribe's Kewadin Casinos. He will oversee all casino properties while reporting to

the Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority.

Buro comes to Kewadin Casinos with 24 years extensive experience in all facets of casino management and operations, including deep experience in marketing, training, organization development, asset optimization, brand development, pricing and positioning, public relations and online gaming.

His career includes top positions at the MTR Gaming Group, Trump Hotels and Casino Resorts, Penn National Gaming and Tropicana Entertainment/Columbia Sussex.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians employment opportunities

Contact (866) 635-7032 or stemployment@saulttribe.net.

For the list of available job opportunities, apply or sign up for email notifications, visit <http://saulttribe.myexactlyhire.com/searchjobs.php>

GOVERNMENTAL OPENINGS

Sault Ste. Marie and Kincheloe

Diabetes Program manager – full time/regular – open until filled

Family nurse practitioner/physician assistant – part time/on-call – open until filled

Family nurse practitioner/physician assistant – full time/regular - (ccc/sthc) – open until filled

Staff pharmacist – full time/regular – open until filled

Gaming systems administrator (MIS) – full time/regular – open until filled

Community Health educator (5) – full time/regular – open until filled

Child care instructor (with Associates) – full time/regular – open until filled

Health & wellness manager – full time/regular – open until filled

Project coordinator – full time/regular – open until filled

Legal aide attorney (ARC) – full time/regular – 12/31/14

Hessel, St. Ignace, Escanaba, Manistique, Munising and Newberry

Physician supervisor (Manistique) – full time/regular – open until filled

Community Health nurse (St. Ignace) part time/regular – open until filled

Family nurse practitioner/physician (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – open until filled

Behavioral Health counselor (Manistique) full time/regular – open until filled

KEWADIN CASINO OPENINGS

Sault Ste. Marie Kewadin

Electrician – part time/regular – open until filled

Marketing director – full time/regular – open until filled

St. Ignace Kewadin

Restaurant assistant manager I – full time/regular – open until filled

Manistique Kewadin

Food & Beverage manager II – full time/regular – open until filled

Christmas Kewadin

Restaurant manager III – full time/regular – open until filled

Casino manager III – full time/regular – open until filled

Line cook – full time/regular – open until filled

Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

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Manidoo Giisoonhs
Little Spirit Moon
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Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor
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.

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Sault Tribe Member Newspaper Subscription Form

To receive a FREE tribal newspaper subscription in the mail, tribal members under 60 are asked to complete the form below and send it to: Win Awenen Nisitotung, 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783, or email it to saulttribenews@saulttribe.net. Those 60 and over do not have to fill out this form. Those who prefer to get their newspaper online or by mobile app do not have to complete this form.

Or download a form from our website! Go to: www.saulttribe.com/39-newsroom/sault-tribe-newspaper/2034-wan-now-available-by-request-stn-page

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State and Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ (optional)

Email: _____ (optional)

Form 2014 - 2015

Child development courses offered in Sault Ste. Marie

Bay Mills Community College and Sault Tribe Education are offering two free early childhood courses in January in Sault Ste. Marie.

EC108 Competencies and Best Practices in Children and Family Programs II is a four credit-hour course. The prerequisite is EC107 with a C grade or better. This course is also offered on-line.

EC108 is the second of two courses that will prepare students for the Child Development Associate (CDA) competency exam. The course will give students resource materials, a basic foundation of knowledge, and hands-on experience in ways to nurture cognitive, motor, language and creative process skills in children. The main objective is to teach students ways to advance physical and intellectual development in young children. Principles of children's growth and development will be integrated throughout the course, as will experiences in observing and recording children's behavior and progress in the areas of creative process, motor development, language and cognitive development. Long range and daily planning will also be explored. Students

will be observed working with children, will continue to work on their professional resource files, and will fulfill other course requirements.

EC117 Health, Safety, and Nutrition for Early Childhood is a three credit-hour course with a co-requisite of EN111. This course is also offered on-line. In EC117, students will understand the roles of good nutrition, health, and safety in the early childhood classroom. Students will learn practical skills and procedures to increase their effectiveness with young children. This course incorporates and will provide students with accurate, authoritative, and up-to-date information on nutrition, health, and safety for young children.

Location, dates and times for these two classes will be announced at a later date on the Sault Tribe Higher Education Facebook page and also on the Sault Tribe website under membership services in the Education section. To register for the classes, contact Bay Mills Community College at (906) 248-3354 or you can register on-line at www.bmcc.edu or in person at 12214 W. Lakeshore Drive, Brimley, MI.

Newberry powwow bake sale

The Newberry Powwow Committee is having a Christmas bake sale on Dec. 20, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., at Mac's Super Value.

Let us help with your Christmas baking. We will have

tasty cookies, candy, breads and gift trays of different sizes for someone you know who loves homemade goodies.

All proceeds will benefit the 2015 powwow at the Newberry Tribal Center.

Support groups meet in the Sault

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, go online and send email to us at Chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org or visit the organizational website, www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org.

The meeting date for January is on Jan. 21. FAN is 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 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 Jan. 5 and Jan. 19.

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

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Tribe begins two initiatives for tribal membership

SAULT STE. MARIE — Sault Tribe is implementing two new initiatives for its members — a Tribal Business Directory and a Tribal Member Jobs Bank.

Tribal members who own a business are invited to fill out the form below or go to the tribe's website. Information collected will go into a database. The tribe is looking to help tribal members connect to each other and with others searching for tribal vendors. The tribe is also looking at using more tribal member vendors itself.

To register with the tribe's tribal members business directory, fill out the form below and send it in at the address below, or go to www.saulttribe.com/newsroom/2055-stmbd to download the form.

The purpose of the Jobs Bank is to collect information on tribal members employment skills and needs in order to help them connect to each other and to prospective employers. Further, when the tribe's casinos in lower Michigan open, the tribe will already have a database of tribal members along with their skills and specialties to connect with.

If you would you like to register with the tribe's jobs bank, please complete the form below and mail it in, or go to the tribe's website at www.saulttribe.com/newsroom/2054-stmjb for a form to download.

Please contact the Chairperson's Office at 906-635-6050 or toll free (800) 793-0660 with any questions.

Sault Tribe Member Jobs Bank Application

To be registered with the tribe's jobs bank for its members, please complete this form and send to: Tribal Chairperson's Office, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783, or email to chairpersonpayment@saulttribe.net if using the electronic form.

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Experience _____
 Skills: _____
 Education: _____
 Certifications? _____
 Can we share this information with interested employers? Yes _____ No _____

Sault Tribe Member Business Directory Application

To be registered with the tribe's business directory for its members, please complete this form and send to: Tribal Chairperson's Office, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783, or email to chairpersonpayment@saulttribe.net if using the electronic form.

Business Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____
 Website: _____
 Services Provided: _____
 Percentage Native Owned: _____
 Tribal Members Name: _____
 8(a) Certified? Yes _____ No _____ Minority Business Certified? Yes _____ No _____
 Other certification? _____

Feds investigate U.P. Great Lakes fish sales

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

U.S. Fish and Wildlife agents worked undercover for 14 months in the Upper Peninsula investigating allegedly illegal catches of lake trout. The feds operated a fake fish business — the Upper Peninsula North Fish Company in L'Anse — that bought and sold fish, and 400 of their purchases turned out to be fish that the USFWS claims were caught illegally.

In addition to the lake trout, the wildlife agency said it had also been investigating illegal trafficking and false reporting of catches of walleye, whitefish and sturgeon. The investigation involves millions of pounds of alleged illegally caught fish on the Great Lakes, including Lakes Superior, Huron and Michigan.

No charges have been filed yet. Search warrants used in the investigation were recently unsealed, and court records show warrants were served on businesses and fishing vessels in Wisconsin and Michigan. Those named in the warrants included non-tribal fish dealers and members of various tribes. Agents seized records from Peterson's Fish Market in Hancock on Nov. 5 and searched Dan's Fish in Sturgeon Bay, Wis., the Beaver Island Fresh Fish Market on Beaver Island and the John Cross Fish Market in Charlevoix.

The fish store used by the feds during the investigation is located just off of the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) reservation.

KBIC Prosecutor Dan McNeil, said, "I don't know the exact details yet, the FBI hasn't released their investigation. The fish house was located close to the reservation, our officers inquired about it, but State of

Michigan individuals said they were non-Natives off the reservation and our officers were turned back. We turned it over to the DNR, who said everything was fine — and that was the end of that."

McNeil said he is waiting for the FBI to release more information to him. At a meeting in Marquette last month, he said the feds told those in attendance that they were about to execute warrants and that was the last he has heard.

The office of U.S. Attorney Patrick A. Miles Jr. released the following statement, "On Nov. 5, 2014, U.S. Fish And Wildlife Service agents executed search warrants at various locations in northern Michigan and eastern Wisconsin holding wholesaler records of fish taken from lakes Michigan and Superior. The searches are pursuant to an investigation into potential violations of the Lacey Act."

"U.S. Attorney Patrick A. Miles Jr. and representatives of the Justice Departments Environment and Natural Resources Division are communicating with state, tribal and federal law enforcement representatives and look forward to working with them as partners in maintaining and safeguarding a healthy fishery.

"Given the ongoing nature of the investigation, no further comment will be offered at this time," the official statement said. "There won't be any further statements during the ongoing investigation."

The Lacey Act is a federal conservation law prohibiting interstate trade in wildlife, including fish, that have been taken, possessed and transported or sold in violation of federal, state or tribal laws.

Sault Tribe Newspaper 2015 Publishing Schedule

DEADLINE (12 pm)	DIGITAL ISSUE	PRINT ISSUE
January 9	January 19	January 23
February 6	February 16	February 20
March 6	March 16	March 20
April 10	April 20	April 24
May 1	May 11	May 15
May 29	June 8	June 12
June 26	July 6	July 10
July 24	August 3	August 7
August 28	September 8	September 11
October 2	October 12	October 16
November 6	November 16	November 20
December 4	December 14	December 18

Announcing New Optical Services!

The Sault Tribal Health Center Optical Department in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., is pleased to announce the addition of contact lens services and state-of-the-art optical equipment.

COME JOIN US AT OUR OPEN HOUSE ON Wednesday, January 21 from 12-4 p.m.

View the new contact lens room and watch demonstrations of the cutting edge OCT Cirrus, which will provide our patients with early diagnosis and treatment options for diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, and macular degeneration.



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Leask opens two new tech firms in Cheboygan

Sault Tribe member and ISHPI founder Noah Leask has a vision of prosperity from technology, education, business and philanthropy, and he is going to make it happen.

“Today my president in AirNorth created 11 jobs in northern Michigan,” he said. AirNorth is a new wireless Internet provider based in Cheboygan designed to provide broadband real, useable Internet bandwidth at an affordable cost.

“There are no caps on bandwidth — bandwidth is guaranteed, it’s unlimited. Rural areas are not unique — we’re busting that model,” said Leask, who grew up in Cheboygan.

Right now, AirNorth only offers services in Cheboygan County but is planning to expand coverage northward, and is in negotiations to offer a wide range of services in 22 states.

ISHPI, a cyber assurance firm that contracts with the federal government, recently purchased a technology firm, Advanced Information Services Inc. This move allows a new firm, SATG, to take ISHPI’s cyber capability commercial. A slow start up is

planned for January. “It won’t be popping up overnight, like Air North seemed to,” Leask said.

SATG will offer cyber assurance to entities like energy, medical and banking as well as local, state and international governments — U.S. allies only, Leask added. SATG will offer seven to 12 quality jobs in northern Michigan.

It all started less than 10 years ago after Leask and his wife, Lisa, got out of the Navy and started a business from their home in South Carolina. They obtained Native American disabled veteran 8(a) certification and started up a cyber assurance firm called “ISPFI,” Anishinaabe for “higher ground,” and it’s been growing by leaps and bounds ever since.

Leask says he is not a serial entrepreneur, rather, it’s part of his vision of returning profits to the community. “It takes time, money and effort” to create the “engine of profit” that leads to sustainable jobs, to children’s education, to economic prosperity. That is why Leask is working to establish “world class” companies in northern Michigan.

“People have been working on this for a long time,” he said. “I came in on it and I love it.”

He is partnering with schools and robotics, and sponsoring science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) grants. The Leasks, who have three daughters of their own, personally help fund Sault Tribe higher education scholarships and equine therapy organizations. The Leasks have been contributing for two years now and want to keep it going.

“I am so happy about the scholarships,” said Leask, who grew up with very modest means.

The Sault Tribe member is almost done with his master’s in business administration at the University of Michigan and is now prepping for the entrance exam to law school. “I like business law and I deal with it a lot — the legal side of business,” said Leask. “Knowing the law is a very powerful tool. This will help me in the future.”

As if Leask isn’t doing enough, he thinks he could do better. “I’m feeling called, led down a path,” he said. “I have to do the things I’ve been asked to do.”



Noah Leask at the Small business Association awards ceremony.



ISHPI grand opening of new corporate headquarters, left to right, Mike Beadle, Girish Seshagiri, Earl Bowers, Noah Leask, Mount Pleasant, S.C. Mayor Linda Page, Lisa Leask, Delores Dacosta, Claire Murchison and John Busch.

Escherich joins tribe’s Environmental Department

Tiffany Escherich recently accepted a position as a specialist with the Sault Tribe Environmental Department. Her role with the department includes protecting and restoring the tribe’s natural resources through establishing a tribal pesticide program with the ability to access, implement and regulate pesticide use on tribal lands.

Escherich is an alumna of Lake Superior State University

with working experience through Ludington State Park where she spent a summer monitoring the endangered piping plover shorebirds, another summer with the U.S. Forest Service in St. Ignace as a student wildlife technician and a summer working in St. Ignace for the Nature Conservancy.

As an environmental specialist, Escherich will essentially be

investigating the tribe’s pesticide usage and inventory, assessing the need for training as well as reviewing policies, procedures and ordinances related to pesticides and environmental response and public outreach activities. Her many duties include tasks such as working with federal, state and other tribal professionals to integrate programs benefitting tribal

goals and values, leading field activities, performing tasks to meet grant requirements as well as helping with the development and maintenance of procedures and plans surrounding environmental concerns.

She anticipates writing features as the seasons change for the tribe’s newspaper about naturally controlling emerging pests such as ticks, mice and others.



DOJ selects first ever Gaye L. Tenoso Indian Country legal fellow, part of Attorney General’s Honors Program

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Attorney General Eric H. Holder Jr., recently announced Charisse Arce, of Bristol Bay, Alaska, was selected as the first-ever Gaye L. Tenoso Indian Country Legal Fellow, part of the Attorney General’s Honors Program.

Arce was chosen from a large pool of highly-qualified applicants and will be appointed to a three-year term position in the United States Attorney’s Office in the District of Arizona where she will be assigned to the district’s Indian Country Crime Section. Arce will also serve a portion of her appointment in the Pascua Yaqui tribal prosecutor’s office.

This is the first year of the Gaye L. Tenoso Indian Country Fellowship in the Attorney General’s Honors Program and it is awarded to an extraordinarily well-qualified new attorney with a deep interest in and enthusiasm for improving public safety in tribal communities.

“This is an investment in the future of the department, named for a beloved and extraordinary member of our DOJ family — and an enrolled member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Indians — who sadly passed away

this summer, but devoted her career to advancing the federal government’s relationships with sovereign tribes. This program exemplifies how we are seeking to institutionalize the department’s commitment to justice in Indian Country,” said Attorney General Holder. “The Indian Country fellowship will give each candidate an opportunity to gain significant experience and exposure to the work of the Justice Department in Indian Country, and in the long term help us build a cadre of legal talent in the department with expertise in federal Indian law.”

“We are excited to welcome Charisse Arce to the District of Arizona as the first Gayle Tenoso Indian Country Fellowship recipient,” said U.S. Attorney for the District of Arizona John S. Leonardo. “The U.S. Attorney’s Office is committed to making this inaugural fellowship a success for all involved and a model for future fellowships in Arizona and in districts around the country. Ms. Arce has demonstrated a strong commitment to American Indian and Alaska Native communities, and we look forward to having

her in our Tucson office and working closely with the Pasqua Yaqui Tribe.”

Ms. Arce is currently a fellow at Bristol Bay Native Corporation, one of thirteen Alaska Native Regional Corporations created under federal law. Ms. Arce received her law degree from Seattle University School of Law, where she was a member of the editorial staff for and published an article in the American Indian Law Journal. During law school, Ms. Arce served as an extern for the United States Attorney’s Office for the Western District of Washington, for the Washington State Supreme Court, and for the Department of Interior’s Office of the Solicitor. She also worked as a legal research assistant for a law professor and for a private law firm. Prior to law school, Ms. Arce graduated, cum laude, with a B.A. in Marketing from Seattle University.

The Pascua Yaqui Tribe, based near Tucson, Ariz., is one of three tribes — along with the Tulalip Tribes of Washington, and the Umatilla Tribes of Oregon — participating in a pilot project under the 2013 reauthorization of the Violence Against Women

Act (VAWA 2013) to exercise special domestic violence criminal jurisdiction over certain defendants, regardless of their Indian or non-Indian status, who commit acts of domestic violence or dating violence or violate certain protection orders in Indian country. The pilot is authorized by the Department of Justice. This new law generally takes effect on March 7, 2015, but also authorizes the pilot project to allow certain tribes to begin exercising special jurisdiction sooner. Since the pilots began, more than 20 criminal cases have been charged by tribal prosecutors against non-Indian domestic violence offenders, and several have been convicted of domestic violence crimes.

“The Pascua Yaqui Tribe is pleased to have the opportunity to partner with the District of Arizona U.S. Attorney’s Office and the Attorney General’s Honors Program, through the Gaye L. Tenoso Indian Country Fellowship,” said Pascua Yaqui Tribal Chairman Peter Yucupicio. “We welcome the new Department of Justice fellow and look forward to a productive partnership as we fight violent crime, work to keep our

community safe, and continue to implement the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), and Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction.”

The fellowship is named in honor of Department of Justice attorney, the late Gaye L. Tenoso. Gaye’s distinguished service to the department and the people it serves spanned 30 years. For the last six years of her life Gaye served as the deputy director at the Office of Tribal Justice. Gaye’s expertise in Federal Indian law and knowledge of tribes enabled her to be an exceptionally effective advisor on litigation and policy matters. She worked tirelessly to ensure that specific protections for American Indian women were included in VAWA 2013. Gaye also mentored many legal interns during her time at the Office of Tribal Justice, and was an inspiration and guide who left a deep impression on many young attorneys.

Read more about the work of the Department of Justice in Indian Country at www.justice.gov/tribal/accomplishments and www.justice.gov/tribal/accomplishments.



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White House recognizes tribe as climate leader

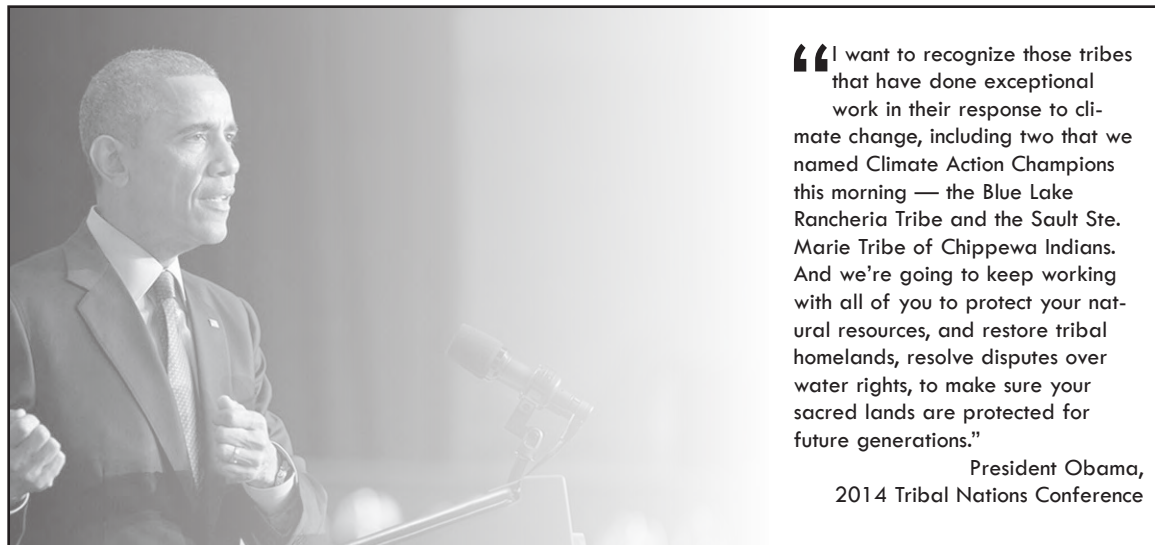
BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians was recognized by President Obama Dec. 3 at the 2014 White House Tribal Nations Conference as one of 16 cities or other communities named Climate Action Champions for efforts to address climate change.

“I am so proud of my administration’s Natural Resources, Housing, Law Enforcement, Planning, Health and Traditional Medicine team in pulling together our call to action to protect our Aki (Mother Earth),” said tribal Chairperson Aaron Payment. “I appreciate the president recognizing our excellence.”

Unit I Director Cathy Abramson said, “Our chairperson put together a quality team of knowledgeable staff that put this award winning application together. Our tribe needs to realize the importance of follow up and follow through at the national level and in particular, the federal government. That is what our chairperson does and has done so eloquently and more importantly, very effectively, for our tribe.”

During his remarks at the conference, President Obama said, “I want to recognize those



“I want to recognize those tribes that have done exceptional work in their response to climate change, including two that we named Climate Action Champions this morning — the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. And we’re going to keep working with all of you to protect your natural resources, and restore tribal homelands, resolve disputes over water rights, to make sure your sacred lands are protected for future generations.”

President Obama,
2014 Tribal Nations Conference

tribes that have done exceptional work in their response to climate change, including two that we named Climate Action Champions this morning — the Blue Lake Rancheria Tribe and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. And we’re going to keep working with all of you to protect your natural resources, and restore tribal homelands, resolve disputes over water rights, to make sure your sacred lands are protected for future generations.”

Sault Tribe Unit II Director Catherine Hollowell, said,

“Climate change solutions are an economic driver that goes hand in hand with protecting our pristine waters and natural resources. We’re immensely proud of the comprehensive vision for future generations that this plan entails.”

Hollowell is also an appointee to the National Tribal Caucus for the EPA.

Sault Tribe Environmental Program Manager Kathie Brosemer, added, “I think it was the diversity of our efforts, not just energy conservation, but also food security, emergency preparedness, waste reduction, etc.,

that made us stand out.”

A White House press release said the 16 Climate Action Champions were recognized as cities that have “considered their climate vulnerabilities and taken decisive action to cut carbon pollution and build resilience.”

The selected communities, according to the press release, “will benefit from facilitated peer-to-peer learning and mentorship and targeted support from a range of federal programs. Furthermore, a coordinator will be provided to each Climate Action Champion to

foster coordination and communication across the federal agencies, national organizations and foundations in support of the champions. The coordinator will also assist efforts to raise awareness of funding and technical assistance opportunities that are available specifically for Climate Action Champions.”

The Climate Action Champions competition was launched this past fall by the White House to identify and recognize climate leaders within their local communities and to provide federal support to help those communities further build resilience to climate impacts. The competition was led by the Department of Energy.

For more details on Climate Action Champions, visit www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2014/12/03/fact-sheet-16-us-communities-recognized-climate-action-champions-leaders.

To see President Obama address the 2014 White House Tribal Nations Conference, go to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rt0roRoU8ds&feature=youtube_gdata.

Big benefits come from climate leader recognition

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians was recognized as one of two tribes in the country by President Obama that were named Climate Action Champions for their proactive efforts to address climate change issues.

The designation is a prestigious one, bringing with it non-monetary compensation such as access to a federal coordinator who will help the tribe find grant monies and other resources to continue addressing climate change mitigation and adaptation within the tribes boundaries.

Environmental Program Manager Kathie Brosemer said climate change issues are more than just energy conservation, “... there is a whole list of things that go into climate mitigation and adaptation. Mitigation is where you try to prevent climate change from happening by producing less carbon, and adaptation is how you cope with the changes it will bring,” she said.

Brosemer said she visited different sectors of the tribe, and most of them didn’t realize that what they were doing had anything to do with climate change. During a conversation with Joanne Umbrasas from Sault Tribe Housing, she said Umbrasas suddenly remembered that the tribe’s first reservation housing that was built in the 80s used solar thermal heat. Brosemer said that shows the tribe has a long track record of being proactive with their energy initiatives.

“Traditional medicine is important to our adaptation – if we can be more self reliant we won’t be so desperate during climate changes. The fact that we have so many client visits and prescriptions written by Traditional Medicine is a marker of our climate resilience,” Brosemer said. “Our hunting and fishing licenses – that is both mit-

igation and adaptation, the more we produce our own food locally the less food has to travel. Food miles traveled is a big contributor to green house gas emissions. Hunting and fishing is also an adaptation effort, if there is a cut off of a food supply because of climate change events, the more people that have canned foods in their basements and venison in their freezers, the better off our community will be.”

Brosemer said that because she was able to link these diverse things together and show how they relate to climate mitigation and adaptation, she believes that put the tribe ahead in the competitive selection process.

Energy audits have been completed at all of the tribe’s government buildings, including lighting retrofits to reduce energy consumption. “We need some help to go the next step and implement the findings of the audits,” Brosemer said.

“These are things the federal coordinator will be able to help us with. For example, insulating and air sealing buildings and replacing windows and doors, then installing new HVAC systems - including ground source heat pumps, solar and wind on location - so we can start to generate our own electricity and become energy self sufficient. What we need is engineering work on our buildings so we have the specifications we need to move forward with our retrofits. A lot of what they have to offer us is technical assistance towards projects, so if they could do that it would be wonderful. It would be great if they could help us do another wind power study – our last one was 12 years ago and there is new technology today that wasn’t available then. We need to look at newer properties the tribe owns that could be better suited for wind energy production. These

are all areas that we can move forward on now with help from the federal government and our coordinator, we can claim on our grant applications that we are a Climate Action Champion community - and that will put us at the top of any list,” Brosemer said.

“I knew we had a strong application, but nationwide to be only one of two tribes picked as a Climate Action Champion was a great honor and accomplishment. I was reminded recently of a quote from Shakespeare, from Julius Caesar when Brutus is urging Cassius on to war, “There is a tide in the affairs of men, which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune;” – it means when the sea swells swim with it!” she said. “This is a moment for us, we have a chance now of really putting a lot of effort into the things we have always done, but we can really move the yardstick forward right now,” she said. “I want to thank the chairperson for seeing this opportunity for what it was right away and having us jump on it.”

Tribal energy strategy

Developed in 2012, its bold, long-term goal is, “No Net Purchased Energy.” This means that for any energy the tribe must purchase for its operations (including vehicles and flights), an equivalent amount of energy will be produced for export to the grid for other users. The staged approach that has been laid out in this strategy means the first steps include aggressive measures to reduce energy consumption before taking broad scale action with renewable energy.

Planned efforts in the next three years include demand reductions of four percent per year through:

— Follow up on the recommendations in the governmental buildings energy audits – building envelope improvements and HVAC upgrades.

— Explore the feasibility of establishing new renewable energy supply at point of use for certain governmental and housing buildings, including rooftop or lawn-based solar PV for elders residences and at least one governmental building, ground source heat pumps at governmental buildings undergoing HVAC improvements.

— Work to reinstall solar thermal heat, using new technology, to the residences in the Sault Ste. Marie reservation that were originally so equipped. Now that building efficiency improvements have been carried out, solar thermal heat should be more successful.

— Carry out a new wind power study to assess potential for wind power generation with the dramatically better technology now available.

— Work with local engineer with a newly patented VAT design to explore its utility in this northern climate and feasibility of a full-scale demonstration installation of this design.

— Work to provide a wood-stove change out program for tribal residences utilizing wood heat, to improve efficiency and indoor air quality, reduce carbon emissions, and improve resilience to energy supply interruptions due to extreme weather events.

— Expand the pilot project for vehicles running waste cooking oil, to all vehicles in Natural Resources division.

— Characterize the off road and transportation diesel fleet (buses and construction vehicles) and plan to participate in Clean Diesel retrofit programs.

— Seek funds to hire an energy manager to work towards the above goals, as well as to gather and summarize all energy production and consumption information from all sectors of the tribe and track improvements, costs, and

savings.

— Other greenhouse gas emissions reduction work over the next three years will involve implementing the Solid Waste Management Plan targets in order to reduce methane and other gaseous emissions from landfill, including:

— Implement solution to divert food waste from casino/hotel operations (28 percent of total solid waste from this sector). Working with county 4H officials to explore animal feeding on local family farms using food waste, and studying large scale composting of food waste.

— Establish a re-use center for housing construction/demolition waste to divert material from landfill and displace transport of new materials from a distance.

— Work with townships and counties to provide greater recycling opportunities and diversion rates for areas outside of Chippewa County.

— Promote backyard composting by exploring the feasibility of a subsidized sale of composting units and further developing outreach materials and programs.

— Further reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, as well as increases to community resilience, will occur through continuing to improve and increase participation in local food production and harvesting, through ongoing work to:

— Plant more fruiting trees and shrubs each season in each community

Increase participation in traditional subsistence food harvest (hunting, fishing, gathering)

— Continue to add community gardens, community kitchens, and farmers markets, and continue to provide classes to pass on skills for utilizing local food in season.

— Develop, refine, and adopt the draft sustainable community code.

Tribal officials briefed on dangers of meth labs

By Rick Smith

An assortment of about 25 Sault Tribe officials and others were given a briefing in the Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Court on Nov. 20 about the many hazards of illegal small workshops called methamphetamine laboratories, more commonly referred to as “meth labs,” that produce life-wasting drugs as a means of making money. Chippewa County Sheriff’s Deputy Jeffrey Erickson and Michigan State Police Trooper Ailene Bitnar conducted the presentation.

While Erickson touched on the mental and physical deterioration of users of the drug experience, the focus of the briefing was on so-called “one pot meth labs,” also referred to as “shake and bake” manufacturing process, a method which has grown rapidly across the country in the last couple of years, according to information provided at the seminar.

Where standard meth labs, which could be housed in a garage or basement, require large amounts of ingredients, hardware and enough space to accommodate processing, the “one pot” method calls for putting the ingredients in a container, such as a plastic bottle, and shaking the bottle to produce small amounts of meth of indeterminate quality and quantity.

Both methods involve volatile chemical reactions, which



Chippewa County Deputy Sheriff Jeffrey Erickson and Michigan State Trooper Ailene Bitnar conduct a seminar on detecting illegal and dangerous methamphetamine laboratories or “meth labs” for about 25 tribal officials and others in Sault Ste. Marie on Nov. 20.

Photo by Rick Smith

could suddenly ignite or explode. Where a meth cook might escape an unexpected fire in a standard meth lab setting, the one pot type of lab would likely be in the hands of the cook should a catastrophic incident occur, resulting in serious injury, death and property damage.

Since the one-pot labs are very portable, they bring another hazard when cooking is done in vehicles and mixtures are left in bottles to “simmer” unattended on the sides of roads for a couple of hours. The bottle could be mistaken for an ordinary pop bottle, picked up, opened and

risking an explosion. A secondary hazard comes after the cooker retrieves the bottle, if it remains intact, and the toxic residue is poured out in a ditch or on the side of the roadway, creating pollution and a hazard to health.

Anyone who encounters discarded plastic bottles

containing unknown mixtures should move away from them as soon as possible, warn others to stay away from the immediate area and notify authorities by calling 911 right away.

Questions regarding possible meth labs should also be directed to appropriate local authorities.



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Paquin to be featured on national television

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe member Ron Paquin, a renowned, award winning artist and craftsman of contemporary and traditional American Indian works, will be featured in a nationwide, weekly American Public Television series called A Craftsman's Legacy.

According to the website, www.craftsmanslegacy.com, each episode of the series features a skilled individual as the story is told of their particular time-honored craft and its importance in the American scene. Those interested in learning more about the series or when particular segments will air on local public television stations should go to the website, a listing of episodes is available and a handy section on the home page allows for searches by zip code or by state and city. Further, as episodes are aired, they will be archived on the website for viewing at leisure from one's computer.

As mentioned, each segment of the series turns the spotlight on a different person involved in all manner of intriguing crafts, segment 13 highlights Paquin and his basketry work. The series is produced by Hammer In Hand Productions of Auburn Hills, Mich., and hosted by Detroit custom motorcycle builder Eric Gorges, founder of the custom bike shop, Voodoo Choppers.

The MSU Museum, a Smithsonian Institution affiliate, recommended Paquin for the series based on his master artist grants and other awards he has received from them, according to his wife, Molly.

Paquin originally hailed from the St. Ignace area and worked as a commercial fisherman before turning to American Indian arts and crafts such as basketry, building birch bark canoes, carving, forging knives and other specialties. He conducted a variety of art classes in his home in Sault Ste. Marie when he wasn't working on grant funded projects or conducting other events related to his crafts. These days, he continues his work based in Cheboygan, Mich.

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways in Mount Pleasant, Mich., presented Paquin with the Minnie Jackson Lifetime Achievement Award in 2012. The award came with a certificate framed in birch bark, a cash prize of \$1,000 and a special edition, embroidered Pendleton blanket bearing the logo of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

The award is one of the Indigenous Peoples Artistic Merit honors created to promote, support and perpetuate American Indian arts and serve as encouragement for preserving and continuing those arts.

Charles Schwab and Company, Inc., sponsored the 2012 Millie Jackson Lifetime Achievement Award.

The award is named in honor of a late member of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe well known for her basketry and beadwork skills and teaching others in the craft. At the time of her death in 2011, she was the oldest living member of the Saginaw tribe and



could speak Anishinaabemowin fluently.

Nominees for the Jackson award must have demonstrated a lifetime of perpetuating traditional Anishinaabe arts and crafts through practice and teaching for at least 30 years and be affiliated with an American Indian tribe.

"I am very humbled and honored to receive this award and appreciate very much that Ziibiwing and Charles Schwab recognize Native artists in this way," said Paquin. "I appreciate the support Ziibiwing has given me over the years buying my artwork for their museum exhibits as well as for sale in their gift shop."

Paquin is a master at building birch bark canoes, basket weaving and other skills. According to his biography, he was a resident of St. Ignace, Mich., for over 55 years and moved to Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., in 2001 and on to Cheboygan, Mich., in 2010. He is a self-taught artist who worked as an interpreter for the Museum of Ojibwa Culture in St. Ignace for over 15 years.

Building full-sized traditional Anishinaabe birch bark canoes are Paquin's specialty and he has constructed over 30 of the vessels. He also makes model canoes, black ash baskets, birch bark containers, antler carvings, knives, porcupine quill boxes, dream catchers, and jewelry and creates carvings from all kinds of antlers, often employing the symbol of his clan — the eagle. In keeping with the practices of ancient ancestors, Paquin uses all natural materials and gathers most of it himself. His materials include birch bark, cedar bark, red willow, diamond willow, sweet grass, basswood and spruce roots.

Paquin has garnered nine Master Artist Grants from Michigan State University — six for building birch bark canoes, one for weaving black ash baskets and two for constructing birch bark containers. Further, he received an Art Serve Michigan grant to teach birch bark canoe construction to tribal adults and youngsters and served as an artist in residence under several other grants and programs. The Sault Area Arts Council bestowed Best of Craft awards to Paquin in 2002 and 2009 and the Ziibiwing Center commissioned him to create over 70 pieces. He made cedar and birch bark lodges for the Tri-Cities Historical Museum in Grand Haven, Mich., the Allegan County Children's Museum and for the Soo Locks Festival commemorating 150-years of operation. He is featured in many annual and special events

in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula demonstrating canoe construction and especially enjoys regularly teaching a variety of traditional art forms to students at the JKL Bahweting Anishinaabe Public School Academy in Sault Ste. Marie and the Sault Tribe's culture camp on Sugar Island.

In addition to picking up a 2003 Michigan Heritage Award, Paquin participated in several Great Lakes folk festivals in East Lansing, Mich. He was awarded the First People's Fund Community Spirit Award in 2006 for his work in passing on the tradition of building birch bark canoes and received a Cultural Capital Fellowship from First People's Fund in 2009 and recently published a DVD with an accompanying booklet detailing his canoe construction techniques. He also received a 2010 Longhouse Cultural Society grant award for building canoes and more recently received the 2011-12 Longhouse National Native Master Artist Initiative grant. He is also the co-author of Not First in Nobody's Heart — The Life Story of a Contemporary Chippewa, an autobiography.

Paquin continues to teaching at sold-out workshops every year throughout Michigan and he believes passing on his skills and traditional art forms is important. His works are available directly through him, art shows, various gift shops and galleries and he accepts wholesale inquiries.

For information about his workshops or for any questions, call (231) 268-3344.

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Causley Tile and Floor Covering opens in St. Ignace

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

This past August, Sault Tribe member Dave Causley opened the doors to his new business venture, Causley Tile and Floor Covering. For the past 12 years, Causley worked for Superior Floor Covering, which served the St. Ignace and Mackinac Island area. When it went out of business after 30 years, he decided to reopen it under his own name.

Causley says, "We do it all! We are a one-stop shop for your floor covering needs."

His business caters to private and corporate clients, including Mackinac Island's Grand Hotel, Lake View Hotel and Iroquois and Chippewa Hotels. In addition to hard surface flooring, carpeting and tile work, he also enjoys designing and installing custom tile showers for those clients looking for something unique.

Causley is accustomed to long hours and hard work. He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps for a four-year stint while still in high school. When his four years were up, he realized his job skills were limited because he had enlisted before earning his

high school diploma. He went to work in Lower Michigan as a carpet installer and has been in the flooring business ever since.

He was hired in 1994 under the now-defunct Chi Chuck Construction as the Sault Tribe's flooring foreman for all of the tribe's casinos. He then worked for Sault Tribe Construction and from there went to the tribe's Housing Authority.

Don't be fooled by Causley's callused hands and thick work shirts, under that working man exterior is a man with a big heart, especially when it comes to helping children and families during the holiday season. "I used to help with the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program," he said, "and the feeling you get when you help others out is awesome. I always swore that if I ever had the opportunity to help again I was going to do it."

So, when the opportunity presented itself he took action. He has partnered with Herbal Lodge's Nathan Wright, the Sault Tribe Guide and the St. Ignace Kiwanis Club for a toy drive for St. Ignace and Sault area children. He said the

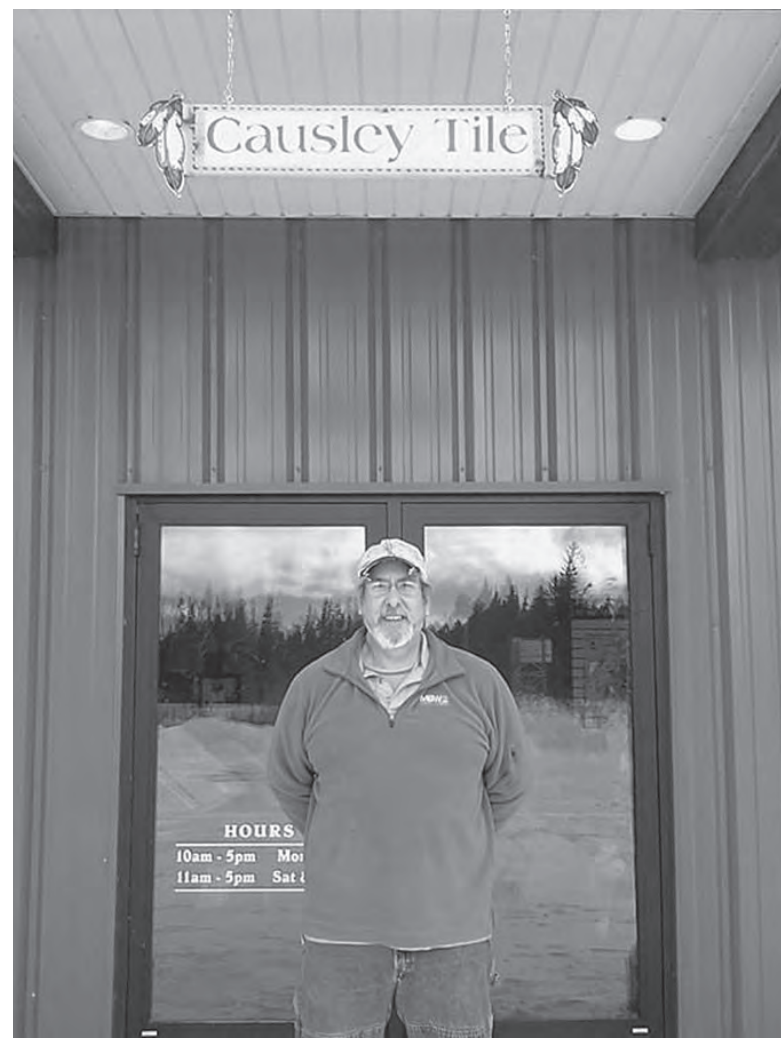
Kiwanis Club is directing the toy give-away and the Sault Tribe Guide is promoting it in hopes of getting tribal families involved.

"We are looking for needy tribal families that are too proud to ask for help and see if we can't get them something this holiday season," he said.

Those who would like to donate age appropriate toys for children from birth to age 16 can drop off the toys at Causley's Tile and Floor Covering located at N895 Martin Lake Road in St. Ignace. Causley said he is looking forward to handing out the toys in conjunction with the Kiwanis Club. Cash donations are also accepted and can be dropped off at Causley's store or mailed to his cousin, Steve Causley, at 2006 W. 11th Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Causley is the father of three, Michaela, Chris and River, who range in age from 16 to late 20s. In addition to his business, he enjoys golfing and hunting.

Questions? You can call Causley Tile and Floor Covering at (906) 643-0505 or email Dave Causley at superior.dave@yahoo.com.



Up North Nutrition opens in Sault Ste. Marie

Offers 10 percent off to tribal members

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Phil Woolcocks moved to Sault Ste. Marie almost four years ago from downstate Michigan for a job, and has since opened his own business – Up North Nutrition.

His 2,200 square feet of store space offers products "from fat burners to vitamins and minerals, amino acids and proteins, to all natural and pre and post workout, you name it and I probably have it," he said.

Woolcocks is passionate about what he has to offer. He said he has a little bit of everything for everybody, including two proteins approved by War Memorial Hospital, two vegan proteins, an RX Supplement that is FDA approved and 98.9 percent pure, and he has products specifically for women and athletes.

If you are a Sault Tribe or Bay Mills tribal member and show your tribal I.D. card, you will receive a 10 percent discount on products and services.

Woolcocks said he recently purchased three Wolff tanning beds, two lay down beds and one standing and says he has the cheapest rates in town.

After the first of the year he is installing a \$10,000 smoothie bar



and will be offering up to 32 different flavors in four categories: a performance smoothie, a fat burner smoothie, a gaining smoothie and an eco smoothie that is 100 percent natural and made of greens and vegetables.

Woolcocks said that while he was enrolled in Lansing Community College's (LCC) Fire Science Academy he learned how to work out and what foods to eat – "I feel like staying fit

is my medicine," he said, "and working out is an amazing stress release." He started competing in men's physique bodybuilding and in 2012 placed first in the Grand Rapids show, which is Central Michigan's state show.

Woolcocks holds three asso-

ciates' degrees: fire science, emergency medical services, and sports nutrition from LCC.

He is also currently teaching classes at LSSU in fire science and corrections and three nights a week he teaches a circuit training class at War Memorial Hospital's Rehab Center. He said his circuit training includes a lot of body movement and the use of resistance bands. The class meets Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6-7 p.m. and costs \$5 per class.

Woolcocks said he has first-hand experience with everything he sells and has been taking supplements for a long time as a former lacrosse player. "I enjoy talking to people and I like to learn about people before I make suggestions. I have knowledge and background on all my products and will sell you something that will work for you – I am not going to try and sell you the world. I'd rather see clients start slow and move up in increments. Learning a client's goals and what they are trying to accom-

plish is important so we can build from there."

He said if a client is taking a product he currently does not carry, he would be happy to research it and add it to his inventory.

Woolcocks said his long-term goal is to open a gym in town, "I want something suitable for everyone, not just power lifters or marathon runners," he said. "I want to offer cross-fit style workouts, or if they are practicing for a marathon I want to have options for that as well."

Up North Nutrition is located at 826 Ashmun Street, next door to the Checkered Flag and across the street from Northern Hospitality in the Sault. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday. For more information call (906) 259-7085 or email: upnorthnutrition@gmail.com. You can also visit them on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/up.north.nutrition>, and look for Up North Nutrition on Instagram.

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Schmidt enjoys life leading Tipping Point Solutions

By RICK SMITH

Even though he's had an excellent run in life so far, Sault Tribe member Rick Schmidt is not resting on his laurels as he enjoys pursuing his version of the American dream with a company he founded in Denver, Colo., about four years ago. The company is Tipping Point Solutions, which Schmidt said he formed "in order to pursue my passion for redefining the methods and effectiveness by which people are trained, educated and learn."

Born in Saginaw, Mich., in 1970, Schmidt indicated he was raised in a small town called St. Charles, about 20 miles outside of Saginaw. He attended high school at Michigan Lutheran Seminary and entered the U.S. Navy two days after graduation.

Following boot camp, he took training in Pensacola, Fla., to become designated as a Navy cryptographic maintenance technician.

Through a degree completion program offered by the Navy, he acquired a bachelor's degree in computer science and later returned to earn a master's in information systems. As an undergraduate, he graduated with a 4.0 grade point average and represented his class as Valedictorian. Seven years after his initial enlistment, he was accepted into Officer Candidate School where he received his commission and spent the remainder of his Naval career as



Photo courtesy of Tipping Point Solutions

Rick Schmidt discussing matters during a video shoot.

an information warfare officer.

As an officer he served in various roles, most of which supported the nation's cyber security and network defense missions. Schmidt noted, "the Navy was a significant turning point in my

life, providing me opportunities that I had not previously known and providing me experiences I could only have imagined during my childhood."

After retiring from the military, Schmidt made a transition into

the commercial market with a Denver company, called InVisM Inc., where he served as the chief technology officer. In 2011, he made the decision to branch out on his own forming Tipping Point Solutions, which now employs 13 full-time employees as well as countless others when engaged in filming.

His resume profile is impressive. Schmidt describes himself as a "results-oriented leader offering 27 years of management, education and, information technology experience; employing successful business processes and strategies in the design and delivery of cost-effective, high-performance educational training solutions that address complex business problems." Skills he acquired during his 20 years on active duty and seven years of executive corporate experience.

Making movies is one of many ways Tipping Point Solutions develops education and training materials. Thanks to the modern wonders of the Internet, folks can get an exciting glimpse of Schmidt and Tipping Point in action on YouTube at http://youtu.be/bhGK_mQntSw.

According to his bio, as president and CEO, Schmidt oversees all of the company's product development, production, and technology innovations for military and civilian commercial applications. The company merges interactive technologies with adult learning. Earlier this year, in October, Tipping Point

Solutions received the prestigious Gold Excellence Award in eLearning from Chief Learning Officer Magazine for its work in the development of Army training. Most recently Tipping Point developed a training suite supporting the Army's concussion training and awareness campaign. This training suite is estimated to reach over one million military personnel in 2015. The trailer for the suite can be viewed at <http://youtu.be/kJKkSJHX734>

"I believe my story resembles one of realizing your dream through hard work and determination," noted Schmidt. "Like many out there, I came from very little and was the first in my entire family to attend college and managed to do so without the assistance of my family. My connection to my Indian roots has always been a source of great pride for me and I consider it a privilege to be able to represent our community." When asked what advice he would provide our youth, he responded, "believe in your ability and the real potential that exists to pursue your dreams. While it may oftentimes seem insurmountable, all it takes is a series of steps and the willingness to never stop."

Schmidt's Indian ancestry comes from his grandmother who was born and raised in the Upper Peninsula. He lives in Denver with his wife, Susan and they have three grown children and one granddaughter.

Supportive Housing for Youth in three U.P. counties

By RICK SMITH

Sometimes young people have to make scary, life-changing decisions to get out of deplorable situations at home. Options available to teens and young adults in such conditions are often very limited and quite risky. This is why the Child and Family Services of the Upper Peninsula Inc. established the Supportive Housing for Youth Program in 2001.

Statistics showed a need for services to help homeless teenagers and young adults, according to Michele Gilbert, the program's services supervisor for the eastern Upper Peninsula in Sault Ste. Marie. "Programs for youth aging out of the foster care system seemed evident," she noted. "There was also a considerable amount of unaccompanied youth who needed help. These are kids who are not in the care of their parent or guardian for whatever reason. Many are staying on the couches of friends, but that is usually very temporary and the youth find they are looking for a place to crash repeatedly. This unstable circumstance can lead to school absences, loss of jobs, inability to attain employment, poor nutrition and all around unhealthy situations."

The program is voluntary and works with young people aged 16 to 20 in Chippewa, Houghton and Menominee counties. It provides homeless youngsters with safe and stable places to live for up to 18 months, teaches them how to care for themselves and others along with skills for living that

will last them for the rest of their lives.

In order to be eligible for the program, young folks aged 16-20 must fit the definition of homelessness and be willing to follow the program's rules and guidelines. Once accepted, clients are placed in an apartment and supplied with basic necessities. Clients must work on developing life skills and goals each week with the ultimate aim of becoming self-sufficient. Further, youngsters in the program must be in some type of educational program or employment.

The program "is one of the only programs that is able to easily place a 17-year-old with parent signatures," Gilbert added. "Most of these kids have no resources and little skills to be on their own." She said the program allows them to live independently, but the extra support they receive can make all the difference in achieving success.

Put another way, Child and Family Services of the Upper Peninsula describes the aims of the program is to provide up to 18 months of case management and support that will facilitate the stable transitions of young adults into independence; help youth establish positive rental histories while gaining self-sufficiency; and help youth access resources that will be helpful to them while living on their own.

Gilbert indicated the program is funded by state and federal agencies and, depending on the turnover, helps about 10 to 12 youngsters each year. She said

the organization has noticed a recent trend where the majority of referrals are now 17-year-olds left to fend for themselves.

More information about the program can be learned online

at www.cfsup.org/Programs/SHYP or contact one of the three coordinators to access services (all phone numbers are in area code 906): in Chippewa County, contact Michele Gilbert at 253-

1690 or email mgilbert@cfsup.org; in Houghton County, contact Olivia Harris at 482-4488 or email oharris@cfsup.org; and in Menominee County, contact Katie Kinney at 290-3116.



Photo by Rick Smith

Michelle Gilbert supervises the Supportive Housing for Youth Program in Chippewa, Houghton and Menominee counties. The program is made available through Child and Family Services of the U.P. Inc.

THANKS FOR THOUGHTFULNESS

The family of Ronald Eugene Benner would like to thank all of our friends and relatives for their support and kind expression of sympathy. We would like to thank those who bought food, those who helped in the kitchen, fire tenders, those who sent plants, cards and monetary donations, Les Ailing and Pastor Kreml for speaking and Mulder Funeral Home, but, mostly for showing us love and support. We will also be eternally grateful to his close friends who loved him unconditionally and often lent him a helping hand. Your sympathy and thoughtfulness will always be gratefully remembered and deeply appreciated.

God bless,

The Family of Ronald Benner

Committee reports on ending violence against children

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Attorney General's Advisory Committee on American Indian/Alaska Native Children Exposed to Violence released their final findings and recommendations last month, titled "Ending Violence so Children Can Thrive."

The 258 page report includes testimony from four public hearings held over the past year and over 150 witnesses in the states of North Dakota, Arizona, Florida and Alaska, and also incorporates thousands of pages of testimony that were reviewed for the report. The advisory committee heard from key practitioners, advocates, academicians, policy makers, and the public.

More than 600 people participated in the hearings, including more than 70 experts and representatives from over 60 tribes and 15 states.

The committee, comprised of nonfederal experts in the area of

AI/AN children exposed to violence and a federal working group that includes federal officials from key agencies, was charged with making high-level policy recommendations to Attorney General Eric Holder on ways to address issues around AI/AN children exposed to violence.

The report states that a majority of American Indian and Alaska Native children live in communities with extremely high rates of poverty, homelessness, drug abuse, alcoholism, suicide, and victimization. "Domestic violence, sexual assault, and child abuse are widespread. Continual exposure to violence has a devastating impact on child development and can have a lasting impact on basic cognitive, emotional, and neurological functions."

To help close the gap and address these issues, the committee is asking Attorney General Eric Holder to extend more legal

protections to American Indian children, including allowing the government to criminally prosecute non-Indian perpetrators who commit sexual or physical abuse against kids on tribal land.

Their recommendation addresses a loophole in a law passed by Congress last year that allows the country's 566 federally recognized tribes to prosecute non-Indians who commit certain crimes of domestic violence against Native Americans in Indian country. But the law does not allow non-Indians to be prosecuted by tribes for abusing Indian children on a reservation.

The report also makes several recommendations for strengthening the safety net for Native American kids, including increasing the Department of Justice's funding for tribal justice programs and establishing a federal Native American Affairs Office that would employ an official dedicated to overseeing issues

related to minors living on reservations.

The authors of the report concluded by saying, "Whether AI/AN children are in rural or urban communities, feelings of belonging and connectedness to their culture and family are critical to their development of identity and resilience. It is important to be inclusive in the provision of services for AI/AN children exposed to violence. The AI/AN community must be committed to wellness, recovery from trauma, and prevention of violence. Although we address the issues of community violence and violence in the home separately in this report, it should be noted that they are oftentimes interrelated and intertwined."

The report addressed 31 findings and recommendations that emerged from the hearings and Listening Sessions. The Advisory Committee also examined the reports of the Attorney General's

National Task Force on Children Exposed to Violence in 2012 and the Indian Law and Order Commission in 2013, and incorporated some of those recommendations, for a total of 56 recommendations.

To download the full final report, go to: www.justice.gov/defendingchildhood.

In similar news, President Obama announced an initiative aimed at improving conditions and opportunities for American Indian youth. The announcement was made as part of the White House Tribal Nations Conference that Obama hosted. The Generation Indigenous (Gen I) initiative calls for programs focused on preparing young American Indians for college and careers, and developing stronger leadership skills.

The initiative will be funded with existing money and the help of nonprofit and philanthropic organizations.

FEMA creates emergency preparedness pocket guide for tribes

By Brenda Austin

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently announced a new tool they developed to better inform tribes about FEMA policies and programs. The document, titled FEMA and Tribal Nations: A Pocket Guide, provides tribes information about FEMA and explains FEMA's policies on tribal engagement, FEMA programs and how they relate to tribes, and provides contact information on how to reach tribal liaisons.

The guide can also help tribes learn about federal preparedness grant programs and how to

access disaster assistance after a Presidential disaster declaration, or where to find details on FEMA training opportunities.

Grant opportunities listed in the guide that tribe's may be eligible for include: Emergency Management Performance Grants, the Nonprofit Security Grant Program, Homeland Security Grant Program, Port Security Grant Program, Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program, Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response Grant Program and Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program.

Information about these programs and their eligibility requirements can be found at: www.fema.gov/preparedness-non-disaster-grants.

To help make it easy to use, the guide was designed with portability in mind, allowing tribal emergency managers to keep a copy in the office, car or their briefcase.

According to the FEMA website, the guide was developed in coordination with national tribal organizations, and was released at the 2014 National Congress of American Indians' Annual Convention in Atlanta, Georgia.

Tribes can obtain a hard copy of the guide by contacting their FEMA Regional Tribal Liaisons.

The guide's introduction states, "FEMA is committed to engaging with tribes as part of its government-to-government relationship that recognizes tribal sovereignty. FEMA is a resource for tribes in their efforts to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against emergencies and disasters that impact Indian

Country."

One of the commitments listed in FEMA's tribal policy says that, "FEMA will consult with federally recognized Indian tribal governments before taking a proposed FEMA action that has tribal implications."

For more information about FEMA Tribal Affairs, grant opportunities and other helpful links and phone numbers visit: www.fema.gov/tribal.

Delay ordered in U.P. electric rate hike

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Energy consumers in the U.P. who expected to see their electric bills skyrocket starting Dec. 1 are breathing a sigh of relief. According to Cloverland Electric's website, on Nov. 28 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a delay order to the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) requesting additional information concerning the SSR payments for the Presque Isle Power Plant in Marquette. The new date for the increase to take effect is now March 1.

Under the currently proposed SSR payment, Cloverland members would pay almost \$22 million per year with no benefit from the power plant, unless FERC deems it unfair and redis-

tributes the costs associated with keeping the plant open. FERC says it needs more information before the charges go into effect. The MISO has been given 30 days to comply, after which FERC will then continue the review process. The planned increase would have cost U.P. electricity customers \$97 million to operate the coal-fired power plant.

The plant's owners want to close it, but federal groups said they couldn't because it would impact the U.P.'s electric grid. The way the MISO distributed the costs associated with the plant's operation meant even those who don't rely on energy from the plant, such as Cloverland Electric's customers, would have to foot the bill for

them to stay up and running.

Senator Debbie Stabenow and Congressmen Dan Benishek and Gary Peters introduced the POWER Act into the Senate and House of Representatives on Nov. 17. The legislation would stop the rate hikes from happening by allowing FERC to review and disapprove a finding by the North American Electric Reliability Corporation that left residents of the U.P. on the hook for 99 percent of the operation costs of the power plant. It is expected that the bipartisan effort will be on the floor for voting no later than January, if not by the end of this month.

Although the news is good, it's still too early to know what the final outcome will be.

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Regular Exercise works as well as medication. A brisk walk can deliver several hours of relief—similar to taking an aspirin for a headache.

Fitness Tips: Stay Healthy, Manage Stress

- Jog, Walk, Bike, or Dance 3-5x per week for 30 minutes.
- Set small, daily goals and aim for daily consistency.
- Find forms of exercise that are fun or enjoyable—ie: classes or group activities.
- Recruit an "exercise buddy".
- Distract yourself with an ipod.

A 10-minute walk may be just as good as a 45-minute workout to relieve anxiety and depression!

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Tribal community members walking on...

RONALD E. BENNER

Ronald E. Benner, 57, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Nov. 1, 2014, at War Memorial Hospital, surrounded by his family.

Ron was born on Feb. 19, 1957, in Findlay, Ohio. He was the son of the late Oliver (Gene) Benner and Violet (Tidlo Germain) Benner. He was loved by many and had a heart of gold, always helping others and never asking for anything in return. He had many pastimes but his favorite was the love of sports. He enjoyed attending his nieces and nephews sport activities.

Ron is survived by his son, Brad McDonald of Jackson, Mich.; granddaughter, Savannah Criswell of Defiance, Ohio; siblings, Diane (Terry) King of Sault Ste. Marie, Beverly (Larry) Shannon of Sault Ste. Marie, Robert (Deb) Benner of Sault Ste. Marie, Barbara (Todd) Maki of Chatham, Mich., Connie (John) Payment of Brimley, Mich., and Barry Benner of Tennessee; step-mother, Roberta Colegrove of Moran, Mich., and many nieces and nephews.

Services took place at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Center in Sault Ste. Marie on Nov. 4.

Donations may be made to the family to help them with the cost of expenses.

FARRELL E. ELLIOT

Retired Chippewa County Prosecuting Attorney Farrell E. Elliott died peacefully at his home in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on Nov. 20, 2014, at the age of 85. He was born on Nov. 14, 1929, in Sault Ste. Marie to Fred and Elizabeth Elliott.

He graduated from Sault Area High School in 1947, attended Michigan Tech Branch (now LSSU), Western Michigan University and Wayne State where he went on to graduate with a law degree. He enlisted in the U.S. Army. Upon completing his enlistment honorably he returned to the Sault to practice law, beginning in the law office of Burney Veum. He ran for and was elected to serve as Chippewa County prosecuting attorney in 1960. He did so honorably from 1960 to 1980. After a brief stint in private practice, he returned to the county prosecutor's office as assistant prosecuting attorney in 1989, and continued there until 2000. In April of 2006, he was appointed magistrate at the 91st District Court under Judge Michael MacDonald, Chippewa County, Mich. He honorably presided as such until his retirement in 2009.

He was a member of the Chippewa County Bar Association and the Michigan Bar Association for more than

50 years. He was elected to the board of directors for Cloverland Electric Cooperative in January 1971 and served until he retired after 40 years in 2011. He was a member of the Hiawathaland Law Enforcement Officers Association. He served on the Salvation Army Advisory Board for several years and was a member of Bethel Lodge 358 where he received a lifetime membership and a fifty-year membership award in 2005. He also served on the Hospice Board and the EUP Mediation Board and a dedicated member of the Algonquin Methodist Church.

Farrell is survived by his wife, Janet (Weir-Forrester), and children, Jimmy Elliott of the Sault, Terri (Sam) Lightfoot of Barbeau, Mich., Ken (Linda) Forrester of Charlevoix, Mich., and Bill (Yvonne) Forrester of Cape Canaveral, Fla.; grandchildren, Joshua, Jacob, and Jason Elliott of the Sault, David M. Jirikovic (Elisa DeJong) of Jupiter, Fla., Lynde (Alberto) Diaz of Springfield, Va., Katherine Forrester (fiancé Andy) of Charlevoix and Luis Forrester of Tallahassee, Fla.; niece, Sandy Elliott Thompson; brother-in-law, David W. Weir, and sisters-in-law Mary Lou and Margaret Weir.

He is preceded in death by his former wife, Dorien (Larkin), and infant son of the Sault; his

parents, Fred and Elizabeth Elliott of the Sault; brother, Hudson Elliott of the Sault; nephew, Gary Elliott; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Kenneth and Margaret Weir, and great-grandchildren Andrew Diaz and Brynn Diaz.

Farrell was an extraordinarily accomplished cook and an avid boater all his life. He thoroughly enjoyed fishing but had no taste for seafood. He enjoyed annual trips to Florida, sporting events of all varieties and large dinners with family and friends. He was the epitome of a gentleman and will be remembered as a thoroughly kind family man with a contagious laugh, a clever wit, and a warm smile.

Visitation and services took place on Nov. 25 at the Central United Methodist Church with Pastor Larry Osweiler officiating. If you wish to offer a memorial, please do so to the charity or church of your choice, which would be appreciated by the family. The family is grateful and comforted by all for the care and concern and would like to thank each organization and individual for taking the time and effort and assistance rendered, all of which was extremely uplifting during the months of Farrell's illness.

RICHARD A. GERMAIN

Richard Alan Germain, 53, of Texas, died unexpectedly on Nov.



19, 2014. He was born on July 9, 1961, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

All who knew him loved him. He enjoyed spending time with his beautiful wife Holi, his children and grandchildren. He enjoyed playing music with family and friends. He also enjoyed watching the Detroit Tiger baseball games and doing ketsudo. He had a very special relationship with his son-in-law, Joseph. He was a proud member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Survivors are his wife Holi; three daughters, Kristie Douglas, Apryl (Jospeh) Aycox of Gordonville, Texas, and Kate Garman of Sherman, Texas; four granddaughters, Carmen, Summer, Braelyn and June and one grandson, Cody; several nieces and nephews; six sisters, Patti (Gary) Bosley, Linda Grove, *See "Walking On," pg. 13*

She has a gambling problem.
HER MOM.

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Community members walking on...

From "Walking On," page 12
Sandy (Dwayne) Graham of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Janet (Frank) Germain of Kinross, Mich., Sharon Oliver of Kincheloe, Mich., Susie (Terry) Niemi of Barbeau, Mich.; and six brothers, Bernard (Bunz) Germain, Ronald (Bo) Germain, Bobby (Peggy) McKechnie of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Edward (Butch) Germain, Larry McKechnie of Kincheloe, Mich., John (Chicky) Germain of Alpena.

He was predeceased by his parents, Happy and Eleanor Germain; father-in-law, Henry Tremblay; two brothers, Kenneth (Weegie) Mongene and Jackie Germain; four nephews, Jimmie Lee Germain, Jackie Bennett, Wally Bosley and Francis McKechnie and brother-in-law John Caster Jr.

DONALD N. PAQUIN

Donald Neal Paquin passed away on Dec. 3, 2014, at Tender Care in Cheboygan. He was born on Sept. 4, 1942, in St. Ignace



to Alexander and Theresa (nee Carson) Paquin.

Donnie served as a cadet engineer in the United States Navy from 1959-63. He was a merchant marine who sailed internationally and on the Great Lakes for over 25 years. He was also a logger in the Pacific Northwest, leading logging crews in Washington and Alaska during the same 25-year period. He went on to be co-owner of Savage Tree Service in Seattle, Wash. Years later, he worked sewing fishing nets in St. Ignace.

He was a master woodworker and taxidermist.

Donnie was preceded in death by his parents, Alexander Paquin and Cornelia Theresa Paquin; and brother, Floyd Paquin, all from St. Ignace.

He is survived by his sisters, Donna (Don) Corp of Munising, Virginia Huyck of St. Ignace, Betty Marshall of Grafton, Wisc.; brothers, Thomas (Sally) Paquin of St. Ignace, Ronald (Molly) Paquin, and Leonard Paquin of Toledo, Ohio; and a large number of nieces and nephews who live in Michigan, Wisconsin and Alaska.

Donnie was cremated through Beck Funeral Home in Rogers City.

His remains will be buried at sea in the Pacific Ocean by the United States Navy.

Online condolences may be addressed through www.beckfuneralhome.org

GERALD W. STEINHOFF

Gerald "Jerr" W. Steinhoff, aged 66, died under the loving care of his family and North Woods Hospice on Nov. 22, 2014, following a three year and four month illness. He was born on



Aug. 20, 1948, in Marquette, son of the late William and Marilyn (Allie) Steinhoff. Jerr started school in Arizona, attended school in Rudyard, and then graduated from Wm. G. Mather High School in 1966.

If it had an engine, Jerr could fix it. He began working on cars and in garages before he even finished high school. Jerr worked for Toebe's, Steve Glyptis, and Maynard Robbins. He fell in love with and married Susan Kay Cromell on Oct. 2, 1971. Jerr worked in the woods with his uncle, Wallace "Speck" Steinhoff, and then at Harthowe. In 1973, he joined the U.S. Navy and was stationed on the island of Sardinia, transferred to Scotland and moved Sue and Karen overseas with him. In 1977, they returned to Munising and Jennifer was born in 1978. Jerr worked at the City of Munising's garage and then was hired at Marinette Marine as a pipe fitter where he worked for 13 years. He then worked at Badger Paper Mill in Peshtigo and retired from L.E. Jones as their set up man. Jerr was constantly working and had a great work ethic. He used to race GTO's and won many trophies. Jerr enjoyed hunting with rifles and a traditional bow, brook trout fishing and being outdoors. He enjoyed music and taught himself to play the guitar. Jerr loved reading about history, the Upper Peninsula, presidents, wars and, of course, car magazines. The only nonfiction he enjoyed was a Louis L'Amour novel. Jerr was a member of the Boilermaker's Union, the American Legion and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

He is survived by his wife of over 43 years, Susan Steinhoff of Munising; daughters, Karen (Al Mills) Steinhoff of Munising and Jennifer (Chad) Lincoln of Munising; five grandchildren, Samantha, Bradlee, Tylor, Noah, and Cody; sisters, Pauline Polar of Oshkosh, Wisc., and Tammy Johnson of Milwaukee; sisters and brothers-in-law, Judy Cromell, Tom Cromell, Don (Lynn) Cromell, Jack (Darlene) Cromell, Bob (Judy) Cromell, Connie Albin, Ralph (Frances) Cromell, David (Gail) Cromell, Bruce (Mary) Cromell and Janice "Tunie" (Mike) Perron; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Jerr was preceded in death by his parents; parents-in-law, Hank and Argene Cromell; sister Carole Steinhoff; and brothers-in-law, Jerry Cromell and Norm Albin.

Services were at the Bowerman Funeral Home in

Munising on Nov. 26. Visitation was at the American Legion, the Vietnam Veteran Honor Guard conducted military honors and Rev. Tom Schierkolk concluded with a prayer service.

Following the services at the funeral home, there was a fellowship gathering at Sydney's.

EDWARD P. LEASK

With heavy hearts the family of Edward Paul Leask announce that "Chum" went to Heaven on Oct. 29, 2014, in his 86th year.

He was born on June 19, 1928, surrounded by love, lifted by promise and received in peace. Veteran, steady of hand, impervious to panic, never happier visiting with family and the many lives of friends he touched! His undying humor, disarming wit, always had a good story to tell. Entrepreneurial at heart, a businessman who prized integrity above all profit. As a father, he



was our rock, our harbor, trusting child of God, a gentle, kind, and sweet man. His dedication to God, family, country and the love of Chippewa County, Chum worked at various jobs including: City Police, Corps of Engineers, Business owner, retiring from State Farm Insurance. Chum served on various boards including: Sault Ste. Marie City Commission, Chippewa County Board of Commissioners, the board of War Memorial Hospital. He was instrumental in the founding of the I-500 race-track. Chum served in the Army in Korea for 18 months earning the Bronze Star. Retiring from the 1437th Engineer National Guard after more than 25 years of dedicated service. After retirement Chum enjoyed woodworking, fishing and was an avid hunter. Chum was a member of the VFW, American Legion, and the Elks. Chum was a member of Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

He is survived by Sons - David (Kim), Joe, Mike (Connie), Mark (Melanie) Daughters - Sharon (Oscar) Oraziotti, Angie Leask, Linda (Eric) Ayers. Sister-in-law Mary Catherine Quinn, 29 grandchildren, 20 great grandchildren and many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by his loving wife Shirley, daughters Janet and Cheryl, and his mother Leona Leask.

Visitation was at Holy Family Church, Barbeau, Mich., Saturday, Nov. 1, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon with Mass of Christian Burial afterwards with Br. John Hascall officiating.

Burial will take place at Donaldson Holy Family Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family requests memorial contributions, in "Chum's" name, be made to Hospice of the E.U.P. Online condolences may be left: clarkbaileynewhouse.com

Holiday traditions your family will love

BY LYNN GRIEGER, RD, CDE, CPT

Every family has traditional holiday foods that show up on the table year after year. Use these five easy tips to remake your holiday favorites with good health in mind.

Tip 1: Control portions.

Set the holiday table with your family's heirloom china. This will help you automatically downsize portion sizes because, in the late 1960s, dinner plates were nine inches or so in diameter.

Cut grandma's luscious Christmas cake into 18 servings, portion your favorite holiday cookie recipe to make four-dozen instead of three-dozen cookies, cut fudge into one inch-by-one inch pieces and use four-ounce glasses for your favorite sparkling punch.

Tip 2: Double up on the vegetables.

Serve vitamin-packed, lower carbohydrate vegetables like asparagus, Brussels sprouts or broccoli in large bowls.

Tip 3: Give healthful gifts.

Give homemade gifts packed with healthful ingredients. Bake breads that feature hearty whole grains, bring a basket of luscious fresh fruit instead of a box of

candy as a hostess gift, or tie a bow around a bag of mixed nuts instead of cookies.

Tip 4: Lighten up.

Lighten up favorite recipes. Use fat-free evaporated skimmed milk instead of cream in custard pies and sauces, boost flavor in casseroles with spice and seasonings instead of butter or salt and bake food instead of frying them.

Tip 5: Make fruit the star.

Give colorful fruit a starring role. Serve fresh sliced berries for a holiday breakfast, include colorful chunks of fresh fruit such as pineapple, mango, kiwi and red grapes on bamboo skewers for a holiday buffet or offer nibbles of dates and grapes instead of cheese and crackers.

Sault Tribal Health and Human Services and Mackinac Straits Health System, 643-8689 or (800) 256-0135.

Manistique Tribal Health Center, 341-8469 or (800) 401-0043.

Grand Island Chippewa Community Center in Munising, 387-4614 or (800) 236-4705.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health and Human Services Center: 632-5210 or (800) 256-0009.

(Adapted from communicating-foodforhealth.com.)



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Youth Education and Activities was first tribal education program and has evolved over 38 years

BY LISA BURNSIDE

The Youth Education and Activities (YEA) Program is the product of 38 years of evolution. In the beginning it was known as the Johnson O'Malley (JOM) Program. In 1934, a bill was jointly sponsored by House member W. Hiram Johnson and Senate member Thomas P. O'Malley, the purpose of which was to provide supplemental educational programs to meet the unique educational needs of Indian students living on reservations and attending public schools on or adjacent to these lands. This became known as the Johnson O'Malley Act.

In 1976, the JOM Program became one of the first federal programs for the Sault Tribe's newly established Education Department. Under the direction of the first tribal Education Director, John Kibble, the program started with approximately 400 students.

Under the direction of former Education Director John Hatch, JOM started providing contracts to individual schools. This enabled the tribe to tailor a program for assisting tribal students more suited to their individual needs. Initially, this provided the unique opportunity to provide academic and cultural services to tribal students in the public schools throughout the seven-county service area. But as the tribe grew, so did the needs of the youth. The contracts did not allow the JOM program to specifically target tribal students and the program's identity was being lost. Change was inevitable.

In 1994, one of the new focuses was to depend less on the schools to provide services and place more of our own tribal members and employees in positions that would offer a wide variety of academic, cultural and recreational services to students in grades pre-school through 12. Although we still worked in cooperative effort with public schools in providing tutoring services before and during school hours, the JOM program was now free to make a more concentrated effort to develop its own cultural activities and events such as dance assemblies, storytelling,

trips to powwows, cultural craft classes, and Native American speaker presentations. In 1994, seasonal coordinators in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace and Hessel areas provided academic and career activities that included college information nights, campus tours, homework labs, computer labs, Jump Start (a program for students to brush up on math, reading and writing before the start of school in the fall), and career day programs. The program also began purchasing cultural resource books and supplies for schools and students.

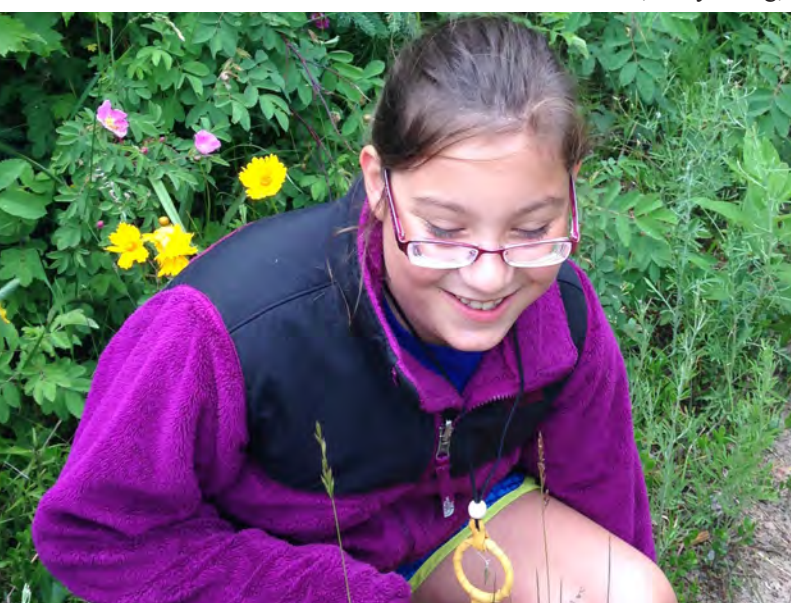
In January 1998, the Johnson O'Malley Program and the Drug Elimination Program merged. The Drug Elimination Program assisted in building a strong foundation with our families and youth. This tradition continued to grow as the two programs combined to form YEA. The merger provided the opportunity to offer an even wider range of academic, recreational, cultural and drug prevention services to our tribal youth without duplicating services.

The YEA main office is downtown in Sault Ste. Marie with branch offices in St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique, Rudyard, Escanaba and Munising. We customize programs in each locale to meet local needs.

During the summer, YEA offers the Circle of Life Summer Program, a five-week program for tribal youth that starts at the beginning of July covering the medicine wheel, Seven Grandfathers, clan systems and tribal sovereignty. A specific theme is also incorporated into lessons. In addition to the regular lessons, youth learn about powwow etiquette, different dances and their significance and how to make and care for regalia. At the end of the summer, the youth turn their own powwow.

In closing, YEA offers a wide spectrum of activities to try and meet the many needs of our tribal youth. It is our goal to provide students not only with an opportunity to find help outside of the traditional school day, but nurture a fun and supportive atmosphere for learning.

See "YEA" page 20



"I attribute much of the person I am today to being a part of the Youth Education and Activities of Sault Tribe, particularly of Hessel. I joined rather reluctantly when I was in eighth grade and had moved from Bahweting School to Cedarville Middle School. I was very shy and uncomfortable with the transition from a small, Anishnabe school to a bigger public school. It was a new place, new people, and all a bit overwhelming. Luckily, the longer I stayed a part of tribal youth council and YEA, the better I adjusted with the new environment.

I didn't realize it at the time, but I had opportunities with YEA that allowed me to discover strengths and passions that I may not have otherwise found. I stayed with YEA all through middle and high school and they are some of the best memories I have.

I remember being a part of the Nbiish-be Mwa Jwaang Tribal Youth Council of Hessel. Through this amazing group I became a leader, learned how to rely on a team and learned how to organize activities that would help my community. I was able to take the skills I gained from being a part of this program and use them in college and in my career. We participated in the Youth Empowerment Powwow, summer camps, conferences at the Kewadin Casino and Christmas parties across the eastern Upper Peninsula.

The YEA and the youth council largely contribute to the success I consider myself to have today. I am a strong Anishnabe kwe and I am on my way to becoming a leader and resource for my people. I could not have done it without the guidance and support of these programs.

Especially those leading these programs: Lisa Burnside, Sue St. Onge, Patty Teeple, Lana Causley and others. Chi Miigwech to these ladies and all who continue to support these programs."
—Charlene Brissette

"I came into the Hessel tribal youth council as a nervous speaker and unsocial person, two qualities that do not work well in the job market. I was elected president and among the many projects we did that year, we drafted our bi-laws and got them approved. Now I work as an environmental specialist focusing on brownfields projects, emergency response and contingency planning and policy writing. I have given public speeches at conferences and other tribal youth council meetings and it is safe to say that being part of the council set the foundation for my career.

I highly encourage any student to actively participate in the youth councils. It is a great experience and they will have a more diverse learning curve than those who do not actively participate."
—Abraham McLarhamore



Environmental Day - these kids made healthy snacks fun.



Sault Tribe Environmental Department participated in Environmental Day.



Time for a 2014 fall fest sleepover and fun summer activities!



Dr. Rebecca Warner presenting information about women's health issues.



Dee Eggert giving a presentation on understanding your state of mind.



Kelly Constantino teaches youth about monarch butterflies.



Above, Grand Tribal Youth Council leadership conference in Sault Ste. Marie. Below, Hessel council members outside the Sault casino.



"The tribal youth council was a great experience and opportunity while growing up. Not only did it help me develop great confidence and leadership skills, it helped me work along side my peers to make a difference in my community. It was a wonderful experience that I will always remember."
—Sierra Krogh

For Sale

Two, One-Story Newly Remodeled Homes For Sale

- 3 Bedrooms
- 1 Bath
- Appliances (New)
- Immediate Occupancy

Sold As Is

Sault Tribe Housing Authority
Homes For Sale
Available by Appointment to View

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 ***

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

Especially those leading these programs: Lisa Burnside, Sue St. Onge, Patty Teeple, Lana Causley and others. Chi Miigwech to these ladies and all who continue to support these programs."
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I highly encourage any student to actively participate in the youth councils. It is a great experience and they will have a more diverse learning curve than those who do not actively participate."
—Abraham McLarhamore



Left: Nicholas Huffman, Gregory Currie, Val Jean LaTour and Morgan McQuiston serving lunch to elders.



Elders enjoying a meal prepared by the Nbiish-Be-Mwi-Jwaang Tribal Youth Council.



Mukkwaa Giizhik Drum at a family celebration in Newberry.

Applications sought for Elders Scholarship Program

Applications are solicited for two one-time \$500 scholarships from the Sault Tribe elders for qualified freshman enrolled in public colleges, universities or trade schools. Application deadline is Jan. 5, 2015.

All applicants must be registered Sault Tribe members whom have successfully passed all five

General Education Development (GED) equivalency tests with a minimum score of 40 and an average score of 45, has a GED certificate or diploma from an accredited high school with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50 and is accepted or enrolled in any two or four-year college, university or trade school

in any field of study as a full-time student.

Applications must include applicant's name, address, telephone number, proof of tribal enrollment and social security number; high school transcript verifying the cumulative grade point average or proof of achieving the GED requirements stated

above; letters from a college, university or trade school showing acceptance for the 2014-2015 school year; academic major or course of study to be pursued; and an essay of 300-500 words describing how you feel a college education will benefit you, your career objective and why this scholarship will help you achieve

your goal.

Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

All requirements listed above must be packaged and received no later than Jan. 5, 2015, by program coordinator Philip Payment, at 2076 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. 49783.

Call (906) 484-3775.

Applications solicited for college academic awards

BY BRANDI MACARTHUR

The Sault Tribe Higher Education Department seeks application packets from college students who attended the fall 2014 semester for the Self-Sufficiency Incentive Award program. The program pays an estimated \$30 per credit hour for students who passed with a C or better as long as it was not a

repeat course.

In order to be eligible, students must submit their 2014-15 Higher Education application packets along with copies of their tribal identification cards and fall 2014 grade reports prior to Jan. 31, 2015. Grade reports must be either printed directly from the college's website or printed by the college, we cannot accept

reports copied from the college's website and pasted into another program such as Microsoft Word. The reports must include the student's full name, college name, state FALL 2014 as the semester, final grades per course and credit hours per course. All of this information must be printed on the reports and cannot be handwritten.

Application packets are available on the Sault Tribe's official website at www.saulttribe.com, click on the Membership Service tab, Education and then Higher Education for the college-level information.

The program deadline is Jan. 31, 2015. Due to the high volume of participants, we cannot accept late paperwork submissions.

Please keep documentation of having submitted paperwork to the Sault Tribe Higher Education Office.

Paperwork can be submitted to Brandi MacArthur, administrative assistant, Sault Tribe Higher Education, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or via fax (906) 635-7785 or emailed to bmacarthur@saulttribe.net.

LSSU offering more business classes this spring

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Lake Superior State University's Lukenda School of Business will be offering additional evening classes this spring to help educate more adult learners who seek to start school or perhaps pick up where they left off some years ago.

LSSU is offering several introductory classes in the evenings this spring, including introduction to business, business communications, marketing principles/strategy and principles of accounting

I. Classes from the common professional component (core) for all business students are also offered during the evening, including management information systems, operations/business analytics, principles of accounting II and business policy. Two specialty courses will also be offered in the evenings: organizational behavior and investments.

"In addition, a new degree, a bachelor of science degree in business administration specifically designed for returning adult

learners, was launched this fall on the LSSU campus in Sault Ste. Marie," according to Dr. David Finley, dean of the Lukenda School of Business. "To earn this degree, students complete the university's general education requirement, the business school's common professional component, and a business minor of their choosing."

By offering these evening classes in Sault Ste. Marie, Finley said LSSU wants to provide opportunities akin to what is

offered for adult or non-traditional learners at its Petoskey and Escanaba regional centers for many years.

"We want to make this opportunity available to more students in the eastern Upper Peninsula and northern Ontario, as well," he said.

Pending demand, LSSU will explore offering weekend classes in the future. Also, more online courses are planned for this summer.

To apply for grants and loans, students should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and enroll at least half-time, which is six credits. A portion of LSSU financial aid is available for part-time students.

For information, contact LSSU Admissions at admissions@lssu.edu or (906) 635-2231 or contact Marcia Jenkins Ball at the Lukenda School of Business at mjenkinsball@lssu.edu or 635-2426.

Students participated in Homeless Awareness Week

SAULT STE. MARIE — The students and staff of JKL Bahweting Anishnabe PSA participated in Homeless Awareness Week this past month. In honor of homeless month, JKL School technology teacher, Vince Gross, set up a "Pack the House" food drive and outlined associated daily activities. On Monday, the color green was worn for the color of youth homelessness,

Tuesday was Random Act of Kindness Day, Wednesday was for bringing canned goods or food items to donate, Thursday was for creating posters or essays about homelessness and Friday was Silly Sock Day to Sock out Homelessness.

Students and staff donated 100 pounds of food to local food kitchens to feed the homeless.

School Superintendent Theresa

Kallstrom is the school's homeless/students in transition liaison. She can be contacted regarding any student who is known or appears to be homeless or in transition to offer assistance. Her number is 635-5055, extension 105.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act is a federal law that provides funding to homeless shelter programs.



HUD, VA ramp up effort to help homeless military veterans

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently announced the second round of housing assistance to help 1,984 homeless veterans find permanent supportive housing.

The rental assistance is provided through the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program, which combines rental assistance from HUD with case management and clinical services provided by VA.

Last October, the two agencies awarded \$62 million in HUD-VASH vouchers to assist more than 9,000 homeless veterans.

With HUD approaching its 50th anniversary next year, Secretary Julián Castro is focused on advancing policies that create opportunities for all Americans, including the broader Administration goal of ending homelessness among

veterans.

"It is unacceptable that after their service and sacrifice, too many of our veterans find themselves living on our streets and in our shelters," said Secretary Castro. "We've made significant progress reducing homelessness among veterans by a third in just four years, and these vouchers will continue to help communities build on these gains, providing targeted assistance to those in need to ensure that every veteran has a home."

Welcoming the progress made with HUD and local partners under the leadership of President Obama, VA Secretary Robert McDonald added, "As long as there remains a single veteran living on our streets, there is more work to be done. HUD-VASH vouchers are a vital tool in our efforts to reduce veteran homelessness."

"Through the HUD-VASH program, communities are making historic progress

toward ending homelessness by connecting veterans who have the most intensive service needs to the foundation of a home with supportive services,"

said Laura Green Zeilinger, Executive Director of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. "The grant awards add crucial resources to this effort, helping to deliver on the promise that every veteran who has served America has a home in America."

HUD-VASH is an important part of the Obama Administration's efforts to provide critical housing and services to veterans experiencing homelessness that also includes HUD's Continuum of Care program as well as VA's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF).

Since 2008 more than 68,000 vouchers have been awarded and over 80,000 homeless veterans have been served through the HUD-VASH program. Rental assistance and support services provided through HUD-VASH are a critical resource for local communities in ending homelessness among our nation's veterans.

Additionally, Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness serves as a roadmap for how the federal government will work with state and local communities to confront the root causes of homelessness, especially among former servicemen and women.

As evidence of that commitment, President Obama has asked for an additional \$75 million for HUD-VASH vouchers to serve veterans experiencing homelessness in his fiscal year 2015 budget request to Congress.

In the HUD-VASH program, VA Medical Centers (VAMCs) assess veterans experiencing homelessness before referring them to local housing agencies for these vouchers.

Decisions are based on a variety of factors, most importantly the duration of homelessness and the need for longer term, more intensive support in obtaining and maintaining permanent housing.

The HUD-VASH program includes both the rental assistance the voucher provides and the comprehensive case management that VAMC staff offers.

Veterans participating in the HUD-VASH program rent privately owned housing and generally contribute no more than 30 percent of their income toward rent.

VA offers eligible homeless veterans clinical and supportive services through its medical centers across the U.S., Guam and Puerto Rico.

Cedarville Trojans have historic football season

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

On Nov. 15 the Cedarville Trojans took the state semifinal game against the Deckerville Eagles 36 to 20. The Trojans are a combined Cedarville-DeTour team with a number of Sault Tribe youth on the roster.

Cedarville faced Lawrence in the state title game Nov. 21 at Greenville High School, and although Lawrence won the title, it was still an amazing year for the Trojans.

“The spirit and dedication demonstrated by the team, coaches and both communities is beyond words. It’s an amazing victory for our home towns — we are all so proud of all of them,” said Sault Tribe Unit II Director Lana Causley.

“Brad looked like a young Jim Thorpe out there yesterday,” said Unit II Director Catherine Hollowell, following the game. “He brought the victory home. Go Green!”

The tribe donated a charter bus for the team’s trip to Greenville, Mich., where the state finals were held. Head coach Scott Barr, said, “I want to thank the tribe for what they have done for us in the past



Cedarville Trojans No. 6, Bradley Causley Jr., hugs his grandfather, Sault Tribe elder Perry Causley after the victory. Causley finished with six catches for 97 yards on offense, and had five tackles and two interceptions on defense.

and this year, we really appreciate all the contributions in making our trip more comfortable. Our community and the Sault Tribe really did a lot to make sure the boys had a good experience. These are hard working kids and we are extremely proud that their efforts paid off in the end. It is an exceptional season — a place where Cedarville/DeTour haven’t

been before in football and I am overly proud of their efforts.”

Barr said, “Our program has been solid in the past, but having a special group like this allows you to go to special places. There are a lot of underclassmen that worked alongside these kids and learned a lot from their leadership and I think it is going to pay off for them in their future too.”

Assistant coach Brad Causley said, “We had a historical run this year in football, it was the first time the Cedarville Trojans football team has won a regional and it was the first time we made it to the semi-finals. We were fortunate enough to win the semi-final against Deckerville and make it to the state championship, that was a great experience for our school and all of our seniors.”

Causley said he thinks what really made the difference this season were the eight seniors on the team and the fact that they have been playing football together since the fifth grade.

Causley’s son Bradley Causley Jr., is a senior and a three-year starter on varsity, and was chosen as the Bridge Alliance offensive player of the year. Causley Jr.



Roster — No. 5 Joey Duncan, No. 6 Brad Causley, No. 10 Colton Bucht, No. 16 Zach Claxton, No. 22 Kamen Labinski, No. 24 Grant Plowman, No. 25 Mike Bailey, No. 32 Chase Massey, No. 33 Mike Haske, No. 34 Evan Rye, No. 42 Blake Melvin, No. 44 Jacob Mazzara, No. 50 Jayden Smith, No. 55, Josh Lee, No. 60 Jordan Bailey, No. 62 Ted Bowlby, No. 66 Tyler Soule, No. 77 Brett Masuga, No. 78 Will Goudreau, No. 80 Caleb Williams, No. 84 Derek Burger, No. 88 Trey Norris, head coach Scott Barr, assistant coaches Kevin Hill, Brad Causley and Dennis Polk.

also made first team offense as a wide receiver and first team defense as a defensive back. And if that wasn’t enough for a dad to be proud of, he also made the All U.P. Dream Team as a return specialist and was on the first ever all-state team in the eight-man division. “He is a good kid on top of being a good athlete,” Causley said. “He was also fortunate enough to play in the state semi

finals last year in basketball at the Breslin Center.”

Causley coaches JV level football and basketball and is assistant coach for the varsity team. “I am proud as a coach to have made a contribution in what these kids have done over their four years of high school play and equally, if not more proud, of my son as a father.”

Bauman wins Spirit Award from Special Olympics Michigan

Sault Tribe member Cathy Bauman of Manistique, Mich., received the Special Olympics Michigan Spirit Award on Nov. 8 at the Special Olympic Michigan Hall of Fame banquet at the Comfort Inn Conference Center in Mt. Pleasant Mich.

The award was established to recognize an individual involved with Special Olympics Michigan who has had a positive impact on the program and represents the spirit of sportsmanship and the love of sports, respect and acceptance of persons with intellectual disabilities and sharing of gifts, skills and

friendship with the athletes, their families and community.

Bauman has been involved in Special Olympics for over 30 years. A sister, Christina, is a special Olympian athlete. Cathy volunteers and has helped coordinate the EUP Special Olympics Winter Games in Newberry for the last 10 years. You will find her running along the side of athletes as they ski or snowshoe in knee-deep snow to encourage them to keep going. Making the games fun for everyone.

Bauman has participated in EUP Special Olympics fundraiser

bike/walk around Mackinac Island for 15 years. Her ability to organize and have fun charms everyone. She makes sure all athletes are safe and she follows behind 50 bikers making sure everyone returns back to the park safely, all while taking pictures of everyone.

Employed as a warden at the Munising Corrections Facility by the State of Michigan Corrections Department, she encourages fundraising and volunteering by her staff to participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Run.

“They are my heroes,” Bauman commented about the athletes.



Sault Tribe member Cathy Bauman of Manistique, Mich., received the Special Olympics Michigan Spirit Award. The award was established to recognize an individual involved with Special Olympics Michigan who has had a positive impact on the program.

ACFS hires foster care caseworker



Stephanie Shannon joined with Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) Oct. 15 as a foster care caseworker.

Shannon works out of the Kinross office and will be supervising visits, handling foster care intake, and going to court on behalf of ACFS, among other duties.

A recent graduate of Lake Superior State University, Shannon holds a bachelor’s degree in criminal justice and an associate’s degree in corrections. She said she feels very lucky to have been hired for this position.

She is leaving soon for training at the Department of Human

Services Child Welfare Training Institute and once she completes the courses and test, will be a certified caseworker.

She was born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, graduating from

Sault Area High School in 2004.

Her parents are Tadd and Janice Shannon and brothers, Mathew Shannon of Mancelona, Mich., and Christopher Shannon, of Sault Ste. Marie.

And baby makes five generations of Jago’s



Submitted by Melody Pinkoski

FIVE GENERATIONS — Pictured from left to right are five generations of the Jago family: great-grandfather, Kenneth Jago Sr.; great-great-grandmother, Rosann Jago-Brown; grandfather, Kenneth Jago Jr.; father, Robert Jago and Selene Jago. Selene was born to Robert Jago and Sierra Castro on Nov. 12, 2014.



Kyle Arnold shot this eight-point buck on opening day while hunting in the Bliss area. The buck weighed 180 pounds.

Resolutions passed at Nov. 4 and 25 meetings

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors met on Nov. 4. All were present with the exception of Unit II Representative Catherine Hollowell.

The tribe's Insurance Department was authorized to increase employee health insurance premiums effective with the first pay in January of 2015.

An amendment to the tribe's membership ordinance was adopted to replace a subsection to read "In the event that the board of directors elects to close the tribal roll, the enrollment of biological children of fully documented members pursuant to Section 11.106 shall continue to be permitted prior to the date on which the child turns 21 years old."

John Causey Jr. and Elisabeth Dietz were appointed to serve as a reserve appellate judges-elder for the tribal court of appeals for a term of four years.

A number of projects were approved for the 2015-18 Tribal Transportation Improvement Plan.

The board approved a fiscal year 2014 budget modification to Self-Insurance – Health (NGS) to cover a \$2,594,957.93 shortfall by allocating the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan refund of \$922,080.10, depreciation loss of \$126.84 and tribal support of \$1,602,750.99.

A fiscal year 2015 budget modification was approved to COPS TRGP 2011 for an increase in federal Department of Justice (DOJ) revenues of \$336,095.43, no effect on tribal support.

Another budget modification established a fiscal year 2015 budget for Law Enforcement Renovation Coordinated Tribal Assistance with DOJ funding of \$515,953 and no effect on tribal support.

A fiscal year 2015 budget modification was approved to Child Care State, Adolescent Treatment and Adolescent In-Home for an increase in fund balance of \$9,155.31 to reflect personnel changes and a reallocation of expenses with no effect on tribal support.

The board approved a fiscal year 2015 budget modification to IHS After Care to change the personnel sheet and re-allocate expenses with no effect on tribal support.

A five-year Health and Wellness in Indian Country grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the amount of \$1,625,000 was accepted and a fiscal year 2015 budget for \$325,000 of the funding was established with no effect on tribal support.

A fiscal year 2015 budget modification was approved for health education for changes in the Community Health personnel sheet and the reallocation of expenses with no effect on tribal support.

The board approved a fiscal year 2015 budget modification to IHS Healthy Start for an increase in federal funds of \$300,626.61 with no effect on tribal support.

Another CDC grant, a three-year Partnership to Improve Community Health funding of \$2,430,000, was accepted and a budget of \$810,000 was established for fiscal year 2015.

A fiscal year 2015 budget increase in IHS funding of \$774,050.74 was approved for the Special Diabetes Program.

The Youth Education and Activities fiscal year 2014 budget was modified for an increase in federal funding of \$212,042.93 and a decrease in tribal support of \$212,042.93.

The Inter-Tribal Fisheries budget for fiscal year 2014 received

an increase in federal funding of \$35,032 and a decrease in the same amount in tribal support.

A modification to the Conservation Management fiscal year 2014 budget was approved an increase of \$535,856.83 in federal funding and a decrease in the same amount in tribal support.

The board approved a fiscal year 2014 budget modification to Institutional Researcher to reallocate expenses, allocate indirect revenue of \$4,156.94 and reduce tribal support \$39,683.93.

The board convened for another meeting on Nov. 25 in Hessel, with all board members present.

Ten resolutions were presented and passed.

Res. 2014-212: Governmental – EPA GLRI FY 2015 budget modification: With no effect on tribal support, the modification to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative was approved for an increase in Federal Environmental Protection Agency revenues of \$27,576.

Res. 2014-213: Governmental – Quality assurance establish FY 2015 budget: With no effect on tribal support, the board approved establishing the FY 2015 budget for Quality Assurance with Federal Environmental Protection Agency revenues of \$27,475.

Res. 2014-214: 2014 Tribal government's acceptance of grant and establishment of FY 2015 budget office on Violence Against Women: The board accepted a Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation grant through the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women, in the amount of \$877,208, with the current budget period being Oct. 1, 2014 to Sept. 30, 2015 for \$231,059.

Res. 2014-215: Civil Legal Assistance acceptance of grant and establishment of FY 2015 budget: the board approved the

acceptance of the Department of Justice, Office of Violence Against Women FY 2014 Legal Assistance for Victims grant Program for an award period starting Oct. 1, 2014 to Sept. 30, 2017 in the amount of \$499,072. The board also approved the establishment of a FY 2015 budget for Civil Legal Assistance with Federal DOJ, Office of Violence Against Women monies of \$149,424.35 with no effect on tribal support.

Res. 2014-216: Adult incarceration request to establish FY 2015 budget: The board approved the establishment of a FY 2015 budget for adult incarceration with Other Revenue of \$25,200 and Tribal Support of \$84,634.

Res. 2014-217: Amending Tribal Code Chapter 30: Child Welfare Code Subchapter XII: Committees and workers 30.1206 duties of the officers: The board approved an amendment to the code to read as follows:

30.1206 Duties of the Officers

(1) The Committee Chairman shall preside over all meetings of the Child Welfare Committee, provided that, in the absence of the Committee Chairman, the duties of the Chairman shall be carried out by the committee member who is present and who has been a member of the Child Welfare Committee for the longest duration.

(2) The Committee Chairman shall call all meetings.

(3) The Committee Secretary shall keep a complete and accurate record of all meetings.

Res. 2014-218: Request for litigation support funds McKay Bay litigation: The board approved and supported submission of the request for FY 2015 Litigation Support to the Bureau of Indian Affairs funds by the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority regarding CORA's efforts to

obtain dismissal of the claim by Ronald and Beverly Nelson that they own a part of the property administered by CORA as an access site for fishermen of its member tribes and that is now scheduled for trial in 2015 in Mackinac County Circuit Court, creating uncertainty as to the continued use of the property by Sault Tribe members and putting the financial resources of CORA at risk.

Res. 2014-219: Opposing nuclear waste facility near Lake Huron: The board declared its opposition to the proposed construction and operation of a nuclear waste storage facility at the Bruce Nuclear Power Plant or any other similar site within the drainage basin of the Great Lakes.

Copies of the resolution were distributed to the appropriate officials of the Province of Ontario, the State of Michigan and the governments of the U.S. and Canada.

Res. 2014-220: Establish the Sault Tribe as a My Brother's Keeper Initiative participating tribe: The board approved the tribe's commitment as a participating tribe in the Obama Administration's My Brother's Keeper Initiative – a coordinated intervention that yields promise for creating positive opportunities and outcomes for Native American youth.

Res. 2014-221: Amending Tribal Code, Chapter 70, Criminal Procedure Section 70.127, Sentencing, to access costs of incarceration: The board approved a change in the Code by adding a new subsection regarding the costs of incarceration and who is responsible for their payment.

To view the resolutions in their entirety, go to: saulttribe.com.

Suzan Harjo receives Medal of Freedom in D.C.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Barack Obama recently named nineteen distinguished individuals as recipients of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Among the recipients of this prestigious award is Suzan Shown Harjo (Cheyenne and Hodulgee Muscogee), president of the Morning Star Institute since its inception in 1984. She was executive director of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) from 1984 through 1989 and continues to serve as co-chair of the NCAI

Subcommittee on Human, Religious and Cultural Concerns.

The Medal of Freedom, established by President John F. Kennedy in 1963, is the nation's highest civilian honor bestowed to individuals who have made especially meritorious contributions to the security or national interests of the United States, to world peace, or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors.

Harjo's career spans decades of involvement in indigenous human rights issues and causes. Her

traditional knowledge, extensive capacity for research regarding indigenous cultures, and her indomitable spirit led her to significant victories in non-Native arenas, including congressional and administrative venues. She is a founder of the National Museum of the American Indian and guest curator and general editor of the exhibit and book, *Nation to Nation: Treaties Between the United States and American Indian Nations*.

NCAI President Brian

Cladoosby expressed congratulations to Dr. Harjo, stating, "We are extremely proud of Suzan Harjo and her continued and profound advocacy on behalf of Native peoples. Her commitment to preserve and protect Native human remains, cultural patrimony, sacred places and sovereignty is well known throughout Indian Country. Today is a great day for Native peoples and we celebrate and honor our friend and colleague, a former director of NCAI, for her

achievements and recognition by the president for her exceptional meritorious service."

Medal of Freedom recipients are selected by the president, either on his own initiative or based on recommendations, and this year's list includes Alvin Ailey, Tom Brokaw, Patsy Mink, Ethel Kennedy, Charles Sifford, Meryl Streep and Stevie Wonder. This year's awards were presented at the White House on Nov. 24.

Congress releases 2015 spending bill, IHS funded at \$4.6 billion

Congress recently unveiled a \$1.1 trillion spending bill that will keep most of the federal government funded through Sept. 30, 2015, according to the National Indian Health Board (NIHB). The Department of Homeland Security has funding only until Feb. 27, 2015, so that action might be taken by the Republican Congress early next year to counter the president's recent

actions on immigration.

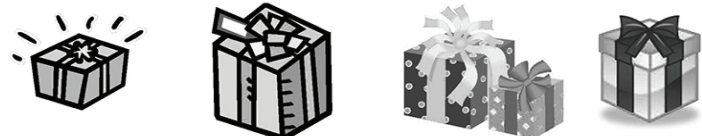
The Indian Health Service (IHS) will receive a total of \$4.6 billion in fiscal year 2015. This is \$208 million above the fiscal year 2014 level. Within this, \$4.2 billion is provided for services and \$460.2 million for facilities.

Purchased/Referred Care (formerly known as Contract Health Services) will have an increase of over \$35 million in fiscal year

2015 for a total of \$914 million.

The legislation will also fund contract support costs at almost \$663 million which is based on a revised estimate provided to Congress. This amount includes increased contract support costs for fiscal year 2015 but also funds to repay other budget line items which were reprogrammed to cover the fiscal year 2014 contract support costs shortfall.

GIVE YOUR LOVED ONES A GIFT
THEY WILL NEVER FORGET...



THE GIFT OF A HEALTHIER YOU!

This holiday season, make a healthy change.

- Quitting tobacco use is the best thing you can do to improve your health and the health of your family.
- Having a smoke-free home and car will reduce the health risks of secondhand and thirdhand smoke.
- Advocating for tobacco-free parks and recreation areas will promote positive role-modeling for youth.

~Live Tobacco-Free~

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Need help getting started?

Call the Chippewa County Tobacco-Free Living Coalition @ (906) 635-3636 or the Michigan Tobacco Quitline @ 1 (800) QUIT NOW (1-800-784-8669)
Or visit www.chippewahd.com, www.healthysaulttribe.com, or www.UP4Health.org

Reward offered in wolf poaching cases

Michigan Department of Natural Resources conservation officers are seeking information on two separate wolf poaching cases that recently occurred in Mackinac and Schoolcraft counties in the Upper Peninsula.

The first case occurred near the Mackinac-Luce county line close to M-117 southwest of Newberry. The wolf was found near County

Road 468 in Lakefield Township on Nov. 26 and died of a gunshot wound as determined through a forensic examination. The wolf had been killed at another location and transported to where it was dumped.

The second poaching occurred in Schoolcraft County near Gulliver in Doyle Township. In this case, a wolf, which was part

of a wildlife study, was killed and the tracking collar was removed and disposed. Evidence of this poaching was also located on Nov. 26.

A reward is offered for information that leads to the arrest of the subject or subjects involved. Anyone with any possible information on these cases is asked to call the Report

All Poaching Hotline at (800) 292-7800, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, or to contact their local DNR office or conservation officer. Information may be left anonymously. Callers may remain anonymous and still be eligible to receive a reward.

The maximum penalty for poaching a wolf is 90 days in jail or a fine of up to \$1,000, or both,

plus reimbursement of \$1,500 to the state for the animal. Poaching convictions also usually include a suspension of hunting privileges for a period of four years.

Wolves are a protected species in Michigan and cannot legally be killed except in the defense of life. For more information on wolves in Michigan, go to www.michigan.gov/wolves.

Mice and lice — natural tricks to remove them

BY TIFFANY ESCHERICH

Every year, countless households suffer from the invasion of unwanted pests.

Common methods of controlling household pests include the use of many over-the-counter poisons and traps. However, these options may be harmful to your family's health and safety, especially children and pets.

Fortunately, many pest problems can be solved naturally, eliminating the need for toxic pesticides. Natural pest control solutions can be implemented at home using common household supplies, making them an affordable alternative. These solutions may also prevent poisoning and injury especially to children and pets. Overall, the use of natural remedies is healthier for your family, the environment and your wallet.

As seasons change, so do the different pests we may encounter. In spring, we prepare for ticks and mosquitoes. In summer, we battle flies and gardens pests. In fall and winter, mice and head lice are looking for warm places to call home. Mice may take up residence in your attics, walls and basements while head lice set up camp on your child's head. Here are a few tips to rid your household of these pests.

Mice

- Sanitation: Mice are able to survive on little resources. While great sanitation measures may not completely prevent a mouse from taking up residence in your home, unsanitary conditions will certainly attract them.

- Mouse proof construction: Mice are able to squeeze into spaces as small as a pen cap. Thus, it is crucial that all holes leading into your home are plugged and secure. Steel wool shoved in a hole and covered with caulk/spray foam insulation makes a great plug for small holes. Seal cracks in foundation with concrete mix. Cover downspout ends, vents and other open utility holes with a small gauge wire mesh. Remember, a mouse may not chew through metal, but they will chew through plastic, rubber, wood or other soft materials.

- Trapping: Trapping is a highly successful and cost effective method of mouse control. When there are only a few mice present, this may be the control method of choice. It has many advantages including the assurance that the mouse has been killed (or contained), preventing the use of hazardous poisons and allows for the user to dispose of the carcass. If you have a five-gallon bucket, metal hanger or other sturdy smooth metal rod, styrofoam plate, peanut butter and a stick for a ramp, you can have your own mouse trap. Constructing this trap

is easy and you have the option of using it as a live or death trap. For a live trap, simply leave the bottom of the bucket empty and relocate the mice out of your house at least a mile away (or at least as far away as you can get them) to ensure they don't return. If you prefer a lethal option add three inches of water and a splash of bleach in the bottom of the bucket. Mice drown quickly and the bleach will prevent the stench of dead carcasses.

- Poison baits: Poison baits, as effective and inexpensive as they are, should be used with great caution. Many over-the-counter poison baits (such as D-Con) could also poison other non-target animals (your cat Fluffy, birds, the neighbor's dog, etc.) and children in your household if consumed. There are natural, at home "poisons" that you can make from household goods that are safe for children and pets. Equal parts of flour, sugar and baking soda act as a natural alternative to commercial pesticides (i.e., D-Con). If no children or pets are in the household, another option is a mixture of equal parts of corn meal and cement powder. These two natural poison baits can be used the same as standard chemical poison baits by leaving mixtures in a shallow container in areas of mouse activity. Be warned! Like pesticide poison baits, these natural baits do take a few days to work, thus dead mice may end up anywhere.

- Mouse disposal: It is very important to wear disposable rubber/latex gloves when handling mice as they are known to carry diseases. Place dead mice in plastic bags, tie shut, then bag a second time. Dispose of mice in a garbage receptacle. Traps can be disinfected by soaking them in a solution of three tablespoons of bleach to one gallon of water or other commercial disinfectants containing Phenol (i.e., LysolR). Dispose of gloves worn to handle mice/traps and thoroughly wash hands.

Lice

- Avoid head to head (hair to hair) contact during play at home or school including sporting events, playgrounds, slumber parties, camp, etc.

- Check and treat (if needed) all people who may have come in contact with an infested person to ensure the infestation will not continue to spread.

- Do not share clothing such as hats, scarves, coats, sports uniforms, hair ribbons or barrettes, combs, brushes or towels. Disinfect combs/hair brushes used by an infested person in hot water (minimum 130F) for 5-10 minutes.

- Do not lie on couches, beds, stuffed animals, pillows or carpets

that have recently (within 24 hours) been in contact with an infested person.

- Machine wash and dry clothing, linens and other items worn or used during the two days prior to treatment by an infested person using a hot water cycle (minimum 130F) and the highest dryer heat setting.

- Vacuum the floor and furniture particularly where an infested person sat. However, re-infestation/transmission of lice is most likely going to occur via direct head to head contact with the infested person rather than contact with areas the person has been.

- Educating children about avoiding activities that promote the spread of lice is necessary to help control the outbreak of lice in public areas such as a camp, school or other community locations.

- If an outbreak is detected, there are a few treatment options available that prevent the need for use of doctor prescribed pesticides:

1. Reduction combing is a

cost effective treatment option, however time consuming. Lice/nit combs can be purchased from many local retailers. You may add conditioner to a dry scalp in order to "shock" any active lice, making them easier to remove. Combing must be thorough and routine (every couple of days for up to three weeks) to be effective.

2. The use of tea tree oil may be less time consuming but costs a little bit more. A one-ounce bottle of this oil is available at Harmony Health Food store on Ashmun Street for \$8. Test spot skin for allergic reaction when considering this method. One bottle contains roughly 300-400 drops. To make a shampoo treatment, simply mix 10-15 drops with one-quarter cup of your favorite shampoo. Work mixture into dry scalp and let sit for at least 20 minutes to one hour. Simply rinse when complete and repeat once per week for three weeks or until infestation is clear.

3. Another effective method is the use of Cetaphil Gentle Skin Cleanser on the scalp. However this option may be the least cost effective as you may need to

purchase additional bottles for repeat treatments. Treatment is best when applied prior to bedtime as there is an eight-hour soak time. Simply apply generous amount of cleanser to dry scalp and wait two minutes for cleanser to soak in. Comb out as much of the cleanser as possible. Blow-dry until hair is completely dry. Drying will generally take three times longer than normal drying and even longer if much of the cleanser wasn't combed out. Let sit on the scalp for eight hours and shampoo out at the end of treatment. Reapply once a week for three weeks or until infestation is clear.

Regardless of income, ability and spatial limitation there can be a natural pest control solution for anyone. Assessing the magnitude of a pest infestation can assist you in deciding which control option is best suited to your situation.

For more information on natural pest control options, please contact Tiffany Escherich with Sault Tribe Environmental Department (906) 632-5575, extension 73061, or email tescherich@saulttribe.net.

SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2015 CALENDAR

January 6	Newberry	January 20	Sault Ste. Marie
February 3	Sault Ste. Marie	February 17	St. Ignace
March 3	Sault Ste. Marie	March 24	Manistique
April 7	Kincheloe	April 21	Munising
May 5	Sault Ste. Marie	May 19	Naubinway
June 9**	St. Ignace	June 23**	Escanaba
July 7	Sault Ste. Marie	July 21	Manistique
August 4	Kincheloe	August 18	Marquette
September 1	Sault Ste. Marie	September 22**	Munising
October 6	Sault Ste. Marie	October 20	St. Ignace
November 3	Sault Ste. Marie	November 17	Hessel
December 8**	Sault Ste. Marie	December 22**	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 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month**
** Changed to accommodate Chair/Board attendance at MAST/United Tribes, various Wash. DC meetings.

All general meetings start at 6:00 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 further information please call Joanne Carr or Tara McKelvie at the Administration Office, 800-793-0660, 906-635-6050, extensions 26337 or 26338.

From "YEA," page 14
Unit II 2014 highlights

JANUARY — Tribal youth council members, students in grades eight to 12, have an active voice in identifying, solving and creating programs or policy change for the betterment of their community. They use their combined talents and energy to address major concerns facing them today, then design and promote their own programs to fit their needs. Throughout the year, council members design, promote and engage in community service, heritage, cultural, and environmental programs that embrace healthy living.

Mukkwa Giizhik Drum practice takes place on Thursday evenings, 6-8 p.m. This is open to the public and is for anyone who wishes to learn about part of our Native American culture with the ceremony drum and the heartbeat of Mother Earth.

Winter sleep over for students in grades two to five. Students enjoyed doing outside winter activities of tubing at Minneapolis Woods in Sault Ste. Marie. When we returned to Hessel everyone enjoyed watching the movie Snow Buddies and discussing different activities done during the winter.

Building Circles of Support Anti Bullying Suicide Prevention Education on Drummond Island for students in grades three to six at the DeTour Fine Arts Academy. Building Circles of Support: Partnerships for Personal Healing, Cultural Pride and Positive Change Curriculum developed by the Sault Tribe Alive Youth (STAY) Program and Michigan State University Extension to engage Native and non-Native youth and adults in conversation and learning around critical issues impacting the community such as substance abuse, bullying and suicide prevention.

FEBRUARY — Tribal Youth Council meets on Thursday at the Hessel Tribal Center from 5-6 p.m., grades eight to 12.

Grand Tribal Youth Council meetings include members from youth councils in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique, Escanaba, Kinross and Munising. The councils meet on a regular basis to identify major concerns facing tribal youth, then plan, organize and facilitate activities to address the concerns for the betterment of the tribe. A good example is the Bike the Sites Project. Council members and community members bike for 47 miles annually to combat childhood obesity.

Mukkwa Giizhik Drum practice on Thursdays, 6-8 p.m.

Les Cheneaux Community School after school homework lab and cultural education activities on Mondays providing homework help from 3-4 p.m. and between 4-5 p.m., special activities such as physical activity games are geared to promote building positive attitudes towards fun and creative physical activity that contains interactive activities for individuals, partners and groups, reinforcing team building and individual self-esteem.

Other activities for the after school program include collaborating with the Sault Tribe's Environmental Department teaching the importance of clean water, air and way's to take care of

Mother Earth.

Working with the USDA Food Distribution Program teaches youth how to use and prepare healthful snacks and meals. The Sault Tribe Traditional Foods Program teaches the importance of community gardens, identifying and planting natural foods as well as food preparation and storing. MSU Extension provides more gardening projects and healthy food sampling such as kale chips. The Mackinac County Sheriff's Department educates members on Halloween safety. Terry LaTour with the Mukkwa Giizhik Community Drum teaches lessons about the Anishinaabe drum, dances and songs. Soon the Sault Tribe Law Enforcement K-9 Unit will teach an after school program more on safety issues.

Winter survival games — The first winter survival games proved to be a success with students in grades two to 10 from Manistique, Hessel and Cedarville. Participants learned about the traditional winter game of snow snake, played when ice and snow covered the ground. Specially carved sticks from six to eight feet long are tossed along a trough made of frozen snow and ice. The team that throws the snakes the farthest wins the game. This game developed and enhanced aim and spear throwing techniques.

Elders appreciation dinner — The dinner is sponsored by the Nbiish-Be-Mwi-Jwaang Tribal Youth Council. The council enjoys showing appreciation for elders on an annual basis. Council members prepared and served a delicious spaghetti dinner and each member gave a speech on why elders are important to them. The council members for the event were Nicholas Huffman, Gregory Currie, Val Jean LaTour and Morgan McQuiston. Council members unable to attend but who helped plan and organize the activity were Matthew Landreville and Mary Powers.

MARCH — Grand Tribal Youth Council, aside from the regular meeting, the Grand Tribal Youth Council members attended a two-day teen leadership conference in Sault Ste. Marie where individual council members gave presentations to the board of directors on their accomplishments for the year. They listened to presentations from various tribal departments such as the Traditional Medicine Department on the Keep Tobacco Sacred/Seema Project and each youth council was given teachings on tobacco then given tobacco seeds to plant, raise then present to the local elder committees.

Mukkwa Giizhik Drum practice, Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. We held a drum social in Newberry at the Luce County Community Recreation and Resource Center. Working with the Mukkwa Giizhik Community Committee, spring was celebrated with a drum social and feast in Hessel. Many members of our tribal youth are also members of the Mukkwa Giizhik Drum and serve as a role model for youth in our community.

APRIL — Building Circles of Support held in Newberry at the Luce County Community Recreation and Resource Center.

Once again YEA was able to assist with the Women's Health

Fair in Newberry, providing a craft project for participants.

First Environmental Day took place in Hessel with booths set up by the Traditional Medicine Department, Conservation District, Sault Tribe Environmental Department, MSU Extension, Traditional Foods, USDA, Cloverland Electric. Participants enjoyed visiting the stations and doing a planting project, a craft project, making healthful snacks, learning how to save on electricity with the information packets, free energy saving light bulbs were given away, they also learned how the pesticide used gets into drinking water.

Tribal youth council meetings, Thursdays prior to drum practice.

Mukkwa Giizhik Drum practice, Thursday evenings, 6-8 p.m., open to the community. Bring a dish to pass if you can.

MAY — Aside from the regular scheduled activities such as the youth council, drum practice, talking circles, Grand Tribal Youth Council, May was very active with the after school program in Cedarville with guest speakers from the Environmental Department, USDA Foods, gardening with Community Health and MSU Extension.

Working with the Community Health Program and Kewadin Casino, we sponsored the second annual Women's Health Fair.

Working with the Ojibwa Museum, YEA and the Mukkwa Giizhik Drum enjoyed providing traditional song and dance with a craft project during the May Anishinabe Fest.

JUNE — DeTour youth enjoyed a three-day, two-night Circle of Life summer camp, where they learned smoking cessation with Teresa Jeddle of the Community Health Program; cooking healthful foods with Connie Watson of the Traditional Foods Program; swimming; I provided medicine wheel lessons, which included the indoctrination on the directions and seven grandfathers. Everyone enjoyed spending time in the Sault with the Environmental Department as Tesha Zimmerman, Crystal Bole, Abraham Mclarahmore taught us about invasive species and water quality as well as the emerald ash borer. We also learned how to identify some of the invasive species while hiking around Minneapolis Woods. After the plant identification, the youth helped to set traps for the emerald ash borer. Through games, we enjoyed learning how resources can change on a daily basis. After spending an awesome day in the Sault learning about our environment, we enjoyed an evening of talking circles while roasting marshmallows.

Due to heavy road construction, the Grand Tribal Youth Council Bike the Sites event took place from Trout Lake to the St. Ignace MidJim. Council members wanting to raise awareness on childhood obesity biked 37 miles with escort by tribal law enforcement and the Mackinaw County Sheriff's Department.

Circle of Life summer program: Hessel participants enjoyed camping in the Sault for the first week of the program. They learned about the eastern direction, how to introduce themselves in our native language, and each

group was split into clans and represented the clan for the entire summer program. The second week involved a camp at Big Nob, learning about the southern direction, more on the language and clan systems. The third week took place at the DeTour State Park where, once again, everyone enjoyed learning about the western direction, we had a mini-drum social with the Mukkwa Giizhik Drum as Tim Derwin demonstrated his dance styles and talked about his regalia. Kelly Constantino, YEA coordinator for the Escanaba and Gladstone area did a fantastic job teaching everyone about the monarch life span. Tom Souro from Community Health presented first aid techniques. Monica Cady with MSU Extension took youth hiking, teaching them about edible wild plants while Amy McCoy taught the Ojibwe name for each plant. Marlene Porcaro with the USDA presented on healthful snacks and made lady bug apples with ants on a log. Tesha Zimmerman and Crystal Bole with the Environmental Department discussed water purification and identifying invasive plants. Tony Grondin presented on survival skills.

Camping in St. Ignace for the fourth week of the summer program, we enjoyed learning about the northern direction. Participants experienced scraping logs needed for building the new long house in St. Ignace at the Ojibwa Museum. Bringing it all together and celebrating the lessons given during the summer program, the youth held one of the best Youth Empowerment Powwows in Newberry. Everyone played an important role in the success of the powwow, they carried in the flags, shadowed the emcee, served as head dancers, set up and cleaned the grounds, some young ladies made shawls completely fringed in time for the grand entry. All of the meals was prepared by Mona Gugin and Dorothy Currie, Mukkwa Giizhik and the Manistique youth drum provided the sound of the heartbeat. Francie Wyers from YEA and John Miller from the Sault Tribe Housing Authority served as lead dancers, Calvin Burnside enjoyed teaching youth how to serve as arena director and emcee. To accommodate for all the meals and participants, meals were prepared and served at the Luce County Community Recreation and Resource Center. Going out of her way to make sure we were well taken care of, Mary Archambeau, director for the Luce County Community Recreation and Resource Center, opened the doors for our cooks by providing them with sleeping accommodations and anything else they needed. The powwow feast was sponsored by Connie Watson of the Community Health Traditional Foods Program.

Jump Start Program takes place at the end of August and provides fun education activities for everyone.

SEPTEMBER — New cultural enrichment after school program at the Engadine School. During this class, students in grades two to five enjoy learning about the medicine wheel and the seven grandfathers, and heard stories from guest speaker Tony Grondin about the Anishinaabe walk in

life with sacred eagle feathers. Terry Gouza brought a selection of animal pelts, and taught how to identify certain animal tracks. Participants learn how to make chokers, medicine pouches and dream catchers. This activity is on Tuesdays, 3:15-4. Our last session for the academic year is Dec. 18.

The fall was celebrated with a feast harvesting potatoes, squash, cucumbers, dill, mint, lemon, balm, thyme, basil, onion and kale chips from the Hessel community garden. Sponsored by MSU Extension, Community Health Program Traditional Foods, USDA Program and YEA Program. Food was donated by various business and tribal members, Wilcox Fisheries, Bison-Circle K Farms, Fran Leavitt, Kathy Brosmer.

OCTOBER — Aside from our regular programming with the cultural enrichment, afterschool program, youth councils, Building Circles of Support with weekly talking circles in Newberry, I enjoyed providing lessons on our first medicine (seema) at the family celebrations in Newberry. The Mukkwa Giizhik Drum provided some of the powwow songs of our people.

Our monthly talking circle was held in Hessel, this activity is open to the public and on the third Thursday of every month starting at 6 p.m. at the Hessel Tribal Community Center.

NOVEMBER — Conducted the third annual ghost feast and gathering of the pipes ceremony with the Mukkwa Giizhik Community Committee at the Hessel center on the first Saturday in November.

Building Circles of Support in Newberry is held at the Luce County Community Recreation and Resource Center starting at 5 p.m.

With Marlene Paccorro from the USDA, everyone in the Cedarville Ace School as well as participants in the Cedarville after school program enjoyed learning how to make vegetable pizzas. Next on the menu will be chicken stir-fry.

Youth council members would like to start hosting movie night for the younger students, soon they will be doing a pop can drive to raise the money to rent movies and other supplies needed. This is a community service project for the council. They would like to start a drop-in center for teens that would include various table games and other activities plus provide a fun, safe, drug and alcohol free environment for youth to enjoy themselves.

Mukkwa Giizhik Community Drum practices on Thursdays.

DECEMBER — Mukkwa Giizhik will be busy with school assemblies, a drum social in Marquette plus regular drum practice. Christmas family events are taking place throughout the service area this month.

If you would like information on YEA programs for Unit II, contact me at 484-2298 or email lburnside@saulttribe.net.

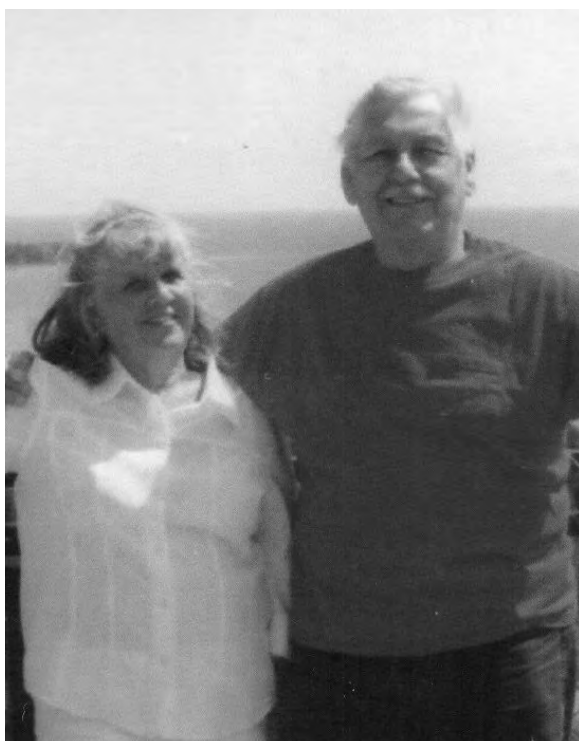
On behalf of the YEA Program in Unit II, I would like to say a special chi miigwetch to all of the departments who made 2013 a fun learning experience.

Merry Christmas and happy new year.

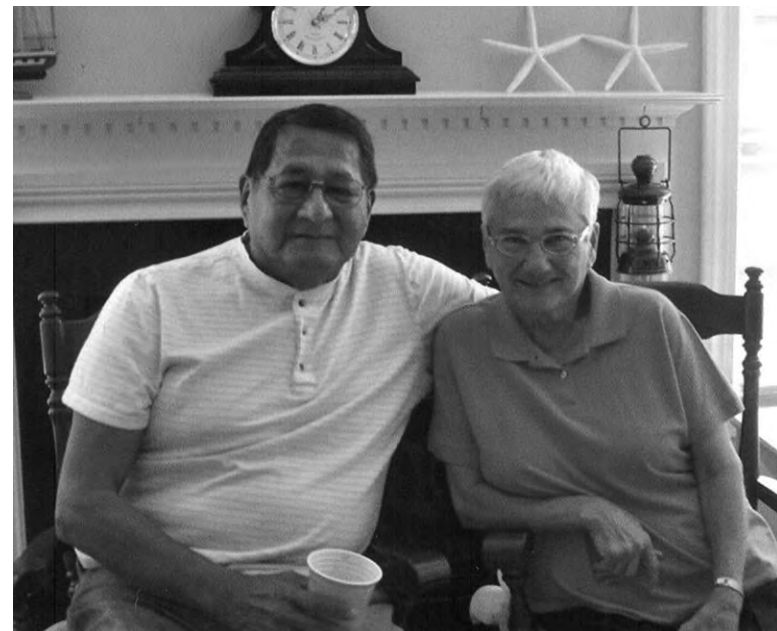
Boulleys celebrate 60-year wedding anniversary



Abraham Bouley Sr. and Marion M. Belonga Bouley celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Dec. 11. Both are Sault Tribe members. They were married at Saint Isaac Jogues Church in 1954 by Father Paul Prud'homme in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. They have four children, seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.



Andrews celebrate 50-year anniversary



George Andrews of Hessel, Mich., and Gail Haun of Fairfax, Va., were united in marriage at the Church of God in Fairfax on Oct. 24, 1964. Dorothy Edwards was maid of honor and Jim Campbell was best man. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with family and friends on Oct. 25, 2014. They met at the Pentagon while he was serving in the Navy and she worked for the Navy Department. They have three sons and one daughter and their spouses, 12 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. George and Gail live in Fairfax.

Walk away the holiday blues and stress

BY COMMUNITY HEALTH STAFF

The holiday season is here! The air is filled with excitement and anticipation of wonderful things to come. However, for some, the excitement and anticipation turn into feelings of stress mixed with depression, commonly known as the "holiday blues." The stress of holiday events combined with overeating, overdrinking and fatigue may create mood changes and anxiety.

The Mayo Clinic suggests these tips to help prevent holiday stress and depression: Don't abandon healthful habits. If you allow the holidays to become a free-for-all, overindulgence will only add to your stress and guilt.

- Try these suggestions:
- Have healthful snacks before holiday parties so you don't go overboard on sweets, cheeses or drinks.
 - Get plenty of sleep.
 - Incorporate regular physical

activity into each day.

Keep in mind that regular physical activity can help to reduce depression and stress by releasing feel-good brain chemicals, called endorphins.

Set aside at least 10 minutes a day to do some sort of physical activity. A 10-minute walk may be just as good as a 45-minute workout to help relieve anxiety and depression.

Under Michigan Department of Community Health Active Living and Sault Tribe Partnerships to Improve Community Health grants, CCHD and the Sault Tribe are partnering to highlight the importance of walking and physical activity as a means to prevent or manage chronic disease.

For information, contact Heather Hemming at (906) 632-5210 or hemming@saulttribe.net. For information about healthy living initiatives visit: www.up4health.org.

Shop locally for Christmas



We will be closed at 12:00 noon on December 24th and all day on December 25th for Christmas

Community People You Know™

As the holidays are approaching, we would like to thank our local merchants for all they do in support of the community. Whenever there's a project to make our community a better place to live, you will find them with their sleeves rolled up in the middle of it all. Show your support by shopping locally for Christmas this year.

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banner! 18- x 24-inch \$30 (wood dowel, gold fringe)

3- x 5-inch stick flag \$3

PROUDLY REPRESENTING OUR TRIBE AT THE 2014

White House Tribal Nations Conference

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



Selfie with the Women Warriors (veterans of the U.S. Military) who are also traditional dancers

Ahneen, Boozo, Negee:

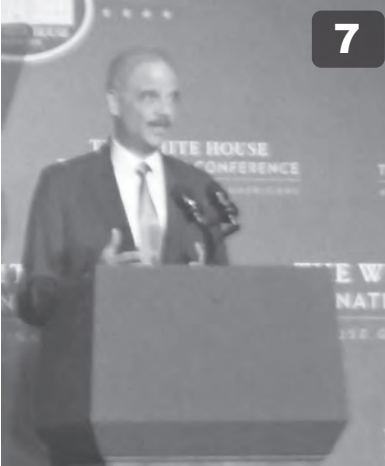
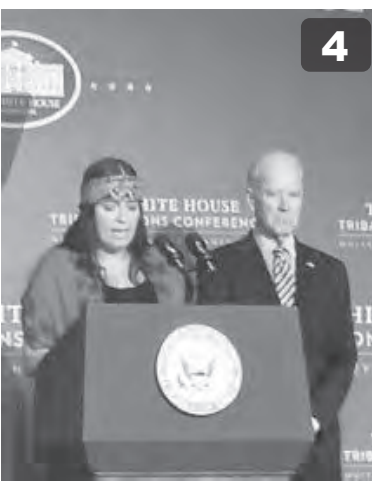
Lots to report this month. I apologize for missing last month but I missed the deadline. It's a good thing because I was planning on ranting about the needless negativity reported by others in our paper who claim the work I do in DC is "begging". I see it very differently. I see that I am holding the federal government accountable for what we "pre-paid" with the blood, sweat, tears and millions of acres of land from our ancestors. It is really too bad that a few on our Board can be so full of hate and so assimilated to lose site of this. I choose to focus on the positive.

This year's White House Tribal Leaders' Conference was the sixth and the best so far. To the far right is a photo (#1) of Cathy Abramson meeting President Obama. I chose this photo as the theme was Indian Education and Youth Development. While our history is full of heroes who paved our educational path like Joseph K. Lumsden, Rosemary Gaskin, Bob VanAlstine, John Hatch and Nancie Hatch and others, I place Cathy up there with this company. She was beaming the entire conference

as she was excited with the increased focus of the President toward our tribal youth. The conference opened with two Anishinabe youth from the *Lac Courte Oreilles* tribe (#3) doing a welcome song and honor song. They sang their hearts out. I am so proud of these boys. See the video at:

<http://www.powwows.com/2014/12/03/two-young-men-sing-flag-song-at-white-house-tribal-nations-conference/>

Vice President Biden then spoke about protecting our Indian women per the 2013 Violence Against Women Act which provided a legal mechanism to hold accountable those who would harm our women (#4, echoed by Attorney General Eric Holder #7). This will require the establishment of



real due process, a separation of powers, and the right to legal counsel. Preliminary comments from some of our Board is that it is too expensive to implement. Stay tuned.

Another recommitment is that of climate change. A panel (#5) including the EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy, Interior Secretary Sally Jewell and *Lac du Flambeau* Chairwoman Karen Diver, focused attention here. I testified during a listening session on Monday at the request of my friend Joann Chase in front of her boss (#10). I was pleasantly surprised when the White House recognized our Sault Tribe Team on our Environmental Strategic Plan that is culturally based and steeped in science and sustainability. I want to congratulate my administrative team for their excellence and for being honored during this session and by the President during his address.

On Tuesday, I gave input on the State of Indian Education and on Wednesday, at the request of the White House, I facilitated a session on this same topic. I am impressed with Secretary Jewell (#6) for her commitment here. She attended the session I facilitated. During this session, I formulated my question that I was invited (by the White House) to ask of U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan during a panel on Indian Education (#11). As you know, I am in the final stage of earning my doctorate in Education, as well as, two masters in education. I asked for a recommitment to Indian



Education and Self-Determination in the form of the creation of an Assistant Secretary for Indian Education to be placed in the U.S. Department of Education. I also asked for a "data driven" approach to a Indian Education School Improvement Plan with specific statistical benchmarks to improve the crisis of a 50% drop out rate which has not improved in twenty years. I also asked for funding to be awarded for a national "stratified random sample" of our people in the public schools to conduct a logistical regression study of factors that predict whether or not our people will graduate high school. With this information, we should be able to craft meaningful interventions. I also emphasized that we need to "mend it not end it" the Bureau of Indian Education which is overseen by Assistant Secretary Interior Kevin Washburn (#8). I opened this session with my question. Look to the Tribal website if you'd like to watch the panel discussion.

I don't usually get star struck but I got to be meet some pretty important people like the *Navajo Code Talkers* (#9). We got to meet the President in a private session just before he spoke. I introduced Dr. Yvette Robideaux, the National IHS Director to Bay Mills President Levi Carrick (#13) and visited with Ernie Stevens, Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Association. I introduced the subject of creating an exemption to the "employer mandate" in the Affordable Care Act for Tribes whose team member employees are eligible for IHS. I then presented this formal request to

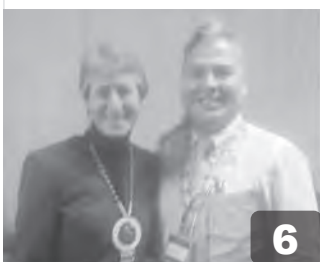
U.S. HHS Secretary Sylvia Burwell (#14). This issue alone could save our Tribe \$5,000,000 annually and shield jobs from being made part time to avoid insurance eligibility.

Finally, I am so happy to



report that I raised nearly \$11,000 this year (including my own \$1,000 & contributions from some Board Members) for our Sault Tribe Children's Christmas Parties. Below is a picture of my nephew Ty at the Kinross Rec Center. Thank you to DJ Malloy and Dee Dee Frasure for your efforts here and to all of our volunteers who put on events for our people. You are angels!

Chi Megwitch, Negee!



Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy & Safe New Years Eve!



Call: 800-793-0660 Cell: 906-440-5937 Email: chairpersonpayment@saulttribe.net Facebook 'Aaron Payment'

WATCH SAULT TRIBE BOARD MEETINGS ON LIVESTREAM: <http://new.livestream.com/TOSSABCS2>

Tribe busy with budgets and holiday activities



D.J. HOFFMAN,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Over the past month, the tribe has been extremely busy. It is budget season, as well as the advent of the holidays. It has also been an early winter, causing a variety of issues ranging from business profitability, to meeting cancellations.

MEETING/ABSTENTION ISSUE

I have been asked to explain why I abstained from "agenda" items on the postponed tribal board of directors regular meeting scheduled for Nov. 18, 2014. On Nov. 18, 2014, notice was posted on the tribal website that the meeting would be postponed until Nov. 25, 2014, due to inclement weather.

On Thursday, Nov. 20, 2014, I replied to an e-mail regarding notice of a Gaming Authority meeting. I clearly stated: A "Gaming Authority" meeting doesn't need to be called/noticed for next week **if the special board meeting scheduled for next Tuesday has been properly called for and noticed.**

"Special meetings" shall mean those meetings that are called by the chairperson or by a positive majority vote of the board of directors (14.120) pursuant to Article I, Section 2 of the Bylaws Under the GA Bylaws:

A special meeting may be held at any duly convened and noticed meeting of the board of directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians without any further notice required.

On Nov. 25, 2015, (in Hessel) I abstained from all of the actionable items on the agenda for the

"postponed meeting" due to the fact that there is no provision within tribal code to postpone or reschedule a meeting outside an action of the board during a meeting, or an officially noticed special meeting that is called in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Sec. 2. Special meetings may be called from time to time by the chairperson or by a majority vote of the board of directors. Written notice of such special meetings shall be given to all members of the board at least five (5) days in advance of such meeting. At special meetings, the board shall have the same power to transact business as at regular meetings.

In addition, Tribal Code prohibits action outside of a duly called meeting:

96.104 Open meetings

(3) No votes may be taken and no binding decisions may be made at a board workshop.

AND

16.105 Contents of petition.

(3) Violations of the following shall constitute the only grounds which a petition for removal may be based upon:

Violation of the Constitution and Bylaws.

Violation of the Tribal Code Ch. 10: Election Ordinance, or Tribal Code

Ch. 96: Open Meetings Ordinance.

Others may differ in their respective opinion regarding this matter; however, all of the materials provided stated "postponed" and "regular" meeting regarding the Nov. 25 event. We have rules and need to ensure that we follow them.

Ironically, the legal staff has provided a resolution to amend Tribal Code, Chapter 14, to include a provision for postponing meetings at our upcoming December meeting. I use the word "ironic," since the addition of a provision to call for postponing of meetings is an acknowledgement that there is no current authorization to do as such.

WE HAVE RULES AND NEED TO ENSURE THAT WE FOLLOW THEM.

CASINOS

The tribe has recently introduced its new temporary CEO for Gaming Operations.

I did not vote to hire the temporary casino executive officer because every effort was made to bypass adopted policy, procedure, and adopted tribal resolutions in this process. For Example: (1) The position was not posted, (2) The position's name (**CASINO EXECUTIVE OFFICER**) was intentionally changed to attempt to bypass the Key Employee Resolution (2014-142) in which the Kewadin Casinos **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER** position would require a vote of seven votes to hire in a public session of the tribal board of directors. (See resolution above).

While I did not vote to approve the temporary CEO, the lack of adherence to the rules and regulations of the tribe by the board of directors should not be reflected upon this individual.

The temporary CEO selected is a very experience individual and I am hopeful that they will be able to make positive changes to help us to find a permanent management solution, free of the politics of the tribe.


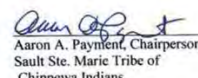
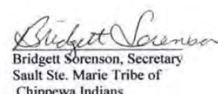
ACCOUNTABILITY

Recently I received an email commenting upon my previous report on the lack of adherence to rules and regulations, which unfortunately seems to be a common theme. The individual was correct in their respective statements that it is one thing to inform membership about wrongdoings, and yet another to provide solutions.

To provide solutions to the lack of adherence to adopted rules and regulations, as well as board adopted resolutions I will be proposing the following in 2015:

— Amending the Removal Code to reflect the membership's constitutional rights (which are hindered by the current version).

— Push forward with a Code of Ethics: Work on legislation to allow the tribal membership to challenge the constitutionality of actions taken by the tribal board. The intent of these actions would be to ensure that there are con-

RESOLUTION NO: 2014-142	
AMENDING KEY TEAM MEMBER LIST	
	WHEREAS, Chapter 94 of the Tribal Code vests the Management Board of the of the Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority with broad authority to manage and operate the Tribe's licensed gaming operations including the employment, management, and discharge of casino employees; and
Min Waban Dan Administrative Office 523 Ashmun Street Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783 Phone 906.635.6050 Fax 906.635.4060	WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority vested in it by Chapter 94 of the Code, the Management Board of the of the Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority is making proactive changes within the Kewadin Casinos management structure to ensure the long term financial success of its casino operations; and
Government Services Membership Services Economic Development Commission	WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians has adopted a series of resolutions that restrict the hiring and termination of certain employees who are designated as "Key Employees" or "Key Team Members, including Resolution 2004-7, Approval of Key Employees (July 6, 2004), Resolution 2005-199, Clarifying Key Employee Resolution 2004-71 "Approval of Key Employees" (December 6, 2005), Resolution 2008-225, Amending Key Employee Resolution 2005-199 (November 4, 2008), and Resolution 2014-10, Amending Key Employee Resolution 2005-199 (January 14, 2014);" and
	WHEREAS, the Board of Directors deems it necessary to revise the current list of "Key Team Members" to better conform that list to the structural changes now being made by the Management Board.
	NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVE, that the list of "Key Team Members" for the Kewadin Casinos contained in Resolution 2005-199, as amended, is further amended to remove the following positions from the list of "Key Team Members" for the Kewadin Casinos:
	CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the list of "Key Team Members" for the Kewadin Casinos contained in Resolution 2005-199, as amended, is further amended to ADD the following position to the list of "Key Team Members" for the Kewadin Casinos:
	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
	CERTIFICATION
	We, the undersigned, as Chairperson and Secretary of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, hereby certify that the Board of Directors is composed of 13 members, of whom 12 members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 11 day of August, 2014; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of 8 members for, 2 members against, 0 members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.
 Aaron A. Paynter, Chairperson Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians	 Bridgett Sorenson, Secretary Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

sequences for ignoring adopted rules, regulations, policies, and laws.

DIVERSIFICATION

"Most of the Fortune 500's top 20 companies now do business in Indian Country, including Wal-Mart, Exxon, GM, Ford, Verizon, AT&T, Home Depot, Target and Bank of America."

The above mentioned quotation derived from *Business Weekly* illustrates the economic potential that lies out there for tribes. These potential opportunities have been overlooked, unfortunately, by our tribe.

These quotes will seem familiar, and they should. I will continue to harp on the issue of business diversification for the tribe. We need new income streams to ensure that we are successful for this and future generations.

In the New Year, I will be pushing to diversify our enterprises and welcome any and all assistance in this area.

CULTURE

Our culture is our identity as a people, without which we would cease to exist. In fact, one of the requirements for federal recognition as a tribe is an established language within our culture. I am hopeful that in 2015, and thereafter, we will place the appropriate (increased) emphasis in an area that is essentially our foundation. I will be working with any/all individuals to ensure that this occurs.

HOLIDAY SEASON

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

Sincerely,
DJ Hoffman
Home: (906) 635-6945
Cell: (906) 203-0510
Personal E-mail: djhoffman@saulttribe.net
Tribal E-mail: djwhoffman@hotmail.com

Federal advisory board nominees sought to advise office of special trustee

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Special Trustee for American Indians is requesting candidate nominations for individuals to serve on the Special Trustee Advisory Board. The board's purpose, as defined in the 1994 American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act ("Reform Act"), is to provide advice to the special trustee on all matters associated with the trust responsibilities overseen by the office.

"This board is an opportunity for Office of the Special Trustee (OST) to receive meaningful advice and prudent perspectives on trust management reforms at the Department of the Interior," said Special Trustee Vincent G. Logan. "The Reform Act directed the special trustee to appoint leaders from academia and

finance so that OST can maintain a beneficiary focus and deliver well-informed trust management services to individual Indian and tribal beneficiaries."

The board is not subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act and members will serve two-year terms without compensation. The board, as required by the Reform Act, is composed of:

1) Five members representing trust fund account holders, including both tribal and Individual Indian Money accounts;

2) two members with practical experience in trust fund and financial management;

3) one member with practical experience in fiduciary investment management; and,

4) one member from academia with knowledge of general management of large organizations.

Nominations should include a résumé or other documents demonstrating qualifications for at least one of the board member categories listed above. Self-nominations will receive equal consideration.

Nominations must be submitted by Dec. 29, 2014, to Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians, Attn: Lee Frazier, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street, NW, Mailstop 3256, Washington, DC 20240.

Additional details about the request for nominations can be found in the Federal Registry notice at: www.federalregister.gov/articles/2014/11/28/2014-28139/request-for-nominations-to-serve-on-the-special-trustee-advisory-board.

Hospice of the EUP sees increase in donations, volunteer hours

Hospice of the Eastern Upper Peninsula reports that volunteer time has expanded by nearly 1,000 hours this year, and they have seen a jump in donations through the organization's newly created annual Giving Circles, and elsewhere.

The mortgage on the Robert and Helen Ball Hospice House in Sault Ste. Marie was paid off at the end of 2013 by donors. Now with 2014 coming to a close, Hospice is seeking additional funds to bring some music to the house.

Sue Tetzlaff, Hospice of the EUP board member, said that as a special project this year, they are looking to purchase a baby grand piano and that any additional funds raised would be used to purchase a sound system that would have individual controls installed in each patient's

room.

In 2014, Hospice of the EUP was able to assist many in Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac counties. They provided services for 161 patients, including 76 hospice house admissions, and volunteers logged 10,037 hours throughout the community. Hospice also tallied 242 bereavement support participants.

Hospice of the EUP does not charge for its services.

More than 50 people and local businesses joined the organization's annual Giving Circles by pledging a consistent source of funds to support hospice programs all year.

Joining the Giving Circles group or donating funds can be accomplished by visiting: hospiceoftheeup.com, or by calling them at (906) 259-0222.

We need to prioritize and take action now



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

This is my third year going through the budget cycle and this is the latest we have gone without approving a budget. We were supposed to review them the three days following the Hessel meeting on Nov. 19, but when that meeting was canceled for weather, the chair also canceled the budget reviews stating the staff didn't think we needed more than a few hours to pass a budget. It could take this board a few hours just to discuss one department, let alone to be ready to pass the whole budget in that time frame. It is best when we have already scheduled time to stick to it because re-scheduling can be a nightmare. The board has yet to even see the casino 2015 budgets.

I am hoping that one change that will happen is that the government will only take \$16 million from the casinos this year instead of \$17 million. People are always complaining about the conditions of the casino: outdated machines, furniture, décor, software, etc. When the capital expenditure budget continues to get cut and improvements cannot be made that is what happens. All businesses need to have money re-invested in them to succeed. We cannot continue to take, take, take, like we did with many of the hotels we owned and let them go to pot.

I am very excited that we have hired a temporary casino executive, Fred Buro. I am hoping the newspaper will print a biography on Mr. Buro. He comes to us with a wealth of experience and I feel we are very lucky to have him. Fred will be the eyes com-

ing from the outside with no ties from the inside to analyze operations and correct our deficiencies. Prior to presenting to the board, Fred had stopped at the St. Ignace, Christmas and Sault casinos so he could see things through the eyes of a customer.

The board did pass the 10 percent increase in insurance premiums to both the employee and employer. We were told by the insurance department that we would be facing a \$2.7 million shortfall if we did not support the increase. This was not an easy decision with no raises being given in so many years. We may need to look at other insurance options so we are not faced with this continuing shortfall every year.

I am not sure how our members feel but my opinion on using an "abstain" vote should only be for two reasons: A conflict of interest or if you were not there during the discussion and do not have enough information to cast a yes or no vote. I am involved in other committees and boards and "abstain" is not even a choice. When we first got on the board, when a director "abstained" the chair would call the person out. In the last month or so the chair was able to break the tie twice and abstained. We are all adults and can make our own decisions, but I feel that a decision should be made whether it is a director or the chair.

On the Hessel agenda was a Unit VI, Mackinac Band resolution, Open Enrollment Resolution, Mackinac Island Elder Sub-Committee Resolution and a resolution to comply with the newspaper unit report policy. When it came time for these resolutions, the chairman told the board he only placed them on the agenda as discussion items. The meeting agenda is for action items. He told the board if they did not have to motion or second them and they would die for lack of support. These games need to stop. Members see the notice of agenda and, if they are interested in a particular resolution, they may drive many miles to attend the meeting. If he wanted to discuss those items, then he should have asked the board's executive assistant to schedule them for a workshop. I realize that even when items are on the agenda,

they are sometimes tabled, but when you specifically ask for them to be discussed and tell the board not to motion or second so they die for lack of support, then you shouldn't have even added them in the first place.

I called the newspaper policy the "Bridgett Sorenson Resolution." Many of the chair's supporters do not like what I write and asked for him to do something about my articles. So, this resolution was added starting off claiming the board members are required to keep their members informed, which is in the Constitution, which was written before we had a newspaper, so it wasn't meant to require a unit report. Then it goes on to want to limit due to cost savings but how many color pictures get published every month? I do, however, feel everyone should write one, but that is their choice. What I think is crazy is that I have written a report every month since I have been on the board and there are usually some that don't, so even if I did use more than my allotted 1,900 words, doesn't it all balance out? I also believe when Mr. Payment was a board member and there was discussion on unit reports he said he had a right to keep the members informed. There will be some who do not like what I write, but there are many who do like what I write and I will continue to keep the members informed!

The chair also decided to set up a meeting with the elders on Mackinac Island and never once mentioned it to Director Massaway or myself. As the chair, he can meet with members anytime he wants, but I do not think it is very cooperative to go behind the directors from their own unit to meet and organize without even inviting or informing them. So, members, now you know why there are issues in Unit III. Does he go into other units and do this? This is not part of relationship or team building.

We also have a resolution in place that we will not interfere with Mackinac Bands recognition. I have no idea why there would be a resolution to do otherwise.

When we first got on the board, there was discussion about cleaning up the rolls, so I am not even sure why this item was

on there. My first thought was because of the coming election. I know there are people out there whom most of their family has cards and some of the siblings don't for various reasons. I did support the last resolution so that members who are over 18 but have not turned 21 can now get a card. I really did not want to support that because many people for how many years didn't get their card prior to 18 have no recourse. What burns my butt right now is why parents are not enrolling their minor children. They should have to have their cards to receive services. Parents need to be more accountable.

I am very frustrated as a board member and also as a tribal member right now. There are so many irons in the fire and we are sitting idle. The majority of the board either needs to stand up and grab the reins and say enough is enough or the chairman needs to be a leader and prioritize. We cannot get to anything else right now because budgets continue to loom out there. These departments and businesses cannot even plan for 2015 because they don't have an approved budget. We cannot continue down this path in 2015. I personally want to see action. We need to separate the chair and CEO on the government side so that the chair can continue to lobby and educate DC and we can continue to move forward with business as usual. He cannot have it both ways. He cannot consider himself a staff member of the executive team and serve on multiple federal committees. We have to cancel or change board meetings and other discussions because of these commitments. He is planning on changing our board meetings for 2015 because of his schedule. This brings up another discussion — his travel budget. He was approved for \$10,000 in 2014 and was supposedly over spent by March. We haven't seen any information on this. Budgets need modifications when they are overspent. The recent travel of the chair was approved out of the board budget. I was one of the "no" votes. I want to see this budget fixed. No other budgets are allowed to be overspent without coming to the board for modifications. I believe he wants to double that amount for

2015. What should be listed is approximate dates and names of the function and cost of the trip. Not just a dollar amount. I don't want to hear Bernard had a jet and a clothing allowance either. I wasn't on the board then and I can only be held accountable for what happens now. It might not be a bad idea to see what grants and funding we usually get and what we received because of our presence in DC.

I am tired of being the negative Nell in my reports. I want to be reporting on what we have done. Part of keeping the membership informed is letting them know what really goes on because there seems to be a lot of gossip on many of the Facebook sites. It is unfortunate because many members just want to know what is going on. I guess people don't think they need to be credible behind the keyboard. I also want to say that I find it very cowardly for a person to name call and post lies and block the person so they cannot see or defend themselves. I really cannot stomach your lies but at least be a man and say it to my face.

I want to take the time to thank our team members who come into work every day to provide services and those who generate revenue so our members receive services. I know that your job is not always easy and you feel frustrated and think things will never get better. Please continue to hang in there. I appreciate your efforts and will continue to fight on your behalf.

For the elders in Unit III, you are a great bunch of people who will get through these bumps in the road and will be stronger because of it. This unit has always been a strong and tight group of people and will stand united. We all have the best interests of the tribe at heart and just need to concentrate on that instead of the little flames being thrown to create chaos.

For the members of the Sault Tribe, I wish you a merry Christmas and happy new year! I will continue to stand strong in 2015 and hope I serve you well. Please contact me at (906) 430-0536 or bsorenson@saulttribe.net or bridgett91@yahoo.com.

Massaway gives brief recap of the 2014 events



**KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

First of all, I want to wish everyone merry Christmas and

a happy new year! This year has gone by fast. The tribe had some strides forward and took some steps backwards but we keep going and always will. This unit report will be a brief recap of the year's events.

We moved ahead in our endeavor to open a casino in Lansing. We have just got an order throwing out the states challenge to opening a casino on the basis they argued. That is a big win, so now we can start pushing the federal government to put our land we have there in trust. After we do that, then the much larger battle begins with multiple court cases and law suits. These are all anticipated and being prepared for by our council and legal staff.

So, all in all, we are on track but this process will take years.

The casinos we still have are still very profitable, but showing a downturn in revenue. We currently have hired a CEO of the casinos who will show us what we can improve and how to become much more proficient in what we do now.

Our current government budget is always the toughest to wrangle with. We seem to have come to an agreement on how to move forward and I hope that this will be the first year that we get it done before the end of the year and do not require a continuing budget as last year. We have done some great things in our health care system and the federal gov-

ernment has been very supportive of extending and growing the budget so we can better serve our people.

The Affordable Care Act will now be totally activated this coming year, and that will be a huge cost to the tribe and no one is really sure how much of an impact it will really be to the bottom line, but we are closely watching this. We have struggled for years to try to figure out how our own team member insurance could be balanced and more reasonable for both the budget and the team members. The board has decided on a direction that I fully support. There will be some changes, so please take the time to study the new plan.

We worked hard on many initiatives from grants to programs and I think this year we have been greatly successful. Thanks to the chairman and the council and all the staff and members. We all are talked about nationally and honored many times for many of our divisions and programs. This does not happen by accident and everyone should be proud of our tribe and what we do.

Please be careful this holiday season and keep a warm thought always for the ones you love. Thank you for all the e-mails and phone calls.

Keith Massaway, 702 Hazelton St., St. Ignace MI 49781, kmasaway@msn.com.

Tribe recognized as Climate Change Champion



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

You may have seen in recent news reports that the Sault Tribe was one of 16 communities (and one of only two tribal nations) recognized by the White House as climate change champions. We even got a “shout out” from the president in his closing remarks at the White House Tribal Nations Conference, which happened to be aired live on national news networks. OK. I’m just darn proud of this well-deserved recognition in Indian Country. It’s not often we have a moment to celebrate accomplishments. And all the credit goes to our program and division managers and their

staff for pulling this achievement together.

Leads on this project were Kathleen Brosemer and Eric Clark of our Environmental and Natural Resource departments — as well as collaborative planning and development contribution across virtually all operational units of the Sault Tribe.

So, what the heck is this all about and what does it mean for the tribe and for tribal members? Since elected to office in 2010, I have asked every chairman I have served with to please tackle a comprehensive vision/strategic plan for our tribal nation. A blueprint, if you will: “Where we are; where are we going; and how are we going to get there.” In my estimation, this is the closest planning document I have seen that attempts to strategically align a direction for this tribe moving forward.

Just to give you an idea of scope: In 2014, we will spend close to \$3 million in heating and electric costs. That does not include vehicle fuel usage. No small chunk of change!

In a nutshell, this plan seeks to achieve sustainability and self-sufficiency here in our tribal

territory. The focus is energy: the efficient use of energy and renewable generation of energy.

Key objectives and excerpt from “Climate Change and Resilience Project”

— *The Sault Tribe’s energy strategy, developed in 2012, has as its bold long-term goal, “no net purchased energy.” This means that for any energy the tribe must purchase for its operations (including vehicles and flights), an equivalent amount of energy will be produced for export to the grid for other users. The staged approach that has been laid out in this strategy means the first steps include aggressive measures to reduce energy consumption before taking broad scale action with renewable energy.*

— *“From sustainable food and medicine systems to energy conservation and renewables, Sault Tribe has shown leadership and commitment to building resilient communities. Several strategic-level plans guide the tribe’s approach to climate resilience, including an energy strategy with a progressive staged approach to achieving the long term goal of net zero purchased energy,*

an emergency operations plan with details on management of climate emergencies, an integrated resource management plan covering forestry, wetlands, and other natural resources, integrated solid waste management plan detailing waste diversion goals, a sustainable development code and a land use planning process. All of these processes employ a strategy of piloting, then disseminating across our region, so all can serve as a model for other communities elsewhere.

— *The energy strategy, in particular, calls for a strategic approach beginning with demand reduction in all energy uses, then installation of renewables sized and located to best meet demand, reducing reliance on the grid infrastructure and reducing vulnerability to catastrophic events. All available renewable options will be utilized and distributed across the demand centers of the seven counties, to increase resilience of supply. The long term goal is to produce power from renewables to supply all power needs of the tribe plus to export to the grid to offset all purchased energy, including transportation energy, and be a net-zero green-*

house gas emitter.

When we talk about energy, it’s not just the electricity that powers our world. It’s also about taking the resources available to us and converting them into self-sustainable deliverables that improve and protect the wellbeing of our tribal nation and our people: Economic, environmental and social (culture, education, health, healthy communities). Not only to reduce costs, but to train our people in skilled trades, to create local jobs, to improve the food sources available in the territory and to improve appreciatively the health and quality of life in our tribal nation as well as the communities in which we live.

“Capacity building” and “piloting” describes the phase we are in currently. Nothing is written in stone. It comes with a basket of technical, professional, financial support to leverage it into sustainable economic opportunity. Or, we can take a “pat on the back” and promptly ignore this plan. Time will tell. I’m hopeful.

Wishing everyone a very blessed Christmas and a promising new year!

Tribal budgets continue to be a major focus



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin, Anishnaabek, it has been a good and busy month. Budgets continue to be a major focus, as we work to find ways to improve business profitability and efficiency.

Our federal, state and local economies are still soft and this impacts tribal operations everywhere. But, I remain hopeful that we are on the right path and although improvements may be small and slow in coming, I believe that things (at least those that are within our control) will get better.

There is no way to know what the federal and state budgets will end up being but, for now, we have received some substantial new grants in the areas of health and have won federal recognition for our work regarding climate change. The chairman of our tribe has worked hard for us at the federal level and I believe it will result in other opportunities for us.

In addition to my work at the board level, I have been focusing on the children in our community and was invited to spend a day with the children of Rudyard Area Schools in celebration of Native American Heritage month

(see picture below). The blessings of children are immeasurable, and it is in their honor that I give the following gifts.

My three gifts reflect the preamble of our Constitution: to perpetuate our way of life and provide for the welfare and prosperity of our people.

In order to perpetuate our way of life, I am giving to all of our people an opportunity to learn our language.

I have an online language “classroom” where anyone who has access to the Internet can go and learn at their own pace. It’s not fancy, but it does include a couple of games as part of the learning. I’ve used this in my classrooms and know it is effective. A new feature has been added, and now language learners will be able to HEAR the language spoken! In the past, you needed to be a part of a live classroom, but now you can learn anytime you choose! The voices you hear will be the voices of our people! From children to elders, you will get to hear our language spoken by many voices and practice in your own home any time you choose!

Just email me at jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com and I will send you the instructions and password.

My second gift addresses the prosperity of our people.

I am working with a local

school principal to select a tribal student who is at risk of not finishing high school. There are so many challenges and difficulties some of our youth face and I am going to get involved! A female high school student will be selected and I will provide a small stipend to her for completing her homework every week. I will also take her with me to meetings such as MAST and United Tribes so that she can see tribal leadership in action! I will work as her mentor and help provide support, guidance and perhaps even tutoring. Tribal children have a high rate of dropping out of school and I am going to help one girl make it through.

The third gift will take a bit longer to put into action, but it is already in motion.

I have heard stories about our people who need help, but then are disqualified from “programming” because they make a



dollar or two above the income guideline, or they live outside of our seven-county service area. A family could have ZERO income due to a recent job loss, but because of previous earnings they are above income guidelines and get no help. Or, a family that doesn’t live within the federally prescribed seven-county service area learns that they are not eligible for services. This is not acceptable to me.

I know that our tribe’s strength is not found in the federal grant dollars, but in the hearts of our people. So, this third gift, from heart to heart, will eventually address the “welfare” and well-being of our people. The gift is a non-profit organization that will raise funds to help our

people. It will be independent of tribal politics and federal and state program restrictions.

Is it important that we always remember that we ARE Anishnaabe and that we will always BE Anishnaabe. I have seen the generosity of our people and I know that, working together, we can help each other, it is OUR way. We walk the good path of Bimaadiziwin together.

With the offering of these three gifts, I give you all a prayer for blessings from the one who created us all.

Shawindekaa (Many blessings),
Jen
(906) 440-9151
jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

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Tribe has crises care in place for drug and alcohol abuse



LANA CAUSLEY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

I want to start my report and attempt to bring awareness to some of the basic resources we have in place for crisis care due to drug/alcohol abuse. Below is an email that I sent to our Behavioral Health program and the response received back. This is very basic information.

I would like to know what steps we have in place for crisis situations when members come in and either need detoxification or immediate care.

We have urgent care available whenever our clinics are open and often spend many hours assisting clients in accessing these types of services. If the person has arrived when it is close to closing time, we assist them in going to the emergency room for help, but have stayed late in these circumstances as well, but only if there is more than one staff member available to stay late as we are not allowed to be alone with clients in the building after closing time.

Do we hold support group meetings?

If you are referring to 12-step meetings, we do not have them at our clinics. We do offer Matrix groups for intensive outpatient clients three days weekly at the Shedawin Building. We also have an MRT group twice weekly (separated by gender) at the Shedawin Building. We will begin a new group for those convicted of domestic violence

offenses in the near future given that we just completed training to run those groups.

Do we have support group meetings for family?

The Matrix program has one group weekly that includes family involvement for the group members on Wednesday afternoons at the Shedawin Building.

Do we have professional workers who go into homes to intervene in situations?

Is one worker responsible for a certain case or client?

The only home-based services offered is through the Family Spirit program, which is grant-funded through ITC and offers parenting classes to pregnant women and their partners as well as those with tribal children under age three.

Do we have funding to transport to and from treatment?

Yes, we are currently able to provide this through Access to Recovery (ATR) funds.

What is the on call emergency number for people in crisis situations?

For our office, folks can call 635-6075 or (800) 726-9105.

Following is a list by county of current emergency contact information:

ALGER COUNTY, Pathways, 601 W. Superior, Munising, MI 49862. Daytime, 387-3611; after hours, 225-7211; after hours/toll free, (888) 728-4929.

ANTRIM COUNTY, North Country CMH, 203 E. Cayuga, Bellaire, MI 49615. Daytime, 533-8619; 24-hour crisis line, (800) 442-7315.

CHARLEVOIX COUNTY, North Country CMH, 6250 M-66 North, Charlevoix, MI 49720. Day, 547-5885; after hours/toll free, 1(800) 442-7315.

CHEBOYGAN COUNTY, North Country CMH, 825 S. Huron Suite 4, Cheboygan, MI 49721. Day, 627-5627; after hours/toll free, (800) 442-7315.

CHIPPEWA COUNTY, Hiawatha Behavioral Health, 3865 S. Mackinaw Trail, Sault,

MI 49783. Daytime/after hours, 632-2805; after hours/toll free, (800) 839-9443.

DELTA COUNTY, Pathways, 2500 7th Avenue South, Escanaba, MI 49829. Day, 786-6441, after hours, 225-7211; after hours/toll free, (888) 728-4929.

EMMET COUNTY, North Country CMH, 1420 Plaza Drive, Petoskey, MI 49770. Day, 347-7890; after hours/toll free, (800) 442-7315.

KALKASKA COUNTY, North Country CMH, 625 Courthouse Drive, Kalkaska, MI 49646. Day, 258-5133; 24-hour crisis line, (800) 442-7315.

LUCE COUNTY, Pathways, 200 Hamilton Lake (CO Rd 428 west), Newberry, MI 49868. Day, 293-3284; after hours, 225-7211; after hours/toll free, (888) 728-4929.

MACKINAC COUNTY, Hiawatha Behavioral Health, 114 Elliot, St. Ignace, MI 49781. Day/after hours, 643-8616; after hours/toll free, (800) 839-9443.

MARQUETTE COUNTY, Pathways, 200 W. Spring Street, Marquette, MI 49855. Day/after hours, 225-7211; after hours/toll free, (888) 728-4929.

OTSEGO COUNTY, North Country CMH, second floor, Suite A, 800 Livingston Blvd., Gaylord, MI 49735. Day, 732-7558; after hours/toll free, (800) 442-7315.

SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY, Hiawatha Behavioral Health, 125 North Lake, Manistique, MI 49854. Day/after hours, 341-2144; after hours/toll free, (800) 839-9443.

I'm not sure who can answer these, but I will be answering to members who have asked and will need to know. Any additional information I can communicate to families in need will be helpful.

Thank you,

Lana Causley

This is the entire email I received back. Although it's not much detail, it did spark a discussion about the lack of awareness. I have been told that

this paper will have an extensive article about our resources. I'm hoping to see that. We have lost many lives this past year due to struggles and I have personally had many discussions and calls. It's apparent that we have a long way to go with our resources and plans to assist in our communities. I'm dedicated to placing this issue on our agenda items each and every meeting until a solid plan comes forward from our professionals in the departments and encourage families to call me or any other representative and the chair to express what you think is needed.

I only placed this in here to cause awareness and express to you, if you or a family member are in need of services, please call the numbers provided. IF you are told there is nothing we can do or NO funding, please call me, call your representatives or call the chairman. I often hear issues too late. If you are in need, please insist and be aggressive about the care needed and if you need me to help, call me.

My priority is and will be constant on a solid plan of crisis for families that are in need. I'm not satisfied with answers received, or dedication we, as a tribe, place on this issue, so my report is being used to encourage action. Our TAP meetings have been prolonged and that frustrates me as well. Guess I picked the wrong morning to do my unit report but it's for a good cause and be certain I will be at the table advocating for action and a plan that is solid.

I would like to report on our latest action for our casino properties. After the separation with our COO of the casinos, we advertised, requested proposals, discussed candidates, interviewed firms and individuals. After many meetings and face-to-face interviews, we have now contracted with a new executive in charge for our five northern casinos. The individual comes with a long history of experience and knowledge in the gaming

industry. (A profile should be in this edition of paper).

As I said before, we needed a solid plan here as well to move our casinos from decreased revenue and stagnant opportunities to a more competitive business and focusing on problems we have with customer service, employee morale and better business standards all around. At this point, I am confident that we have found the individual to assist us in all the above. I'm thankful for the team members who stepped up during our wait time and I'm looking forward to working with the new executive to move forward on recommendations and plans of action. I'm truly hoping that we, as a tribe, will embrace this new path and let knowledge and experience drive our decisions for a better business. We, as a gaming authority (board of directors), will be meeting with this individual every week but I am in full support of letting his direction and experience be the driving force behind decisions. I will update our progress.

We did hold our business meeting of the board of directors this past month in Hessel. During this meeting, we discussed avenues to increase revenue at the Hessel casino. Many ideas had been discussed including renovating the basement for Texas hold 'em tournaments or bingo; I'm looking forward to suggestions for that coming as well. I'm again using my report to cause a spark of information about what are the issues and discussions. It's been many years that I have advocated for increased business in our smallest casino and making one extra dollar is a benefit to us; therefore, any plans that will increase income is worth discussing and pursuing. This has to be driven by management and will keep you updated as well.

I wanted to give you a snapshot of our financial picture at the end of 2014. Our latest report states that if we hold the mark

See "Causley," page 27

2014 fall 2 percent short-term applications reviewed



DENISE CHASE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

Director Morrow and myself have recently reviewed 2014 fall two percent short-term applications.

Under the current agreement with the State of Michigan for gaming revenue sharing, two percent of the tribe's gaming revenue is set aside and distributed to local units of governments in the

fall and spring cycles.

The amount allocated to various projects throughout the Unit IV area was \$58,594.

All five units received the same amount to distribute, unfortunately, because our five casino revenues are declining, there is not enough funding to do all the projects.

The projects are awarded funding based on a number of factors — the availability of funds at the end of each cycle, project merit and the potential benefit to the tribe as well as governmental communities. There may be other factors to consider like sustainability of the project.

Following are some of the projects and activities funded: Provided funding to eight Unit IV schools Title VII Indian Education, tutoring services and space, educational/cultural projects, community feast meals, cultural classes, Native American presenters, guest

speakers, field trips, after school academic services, local youth drum, expansion of school activities, promote parent involvement, provide positive role models, assist students in applying for jobs and job placement, college days and career planning, summer programs, Before the Bell Program, after school tutoring, student support services, learning traditional values, cultural assemblies, Anishinaabe language lessons, community meeting space, support community activities, purchase educational and cultural supplies, during and after school activities, honorariums for community teachers/elders, regalia making, lodging/travel for presenters, teaching the seven grandfathers, funding cultural advisors, after school snacks, Christmas baskets, ice skating activities, exercise/recreation activities, community gatherings, elder meetings/gatherings and space for social services programs.

This is just a partial listing of some of the projects funded by two percent.

Two percent applications must be received no later than March 31 in order to be considered for the spring cycle. If interested, call Candace Blocher at (906) 635-6050.

LIHEAP – The ACFS heating assistance program still has funding available for household fuel.

Please call Viola Neadow at 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137 or Heidi Cotey at 387-3906 or stop into any tribal center for an application.

The Elders Heating Assistance Program will open on Jan. 2, 2015. This program is for elders age 60 and up.

To receive an application or to find out if you qualify for the program, call Viola or Heidi at the above telephone numbers.

Anishnabek Community and Family Services is still recruiting tribal foster homes.

If you are interested or want more information on becoming foster parents, please call the Sault office at (800) 726-0093.

Tribal membership roll closure – 90 day suspension: There was no action on this resolution, it was asked by the sponsor to have a discussion at a board workshop in the future. Will update you in my next report.

At the time of this unit report, we still have not completed our remaining budget reviews. Another FY 2015 budget review has been scheduled for tomorrow, Dec. 8. Hopefully the whole board will be in attendance to review the budgets and give and get input from executive staff.

I would like to wish you and your families a very merry Christmas and a healthy and happy new year.

Thank you for all your calls, emails and support.

You may reach me at: (906) 322-3819 or dchase@saulttribe.net.

Prevention is key to keeping people healthy



**CATHY ABRAMSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

By the time you get this report, Christmas Day will have come and maybe passed. I hope that you all enjoy your families and friends during this season. Already the winter is long and it seems that we lose many of our

people during this time. Please keep them in mind and reach out to them during this sorrowful time that holidays may bring.

I hope to see many of you at the New Years Eve Powwow. Always a great time to visit and enjoy the company of family and friends – AND DANCE!

I'm very excited that our Health Division will be getting more involved at the Chi Mukwa Recreation Center by creating healthful programs for our members young and old. The Health Program will once again take charge of the Fitness Center. We will be able to purchase some new and much needed exercise equipment and hire professional staff who will develop programs designed to meet the traditional and cultural needs of our community. Our tribe as well as all tribes across the nation, have lost

so many of our young people to suicide, drugs and alcohol. Prevention is key to keeping our people healthy in mind, body and spirit. This type of service will also be provided in the other service areas.

It is my hope that our board works with our Health Division to help provide improved access to healthcare by developing and approving another recruitment and retention plan for our health professionals. We do have an Ad Hoc committee. I hope our new year will be met with staff and board members working together positively to improve our health-care delivery system.

The first week of December was quite an exciting and busy time for me. I was honored to be able to join Chairperson Payment at the Tribal Nations Conference meeting with President Obama.

The reason I was able to attend is that I am a primary member of Secretary Burwell's (Health and Human Services) Tribal Advisory Committee. All 12 primary representatives of this committee were invited. A couple years back, I introduced our chairperson to as many "in the know" people as I could. It was my hope that he would follow up with these agency heads to share our issues and concerns. He has done an exceptional job at making sure we are heard at a national level. I remain committed to assisting him in any way I can in this area. Developing good working government-to-government relationships is important for our tribe.

I was honored to meet our president. The next two years will be focused on our tribal youth. Many of you know that my first love have been our youth and I

have offered my services in this area. I will always remember my mom, Helen McCoy, and Hessel elder, Francis Smith, tell us how proud they were when we went to President Clinton's inauguration years ago. They both cried to know that our people were represented. I know they and our other ancestors were right there with us. This gives me strength and I never feel alone when I speak up for our people.

Our board is in the process of going over and approving our budget for 2015. I am hoping we provide the necessary salary increases and incentives that our employees deserve.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (906) 322-3823 or email me at cabramson@saulttribe.net. Merry Christmas and remember that Jesus is the reason for the season!

Need for tribal support is higher for women's shelter



**KIM GRAVELLE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello, everyone, first I would like to apologize for not submitting a unit report last month. All I can say is computer technology outsmarted me and wouldn't let me submit my report to the newspaper by the deadline.

I would like to address the issue of our Advocacy Resource Center (ARC, women's shelter). The women and the children who utilize this shelter are from areas throughout Michigan. When a call comes in, every effort is made to assist the person in need. This program survives on grants and tribal support. Because of sequestration some of the grants have been cut and the need for tribal support is

higher this year. I have met with some of the staff and know they go above and beyond to make sure services are provided to our women and children who are victims of violence. This is a program that benefits tribal members inside and outside the seven-county service area. I will always support a program that protects our women and children.

I have received several calls asking why tribal members need to submit a form in order to receive their tribal paper. The reason you need to send this form back is due to the fact that thousands of papers are undeliverable/bad addresses which

costs the program thousands of dollars each year in postage and printing.

You can find your "Sault Tribe member newspaper subscription form" on page 2 of your paper, email saulttribe-news@saulttribe.net or call (906-632-6398) the newspaper for a form, or find it online at saulttribe.com.

If you are over 60, you will automatically receive your paper and you do not have to submit this form.

My family and I would like to wish everyone a peaceful holiday and please pray for our service men and women who will be away from their family during

the holidays.

Merry Christmas,
Kim Gravelle
(906) 203-6083
kkgavelle@yahoo.com

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Tribe has crises care in place for drug and alcohol abuse

From "Causley," page 22
in spending at this time we will be in a deficit of spending by \$82,811. This amount is not at all bad considering the past amounts as well as our size. We could easily make this up by the end of the year as long as we hold the mark. As you know, I don't spend what we do not have. Also, you know that my constant priority has been to pay down our debt as timely as we can. At the end of 2014, it will be around \$18.5 million. It's steadily decreasing and is estimated to be about three-and-a-half years to pay. Again, once that's paid we will have around an additional \$8 million to place in service (My dreams are a detox center, outlying expanded services, wage increase, renovation on structures, many needed items!) We just have to be consistent and I will not waiver on that — I have waited and been patient too long to expect anything different.

I'm long winded this morning but with so much to say, as I reported last month about our troubles and education on our Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) rules. Here is the latest announcement about the awareness and effort to address the problems. As I have discussed and many families know, we struggle with educating courts and agencies in the protection of our Indian children. I'm thankful to see this

initiative being discussed and at the forefront.

U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder just announced the launch of an ICWA initiative to address ICWA noncompliance and halt the unnecessary and illegal removal of Indian children from their families.

The initiative mirrors the recommendations National Indian Child Welfare Association (NICWA) made in countless pieces of testimony submitted, policy briefings provided to officials and hundreds of hours working behind the scenes, building on the relationships and reputation we have carefully nurtured in over 30 years of working on Capitol Hill.

We use our invitation to the policymaking table to advocate tirelessly, ensuring YOUR stories and concerns are shared with those at the highest level. Chief among these have been reports of widespread noncompliance with ICWA. NICWA has listened to you and called for accountability for those who have disrupted and damaged our families.

Here is an excerpt from today's announcement by Holder, "Today, I am pleased to announce that the Department of Justice is launching a new initiative to promote compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act. Under this important effort, we are working to actively identify state-court cases where the United States can file briefs

opposing the unnecessary and illegal removal of Indian children from their families and their tribal communities. We are partnering with the Departments of the Interior and Health and Human Services to make sure that all the tools available to the federal government are used to promote compliance with this important law. And we will join with those departments, and with tribes and Indian child-welfare organizations across the country, to explore training for state judges and agencies; to promote tribes' authority to make placement decisions affecting tribal children; to gather information about where the Indian Child Welfare Act is being systematically violated; and to take appropriate, targeted action to ensure that the next generation of great tribal leaders can grow up in homes that are not only safe and loving, but also suffused with the proud traditions of Indian cultures."

There is never enough we can do, as a tribe, to protect our children. Again, this initiative is important to us and our families, I wanted to give you an update on the action being taken.

Okay, I really tried to keep this report and all others sensible and without the day-to-day debates and hurdles we face as a board or the political games that are played, but I do have to say I have received many calls about

the comments and non-factual items on the Internet or communicated through the avenues of Facebook or personal site groups. I do not read them and do not interact with each discussion. (Items are brought to my attention and I deal with them). As you know, most facts are not considered and that makes it hard to keep up or get across when people can just throw items out. I'm all about free speech and would never question people's right to "say what they want" but I will say, don't believe all you read. If you see something that is alarming or want to talk about it with me, do not hesitate to call. The items sometimes are hurtful and can steer members to a path of just plain untruthfulness; many of you have stated that to me. Please remember, our tribe is a great nation. We should be proud and honored to be a part of it, we've had scars and struggles but that should never take away from the fact that we are a tribe, people with traditions, families and a culture that is NOT dying or falling away! I don't want to get all sappy but be proud of our people because we have many families and dedicated workers who love this tribe, including me! I KNOW things happen and have happened that shouldn't have but we have to keep on moving forward. Lots of troubles in today's world and fighting each other will make us

weaker, we have enough wolves at our door to fight amongst ourselves. I will not participate in that.

Good point of pride, many tribal youth — I want to give a special recognition to our own unit's Cedarville/Detour football team. These young men made it, EUPC champions, district champions, regional champions, eight-man finalists! I watched them in action and I have to say, they inspired me every time! The leadership and heart they have is amazing and it cannot go without celebrating. We have young people who strive to excel and these are some of them. Congratulations, Cedarville Trojans! You all have made us proud. (Look for article, names and pictures in this edition of the paper).

In closing, Christmas time is here. I look at my granddaughters' faces during this time of year and know they feel magic. I cannot wait to enjoy Christmas eve with all my family and I say it every year, WATCH for miracles because they happen every day, no matter how small. I'm wishing you a blessed year, mno nimkwadaadim!

Baamaapii
Lana Causley, Unit II board representative
(906) 4842954
(906) 3223818
lcausley@saulttribe.net

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