

Win Awenen Nisitotung

"One Who Understands" • Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Manidoo Giizis
Spirit Moon

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JKL young authors recognized at LSSU contest

By RICK SMITH

JKL Bahweting Public School Academy was represented by half of the 15 elementary school students who took honors in the 2015 Lake Superior State University Young Authors Quest Story Contest. The third annual Young Authors competition received more than 100 entries from students in grades three to five at four schools in Sault Ste. Marie and St. Ignace — specifically, Gros Cap School, JKL Bahweting PSA, Lincoln Elementary and Washington Elementary.

The competition is sponsored by the LSSU School of Education and Department of English as part of a course taught by Professor Mary McMyne. It is a learning experience for the students of LSSU who coordinate the competition as well as the regional elementary students who participate. The LSSU students, who are candidates for teacher certification, chose quests as the theme for this year's competition.

The student teachers designed a lesson plan for participating elementary school students to read and write about quests, they also judged the entries under rules they set which were based on state Common Core standards.

"We run the contest every year as part of my Language Arts and



Photo by Rick Smith

Seven of the eight JKL Bahweting PSA students recognized in the 2015 Lake Superior State University Young Authors Quest Story Contest. From left, Lilly Russo, Calvin Aldrich, Christopher Alshab, Addison Talsma, Tyler White, Ella McKerchie and Adrianna Natzke. Missing from photo, Alexis Luoma.

Literacy Skills course in order to give our teacher education candidates hands-on experience with literature and writing instructions that gets students excited about the language arts," McMyne noted. The competition is also part of the university's Superior Children's Book Festival, which takes place in November. Winning writers received gift certificates from a local bookstore at an awards ceremony during the festival.

JKL honorees by grade and in order of winners, runners-up:
— Third grade honors went

to students of Gretchen Cornwell and LSSU teacher candidate Brook Granquist — Addison Talsma for her story titled Quest to Washington, Calvin Aldrich for The Golden Paintball Gun and Lilly Russo for The Worst Walk and Alexis Luoma for The Lost Shark Tooth Necklace.

— Fourth grade students of Tan-A Hoffman and LSSU teacher candidate Peter Joseph — Tyler White for The Lost Magic, Ella McKerchie for Save the Trident and Adrianna Natzke for Gem Quest.
— Fifth grader Christopher

Alshab, a student of Susan Solomon and LSSU Caitlyn Schmitgal, received a special honorable mention for excellence in storytelling with Warrior Camp. Luoma and Natzke also received special honorable mentions for storytelling excellence.

The recognized students and participating teachers received a limited edition anthology of the winning stories. The anthology was published by LSSU.

According to remarks from the JKL Bahweting youngsters, some delved into their imagination to guide their stories while some also employed experiences or inspiration from real life. While some of them found writing to be beneficial, challenging, fun or otherwise enjoyable, others were lukewarm to the practice. Most seemed interested in the many possible careers related to writing.

The website www.lssu.edu/english/languageartsatlsu.php indicates students from elementary schools in Brimley, Pickford, Soo Township and Lincoln Elementary in Sault Ste. Marie swept honors in the first competition in 2013, which was the LSSU Young Authors Tall Tales competition.

In last year's competition, the LSSU Young Authors Superhero

contest, Isabelle Guilmette, at the time a JKL Bahweting student of Cornwell and student teacher Alyssa Rickley, won the third grade competition. Others taking honors came from Lincoln Elementary along with schools in Brimley and Moran Township.

As of this writing, the 2013 and 2014 anthologies can be seen at the previously mentioned website, the 2015 anthology should be available soon.

Glyptis removed

Editor's Note: On Jan. 14, just as W.A.N. was going to press, a decision was issued in the removal proceeding brought against Director Rita Glyptis (Unit V-Munising). The hearing board has ruled in favor of the tribal members who petitioned for the removal and has ordered that Director Glyptis is removed from her position effective immediately.

The Constitution requires the board of directors to appoint a tribal member to fill the vacant unit director seat.

Please see saulttribe.com for a copy of the decision and news updates.

Sault Tribe Transportation garners \$300,000 competitive transit grant

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Tribal Transportation Program has been awarded a \$300,000 competitive Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Tribal Transit Grant. The funding is aimed at building and strengthening partnerships throughout the tribe's service area to meet the transportation needs of its most vulnerable members.

The grant will fund start-up and operating costs associated

with the Sault Tribe Regional Transit Project to collaborate with current transportation providers on expanding routes and schedules, upgrading services with additional fixed routes and expanding schedules to ensure reliable and equitable transportation access throughout the tribe's seven-county service area in Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac, Delta, Schoolcraft, Alger and Marquette counties. Current transit providers include

Eastern Upper Peninsula Transit Authority, Marquette-Transit, Alger County Transit Authority, Schoolcraft County Transit, Delta Area Transit Authority, Chippewa Luce Mackinac Community Action Agency, St. Ignace Transit Committee and Indian Trails.

Sault Tribe Board Chairperson Aaron Payment expressed his appreciation. "Helping our tribal members and other locals get to appointments, work, shopping and fulfilling other transportation

needs improves the quality of life in our rural community," he said. "I am grateful for the hard work and diligence of Wendy Hoffman, Sault Tribe transportation planner."

Transit in the tribe's seven-county service area consists of local and inter-city service. Six of the seven counties provide some form of local public transit services with the exception of Mackinac County with no transportation service. The

tribe's transit project will directly improve access to critical services such as health, education, employment and social services. The grant provides the opportunity for inter-agency collaboration, marketing, website development, point of contact services, and establishing a regional transit workgroup to build capacity and collaboration for supporting ongoing regional coordination among existing providers and Sault Tribe.

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One Indian Child Welfare Act challenge has been dismissed, many more remain

By RICK SMITH

A federal judge recently dismissed a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality and new federal guidelines of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), a federal law passed in 1978 that seeks to keep American Indian children with American Indian families. The guidelines were published last October by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to end frequent instances of non-compliance with the law in adoption proceedings involving American Indian children.

On Dec. 10, the judge in the U.S. District Court of Eastern Virginia granted the motion to dismiss made by the defendants, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell and Assistant Secretary of

Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn, on the grounds that the court lacked subject-matter jurisdiction.

According to the judge's opinion and order memorandum, the case initially involved multiple plaintiffs, but all voluntarily withdrew their claims except for the National Council for Adoption (NCA) of Alexandria, Va., and Building Arizona Families of Surprise, Ariz. The judge also noted the NCA failed to oppose the defendants' motion to dismiss, leaving only the complaint from Building Arizona Families, which was precluded by an earlier judgment.

According to the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), the case is one of many aided by the NCAI and the ICWA

Defense Project to protect the law along with the guidelines introduced earlier in 2015 to protect the law from negligence and abuses by mainstream authorities. The ICWA Defense Project is a collective of the National Indian Child Welfare Association, Native American Rights Fund, NCAI and the ICWA Appellate Clinic of Michigan State University College of Law.

In order to defend the law, the ICWA Defense Project suggests tribes and others who may be interested work together with the defense project on a coordinated legal response, educating federal and state officials and members of congress about ICWA, alerting the defense project to adoption

See ICWA challenge, page 15

Sault health services now offer urgent care clinic

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Sault Tribe Health Center (STHC) Medical Clinic in Sault Ste. Marie expanded its hours of operation, offering tribal members 12-hours a day access to a tribal Urgent Care Walk-In Clinic, which opened Jan. 4.

The newly expanded hours allows members access to medical services Monday through

for the walk-in clinic, but if a patient wishes to see their primary care provider they should call for an appointment at 632-5230 between 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Walk-in clinic patients will be seen in the order in which they registered.

The walk-in clinic will provide basic medical services, such as routine medical care and vaccinations, evaluation and

es, skin infections and sprains and strains. Lab testing will be available and x-ray testing for suspected medical problems or broken bones is available, or will be arranged.

For patient care exceeding the clinics scope of care to include emergency care services, lab and x-ray services for complex or acutely ill patients, and transportation to these services patients may be transferred to WMH Emergency Room.

Urgent care patients can still be seen at War Memorial Hospital's Community Care Clinic on weekends and holidays when the Tribal Walk-in clinic is closed, or use the afterhour's nurse triage line that will soon be available.

Sault Tribe Health Center Clinic Manager Tony Abramson, Sr., said, "The clinic will be staffed primarily by Rae Ann Brand, FNP and Andrew Rife, PA and will be supported by an outstanding nurse and patient registration staff.

"The addition of the walk-in clinic at STHC is one part of the Health Programs goal to establish urgent care access points for tribal patients at various sites across our seven county service area. In other rural locations we are working to establish contractual arrangements with existing urgent care service providers in St. Ignace, Newberry Munising, Manistique, Escanaba and Marquette.

"Tribal members are asked to utilize STHC rather than CCC if

they wish to receive any assistance with payment for services thru Purchased and Referred Care. Eventually, the tribe will no longer cover any visits at CCC during STHC Walk-in Clinic hours. We will maintain our relationship with CCC to allow members to utilize CCC when our walk-in clinic is closed on holidays and weekends," he said.

The tribe has successfully operated the Community Care Clinic thru a partnership with WMH over the past 20 years. Based on economics, that part-

nership arrangement changed to allow both parties the opportunity to take advantage of new structural, billing and revenue sources. Abramson said the most cost effective method of meeting the urgent and routine medical needs of tribal patients was to establish the walk-in clinic at the STHC while exploring other cost effective arrangements for the outlying clinic areas.

Other Sault Tribe Health Center departments such as Dental, Optical, Community Health, Pharmacy, Lab and X-ray hours will remain the same.

After hours nurse phone line planned for early February

Soon, tribal members with health concerns who can't wait until the next day will have phone access to a nurse even when their clinic is closed. Patients calling any of the four tribal medical clinics after hours will be able to talk to a live nurse who will listen to them and provide medical guidance.

Depending on the medical situation, the nurse may provide advice over the telephone, recommend a visit with a Sault Tribe medical provider the next day or refer the caller for immediate medical care.

The nurse will also notify the medical clinic of their conversation with the patient to ensure continuity of care.

If tribal members referred by

Automated appointment reminder and pharmacy refill system set up

Yet another improvement to help tribal members access health care is automating appointment reminders and prescription refills. The new system is expected to go live by early February. At that time, the call-in number will be announced.

Once in place, the automated reminder system will call members with the date, time and location of their coming appointments, which they can confirm, cancel or re-schedule.

With the automatic prescription refill system, members can call 24 hours a day to order refills, then call again later to see if they are ready for pick up. When a member calls, the system checks the status and announces it to the caller. Possible statuses include "refillable," "available for pick-up," "no refills remaining" and "expired."

The system has two levels of patient security to keep anyone from tampering with prescriptions: patients' ID numbers and prescription numbers.

the on-call nurse to seek emergency services are Purchased/ Referred Care (PRC) eligible, PRC will pay for these services.

The Sault Tribe medical team is excited to provide this new service to their patients.

"With this new service, patients will be able to seek medical guidance whenever it is needed, even when the clinic is closed," said the tribe's medical director, Rebecca Werner MD. "This 24-hour access to medical guidance and services will assure our patients are well cared for."

It is hoped the services are available by early February.

Tribal members should watch for announcements that the new nursing telephone line has opened.

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New effort targets Indian Country drug overdoses

A partnership to equip Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) law enforcement officers with naloxone for responding to drug overdoses in tribal communities was recently announced by the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Indian Health Service (IHS); and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Naloxone is a medication that can reverse the effects of a prescription opioid or heroin overdose and can save lives.

The new agreement formalizes the partnership between IHS and BIA to reduce opioid overdoses among American Indians and Alaska Natives. In 2016, the more than 90 IHS pharmacies will dispense naloxone to as many as 500 BIA Office of Justice Services officers and will train these first responders to administer emergency treatment to people experiencing opioid overdose. The partnership will be reviewed annually by

IHS and BIA and will continue as long as the agencies agree it is delivering the desired results.

"IHS is working to ensure that tribal communities receive the fastest possible access to this life-saving medication in situations where every minute matters," said Robert G. McSwain, principal deputy director of the IHS. "This agreement underscores the IHS commitment to partnerships and innovative solutions that can prevent the tragedy of drug overdoses and can improve the health of American Indian and Alaska Native communities."

"I am deeply grateful to the IHS for working with us to create another level of safety throughout Indian Country for those trapped by the vicious cycle of drug addiction," said BIA Director Michael S. Black. "Law enforcement officers are usually the first responder to a drug overdose situation in a tribal community. This partnership greatly strengthens our public safety mission by enabling our BIA officers to take

immediate action to save a life endangered by an overdose."

"The President has made it clear that addressing the opioid epidemic is a priority for this administration," said director of National Drug Control Policy Michael Botticelli. "In tackling this epidemic, we know that naloxone is one of those tools that can help save the lives of overdose victims so they can get the treatment they need for their opioid use disorder. Today's commitment by IHS and BIA is an important example of public health and public safety partnerships to address this epidemic."

IHS data indicate that the rate of drug-related deaths among American Indians and Alaska Natives increased from five per 100,000 population (adjusted) in 1989-91 to 22.7 per 100,000 in 2007-2009. The rate among American Indian and Alaska Native people is almost twice that of the general population; drug-related deaths were 12.6 per 100,000 population for the U.S.

all races population in 2007 to 2009. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the rates of death from prescription opioid overdoses among American Indian or Alaska Natives increased almost four-fold from 1.3 per 100,000 in 1999 to 5.1 per 100,000 in 2013.

The announcement is part of a series of community forums

Why you shouldn't share your prescriptions

A misperception is that prescription medications are safe since they are prescribed by physicians. Many people do not realize that if used in ways other than intended, or without a prescription, medications can be addictive and can lead to overdoses.

Some of the most widely abused medications:

Opioids — Commonly include hydrocodone (Vicodin), oxycodone (OxyContin), morphine, fentanyl and codeine.

Stimulants — Methylphenidate (brand names Ritalin, Concerta, Focalin and Metadate)

across the country focused on best practices and evidence-based initiatives to prevent and treat prescription drug abuse and heroin use. These forums will continue the conversation that President Obama began in West Virginia in October, where he announced new public and private sector efforts to address the opioid overdose epidemic.

and amphetamines (Adderall, Dexedrine).

Depressants — Ambien and Lunesta, benzodiazepines (Valium and Xanax), muscle relaxants.

Cough syrups — prescription-strength cough syrups containing codeine and promethazine.

In the U.S., more people now die from opioid painkiller overdoses than from heroin and cocaine combined. There are also legal consequences to letting others use your prescriptions. It IS a big deal. See drugabuse.gov for more.

LSSU brings Financial Aid Workshops to area communities again, expands "FAFSA Fridays"

High school students and parents interested in learning more about college financial aid and its availability will get the opportunity this month and in early February through Lake

Superior State University's annual presentation of Financial Aid Workshops.

During these programs, staff from LSSU's Financial Aid Office are visiting high schools

around the Eastern Upper Peninsula and Northern Lower Peninsula to talk to families about scholarships, grants, loans and employment programs, and will advise students how to

apply for student aid. Emphasis will be placed on eligibility requirements, how to evaluate an aid offer, and how to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Participants will get an opportunity to ask questions.

"We encourage area families to attend one of these financial aid workshops or take advantage of one of the FAFSA Fridays at LSSU in January and February to get help with filling out the FAFSA," said LSSU Financial Aid Director Deb Faust. "We will provide personal assistance during all of the sessions."

FAFSA Fridays at LSSU have expanded over the years as interest has grown. They are geared specifically to help students and parents in filling out information for the FAFSA, which is a requirement for any student seeking federal financial aid.

"Students don't have to be planning to attend LSSU to come in for assistance on FAFSA Fridays," Faust said. "We will have staff available each of the Fridays to provide one-on-one help as needed." Stop by anytime between 2-5 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26 in the LSSU Fletcher Center for Student Services.

In addition to these events, LSSU will collaborate again with Sault Area High School, which

will once again host the annual College Goal Sunday program from 2-4 p.m. on Feb. 14 in the high school library. Computers and assistance will be available to help parents and students fill out the FAFSA.

A full schedule of the Financial Aid Workshops and FAFSA Friday sessions is below. All Financial Aid Workshops are scheduled for 6 p.m. For more information, contact LSSU's Financial Aid Office, 906-635-2678.

Financial Aid Workshops

All workshops are at 6 p.m. Jan. 18, St. Ignace High

School

Jan. 20, Sault Area High

School

Jan. 21, Newberry High

School

Jan. 27, Rudyard High School

Jan. 28, Pickford High School

Feb. 3, Engadine High School

Feb. 8, Cedarville High

School

Feb. 18, East Jordan High

School

College Goal Sunday

Feb. 14, 2-4 p.m., Sault Area

High School

FAFSA Fridays at LSSU

January 29, February 5, 12,

19, 26. All FAFSA Friday sessions 2-5 p.m. at LSSU Fletcher

Center.

Photo from the Archives ...



1982-1983 ESELCO SQUIRT LEAGUE AND PLAYOFF CHAMPS: (l to r, back row) Louie Benoit (Asst. Coach), Jim McCall (Manager), Steve Batho, Tom Batho, Chris Hess, Brandon Marra, Dave Horka (coach). (l to r, front row) Ronnie Blair, Willy Nolan, Brian Lamma, Jeff Blashill, Jerry Cryderman, Gary Bosley, Kevin Clow. AWARDS: Al Jones Award (Leading Point-getter League Play)-Jerry Cryderman; Steven Vollick Award (Most Improved Player)-Gary Bosley

Photo submitted by Gary Bosley Sr. Sitting front and center in this 1983 photo is future Red Wings coach Jeff Blashill.

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

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

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

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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.

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No Child Left Behind Act replaced by new law

BY RICK SMITH

President Barack Obama signed a bipartisan bill into law on Dec. 10 that revises and replaces the No Child Left Behind Act. The 1,057-page Every Child Succeeds Act is the new federal education law signed in an auditorium on the White House grounds in Washington, D.C.

The new law, according to the White House, essentially retains the aims of the No Child Left Behind Act but increases state and local school district controls over K-12 education in public schools.

It also provides numerous measures to improve education partnership arrangements and environments for American Indian children. Further, the Every Child Succeeds Act provides funding for American Indian public schools to teach tribal histories and traditions as well as to provide family literacy services and early childhood development programs. It also addresses high rates among American Indians of those who quit school as well as those who prematurely end their lives by suicide.

The law also contains provisions for migratory children, prevention and intervention programs for children in neglectful or risky family situations, language instruction for immigrant students and education for homeless children.

Further, the law addresses a multitude of funding and

standards issues for programs, students and teachers as well as other education concerns.

“As president, and as a parent,” said Obama, “I want to ensure that every young person in America has access to quality schools that will enable them to fulfill their potential. That’s why I just signed the Every Student Succeeds Act, a bill passed with overwhelming bipartisan support to fix No Child Left Behind and improve opportunities for the nearly 50 million children in our nation’s schools.”

According to Cecilia Muñoz, director of the White House Domestic Policy Council the new law holds all students to challenging academics to prepare them for graduation from high school and success in future education and the workforce. It also encourages a more balanced approach to testing by shifting away from using standardized tests as a primary means to grading schools and incorporating multiple measures.

Education Secretary Arne Duncan noted in an email, “Although well-intended, the No Child Left Behind Act — the most recent version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act — has long been broken. We can no longer afford that law’s one-size-fits-all approach, uneven standards and low expectations for our educational system. That’s why, early on, President Obama and I joined educators and families calling on Congress to fix its flaws in this outdated law.”



President Barack Obama signs S. 1177, the Every Child Succeeds Act, during a bill signing ceremony in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building South Court auditorium on Dec. 10.

Duncan also noted the new law, among other attributes, provides access to high-quality preschool education to more children, guarantees action to help improve students and their schools and promotes local innovation and investments in effective schooling techniques.

The Friends Committee on National Legislation stated that, overall, the Every Student Succeeds Act “takes very real steps toward setting Native stu-

dents up to achieve academically by looking holistically at the experiences of Native youth, including tribes in the decision making process, and ensuring funding for programs, facilities and activities. The bipartisan partnership on this bill bodes well for further work on providing Native students the opportunities and resources they need to succeed.”

The No Child Left Behind Act was enacted in 2001 by then President George W. Bush as

a measure to counter high failure rates among certain student groups. While the law was well intentioned, it yielded mixed success.

The National Education Association praised the new law for furthering its core goals in equal education for all students, eliminating bureaucratic testing practices and ensuring educators are part of local, state and federal decisions that would have an impact on K-12 education.

Photo courtesy of the White House

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New law boosts federal Tribal Transportation Program

BY RICK SMITH

The chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs recently announced the committee collaborated with other congressional bodies in hammering out a legislative addition to a House highway bill that bumped up the federal Tribal Transportation Plan by \$55 million.

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act reauthorizes the Tribal Transportation Program for five years to help American Indian tribes to repair roads, bridges and other transportation infrastructure.

According to U.S. Senator

John Barrasso, chairman of the Committee on Indian Affairs, the Tribal Transportation Plan receives an immediate increase of \$15 million for fiscal year 2016 and \$10 million each following year for the duration of the reauthorization, culminating in \$505 million for tribes by fiscal year 2020.

The increases reflect figures in the Tribal Infrastructure and Roads Enhancement and Safety (TIRES) Act pass by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs last

July.

Other highlights of the legislation include a reduction in Bureau of Indian Affairs administrative fees from six percent to five percent, authorization of a U.S. Department of Transportation study to prevent crashes on tribal roads along with a U.S. Department of the Interior study on ways to improve public roads on reservations.

President Barack Obama signed the FAST Act into law on Dec 4, 2015.

According to Sault Tribe transportation planner, Wendy

Hoffman, the increases also reflect the efforts of Indian Country officials, especially a caucus that helped craft the 2014 Tribal Transportation Unity Act to provide legislators and tribal leaders with direction in developing the highway bill. The caucus included staff of the Sault Tribe Transportation Program. She further credited Sault Tribe officials and staff contributions in building legislative support.

"The culmination of this lengthy multi-year caucus and inter-departmental and inter-tribal initiative has resulted in a major

victory with inclusion of key tribally identified initiatives included in the new FAST Act," Hoffman noted.

Hoffman pointed out the importance of the authorized Department of Transportation and Department of the Interior studies when she referenced a 2012 report by the Centers for Disease Control that indicates American Indians experience the highest rate of injury and death per capita because of preventable motor vehicle accidents due, in part, to unsafe road conditions caused by lack of maintenance.

Feds grant \$5.9 million for Indian homeless veterans housing

BY RICK SMITH

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announced on Jan. 8 the award of \$5.9 million in grants to 26 American Indian tribes to provide permanent homes and supportive services to their homeless or potentially homeless veterans.

The grants were awarded under the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program (VASH) in a demonstration program that will combine housing rental vouchers with VA case management and clinical services to serve 500 veterans.

The grants are part of the Opening Doors Initiative

launched in 2010 by the White House to prevent and end homelessness. One component of the initiative calls for government agencies collaborate with private and philanthropic organizations to develop programs to end homelessness among military veterans.

According to HUD, the agency has issued more than 79,000 rental vouchers serving about 90,000 homeless veterans since 2008. This is the first time the program offered aid specifically to American Indian veterans. "By targeting resources directly to tribes, we can better honor the service and sacrifice of Native American veterans who now need a roof over their heads," said HUD Secretary Juliàn

Castro during a joint telephone media conference. "These heroes deserve hope for a brighter future, and by offering permanent housing solutions, combined with needed services and case management, we can work with tribes to end veteran homelessness."

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert McDonald added, "Targeting HUD-VASH vouchers to veterans living on tribal lands opens new opportunities for helping Native American veterans exit homelessness as quickly as possible. We are pleased that recent statutory changes to the HUD-VASH Program made it possible to award these vouchers for use within Indian Country, where Native American veterans

have existing support systems that can be aided by those provided under the HUD-VASH Program to help the veterans remain stably housed."

The 26 awardees were among 30 eligible tribes across the country invited to seek the tribal housing vouchers to aid homeless veterans. The tribes will administer the vouchers on tribal lands among their members who are military veterans. The 26 tribes are in 12 states from Alaska to New Mexico along with the Great Lakes states of Minnesota and Wisconsin. A HUD press release indicates most of the tribes are allotted to provide housing for 20 veterans under the awards.

The highest amount awarded in the grants was \$391,740 to the Association of Village Council Presidents Regional Housing Authority of Bethel, Alaska, to house 20 veterans; the lowest amount, \$123,288, was awarded to the Zuni Tribe of the Zuni Reservation of Zuni, New Mexico, to house 10 veterans.

Castro indicated continuation and expansion of the initiative depends on congressional appropriations. In addition, amounts of any future allocations will vary depending on tribal needs for a given fiscal year. He also noted awardee selections were based on the greatest need reflected by the number of homeless veterans in each tribe's membership.

First Purple Heart Reservation receives designation in Idaho

BY RICK SMITH

The Fort Hall Indian Reservation in southeastern Idaho became the first to be designated as a Purple Heart Reservation on Dec. 30, 2015. The reservation is home to the region's Shoshone-Bannock tribes.

According to the Military Order of the Purple Heart organization, the designation makes the reservation part of a symbolic network composed of roads, highways, bridges and monuments of the Purple Heart Trail along with towns, cities, counties and states, and now a reservation, officially commemorating recipients of the oldest combat decoration of the United States. The Purple Heart

Trail consists of designated sections highways and byways in 45 states and in Guam. A section of I-69 and a stretch of U.S.-27 in southern Michigan are the only parts of the Purple Heart Trail in the state. Further, Wyandotte, Mich., is home to the Purple Heart Memorial Garden.

Various styles of highway signs along the trail and around designated locales indicate affiliations with the Purple Heart system. The signs also serve as reminders of the sacrifices of those killed or wounded by enemy action in conflicts.

The Purple Heart is the oldest of all military decorations. It was originally established as the

Badge of Military Merit under then General George Washington in 1782 and later developed into the present form known as the Purple Heart in 1932, according to the organization.

Fort Hall officials indicated

adopting the designation is fitting as American Indians typically have the highest rate of involvement in the military per capita than others going back to before the United States gained independence.

According to the organization's website, the Military Order of the Purple Heart formed in 1932 for protection and service of recipients of the decoration and its general membership consists of Purple Heart recipients.

Families Against Narcotics presents Nic Sheff at LSSU

Families Against Narcotics (FAN) of Chippewa County hosts accomplished author and recovering addict Nic Sheff on Feb. 17, 6 p.m., at Lake Superior State University Cisler Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

Sheff was drunk for the first time at age 11. In following years, he smoked pot regularly, did cocaine and ecstasy and developed addictions to methamphetamines and heroin. Even so, he always felt he would be able to quit and put his life together whenever he needed.

It took a violent relapse one summer in California to convince him otherwise. Now in his 30s, Sheff is a recovering drug addict and alcoholic and has written two memoirs about his experiences, *Tweak* and *We All Fall Down*. He was published in *Newsweek*, *Nerve* and the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

In a voice that is raw and honest, he spares no detail in telling the compelling, heartbreaking and true story of his relapse and the road to recovery. He plunges into the mental and physical depths of drug addiction, painting a picture of a person at odds with his past, his family, his substances and himself. It's a harrowing portrait — but not one without hope.


Refreshments served and door prizes available, free admission but donations accepted.

For more information, email chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org or visit www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org/chippewa-county or www.facebook.com/fanchipp.

The Chippewa County chapter of FAN meets on the third Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Huntington Bank meeting room in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

KINDERGARTEN Round Up 2016

Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School Kindergarten Round Up for the 2016-2017 School Year



Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is holding Kindergarten Round Up for the upcoming 2016-2017 School Year. Only those who complete and turn in an enrollment application during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery. The Open Enrollment dates are from Feb. 1, 2016, through Feb. 16, 2016, with evening hours from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 10. Applications may be picked up from the school office or from the school web site at www.jklschool.org beginning Feb. 1, 2016.

All applications must be received by the school office by 4 p.m. (Eastern Time Zone) on Feb. 16, 2016.

The lottery will be held in the school cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016, for those wishing to attend. **Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.**

The parents of those children selected from the lottery will be notified by phone to set up the appointment for Round Up. The dates of Kindergarten Round Up are set for March 15 and 16.

State Senate approves Indian history markers

LANSING, Mich. — The state Senate unanimously approved legislation recently to recognize with official signs placed throughout the state in areas significant to the history of American Indians, including along trails that served as a foundation for many state roadways.

Numerous trails, including the Grand River Trail between

Detroit and Grand Rapids; the trail from Toledo, passing through Saginaw to Mackinac; and the St. Joseph Trail out of Detroit, have all contributed to the formation of Michigan's current highway system.

"This important legislation would help preserve and promote Native American heritage in Michigan," said Sen. Wayne

Schmidt, R- Traverse City. "The bill is part of our continued efforts to build and maintain a lasting relationship with the 12 Native American tribes that reside in Michigan's borders."

Senate Bill 523 amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require a general recognition effort, and allows the

state Department of Natural Resources to provide signage and recognition of places along trails in the Pure Michigan Trails network.

Under the bill, the DNR would collaborate with tribal governments, educators, universities, the state Department of Transportation, the Michigan Historical Commission, the council for the arts and cultural affairs, Travel Michigan, the state historic preservation office, state archaeologist, and historical societies to develop and implement a plan to preserve Native American history in the state.

The Senate previously

adopted Senate Resolution 93, establishing the fourth Friday in September as Michigan Indian Day. It recognizes the shared history between Michiganders and the peoples of the 12 federally recognized tribes, and the partnership established in a government-to-government accord that helped to enhance and improve communication, foster respect for sovereign status, and facilitate the resolution of potentially contentious issues.

SB 523 now goes to the state House of Representatives for consideration. If approved by the House, the bill goes to Governor Rick Snyder to be enacted.

Cherokee woman appointed to U.S. Treasury Advisory Committee

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. — Cherokee Nation Treasurer Lacey Horn was recently appointed to the U.S. Department of Treasury's Tribal Advisory Committee.

Horn, of Vian, Okla., will join two other Native representatives on the seven-person committee as they advise the secretary of treasury on taxation of American Indians, the training of Internal Revenue Service field agents, and training and technical assistance to Native American financial officers.

Horn's nomination was endorsed by a resolution passed by the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes in April. "Lacey Horn's experience and leadership will be an invaluable asset to the U.S. Treasury's tribal committee," said Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Bill John Baker. "I applaud the agency for creating this advisory panel to better address the unique issue facing tribal governments and

Native people. Treasurer Horn will be an advocate for growing the economic strength of Indian Country, furthering understanding of sovereign tribal nations and enhancing the relationships between tribes and other governments."

Horn has served as the tribe's treasurer since 2011, overseeing the Cherokee Nation's more than \$700 million comprehensive budget. While in office, Horn has helped upgrade the tribe's bond rating, promoted financial disclosure and transparency and received numerous Excellence in Financial Reporting awards from the Government Finance Officers Association.

She was also named to



Lacey Horn

Oklahoma Magazine's 40 under 40 list in 2012 and Executive of the Year by the Native American Finance Officers Association in 2014.

"Taxation of tribes and their members is a significant matter that deserves particular focus. I thank Secretary of the Treasury Jack Lew for the appointment to this important advisory committee, and I look forward to working closely with him and the other tribal leaders who were appointed to the advisory committee," Horn said. "I am grateful to the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes for their support of Chief Baker's nomination of me, recognizing that Oklahoma tribes have unique concerns related to taxation."

Horn previously worked at KPMG as a senior audit associate in financial services and in the internal audit and tax departments of Hunt Oil.

Reprinted by permission of the Cherokee Nation.

Aspiring tycoons should visit SBA Native office

BY RICK SMITH

Have an idea for a business venture, but don't know the first thing about starting a business? Then get online and log onto the Small Business Administration Office of Native American Affairs at www.sba.gov/offices/headquarters/naa. The site offers much for the aspiring business mogul.

According to the mission statement found on the office's webpage, the Office of Native American Affairs exists to ensure American Indians who want to create, develop or expand small businesses have full access to the necessary tools and programs available through the Small Business Administration, and that would be a big bunch of help.

The office has programs for small business entrepreneurs in all phases from creating a going concern to expanding a successful operation. The Native American Business Primer, for example, takes one through the very basics of starting a small business and makes one look at whether one might have the "right stuff" to embark on an entrepreneurial venture. The presentations on the programs can be viewed as video or as text.

Another features is access

to the System for Award Management (SAM), where one can register and get guidance to do business with the federal government, plus links to other websites of interest to American Indian entrepreneurs, such as the Small Business Administration's 8(a) BD Program which is described as essential for helping socially and economically disadvantaged entrepreneurs to acquire traction in moving into the "economic mainstream of American society" and conducting business with the federal government.

A link connects those seeking loans with lenders approved by the Small Business Administration. Visitors may register to find lenders through an easy online application process to acquire loans for up to \$5 million for up to 25 years to cover starting costs, purchasing property, working capital and other uses.

Tabs on the page include information on key business subjects in greater detail. The subjects include starting and managing businesses, loans and grants, contracting, local assistance and more information on the Small Business Administration. One will also find contact information for the Office of Native American Affairs.

Traditional healers' February hours

Harlan Downwind, traditional healer, is scheduled for the Sault Ste. Marie clinic on Feb. 1, 2, 8, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24 and 29. For an appointment, call Kim Vallier at 632-5268, Tony Abramson Jr. at 632-0236, or Peggy Holappa, 632-0220.

Downwind is also scheduled for the Manistique clinic on Feb. 3. Call 341-8469 for (866) 401-0043 for an appointment.

Coming to the St. Ignace clinic on Feb. 9 and 10. Call 643-8689 for an appointment.

Keith Smith, traditional healer, is scheduled for the Sault Ste. Marie clinic on Feb. 3, 4,

9, 10, 11, 18 and 25. For an appointment, call Kim Vallier at 632-5268, Tony Abramson Jr. at 632-0236, or Peggy Holappa, 632-0220.

Smith appears in St. Ignace on Feb. 2. Call 643-8689 for an appointment.

He is scheduled for the Newberry clinic on Feb 16, call 293-8181.

Coming to the Hessel clinic on Feb. 17; call 484-2727.

Due at the Munising clinic on Feb. 23, 387-4721.

Appearing at the Escanaba clinic on Feb. 24, call 786-2636 for an appointment.

Sault substance abuse support group

Do you have a diminished relationship due to someone's substance abuse? Have you experienced loss due to someone's drug dependency? Perhaps you have suffered from the heartbreak of broken promises from an addict with whom you once foresaw a bright future.

If so, please join us at the

Substance Abuse Support Group for Family and Friends (SASGF&F) of addicts on the first and third Mondays of each month at 6 p.m. at the Huntington Bank in Sault Ste. Marie.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call Linda at 440-7252.

Sault Area Public Schools Kindergarten Roundup 2016

We are delighted to welcome the Class of 2029 to Kindergarten Roundup!

Parents please fill out the following online form to receive the enrollment packet in the mail:

<http://saultschools.org/Kindergarten2016>

Roundup Dates and Times

March 7, 2016 12-6:30 PM

March 8, 2016 12-6:30 PM

March 9, 2016 8:30 AM-3:00 PM

Age Requirement

Age 5 on or before 09/01/16* Date of Birth: 9/02/2010- 9/01/2011*

**Waiver is available with application to school district for children whose birthdates fall between September 1 and December 1.*

If you have questions regarding Sault Schools Kindergarten Roundup, please call Amy Kronemeyer at 906-635-3839, ext 5011.

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Chippewa County joins long list of Line 5 critics

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON

SAULT STE. MARIE — The Chippewa County Board of Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution on Dec. 21, 2015, to support the safe operation of Line 5 in the Mackinac Straits. The resolution was introduced by Commissioner Jim Martin and seconded by Commissioner Conor Egan.

Chippewa County joins the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority and growing number of local businesses, municipalities, Native American tribes and environmental, conservation advocates and citizens in its concern for the waters at the straits. Although the resolution takes a different tack than the tribe — which solidly opposes Line 5 — it demonstrates the same attitude toward the pipeline by stating that preventing contamination is better than trying to clean it up after the fact.

“While it is obvious that various groups and individuals have taken widely divergent approaches to address the environmental threat posed by Line 5 at the Straits, a consensus has emerged — an oil spill would be an environmental and financial catastrophe from which the Great Lakes may never recover,” said Phil Belfy, director of treaty rights organization Article32.org, a partner of Oil and Water Don’t Mix.

The resolution reads:
RESOLUTION NO. 15-37
Supporting Safe Operation of “Line 5”

WHEREAS, “Line 5” is a set of twin, 62-year-old pipelines owned by Enbridge that carry light crude oil and natural gas from Samia, Ontario, through the lower peninsula, under the Straits of Mackinac, and across the Upper Peninsula to the Wisconsin border; and

WHEREAS, Line 5 fills critical energy needs including propane for 85 percent of the



homes in the Upper Peninsula and northern Michigan.

WHEREAS, Enbridge has stated a commitment to the safety of the pipeline and the Straits of Mackinac.

WHEREAS, the currents in the Straits of Mackinac can switch bi-directionally from east to west every few days, and, according to a 2014 University of Michigan study, are the “worst possible place” for an oil spill in the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, the Great Lakes contain 20 percent of the world’s fresh, available, surface water and are a drinking water source for over 35 million people; and

WHEREAS, one out of every

five jobs in Michigan is linked to the high quality and quantity of fresh water in the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, tourism is one of Michigan’s largest income industries bringing in billions of travelers dollars spent each year; and

WHEREAS, agriculture, fisheries, shipping and industry depend on the health of the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, as Michiganders, we have a responsibility to be wise stewards of the waters of our State for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, protection of Michigan’s water supplies and resources is better accomplished by prevention of contamination and environmental degradation, rather than attempting to clean up contamination and restore degraded environments, after the fact.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Chippewa County of Michigan Board

of Commissioners calls on the State of Michigan and the United States governments to be diligent in monitoring the safe operation of Line 5. And, if at any time, there is reasonable evidence that the pipeline is likely to leak into the Straits of Mackinac it should be shut down until the respective agencies are satisfied that the pipeline is safe.

And, a plan be made to fill the needs of the thousands of customers who rely on the energy transported by Line 5 in the event that the Straits of Mackinac portion needs to be shut down.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to Governor Rick Snyder, Attorney General Bill Schuette, our State Representatives, State Senators, and U.S. Senators, calling their attention to the need to monitor Line 5 and protect the Great Lakes.

DOI transfers additional \$4 million to scholarship fund

WASHINGTON, D.C. — With its newest contribution, the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) announced today that it has transferred \$4 million to the Cobell Education Scholarship Fund, bringing the total transferred funds to nearly \$35 million. The scholarship fund — funded in part by the Land Buy-Back Program for Tribal Nations and authorized by the “Cobell” settlement — provides financial assistance through scholarships to American Indian students wishing to pursue post-secondary and graduate education, and training.

The buy-back program was created to implement the land consolidation component of the “Cobell” settlement, which provided \$1.9 billion to purchase fractionated interests in trust or restricted land from willing landowners. Consolidated interests are transferred to tribal government ownership for uses benefiting the reservation community and tribal members.

To date, the buy-back program has paid more than \$730 million to individual landowners and restored the equivalent of nearly 1.5 million acres of land to tribal governments. Interior makes quarterly transfers to the scholarship fund as a result of

program’s land sales, up to a total of \$60 million. The amount contributed is based on a formula set forth in the “Cobell” settlement that sets aside a certain amount of funding depending on the value of the fractionated interests sold. These contributions do not reduce the amount that an owner will receive.

“The Interior Department is committed to taking meaningful steps to help fulfill the president’s goal of investing in the future of tribal nations,” said Interior Solicitor Hilary Tompkins, who negotiated the settlement on behalf of the DOI. “These scholarship funds help us meet that commitment by putting a down payment on the future of Indian Country and investing in the success of Native youth.”

Alex Pearl, chairman of the Cobell Board of Trustees, added, “The Cobell Board of Trustees is excited about the new year and the opportunities it brings to improve the efficiency, performance and impact of the Cobell Scholarship fund. Imperative to our success is the thoughtful partnership with solicitor Tompkins and her staff. Our shared goal of designing the Cobell Scholarship fund to address the unique obstacles for

Native American and Alaskan Native students demands bold leadership and a commitment to the principles embodied by Elouise Cobell’s life and work. We are confident now more than ever that solicitor Tompkins and her staff understand these distinct issues and amazing opportunities for the Cobell Scholarship fund.”

The Cobell board is responsible for the oversight and supervision of the activities of

the fund’s administering organization. The scholarship fund, administered by the American Indian Graduate Center in New Mexico, has begun disbursing approximately \$2.5 million in funds in its first round of awards. Scholarship recipients represent more than 80 tribal nations who will be attending more than 175 different academic institutions. More information can be found at aigcs.

“The Cobell Board of

Trustees made a clear commitment to Native Americans’ higher education with \$2 million in scholarship awards for higher education in the 2015-16 academic year,” said Joan Currier, interim CEO of American Indian Graduate Center. “We look forward to the next round of awarding in the new year.”

More information and detailed frequently asked questions are available at www.doi.gov/buybackprogram.

2016 OPEN ENROLLMENT



Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School 2016-2017 School Year Open Enrollment and Lottery Information

Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is a public school academy where all students attend free of charge. Open enrollment for the 2016-2017 School Year begins on Feb. 1, 2016, and ends on Feb. 16, 2016, at 4 p.m. (EST), with evening hours from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 10.

Only those who complete and turn in an enrollment application to the school office during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery. The lottery will be held in the school cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 2016, for those wishing to attend. Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.

Applications may be picked up from the school office or from the school web site at www.jklschool.org beginning Feb. 1, 2016.

Those selected from the lottery will be eligible to attend the 2016-2017 school year provided they respond within 3 school days of notification. If the deadline is not met, those children will be dropped from next year’s roster and the next name on the waiting list will be accepted.

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Environmental Department conducts fifth open house

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The award-winning Sault Tribe Environmental Department held their fifth annual open house on Dec. 18 to showcase their seed and water labs, their greenhouse currently under construction, projects their staff have worked on over the past year and answer any questions those stopping by might have.

Staff includes Environmental Manager Kathie Brosemer, Environmental Specialist - Brownfields A.J. Mclarahmore, Environmental Specialist Crystal Falk, Environmental Research Associate Tesha Zimmerman, Environmental Specialist - Pesticides Tiffany Escherich, Water Resources Technician Joe McKerchie, and Public



Left: AJ is holding a dried specimen of a Japanese Knotweed, Tesha is holding a Yellow Rocket, and Crystal has an Evening Primrose.

Involvement/Records Clerk Jordan Johnston. Brosemer said she plans on adding a few new

staff members in the coming months to fill additional needs – including the vacant GIS position.

Falk said they collect native and invasive plant species throughout the field season and dry and mount them for use in their herbarium, used to identify plant species and map where they are found.

Staff is also involved in tracking the Emerald Ash Borer, doing educational outreach, and collecting ash seed in the eastern U.P. during the fall months – after which it is vacuum packed and frozen so the seed can be replanted if or when the Emerald Ash Borer is controlled.

They also analyze water quality and vegetation, including performing wetland evaluations. During one of their evaluations, A.J. Mclarahmore discovered a new invasive plant species along

the St. Marys River shoreline called Himalayan Balsam. It was identified a few years ago at Minneapolis Hill, but it was thought that it had been eradicated. In addition to tracking and treating invasive plants, they also do some native plant restoration work.

The department is planning on having their greenhouse operational by this spring and using it to plant some native plant species to be distributed around the tribe's buildings, for use in native plant gardens.

If you would like to make an appointment for a tour of the building and labs, or have questions, call the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575.

Lake Superior and St. Marys River Water Trails planned

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe, in collaboration with the EUP Regional Planning and Development Commission, recently completed the Lake Superior/St. Marys River Water Trails Plan. The completion of the project was celebrated with a public open house in December on the campus of Lake Superior State University.

The team spent four years inventorying and analyzing public access sites along the southern shores of the EUP that link with the northern parts of lakes Huron and Michigan.

Extensive research and assessment of public water access sites along the Lake Superior and the St. Marys River shorelines was completed, in addition to Anishinaabeg language translations for signage, website development, and building collaborative relationships to sustain and expand the water trails use throughout the tribe's seven county service area.

Funding for the project came from the Coastal Zone Management grant through Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality and Sault Tribe Transportation Program. The project team included Ellen Benoit and Rebecca Bolen with EUPP&D, Sault Tribe Unit I board representative Kim Gravelle, Sault Tribe student worker Tiffany Jones, Sault Tribe Transportation Planner Wendy Hoffman and Wayne Berry from



Wayne Barry from the SsSMART Group standing with a partner from the Canadian working group.

the SsSMART Group.

Hoffman said the project got its start in December 2014 when public meetings were held to share information on what Water Trails are, what the project is, gather input from communities and recruit members to work on the project. That spring the team began the process of collecting information on existing access sites to create an interactive web based ArcGIS map. The team also worked on the initial design of signage for the kiosks that will be placed at access points, which will share our Ojibwe heritage and cultural history. The team would also like to include Anishinaabeg language translations on the kiosks, website, brochures and maps.

Parts of the project still need

to be implemented - such as the signage and creation of a regional Water Trails map displaying the cultural heritage, language and art unique to our area.

Wayne Barry said he collaborated with the Building a Healthier Community Coalition in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and founded the SsSMART Group, which is the Sault Ste. Marie Area Recreation Trails, which works on hiking trails, bicycle and water trails.

Barry said, "Canada got a big pot of money for a Trans-Canada Trail to go from shore to shore. They got to Lake Superior and realized they weren't going to be able to do it all by using just hiking trails. So they started developing a water trail around the north shore of

Lake Superior. The U.S. side has had fragmented water trails from Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan – Minnesota's is the most evolved, Wisconsin has had the Inland Sault Society for quite a few years, and the Michigan trails has had segments such as the Hiawatha Water Trail and the Western U.P. Water Trail, and they have all been done by small organizations that were not connected all the way across the U.P.

"So this year I went from Minnesota all the way back to the Sault and picked up all the information that each one of those groups had. And now we have a map and identification for consistent water trails from Minnesota back to Sault Ste. Marie. While I was doing that, the Eastern U.P. was working on the segment from Grand Maris back to the Sault, which was a gap with not much developed there. So the Eastern U.P. developed that section and a segment down the St. Marys River from Sault Ste. Marie to DeTour. Now we have a continuous water trail that goes all the way around the lake and down the St. Marys River to Lake Huron. There are probably close to 450 access points around Lake Superior if you include all the put in sites. It was quite a big project. What we are trying to do is develop some consistency as far as signage and what resources are available at each of the put in sites.

"We have primary sites that we hope will develop into a trail town environment where travelers using the water trail can go to a restaurant and stay at a hotel to take a break from paddling around the lake. We also have secondary sites, which are a place to land that maybe has a picnic table, or a rest area. There are also places to make emergency stops, where if paddlers have to get off the water we have permission for them to stop and make a phone call - but those are really not designated stopping spots.

"We are connecting the water, land and communities into a Lake Superior world-class eco-tourism heritage site, which will benefit everyone around the lake," he said.

The Trans Canada Trail Lake Superior Water Trail connects to the U.S. water trails in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan to form a single trail following the coast of the entire lake, linking communities around the lake to both the land and water. Construction of the trails priority sites on the Canadian side will be completed in 2016. Those working on the U.S. side plan to have the signage installed by July of 2017.

"What we are celebrating today is the completion of the section from Grand Maris to the Sault and from Sault to DeTour. Those were the last things we were working on," Barry said.

First assessments for insecticides potentially harmful to bees

FROM THE EPA

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a preliminary pollinator risk assessment for the neonicotinoid insecticide, imidacloprid, which shows a threat to some pollinators. EPA's assessment, prepared in collaboration with California's Department of Pesticide Regulation, indicates that imidacloprid potentially poses risk to hives when the pesticide comes in contact with certain crops that attract pollinators.

"Delivering on the President's National Pollinator Strategy means EPA is committed not only to protecting bees and reversing bee loss, but for the first time assessing the health of the colony for the neonicotinoid pesticides," said Jim Jones, assistant administrator of the Office of Chemical

Safety and Pollution Prevention. "Using science as our guide, this preliminary assessment reflects our collaboration with the State of California and Canada to assess the results of the most recent testing required by EPA."

The preliminary risk assessment identified a residue level for imidacloprid of 25 ppb, which sets a threshold above which effects on pollinator hives are likely to be seen, and at that level and below which effects are unlikely. These effects include decreases in pollinators as well as less honey produced.

For example, data show that citrus and cotton may have residues of the pesticide in pollen and nectar above the threshold level. Other crops such as corn and leafy vegetables either do not produce nectar or have residues

below the EPA identified level.

Additional data is being generated on these and other crops to help EPA evaluate whether imidacloprid poses a risk to hives.

The imidacloprid assessment is the first of four preliminary pollinator risk assessments for the neonicotinoid insecticides. Preliminary pollinator risk assessments for three other neonicotinoids, clothianidin, thiamethoxam, and dinotefuran, are scheduled to be released for public comment in December 2016.

A preliminary risk assessment of all ecological effects for imidacloprid, including a revised pollinator assessment and impacts on other species such as aquatic and terrestrial animals and plants will also be released in December 2016.

In addition to working with

California, EPA coordinated efforts with Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency. Canada's Imidacloprid pollinator-only assessment reaches the same preliminary conclusions as the EPA's report.

The 60-day public comment period will begin upon publication in the Federal Register. After the comment period ends, EPA may revise the pollinator assessment based on comments received and, if necessary, take action to reduce risks from the insecticide.

In 2015, EPA proposed to prohibit the use of pesticides that are toxic to bees, including the neonicotinoids, when crops are in bloom and bees are under contract for pollination services. The Agency temporarily halted the approval of new outdoor neonic-

otinoid pesticide uses until new bee data is submitted and pollinator risk assessments are complete.

EPA encourages stakeholders and interested members of the public to visit the imidacloprid docket and sign up for email alerts to be automatically notified when the agency opens the public comment period for the pollinator-only risk assessment.

The risk assessment and other supporting documents will be available in the docket at <http://www.regulations.gov/#!docketBrowser;ppp=25;so=DESC;sb=postedDate;po=0;dt=SR;D=EPA-HQ-OPP-2008-0844>.

The EPA is planning to hold a webinar on the imidacloprid assessment in early February.

Details will be posted at www.epa.gov/pollinator-protection/how-we-assess-risks-pollinators.

Ground broken on Sault home for dementia patients

SAULT STE. MARIE
– Superior Health Support Systems (SHSS), the 501c3 entity of Hearthside Assisting Living, and Arbic Construction broke ground on a six-bedroom, 3,000-square foot home in downtown Sault Ste. Marie designed specifically for residents with dementia.

The dementia home project, expected to be completed in March and celebrate a grand opening this spring, is the brainchild of SHSS President Tracey Holt, who is no stranger to visualizing and fulfilling the healthcare needs of the aged in Chippewa County.

Holt spearheaded fund-raising and construction of the privately-funded Ball Hospice House on 12th Avenue, which has been in operation for three years.

“The SHSS board recognized the need for a specialized home for those suffering from memory loss,” Holt said. “The



Superior Health Support Systems President Tracey Holt and Dan Arbic of Arbic Construction look over plans for a six-bedroom, 3,000-square foot home for dementia patients under construction on Hyde Street in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Details regarding naming opportunities will be announced in February.

project received a huge boost after the a donation of 200 shares of Google stock from Jill Lundquist, niece of board members Christine Lundquist and

Lynn Farnquist.”

The facility is designed to provide a home-like atmosphere for dementia residents who need 24-hour care. The ranch-style home located on Hyde Street, behind Hearthside Assisted Living, will include private bedrooms and bathrooms, and



an RN and fully licensed staff with special training to meet residents’ needs. The dementia house and Hearthside Assisted Living patients will share some staff and access to a beautiful garden. Holt expects to add at least six people to the SHSS payroll.

“The state intermediary that we work with gets a lot of calls from people looking for a place to put mom or dad,” Holt said. “For years there were a lot of adult foster care homes in the county, but most of them have closed as owners have retired. I’ve been approached by people who have placed family mem-

bers outside the community, and they shouldn’t have to leave the area to get the care they need.”

SHSS is especially pleased to offer a selection of naming opportunities to allow for donors to permanently honor or remember a special person who suffered from memory loss. Holt plans to announce more details regarding naming opportunities, as well as the house’s design in February.

“We want to provide high quality care in a beautiful and comfortable setting,” Holt said. “We want to offer them a home, with the sole goal of providing the highest quality care to ensure dignity and quality of life to those suffering from memory loss.”

Sault Tribe Job Opportunities; apply online at saulttribe.com

For email notifications, to see the latest job openings or to apply, see saulttribe.com. For inquiries, call (866) 635-7032 or email stemployment@saulttribe.net.

GOVERNMENTAL OPENINGS

SAULT STE. MARIE and KINCHELOE

Staff pharmacist – full time/regular – open until filled

Project coordinator – full time/regular – open until filled

Economic Development director – full time/regular – open until filled

Nurse practitioner/physician assistant – on call – open until filled

Assistant Membership & Internal Services Executive Director – full time/regular – open until filled

Staff Pharmacist – part time/regular – open until filled

Education Director – full time/regular – open until filled

Project specialist/education – full time / regular – 02/16/16

Child Care instructor – full time/regular – open until filled
HESSEL, ESCANABA, ST. IGNACE, NEWBERRY
MANISTIQUE and MUNISING

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

Chief solo dentist (Manistique) – full time/regular – open until filled

Dietician (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – open until filled

Clinical social worker (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – 01/22/16.

CASINO OPENINGS
SAULT STE. MARIE
KEWADIN

Chief Executive Officer – full time/regular – open until filled

Marketing Director – full time/regular – open until filled

Security supervisor – full time/regular – open until filled.

CHRISTMAS KEWADIN

Line cook (2) part time/regular – open until filled

Bartender – part time/regular – open until filled

Committee vacancies

The following committees have vacant seats. Sault Tribe members interested in filling these vacancies should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other members to Joanne Carr, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie. Call 635-6050 for any questions.

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee – Two vacancies (men, four-year term)

Health Board – One vacancy (four-year term)

Inland Conservation Committee – Two vacancies (four-year term)

Election Committee – Two vacancies (four-year term)

Special Needs/Enrollment Committee – Five vacancies (two-year term)

Housing Committee – One vacancy (four-year term)

Child Welfare Committee – Six vacancies (four-year term)

Hatha Yoga Tues & Thurs

Hatha yoga instructor Amy McCoy is holding candlelit yoga sessions every Tuesday and Thursday, 5:30-6:30 p.m., at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center hospitality room.

Pre-register at the All-In-One Fitness Club desk on the second floor of the recreation center. Make checks payable to All-In-One Fitness; cash, credit and Sault Tribe payroll deductions accepted. The cost is \$40 discount rate for one month unlimited classes or \$8 drop-in per class. Please bring a yoga mat, and, if possible, a block, strap and blanket.

Please call 635-4935 for additional information.

Inland Conservation Committee 2016 Meeting Schedule

All meetings are held at Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie. Contact Linda Grossett at (906) 635-6050 or lgrossett@saulttribe.net with any questions.

Monday, Feb. 1, 2016

Monday, March 7, 2016

Monday, April 4, 2016

Monday, May 2, 2016

Monday, June 6, 2016

Wednesday, July 6, 2016*

Monday, Aug. 1, 2016

Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2016*

Monday, Oct. 3, 2016

Monday, Nov. 7, 2016

Monday, Dec. 5, 2016

*This meeting date is moved due to a holiday.

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Election cycle policy and procedures for Sault Tribe's newspaper, *Win Awenen Nisitotung*

Win Awenen Nisitotung is printing its internal policies and procedures for elections for the benefit of candidates and voters.

SCOPE

This policy was developed to provide equal and fair campaigning as it specifically pertains to newspaper advertising. The following policies and procedures are designed to conform to Election Code standards and provide equal opportunity to those campaigning for elected office.

This policy was developed to ensure the Communications Department is meeting the expectations of the tribal membership and more specifically the expectations of its current elected officials, future and potential candidates, non-candidate registrants, and Election Committee. This policy was also developed to ensure each current elected official, future/potential candidate, and non-candidate registrant meet the expectations of the Communications Department as it relates to election campaigning.

General enforcement of this policy lies with the Communications Department. General enforcement of the Election Code lies with the Election Committee. All candidates or non-candidate registrants are solely responsible for following the Election Code and the Newspaper Election Cycle Policy.

POLICY

1. Following the official Notice of Election, political campaign advertisements will be accepted from candidates who have filed a letter of intent or a nominating petition with the Election Committee, as confirmed by the Election Committee. Campaign advertisements will not be accepted or published prior to the Notice of Election and will not be accepted or published after the election cycle ends. Thank-you advertisements are allowed for publication after the election cycle.

2. All ads must be received with copy provided and paid in full, before the submission deadline. All information regarding the ad, design, layout and photos, must also be submitted before the public deadline (please see annual schedule). Pre-designed advertisements will only be accepted in .pdf, .jpeg, .tiff, or Adobe In-Design formats and are due before the public deadline.

3. All political ads must be paid in advance prior to publication.

4. No price discounts on political ads.

5. All previous newspaper advertising debts must be paid in full prior to submitting any new paid advertisements. Payments for election advertisements must be received at the time of submission and according to payment options.

6. Method of Payment: All ads must be paid in full, by credit card, check, cash or money order and made out to The Sault Tribe

Newspaper Department. Payments must be received before the submission deadline.

7. Candidates and non-candidate registrants are limited to one full-page paid advertisement per issue. One paid advertisement per candidate and per non-candidate registrant per issue is the limit. Advertisements may be as large as one full newspaper page, but no larger.

8. Pre-production viewing of other candidate's advertisements or profiles prior to public release is prohibited. Violations will be reported to the Election Committee. Only those newspaper/communications staff who are working with the design, layout, proofing or payment of the advertisements or profiles are to have access to these documents.

9. Election campaign advertising pull-outs or inserts are not available to candidates, non-candidate registrants, or the general public, due to limited availability.

10. We do not accept letters to the editor for or against a candidate from election candidates, non-candidate registrants, or the general public during election cycles. We do not accept anonymous letters for publication.

11. The tribal logo will not be allowed in any paid advertisements. The tribal logo is an official seal indicating the content is from the tribal government or an enterprise, department, or program, and is not to be used for public or private use without expressed written consent.

12. During the election cycle, we will not consider publishing photo submissions including candidates, which may be viewed as use for promotional/publicity purposes. All photography published in the newspaper is at the discretion of the editor.

13. All election advertisements are published in black and white.

PROCEDURE

14. Ads will be placed in the first issue in unit order, Unit 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 with ads arranged in alphabetical order by candidate's last name and then published in reverse order in the next issue. The order in which the units appear will also alternate accordingly. Ads will be placed on the pages as they fit. (At times there may be so many advertisements of various sizes it may be necessary to place some ads slightly out of order.) No placement requests allowed.

15. Ad proofs will be emailed to candidates as they become available following ad design and layout. Candidates are expected to confirm receipt and approve ad, or send back changes they need, within 24 hours of receipt. Candidates are expected to make other arrangements if email is not available.

16. The Election Committee will be responsible for enforcing the Election Code pertaining to campaigning as it relates to the Communications Department.

17. The Communications

Department will not be held responsible for publishing or releasing campaign advertisements that may be in violation of the Election Code.

18. Candidates and non-candidate registrants are held solely responsible for abiding by the Election Code and all newspaper policies.

19. Candidates and non-candidate registrants are held solely responsible for any election campaign advertisement placed in the *Win Awenen Nisitotung*, and will not hold the newspaper staff or Communications Department team members liable for errors, omissions, or damages or fines as it pertains to the Election Code or newspaper policy described herein.

20. The Communications Department will notify the Election Committee of any questionable campaign literature that is or may be in violation of the newspaper's policies or violates the Election Code. It will be up to the Election Committee to inform the Communications Department to withdraw an advertisement that is in violation of the Election Code. The Communications Department is not an enforcement arm of the Election Committee and is not responsible for enforcing compliance with election laws.

21. Disclaimers will be placed on ads designed to run in styles contradictory to the normal design and layout of the paper.

22. We can take "head-shot" photos of candidates for the election profiles. Candidates must come to the Communications office for the photo to be taken. Candidates have the right to provide their own photos, however, the photo must be provided according to newspaper specifications. (Size: At least a 2 inch x 2.5 inch photo in .jpeg, .tiff, or .pdf format at minimum 144 DPI/resolution. If taking a digital photo, the quality should be set on at least "fine.")

23. A campaign advertising log will be kept and updated after every issue. The updated list will be sent to the election committee after the distribution date of every paper until the election concludes. Advertising receipts will be issued to each candidate at the time of payment. Copies of all the receipts will also be provided to the election committee after the release of each newspaper. The receipts will be detailed and indicate client name and contact information, date paid, amount paid, size of ad, and newspaper issue the ad was placed. The receipt should also indicate the method of payment and include the signature of who collected the payment.

24. Candidates will be notified by email, phone or contacted by registered letter prior to the primary election profile edition to remind candidates to provide the newspaper with their 400-word candidate profiles by the newspaper deadline. Anyone missing

the deadline will not have their profile published.

25. When proofing advertisements or corresponding with candidates, the Communications Department staff is advised against initiating communications with candidates at work or during work time. Candidates are advised against using work fax machines, phones, or e-mail accounts to correspond with communications staff. Communications initiated by the candidate (who is also a Sault Tribe employee) at work through the use of work resources could constitute a violation of the Sault Tribe election code. However, the Communications Department reserves the right to contact candidates as absolutely necessary in order to perform communications staff responsibilities such as proofing, seeking payment, and obtaining proper approvals as it pertains to advertising submissions. Reliable contact information should be provided to communication's staff at the time of submission.

26. The newspaper production schedule, which includes deadlines and distribution dates, could be changed at a moment's notice to coincide with significant election cycle events, deadlines, and activities. All efforts will be made to provide adequate notice in the event a newspaper production schedule change is warranted.

ELECTION CODE STIPULATIONS

27. Per the Election Code, "Express endorsements or express statements of opposition to a candidate in unit reports or the Chairperson's report distributed by the Tribe are prohibited. During election cycles, candidates' unit reports distributed by the Tribe are limited to 500-words per report."

28. Per the Election Code, "The Tribe shall provide to each candidate, at no cost to the candidate, the opportunity to submit a campaign statement or advertisement equivalent to one fourth (1/4) page column in the tribal newspaper for publication prior to date set for the primary election pursuant to Section 10.117. Each candidate's campaign statements or advertisements pursuant to this section shall be solely for self-promotion purposes of the candidate and shall not address any other candidate."

After the Election Committee releases the official primary election candidate list, the Sault Tribe newspaper will provide free space for a 2 inch x 2.5 inch photograph and a 400-word primary election profile, which must be submitted to the newspaper by the deadline. If candidates do not provide the photograph and profile, their names will be listed in the candidate list with reason for omission next to their name. The profile limit is 400 words according to the Microsoft Word, word count. Profiles longer than 400 words will be cut at the 400-word mark.

If a candidate needs a photograph, they can make an appointment to come to the newspaper office and have one taken. Order of profiles will be determined by unit and by alphabetical order according to last name. Paid advertisements are also available to candidates.

29. Per the Election Code, "The Tribe shall provide to each candidate, at no cost to the candidate, the opportunity to submit a campaign statement or advertisement equivalent to a one half (1/2) page column in the tribal newspaper for publication prior to date set for the election pursuant to Section 10.105. Each candidate's campaign statements or advertisements pursuant to this section shall be solely for self-promotion purposes of the candidate and shall not address any other candidate."

Primary winners will be the only candidates allowed to place ads in the newspaper after the primary. Candidates who did not win in the primary may run thank you ads, but not endorsements for other candidates, unless that candidate is a non-candidate registrant.

After the Election Committee releases the official general election candidate list, the Sault Tribe newspaper will provide 1/2 page (40 column inches) advertisement space at no cost for those general election candidates. Paid upgrades up to one full page are available.

30. Per the Election Code, "All campaign advertisement materials must have placed upon their face in a conspicuous manner the endorsement of the Candidate or the Non-Candidate Registrant responsible for the advertisement. Any campaign advertisement that endorses or opposes more than one Candidate must be endorsed by the Candidates or the Non-Candidate Registrants responsible for the advertisement as well as by any other Candidates endorsed by the campaign advertisement. The endorsement shall specifically state: "[Candidate's or Non-Candidate Registrant's name] endorses this advertisement."

31. Per the Election Code, "The Board of Directors shall cause to be posted at each Tribal Office an Election Announcement which shall give the date of election, the manner by which the Vote is to be taken, the officers to be elected, the procedures for the nomination of Candidates, the time limit for each stage of the election procedure and the voting information for the election. The Election Announcement shall be sent to all Adult Members (at least one Election Announcement per household) by means of letter, and shall also be publicized in the tribal newspaper, on the Tribe's official website, and posted at all Tribal Offices on the last Friday in January in the year in which a general election occurs."

— *Effective Jan. 23, 2008; updated April 2012; newspaper deadline updated Jan. 11, 2016*

Munising children's Christmas party fun for all

Photos by Anita Nelson



Teagan Hall opening her gift.



Little Christmas angel Hayla Cabanaw



Jayden Desarmo visits with Santa and helper Margie (right).



Heather Perry with her baby Eilyn, Owen Perry and Susie Steinhoff (L-R) relax after a Christmas lunch.



Tribal Elders Susie Steinhoff and Kathy Syers (L-R) take a quick coffee break from volunteering for the party.

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Christmas revelers filled their plates with a great line up of foods.



Ryder & Aubri Kroupa (L-R) with dad Johnny Kroupa.



Munising Santa was Terry Beauchaine, Sr.



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Sault Ste. Marie children's Christmas party



Dakota Nolan, 17, Abigail Nolan, 2.5 years, and Kelly Nolan



Chance Donald Leo McKerchie, 7, holding his and his cousin's Christmas presents.



Mike Gordon and sons Luke, 8, Cole, 6, Zach 14 months, and his wife Erica.

The Unit I Sault Ste. Marie children's Christmas party was held Dec. 19 for children aged newborn to 12. Children enjoyed a visit with Santa, presents, pizza and snacks and games, including ice skating.

Photos by Brenda Austin



Lauren May Boulley, 4, hamming it up for the camera



Bella Rose Rahti, 4 months



Eran Barras, 2



Barb Smuteck and Adriana with her letter to Santa.



Sam Gardner, 2 months



Emma Brochu, 3



Danny Steinhart (left), Gina Cook, Armahn Payment (front), Jocelyn Payment and Aaron Payment.



Temperance Gardner, 2, Sabrina Polly, 10, baby Sam Gardner, Elizabeth Gardner, 5, (sitting) Jazmen Gardner, 8.



Joe Kelly and Joseph Kelly, 3 (almost 4!)



Bronx Gehrke, 3 yrs



Paul Latreille Jr., 8 months, and mother Kimberly Latreille

Marquette children's Christmas party a success

Photos by Bobbi Arvon

Joe Gray, Marquette Elder Subcommittee Chair expresses special thanks to Boyd and Linda Snyder, Glenda Gray, Mike Wachter, Jim Alderson and Paul Gerrish for helping and putting in long hours to make the Marquette Children's Christmas party a big success.



Above left, one of Santa's helpers shares some face time with him. Above right, a darling duo enjoy pizza as part of the festivities.



Above, children enjoy the talents of a ventriloquist and, below, visit with Santa Claus!



Above left, a young lady enjoys a tasty slice of pizza as, left, another beams some happiness.



Left, a pair of young ladies make their entrances. Right, a lad seems engrossed in the dialogue between the ventriloquist and her performance partner. Below left, another lad with Christmas treasures brought by special delivery. Below right, Santa in a quiet moment between visiting with children.



Newberry elders enjoy their Christmas gathering



Newberry elders



Stan and Pat Johnston



From left, Roberta Chippewa, Unit II Chairman Kim Eddy, Fannie Aslin and volunteer.

Elder jobs available in Marquette & Sault

The Sault Tribe Elder Employment Program is accepting applications for a **part-time Community Health program clerk in Marquette**. Applicants must be Sault Tribe members aged 60 or over and reside in the seven-county service area. Successful candidate must submit to a criminal background investigation and pass pre-employment

drug testing. Computer knowledge preferred.

The Sault Tribe Elder Employment Program is also accepting applications for a **part-time office support position with Anishnabe Community and Family Services in Sault Ste. Marie**. Applicants must be Sault Tribe members aged 60 or over and reside in the

seven-county service area. Successful candidates must have a basic knowledge of office equipment, be able to lift up to 20 pounds, undergo a criminal background investigation and pass pre-employment drug testing.

Contact Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767 for applications and details. Closing date for both positions is Feb. 2, 2016.

Elder volunteers recognized

John Causley Jr. was named Volunteer of the Year during the annual Christmas luncheon for Sault Tribe elders in Sault Ste. Marie on Dec. 8. Causley volunteers for numerous committees and is especially helpful with powwows in Hessel. Tribal Chairperson Aaron Payment presented him with his certificate of appreciation. Other elder volunteers recognized were Alice Huhtala, Bill Marsh and Shirley Braun.

The elders turned the tables and recognized Muriel Evans, Mark Willis, Clyde Bonno, Sharon Hovie, Emily Higbee, Karla McLeod and Wayne King for going above and beyond in their jobs when Elder Services was short on staff for eight months.



John Causley Jr. presented his certificate by Tribal Chair Aaron Payment

Santa visits Sault elders



Santa came to see some Sault elders to hand out candy canes and spread some holiday cheer.

Unit III elders bake sale



Some of the elders of Unit III stand amid some of the 522 dozen cookies they made for their Dec. 12 bake sale. That's 6,624 cookies.

ACFS Christmas for foster kids



CHRISTMAS GIVING — The Sault Tribe Health Center staff puts up a mitten tree at Christmas every year to purchase gifts for children in foster care. Mittens are taken off the tree and gifts bought for the children. Anishnabek Community and Family Services thank the clinic staff for their generous donations. The gifts are greatly appreciated by the children and families.

Mittens donated for foster care children



Claire Dickens of Albuquerque, N.M., crocheted numerous hats, mittens, scarves and afghans for Sault Tribe's foster children. She said the tribe has been so good to her, so she wanted to give back in a special way. The beautifully made and colorful outerwear will look great under any tree. Staff of the tribe's health center received and delivered the items to Anishnabe Community and Family Services (ACFS) for distribution to foster children, with appreciation. "ACFS would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to Clair Dickens for the generous donation of beautiful handmade gifts of blankets, hats and scarves," said ACFS Director Juanita Bye. "The crocheted items were made with a tremendous amount of love and will provide comfort and joy to our children in foster care during this holiday season."

Schultz's four generations



FOUR GENERATIONS — Pictured left to right are baby, Daxon Williams, and mother, Shauna Williams, of Hastings, Mich.; grandmother, Stacy Morlock of Middleville, Mich., and great-grandmother, Esther Schultz, of Sugar Island. Daxon is Esther's first great-grandchild and Shauna's first. He was born June 27, 2015.

McCall graduates magna cum laude

Sault Tribe member Kyle McCall, 21, graduated magna cum laude from Concordia University Texas on Dec. 5, 2015, garnering a Bachelor of Arts in psychology as a member of Psi Chi — the International Honor Society in Psychology and Gamma Beta Phi.

McCall is a student affiliate of the American Psychological Association (APA), a student member of the American Psychology - Law Society, APA Society of Clinical Psychology, Texas Psychological Association and Capital Area Psychological Association.

He plans to earn a doctorate in clinical psychology with a forensic concentration and pursue a degree in law enforcement. McCall interned with the Texas

Juvenile Justice Department in the Chaplaincy Services Department and Research and Planning Department working with youth by providing religious services as a junior chaplain.

As a research intern and research assistant he was the principle investigator in the evaluation of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department Mentor Program, which included compiling data, analyzing it, conducting a comprehensive literature review and collaborating with the rest of the research team to produce the best evaluation possible.

Throughout his undergraduate academic career, McCall was involved in cross-cultural missions to Mexico, Guatemala and the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. He also participated in homeless



ministry and volunteered as a service-learning leader with his university. He earned several specialized certifications from FEMA and the Red Cross.

Perault brothers complete Army basic training together

Sault Tribe members Travis Perault and Brandon Perault, sons of John Perault of Mackinac Island, completed Army Basic Combat Training together.

They were home on leave for the holidays enjoying family time. They are both entering Advanced Individual Training at Fort Eustice, Va., where they will start their training as turbine engine technicians.

From "ICWA," page 1 cases where any attorney argues ICWA does not apply or is unconstitutional, support media strategies and raise funds.

According to material prepared for a presentation at the 17th annual Washington, D.C., Indian Law Conference by attorney Samuel F. Daughety, ICWA is "not intended to 'oust the states of their traditional jurisdiction over Indian children falling within their geographic limits,'" and mainly provides mechanisms for establishing minimum federal standards and safeguards in state courts. Further, several states have ICWA provisions incorporated into their laws.

Daughety also noted the presence of "thousands of active ICWA cases in state courts across the country at any given time, including two in Michigan at this time."

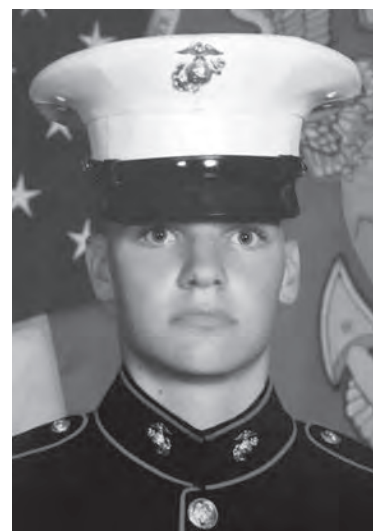


Tadgerson completes Marine basic

Private Austin C. Tadgerson, 19, of Negaunee, graduated from U.S. Marine Corps boot camp in San Diego on Nov. 20, 2015.

Tadgerson completed 13 weeks of intensive basic training as one of 529 recruits in Hotel Company. While in recruit training, Tadgerson achieved an expert rating on the fire range.

Following 10 days home on leave, he reported to Camp Pendleton for one month of military combat training followed by military occupational specialty school.



Tribal members who have walked on . . .

KENNETH P. BIRON

Kenneth P. Biron of Sugar Island, Mich., passed away on Dec. 21, 2015.

He was born in Garden River, Ontario.

Ken was well known for his funny sense of humor and never ending jokes. He loved to travel, especially the powwow trail and out west with the love of his life, Sandi. He and Sandi owned the Islander House Café, Super Chief concessions and ran the Pullar concession stand for over 25 years.

Ken joined the U.S. Marine Corps and proudly served in Vietnam from June 1965 through June 1966.

He is survived by four children, Anglea M. Ellis and her family of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., her husband Daniel, and children Jacob (Robin), Haran, Mary and Leona; Wendy R. Burris of Vicksburg, Mich., husband, Bobby, and children, Branden and Kenny (Erin); Robin C. Greymountain of Vicksburg, husband, Leland, and children NaMe, and Aanje; and Kipper Biron of Sugar Island, his wife, Kelly, and son, Cole. Brothers and sisters, Nancy Charlier, Steve Biron, Gene Biron, Bud Biron and Joe Biron also survive Ken.

His wife, Sandra, and a brother, Richard Biron, preceded him in death.

Funeral services took place on Dec. 23 at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church in Sault Ste. Marie, with burial in Willwalk Cemetery on Sugar Island. Family and friends gathered at Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Building following the burial mass.

Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home handled funeral arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com.

THERESA DOWNEY

Theresa Savard Demmon Downey, 90 of St. Ignace, Mich., passed away on Nov. 14, 2015, at Christian Park Healthcare Center in Escanaba, Mich., following a lingering illness.

She was born on April 24, 1925, to William Charles and Agnes Marie (nee Raymond) Savard in St. Ignace. She married Leonard Demmon, who died in 1976. She later married Wilbur Downey and he also preceded her in death.

Theresa served as treasurer for the City of St. Ignace for several years and was employed as payroll clerk for LaSalle High School, retiring in 1977. She graduated from LaSalle High School. She was a member of St. Ignace United Methodist Church and an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She was the matriarch of the Demmon clan, family members said, and her house was where her family gathered for holidays and throughout the year. She lovingly prepared countless meals as cooking was one of her greatest passions. She could prepare, cook and bake anything.

She also loved doing crafts and was quite talented. She busied herself with quilting (one for each child, grandchild and a few more), crocheting, knitting, sewing, oil painting, making soft dolls and pine needle baskets, always to give away. Most of these were done in the winter months, when she wasn't traveling and enjoying warm winters on the beaches of the gulf, collecting seashells.

In the spring, summer and fall, Theresa's interests were her grandchildren, gardening, berry picking, canning, entertaining and feeding the birds and squirrels. Someone was always stopping in and she was happiest when she had company. Her best friend and brother, Bernard Savard, visited daily. When her parents and two sisters, Hazel and Evelyn, were alive, family members frequently visited and they loved to listen to the stories they told. Many card games were played at her table, always with coffee and home-made treats.

She loved to teach and share her knowledge and she had strong moral values. All of her children love the outdoors, animals, gardening and cooking, as well as many of her grandchildren. She taught family members how to cook, bake, make jellies, can, play pool, garden, sew, play numerous card games, balance a checkbook, drive a stick shift and other life skills.

She will be remembered, her family said, as a kind, caring, proud, giving and patient person. Her family meant the world to her.

She is survived by four children and their families, Leonard and Kathryn Demmon of Minnesota, Ernest and Pam Demmon of Gladstone, Bill Demmon of Princeton and Kathy and Don Arp of Cedar Cove, Tenn.; three stepchildren and their families, Alan and Alice Demmon of Lansing, Beverly Haines of Potterville and Janet and Bill Lupowski of East Jordan; one brother and his family, Rodney and Kathleen Savard of Wells; 20 grandchildren, and many great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by four sisters, two infants Viola and Mary Clara Savard, Evelyn Utter and Hazel McCall; and three brothers, Charles Savard, Ray Savard and Bernard "Archie" Savard.

Visitation took place on Nov. 19 in St. Ignace at Dodson Funeral Home followed by graveside services at St. Ignatius Loyola Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be directed to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

LESLIE P. HILL SR.

Leslie Paul Hill Sr., aged 77, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died on Nov. 25, 2015, at War Memorial

Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie.

He was born on July 16, 1938, in DeTour, Mich., to George and Catherine Marion (nee

Bell) Hill.

Leslie grew up in DeTour. After high school graduation he entered the U.S. Navy where he served from 1956 to 1960 as a corpsman with the 1st MarDiv, FMF Marine Corps. He married Maryjo Anne Robertson at the Sacred Heart Catholic Church in DeTour on Nov. 14, 1959, and she joined him for the final ten months of his Navy service. They returned to DeTour where Leslie worked on the Drummond Island Ferry.

In 1968, they moved to Sault Ste. Marie where Leslie worked for Soo Coin until he started working as a fireman with the City of Sault Ste. Marie. He retired as Captain in 1995 after 26½ years with the fire department.

Leslie enjoyed hunting and woodworking. He made a stool for each of his grandchildren. As the children were growing up, the family enjoyed camping, especially in the Copper Country and Porcupine Mountains in the western Upper Peninsula. The family also enjoyed many visits with relatives on Drummond Island. In more recent years, Leslie and Jo traveled each Thanksgiving to their daughter Traci's home at the time, in Arkansas, Alabama, Ohio and California. Leslie was a military aviation enthusiast.

He watched aviation programs on television and attended Blue Angels airshows whenever he could. He enjoyed local sporting events in which his children and grandchildren participated. When his health prevented him from attending, Jo came home with detailed reports of the games for him. Leslie also enjoyed watching sports on television, especially NASCAR, but also college basketball, Tiger baseball and football.

Leslie is survived by his wife, Jo; daughters, Teri (Kevin) McElroy of Roscommon, Mich., Carmen (Dennis) Wagner of Sault Ste. Marie, Darlene (Paul) Killips of Sault Ste. Marie, and Traci (Fritz) Alexander of Sault Ste. Marie; son, Leslie P. (Joy) Hill Jr.; grandchildren, Brynne (Sean) Dotson, Courtney McElroy, Jonelle (Mark) Wakeman, Shauna McElroy, Kenny (Jenny) Wagner, Krystle Haynes, Kyle (Bonnie) Wagner, Kody Wagner, Brian Killips, Kevin Killips, Jenna Killips, Lindsey (fiancé, Eric MacDonald) Hill, Ryan Hill, Brittany Alexander and Randy Alexander; great-grandchildren, Gavin, Dalton, Madalynne, Marlee, Landon, Lucas, Sylvia, Kevin, Olivia, Bella, Piper, Wren, Logan and Addison; brother, George Hill of Mt. Pleasant, Mich.; sister, Judy (Dallas) Chinavare of Essexville, Mich.; brother-in-law, Frank Bailey Sr. of Drummond Island; and sister-in-law, Betty Rutiger of Hessel, Mich.

He was preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter, Lynne Marie Wagner; and sisters-in-law, Maxine Bailey and Bonnie Davis.

Visitation and services took place on Nov. 30, at R. Galer Funeral Home in Pickford, Mich. Burial will be in Maple Grove Cemetery in DeTour Township.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.rgalerfuneral-

home.com.

GLADYCE A. NAHBENAYASH

Gladyce A. Nahbenayash (Iikweidoog), 75, of Duluth, passed away on Dec 29, 2015. She was born March 14, 1940 in Hayward Wisc., at the Indian Hospital to the late John and Hatti Thomas.

She was a member of the Sault Saint Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She graduated from Northland College and the University of Wisconsin with a master's degree. She taught American Indian studies for over 35 years at Mount Scenario and the University of Wisconsin-Superior where she retired.

She is preceded in death by her siblings, Donald Thomas, Robert Thomas, Jewell Knopp, Roger Thomas and Mary Anderson.

She is survived by her brother, John Thomas from Ashland, and her three daughters, Pamela (Patrick) Zwiefelhofer, Jennifer (Daren) Berube and Melissa (Francis) De-Verney; six grandchildren, Alicia Stiehl, Ashley (Brandon) Michal, Jacob Zwiefelhofer, Alyssa Berube, Mason Berube and Madalin Berube; and two great-grandchildren, Hadley and Grayson Stiehl.

She was a published poet and was very involved with American Indian ceremonies.

A celebration of her life took place on Jan. 9 at the Cremation Society of Minnesota in Duluth.

WILLIAM H. THORNE

William Henry "Bill" Thorne, 84, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Dec. 14, 2015, at War Memorial Hospital. Bill was born on Feb. 4, 1932, in Sault Ste. Marie to the late Edward and Henrietta (nee Thompson) Thorne.

He graduated from Sault Area High School with the class of 1950. Later, he continued his education, receiving a bachelor's degree from Lake Superior State University in 1996.

Bill was best known as a radio broadcaster. He worked in radio over 68 years and met many famous people including Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley, Patsy Cline, President Richard Nixon and many more. Bill was also given many awards over the years, some of which were from the American Broadcasting Association, Mr. DeeJay USA in Nashville, Tenn., on July 26, 1959, at the Grand Ole Opry, and the Lighthouse 2002 award from LSSU in recognition of past and continued support for the university. Bill had one of the longest running radio programs in "Hymn Time," airing from 1957 until his death.

Bill enjoyed going to local hockey games and following the Red Wings. He loved listening to his brother-in-law, Bill Crawford, as the "Voice of the Lakers."

He was a member of the Bay Mills Indian Community, Salvation Army, and a past mem-

ber of both the Rotary Club and the Elks Club.

Bill is survived by his wife, Constance (nee Crawford) Thorne, whom he married on Feb. 17, 1968, at First Baptist Church in Sault Ste. Marie; four sons, Daniel (Kris) Thorne, Edward (Mike Wendlowsky) Thorne and John (Marcey) Thorne all of Sault Ste. Marie, and Steve Hollingsworth of Tucson, Ariz.; four grandchildren, Julie (Wally) Bazinau, Rebecca (Jordan) Veit, Chelsey Thorne and Harrison Thorne; five great grandchildren, Taylor Pitko and Grace, Eden, Elijah and Josie Veit; and several nieces.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Shirley (Charlie) Williams.

Visitation and funeral services took place on Dec. 16 and 17 at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home with Pastor Rod Case officiating. Entombment will be at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens.

Memorials may be left to the War Memorial Hospital Cancer Care Center in Bill's name. *Editor's note: Bill was one of our own, working in the Communications Department as an ad rep and community ambassador for many years. He will be missed.*

MANDI J. WILLIS

Mandi Jo Willis, 17, entered into heaven on Dec. 16, 2015, at her home with family and friends by her side.

Mandi was a student at Sault Area High School. She enjoyed going to school very much. Mandi was always smiling and happy.

She enjoyed camping with her Nana and Papa T and riding her golf cart. She also enjoyed watching Barney, Dora and SpongeBob, painting, coloring, playing with her dolls, shopping and building with her blocks. Mandi loved interacting during family activities and spending time with her mom and dad. Mandi also had a very special relationship with her nana. They built a bond that could never be broken. To know her was to love her. She put a smile on everyone's face.

Surviving are her mother, Wendy (Scott) Germain of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; father, Edward (Crystal) Willis Jr. of Sault Ste. Marie; brothers, Jimmie (Angela) Germain of Sault Ste. Marie, Edward Willis III of Brimley, Mich.; Thomas (Karen) Germain of Colorado Springs, Colo., and Timothy Willis of Minot, N.D.; sisters, Desiree (Boyd) Germain of Kinross, Mich., Janelle Willis and Jill Willis of Sault Ste. Marie; grandparents, Suzy and Terry Niemi (Nana and Papa T) of Barbeau, Mich., Beatrice (Don) Willis of Hessel, Mich., Sherla Moore of Zephyr Hills, Fla., and Uncle Deets. Also surviving are cousins, Michael Germain Jr. of Minot, N.D., Khailah Badder of Farwell, Mich., Dominic Germain of Kincheloe and Dillan Luepnitz of Kincheloe.

See "Walking On," page 17



Welker appointed to Truth Initiative fellowship

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Community Health Educator Colin Welker is working to help create the first generation of tobacco-free youth and was appointed last August as one of 30 activism fellows by the Truth Initiative out of more than 700 applicants, ranging in age from 18 to 24.

Welker works with the Sault Tribe Nicotine Dependence Program and provides one-on-one commercial tobacco cessation counseling. He is passionate about youth tobacco prevention and applied for the fellowship as another opportunity to create positive change in the region.

Community Health Project Coordinator Joanne Umbrasas, said, "It's a huge honor for him to be chosen out of over 700 applicants across the nation and to be one of 30."

The Truth Initiative, formerly the American Legacy Foundation, is the largest non-profit organization in the U.S. dedicated to teen smoking prevention. Fellows



have opportunities to learn from nationally renowned public health experts and network with other young adults from around the nation. A Truth Initiative motto is, "We speak, seek and spread the truth about tobacco through education, tobacco-control research and policy studies, and community activism and engagement."

The organization is based in D.C. and came about from the master settlement agreement

with the big tobacco companies. According to the Truth Initiative website, they have helped bring teen cigarette use down from 23 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2014. Welker says the organization targets commercial tobacco use in creative ways and now they are reaching out to the tribes.

Welker said Fellows are required to lead a local impact project in their community that highlights their tobacco control efforts. His goal is to create a youth tobacco taskforce that will work to influence policy change regarding commercial tobacco use. "The taskforce will work to implement policy change regarding commercial tobacco use. Tribal youth will learn skills that they will need which will allow them to advocate not only in their communities, but also to tribal leaders. We will work together to create the next generation of tobacco free youth," Welker said.

Welker would like to engage about 12 middle and high school

youth from the tribe's seven county service area to become actively involved on the taskforce. "I want to see where they want to take it since they are so creative," he said.

Welker said he would be sharing his project with Truth Initiative staff on a national level. Although most of the 30 fellows are doing individual projects, Welker, the chairperson of the youth tobacco taskforce, said he wants to engage other tribal youth and get them involved in their communities. "We are looking at doing fun, creative, interactive projects such as digital stories and videos. We are looking at a commitment through June to Truth Initiative, but it is my hope the taskforce will be sustainable beyond that timeframe," he said.

An added bonus he said is that the Community Health Department has a Center for Disease Control Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH) grant that also targets youth tobacco prevention with a

goal of decreasing the number of tribal youth under the age of 18 with access to tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and dissolvable tobacco products. "Through PICH we have the ability to support the Youth Tobacco Taskforce and have the ability to help with transportation. We need youth who are interested in participating and who will email or call us to register for this group," he said.

Umbrasas said, "These young people involved at the local level could get national recognition, this is a great opportunity that would look extremely well on applications for universities."

Welker said, "I am excited about being recognized at the national level, but more than that, it's exciting to be able to bring it back to our community and to be a part of the Truth Initiative that is working to improve the health of our youth."

For questions, or to register to be a member of the Sault Tribe Youth Tobacco Taskforce, call Colin Welker at 635-8844.

Feds release new nutritional dietary guidelines

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia M. Burwell and Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack recently released updated nutritional guidelines that encourage Americans to adopt a series of science-based recommendations to improve how they eat to reduce obesity and prevent chronic diseases like Type 2 diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease.

The *2015-20 Dietary Guidelines for Americans* is the nation's trusted resource for evidence-based nutrition recommendations and serves to provide the general public, as well as policy makers and health professionals with the information they need to help the public make informed choices about their diets at home, school, work and in their communities.

"Protecting the health of the American public includes empowering them with the tools they need to make healthful choices in their daily lives," said Secretary Burwell. "By focusing on small shifts in what we eat and drink, eating healthfully becomes more manageable. The dietary guidelines provide science-based

recommendations on food and nutrition so people can make decisions that may help keep their weight under control and prevent chronic conditions, like Type 2 diabetes, hypertension, and heart disease."

The newly released eighth edition of the guidelines reflects advancements in scientific understanding about healthful eating choices and health outcomes over a lifetime. This edition recognizes the importance of focusing not on individual nutrients or foods in isolation, but on the variety of what people eat and drink — healthful eating patterns as a whole — to bring about lasting improvements in individual and population health.

"The *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* is one of many important tools that help to support a healthier next generation of Americans," said Secretary Vilsack. "The latest edition of the guidelines provides individuals with the flexibility to make healthful food choices that are right for them and their families and take advantage of the diversity of products available, thanks to America's farmers and ranchers."

The specific recommendations fit into five overarching guidelines in the new edition:

- Follow a healthful eating pattern across the lifespan. Eating patterns are the combination of foods and drinks that a person eats over time.
- Focus on variety, nutrient-dense foods and amount.
- Limit calories from added sugars and saturated fats, and reduce sodium intake.
- Shift to more healthful food and beverage choices.
- Support healthful eating patterns for all.

Healthful eating patterns include a variety of nutritious foods like vegetables, fruits, grains, low-fat and fat-free dairy, lean meats and other protein foods and oils, while limiting saturated fats, trans fats, added sugars and sodium. A healthful eating pattern is adaptable to a person's taste preferences, traditions, culture and budget.

Importantly, the guidelines suggest Americans should consume:

- A variety of vegetables, including dark green, red and orange, legumes (beans and

peas), starchy and other vegetables.

- Fruits, especially whole fruits.
- Grains, at least half of which are whole grains.
- Fat-free or low-fat dairy, including milk, yogurt, cheese or fortified soy beverages.
- A variety of protein foods, including seafood, lean meats and poultry, eggs, legumes (beans and peas), soy products, and nuts and seeds.
- Oils, including those from plants: canola, corn, olive, peanut, safflower, soybean and sunflower. Oils also are naturally present in nuts, seeds, seafood, olives and avocados.

Further, Americans should be encouraged to consume:

- Less than 10 percent of calories per day from added sugars. ChooseMyPlate.gov provides more information about added sugars, which are sugars and syrups added to foods or beverages when they are processed or prepared. This does not include naturally occurring sugars such as those consumed as part of milk and fruits.
- Less than 10 percent of cal-

ories per day from saturated fats. The Nutrition Facts label can be used to check for saturated fats. Foods high in saturated fat include butter, whole milk, meats not labeled as lean, and tropical oils such as coconut and palm oil.

- Less than 2,300 milligrams (mg) per day of sodium for people over the age of 14 years and less for those younger. The Nutrition Facts label is a helpful tool to check for sodium, especially in processed foods like pizza, pasta dishes, sauces and soups.

Based on a review of current scientific evidence on nutrition, the 2015 edition includes updated guidance on topics such as added sugars, sodium, and cholesterol and new information on caffeine.

For example, the *2015-20 Dietary Guidelines* is the first edition to recommend a quantitative limit to consume less than 10 percent of calories from added sugars.

The *2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans* is available at dietaryguidelines.gov.

Tribal members "Walk On," continued from page 16

She was preceded in death by great-grandparents, Hoppy and Eleanor Germain and Edward Willis; uncles, Weegie Mongene, Jackie Germain, Richard Germain and Larry McKechnie; grandfather, Danny Bradley; and cousins, Jimmie Lee Germain, Jackie Bennett, Wally Bosley and Francis McKechnie.

Mandi had a very special relationship with her aunts Patti Bosley, Sharon Oliver, Linda Germain, Janet Germain, Sandy Graham and Theresa Germain and her Uncle Deets.

We would like to thank all who were there throughout this trying time for bringing food, cleaning and just being there. A special thanks to Amanda Tobias, Theresa Germain and Linda Germain and Jimmie Germain.

Visitation and Mass of Christian Burial took place on Dec. 21 at the Niigaanaagizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie with Brother John Hascall officiating. Burial will be in Holy Family Donaldson Catholic Cemetery.

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

JAMES L. DAKE

Longtime Newberry resident, James L. Dake, 94, walked on Jan. 11, 2016, surrounded by his loving family.

Born on Sept. 10, 1921, in Boyne City, son of the late Neal and Rose (nee LaBlance) Dake, James was a 1939 graduate of

Newberry High School and later he received his Bachelor of Science degree from Northern Michigan

College of Education in Marquette. He was a veteran of World War II serving in the United States Army and recipient of the Purple Heart.

James was formerly employed at the Newberry Regional Mental Health Center for 16 years and, in 1966, continued employment at Tahquamenon Area Schools teaching biology for 21 years until his retirement in 1987. James was a member of St. Gregory's Catholic Church,



Knights of Columbus Council 2929, American Legion Post 74, the Disabled American Veterans and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. His hobbies included playing the violin and gardening.

In addition to his parents, James is preceded in death by his first wife, Florence G. Dake, second wife, Pauline E. Dwyer Dake; siblings, Neal J. Dake, Paul E. Dake and Norma J. Mattson; and grandson Kevin Dake Yoder.

Survivors include his children Meryl (Louis) Hankey of Alanson, Diane (Danny) Granquist of Iron Mountain, Janet (Gary) Yoder of Crivitz, Wis., Barbara (Gary) Stewart of Clarkston, Bruce (Lynn) Dake

of Newberry, Joseph (Augusta) Dake of Kincheloe and David (Lisa) Dake of Newberry; several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews; sister, Rosann Brown of Newberry; step-daughter, Peggy (Roger) Schmitz of Fort Myers, Fla.; and step-sons Jim (Marla) Dwyer of Sault Ste. Marie and Larry Dwyer of Ann Arbor.

A gathering of family and friends took place on Jan. 16, 2016, at the First Presbyterian Church in Newberry.

Memorials may be directed to the Tahquamenon Education Foundation, PO Box 482, Newberry, MI 49868 in his memory.

Condolences expressed at www.beaulieufuneralhome.com.

Wesoloski working with smoking cessation program

Sault Tribe Community Health educator David Wesoloski works with the Nicotine Dependence Program in Manistique and Munising. Hired Dec. 1, he also works on tobacco policy with local governments.

“Everyone has been very friendly, welcoming and knowledgeable the past month,” Wesoloski said. “Any question that I have, they are able to answer it completely.”

His job primarily entails working one-on-one with clients wishing to quit smoking (or smokeless) tobacco. And, he really likes his work. Wesoloski, 31, wants to make a difference in terms of tobacco policy, and he wants to



keep helping people with smoking cessation and be able to provide the information they need.

Working with clients, Wesoloski gets them to talk about why they want to quit, what their motivations are, then sets up a tobacco cessation medication plan for them, generally for three months. For another three months, he continues to provide counseling to help keep them quit. At the end of the program, they receive a certificate of achievement and the option to share their story in the Win Awenen Nisitotung newspaper.

Although the incidence of smoking has decreased nationally, said Wesoloski, it's higher in Michigan, especially rural areas. Wesoloski said it's a complex issue with many factors. There

has been considerable community progress with tobacco policy in the Sault Ste. Marie area that he wants to bring to the west end of the tribe's service area.

“The Sault Tribe is doing a lot and not just in the Sault, but all over the seven-county service area,” Wesoloski said. “I am honored to be among such people. My goal is to learn from them and further their goals to improve health over on the west end, especially in Manistique.”

Originally from the Chicago suburbs, Wesoloski attended Northern Michigan University, so he is used to the Upper Peninsula winters. He likes hiking, downhill skiing, biking and cooking.

Wesoloski didn't go right into the health field at NMU — his first degree was in Computer Information Systems. It was a popular degree with jobs that pay well. However, he realized that computers were more of a hobby and not where he wanted to focus his life. Then he discovered the health field, an area that he is truly passionate about. He went back to NMU and graduated with honors in Community Health Education, achieved the Certified Health Education Specialist credential, and successfully completed an internship.

To reach David Wesoloski, call (906) 341-8469, or email him at dwesoloski@saulttribe.net.

The Densmore legacy: Indian Country music from days of yore

By RICK SMITH

According to the Smithsonian Institution, Frances Densmore was born in 1867 and grew up in a Minnesota farming settlement named after Sioux Chief Red Wing on the banks of the Mississippi River. At the time, Red Wing stood between the territorial fringes of the Sioux Nation to the west and the Chippewa Nation to the east. The faint pulse of Sioux drums and chanting in the vicinity of her home often lulled Densmore to sleep at night.

She carried an appreciation for the music of American Indians when she went to study music at Oberlin College in Ohio for three years, which led to her work as a music teacher for American Indians across the country. In

the course of teaching Indians, she also learned, transcribed and recorded their music and documented how they used music in their cultures. Along the way, in 1904, she encountered then 75-year-old Geronimo at a fair in St Louis, Mo., and stood close behind him to capture notation of a melody he hummed.

She did this work at a time when the United States and a few organized religions pushed policies to assimilate American Indians into European-American culture. She feared the disappearance of American Indian music along with the disappearance of their customs.

“There is danger that the future will form its opinions of Indians from the sentimental



Photos courtesy of the Smithsonian Institution

Above left, Frances Densmore in later years. Right, in earlier years with an Indian rattle and a drum.

movies and the theater music when the Indian is seen through the bushes,” the Smithsonian quotes Densmore. “Neither the ‘love lyric’ nor theater tom-tom music are genuinely Indian, in the best sense.”

Densmore found difficulty in trying to find proper homes for the preservation of her growing collection of recordings and transcripts. Most academic institutions and museums took interest in her artifacts, such as Indian musical instruments, but none showed interest in the music itself.

The Smithsonian quotes her again, “I can never understand

why material objects are regarded so very seriously while Indian music — the highest type of culture — has had to struggle so hard for more than an indulgent recognition. Expeditions are financed, apparently with ease, to dig up ground on the chance that something significant may be unearthed, but it is very much otherwise with my work.”

Then the Smithsonian Institution Bureau of American Ethnology stepped in to take advantage of a relationship already formed with Densmore. She began working for the institution to collect, preserve and publish findings regarding the

music of American Indians for the Smithsonian. Her first recording for the institution, a Chippewa man named Chi Mukwa.

At the conclusion of her career at age 87, Densmore collected more than 2,500 Indian songs on wax cylinders and other media, which have since been transferred to more modern technology.

The Smithsonian indicates Densmore believed Indian music would be a good antidote to stereotypes and misconceptions by the broader American public. This idea is reflected in her projects for children, the Smithsonian quotes Densmore as having said, “I am deeply impressed by the incorrect information about Indians which is used in schools.” She also suggested it may be worthwhile to experiment with other possible applications for adaptations of Indian music, such as use in mental health treatment.

Albums of American Indian songs originally recorded by Densmore, including albums of Chippewa music, are sold online through the Smithsonian Institution at www.folkways.si.edu/search/?query=frances+densmore.

More about Densmore and her work can be found by searching online through the Library of Congress American Folklife Center archives at www.loc.gov/folklife.

January's moon has many names

The Anishinabeg traditional calendar has 13 months, or moons. Each month is named for something of significance during that time frame, so it makes sense that month names are regional.

In this region, January is known as Big Spirit Moon, Chi Manidoo Giizis, and might have variations such as Spirit Moon or Big Moon. January is also known as Start of Winter Moon, Maajii bibooni giizis, and New Winter Moon, Oshki bibooni giizis. In some more distant regions, it is called Wolf Moon or Cold Moon.

In January, people were at home together much of the time in past generations. It is in winter that legends and stories are passed down for entertainment

and teaching. Not so long ago, people spent winters making and repairing things, and depending on ice fishing for fresh food.

When nights are long, people see a lot of the moon. December is often called Little Spirit Moon. Some people think this is because December was considered a leap month in the old calendar.

Winter and the north and nighttime are all associated with the color white and with elders. It is the mental and intellectual part of our health, and sweetgrass is the scared medicine associated with this part of the medicine wheel.

January is a time of personal freedom and self-determination, action, anger, morals, decision and wisdom.

Eleventh annual trappers workshop

HERMANSVILLE, Mich. — On Feb. 6, District 3 of the U.P. Trappers Association is hosting its 11th Midwinter Trappers Workshop for youngsters and adults interested in learning more about trapping. Doors at the Community Center in Hermansville will open at 8 a.m. Central Time and the volunteers will be doing everything they can to make this a fun-filled, learning opportunity for all.

Two trapping supply dealers and a fur-buyer will be on hand, so attendees can get needed supplies and sell fur. Youngsters will receive a free weasel box and trap and will be in a drawing to win other free trapping



supplies. Experts will also be teaching kids and adults how to trap weasels, mink, muskrats and raccoons and how to properly prepare them for market.

The workshop is open to the public for both adults and kids and admission is free. Lunch and refreshments will be available for purchase throughout the day.

For further information or directions call Mike Lewis at (906) 774-3592 or visit www.uptrappers.com.



This year the Sault Health Center Dress Down Fund collected enough money for 32 Christmas baskets with EACH basket receiving ALL of the above items for a veritable holiday feast, about \$114 each.



Aaron A. Payment
Tribal Chairperson

*Representing All
Members Everywhere*

Ahneen, Boozo, Negee:

Under the direction of the Board (without voiced opposition from even one member of the Board) in December, I exercised the option to purchase land in to add our Huron Township down state casino expansion project to our Gaming Expansion efforts. The terms and conditions are the same as that of the Lansing project as it was authorized by Tribal voters via the 2012 Tribal Referendum along with the Lansing Project.

In this report, I will explain the basis for what we call our "Mandatory Trust" projects, as well as, the economics which led us to need to expand to more lucrative markets. While some find this project controversial, it was after all approved by the voters of the Tribe via Referendum. If we are ever to be able to more fully meet the needs of our Members in the service area and begin to provide services outside of the UP, we revenues at multiples of our current revenues.

I will try to clarify how these projects impact our Land Claims Fund, Elder Dividend program and how the return on the investment (ROI) will be to increase our Elder Checks; replenish our other "self-sufficiency" programs (Funeral Assistance, Elder Employment, Elder Durable Medical Goods); and create college scholarships that are not only sustainable ~ but grow to provide multiples of what we currently do for our higher education, vocational technical students, and job training no matter what age.

2016 ELDER CHECKS

By the time this paper reaches you, the Elder checks will have been received in the amount of approximately what it was last year at \$552. I am not satisfied with the amount as it is far off of the \$1,600 checks

MANDATORY TRUST EXPLAINED:

Proposal & Long Term Plan to Increase Elder Checks

prior to 2008. It is, however, equal to the full amount of the interest divided by the total number of Elders in our Tribe. This simple equation below shows how the amount was derived;

\$2,878,863 Interest
5,220 Elders

Pursuant to the original resolution and subsequent resolution in 2012 (2012-250) the Board authorized and directed that \$1,833,100 of the interest earned in 2015 be spent to purchase the land in Huron Township. As obligated in the resolution passed in 2012 (prior to me returning to office later that year) the developers reimbursed the full amount of the purchase.

Each year, the Elders have received 100% of the Interest. In 2000 and 2003, Director Cathy Abramson and I teamed up to increase the amounts to \$1,000 and \$1,600 (respectively) and in 2008 which required a supplement that was taxable. After I left office, the Board voted to limit the dividend to the interest earned. Nonetheless, Elders received 100% of the interest earned. In 2016, the Elders will receive an amount equal to the interest earned divided by all our Elders.

**CHRONOLOGY OF
MANDATORY TRUST
ISSUE**

I will try to be as succinct as possible in this explanation. It is very important that our Members understand what is rightfully ours and the rights we retained though the 1836 treaty, specific provisions related to the fund, and the 1997 Land Claims Settlement Act. Once you understand the origins here, I urge you



to help us advocate that the federal government honor this treaty and the 1997 law which released these funds.

Our ancestors (in many cases just few generations ago) signed a treaty in 1836

that allowed Michigan to move from territory status to statehood in 1837. Without a continuous land mass and an economy, Michigan would not have become a state. Like most treaties, the 1836 Treaty also known as the "Treaty of Washington" and the "Chippewa Ottawa Treaty" ceded nearly 14 million acres of land to the federal government which was then permitted to be settled by the territorial residents.

Our treaty provided generally for, "health, education and social welfare" into perpetuity (forever). It also included an amount per Indian to our ancestors who are now the Sault Tribe, Bay Mills, Grand Traverse, Little Traverse and Little River Bands. These amounts were not fully paid and are the basis of the Land Claims Settlement. These bands were left without any acknowledgement of existence by the federal government let alone the huge financial liability the Federal government simply ignored. In 1934, the Indian Reorganization Act (IRA) was passed which included provisions for bands to receive recognition as tribes and receive some level of federal funding. The 1934 IRA also included provisions for reacquiring land and the federal government holding these lands in "Trust" for the benefit of American Indians.



CHIEF MARSHALL

In 1938, Chief Isaac Marshall and his wife Lavina (Boulley) petitioned the federal government to recognize the Sugar Island and Garden River Bands. While they did not succeed, their nephew Edward "Pie" Pine and the Sugar Island Band continued their efforts and in the 1950s incorporated as the "Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and their Heirs". This is the group that became recognized in 1972.

Under the leadership of Chairman Fred L. Hatch and his son attorney Fred

Hatch, federal recognition was achieved by administrative order of the Secretary of Interior. Several folks were involved and are credited with this huge success.

I am proud to acknowledge that Chief Marshall and Lavina Boulley are my great uncle and auntie. The hereditary chief role after Chief Marshall descended to Abe "Abe Blue" Boulley who is my gram's (Maria Boulley-Parr) first cousin. In 2015, during the Chief's Feast at the annual Sault Tribe Pow Wow, I was honored to have been recognized by Cecil Pavlat as Chief. Abe Blue and his beautiful wife Marian were present to witness.

**1974 INDIAN CLAIMS
COMMISSION**

Most of our Tribe's original land holdings came about as a result of a donation of land by Mary (Hatch) Murray and the Old Methodist Mission. Additionally, the Sault Casino site was largely the purchase of my Uncle Tom Parr's (his brother Donald Parr is my grandfather) family property. None of the land we have today was given to us by the federal government. Our founders and subsequent tribal councils have had to acquire land then petition the federal government to hold these lands "In Trust" pursuant to the 1934 Indian Reorganization Act.

The basis for the Land Claims amount we eventually received in 1997 was based on the amounts not paid from the 1836 treaty to 1974 plus the interest due on 161 years of what the fund otherwise would have earned. Our share was \$19.6 million. Our Tribe and the Bay Mills Tribe wrote this law to release the funds. Principally, this law includes language that allows for the Sault Tribe to acquire land with the interest earned since we received the funds in 1998 and once we do, the law stipulates that,

"the Secretary of Interior SHALL hold these land as Indian Lands are held"

This language is clear and unambiguous. Our opponents argue that this cannot possible mean to acquire land and for this land to be

Indian land for all intents and purposes. Stop for a moment and think about the social justice implications of lands that were all but stolen from us. Imagine, what the treaty signatories would want done with these funds. The answer is clearly, to acquire land and to use these lands to the full extent to provide for our people.

**LAND CLAIMS FUND
v. ELDER FUND**

I am proud to recognize former Vice-Chair George K. Nolan for conceiving of the idea to bank the Land Claims funds and use only the interest to payout the Elders. While other Tribal leaders over the years have claimed this as their idea, I know for a fact it came from Vice-Chair Nolan. In 1991, after I graduated with my with a Master's degree (Public Administration) I worked for the Federal-State Policy Administrator for our Tribe. In this role, I was assigned to Mr. Nolan to assist him in securing the release of our Land Claims funds. At that point, George explained how he wanted to invest the funds and use only the interest to pay out an Elder Dividend annually.

In 1997, however, the then Chair wanted to use 100% of it on a Detroit Casino. So in October of 1997, I notified Tribal Members in my Unit report that I would gather input of what to do with the funds. I reported the results to the Board in a written report and submitted it in December of 1997. The Chair and some Board Members were incensed that I would ask the Members their input and insisted on doing their own survey. The results were the same ~ Members prioritized our Elders, Health, Education and Social Services. We then held over 22 community meetings which Angeline Boulley facilitated and again the results were the same.

**WHAT WOULD OUR
ANCESTORS DO?**

The use of the funds to pay the Elders a dividend but to have the interest also be eligible to acquire land and for this land to be "Held as Indian lands are held" is a great compromise. The provision of the use of the fund (as obligated by the

1. Ten percent (10%) of the annual income to the Tribe from this project shall be deposited in the Self-Sufficiency Fund as an addition to principal as authorized by section 108(1)(C) of the Act;
2. Three percent (3%) of the annual income to the Tribe from this project shall be distributed among and deposited in the following funds: the Elder Health Self-Sufficiency Fund, the Elder Employment Self-Sufficiency Fund, the Funeral Assistance Self-Sufficiency fund, and the Education Assistance Self-Sufficiency Fund; and
3. Two percent (2%) of the annual income to the Tribe from this project shall be deposited into a fund to establish a college scholarship program for tribal members irrespective of blood quantum.

Directors Causley & Hollowell

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 13 members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 20 day of November 2012; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of 10 members for, 2 members against, 0 members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Tribal Referendum I circulated in 2012 and the Members approved) will replenish this fund through gaming expansion and increase the base of the fund. Ultimately the interest earnings will grow and result in greater dividends for our Elders. Of course, there will be many more benefits for Members including education, funeral assistance, elder employment, and programs to finally begin to meet the needs of our Members. Above is the actual language. In my opinion, the fund is appropriately referenced as the "Land Claims Elder Fund".

PROPOSED 2016 ELDER CHECK SUPPLEMENT

Just as I proposed in 2000 and 2003, I am proud to again propose to provide a supplement to our Elders. My administration has been conservative in spending below what the Board appropriates. This year, prior to bonuses (in lieu of raises for 2015 as our employment team members have gone 7 years without a raise ~ raises of 3% are reinstated in 2016) we were at approximately a \$850,000 savings under what the Board appro-

priated in 2015 without cuts to jobs or services.

So how can we afford to pay the Elders? Though a \$4.2 million settlement we will receive this spring. Therefore, I will introduce a resolution to spend \$2.5 million of the \$4.2 million to provide the Elders a supplement which will bring them to \$1,000 for the year.

NATIONAL CONTRACT SUPPORT COSTS

In 2013, Dr. Yvette Robideaux, IHS Director appointed me to the national IHS Contract Support Costs Workgroup. The CSC Workgroup and the efforts of the HHS Secretary's Tribal Advisory Council led to the President requesting full funding for CSC. Another component of this issue are the past amounts due. In 2014, we settled with and received \$1.3 million from IHS. This spring, we are slated to receive another \$4.2 million from the BIA which will allow us to bring the 2016 Elder checks to \$1,000!

LAND IN TRUST SUCCESSES SO FAR

Since returning to of-

office, most of our twenty year old land in trust applications have gone through which ultimately will save over \$300,000 annually in taxes. These successes don't just happen. I have a great administrative team and the relations I have built with the Bureau of Indian Affairs has had a great deal to do with our requests that have progressed since 2012. This is why I am cautiously optimistic that our mandatory trust applications will ultimately be approved.

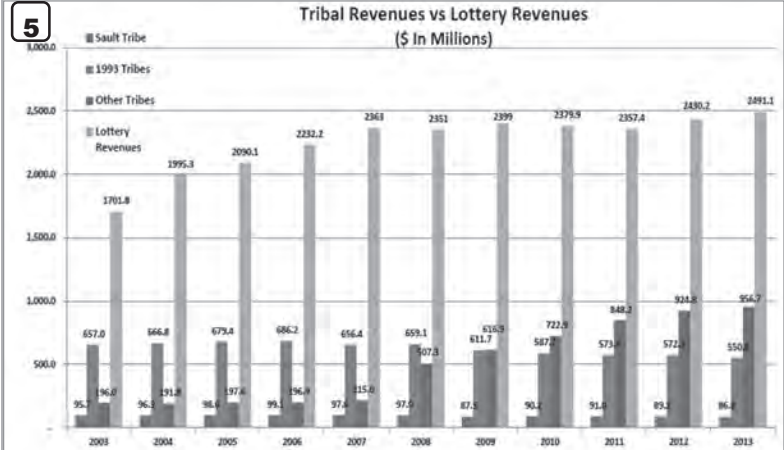
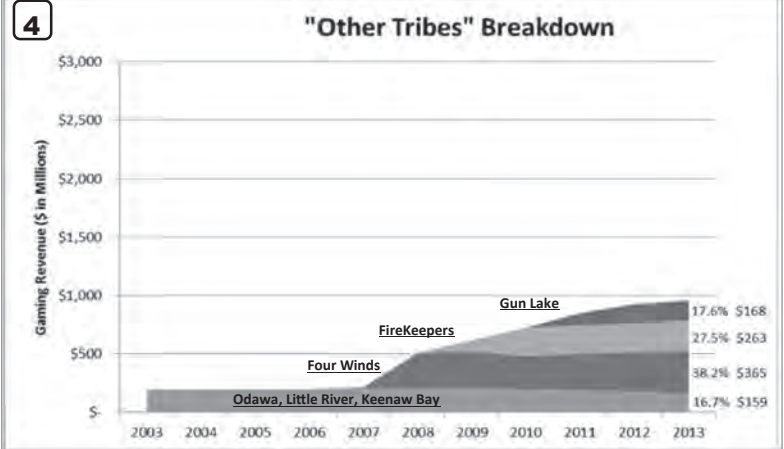
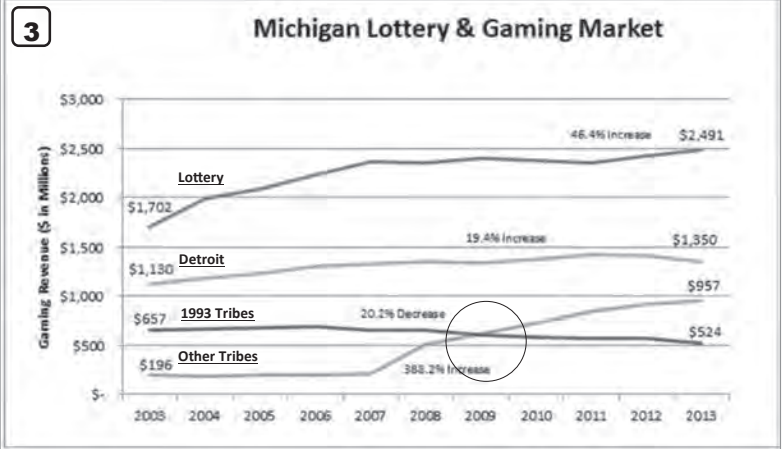
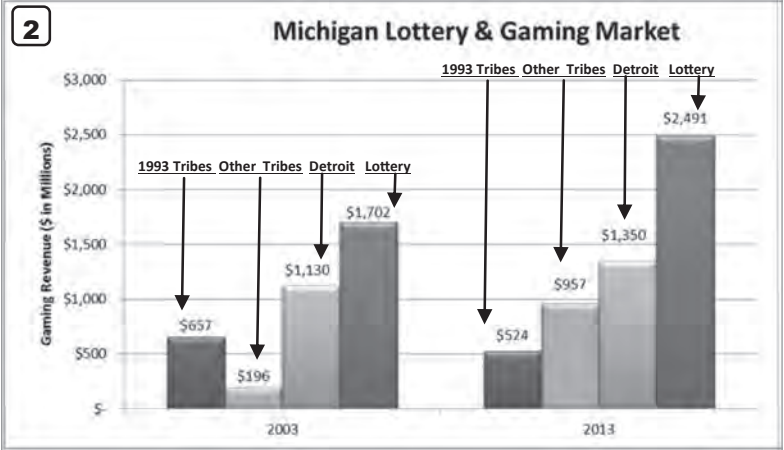
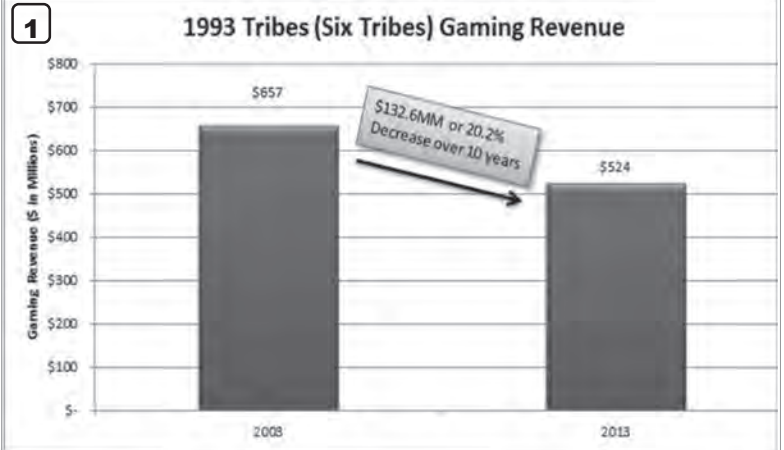
NEW REVENUES GREATLY NEEDED

As Chair, I monitor spending through monthly reviews. I have invited the Board to attend so they can see my open and transparent approach to administering these funds and to gain support and confidence as you clearly see that I know what I am doing and have a command understanding of my job. Sadly, some Board have simply stopped attending.

While some are still not convinced of the necessity of new revenues, in Graph 1 to the right, you can see that the downturn in revenues for the '93 compact tribes is not unique to us. Graph 2 shows the impact of the increases of the MI Lottery and Detroit gaming to shrink our market share due largely to our geography. The biggest loss of market share is clearly due to the tribes who were recognized post 1993 (see Graph 3). Graph 4 shows this more closely with tribes smaller than one of our election Units making up to four times what we make. Again, this is due in large part to being closer to the market and population. Finally, Graph 5 shows that while the post '93 tribes have increased revenues by over 375%, the '93 tribes have decreased by 16.2%. Fortunately, we have done better by limiting our reduction to 10.1%.

At such a critical time in our Tribe's history, it is important to put all politics aside and come together as a Tribe to advance our common purpose ~ to *perpetuate our way of life* and serve *our people*. Consistent with the will of the people via the 2012 Referendum, I am working hard to have our gaming expansions projects come to fruition.

Chi Megwitch, Negee!



Scheduled for the 1-19-2016 Tribal Board Meeting Held in the Sault.

RESOLUTION: 2016- _____

2016 TRIBAL ELDER CHECK SUPPLEMENT BRINGING TOTAL TO \$1,000 FOR 2016

SPONSORED BY:
Aaron A. Payment
Office of the Tribal Chairperson
521 Astorway Street
Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan 49783
Phone: 906.635.6050
Toll Free: 800.793.0060
Fax: 906-632-0629
Email: aarpayment@saaulttribe.net
Facebook: "Aaron Payment"

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians ("Sault Tribe") is a Federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, as Amended; and

WHEREAS, the Sault Tribe settled certain land claims against the United States as evidenced and implemented by the Michigan Indian Land Claims Settlement Act (the "Act"), PL 105-143, 111 Stat 2652 (Dec 15, 1997); and

WHEREAS, over the years, the Tribe has used the interests from these funds to provide an annual dividend to the Tribal Elders; and

WHEREAS, in the year 2000 and again in 2003, Tribal Board Members Cathy Abtaunson and Aaron Payment motioned and seconded to raise the dividend through a supplement to \$1,000 and \$1,600 respectively; and

WHEREAS, Chairperson Payment serves on the National IHS Contract Support Costs Workgroup and has testified in the US Congress several times to fully honor the federal government's obligation to tribes with respect to Contract Support Costs; and

WHEREAS, upon returning to office in 2012, Chairperson Payment engaged the law firm of *Sonasky, Chambers, Sacht, and Perry* to present to the Tribal Board of Directors a work plan for recovering the obligated Contract Support Costs funds whereupon the Tribe contracted with this firm to recover these funds; and

WHEREAS, Tribe has already recovered \$1.3 million in settlement from IHS and used these funds to balance the 2015 budget and is due to receive \$4.2 million from the BIA whereupon both the BIA and the Tribe agree to the settlement amount such that the amount due is impending.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Tribal Board of Directors approves the distribution of \$2.5 million of these funds to raise the 2016 annual Elder dividend check to \$1,000 with the difference between the Elder's January distribution and total made up with a supplement from the \$2.5 million appropriation.

CERTIFICATION

We, the undersigned, as Chairman 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 _____ members constituting a quorum were present at a meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the _____ day of _____ 2015; that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted at said meeting by an affirmative vote of _____ members for, _____ members against, _____ members abstaining, and that said resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Aaron A. Payment, Chairperson
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Bridgett Souenson, Secretary
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Applying 5 dysfunctions of a team to the tribe



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin Anishinaabek, when I was in the classroom, at the end of every school year, I went through my lesson book and reflected upon the past year. I asked myself questions and analyzed the year so that I could identify what worked well, what did not and especially what I could do better. It is a working model that has served me well, and by mere training and experience, it is a model I have continued to use in my work as a member of the board of directors of our tribe. I recall the sage advice I received from my superintendent when he learned I would be working with adults, instead of children. He told me I would get frustrated in this new role, because I am accustomed to setting goals, timelines and holding myself to high standards and accomplishing the goals I have set. He explained that progress with children can be very fast; however, progress with adults can be very slow. He was absolutely right. The dynamics of a 30-student classroom is a snap, compared to what I have experienced in

the boardroom. Please note that I am targeting none of the board members individually, in fact I have a very high regard for some, and respect the fact that ALL are elected to their positions by tribal members — but as a “team” the dysfunction at the board table is staggering. I came across a book entitled *The Five Dysfunctions of a Team* by Patrick Lencioni, and it really helped put things in perspective for me. In my opinion, our tribal board of directors suffers from the five dysfunctions of a team.

1. Absence of trust
2. Fear of conflict
3. Lack of commitment
4. Avoidance of accountability
5. Inattention to results

I do not present this with any malice. I am merely looking at past performance and trying to identify how things can be improved. I could just as easily put this in a positive approach. A good team:

1. Trusts one another
2. Engages in unfiltered conflict around ideas
3. Commits to decisions and plans of action
4. Holds one another accountable for delivering against those plans
5. Focuses on the achievement of collective results

Let’s examine the first issue — TRUST. It has become next to impossible for members of the board to open up and share new ideas. Ridicule, name-calling and rude behaviors have become the norm and are allowed, encouraged and oftentimes inflicted by the chairman of the board. To make matters worse, you can almost certainly read about it posted widely in social media and in unit reports.

I believe if this one issue were addressed, we could see a positive change . . . trust is the foundation of any team.

The second dysfunction, FEAR of conflict, does not mean that people are “afraid.” It means that TRUST is so lacking that passionate debates of IDEAS are reduced to veiled discussions and guarded comments. In a properly functioning team, brainstorming sessions can occur! Ideas will get offered up without regard for ridicule and are shared, discussed and can grow into the RIGHT idea! I have watched members of this board of directors get viciously attacked personally for offering up an idea. I’ve even witnessed it happen to staff. It wasn’t the idea that was objectionable to some — it was the person who offered it. Personal issues at the board prevents growth.

The third dysfunction, lack of commitment, is a direct result of the second one. Because there are no healthy debates (mostly just personal attacks) there is no “buy in” to decisions that are actually made. People may show agreement during the meeting, but there tends to be little commitment. This leads to the fourth dysfunction: avoidance of accountability.

To be fair, the daily administrative process makes it very difficult at times for even the most driven board members to have the information needed to call out and hold people responsible for performance. However, when staff have been instructed to NOT provide board members with information requested, real progress is impossible. This is counterproductive to the good of our tribe.

The fifth dysfunction, inat-

ention to results, “occurs when members put their individual needs (such as ego, career development, or recognition) or the needs of their divisions (aka units) above the collective goals of the team (aka tribe).” Individual ego, personal career development, the need for public recognition and unit against unit thinking is strong on our board, and is hurting our tribe.

As I stated earlier, I am not targeting board members individually. I am merely identifying behaviors and circumstances I believe stand in the way of real progress. I fully expect that some board members may be offended by my words here, but it is not my intention. These dysfunctions can be addressed, but change has to be wanted and trust needs to be developed. To obtain trust, which is the very basis of a fully functioning team, the members must believe the intentions of the other members are good, that there is no reason to be protective or careful. If there is trust, members focus time and energy on important issues, not politics. They give each other the benefit of the doubt without negative suspicion. I believe there are members of this board of directors who can do that, but it requires that the leader (chairperson) creates an environment that does not punish, nor chastise or otherwise discourage openness. I know that it is possible. If we focused on this dysfunction first, then there is genuine hope for the other four. And so ends my reflection on my experience with the board of directors for 2015. In spite of the challenges, we did accomplish some good things, but we could do so much more!

On a personal level, there was

growth. I worked hard, I helped people and I did so in a good way. I know that I am a bit of an overachiever and I truly expected to accomplish more. But, I keep reminding myself of the sage advice that was offered: Adults progress much slower than children, but they do progress.

Speaking of progress, the gymnasium at the JKL Bahweting School is progressing at a fast rate. I can hardly wait for the day the children bounce the first basketball on their new courts! Also, please know that I have moved from my office at the Big Bear Recreation Center. I absolutely enjoyed my time there, and will miss the very helpful staff. A special chi miigwech to all the staff department wide, who assisted me during 2015. I could not do my job without your support, expertise and assistance. I have learned so much from you all, and I admire your dedication to our tribe. I am proud to work with you. As I fulfill the last five months of my term, I acknowledge that our tribe truly has some wonderful, hard-working, dedicated staff. Regarding the upcoming elections, who knows what the future may hold. But one thing I DO KNOW — we are blessed.

Stay safe and warm everyone. Be kind to one another and remember those who are hurting.

Anishnaabe gagige (Anishnabe for always),

Jen
(906) 440-9151
jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

P.S. I encourage you to visit my website for more information: <http://jmcleodsaultribe.com>.

Pushing forward for economic diversification



**DJ HOFFMAN
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

The new year has many challenges ahead, I hope we can accomplish much more in 2016 than we were able to do in 2015.

TRIBAL BUDGETS

Tribal budgets were approved at 2015’s final meeting. I did not vote to approve the budgets because several included items such as new jobs, wage increases for “specific” positions and some extensive capital purchases. These items were mostly budgetary “pork,” being non-essential operations or services.

However, I introduced legislation to ensure the budgets and subsequent budgets, included COLA — cost of living allowances — to ensure as we move forward our employees are no longer left behind. In FY 2016, the COLA for employees is set at 3 percent, subsequent years will be based upon CPI. Keep in mind while I introduced the resolution, this legisla-

tion would not be in place without the full support of the entire board of directors.

CASINOS

Casino budgets were finally received in the last week of 2015. The tribal Gaming Authority adopted a continuing funding resolution, not to exceed 60 days, to ensure no disruptions in our operations. Hopefully, an efficient and detailed review of these budgets takes place in the next few weeks. It is interesting to note funding for the permanent CEO position was omitted in the initial submission of the proposed budget.

While it was reported by some the casinos are performing extremely well, the tribe’s take for operations for 2015 was \$15.58 million. In past years, the tribe consistently budgeted based on \$17 million generated from casino operations. In short, regardless of the fuzzy feel-good presentations, the tribe did not receive \$1.416 million in tribal tax it was due for operations due to performance and covenants.

CEO

The board passed a resolution to post the Kewadin Casinos chief executive officer position. The resolution to post the position complies with the policies and procedures of the tribe. The position is a key employment position, approved in the 2015 casino budgets. Hiring of this “key employee” requires seven votes of the board of directors. Under the tribe’s adopted personnel policies, all positions must be posted. According

to Human Resources, the CEO position is currently posted on ExactHire, HireCentric, Indeed.com, SimplyHired.com and Oodle.com. It will not be posted within any trade magazines or recruiting services at this time.

It has been mentioned some are concerned someone has been promised the position of CEO, or a “buddy” or “political ally” would be considered for the position. These concerns are valid and interesting to note as usually one refers to a “buddy” by their first names, and in their respective conduct and association with those individuals. Fortunately, the key employee resolution forces this action of the board to be done at the board level in an open meeting, not hidden in the shadows of a Gaming Authority meeting. I firmly believe the tribe should be utilizing a recruitment firm, in addition to the web postings, to ensure we have highly qualified candidates to select from.

TAXATION

As I’ve stated in the past, the tribe, as a government, has the ability to tax and does on its enterprises and hotels. This is precisely how we generate revenues for tribal operations from casino revenues.

Earlier in this report, I mentioned the tribe received \$15.58 million from the casinos in 2015. These funds were actually short one tax payment of \$1.416 million. The tax is due, and yet it was not paid because of performance and covenant ratios. While I understand why the tax was not paid, I have not been provided an answer

as to “how” it was not paid. We have a tribal tax code, we have policies and procedures, and yet a required tax was not paid. It would be understandable if the board had to take action to waive the tax to comply with covenant ratios and acknowledge by action the performance issues — however, this did not occur. We need to ensure that our laws, policies and procedures are adhered to. We also need to ensure that there is accountability when they are not. I have asked for a detailed response as to how this could occur.

JKL BAHWETING SCHOOL

The gymnasium is nearly complete. At this time, the gymnasium floor is being installed, the heat, power and water are all in working order. Soon the gymnasium will be open for the benefit of the children. This project is an excellent example of positive and productive collaboration of the tribal board of directors for the benefit of our tribal and community children within the school. The entire board should be proud of its efforts in making this a reality.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In each and every report I write I will continue to list economic development as a major emphasis. I have stressed, and will continue to stress, the need to diversify economically. To ensure we are able to diversify we must adopt plans and embrace opportunities outside of the realm of casinos. In addition, the tribe needs to ensure its business approaches are separated from its tribal politics.

I look forward to the tribe interviewing candidates this month for the vacant economic development director position. The tribe has many opportunities for diversification. There are existing businesses with positive cash flow the tribe should consider targeting. The combination of the tribe’s tax exempt status and the businesses existing cash flows would enable the tribe to diversify exponentially. We do not need to reinvent the wheel, nor do we have to swing for the fence on every type of business venture we partake in (casinos). Small steps can lead to long term sustainable returns. The economic (development) director can help make these options a reality.

Just over the horizon there is an election looming and I realize this is the time when productivity stalls and political word salad commences. Please inform your elected officials they were put in place to get things done, not merely continue to get elected.

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

Sincerely,
DJ Hoffman
(906) 635-6945; cell: 203-0510;
personal e-mail: djwhoffman@hotmail.com; tribal e-mail: djhoffman@saultribe.net

Looking forward to positive movement in 2016



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

Each year I grow older I realize how precious our time is on earth and what really should matter. There have been many great members of our tribe, community and workplace who have passed on in 2015; some far too young, some by accident, some suffering from the dreaded diagnosis of cancer or from long time effects of diabetes, etc. With all the sadness comes a lot to be thankful for as well.

Even as a tribe, sometimes we take for granted all the wonderful programs and services we have to offer our people. We always seem to hear the negative and want more, which is human nature, but we are a very fortunate tribe compared to many tribes west of us. Things can always be worse and actually we have come a long way since recognition.

I know in my own personal life I am very thankful for the health of my family above anything else. Health is one of the few things that are not always cured, treatable or preventable. Many other circumstances can be corrected or changed.

Many of us also take our own personal health for granted. I personally put everyone else ahead of myself and don't take care of myself like I should. If we don't take the time to take care of ourselves sooner or later we won't be able to take care of anyone else.

I am thankful the tribe was able to give the team members a 3 percent COLA in 2016 and a bonus in 2015 to show how important you are to the tribe and our businesses. I know morale has been low the last few years and hopefully this will have a positive impact on that.

We still have more work to do in this area such as creating better opportunities for job advancement, hiring an employee relations specialist, changing more of our policies, and opening lines of communication between the front line team members and executive management.

I am hoping we will be able to hire an economic development director soon and start hearing and implementing new diversifying business opportunities other than casinos.

There are so many other business opportunities that we could get into if we had the right team with a vision and plan to move forward. An interview panel will be conducting interviews soon.

I am excited we received a \$300,000 grant that will help us

to better our education division and hire an education director. I don't believe this position has been filled since maybe 2008.

Education should be one of our top priorities for our members and, hopefully, with this new funding we can start moving on a positive future path.

For those of you still waiting on hearing about the Human Resource audit, we did form a committee of the board to establish parameters to write an RFP (request for proposals). This is taking much longer than I had hoped.

Now that the Sault has the community care clinic operating out of the Sault Health Center, I am hoping we can finalize and make a public announcement on the after care clinic that was discussed a year ago in November for St. Ignace.

Many members outside the service area receive services at the St. Ignace clinic and it is the clinic closest for them to travel. I am personally tired of waiting, let's roll out the plan!

I hope the board will decide to add another day to our schedule to start getting things accomplished. We seem to instead to be adding more items to Tuesdays so not even our agenda items get discussed or ready for action.

Our policy review group that has been reviewing Human Resource policies for one year now, probably got three to four policies passed out of a dozen last year because we keep kicking them off the agenda for other items. The chair has now proposed the Great Lakes Fishing Committee to change their monthly meetings to Tuesdays instead of the third Monday of the month.

One thing myself and a few other board members have asked to take time to do strategic planning. That should be a priority to set the tribe in the right direction and a place for accountability. The budgeting process for 2017 will begin in a few months and we will have again failed to establish priority budgeting with the biggest bang for our buck.

There have been some social media posts and announcements at elder functions about taking \$2.5 million out of contract support costs to put in the land claims fund to increase elder's checks to \$1,000 by the chair. I have some concerns with this because to my knowledge we have not received the \$4.5 million projected settlement, I thought these dollars were restricted to health and brings back memories of prior year bid wars used for campaign purposes.

The board had planned on meeting with our downstate casino developers on Dec. 29 in Lansing and at the last minute it could not be worked out. We had planned to hold one of the two 2015 membership meetings during that same time frame. Unfortunately, the weather was terrible all over the state, I and 10 of the other board members couldn't make it. I do apologize to those members with whom I did not get to visit. The date choice was bad planning since

many developers and members probably had holiday plans. Some of our team members were scheduled to come down, such as Enrollment and Entertainment to record the exchange. I don't think it is fair to request this of staff during the holiday week especially when enrollment has three staff members total working out of that office and Russ is the only person who records.

Anyone wanting to renew, replace their tribal card or register to vote and wanted to do this at the meeting, can call Enrollment and they will mail the information to you. Their phone number is (800) 251-6597 and other information is available on saulttribe.com.

Anyone interested in getting out of the house to watch hockey while raising money for cancer? Please attend the Pink in the Rink game at the Little Bear East Arena on Saturday, Jan. 23 at 6:30 p.m. The St. Ignace Midget BB team will be taking on the Sault Midget BB. Admission is \$1 and there will also be a bake sale, 50/50, and "chuck a puck" to kick off the Mackinac County Relay for Life for 2016 fundraising.

If you are a college student enrolled in the medical field please contact our Education Department at (906) 635-6050 and give them your information. We are always looking for ways to recruit professionals to fill these vital positions. Since we live in such a rural area it is sometimes hard to find professionals, especially young graduates, to locate here. Many of our own members were born and raised here and may want to return from college to work for their own tribe and raise their family in God's country. This is a benefit for all of us.

I want to personally thank Dawn Lazor for numerous hours on our Christmas party and Trish Bunker for always coming through for us! I wish I had a list of each and everyone one of you that contributed. We couldn't have pulled it all off so perfectly without all of your hard work!

Thank you for all your calls, texts, messages, and emails. I can be reached at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com, (906) 430-0536 and office visits by appointment.

Please keep longtime team member and previous board member Shirley Goudreau in your prayers.

Be more proactive



**KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

I hope everyone had a great holiday season and is doing well. The tribe is off to a good start in many ways and we are hoping this new year will be a more stable and even keel on the government side.

On our casino side, things are very much up in the air. We are moving at an extremely slow pace on our downstate expansion efforts, and the tribe in Petoskey has broken ground on their casino in Mackinaw City the middle of January. This small casino will have a dramatic effect on our St. Ignace casino and we have to be prepared to forecast for lower revenue when it opens. This in

turn will affect the amount of revenue that will flow over to the government side. We know with proper planning we can mitigate the impact but we are aware that it may impact services and possibly jobs.

The board and Human Resources have been working on many policies for our workforce. They range from General Conduct Policy to Emergency Conditions Policy. We have nine right now that we are working on that are in the final stages and will be coming for a vote soon. When these are put into place, the employees will be informed and trained on the changes and clarifications.

As you can see, the tribe has many small and large challenges it faces every day. The board is typically well informed about most of these challenges but sometimes like most governments takes too long to act. It is time to start to face these events with more of a unified front and make quicker decisions. That is the new year's resolution I place in front of the board. Let's not be reactive but more proactive. Thank you again for all the e-mails and phone calls.

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

Christmas party big success



**RITA GLYPTIS
DIRECTOR, UNIT V**

Happy new year! Thank you to all the volunteers who made the Munising kids' Christmas party a great time for all. Watching the kids with Santa brings a sparkle to everyone's eyes.

Thank you to the YEA kids (they are a lot of fun), Unit V elders for decorating and helping at the party, Munising Health Center staff, Christmas Kewadin and all who shared their time and Christmas spirit.

Working together with such giving and caring people is heartwarming to say the least. A special thank you to Tina, our secret

shopper, for spending many hours and for doing an awesome job!

Dec. 19 was the Marquette kids' Christmas party at Northern Michigan University. (See color photos on page 13!) Thank you to the Marquette Elder Committee, Chairman Joe Gray

and their families for putting together another successful event. Bringing all generations together to share in the spirit of the season. Wishing you all a happy and healthy 2016!

Sincerely,
Rita Glyptis
(906) 202-3224



Photo by Anita Nelson

Causley reviews and explains the major issues



**LANA CAUSLEY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

Winter is finally here and I'm glad it's half over. I like the start of winter as everything gets a small rest, but then I'm excited about spring and all the new beginnings.

Like last report, I waited until the deadline to write it, so many things transpire and I put a lot of thought into what to write about and what to leave alone. I have tried not to use this opportunity to rant and rave but that's difficult when things are frustrating. Just because I do not write about certain items doesn't mean they are not on my radar or are very important, sometimes it's easier to get through them silently and sometimes when untruths are told, it's best to leave it alone as it won't matter later. Calling names, bullying and attacking in

my report is not something I am willing to do. I will try to hit on the items that are important at this time and solutions to get through them.

Recently, we finally came up with structure to increase wages for our team members. Last budget year we set aside \$500,000 for an increase but the amount was not enough to cover the structures talked about to include all employees. We have come to the agreement to increase all team members by 3 percent this year and the following years we have a structure in place to give the CPI (Consumer Price Index) to team members, whichever that is per the labor levels. I supported this, as I truly believe all team members are well worth it, but to also give incentive to stay and dedicate their talents to the programs and businesses. I hope that is what it will do. In total, the increase for all our staff (excluding the Housing Department as that is all NAHSDA funds and they did receive the raise as well) and including the Home raises to all professional medical staff, the total for increases was \$1,684,139. Our total wage and salaries for our tribe now is estimated at over \$53 million a year. This speaks to the services, businesses, programs, legal and governmental structures that we have in place. When decisions are made they need to be handled very seriously

and thought out. I'm very grateful for the team members who go to work everyday and place dedication and commitment to our nation, that's not said enough and just know that there are those who do recognize commitment to our tribe and the people.

We also recently approved the fisherman subsidy of \$50,000. As explained in the last report, we were discussing the structure and how to handle the pay out process. In the end, the administration along with ACFS came up with an application to assist helpers, co-captains and captains with a subsidy due to CORA closing Lake Michigan to effort during the month of December. As stated throughout, I was concerned on the plan, payout and set up but I did concede and let the administration handle the structure. We paid approximately \$50,000 out to fisherman in need and I can only hope all had a fair, honest structure to apply for. Many calls and concerns had been voiced but I was in the minority on the set up and plan for anything different. In the past few months, I did bring forward a resolution to actively request for proposals (RFP) for legal expertise and representation for our upcoming 2020 treaty fishing negotiations. The RFP has been approved by the board and awaiting the cost for publication to advertise. On a positive note, all the above did force our

board to set up monthly meetings with our fishermen, committee, staff, legal and board to commit to the time to address serious issues within our industry. I did confirm that all fishermen would be receiving a notice in the mail on the dates, times and locations. Hope to see all there.

I want to quickly report on our coming gaming compact negotiations as well. Tribes met to review the state's proposal and simply didn't agree or have a formal position on it. The tribes jointly did respond with a counter to begin serious discussions. The chairman is the seat at the table for this process and we will have to decide as a tribe what we will expect out of this compact. At this point, we are awaiting the state's remarks back. Hopefully we will have clear, solid expectations brought together for our position on the compact issues. I'm awaiting leadership and discussion on this from an administration standpoint and I have much input to discuss.

Our application is still under review for both Lansing and the new Boston projects, as many are aware there is a new appointment at the level of decision which makes it frustrating for us, once again, with that in place we will now have ongoing discussions with Larry Roberts as the interim assistant secretary who has taken the place of Kevin Washburn at

the BIA level. It's frustrating, but we were so confident with the last position holder. I'm saddened that we didn't get anywhere with the trust status this far and hopefully our land will come into trust sooner than later. I will keep you posted on this as any news comes forward to us.

Our casino operation continues to maintain what we expected per the gaming industry and what we have experienced in the decline of revenue for the past 10 years. As all of you are aware, in the past year we have hired a temporary CEO to assist us in scaling back waste, non-essential comp, free items, business strategic plans and moving forward. We are in the process of reviewing the 2016 budgets for the casinos now and we have also been provided with all general managers plans and budgets. I will report on this next month.

Our Tribal Action Plan project is a priority and has been for me. We have been noticed that we contracted with an individual to begin the draft of the plan. I'm awaiting the next meeting to see where we are at and will report up to date on that as well.

In closing, I will like to remind you that I'm always available to meet face-to-face or by phone. Please contact me anytime for us to meet: (906) 484-2954, (906) 322-3818, and lcausley@sault-tribe.net. Baamaapii.

Many good things happening within the tribe



**CATHY ABRAMSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope that your holidays were filled with joy and love. Here's to a new year full of agreeable changes that will be most beneficial to our tribal members.

By now, most of you are aware that the Sault health clinic now has a tribal urgent care walk-in clinic. This service to our people has been in the plans for a while now. It has been received very well and is providing the much needed access to healthcare. Our staff has worked extremely hard

to make this happen! It's not easy making changes but it benefits our members and I would like to take this time to let our staff know how much they are appreciated and supported. Please give them some words of encouragement when you get the chance.

I'm excited that our Health Division has received yet another grant renewal. All tribes had to reapply and compete for the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. Our tribe received 100 percent of their award funding plus a nine percent increase. We won't have to apply for another five years! That just doesn't happen with federal funding! Lisa Myers and Jenni O'Dell worked hard on this grant and included the input from interested board members. I believe that you will be pleased with the outcome. Congratulations!

In the area of education, we will soon be hiring an education director and a project specialist that will definitely strengthen our commitment to education, both cultural and academic. Nicole Causley and Anne Suggitt successfully wrote the grant that

will give us the funding to do so. There is new additional federal funding available and I sincerely believe our tribe will benefit greatly in receiving this funding.

On a national level, congratulations to Sam Gardner for being appointed to the Headstart National Advisory Committee.

On another education note, I am pleased to announce that Michael McKerchie was appointed to the JKL Bahweting Charter School Board. Congratulations, Michael! For years, our tribe and the charter school board had a lot of miscommunication, which resulted in a nasty division on important issues. Since Michael has been on board, we are seeing a much better cooperation and collaboration with "our" school. Positive leadership does make a difference. I just took a tour of the new gymnasium and music room that is being built. Progress is being made! Our students will benefit greatly because of the commitment and collaboration of our tribe and charter school board.

Our future in education is looking great! Chairperson

Payment has developed strong working relationships with the BIE at the national level so they are aware of our issues and concerns. While some may not think that it's important to build government-to-government relationships with our legislators, the president and his cabinet members, I know that it is essential to continuously educate them about their trust responsibility to our people.

I attended our New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow and had a great time! After all these years, our people were recognized and honored for their years of sobriety. There were many people who came into the circle and you could see the pride in how they stood and how they smiled. Chi miigwech to Lane and Julie Barber of our Behavioral Health Program for helping make this sobriety powwow what is was meant to be!

I would like to take this time to thank our staff for all the hard work and double and triple time that you put into your jobs. Many of you are here to serve our tribal members to the best of our abil-

ity. Many of you know why you work for our tribe and it gives me great pleasure to know that our next generation will continue to care for our people's needs as was promised to our ancestors and elders.

I believe our future is bright! We have young people who were raised to know who they are and where they come from. They know what their responsibility is to our people. This is the type of leadership that we must continue to foster and support. That's what I have been trying to do all along. I'm on the cusp of becoming an elder. It makes me feel good to know that we have young people coming up who will continue the hard work that needs to be done so that we may care for our people. Keep up the hard work, Michael McKerchie, Nicole Causley, Jenni O'Dell, Liz Carr, Luci DeVoy, Charlene Brissette, Sam Gardner and Rob McRorie to name a few. Your tribe needs you!

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

Board held special meeting in the Sault on Dec. 21

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors convened a special meeting on Dec. 21, 2015, all were present except Cathy Abramson and Darcy Morrow.

Two resolutions were on the agenda for the board's approval, with one passing unanimously and the other passing with a majority vote.

Resolution 2015-265:

Amending Letter of Credit Expiration Date Limited Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Consent to Waiver of Tribal Court Jurisdiction Credit Agreement with PNC Bank, National Association Authorization to Enter Into Agreements – The board agreed to waive the tribe's sovereign immunity and a waiver

of tribal court jurisdiction in order to amend the expiration date on a letter of credit for the Sault Tribe Self-funded Unemployment Program and authorize further extensions without additional action of the board, for subsequent two year terms.

Resolution 2015-266: Tribal Operations and Land Claims

FY 2015 Budget Modifications – Budget modifications for the FY 2015 budget were approved for Tribal Operations and Land Claims for the transfer of \$1,831,100 from Tribal Operations to Land Claims.

To see approved resolutions and board of director's roll call, visit www.saulttribe.com.

Sault Tribe Administrative

Offices: (906) 635-6050.

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