



Win Awenen Nisitotung

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Flower Moon
Waaskoone Giizis



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

Toulouse named Outstanding Native Graduate

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

An award ceremony and beautifully prepared meal were held April 19 at Lake Superior State University's Native American Center to honor this year's outstanding graduating Native American student, Chris Toulouse.

His first three years of higher education were spent attending Bay Mills Community College where he earned an associates degree in business administration. He then transferred to Lake Superior State University and after three years of study is graduating this semester with a Bachelor's degree in marketing, and a minor in math.

His wife Lorena is the one who originally encouraged him to go to school. "I never thought I could do it," he said. "I had very low self-esteem when it

came to academics. Throughout this journey I have learned a lot about myself and gained a lot of confidence. I grew – and we grew together."

The couple has three children – Sierra, Brandon and Tristan and one grandchild.

Toulouse said he has several different opportunities that have been proposed to him, including real estate, teaching at BMCC and marketing for local businesses.

"It's always good to have a support group, including family members and other students because they can give you inspiration; and don't ever quit!" he said.

Lorena Toulouse, said, "Its been a long journey, but we have learned a lot about each other and our family and how strong it is."



Photo by Brenda Austin

Above left, LSSU Outstanding Native Graduate Chris Toulouse and his wife, Lorena. Above right, Toulouse receives his plaque from Native Programs Director Stephanie Sabatine on April 19 at the Native Center.

Courthouse Charlie eases client and staff tensions

YOUNG BLACK LAB PUPPY "WORKS" AT TRIBAL COURT FIVE DAYS A WEEK

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Courthouse Charlie, as he is now fondly known, is a young black Labrador retriever that was purchased from a breeder in February for the 14-year-old son of Chippewa Tribal Court Administrator / Magistrate Traci Swan.

"We felt it was a perfect time for our son (Jack) to take care of and raise a puppy," Swan said. However, our busy work, school and sports schedules wouldn't allow us to take care of a dog responsibly. So, I approached Judge Fabry and the rest of the court staff about the possibility of all of us training him on site to be 'Courthouse

Charlie' – and that answer was a big yes."

Charlie goes to work five days a week with Swan and all staff lend a hand to take him to where he needs to be. Charlie attends meetings between departments and sits through staffing's (when a team meets and discusses particular cases.). He will be sitting with clients (defendants, plaintiffs, victims, children) and staff in the courtroom when he turns 6 months old soon. Swan said the puppy stage is going great and that he has a great demeanor and loves everybody.

"Charlie's presence has created a calmer atmosphere in the court – we have attorneys who simply

greet Charlie and take a knee to play with him," she said. "Charlie appears to ease any tension amongst clients, or the attorneys who are arguing for their clients respectively. We've welcomed many smiles in the court like never before."

Swan said one of the law enforcement officers, Levi Cron, greeted Charlie one day and said to her, "After the day I had, I really needed this."

She added, "Charlie helps daily in all aspects. He's lovable, smart and brings happiness to the judicial system."

Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry said, "We were all looking forward to having a dog around, but I never could have imagined the benefits Charlie brings to the court. A court can sometimes be a stressful place to work, and self-care for employees and the ability to de-compress is so important. Charlie has had such wonderful effect on all of us who work here. Having a lab puppy bounding down the hallway toward you with joy and greet you with puppy kisses is a great stress reliever! In addition, in the few short months he's been here, I've already witnessed the calming effect he's had on several children who have been in the courthouse. Based on what I've seen so far, Charlie is going to have a great impact on the tribal court environment."



Meet Courthouse Charlie, who brings brings comfort to all at Sault Tribe's Tribal Court, with (L-R) his owner, Court Administrator and Magistrate Traci Swan and Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry.

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Call (906) 632-6398 or email slucas@saulttribe.net.

Don't miss out 'cause you moved . . . inform some folks

Doesn't matter if you move next door or across the country, if you move from your residence to a new address without notifying the Tribal Tax Office and the tribe's Enrollment Department, you lose important benefits, such as possible tax benefits, tribal election ballots, elders' dividends, important notices sent by mail and newspaper delivery.

State Tribal Tax Agreement Resident Tribal Member (RTM) Status

Sault powwow coming July 7-9

The 36th annual Sault Tribe Jingtamok is slated for July 7-9, 2017 at the tribe's powwow grounds off Shunk Road in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Public is invited.

Host drum is Young Kingbird of Red Lake, Mich. Co-host drum, Woodland Singers of Baraga, Mich. Head veteran represented by the KBIC Veterans Honor Guard, head male dancer is Shane Mitchell of Lac Du Flambeau, Wisc., head female dancer is Michelle Reed of Lac Du Flambeau, co-emcees are Joe Medicine of Harbor Springs, Mich., and Joey Awonohopay of Lac Du Flambeau, director is Darrel Kingbird of Red Lake.

A spiritual gathering assembles on Thursday, July 6, 2017, beginning at sunrise.

On Friday, July 7, the powwow kicks off with a kids' carnival 4-6 p.m., then grand entry at 7 p.m.

On Saturday, July 8, the day starts off with an art show from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the powwow grounds. Drum and dance registration is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Grand entry at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. with a feast at 5 p.m. A hand drum contest at 6 p.m. and winners announced at 8 p.m.

On Sunday, July 9, the last grand entry is at 1 p.m.

For more information visit www.saulttribe.com or find our event on Facebook.

For general information, drums, dancers and the spiritual gathering, contact Powwow Chairwoman Jackie Minton at

Open Gym!

Youth open gym started on April 24 and runs through this coming June 9 at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center basketball court in Sault Ste. Marie.

Open gym days are Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 3 to 5:30 p.m. FREE for community youth of all ages. Organized activities from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Programs provided by Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities, Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center and Sault Tribe Community Health.

No registration required, drop in basis. Bring a friend and join the fun!

For more information, call 635-7465 or 253-1321.

No open gym on May 19 and May 29.

A resident tribal member (RTM) is the term used for a tribal member whose principal place of residence is in an tax agreement area. The term RTM is not based upon members being enrolled members of the tribe, it is merely to designate between members living in the agreement areas and members who do not live in agreement areas.

The procedure for tribal members to receive their RTM status

is only through the submission (to the Tribal Tax Office) of an address verification card along with the required supporting documentation verifying their address is within the boundaries of the agreement areas. It is the responsibility of the members to submit this information to the Tribal Tax Office.

A member living in an agreement area is **not automatically registered**. Though a member may have lived in the agreement area prior to registering with the Tribal Tax Office, their RTM status will not begin until the Michigan Department of Treasury has been notified that the member has proven through documentation their principal place of residence is within the boundaries of the tax agreement areas. The Michigan Department of Treasury will then recognize their RTM status (exempt from state income and sales tax) on the first of the following month.

Once a member is registered and given RTM status, it is imperative that any changes to

the member's address is reported to the Tribal Tax Office. Per Tribal Code 43: Tribal Tax Code Section 43.1103,

Resident tribal members shall notify the Tribal Tax Office in writing prior to moving their principal place of residence.

— Tribal members must fill out an "Address Verification Card," and provide two proofs of the address stated on the card. A valid Michigan driver's license or Michigan state identification card must be one of the proofs of address. The address on the identification card must have member's current address. The Tribal Tax Office will not process/register members without an identification card.

— Tribal members who are minors. If the minor has a Michigan driver's license or Michigan state identification card, a copy must accompany the "Address Verification Card." If they do not have state identification cards, then two

utility bills with their parent's name and address (matching the minors stated address) are required. The Tribal Tax Office will not process/register without this information.

— Tribal member parents are responsible to request their minor children (under 14 years of age) be registered for sales tax exemptions on motor fuel purchases. This does not require proof of address if only for motor fuel purchases.

For all Tribal Tax Office business, call Candace Blocher at 635-6050 or toll free at (800) 793-0660 and ask for ext. 26310. Members may also send email to her via cblocher@saulttribe.net.

Also be sure to call the tribe's Enrollment Department to ensure your address is current in order to continue receiving important official tribal notices, election ballots, elders' dividends, newspapers sent via the U.S. mail.

Call the Enrollment Department at 632-8552 or toll free at (800) 251-6597.

(906) 203-4977. For vendor information call Sam Gardner, (906) 203-2680

No dogs on powwow grounds, no outside raffles. Electricity is limited. Vendors are encouraged to use generators if they have them. Generators must be baffled! Absolutely no drugs, alcohol or politics.

Fresh Baby Food Cooking Classes

**Thursday, June 1
10am - 12pm**

Big Bear Training Kitchen

Come join the Sault Tribe Registered Dieticians for a hands on cooking class on how to make your own baby food!

Participants will receive a "So Easy Baby Food" kit to take home with them!

To Register, Call 635-5210

Sponsored by the Sault Tribe Community Health Diabetes grant.

St. Ignace elders housing complex update

Red Lightning Woman Elder Complex to be completed May 2018

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The 5-acre Red Lightning Woman Elder Complex located in St. Ignace — named in honor of late Sault Tribe Housing Commissioner Shirley Goudreau — is now under construction.

The site of the new building is where the original St. Ignace casino used to sit, according to Housing Executive Director Joni Talentino. She said Housing acquired the property by paying to demolish the old casino and paid the tribe \$50,000 for the property. Construction of the complex can be viewed from the St. Ignace Midjim parking lot, and is located between the casino and the Midjim.

Phase 1 of the construction began last fall with the installation of water and sewer infrastructure, all utilities and the foundation, and was contracted out to a local tribal member owned company. Construction of the building began April 3.

The Housing Department is acting as its own general contractor on the build, only using sub contractors for the commercial kitchen, electrical, plumbing, mechanical and paving work. Operations Manager Veronica Beaumont said most of the work is being kept in-house with their Force Account crew.

“Even though this project is residential it is considered commercial, and our Force Account crew has never done commercial before,” she said. “It’s a pilot project with extraordinary built-in energy efficiencies and we have gone green as much as possible. Our Force Account crew is exceptional — the majority of the carpenters have 20 to 30 years of experience across the board.”

Beaumont said the crew consists of 14 top-notch carpenters and laborers that are all tribal members from Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Manistique and Cheboygan.

The Force Account crew was recalled and hired the last week in March and attended safety training through the tribal training department before relocating and setting up job trailers on the St. Ignace build site.

Beaumont said, “We had two trainers from the company we purchased SIPS panels from on site on April 11 that trained our crew how to install them, and they told us that for having had no experience with SIPS panels they installed the most they have ever seen a crew do in a day. So our crew picked it up very quickly.”

ST. IGNACE ELDER COMPLEX FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS —

Q: How big are apartments?

A: 2 bedroom, 1 bath, about 960 sq. ft.

Q: Are all units handicapped accessible?

A: There is only one unit that is fully ADA accessible. The bathrooms in all of the units have showers, grab bars, raised toilets and vanities that are handicap accessible. Kitchens are not, but



The 5-acre Red Lightning Woman Elder Complex located in St. Ignace — named in honor of late Sault Tribe Housing Commissioner Shirley Goudreau — is now under construction.



The Force Account construction crew that is working on the elder complex. The 14 crew members (one is missing from photo) are all tribal members from the Sault, St. Ignace, Manistique and Cheboygan.

SIPS panels, or structural insulated panels, are a high performance building system for residential and light commercial construction. The panels have an insulating foam core between two structural facings, and are manufactured under factory-controlled conditions. The result is a building system that is very strong, energy efficient and cost effective. Building with SIPS costs about the same as building with wood frame construction when labor savings from a shorter construction time is taken into consideration.

are being built so adjustments to the cabinets can be made if necessary. Public bathrooms will be handicap accessible. Doors in every unit are three feet wide, which is handicap accessible.

Q: Are there garages or sheds?

A: No garages. Each unit has its own small patio and storage area in the back.

SIPs also share the same structural properties as an I-beam or I-column. They combine several components of conventional building, such as studs and joists, insulation, vapor barrier and air barrier and can be used for exterior walls, roofs, floors and foundation systems.

“SIPS are a better insulator for heating and cooling,” Beaumont said, “Each apartment will have an individual heating and cooling unit. The SIPS panels will reduce utility costs tremendously. This is new, we are piloting this — it’s not something that has been used

Q: How many parking spaces are going to be available?

A: There are over 45 parking spaces that will be in the parking lot and available to the residents and guests.

Q: How are the units heated? Do they have air conditioning?

A: The units are heated individually. Residents have control of their own climate and it is heated

in our tribe before.”

The 20-unit complex has a Mackinac Trail address and will offer independent elders (age 60-plus) two-bedroom 960-square foot apartments. The 25,000 square-foot complex will have a large open community space and on each side of that will be a wing with 10 apartments.

The dining room will be located within the community space and will seat 60. The commercial grade USDA certified kitchen will be the center of activity at least three days a week when tribal elders from the local community

by natural gas. There will be air conditioning and it will be controlled by personal preference in each unit.

Q: How is rent determined?

A: That is yet to be formalized.

Q: What will residents have to pay in addition to rent?

A: Individual utilities such as water, sewer, electric, gas, tele-

gather there for their noon meal. Talentino said they have been working with the Elder Services Director to make that happen. The common space will also have open rooms to host gatherings, activities or crafts and cribbage nights.

The USDA certified kitchen will be available for rent during certain days and hours.

The five-acre parcel the complex inhabits will offer community garden space, a traditional food program, and fitness areas and walking paths around the building. Rain gardens will be established and natural features of the land will be used for water run off and retention.

Beaumont said the apartment complex does not provide any onsite eldercare type services. “This is strictly an apartment complex for elders who are completely independent and who can come and go as they please. It is not a convalescent or assisted living home. There will be one apartment that is 100 percent handicapped accessible; that is what we are required by federal law to have,” she said.

The apartments do not offer carports or garages and all utilities will be on individual meters. The Housing Authority will do winter maintenance, including snow plowing.

The entire complex is smoke free. Housing is currently accepting applications for a summer 2018 move in date. In order to qualify to reside in one of the new elder units, you must be Native American, have completed a background check, and meet NAHASDA income and asset requirements.

Only tribal elders are allowed to reside within the apartment complex. Talentino said, “We are trying to keep this an elder’s complex because that is what the elders asked for during our community planning meetings.”

“This is the largest housing complex that the Housing Authority has ever undertaken,” Beaumont said. “I am very confident in our team implementing the plans they put together for this project. We are all very excited.

“Our team inside of housing that has worked on this project either by person or by position since day one is our director, Joni Talentino, our assistant director, Mariea Mongene, Project Specialist Annie Theibert, Field Superintendent Tony McKerchie and Procurement Asset Agent Ryan Madigan and myself have been the core team through the whole process. I don’t think with any of us missing from that group that we could do it,” said Beaumont.

phone land line and cable television. Residents will know what costs they will be responsible for before they move in.

Q: Will each unit have a washer/dryer?

A: Each unit will be equipped with a hook-up for a stackable washer/dryer. There will be a public coin-operated laundry room in the facility as well.

CFO Bill Connolly bids tribe a fond farewell

By RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe Chief Financial Officer Bill Connolly announced his retirement last month after nearly 25 years of dedicated service to the tribe. Sault Tribe Executive Director Christine McPherson remarked, "Bill will be missed greatly for his friendship, sense of humor but mostly for his dedication to his work for the betterment of the tribe."

Connolly earned a Bachelor of Arts in history at Wayne State University before moving on to graduate magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Science in accounting at Lake Superior State University.

"It was indeed 23.5 years ago that I came through the hallowed halls of the USDA Building on Mackinac Trail, not sure what to expect in my new role as assistant comptroller," said Connolly.

"Had I known then what a great place the Sault Tribe was to work, I would have had no fears. I am proud and honored to have worked here for these 23 years."

Once on board with the tribe, Connolly worked his way up to become the tribe's chief financial officer in 2012.

As the chief financial officer, Connolly was charged with organizing and directing the non-gaming financial activities of the tribe. The CFO also oversees the tribe's Facilities Management Department and non-gaming enterprises.

According to his resume, his primary responsibilities as chief financial officer included budgetary monitoring, accounting, reporting for all the tribe's governmental, internal services and enterprise funds. Much of his time was spent poring over financial statement analyses of the tribe's governmental programs and non-gaming gaming businesses and working with managers and administration officials during monthly statement reviews and meetings to improve profitability.

Connolly successfully initiated the accounting functions in the starting phase for a number of the tribe's entities, which include



Photo by Rick Smith

Bill Connolly receives one of many hugs and handshakes at a farewell reception for him in Sault Ste. Marie on April 22.

a charter school, managed care, medical practices, recreational facilities, property management, hospitality, manufacturing and insurance, along with many other duties.

"I have also been closely involved in the review of new business opportunities, evaluation and due-diligence if acquired, and their implementation into the tribal enterprise environment," Connolly noted. "I have also been involved in many major projects, such as the Detroit casino, bond issues and debt refinancing, process re-engineering, performance measurement, working closely with governmental agencies, financial institutions and the tribe's board of directors."

He went on to observe, "One of the main things I will take with me when I leave is that, despite the large number of team members, everyone is treated like a family member. If someone needs something, the rest of the folks step up to the plate and do what needs to be done; same is true for any tribal member who has a need. That is what my job was and that of those I work with to serve the needs of team

members and tribal members and I am very proud of that."

While helping the tribe as a business concern was the main part of his job, Connolly hinted the best part was the people with whom he worked, "It isn't just the business side, but the fun and laughter we have had – to say nothing of the long nights driving across the U.P. with the rest of the "fab five." Other road trips that went downstate and out of state are ones that created lasting memories!"

He reflected on his departure and the bonds formed during his years, "If my legacy to you was time spent to see the organization build itself up, your legacy to me is one of comradeship, faith in teamwork and an abiding passion for service. I want to especially thank those that I have worked most closely with, the crew down in the accounting, accounts payable and payroll departments. I want to thank the crew from facilities and the other areas that I supervised over the years as well. It is truly you all that made my job easy and a job I really wanted to come to each day and I wouldn't trade my experiences for anything. It's

a bittersweet feeling to leave a place that has been part of your life all these years but I am really excited about my next phase in life – golf, gardening, travel and visiting my children and grandchildren."

Many folks joined Connolly in celebrating his retirement at a farewell reception in his honor on the sunny afternoon of April 22 at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Phone and Internet Discounts Available to CenturyLink Customers

CenturyLink participates in a government benefit program (Lifeline) to make residential telephone or broadband service more affordable to eligible low-income individuals and families. Eligible customers are those that meet eligibility standards as defined by the FCC and state commissions. Residents who live on federally recognized Tribal Lands may qualify for additional Tribal benefits if they participate in certain additional federal eligibility programs. The Lifeline discount is available for only one telephone or broadband service per household, which can be on either a wireline or wireless service. Broadband speeds must be 10 MBPS download and 1 Mbps upload or faster to qualify.

Lifeline discounts include a transfer restriction (port freeze). This means that you are unable to obtain the Lifeline discount on service with another provider for a period of time. The length of time depends on the services you purchase – 60 days for voice telephone service, 12 months for qualifying broadband service. Certain exceptions to the transfer restrictions may apply. See <http://www.lifelinesupport.org/ls/change-my-company.aspx> for more information.

A household is defined for the purposes of the Lifeline program as any individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline service is not transferable, and only eligible consumers may enroll in the program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain Lifeline telephone service can be punished by fine or imprisonment and can be barred from the program.

Lifeline eligible subscribers may also qualify for reliable home high-speed Internet service up to 1.5Mbps for \$9.95* per month for the first 12 months of service. Please call 1-800-257-3212 or visit centurylink.com/internetbasics for more information.

If you live in a CenturyLink service area, please call 1-855-954-6546 or visit centurylink.com/lifeline with questions or to request an application for the Lifeline program.

***CenturyLink Internet Basics Program** – Residential customers only who qualify based on meeting income level or program participation eligibility requirements, and requires remaining eligible for the entire offer period. First bill will include charges for the first full month of service billed in advance, prorated charges for service from the date of installation to bill date, and one-time charges and fees described above. Qualifying customers may keep this program for a maximum of 60 months after service activation provided customer still qualifies during that time. Listed High-Speed Internet rate of \$9.95/mo. applies for first 12 months of service (after which the rate reverts to \$14.95/mo. for the next 48 months of service), and requires a 12-month term agreement. Customer must either lease a modem/router from CenturyLink for an additional monthly charge or independently purchase a modem/router, and a one-time High-Speed Internet activation fee applies. A one-time professional installation charge (if selected by customer) and a one-time shipping and handling fee applies to customer's modem/router. **General** – Services not available everywhere. Have not have subscribed to CenturyLink Internet service within the last 90 days and are not a current CenturyLink customer. CenturyLink may change or cancel services or substitute similar services at its sole discretion without notice. Offer, plans, and stated rates are subject to change and may vary by service area. Deposit may be required. Additional restrictions apply. **Terms and Conditions** – All products and services listed are governed by tariffs, terms of service, or terms and conditions posted at centurylink.com. **Taxes, Fees, and Surcharges** – Applicable taxes, fees, and surcharges include a carrier Universal Service charge, carrier cost recovery surcharges, state and local fees that vary by area and certain in-state surcharges. Cost recovery fees are not taxes or government-required charges for use. Taxes, fees, and surcharges apply based on standard monthly, not promotional, rates. © 2016 CenturyLink. All Rights Reserved.



See Win Awenen Nisitotung archival photos on Facebook

By BRENDA AUSTIN

There is a new group in town. If you like to look at old pictures from the '70s and up to present day, you may want to do a search for the public group called *Photos from Sault Tribe News archives* on Facebook the next time you are online.

The site features Sault Tribe members, staff, buildings and events from around the tribe's seven-county service area – but mainly in Sault Ste. Marie.

The Sault Tribe newspaper, *Win Awenen Nisitotung*, has been around for the past 38 years and during that time reporters and photographers have taken a lot of pictures of Sault Tribe people and events. Often only one or two photos are used per article, with the remainder being stored in newspaper archives, unseen and unused. In an effort to preserve those old



Sample photo from Facebook/Photos from Sault Tribe News archives.

images, negatives and slides are being scanned in and shared with members of the Facebook group.

The group has over 800 members, and is growing daily.

The group is public, but until you become a member of it you won't be able to comment or tag people in the photos.

The site is used for the photos only, and does not accept other announcements or posts.

Members of the group can comment on and tag people in the pictures, but any other postings have to first be approved by the site administrators.

The site can be accessed by going to: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1280116322024767/> or by doing a search on Facebook for *Photos from Sault Tribe News archives*.

See more photos on page 24.

ST. PETER MONUMENTS

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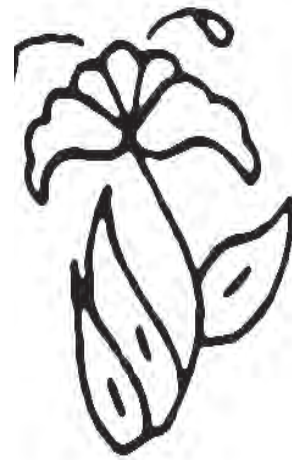
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Anishinaabemowin 2017

Waaskoone Giizis
Flower Moon



You can listen to music from only one speaker, or you can listen in stereo.
It's the same with languages. Choose how much of the good stuff you want.

Weather Comments of the Month

Mino giizhigat! It's a nice day!
Mizhagwat. The sky is clear.

Health Comments of the Month

G'baamase na wii mishkooziyin?
Are you walking so you will be strong?

Ka mino yaa gwa miinwaa.
You will get better again.

Mazinibiigedaa! Tisigedaa!

Let's draw! Let's color!

G'bishigendaan na mazinibiigeyin?
Do **you** like to draw?

G'bishigendaan na tisigeyin?
Do **you** like to color?

Enh! N'bishigendaan mazinibiigeyaanh!
Yes! I like to draw!

Enh! N'bishigendaan tisigeyaanh!
Yes! I like to color!

Zhibiiganaatik **naadin**.
Go **get** a writing tool.

Tisigaanhsak **naanaak**.
Go **get** crayons.

Nahaaw! Maajtaadaa!
OK! Let's start!

Wegenesh maanda enaandek?
What color is this?



Zaagkijigan	Plant
Waaskoone	Flower
Waaskoone'an	Flowers
Niibiishan	Leaves
Zhashki	Soil
Mazinibii'an	Draw it
Tisan	Color it
Miinwaa	And

Pronunciation Guide

Let's just stick with these basics: Letters sound like they do in reading English, except for these ones:

a sounds like U in cup	i sounds like I in fit
aa sounds like A in fall	ii sounds like EE in feed
o sounds like OO in book	e sounds like E in fed
oo sounds like O in grow	g sounds only like g in go

nh has no sound at all; it is only a SIGN that the vowel in front of it is said in a nasal way.

English has a lot of strange spellings. Our system of writing is easier. We pronounce all the letters shown, even if we say some of them pretty fast and some are pretty quiet.

Enaandek

Waabshkaa
Zaawaa
Miskwaa
Makadewaa
Zhaawshkwaa
Miinaande

Colors

White
Yellow
Red
Black
Green
Blue

Enaandek

Giniwaande
Zaawmingaande
Kiiyaande
Waabaande
Zhoominaande

Colors

Pink
Orange
Brown
Gray
Purple

It must be said: These words for colors describe things that are not living. They would have **different endings** if we were talking about living things. Remember from last month, it's a big deal if a thing is considered alive or not? Don't be discouraged by this. Enjoy it all. And a big surprise: "flower" and "plant" are not considered alive! Whoa!

Use the words in this lesson to read and follow these directions. YOU CAN DO IT, all you puzzle wizards and language learners out there!

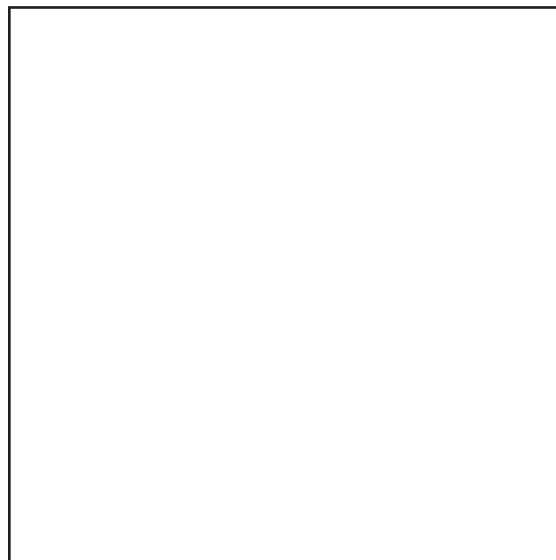
1. Mazinibii'an bezhik waaskoone.
Tisigen miskwaa.



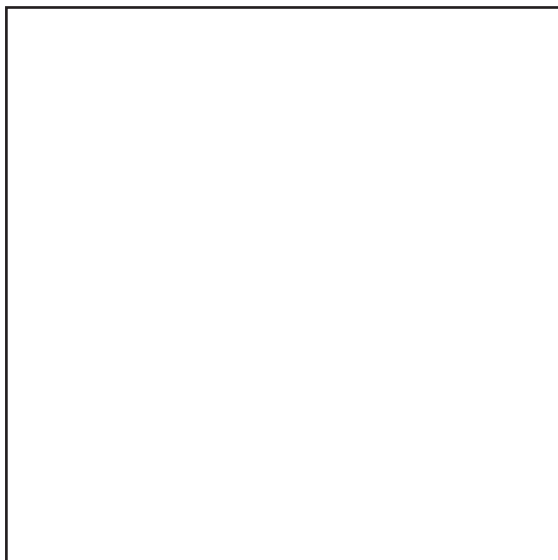
2. Mazinibii'an nswe waaskoone'an.
Tisigen bezhik zaawmingaande,
bezhik miskwaa, miinwaa bezhik
zhoominaande.



3. Mazinibii'an zaagkijigan
miinwaa waaskoone.
Tisan waaskoone giniwaande
miinwaa zaawaa.
Tisan niibiishan zhaawshkwaa.
Tisan zhashki kiiyaande.



4. Mazinibii'an zaagkijigan
miinwaaniizh waaskoone'an.
Tisan bezhik waaskoone miinaande
miinwaa bezhik zhoominaande.
Tisan niibiishan **zhaawshkwaazan**.
Tisan zhashki **makadewaazan**.



Practice Makes Perfect

Have you been counting to 10 a few times a day? We all use numbers in our conversations constantly — for time, dates, money, quantities of stuff.

Here are our golden 10! **Bezhik, niizh, nswe, niwin, naanan, ngodwaaswi, niizhwaaswi, nshwaaswi, zhaangswi, mdaaswi.**

And a pronunciation reminder: the n's that start "nswe," "ngodwaaswi" and "nshwaaswi" are pretty quick and quiet!

You put your tongue flat on the roof of your mouth and make the "n" sound like you were going to say "no," then go on with the rest of the word. That's it!

Gindaasan! (Count!)

Please save this page! Each month this year we will have another. Bit by bit we will learn together.

Porterfield takes Sault Tribe YEA manager post

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Laura Porterfield began her career with Sault Tribe in 2005 as a student services assistant for Youth Education and Activities (YEA) program. Since that time she has worked for the tribe's Cultural Division, STAY project, Education Department and on March 13 began her new position as the YEA manager.

Porterfield said she would like to see YEA build on their existing programming and collaborate more with other tribal departments and in each of the tribe's service areas. "I appreciate all of the YEA program coordinators for their hard work and dedication to the youth in their areas. It is their dedication to the kids that

helps the program succeed," she said.

Porterfield manages seven coordinators throughout the tribe's seven-county service area and each coordinator has program staff under them. "I make sure the coordinators have what they need for the program to succeed. Right now I am reviewing the program and am planning to meet with the coordinators to see what their suggestions are for the future of the program," Porterfield said. "I want to bring back the tribal youth councils in some areas where students have graduated and moved on, but where the younger group has not yet shown an interest in stepping up to replace those students."

Porterfield said the YEA program has been working with Jackie Minton's regalia project, teaching youth how to make regalia. YEA and Title VII youth also recently attended the MSU Native American and Hispanic Business Students youth leadership workshop for grades 8 through 12 at the tribe's cultural building.

Porterfield said she plans on doing some site visits to meet with coordinators and talk to youth participating in the program. "Each coordinator and their group of kids will be doing different activities and participating in different programs, depending on their interest and activities offered in each geographic area," she said.

Porterfield is a graduate of Brimley High School and in 2007 graduated from Lake Superior State University with an associate's degree in liberal arts with a minor in English. She then registered for Central Michigan University's online program, graduating cum laude in December of 2016 with a bachelor's degree in political science and a minor in psychology. A month after registering for her courses at CMU she found out she was pregnant with her now 2-year-old son, Liam. She is married to Nathan Porterfield.

Her future plans include a master's degree, but she is giving herself a break and enjoying time with her son and husband.



Laura Porterfield has worked with Sault Tribe since 2005 in several capacities.

Cynthia Brown tending to ACFS foster care cases

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

ACFS recently welcomed their newest team member, Cynthia Brown, ACFS foster care caseworker.

Brown earned a masters degree in criminal justice from



Cynthia Brown

the University of Phoenix in 2010, and holds a bachelor's in human services from Lake Superior State University (LSSU), has her State of Michigan social work technician's license, and earned an associate's degree from LSSU in early childhood development.

In 2005 as part of her bachelor's in human services coursework, she completed an internship at Sault Area Middle School, where she worked on case files and monitored special needs individuals.

She has worked as a substitute teacher since 2004 with Sault Area Schools and the EUPISD, and in 2011 became a licensed childcare provider.

She said she has a passion to help others, which in the past included some fundraising for people in crisis.

As an ACFS foster care caseworker, Brown will be working with families to develop a service plan and helping them to keep their children in the home when

possible, or work their plan to be reunited with their children if they are in foster care. She will help clients with transportation needs to get them to jobs, medical appointments, and substance abuse programs; and direct them to services to help with household needs, utilities, food, shelter and clothing. "I am very dedicated and a hard worker and I am committed to doing the best job possible. Once I learn something, I got it," she said. "And I am not easily swayed and not a quitter."

She moved to the Sault in 1990, when her oldest daughter (now 26) was a 6-month-old infant. Since that time she has had two other children, now 24 and 21 years old.

"When I first moved here I had to learn how to help myself and researched what resources there were in the community and how to navigate through them to get help I needed," she said. "I just continued to move ahead. I educated myself, worked with the community and talked to people who had the experience that I could use when I did get into a position where I could be of help to people. Like this morning, I spoke with one of the tribal departments that offers services to members so that when I do have a client I will know where to direct them."

Brown said she moved to the Sault to raise her kids in a better environment and it has paid off. "There aren't a lot of job opportunities here, but with my substitute teaching and licensed home childcare and odd jobs I was able to provide for my children. I have had a lot of good friends along the way and also have a church family I am very thankful for. I don't have any family up here and never had anyone who had my back. I had to build good credit and bought my own home. I didn't have anything, and I worked hard to get what we have today. I knew the capabilities of

my children and that we could do it. I planned my work and worked my plan and kept pressing forward. I educated myself; I was hungry for it because that was something no one could take from me."

Her 21-year old son, Cleveconte, is working on his bachelor's degree in law enforcement at LSSU and would like to be an officer for the city of Sault Ste. Marie. He is also working

part time for Gordon's Food Service.

Her oldest daughter, Kiara, 26, is a computer specialist in Waterford, Mich., and 24-year old LaShonda is an RN in Detroit and also has a bachelor's degree in biology. LaShonda recently transferred to a hospital to train as an anesthetist and will be working in their ICU department for a year. The program she is hoping to be accepted into only

works with 22 students a year.

"My kids worked while they went to school and paid for their own cars and cell phones. They saw how I struggled to survive and they all want something out of life," she said.

Brown was married in Oct. 2016 to forensic scientist Randy Warren from Sault, Ontario, Canada. She has plans to sell her home and eventually move to Canada and commute to her job.

Down Payment Assistance Program

Application Period Open May 01, 2017 through June 12, 2017

The Down Payment Assistance Program (DPAP) is designed to assist Sault Tribe members in becoming homeowners of structurally sound homes. The funds are HUD dollars and restricted to low-income Tribal members. Eligible applicants could receive up to \$9,500.00 to be applied towards down payment and closing costs. Each participating applicant will need to contribute \$500.00 of their own money to receive the maximum grant of \$9,500.00 or 20% purchase price of the home. This program is open to Sault Tribe members residing within the seven (7) county service area; Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac, Alger, Schoolcraft, Delta, and Marquette.

DPAP is open to Sault Tribe members with total income at or below 80% of the area median income, adjusted for family size. Participants must obtain a mortgage with a local lender. The Housing Authority will assist applicants in demonstrating that they have stable income and the ability and willingness to meet financial obligations.

DPAP funds are available to lower the cost of buying a home. Funds will be in the form of a Note applied as a lien against the property. No monthly payments apply; the amount depreciates 20% each year and is forgiven after five years.

Trained staff will assist eligible applicants in successfully working through the process of making an application to a bank/lender for a mortgage loan, assist with inspection concerns, and aid in the real estate process.

Borrowers are required to participate in the Homebuyer Education session designed to assist the homebuyer in understanding and fulfilling the responsibility of homeownership.

If you have any questions please contact Dana Piippo Homeownership Specialists at 906.495.1450 or 1.800.794.4072.

Application period ends June 12, 2017 @5:00 p.m.

1 Person	2 Persons	3 Persons	4 Persons	5 Persons	6 Persons	7 Persons	8 Persons
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Northern Hospitality Resale Room: high quality, low prices

By RICK SMITH

When most folks want bargain basement prices for certain goods, they usually visit thrift stores and consignment shops. But folks in Sault Ste. Marie looking for low prices on high quality furnishings, appliances, flooring and other items for the home should keep abreast of revolving offerings of the Resale Room at Northern Hospitality.

Wares found in the Resale Room come from Northern Hospitality surplus stock and Sault Tribe entities when furnishings, fixtures and other goods in good condition are replaced. The store's general manager, Dave Causley, said prices on Resale

Room merchandise are researched and pricing is set at about half of the going rate. While most of the items are in very good condition, Causley said prices are dropped further on items that may have any damage but are still in good condition.

Administrative assistant Cheryl Nolan said she coordinates with Lori Gambardella, administrative assistant to the tribe's Purchasing director, on a regular basis to acquire fresh deals to offer through the room.

Woodworking hobbyists might want to check with the Resale Room for bargains on attractive flooring display samples that could be put to good use in proj-

ects.

The Resale Room opened around the first week in April of this year and the Northern Hospitality staff continues working on expanding services and stock.

According to the Sault Tribe website, Northern Hospitality is a Sault Tribe enterprise serving the furniture, flooring, bedding and décor needs of the eastern Upper Peninsula since 1996. The store deals in high-quality commercial and home furniture, carpeting and flooring, as well as bedding. Delivery, flooring installation and friendly, knowledgeable staff can help with office or home remodeling or repair plans.



Photo by Rick Smith

Above, entrance to the Resale Room inside Northern Hospitality at the corner of Ashmun and Ann streets in downtown Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Twins Isabelle and Eleanor join sister Adelaide Marie

Kevin and Shannon White of Cincinnati, Ohio, are pleased to announce the birth of twin baby girls born on Feb. 2, 2017.

Isabelle May was 5 pounds, 9 ounces and 19 inches in length, and Eleanor Grace was 7 pounds, 4 ounces, and 20 inches in length.

They join their older sister, Adelaide Marie.

Maternal grandparents are Nick and Shirley Cherney of Cincinnati and paternal grandparents are Mark and Fran White of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.



Welcome baby Sebastian K. Willis

SEBASTIAN K. WILLIS

Chris and Krysty Willis of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., are excited to announce the birth of their long awaited rainbow baby, Sebastian Kane Willis.

Apparently, Sebastian was anxious to meet his parents and older brothers, Xane Maldonado and Jonathan Willis, as well. He was born a month early at Covenant Birthing Center in Saginaw, Mich., on Dec. 15, 2016. You would've never known he was premature, as he weighed 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 19.25 inches in length.

Sebastian was welcomed into the world by his parents, siblings, and grandparents, Willard and Jodi Willis of the Sault, Christina Pixley of Clare, Mich. and Jim Haiss of Bancroft, Mich.; aunts, Holly (Mike) Bishop and Sally (Clay) Goebel; uncle, James Haiss; and many cousins.

He is an active, smart, strong and happy baby boy, and he has brought joy to everyone around him.



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Online petition launched for national Chief Joe Day

BY RICK SMITH

A petition to establish a national day of remembrance for one of Indian Country's most exemplary citizens is online at <http://www.thepetitionsite.com/421/329/440/help-dedicate-a-national-holiday-to-a-an-honorable-native-american/>.

Some folks think John Wayne was a paragon of all-American heroic fortitude and righteousness, a regular rough and tough, hard-to-bluff he-man. The fact is he was merely an actor. All of his "actions" were performed according to scripts written by someone else and performed with other actors in front of cameras on safe, isolated sound stages or locations. Any of his "action" was done with stunt men, camera tricks, make-up and coaching from a director.

Examples of real valor can be found in our midst and in the memories of many people. In history, they can be found in the likes of Audie Murphy, a fierce baby-faced kid in World War II and the most decorated U.S. soldier of the war. After the war, he was asked to do some acting in Hollywood too.

You mention John Wayne and it would be difficult to find anyone who doesn't know to whom you refer. Bring up Audie Murphy and chances are much better the name might produce a blank stare from your conversation partner. Mainly because John Wayne had much more publicity



Left, Chief Joseph "Joe" Medicine Crow (photo courtesy of the National Park Service). Right, Andrea Hubbard.

than Audie Murphy.

Then there is Chief Joseph "Joe" Medicine Crow, who met all the Crow Nation prerequisites for becoming a war chief during World War II; no easy task in itself.

Medicine Crow learned about the Battle of the Little Big Horn from some of his relatives and others who fought against Custer's 7th Cavalry in that historic confrontation. He was the first in his family to earn a master's degree.

In his 30s, he joined the Army and became a scout for the 103rd Infantry Division. The story goes he wore war paint under his uniform and an eagle feather under his helmet whenever he went into battle. Medicine Crow became renowned for his stealth in safely leading squads in, around and



in historical organizations and projects.

Chief Joe died in April of 2016 at the age of 102 in a hospice house in Billings, Mont. More recently, Andrea Hubbard of Phoenix, Ariz., started an online petition to push for a national holiday in remembrance of Chief Joe.

"It dawned on me late last year when reading Facebook posts about NO DAPL how appalling some Americans could treat our original people with such carelessness and disrespect," said Hubbard. "I opted out of this past Thanksgiving because I realized how ridiculous it was to celebrate a day where our ancestors had a meal with the Indians, and later turned around and slaughtered and imprisoned them. That was last November, and I've been trying to think of a way to honor our original people since then."

While Hubbard has no American Indian ancestry herself, she said learning about Chief Joe after his death presented the perfect opportunity to do something to remind people of the contributions of American Indians and the debt of respect and dignity owed to them.

"I figure if we can celebrate Christopher Columbus, St. Patrick, European and black American leaders, and Beer Day of all things, we surely have an obligation to include the original

people of this land in a celebratory day as well. We each have a chance to come together be a part of history here! Such a rare honor!" Hubbard added.

Further, she said what is left of Indian Country should be considered a living national treasure deserving of protection and celebration. She hopes her petition is just the beginning of getting the ball rolling in that direction and hopes one day to see a national powwow celebration as popular as other holidays.

Another thing Hubbard realizes from her own experience that indicates the importance of such a step as establishing Chief Joe Day is how most children learn about Indian Country. She herself was born in England to American military parents and lived mainly in Germany until she was 10 years old. What she knew about Indian Country and its citizens when she arrived in the United States came from mainstream images and popular culture. "When I arrived in Texas, I was totally surprised there were no cowboys and Indians fighting with each other," said Hubbard.

She proposes to start an annual nationwide observance on Oct. 27, Chief Joe's birthday, to honor one of the most illustrious American Indians of our time. Think of it as publicity for a distinguished representative of Indian Country.

Tribal Veterans Healthcare Enhancement Act introduced in the U.S. Congress

BY RICK SMITH

A bill was recently introduced into the U.S. Senate that would permit the Indian Health Service (IHS) to cover copayment costs for American Indian military veterans for medical services performed at U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facilities. The measure calls for participating agencies to establish memorandums of understanding between the IHS, VA, tribal health programs and associated tribes. Copayments would be rendered for services authorized by tribal Purchased/Referred Care

programs.

Senators John Thune (R-S.D.) and Mike Rounds co-sponsored the Tribal Veterans Health Care Enhancement Act (S.304), which amends the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to allow the inter-agency transactions in support of greater access to health care for American Indian veterans.

"This bill amends the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to allow the Indian Health Service to cover copayments for an Indian veteran who has an IHS referral to receive medical care

or services from a Department of Veterans Affairs facility," Thune and Rounds explained in a joint prepared statement. "It requires the IHS and VA to enter into a MOU to govern how this payment system will be executed." They also noted a previous version of the bill was introduced in the last session of Congress and was approved by a committee.

The bill further requires the IHS and VA to report statistics to Congress on American Indian veterans served and referred to be served at VA medical facilities.

Bill would improve VA care for women

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Gary Peters (D-Mich.), a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and a former lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy Reserve, announced on April 19 he is cosponsoring bipartisan legislation that would require the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide better access to services to help meet the unique health care needs of women veterans, according to a press release.

The *Deborah Sampson Act*, named for a woman who disguised herself to serve in the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War, would improve access to specialized services, like maternity and newborn care, said the release. According to the VA, there are approximately 2 million women veterans across the country, including more than 46,000 in Michigan, according to the release.

"As the number of women veterans continues to grow, we must ensure that they are able to access the care and services they have earned by serving our country in uniform," said Peters.

He went on to add, "I'm proud to cosponsor this bipartisan legislation that improves support services and eliminates barriers to health care so we can ensure that the women who have served this country have equal access to the benefits they earned and can smoothly transition to civilian life."

According to the release, the *Deborah Sampson Act* would improve access to support services, including counseling and legal support for issues such as housing, eviction and child support issues.

The bill also improves health care for women veterans by requiring every VA facility to have at least one women's health

primary care provider on staff, authorizing funding to retrofit VA facilities to enhance privacy and provide a better care environment, and expanding coverage for specialized services including maternity and newborn care.

Last year, President Obama signed into law Peters' bipartisan Fairness for Veterans amendment that helps military veterans with a bad paper discharge resulting from behavior caused by PTSD to petition for an upgrade in their discharge status. An upgrade to an honorable discharge would help certain veterans access benefits earned through their service like VA home loans and educational benefits provided by the Post-9/11 G.I. Bill.

For more information about VA benefits and program for veterans of the U.S. military services, go online to log on to www.va.gov or visit your nearest VA facility.

May is National Military Appreciation Month

According to the web site at www.nmam.org, National Military Appreciation Month is a way to rally the country to remember, recognize and appreciate all who served or serve in the U.S. military. The idea built momentum and in 1999 a law was passed designating May as the month for the observance as it is also the month of Loyalty Day, V-E Day, Military Spouse Appreciation Day, Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day. Enhancement legislation was passed in 2004.

Federal, state, local agencies and private entities are encouraged to have observances and sponsor programs on teach-

ing about military history and expressing gratitude.

The site information about the organization and a 2017 event postings from each state and the District of Columbia. Rules for submissions are posted on the web site. A page of ideas for a wide assortment of observance functions is posted for the benefit of governmental agencies, schools and universities, religious institutions, libraries and museums, civic and service organizations, businesses and industries, veteran and military organizations, media and others.

To learn more, visit www.nmam.org or log on to www.facebook.com/nmam.may/.



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EUP folks join nationwide March for Science

BY RICK SMITH

People from the eastern Upper Peninsula gathered in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on April 22 in solidarity with the nationwide March for Science. According to the national organization, March for Science defends the importance of science in health, safety, economies and government, especially now that a trend among politicians to discredit and stifle science exists in the halls of the federal government.

One of the organizers for the Sault march was Sault Tribe member Megan Collier. "I wanted to have a satellite March for Science in the EUP because science and the scientific process is the best way humans have come up with to learn and gain knowledge

— about our planet, about our bodies, about space, everything. When we learn and gain knowledge about something, we also gain respect for it, and that puts us on a path to be better caretakers of our world. But, right now, there are threats to science coming from all over in the form of funding cuts and skepticism. We have to make sure our voices are loud enough in support of science so those in power hear them."

Speakers with tribal affiliations slated for the rally were Janet Hess of Sault Tribe, Phil Bellfy of the White Earth Band



Megan Collier



of Minnesota Chippewa and Adel Easterday of the Seneca Nation.

March for Science rallies took place in over 600 cities nationwide on April 22 from Washington, D.C., to Honolulu, Hawaii, and from Fairbanks, Alaska, to Miami, Fla. The marches were just the beginning of a week of action by organizers to build a global network to improve the relationship between science and society. Much more can be learned at www.marchforscience.com.

"We can't afford to deny, devalue and defund science because we'll pay for it with our health, our safety and our livelihoods, especially in rural areas like ours," said Collier. "In the EUP, we need new technologies and innovations to help us be relevant and competitive in a modern world." She added it's well known how important the natural sciences are to eastern Upper Peninsula and folks depend on

the protection of waters, fish and wildlife not only for subsistence, but for the cash influx from tourism as well.

Collier said another reason she wanted a march in Sault Ste. Marie was so that her children, who are 3 and 6 years of age, could participate. She said all kids are mini-scientists who constantly test and learn about the world around them. Someday, those children might grow up to do beneficial things for the world with science.

"Our march was planned as a positive event, and not as a protest. It is nonpartisan" said Collier. "We tried to make the entire day as family-friendly and disability-friendly as possible because standing in support of science is something everyone should do."

Following the rally and march, folks were invited to informal meetings with scientists at several establishments around town for



Left, Adel Easterday of the Seneca Nation explains to the crowd gathered for the March for Science rally how American Indians used scientific principles in using natural resources for their daily needs. The rally took place behind the city hall building on April 22. A march through town took place afterwards. (Photo by Rick Smith). Above, participants march on Water Street in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. (Photo by Todd Grogan).

discussions. Later in the afternoon, a free showing of the film Gravity took place at the Walker Cislser Center on the campus of Lake Superior State University and a "Raise the Roof" concert by the Ben Daniels Band took place downtown at the Soo Theater.

Collier said the day's events greatly exceeded expectations with about 350 participants. "A big crowd of LSSU students marched down together from campus before the rally, which was a really cool way to start the morning," she said. "We had folks from Charlevoix, DeTour, Moran, Pickford, Rudyard, Brimley, and of course lots from the Sault. It was a really well-attended event with lots of people coming in support of science!"

Giving special acknowledgement to speakers Bellfy, Easterday and donors, Collier expressed appreciation to all who took part. But Bellfy and Easterday brought attention to American Indian culture and issues. Donors helped to raise enough to cover expenses plus a surplus that was donated to the Soo Locks Children's Museum.

Collier reminds folks "to get a pro-science government, we have to vote for it," and hopes all the voting-age march participants also show up at the polls to vote this November for local elections and especially November of 2018. "We can't afford — our economy and ecosystems can't afford — to vote in legislators who don't rely on research and data in their decision making."

Chippewa County Court Night set for May 18

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The 50th Circuit Court opens at 6 p.m., on Thursday, May 18, 2017, for Chippewa County's second annual Court Night. Judge James Lambros hosts the event with other state and tribal jurists, including Bay Mills Tribal Court Judge Bryan Newland, Sault Tribal Court Judge Jocelyn Fabry and 91st District Court Magistrate Eric Blubaugh.

Discussions include legal consequences of teen drinking and furnishing drugs and alcohol to minors; illegal prescription drug

use and sales; and destructive effects of opiate addiction on our community. Representatives will also be on hand from the Chippewa County Sheriff's Department, Sault Ste. Marie City Police, Michigan State Police, local probation and parole offices, state and tribal drug court staff, state and tribal prosecutors, Chippewa County Public Defender's Office, Sault Tribal Court and Bay Mills Healing to Wellness Court.

Chippewa County Families Against Narcotics (FAN) helps in

Thursday, May 18, 6 to 8 p.m., at the Chippewa County Courthouse in the circuit courtroom. Everyone welcome.

sponsoring the symposium and is on hand to distribute information about substance use disorders, recovery and sober living. The organization also provides cookies, chips and beverages, and conducts drawings for free sweatshirts throughout the night.

Chippewa County FAN chapter president, Joe Claxton, said he "hopes this event will start a

continuing dialogue between parents and their kids about how to deal with some very complicated issues. Our chapter is made up of parents and children who have been affected by the abuse of opiates and other drugs. We want to start an open discussion on healing and prevention."

Some of the goals of Court Night include helping families understand the court system — from arrest to post sentencing — and to make clear bad decisions negatively affect the offender and their families.

Judge Lambros, presiding over a circuit drug court for over a year, is a strong proponent of Court Night. "Hopefully these discussions will arm our youth and parents with the information they need to make smart choices, which will ultimately lead to a better life for everyone," he said.

Everyone is welcome. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend with middle and high school-aged children.

For additional information, please call Tina Ojala, 50th Circuit Court administrator, at 635-6338.



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ACFS busy engaging with local communities

BY PARTICIA STERLING, ACFS

Anishnabe Community and Family Services (ACFS) has been very busy. March was Parenting Awareness Month and ACFS hosted three Family Fun events.

On March 4, 2017, ACFS was in St. Ignace at the casino tent to provide fun, food and prizes for about 241 people. On March 17, Manistique was the place to be with drum making, prizes and food with about 177 people participating. And on Monday, 27, ACFS was at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie where 541 people visited booths, enjoyed the bouncy house, ate pizza and skated for free.

ACFS thank the vendors who



One of the tables ACFS had set up at a local event.

hosted tables, local businesses and groups for the generous

donations and the community as a whole for making these events

powerful and successful.

Mark your calendars for March 2018 and the 20th annual Family Fun Night celebrations.

On April 11, ACFS teamed up with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to host a showing of *Paper Tigers*, a documentary regarding childhood trauma at the Lake Superior State University (LSSU) Arts Center. ACFS and the Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) had booths and shared information with approximately 150 guests.

On April 21, ACFS attended the Community Baby Shower hosted by War Memorial Hospital at LSSU. ACFS and ARC shared information with about 150 guests.

On April 22, ARC attended

the Walmart Health and Wellness event and provided service information to about 150 visitors.

We look forward to an eventful summer, too. Join us at the Sault Ste. Marie Housing safety fairs across the service area:

Sault Ste Marie, June 22, 2-4 p.m.

Marquette, June 27, 12:30-2 p.m.

Hessel, July 12, 2-3:30 p.m.

Munising, July 13, 12:30-2 p.m.

Newberry, July 14, 1-2:30 p.m.

St. Ignace, July 19, 2-3:30 p.m.

Escanaba, July 20, 12-2 p.m.

Manistique, July 26, 12-2 p.m.

Kincheloe, Aug. 4, 1-2:30 p.m.

The busy-trap: Impacts of always being on the go

BY MAKENA SCHULTZ

How often nowadays do you ask someone how they are and they respond with something to do with how they're so busy? Economic growth and technological advances have shifted the kinds of work available and how we go about doing that work.

Today, Americans are working longer days, taking less vacation time and retiring later in life. We face social pressures to be successful, something that we often measure based on definitions created by others. In fact, more frequently today adults use stress as a quantifier for success.

What kinds of impact can stress have?

In 2011, Harvard Medical School conducted a study that found the annual cost of lost productivity due to loss of sleep was over \$63 billion.

In 2006, the Anxiety and Depression Association of America's Workplace Stress and Anxiety Disorders Survey found 51 percent of employees surveyed reported stress and anxiety impacts their relationships with

coworkers and peers, and 56 percent said stress and anxiety impact their work performance. Of the latter, more than three-fourths say this stress carries over to their personal lives.

In 2015, the American Psychological Association's *Stress in America: The Impact of Discrimination* found that two in five adults reported overeating or eating unhealthy foods in the past month due to stress. In addition, 46 percent of parents (those with children under 18 living at home) reported losing patience with or yelling at their children in the past month when they were feeling stressed.

As a full-time professional, full-time doctoral student, partner, homeowner and friend, I can say I am guilty of quantifying my success and satisfaction by my level of stress and business. I fall into the busy-trap. What this means for me is that I often feel a



Makena Schultz

sense of guilt when I take time to relax or reflect, turning my "me time" into more stressful rumination about all the things I could or should be doing.

Author Kate Northrup recently started a project called the Do Less Experiment. When it comes to busy, Northrup notes it is important to acknowledge "people will never stop asking you to do things," and continues, saying, "Opportunity will not stop knocking."

Northrup's challenge to us is to make space. The only people who can control how much we put on our plates is us, so it is important to be conscious about what we agree to. The Do Less Experiment is a two-week process to facilitate us making space for things that matter by setting aside the things that don't.

This same busy phenomena impacts the youth in our lives. More and more, youth are overscheduled in activities — constantly running from one commitment to another, cramming in homework where they can and having very little time for play or

exploration. In "Overscheduled kids, anxious parents," clinical psychologist Paula Bloom encourages adults to create a space where the youth in their lives understand they are not defined by what they do. Bloom says, "Parents need to teach their kids to balance human *doing* with human *being*." (Emphasis added.)

Mental Health America is a nonprofit dedicated to addressing the needs of those living with mental illness and promoting overall mental health of Americans. They offer 11 tips for reducing or controlling stress. Here are five I have found that help me escape my busy trap:

1. Be realistic. Learn to say "no" and eliminate activities that aren't absolutely necessary. Brené Brown says, "Choose discomfort [of saying "no"] over resentment [of yourself or others later]."

2. Shed the "superwoman/man" urge. No one is perfect, so don't expect yourself or others to be perfect. Don't hesitate to ask for help when you need it.

3. Take one thing at a time. When you feel overwhelmed,

pick the one most urgent task and work on it until it is done. Then check it off the list and move on to the next most important thing.

4. Give in occasionally. Be flexible and present. Allow yourself to rethink your position or strategy and to say yes when something fun comes along.

5. Go easy with criticism. Remember, everyone has unique strengths, perspectives and areas in which they're developing. Don't be too harsh on yourself or others as you work to check things off your list.

To learn about the positive impact of Michigan State University Extension and Michigan 4-H youth leadership, civic engagement, citizenship and global/cultural programs, read our 2015 impact report, *Developing Civically Engaged Leaders*. Additional impact reports, highlighting even more ways Michigan 4-H positively impacted individuals and communities in 2015, can be downloaded from the Michigan 4-H website.

Makena Schultz is an MSU Extension educator.

Movie review by Allan Bouley: *Running Brave*

BY ALLAN BOULEY

Running Brave is a classic 1983 movie about Billy Mills, an Oglala Lakota (Sioux) boy who loves running. He loved it so much he even knew when to give it up, and when to accept it into his life again. Though Billy's dream of running in the Olympic games seemed impossible at times, he accepted his destiny when it was time to do so.

Born in 1938 on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, Billy looked

up to his father as a great man who gave his all. This was exemplified in the movie during a scene in which Billy's dad was in a prize-fight with a large man dressed like a Viking. Though it looked like he was getting beat up and going to lose, his father told him to bet on him when the odds reached 5 to 1. They did during the next round and, just as planned, Billy's dad knocked out the larger man. When Billy was refused payment, his

father stepped up and demanded the boy be paid.

Unfortunately, when Billy was 13 his father passed on, but his teachings lived on in his son.

Although a great runner at the Haskell Institute where he went to high school, the track coach at Kansas University was hesitant to give Billy an athletic scholarship due to his Indian heritage. At first college was unkind to him and he experienced bigotry from the public and teammates alike. Like his father, Billy was strong and firm

in who he was and even asserted himself physically a couple times.

Eventually, Billy met a girl and they started dating. Pat experienced pressure from her parents about Billy's heritage, but she didn't let it sway how she felt for him. They were a real good couple and Pat supported him at his races. Coach Easton said a few times to Billy that he coached other great Indian runners, but they always quit for one reason or another. Billy proves

him wrong for a long time, in spite of his coach's insistence on running races in a way in which Billy didn't feel comfortable.

Sadly, the pressure to live up to the expectations on him, both in running and as a future business professional, catches up to Billy just before his time at Kansas is done. Troubled by a visit from his relatives, in which he was harassed over his current lifestyle, Billy starts losing races. Pushed to the edge by his coach, he finally quits running for Kansas University. Though he does complete his degree, Billy returns to the reservation. It is home to him, and he regains his love for running there.

When Billy's uncle Frank dies from alcohol poisoning, he starts to realize just how important his running was to everyone on the reservation. Frank said to Billy just a few days earlier that he still had a chance to go somewhere and do something with himself. People had been asking Billy if he was going to the Olympics, and it finally sinks in that he has to begin pursuing his dream again. Becoming a Marine and training for the 1964

Olympics in Tokyo, Japan, Billy heals his wounded heart and eventually does qualify for the 10,000-meter race.

There are a few things in the movie I've left out, and what happens in the Olympics is best appreciated by watching the movie. Though it might be obvious that Billy wins his race, seeing the drama unfold is very enjoyable. *Running Brave* is a steady-paced

movie with a lot of kick at the end, just like the way Billy Mills ran.

In closing, it should be noted that the only American to ever win the 10,000-meter at the Olympics was a Native American runner who chased down and caught his dream.

For more information about Billy Mills, visit wikipedia.org/wiki/Billy_Mills. For video footage of his 10,000m win, visit tinyurl.com/billymills1964olympics.



Splash of Color Fun Run/Walk

RUDYARD, Mich. — The fifth annual Splash of Color Fun Run/Walk is coming again on Sunday, June 11, at 1:30 p.m.

The highlight of the run/walk is the bright colored powder paint thrown on the participants along the course. Participants are not timed, so anyone of any age or ability can join in. Pre-registration by May 15 is very important to assure one's T-shirt size and a discounted race fee.

The course is setup for both a 5K (3.2 miles) run and walk as well as a 2K (1.25 miles) run and walk.

Proceeds from the event go to the Rudyard Pool Committee in support of the Rudyard swimming pool.

Registration forms and information are available on the Rudyard Area Schools website www.rudyard.k12.mi.us, the Pure Country Family Restaurant or you can register online at active.com. Those with registration questions should email Gary Davis at garydavis@centurytel.net.

For more information, contact Alicia Lawlor at (906) 259-2741.

Gwaiak Miicon treatment program grads speak

By PAT MCKELVIE

May is National Drug Court Month. Treatment courts across the nation celebrate their successes in the hope of spreading awareness of this alternative method that aims to facilitate recovery and rehabilitation. Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court now in its 18th year is no exception. Its Gwaiak Miicon Treatment Court program offers the opportunity for our community to address the devastation of addiction by establishing more structure and a higher level of accountability for these cases through a system of comprehensive supervision. In stark contrast to a jail sentence where little or no recovery aids are made available, treatment courts offer offenders an opportunity to undergo treatment for their addiction and participants experience more positive long-term results.

Addicted individuals in treatment courts work closely with the court to complete a rehabilitation program, which is required to last at least one year. Judges, attorneys, prosecutors, police officers, educators, housing specialists, caseworkers, substance abuse/mental health professionals and traditional healers work together to find the best solution for each individual. Defendants are held accountable for their progress — or lack, thereof — by the court through regular random drug testing as well as consistent court appearances. Individuals are rewarded when progress is made and the completion of their rehabilitation is marked with a graduation ceremony.

This system is highly effective. A long-term study by the National Institute of Justice found that individuals who successfully



GRADUATION DAY — (back row, left to right) probation officer Ryan Wilson, Det. Sgt. Mike Pins, officer Jimmy McLeod, Traditional Medicine's Tony Abramson Jr, Specialty Court coordinator Pat McKelvie (front row, left to right), former asst. prosecuting attorney Stephen Raslich, Behavioral Health Manager Julie Barber, Treatment Court graduate Christine Westphal, Judge Jocelyn Fabry and Magistrate/administrator Traci Swan.

completed a treatment court program were significantly less likely to be re-arrested. Depending on the program, "reductions in recidivism ranged from 17 to 26 percent."

National Drug Court Month highlights the overall impact of these programs and raises awareness of their importance to communities. It is an opportune time for those who have benefited from treatment courts to share their success with their communities and gain their continued support. With that, three past graduates of the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court Gwaiak

Miicon Treatment Court program have generously offered to share their experience.

— *While some choose to see the scars others choose to experience the healing.*

Treatment Court's most recent graduate, Christine Westphal, expressed her gratitude with an open invitation to include her in this article.

Westphal entered Treatment Court in October of 2015. She was on U.S. probation with the United States Western District Court in Marquette, Mich., upon entering Treatment Court. Westphal had been compliant and meeting her daily requirements of the program when, three days before Christmas, she was arrested by U.S. marshalls for numerous probation violations accumulated prior to entering Treatment Court. She was transported to Marquette, jailed and was awaiting transfer to a federal penitentiary.

In the interim, Sault Tribe Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry contacted Magistrate Judge Timothy P. Greeley and advocated for Westphal and Treatment Court itself. Greeley listened and agreed to give Westphal one last shot at life. Westphal went on to be a model participant, graduating on Dec. 15, 2016, with her prior conviction being lifted. Westphal's

last probation review hearing with U.S District Court was scheduled for February of 2017. A day before she was to travel to Marquette, she received a phone call informing her that after five years she was being released from federal probation with her conviction no longer standing. She had no record and was free from all court jurisdictions.

— *When entering Treatment Court I had not spoken with my mother in over four years. On Easter 2016, I contacted my mother and we talked for over three hours. On Nov. 30, 2016, my 12-step sponsor drove me downstate to celebrate my mother's 79th birthday. I now talk to my mother daily. My mother will*

be here for this year's powwow where we will both dance! Last but not least, my mother wants to meet the people that got my little girl sober. — Christine Westphal

— *Treatment Court did more than just get me acquainted with our recovery community. It helped get me on track to living a better life. The team was incredibly supportive of my new job, even when scheduling conflicts arose. They also were instrumental in bringing my family back together, even giving me rides to Mt. Pleasant in order to see them on a couple occasions. Now my wife, Kristi, and I both enjoy over four years of sobriety and our family is happier than we could have ever dreamed. Many thanks to Judge Fabry and all of the other members of the Treatment Court team.* — Chris Willis

— *Treatment Court, in my opinion, saved my life and saved my family. If I was never given the privilege of the Treatment Court program, I know right now I would be either dead or in prison. My three kids would be without their mother. It helped me learn how to be a productive member of society who can live today without the use of drugs. It showed me that people in my tribal community care about me and my family. They strived to make sure I wasn't just another Native American statistic. I now have hope for me and my family. I am now a clean and sober happy successful woman, but best of all I am finally the mother I knew I could be. Treatment Court helped me find me.* — Lois Krull

Pat McKelvie is a Specialty Court coordinator for the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court.



Gathering for Alexis's homecoming were, from left, Lois's mom and step-father, Bonnie and Scott Strelecki, her daughter Alexis, Lois Krull and her boyfriend, Robert Inman.



From left to right, Malik McLeod, mom Lois Krull, Kaleb McLeod and Alexis McLeod.

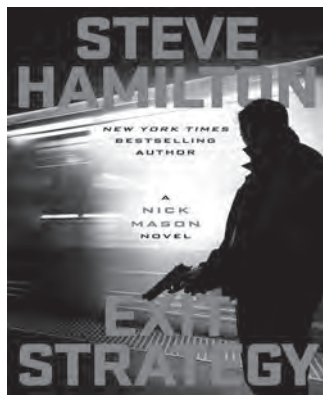


From left, Chris and Kristy Willis with their baby Sebastian and sons Xane and JJ.

Steve Hamilton returns to Bayliss Public Library

One of the U.P.'s favorite authors — Steve Hamilton — makes a return visit to Bayliss Public Library on Friday, May 19 at 7 p.m.

He will be on tour for *Exit Strategy*, the second book in his Nick Mason series to be released a few days prior to the event. The action-packed crime thriller follows Nick Mason on his next mission set in the Appalachians and New York City.



Hamilton is one of the most acclaimed mystery writers in

the world, and one of only two authors to win Mystery Writers of America Edgar Awards for both best first novel and best novel. His Alex McKnight series includes two *New York Times* notable books, and he had two recent titles on the *New York Times* bestseller list. Hamilton has either won or received multiple nominations for virtually every other crime fiction award in the business.

The Sault Book World store is

providing copies of *Exit Strategy* in hard cover and *The Second Life of Nick Mason* in paperback for purchase and signing at the event. The latter novel came out in 2016 and is the first in Hamilton's new series; it is just out in paperback.

Come to the library event and find out when Hamilton returns to his Alex McKnight series set in the U.P. and the latest on his movie deal. For more information about the author, check <http://authorstevehamilton.com>.

authorstevehamilton.com.

The event is on a Friday night when the library is not usually open, so please enter by the front door. Friends of Bayliss Library is providing refreshments.

Bayliss Public Library, a Superior District library, is at 541 Library Drive in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information, check www.baylisslibrary.org or find us on Facebook.

Photograph of book cover courtesy of G.P. Putnam's Sons.

Be alert and follow pollution reporting protocol

BY JORDAN JOHNSTON

In the last few years, many of us have been trained to be on high alert when it comes to identifying and reporting possible oil spills. Last year, a vague report came to our department that had a member of our team scrambling to drive to the scene to see if an oil spill had occurred. We were very lucky in that situation — it was just tannins.

Tannins are tricksters that lead us to believe the worst is occurring. Tannins are yellowish brown organic matter created by plants that can produce sheen and oil like feeling.

It's important to be on alert and follow the proper reporting protocol. First, we've got to determine if the sheen we see is from the old trickster tannins or if they're from oil products.

There are a few quick and easy ways to determine what you're looking at. First, where tannins can leave a sheen or a brownish color in the water, oil typically reflects light in a way that leaves a rainbow pattern at the surface. Second, odor! It's usually pretty easy to smell the gas in the air from oil products.

Environmental and health professionals both caution you from getting too close to the sheen and inhaling the fumes; if they are from oil, that can have negative effects on your health. However, typically the smell lingers in the air and if you're close enough to see the sheen chances are you're close enough to smell the gas in the air and water.

It's important to look for tell-tale signs along the bank and on items in the water. Is there an oily sludge buildup? Tannins will not collect in the same way that oils will and they will usually only appear as a floating sheen on the water. Finally, speaking of collection, one of the easiest and most reliable ways to tell the difference between the two is to use a stick or some long object to poke and disturb the sheen. Tannins will break apart and stay broken, where oil sheens will break apart and collect back together again in a large sheen or sheens.

If you've concluded the sheen is oil, attempt to quickly collect some information before you begin to make calls. This information will give responders a head start and important details before they even get on the scene. The following is a list of questions/requests for information that will be asked of you while reporting:

• Your name, location, and telephone number;

- Name and address of party, carrier, vessel, railcar, truck number or other identifier responsible for the incident;
- Date and time of incident;
- Location of incident;
- Source and cause of the release or spill;
- Types of material(s) released or spilled;
- Quantity of materials released or spilled;
- Medium (e.g. land, air or water) affected by release or

- spill;
- Danger or threat posed by the release or spill;
- Number and types of injuries or fatalities (if any);
- Weather conditions at incident location;
- Whether an evacuation has occurred;
- Other agencies notified or about to be notified;
- Any other information that may help emergency personnel respond to the incident.

Native American Festival 2017

JOIN OUR ANNUAL CELEBRATION
OF NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

Saturday May 27th 8 AM to 6 PM Sunday May 28th 9 AM to 2 PM
Museum of Ojibwa Culture 500 North State Street St. Ignace, MI



ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO ATTEND!

SATURDAY MAY 27TH

10 AM TO 12:30 PM

Children's Craft Workshop: Jackie Minton
Clan Coloring Workshop: Lisa Walker/Francis Wyers
Black Ash Basket Making
Demonstration Workshop: Marge Bekins
Quill Work Demonstration Workshop: Sally Paquin
Traditional Medicine Teachings: Lisa Burnside
Cultural Teachings: Tony Grondin

SPECIAL GUESTS

Grandmother Moon Drum Circle, a women's group of drummers and singers who love to share their songs, traditional teachings and stories. The Metis Dance Club from Sault Canada, will perform and engage participants in learning traditional Metis jigging.

1 PM TO 5 PM

Grand Entry
Afternoon of drumming, singing and dancing
Head Drum: Mukkwa Giizhik
Head Veterans: Butch Van Ellen and Gene Reid
Head Male Dancer: Richard Lewis
Head Female Dancer: Francie Wyers
Head Youth Male Dancer: Joey Loonsfoot
Emcee: Cal Burnside
Spiritual Leader: John Causley
Festival Coordinator: Lisa Burnside



Traditional Native American food will be provided by the Lunch Box on May 27th. Enjoy fabulous Indian Tacos, delicious Fry Bread and other traditional cuisine.

SUNDAY MAY 28TH

9 AM TO 2 PM

Longhouse Talking Circle

Light breakfast for Talking Circle participants

Sponsored by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians & the Michigan Humanities Council.



For more information call: 906-643-9161 Online: museumofojibwaculture.net

See something, say something, Giant and Japanese knotweeds are invasive

BY TIFFANY ESCHERICH

Invasive plants are all around us. Whether you realize it or not, you probably see more than one patch of invasive plants every day. An invasive plant is introduced (either intentionally or unintentionally) and is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Invasive plants are of special concern as they have the ability to spread out of control and overwhelm native vegetation, degrade wildlife habitat, mix with native plants altering their genetic makeup, harbor pests harmful to other plants and produce toxins lethal to certain animals and native plants.

When one invasive species takes over an area, it can cause the alteration of hydrological patterns, fire regimes, soil chemistry, moisture holding capability, wildlife habitat and erodibility. Invasive plants cause billions of dollars of damage a year and hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent to control them. In addition, invasive species as a whole (plants, animals, etc.) represent the second leading cause of species extinction and loss of biodiversity in aquatic environments worldwide.

So, why are invasive plants a problem in our community? Many aspects of our lives are

affected by the existence of invasive plants in our ecosystem. Invasive plants affect fish and wildlife habitat by degradation, forestry by preventing the growth of new trees, raw water users such as utility companies by clogging passageways and recreation by altering land and water bodies making them no longer desired places to visit and recreate, just to name a few problems.

What can you do? Learn how to identify invasive plants in your area. Catching infestations early is the key to controlling it long term. The sooner we can remove the invasive plants, the sooner the native population can regenerate or the sooner you can regain use of your property.

Invasive plants that are of high importance in our area are Japanese knotweed and giant knotweed. Giant knotweed is also known as “giant bamboo.” Japanese knotweed is also known as “Michigan bamboo.” Small shoots begin to emerge from the ground in April-May. During the following months growth occurs rapidly.

There are no other plants in our area that resemble the “bamboo like shoots” of knotweed plants. Numerous small white flowers emerge around July-August, which produces seed.

Seeds produced by Japanese and giant knotweed are not viable — that is, they will not produce more plants. However, the knotweeds can reproduce vegetatively through its roots and plant fragments, spreading under the ground. These plants can cross to produce Bohemian knotweed, and those seeds ARE viable.

At this time, we do not know of any Bohemian knotweed in the area, so it is very important to control the giant and Japanese species. Knotweeds have been known to destroy residential foundations and other infrastructure across the U.P. It is very important to NOT mow this plant. Small fragments spread through an area by a lawn mower will only spread the plant instead of control it. Therefore it is very important to have this invasive controlled.

The Chippewa Luce Mackinac Conservation District (CLMCD) offers a free herbicide treatment to eradicate knotweeds. Complete eradication of an infestation may take a couple years based on the size of the infestation. Treatment occurs in fall and is available to the public. For more information and to be added to the treatment list for Fall 2017 contact the CLMCD at 2847 Ashmun St., Sault Ste.



Giant/Wikimedia Fallopiya-sachalinensis

Marie, MI 49783, (906) 635-1278 or <http://www.clmcd.org/>.

To report a possible infestation, please call the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575. Staff members are available to do a site inspection

to verify if the plant of concern is in fact a knotweed plant and offer solutions for management.

Tiffany Escherich is on the staff of the Sault Tribe Environmental Department.



Japanese knotweed shoots resemble bamboo. Below: More knotweed.



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Data with map of spills totaling over 1 million gallons released

Line 5 had 29 known spills, nearly doubling number previously believed to have occurred

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — On April 24, the National Wildlife Federation released records of spills, ruptures and equipment failures from an oil and natural gas liquids pipeline system operated by Enbridge Energy that runs through Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper and Lower Peninsulas, crossing under the Straits of Mackinac. The data reveals that the system, known as Line 5, has experienced at least 29 spills, which have released more than 1 million gallons of oil and natural gas liquids, according to data from the Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. This is nearly double the number previously believed to have occurred.

Enbridge Energy is the same company that owns and maintains the pipeline formerly known as Line 6B, which ruptured in 2010, by the U.S. Environmental

Protection Agency's account spilling more than 840,000 gallons of oil into Talmadge Creek and the Kalamazoo River.

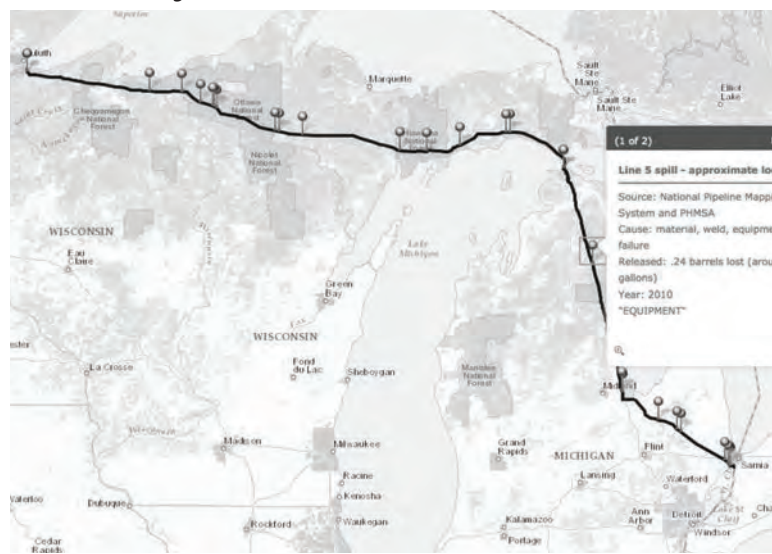
"We have a pipeline system with a history of problems running through our country's largest source of surface freshwater and it happens to be operated by the company responsible for one of the largest inland oil spills in North America," said Mike Shriberg, executive director for the National Wildlife Federation's Great Lakes Regional Center. "This pipeline system places the Great Lakes and many local communities at an unacceptable risk. The State of Michigan needs to find an alternative to this risky pipeline to protect our drinking water, health, jobs and way of life."

National Wildlife Federation's new interactive map allows the public to better understand where

and what has been spilled from Enbridge Energy's pipeline system, the repair methods that have been used and how leaks and defects are being discovered. The map can be accessed at: <http://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=f817f5abad9a4c-b09e942c1941fd0060>.

Of the 29 recorded incidents, only one was listed as detected by a remote pipeline detection system, according to the records. By contrast, 15 releases were detected by local personnel or the public. The records do not reveal how the remainder of the releases were detected.

"This new information causes us grave concern about the integrity of the inland pipe system, inconsistencies with spill reporting, and the effectiveness of leak detection systems, repair methods, and long-term planning for the



integrity of the decades-old pipeline system," said Beth Wallace, the National Wildlife Federation pipeline safety specialist who discovered the newly released data. "A significant number of these releases note manufacturing

and construction defects, as well as weld failure, which calls into question the overall integrity of the Line 5 system."

Visit the National Wildlife Federation Media Center at NWF.org/News.

Help keep our rivers and lakes clean when walking your dogs

BY CRYSTAL FALK

Finally! Nice enough weather to walk your dog. Unfortunately, walking your dog comes with the tedious task of cleaning up your dog's waste when he decides to go. Although cleaning up after your pet is never fun, it is very important in ways you may not realize.

Did you know that pet waste has bacteria in it that can make our rivers and lakes unsafe for swimming? When you see signs saying beaches are closed for

swimming, usually it's because of E. coli and other harmful bacteria. There are a lot of these bacteria in pet droppings. Whatever is left on the ground will eventually end up in our waterways. You hate it when you and your family and friends can't swim at the beach, so it's good to do your part to help beaches and waterways stay clean.

When pet waste gets left on a lawn or sidewalk here in Sault Ste. Marie, it eventually will end

up in the St. Mary's River. When it rains, the waste with harmful bacteria gets washed into storm drains and creeks, which eventually lead to the river.

Of course, the natural systems can deal with a certain amount of droppings from wildlife, etc. But when there is a lot of extra, from pet droppings, leaking septic systems, broken sewer pipes or combined sewer overflows, natural systems can be overwhelmed. When that happens, there are too many bacteria to

be safe for swimming, and the beach is closed.

Make sure to pick up after your pet and dispose of the waste properly. Fortunately, the City of Sault Ste. Marie has installed some pet waste receptacles that include bags and garbage cans to help with proper disposal of waste. These receptacles are on the corner of Ashmun and Maple streets and on the corner of Ashmun and Peck streets. Tie a spare plastic grocery bag to your dog's leash

or tuck a few into the pocket of your dog-walking jacket, and you'll be ready for anything.

Whether you are in your yard or on a walk, promptly dispose of your pet's waste in the trash or down the toilet where it will be properly treated. Please help us keep our waters clean by picking up pet waste. Always remember to bring your baggie before going on your walk.

Crystal Falk is a water quality specialist with Sault Tribe Environmental Department.



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July 14-16, 2017

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CHRISTMAS SITES

Every Monday

- AND -

KEWADIN CASINO MANISTIQUE
Every Tuesday

Registration & info at Northern Rewards
Club for promotions and tournaments.
Club hours vary by site.

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\$6,750 IN CASH DRAWS EVERY SATURDAY
EARN ENTRIES** UNTIL 9:30 P.M.
& **3X ENTRIES 1 P.M. - 4 P.M.**
HOT SEATS 4 P.M. - 9 P.M.
WIN UP TO \$150 KEWADIN CREDITS
See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.
ALL SITES SATURDAYS, MAY 6-27, 2017 (EXCLUDING ST. IGNACE MAY 20)

Celebrate our **29TH ANNIVERSARY!**
\$24,500 in CASH & Credits!
\$5,950 in CASH DRAWS!
Hot Seat Draws* to play Plinko
Win up to \$600 in Kewadin Credits
Noon-10 p.m.
Champagne, cake & hors d'oeuvres served at 7 p.m.
(while supplies last)
See Northern Rewards Club to register & for more details.
*Must earn 10 base points to qualify for promotion

All Sites Monday, May 29, 2017
MEMORIAL DAY 2017
All service men and women show any
form of military ID to receive
\$10 in Kewadin Credits
Register at Northern Rewards Club

**WE'RE CELEBRATING TWO
23RD ANNIVERSARIES**

**KEWADIN CASINO CHRISTMAS
Saturday, June 3**

**Over \$9,000 in CASH &
Credit Draws!**

\$3,200 IN CASH DRAWS

Hot Seat Draws* to play Skee-ball
Noon-10:00 p.m.

Win up to \$200 in Kewadin Credits
Cake & hors d'oeuvres will be served at 7 p.m.
(while supplies last)

See Northern Rewards Club to register and
for more details.

*Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion.

- AND -

**KEWADIN CASINO MANISTIQUE
Saturday, June 17 & 24**

**Over \$22,000 in CASH &
Credit Draws!**

\$10,500 IN CASH DRAWS

Hot Seat Draws* to spin the prize wheel
Noon-10:00 p.m.

Win up to \$300 in Kewadin Credits
Cake & hors d'oeuvres will be served on
June 24 at 7 p.m. (while supplies last)

See Northern Rewards Club to register and
for more details.

*Must earn 10 base points to qualify for promotion.
Register for one free CASH draw entry.
Additional entries with every 10 base points.

Conservation Corner: Inland hunting, fishing and gathering licenses, seasons and bag limits

BY ROBERT MARCHAND

Inland hunting, fishing and gathering licenses are governed by Tribal Code Chapters 21 and 23. When you receive your harvest license, it is classified as either a harvest license or a non-hunter harvest card.

With the hard card issued to members with the title of non-hunter harvest card, you are only authorized to fish inland lakes and streams and gather, per code.

The hard card issued to members with the title of harvest license authorizes you to fish inland lakes and streams and gather, just like the non-hunter harvest card. In addition to these activities, the harvest license authorizes you to engage in small game, waterfowl, migratory birds and general furbearer hunting. Members may also obtain deer, spring and fall turkey, and trapping tags noted on the application.

Federal and state firewood permits can also be obtained by calling or coming to our office. State firewood permits are limited in that only one per household can be issued, members may only gather a maximum of five cords, and it must be dead and down wood. Members obtaining the state firewood permit are limited

to the area noted on the permit itself. Maps are available for both state and federal firewood permit authorized harvest locations, either through our office for the Upper Peninsula or your local Department of Natural Resources (DNR) office in the lower peninsula.

Regardless of which harvest license you receive, all licenses are valid from April 1 through March 31 of the following year. For example, the 2017 licenses are valid from April 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018. In order for members to avoid their licenses expiring for whatever activity they are engaged in, Sault Tribe Law Enforcement chose to begin issuing the following year's licenses on or around March 1 each year. This does not mean the license is active and valid because it has been issued on March 1, it simply provides the member with the ability to continue, without interruption, and the treaty activity the licenses allow after the one expires.

There are different seasons, bag limits and restrictions for different fish and animal species. Some fish and animal species may be harvested year round, some may not have a bag limit and some you can only catch during certain time periods. All

seasons, restrictions and bag limits are in Chapter 21 - Hunting and Inland Fishing. All activities must be done per the tribal code that governs them. All tribal codes can be found at www.sault-tribe.com, select Government at the top, and select Tribal Code from the drop down list.

See chart below with hunting seasons and bag limits that can also be found in the online harvest guide that provides an at-a-glance summary of some of the different rules and regulations, seasons and bag limits for different fish and animals, restrictions in effect for different locations, etc. These guides are available online at www.sault-tribe.com, Membership Services, Natural Resources, and click the download option on the left-hand side, or at the bottom of the page, click on the red-lettered "For Applications Please Click Here." There are numerous resources online to assist tribal members in determining what type of license they need, maps showing where they may engage in the treaty activities, what the laws are regarding the activity they wish to engage in, harvest reports and applications necessary to obtain the current year licenses, etc.

Regardless of the season start and end dates, you must ensure that the harvest licenses (hard card and tags issued) you hold is for the period of time you are engaging in the activity. Sault Tribe Law Enforcement is working on updating the information that is placed on all hard cards and tags issued to include dates of validity.

As of the end of the day of March 31, 2017, your 2016 licenses were no longer valid. If you are engaging in treaty activities governed by Sault Tribe rules and regulations, you must obtain a 2017 harvest license – hunting or non-hunting. If you held a 2016 harvest license and have not turned in your harvest report for 2016, you must turn this in to receive 2017 licenses. Members can send the reports to the mailing address on the first page of the report, or turn them in at Law Enforcement when applying for

SPECIES	SEASON	BAG LIMIT
Whitetail		5, 2 of which can be antlered
Early Firearm	Day after Labor Day — Oct. 31; and	Only 2 of the 5 may be taken in early firearm season; 1 may be antlered
Late Firearm	Nov. 15 — first full weekend of January	
Archery	Day after Labor Day — the first full weekend in January.	
Bear	TBD; Applications available May 1, due May 31	By lottery
Elk	TBD; Applications available May 1, due May 31	By lottery
Ruffed Grouse	Sept. 1 — March 31	10/day; 20 in possession
Sharp-Tailed Grouse	Oct. 1 — Nov. 30	4/day; 12 per season; 8 in possession
Snowshoe	Sept. 1 — March 31	10/day; 20 in possession
Wild Turkey		
Spring	April 15 — June	2; bearded only
Fall	Sept. 15 — Nov. 14	2
Squirrel	Sept. 1 — March 31	10/day; 20 in possession
Bobcat	Oct. 1 — March 31	2, one of which may be from LP
Badger	Oct. 1 — March 31	No bag limit
Grey Fox	Oct. 1 — March 31	No bag limit
Red Fox	Oct. 1 — March 31	No bag limit
Muskrat	Oct. 1 — March 31	No bag limit
Raccoon	Oct. 1 — March 31	No bag limit
Mink	Oct. 1 — March 31	No bag limit
Fisher	Oct. 1 — March 15	3, UP only
Marten	Oct. 1 — March 15	2, UP only
Otter		
UP	Oct. 1 — May 15	3
LP	Oct. 1 — April 15	1
Beaver		
UP	Oct. 1 — May 15	No bag limit
LP	Oct. 1 — April 15	No bag limit
Coyote	All Year	No bag limit

2017. This report is required whether you harvested anything or even had a chance to get out there.

Reminder: If you lose your harvest card or tags, a \$10 replacement fee applies to have new ones issued. This fee applies to any and all license holders, regardless of whether you had to pay to obtain the license in the first place. You must provide a copy of your tribal card with an explanation of why you need replacement license or tags, and sign and date the sheet.

Bear and elk lottery applications are available online or at Sault Tribe Law Enforcement's office. You can pick one up at the window, or call and request that one be mailed to you. All applications must be received in the Sault Tribe Law Enforcement office no later than 5 p.m. on Wednesday, May 31, 2017, to be included in the drawing. No late applications will be accepted. If you are 17-59 years of age, there

is a \$4 application-processing fee per application.

Please remember: An inland (called harvest license or non-hunter harvest card) license does NOT allow fishing on the Great Lakes. Subsistence and subsistence gillnet licenses do NOT allow fishing on inland lakes and streams. Both types of licenses are effective only in Sault Tribe's 1836 Treaty area. Your current, updated (not expired) Sault Tribe membership card allows fishing only on the Great Lakes in the 1836 Treaty area if you follow State of Michigan rules.

Treaty hunting and fishing rules and regulations can seem very complex. Members may always contact Sault Tribe Law Enforcement's office at (906) 635-6065 with questions or concerns. Licensing staff available Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and officers available 24/7.

Robert Marchand is chief of Sault Tribe Law Enforcement.

First harvest of season

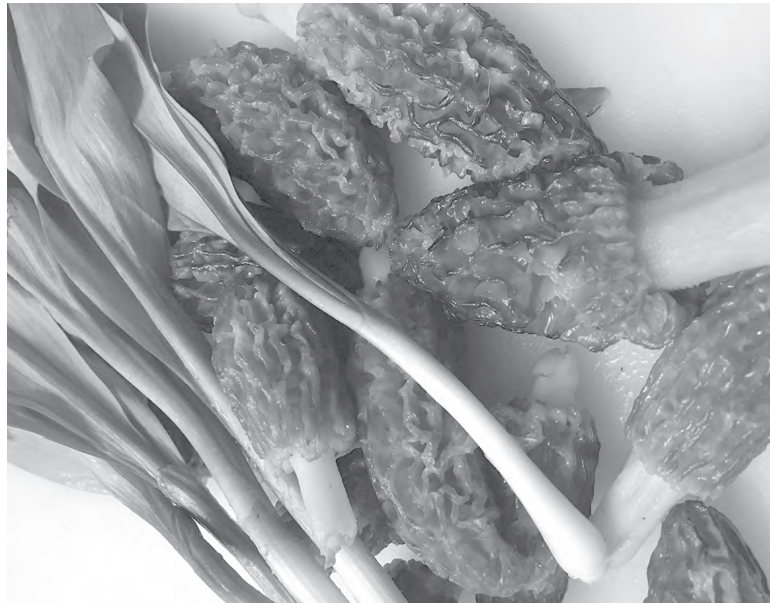


Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton

Fresh local ramps and morels gathered by Michael Burton, ready to be sauteed in olive oil.

Join hands on July 3 for love of the Great Lakes

All Hands On Deck aims to call attention to need for legislation, regulations and funding to sustain the health of world's largest surface fresh water resource — the Great Lakes.

Communities in the U.S. and Canada are working together to make plans for the All Hands On Deck event on July 3, 2017, at 10 a.m., that will link hands and boats for one hour along Great Lakes shores to raise awareness of the need to protect the Lakes everyone loves.

More than 25 communities in five states and Ontario have committed to take part within only three weeks after the event was announced and there is room for more "captains" and communities to come aboard, according to event coordinator,

Kimberly Simon.

"Interest just keeps growing day by day — the momentum is amazing!" Simon said in a recent release. "The idea resonates with people across a very broad region because they all realize the Great Lakes are precious resources that are essential for our environment, our economies, and our way of life."

More than 1,400 people have joined the All Hands On Deck discussion group on Facebook, with many actively involved in organizing participating events in their local area.

The nonpartisan, all-volunteer event transcends geopolitical boundaries. Coordinated events will take place at public beaches and other public-access-

Join "All Hands on Deck" at your favorite Great Lakes beach in your community, 10 a.m. on July 3! — holding hands across the Great Lakes shores and boats along the coasts to draw awareness to the need to protect our waters. Become an event organizer for your community, join an event or help promoting our event on your social media. We need your help. Will you join us? Sponsor us? Lend a hand to us? If interested, please contact our event organizer, Kimberly Simon, at (586) 255-3312, allhandsondeckgreatakes@gmail.com, www.allhandsondeckgreatakes.org. Join the discussion on Facebook. [com/groups/1687852669615](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1687852669615).

sible sites in local communities, with people holding hands or boats lining up along the shore.

"Sites may differ by community but on beaches or boardwalks or any other places, the intention is the same everywhere: to bring people together in an expression of unified concern about something we all

can agree on," Simon said in the release.

"We all want to care for our Great Lakes," she added. "They're facing so many threats — invasive species, pipeline leaks, waste disposal and many other types of pollution, diversion, erosion, possible funding cuts for research and mainte-

nance programs and staff — the list goes on and on. Whether people are residents of the Great Lakes Basin, or business owners, leaders and policymakers, visitors or vacationers, everyone has a stake in sustaining the vitality of our Great Lakes."

Communities and groups that want to host an All Hands On Deck gathering, and individuals willing to serve as captains for local events, are welcome to join this regionwide effort to call attention to preserving and protecting the Great Lakes.

For more information or to join in, contact Event Coordinator Kimberly Simon, at (586) 255-3312, allhandsondeckgreatakes@gmail.com, www.allhandsondeckgreatakes.org.

MSU students volunteer for community outreach program

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

About 40 youth and staff from the Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities Program (YEA) and Title VII gathered April 20-21 at the Niigaanagizhik Building to participate in a youth leadership program sponsored by Michigan State University's Native American & Hispanic Business students.

The program is for students in grades 8 through 12, and offers developmental workshops on public speaking, resume writing, presentation skills and being a leader.

Twelve students from MSU's Native American and Hispanic Business Students (a student organization on campus) participated this year. Sr. Program Coordinator of MSU's Multicultural Business Programs, Kevin Pi Leonard, Ph.D., said the MSU students take time away from classes and work to participate, and receive no college credit. "They get a lot of recognition for the work they do in the community, but they do it because they love it," he said.

This was the organization's fifth time visiting the Sault Tribe, and their second year in a row back-to-back. They have also brought their presentations

to youth at Bay Mills Indian Community, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and the Pokagon Band.

Leonard said the program allows students to be exposed to leadership skills whether they are interested in business or not. "We know not every student that attends this program has an interest in business or even in going to college," he said. "This will get them thinking about what options and opportunities are there for them."

Leonard is a Sault Tribe member who grew up in DeTour.

One of the interactive exercises involved a string and grouping students into teams to work on communication, teamwork and trust skills. "Students often think leadership means having a title," Leonard said. "While students are participating in the activities, we watch to see who steps into leadership roles. Nobody was told they were in charge during the activities, but for them successfully complete certain tasks there is going to have to be someone who steps up to lead. Part of leadership is knowing when to follow to help the team achieve what needs to be done. The leader is not always in the front of the room."



Photo by Brenda Austin

Sault Tribe YEA and Title VII students work with MSU volunteers on a leadership building activity.

The MSU students who volunteered for this year's program, are: Meagan Cortez (president of the Native American and Hispanic Business Students); Scott Allen (the current vice president of external, and next year's president); Anna Blissick (internal vice president); Samantha Rivera (community service and outreach person, and workshop coordinator); Sarah Koch (membership chair); and Gabby Mennassa, Nathaniel Feige, Daisy Garcia-Castro, Maddie Brakie, Jaila Jones, Marc Garrow and Fabian Hernandez.

Samantha Rivera, said, "We can see the impact we are making in the students that are returning – they are more apt to get in front of the other students and speak. Last year after we were here we had several students write and tell us they were thinking about college because of our encouragement. If one student does that then we have made a big difference."

Meagan Cortez, said, "It's really important to me to help other people. I have had mentors help develop my skill sets. In areas like the Upper Peninsula

(U.P.) that have a little less resources, I think it's important for people do have the time and resources to come back and help connect students to things that can better them in the future." Cortez said this was her first time in the U.P., although she has traveled with the program for a few years.

Sault Tribe member Jillian Socia, 17, an 11th grader from Cedarville, is one of the returning students who participated in this year's program. "The first year I came I was very shy and didn't realize we would be learning leadership skills and that I was in fact a leader. When I was put into situations with some of the games we played, it forced the leader in you to come out if you are one. It made me more comfortable, and this year I am ready to help other people," she said.

Madison Ovanich, 17, from Marquette said it's an eye-opening program. "You learn a lot of things – I used to be shy and sheltered, and now I feel like have come out of my shell." Also participating in the program were drums Sturgeon Bay Singers and Mukka Giizhik. YEA coordinator Lisa Burnside helped organize the event.

Sault area students honored for community volunteerism

BY RICK SMITH

A group of 10 young Sault Tribe members were among 25 student volunteers of the eastern Upper Peninsula recognized for their exceptional service as part of an April 11 celebration of National Volunteer Week hosted by the United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula. The awards presentation luncheon and ceremony took place at the Lake Superior State University Walker Cisler Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

In alphabetical order, the names and grade levels of the recognized members, their schools and 2016 numbers of recorded volunteer hours:

- Ashtyn Bell, freshman, Sault High, 79;
- Nicholas Bourne, junior, Malcolm High, 107;
- Derek Bouschor, senior, Malcolm High, 112;
- Paige Cushman, freshman, Sault High, 51;
- Areka Foutch, sophomore, Sault High, 186;
- Hailey Jackson, junior, Malcolm High, 102;
- Mackenzie Kalchik, junior, Sault High, 113;
- Deana LaLonde, senior, Sault High, 114;
- Victoria Merchberger, senior, Sault High, 264;
- Anne-Marie Peer, senior, Malcolm High, 100.

Merchberger also received the Michigan Student Service Award medal and a certificate signed by Governor Rick Snyder. The award honors students who have accumulated 400 or more service hours through the course of their four-year high school careers, according to the United Way of the EUP. Merchberger accumulated 519 hours of volunteer service.

Another student volunteer from Sault High, Ryley Aslaspa, also received the award for an accumulation of 487 hours.

"Both Aslaspa and Merchberger have gone above and beyond in the Sault area, and acts as role models for next year's freshman students as they also begin their journey of volunteerism," the United Way noted in a statement.

All of the recognized volunteers from Malcolm High contributed help at Hearthside Assisted Living. A few of the other places or projects that benefitted from volunteer services of at least one or more students were Feeding America, Community Action, downtown Sault Ste. Marie beautification, Haunted Depot, Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities, EUP Reads, I-500 window painting and Lincoln School.



Photo by Rick Smith

Sault Tribe members of Malcolm High and Sault High who were recently recognized by the United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula for their volunteerism. Front row from left, Deana LaLonde, Paige Cushman, Victoria Merchberger and Areka Foutch. Back row from left, Nicholas Bourne, Derek Bouschor, Ashtyn Bell and Anne-Marie Peer. Missing from photo, Mackenzie Kalchik and Hailey Jackson.

Bill would help small businesses to get federal contracts

LANSING, Mich. – U.S. Senator Gary Peters (D-Mich.) recently visited MessageMakers in Lansing to announce that he will be introducing bipartisan legislation with Senator Susan Collins (R-Maine) to help protect

small businesses from falling victim to fraud when they register to procure federal contracts. The *Procurement Fraud Prevention Act* would require small businesses to be notified that free assistance is available for help

in procuring government contracts through federal programs, including Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs), the Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA).

Many business owners are unaware these resources exist and fall victim to scams that mislead them into paying high sums of money for contract procurement assistance.

"From defense and auto parts manufacturing to construction and catering, Michigan small businesses provide a wide variety of goods and services to the federal government while creating jobs in their local communities. It is important business owners are equipped with tools and knowledge to protect their companies against scams while taking advantage of new business opportunities,"

said Senator Peters. "I am pleased to be at MessageMakers today to see firsthand how Michigan businesses are benefitting from services provided by their local PTACs. My commonsense, bipartisan bill with Senator Collins would better educate small businesses about existing, free federal resources so they can spend their hard-earned money reinvesting in their businesses and creating more jobs."

"The PTAC of South Central Michigan has given our company a competitive advantage with the resources they provide at no cost — from the federal contract registration process to researching new bid opportunities and even seminars on bid award winning strategies," said Terry Terry, president of MessageMakers. "Senator Peters' bill will help make sure small businesses like ours know about the free services

PTAC offers, and we're proud to have him here to announce this legislation."

"The goods and services provided by the private sector are critically important to the federal government's operations," said Senator Collins. "Unfortunately, the procurement process can be complex and difficult to navigate, which can deter small businesses from competing for contracts or lead them to hire unnecessary and expensive consultants. Our legislation would ensure that more small businesses are aware of the free tools and resources already available to them so they can focus on making competitive bids, growing their companies, and creating jobs in their communities."

Michigan is home to ten PTACs and over 850,000 small businesses that account for half of the state's private workforce.

UWM free American Indian Science Scholars Program

The Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council announces the free American Indian Science Scholars Program, July 23 to Aug. 2, at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Room and board at UWM dorm is provided.

Students take part in hands-on sessions, which in past activities included looking at blood cells of infection, blood typing, DNA necklaces, learning the physics of medical imaging, visiting a field station and more.

The program includes educational field trips to multiple campuses, cultural activities and a Milwaukee Brewers game.

For more information, contact Natalia Graf or Amy Poupart at ngraf@glitc.org or apoupart@glitc.org, or call (800) 472-7207 and ask for either ext. 118 or 177, regular mail address is Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc, PO Box 9, Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538. Apply online at <http://www.glitc.org/programs/narch-studentoptions>.

Sault Tribe members walk on ...

MARGUERITE C. GIRARD

Marguerite C. Girard, 97, of Gladstone, Mich., passed away on April 28, 2017, at St. Francis Hospital in Escanaba following a brief illness.

Marguerite was born on Dec. 22, 1919, in Gladstone, the daughter of Christopher and Pearl (nee Carr) Smith. She was raised in Gladstone where she graduated from Gladstone High School. Following graduation, Marguerite worked at the Busy Bee Cafe in Gladstone before working at the J.C. Penney Store for over 30 years.

Marguerite was united in marriage to Lowell Girard on May 4, 1940. They made their home in Gladstone where they raised their two children. She was a member of All Saints Church, the Gladstone Senior Center and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of the Chippewa Indians.

Marguerite enjoyed playing cards with friends, going to bingo and volunteering at St. Vincent de Paul. She and Lowell also enjoyed traveling in their retirement. Family was very important to her and she treasured spending time with them.

Marguerite is survived by her children, Chris (Margaret) Girard of Appleton, Wisc., and Sandy DeShambo of Sheboygan, Wisc.; seven grandchildren, Kevin (Cathy) DeShambo, Paul (Shannon) DeShambo, Kristen (Matt) Doedens, Mary (Alaa) El Ghatit, David (Cheryl) DeShambo, Gretchen (Brian) Eychaner and Jamie (Todd) Pelot, 16 great-grandchildren and three step-great grandchildren, all who adoringly called her "Old Gram" and "Closet Gram;" numerous nieces and nephews; several cousins; wonderful neighbors, Janice, Denise and Terry; and many special friends.

Marguerite was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Lowell; grandson, Adam Girard; sister, June (Howard) Carlsen; son-in-law, Ken DeShambo; and all of her brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law.

According to her wishes, private graveside services takes place at a later date at the Fernwood Cemetery in Gladstone with Rev. Fr. Jamie Ziminski of the All Saints Church officiating.

A memorial fund is going to be established in Marguerite's name for the Gladstone Senior Center. Donations may be mailed to the Skradski Family Funeral Homes of Escanaba and Gladstone who are assisted the Girard family with the service.

Please visit www.skradskifuneralhomes.com where you can express your sympathy to the family.

DANIEL K. MASTAW

Much loved father, grandfather, brother and uncle, Daniel Kevin Mastaw of Dearborn, Mich., passed away unexpectedly on April 24, 2017, at Beaumont Oakwood Hospital, in Dearborn.

He was born on Jan. 26, 1955, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Alphonse and Agnes Mastaw.

Danny was the youngest of 16 children. As a young boy, his family moved to Dearborn where he graduated from Fordson High School. He was a kind-hearted man who loved his family. He was also quite the jokester who loved a good prank and to see people laugh, even if it was at his own expense.

Danny is survived by his best friend, Sherry Mastaw; children, Kevin, Daniel II and Adam; grandchildren, Jordan, Jada, Codey, Camerynn, Maiara, Alexis, Aliyah and Daniel III; siblings Elaine Faragher, Patsy Cox, Brian (Joyce) Mastaw, Jerry Mastaw, Johnny (Becky) Mastaw, Richard Mastaw, Franklin Mastaw and Nancy (Larry) Evans; over 50 nieces, nephews and many cousins.

Danny was preceded in death by his parents Alphonse and Agnes; siblings Terry Barr, Charles Mastaw, Jackie Smith, Billy Mastaw, Mary Catherine Mastaw Carol Mastaw and Darlen Mastaw; niece Linda Smith and nephew Bob MacMaster.

Visitation took place on April 27 through April 29 at the Niigaanaagizhik Ceremonial Building, followed by a Mass of Christian burial with Brother John Hascall as celebrant. Final resting place is at Riverside Cemetery at a later date. Danny will leave a void in many hearts and will never be forgotten.

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

LINDA L. GOUGH

Linda Lee (nee Jewett) Gough, 68, of Sandusky, passed away on April 19, 2017, at Stein Hospice Care Center after a lengthy illness. She was born on May 28, 1948, in Detroit, Mich., to Charles K. and Ida (nee Leblanc) Jewett.

Linda was a waitress at the former Ponderosa in Sandusky for 15 years. In her spare time, she enjoyed sewing, taking care of animals and going on road trips. Her greatest joy was spending time with family.

Linda is survived by her mother, Ida; daughter, Samantha (Dave) Price of Saginaw, Mich.; son, Fred (Cathy) Blay of Bellevue; eight grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brother, Timothy (Kathy) Jewett of Cass City, Mich.; and numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

In addition to her father, Charles, Linda is preceded in death by her sister, Rita Murphy.

Friends called on April 22 until the time of funeral services at Groff Funeral Homes and Crematory in Sandusky. Pastor Wally Gilbert of Northpointe Baptist Church officiated.

Those wishing to contribute to Linda's memory may do so to the

Humane Society of Erie County, 1911 Superior St., Sandusky, OH 44870.

CATHERINE T. LAPOINTE

Catherine "Katie" Theresa LaPointe, 85, died on April 16, 2017, at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. She was born May 14, 1931, to Perry James Causley and Mary Sabrina Osogwin Causley.

Katie grew up in Hessel and attended Hessel Elementary and Cedarville schools. After school she worked as a childcare worker. She married Louis LaPointe on July 6, 1974, and they continued to live in Hessel. Louis died in 1992. Katie lived at Cedar Cove in Cedarville when she was no longer able to live on her own in Hessel.

Katie was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She was a member of the Sault Wesleyan Church, and had been a member of the Catholic Church and the Faith Baptist Church.

Katie liked to sing and could yodel. She was an accomplished cook and everyone enjoyed her baked bread. She liked to fish. She often helped with powwows and dressed in her regalia for them. She always wore a hat or bonnet.

Katie is survived by her son Perry James (Sandy) Causley of Lansing, Mich.; grandsons, Thomas Causley and Brad (Monique) Causley Sr.; granddaughter, Tonya (Alayne) Causley-Ingram; great grandchildren, Brad (Jordan Stebleton) Causley Jr., Elysia Causley, Cassandra Causley, Kayla Vandermeer and Avery Vandermeer; and great grandson, Carter Causley. Katie is also survived by sisters Margaret Vassar and Ann Causley, both of Sault Ste. Marie; and many loving nieces and nephews.

Katie was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, John, Wilfred, Raymond, Joseph and Wilfred II Causley; her sister, Francis Smith; and her son, Thomas Causley.

Services were held at R. Galer Funeral Home in Pickford, Mich., on April 21-22 with Brother John Hascall conducting the service.

Burial will be at the Italian Cemetery in Clark Township, Mich.

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

GLADYS L. PLATT

Gladys Louise Platt, 82, of Kincheloe, Mich., passed away on March 19, 2017, at Tender Care in Sault Ste Marie, Mich. Gladys was born on July 7, 1934, in Detroit. She was the daughter of George N. Taylor and Mary "Mamie" Fountain Molnar. Gladys was a member of

the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, was very active in the Moose Lodge and worked at Kewadin in St. Ignace. She spent much of her time knitting, crocheting and making doilies.

She leaves behind daughters, Jacqueline L. (Herb) Peltier and Roberta D. (Michael) Curtis; sons Nicholas A. Flick and William L. Dessenberg; 15 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren; and one brother, Lawrence G. "Larry" Taylor.

She was preceded in death by her parents; son, David L. Flick; three sisters and six brothers.

Visitation at the Community Church in Gould City on May 19 followed by services with burial immediately after at Newton Township Cemetery.

Messier-Broullire of Manistique, Mich., made the arrangements.

DOLORES A. YOUNG

Dolores Ann Young, aged 86, formerly of the Irish Hills, surrounded with family passed away on April 3, 2017, in St. Clair, Mich. Dolores was born on July 15, 1930, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Genevieve and Joseph Menard. She was a member of the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Dolores graduated in Sault Ste. Marie from Loretto Catholic Central High School in 1948. She was married to David Claude Young on Sept. 3, 1949, in Sault Ste. Marie. He preceded her in death on Nov. 6, 1990.

She and her husband David owned numerous businesses throughout the Detroit area including the Meade General Store where they raised five of their seven children. In 1970, they relocated to Irish Hills where for many years they owned and operated the Irish Hills Trading Post/800 Guns Sporting Goods store and were active members of the Irish Hills Chamber of Commerce.

They enjoyed antiques, collectible guns, knives and RV trips. They traveled extensively throughout the United States in their RV and especially enjoyed the fall colors in New Hampshire and Vermont areas.

Dolores and David have seven children, David (Carol) Young of Luzerne, Mich., Larry Young of San Diego, Calif., Nancy Bunt (Joseph Linden) of Sitka, Alaska, Terri (Robert) Reinhold of Macomb Twp., Mich., Thomas (Denise) Young of Tecumseh, Mich., Lori (David) Horton of Adrian, Mich., Julie (Michael) Gordon of Fort Worth, Texas, 18 grandchildren and 31 great-grandchildren.

Dolores was an amazing mother and grandmother who unselfishly gave of herself. She had an unwavering devotion to her religious beliefs. The light she brought to those around her will forever be missed. May the Angels rejoice in her presence.

Visitation took place on April 6 at the J. Gilbert Purse Funeral Home in Tecumseh on April 6 and services were conducted on April 7 at the St. Joseph Shrine Catholic Church in Irish Hills with Fr. Bob Pienta officiating.

Condolences to the family may be made online at pursefuneral-home.com.

JANE B. JACOBS

With her 1950s retro lenses and a smile that could light up any room, Jane Jacobs was a charming woman with a wide range of talents. Her lifelong philosophy of working hard and saving money allowed her to enjoy many of life's richest blessings. Jane lived in the moment and cherished each and every one of her family members. She put every bit of herself into ensuring that her family had the best of everything. Whether it was her good cooking over the years or the time she spent with them, her family will always treasure and lovingly remember the wonderful collection of memories she leaves behind.

World War I was over and most Americans were eager for peace and security; but, 1919 would prove to be anything but. Race riots rocked the nation, hundreds of workers went on strike across the country, political unrest ran rampant across Europe and North America and the flu pandemic continued with a brutal wave in the spring. Yet, 1919 also brought jazz to Chicago, the first dial rotary telephone to Norfolk and the world famous Hotel Pennsylvania to Manhattan.

On Oct. 7, Nelson and Annie Bellant welcomed home their newborn daughter, Jane. She was the 16th child out of 21. With two of her siblings passing away as infants, there was a total of 19 children during her growing years. Her siblings included Joseph and Josephine (twins), Alice and Gladys (twins), Norabelle, Bill, Vern, Norman, Chester, Wilson, Henry, James, Clarence, Raymond, Rachel and Hazel (twins), Jesse and Edsel.

Jane was born to a hardworking set of parents: a commercial fisherman and homemaker. Growing up on the beautiful northern shore of Lake Michigan in the small fishing community of Epoufette, it was no surprise they lived on a diet of fresh fish and potatoes! As a young child, she and her siblings loved to play outdoors. Her childhood duties of bringing in firewood for the family's cook stove to bake bread each morning as well as fetching water from the creek and carrying it back home, instilled in her a strong work ethic that remained throughout her lifetime. Typical of the times, Jane attended a one-room schoolhouse and completed her education through the eighth grade. She was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, which gave her many of the skills she shared during her youth. As a teen, she worked in a logging camp in Michigan's Upper Peninsula caring for young children while their

See "Walking On," Page 21



Sault Tribe Board resolutions passed in April

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened meetings on April 4 and April 18. Directors Kim Gravelle and Anita Nelson were absent from the April 4 meeting and all were present at the meeting on April 18.

A fiscal year 2017 budget was established at the April 4 meeting for \$17,410 in Bureau of Indian Affairs funding for Great Lakes Restoration Initiative projects with no effect on tribal support.

The fiscal year 2017 Health Center Emergency Preparedness budget was modified to accommodate an increase of \$9,359 from the State of Michigan.

The Health and Wellness in Indian Country fiscal year 2017 budget was modified for the reallocation of expenses and an increase in federal Centers for Disease Control funding of \$201,732.25 with no effect on tribal support.

Another budget modification was approved for the fiscal year 2017 Partners to Improve Community Health budget for changes in the personnel sheet, reallocation of expenses and an increase in Centers for Disease Control funding of \$147,338 with no effect on tribal support.

Submission of an application was approved for Head Start and Early Head Start grant funding.

The board declared support for the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin and allies in efforts to protect culturally significant properties threatened by the

proposed Back Forty Mine. The board also declared its opposition to the mine.

A 2016 audit of Kewadin Casinos and the Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority as presented by Rehmann was accepted and approved, contingent upon the Gaming Authority accepting the 2016 Kewadin Casinos audit.

The board authorized the purchase of five parcels of property in Kincheloe, Mich., with funds from DeMawating retained earnings.

Confirmation was made of funding in the amount of \$10,202 requested for training Domestic Violence Court staff as part of a \$31,157 Bureau of Indian Affairs grant to host a Violence Against Women Act training for the Sault Tribe, other tribes and interested parties.

Elizabeth Dietz was appointed to a four-year term as elder appellate judge for the tribe's Court of Appeals beginning on April 11. Rick Corbiere was appointed to a four-year term as community member appellate judge for the tribe's court of appeals.

A fiscal year 2017 budget modification was approved for Transportation Planning for an increase in Bureau of Indian Affairs funding of \$18,466.50 with no effect on tribal support.

Another budget fiscal year modification was approved for Judicial Services to accommodate an increase of Bureau of Indian Affairs funding of \$44,859 with no effect on tribal support.

Sault Tribe Construction's fiscal year 2017 budget was modified for an increase in other revenue (sales) of \$38,346.64 and an increase in tribal support funding of \$3,371.51 for a total increase of \$41,718.15. The modification was made to enact a schedule

of prevailing wages enacted on Feb. 7. Another modification was approved for changes in the personnel sheet and an increase in other revenue (sales) of \$2,030.21 and an increase in tribal support of \$2,030.21. A third modification was also approved in the Sault

Tribe Construction budget to accommodate an increase in other revenue (sales) of \$20,867.79 with an increase in tribal support of \$2,318.64.

Resolutions and voting rosters can be seen in their entirety at saulttribe.com.



Photo by Rick Smith

U.S. House of Representatives member for the 1st Congressional District of Michigan, Jack Bergman, recently stopped by Sault Tribe facilities in Sault Ste. Marie for a familiarization tour of tribal facilities and functions. The freshman congressman visited the Tribal Health and Human Services Building before seeing the JKL Bawheting Public School Academy, George K. Nolan Judicial Building and the housing sites on the reservation and Odenaang with tribal board Chairman Aaron Payment, Sault Tribe Police Chief Bob Marchand and Officer Levi Cron before having lunch and discussions with a few tribal officials at the Dream Catchers Restaurant in the casino and convention center. Bergman was on a district tour that included town hall meetings, office hours and meetings with constituents. Michigan's 1st Congressional District includes all of the Upper Peninsula and most of the northern lower Michigan. Bergman also serves on the Budget and Natural Resources committees and as chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. Above from left, Unit III tribal board Representative Keith Massaway, Unit I board Representative Kim Gravelle, Bergman, Unit I board Representative Mike McKerchie and Payment.

Sault Tribe member Jane E. Jacobs dies at 97

From "Walking On," Page 20
parents were hard at work running the camp. Later, she traveled to Detroit to stay with her older sisters and worked cleaning homes in some of Detroit's wealthiest neighborhoods.

Never one to turn down an opportunity, Jane took to working in the factories during WWII as a welder. She helped to assemble military planes used in the war effort. When the war was over and the men returned to their jobs, Jane found herself out of work. Yet, due to her extraordinary reputation and strong skill set, she was offered a permanent position with General Motors headquarters in the engineering department on West Grand Boulevard! Her main role there was working with blueprint filing and cataloging. At the recommendation of her boss, as a young woman, she took an adventurous cross-country train ride to the beautiful Yellowstone National Park which she fondly remembered throughout her lifetime!

On her free weekends from work, she and her girlfriends would take to the dancing halls and dance the night away! She especially favored the Greystone and the Grande Ballroom. It was no surprise that Jane would meet the man of her dreams one night in a dance hall! After turning down a few other men who had asked her to dance one evening, when Jack Jacobs stepped across the dance floor to ask, she agreed without hesitation! The two of them joined in marriage on June 14, 1952, in Detroit, Mich. She and Jack had two won-



Jane Jacobs throughout her life.

derful sons born only 14 months apart, Mark and John. As a young mother she was well known for always providing a meal on the table when they sat down to dinner. There wasn't any job around the house that Jane didn't manage to complete. With a knack for fixing just about anything mechanical in the house or the yard, the boys grew accustomed to coming home from school at times to find that she had disassembled the washing machine! The family also had many wonderful memories of traveling back to her childhood home in Michigan's beautiful Upper Peninsula each and every summer for many years where she was devoted to remaining close with her large family.

Widowed in 1977, Jane drew on her many special interests to keep loneliness at bay. A devout Catholic, Jane kept active in her church membership and cherished her time on the altar society at St. Gemma's Parish on Detroit's northwest side. She also drew on her many long lasting friendships she had made with members of her TOPS group that met each

and every Tuesday night for many years. Above all else, Jane loved to dance! A hobby that brought her much joy, she was well known for attending the summer festivals and spent many Saturday nights at the Moose Lodge. She and her special friend, Mitzi, could also be spotted at Desoto's on Telegraph where they were

admired by younger generations of dancers for their moves on the dance floor. Young at heart, her interests didn't stop with dancing; she was also an avid Tigers fan whose favorite player was Schoolboy Rowe; a country music lover; especially Eddie Arnold; and an animal documentary junkie!

Jane will always be remembered for the many ways she touched so many people during her lifetime and her strong model of perseverance and independence will be passed on for many generations to come.

Jane B. Jacobs, 97, passed away March 23, 2017, peacefully surrounded by her family. She was preceded in death by her husband, John L.; grandsons, John L. and Mark N.; her parents and 18 siblings. She was the loving mother of Mark A. and John N. (Julie), beloved grandmother of Jason, Meghan and Joshua.

A wake took place on March 26 at Neely-Turowski Funeral Home in Detroit followed on March 27 by a Mass of Christian Burial at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in Farmington. Interment is in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, in Detroit.

WEQUAYOC CEMETERY Spring clean-up and potluck MAY 20, 2017

10 a.m., potluck start at 12 p.m.

Needed: Rakes, trash bags, work gloves and any other items for cleaning the graves and tidying up the general cemetery area. Please label items with your name to reduce chances of getting mixed up with others' items. Any questions or for more information contact either Russ Rickley (906) 440-5696 or Dell Powers (906) 984-2055.

Cemetery is at 2354 E HWY M-134, Hessel, MI, MI 49745

Healthful cooking classes funded by grant

Sault Tribe Community Health registered dieticians share some kitchen savvy in classes from April 20 to May 25 exploring cooking skills and creating easily prepared dishes as tasty as they are healthful. Suitable for either beginning or more “seasoned” cooks, the classes provide a fun way of learning “fresh” procedures and recipes to serve at home. Participants learn tips for food and kitchen safety as well as creating simple but satisfying dishes. A Sault Tribe Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country Grant funded the classes through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Keep watch for similar functions conducted by staff of the tribe’s Community Health programs.



PHOTO BY RICK SMITH

NOW WE’RE COOKING — From left, dieticians Mary Bunker and Kristi Hill discuss one of the finer points of knife handling and techniques for slicing vegetables with one of the class participants, Sue Menard-Young, during the April 27 class conducted in the kitchen of the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

Learn how to become a trauma informed community

BY MELISSA VANLUVEN, ACFS CHILD PLACEMENT PROGRAM MANAGER

April is nationally recognized as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Child abuse and neglect are serious problems that can have lasting harmful effects on its victims, their families and communities.

In the fall of 2016, Anishinaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) was asked to partner with the Chippewa/Luce/Mackinac Department of Health and Human Services (CLM HHS) as it began a collaborative focused on becoming a trauma informed community.

This initiative includes partnering with the western Michigan Children’s Trauma Assessment

Center to develop trauma informed communities that link CLM HHS and ACFS, schools, courts, mental health professionals and other community partners to identify and address the needs of traumatized children and their families.

Our vision is as a trauma informed community, we begin to build individual, family and community resiliency through evidence-based practices that identify and treat the needs of traumatized children, adults and families, resulting in safe and healthy outcomes.

In addition to the immediate trauma that occurs to children as result of child abuse and neglect, there is a larger conversation happening in our community about how destructive and far reaching

“adverse childhood experiences” — ACEs — can be. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, ACE is a term describing “all types of abuse, neglect, and other traumatic experiences that occur to individual under the age of 18.”

The Kaiser ACE study looked at childhood abuse, neglect and household challenges, including substance abuse, mental illness, violence, divorce or a member of the household in prison. The study showed dramatic links between adverse childhood experiences and risky behavior, psychological issues, serious issues and the leading causes of death.

According to the study, those with six or more ACEs died nearly 20 years earlier than those without ACEs.

However, the Minnesota Department of Health has found that, “The presence of protective factors, particularly safe, stable, and nurturing relationships, can often mitigate the consequences of ACEs.”

If you are interested in learning more about ACEs, a good introduction is the 15-minute video, *How Childhood Trauma Affects Health Across a Lifetime* by Nadine Burke Harris, at www.youtube.com/watch?v=95ovI-J3dsNk.

In addition, the CLM HHS presents the movie *Paper Tigers* at the St. Ignace Library on May 17 at 6 p.m. and at the St. Ignace Middle School Cafeteria on May 31 at 6 p.m. This is a community kick off for our “trauma informed community” initiative. We are

very excited about the initiative and about this event. I invite you to spread the word, share the poster and to attend.

Here is the link to the trailer — <http://www.papertigersmovie.com/>.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the variety of support services available to tribal families through ACFS or if you need to report a situation involving the abuse or neglect of a child, please call (800) 726-0093 or 632-5250.

If you are aware of an emergency situation involving the safety of a child you may also call the Michigan HHS 24-hour Protective Services Hotline at (855) 444-3911 or Sault Tribe Law Enforcement at 635-6065 or call 911.

Michigan gets \$16.37 million for opioid addiction

LANSING, Mich. — Michigan has received more than \$16 million in federal funds to help reduce opioid use and abuse across the state, according to an April 21 press release.

The funding was awarded to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services through the State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grant, administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration within the US Department of Health and Human Services, according to the release.

The grant will be used to promote prevention and increase access to treatment by funding state of Michigan initiatives:

- The Michigan Automated Prescription System;
- Development of a statewide awareness campaign;
- Michigan-OPEN research through the University of Michigan;
- Medication Assisted Treatment;
- Prevention services and strategies;
- Improving the availability of Naloxone;

- Increasing peer supports, tribal supports and support of law enforcement;
- Providing a new model for re-entry services;
- Collaboration with university partners on re-entry, evaluation, and research opportunities.

“This is an excellent opportunity to address the rise of opioid use disorders in our state,” said Dr. Debra Pinals, MDHHS chief psychiatrist in the release. “Through this grant, we will strengthen our networks for prevention and treatment to reduce opioid-related deaths and make

treatment more available for those who need it.”

From 1999 to 2014, Michigan saw a four-fold increase in unintentional fatal drug poisonings, and the state was ranked 10th in the nation in per capita prescribing rates of opioid pain relievers in 2012, according to the release.

Lt. Gov. Brian Calley led the Prescription Drug and Opioid Abuse Task Force in 2015, which issued recommendations to address the addiction epidemic. Gov. Rick Snyder created the Michigan Drug and Opioid Abuse Commission in 2016 to imple-

ment the task force’s recommendations to combat the opioid epidemic and ensure the health and safety of Michigan residents. Last month, Snyder and Calley joined with a bicameral and bipartisan group of legislators to announce next legislative steps in a primary prevention strategy to better monitor controlled substances and prevent addiction from occurring in the first place.

For information about substance abuse and mental health in Michigan, including local resources for treatment, visit www.michigan.gov/bhrecovery.

Clark Township designates its parks smoke-free

Clark Township in Mackinac County was recognized by the Sault Tribe Partnerships to Improve Community Health Grant Project for designating its parks and outdoor recreation areas tobacco-free, which includes cigarettes, chewing tobacco and e-cigarettes.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention, tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability and death in the United States. About 20.7 percent of Michigan adults and 10 percent of Michigan youth smoke cigarettes; however, with the emergence of electronic-cigarettes and other “vape” products, 23 percent of Michigan youth use these new, unregulated devices according to the 2015 Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System

and the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, respectively. Finally, according to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, one in three of its adult members smoke — putting them at 1.5 times the risk of developing chronic disease or dying from the use of commercial tobacco.

Tobacco-free recreation areas protect and preserve the environment, promote positive community role-modeling for youth and protect the health, safety and welfare of all community members. Sault Tribe’s partnership grant project provided funding for signs and posts for all recreational properties owned by Clark Township. The partnership grant is funded by the CDC, which works to prevent chronic disease by decreasing tobacco use among adults and youth and

decreasing exposure to second-hand smoke.

“This project is yet another cooperative undertaking with Sault Tribe in encouraging healthy living lifestyles within the township and we deeply appreciate their generosity and support in helping to establish our recreation areas as tobacco-free,” states Gary Reid, who serves as the township supervisor.

Clark Township joins over a dozen other communities across the Upper Peninsula that have designated their parks and outdoors recreation areas as tobacco-free.

For more information on tobacco-free outdoor recreation areas, visit www.UP4Health.org or contact David Wesoloski at dwesoloski@saulttribe.net.

Tobacco – A Threat to Development

The World Health Organization (WHO) designated this year’s World No Tobacco Day on May 31 as “Tobacco – a threat to development.” WHO is calling on countries to prioritize and accelerate tobacco control efforts as part of their responses to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Harm caused by tobacco abuse goes far beyond personal health.

Tobacco growing requires large amounts of pesticides and fertilizers, which can be toxic and pollute water supplies. Each year, tobacco growing uses 166,024 square miles land, resulting in global deforestation between 2 and 4 percent.

Tobacco manufacturing also produces over 2 million tons of solid waste.

About 6 million people die from tobacco every year.

All of us can contribute to making a sustainable, tobacco-free world. People can commit to never take up tobacco products. Those who do use tobacco can quit the habit, or seek help in doing so, which will in turn protect their health as well as people exposed to second-hand smoke, including children, other family members and friends. Money not spent on tobacco can be, in turn, used for other essential uses, including the purchase of healthy food, healthcare and education.

Our children must become "THE" priority!



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

"If we are to teach real peace in this world, and if we are to carry on a real war against war, we shall have to begin with the children."

— Mahatma Gandhi, Indian political and spiritual leader

Aaniin Anishnaabek, I believe Gandhi's words to my very core. Our world is out of balance and on a precipice of calamity, all because of grown-ups! But there is hope, great hope!

I have spent a great deal of time with children, and have seen even very young kids provide simple answers to supposedly complicated problems. World hunger? Feed them! War? Be nice! Cold? Wear my coat, and on and on. Children are pure, their truth is direct and they have the answers, but somehow society manages to ignore them.

I am so proud of the many times in our Anishnaabe history that children showed us the way. I am also proud of how the grown-ups listened; how they

recognized a child's wisdom and even acted on the dreams of a child! There are many accounts of how children have SAVED their people, because their people paid attention to those little voices. The children were cared for, respected and loved. Our tribe came to this area because we were one of those who listened to their children; but times have changed, and not for the better. Our children need us now, more than ever, to listen.

Children are still coming into this world as they always have, innocent, pure, free from jealousy and hate. It is up to us, as a people, to put them first in everything, and in every way. They must become more than just "A" priority, children must become "THE" priority! I am not saying that our children are unimportant or not a priority, but when I look at our tribe's budget and where we spend our tribal dollars (not just the grant dollars), I know that we can do better and I have to find a way to turn that around.

Of the 56 items we fund with tribal dollars, arranged from the most amount to the least, the first money that goes to children is No. 15 — Child Care. Continue down that list to No. 49 — Youth and Education and Activities, and finally the last item, No 56.

— Youth Programs! Granted, the culture camps benefit children too, but our children need and deserve MORE! In my opinion, our priorities are out of line. Our children should be at the TOP of our spending priorities, not 15th, 49th or in last place at 56th.

As a classroom teacher, I've



Unit I Director Jennifer McLeod (fourth from right) with Rudyard Area Schools students.

worked in education long enough to see a generation of students grow up and return as parents, hoping and praying for a better world for their babies, but the world hasn't gotten better and we can help change that. As a tribe, we need to do all that we can to give our children what they need, because they KNOW what real peace is, they KNOW what real love for humanity is, and perhaps NOW there is a child ready to show us the way again.

Within our tribe, we have to create real opportunities to involve children in every aspect of life, and we have to LISTEN when they speak. Our Anishnaabe bimaadiziwin is the way back to what we once were. Let us gather our elders, let us gather our children, and let us LISTEN to what they have to say.

I am not casting any kind of dispersion on any of the other 50-plus line items where tribal dollars are spent — they are important, too. Nor am I criticizing any current or former administration, but I think it's past time that our tribe has a real conversation about priorities. I've been saying "prioritize" for years now, and have decided that with or without tribal support, I am making children MY priority and putting action behind my words.

I'm mentoring. I'm guest-teaching culture and language in schools. I serve as chair to the JKL Fiduciary Committee, which is dedicated to improving the education of our children at our tribal school (we are planning to add nine more classrooms, and we are working to expand past grade eight!). Plus, I serve on the Board of Directors Advisory

Committee for Head Start-Early Head Start. During the summer, I will continue working with kids, teaching them their culture, language and crafts.

As always, if I can be of any help or service, or if you just want to talk about our children, please don't hesitate to contact me!

Children are MORE than our future; they are the answer to our survival.

Anishnaabe gagige (Anishnaabe for always),
Jen
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Photos from *Win Awenen Nisitotung* archives



Marsha Nolan-Ailing's twins, Billi Jo and Barbara Sylvester.

USDA offers low interest U.P. home repair loans

Especially for families with very low incomes

EAST LANSING — The U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development is accepting applications from very low income families for home repair loans in all 15 Upper Peninsula counties.

"These loans can help cover the cost of fixing the roof, windows and other needed maintenance," said Area Director Don Gerrie. "With spring under way, this is a great time to look at home repairs."

Loans may be up to \$20,000, carry an interest rate of 1 percent and can be used to for repairs, improvements, weatherization,

and to make a home accessible for persons with a disability.

Applicants must have an acceptable credit history, meet income guidelines, have repayment ability to service the new loan and any existing obligations, be a United States citizen or legally admitted for permanent residence, and own and personally occupy the home on a permanent basis.

For more information, contact the USDA Rural Development office in Sault Ste. Marie at 632-9611, ext. 4, or visit www.rd.usda.gov/mi.



Roberta Verdone (back row) and her Johnson O'Malley kids.



On the right, Bonnie McKerchie and Alice Captain (L-R).

Thank you, Bill Connolly, enjoy retirement



MICHAEL MCKERCHE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

When creating and making policies that govern our tribe, the council must make every effort to provide our managers, directors and team members the proper tools and work environment to succeed. If we do not — we need to know what's working and what's not

working. Oftentimes we are reacting to something that is not working, but we take for granted all the things that are working. As board members we do not hear very often the "good," so I will take this opportunity to say thank you to all the employees who do provide excellent service and prevent bad experiences. Furthermore, I would like to ask what do you think can better our tribe?

As a former employee, I realize there are several areas that we need to improve. I'm hoping to get action plans from managers and directors to address these issues. They know their issues and I am confident they can address them if given the proper support. I firmly believe we need to change gears and focus our internal services to help managers get the job done and remember that we are all on the same team. Our organization needs additional streamlining and

more positive encouragement to empower employees. I believe we have a talented staff to accomplish this. All ideas for improvement should be voiced, even if you don't think "the board" would approve, the discussions need to be occurring.

Also, as a former employee, I understand the hesitation to discuss things with the board. Oftentimes we can seem combative on issues. How we say things matter. Several of the issues that face this tribe, we (the council) are not going to agree on the solution, but the talks need to keep occurring until we can compromise and fix the problems. Most times the solutions are quite similar, but the way it gets presented and the off-the-cuff remarks often lead to a breakdown of discussion. However, I do see a majority that recognizes this and I believe we can get past these issues and come together. A lot of

our future is unknown with grants, with the saturated gaming market and ever-expanding competition; now is not the time to fight amongst ourselves. There are no "unit" issues, there are only tribal issues.

Anyone who has attended any recent workshops knows that I am not a fan of our executive officers being at our workshops and meetings. And I get why many prefer them there, access to information is immediate and we can answer almost any question with them there. And I get that and see the many benefits it offers; however, I also believe this to be risky. With easy access and constant interaction lines can become blurred between governing and managing. And I accept the fact that as the Gaming Authority we do have some managing role, but I am stating that I prefer to keep the lines completely separate and make it

easier to hold directors accountable. I'm not stating this occurs, but rather that there is a risk, and I would prefer to lessen that risk. I share that now, because we are in the process of looking for a new chief financial officer.

I would like to thank Bill Connolly for his many years of service to our tribe. I've had many talks with Bill and think very highly of him. We didn't always see things the same way, and that's okay — we respected each other and our different views. Chi miigwech, Bill, and enjoy your retirement. I would also like to wish our new CEO of our Kewadin Casinos, Ron Olson, good luck. I am very optimistic of what he can do for our organization and look forward to see what he can get accomplished.

Please contact me to further discuss issues facing our tribe at (906) 440-7768.

JKL working on plans for school expansion



KIMBERLE GRAVELLE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

It has been a busy couple

of months. The JKL Fiduciary Committee has been working on the plans for a middle school expansion. This will not cost the tribe any money because the funding will come out of the lease for the school. This new addition has been a long time coming.

In the past, students would reach middle school and decide to transfer to the public school because of access to the sports programs. Since the completion of the new gym, at JKL Bahweting Anishinabe School, we found there was a need for more space for students who have decided to stay for middle school. The expansion of the middle school will help solve this prob-

lem.

We finally have a permanent casino CEO who will be taking steps to upgrade and fix our properties so we can compete at a pace with the newer casinos. Our casinos have been in need of a facelift for quite some time. One of his first priorities is to fill positions that have been vacant for far too long that are detrimental to the success of an enterprise, such as a casino manager, marketing director, and a food and beverage manager, for starters. I have spoken with leaders of other tribes and they informed me that we are very fortunate to have him.

I've attended meetings that

have been discussing women who are struggling with addiction and women who use substances during their pregnancy. They have found that more children are having cognitive learning problems that are born to a mother with an addiction. One of the biggest worries of these women is having their children taken away. If you seek help, your children will not be taken away.

When you are ready to take the next step you can call your local tribal access center to discuss your options. Client confidentiality protects you and your children. You may have to leave the community for a short period of time for treatment but your children are wel-

come to stay with you during this time. Access to Recovery (ACR) can help you get clean and healthy. To learn more visit <http://www.atrhealingcircle.com/access-centers> to find the tribal access center closest to you.

Please keep the men and women in our armed forces in your prayers and thoughts for a safe return to their families.

I also want to take the time to thank all the team members for the hard work they do every day for our tribe. It is appreciated.

If you have any questions or comments please call me at (906) 203-6083 or e-mail me at KKGravelle@saulttribe.net.

Dedicated staff and workers keep boat steady



LANA CAUSLEY-SMITH,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

In my last report, I stated that we quickly began the process of securing a new CEO for our five casino properties after the previous one voluntarily resigned. This month, our new executive started his position here with us. We have met with him and he has also made tours to our all our casino properties. I know that we did a release on his name and past experience but that does not tell you much information. Mr. Olson comes with many years of experience from positions in other states' tribes as well as casinos in lower Michigan, all with longevity in his role and always good standing when he went on to another endeavor. Our new CEO was able to take part in on our annual audit to have a first-hand report of our entire financial health and any findings

cited (which are minimal and none major — good job, staff). So with that update, we have come to a new path once again; in all businesses there are challenges and struggles to overcome, I am relieved that we have an experienced executive in place (record time for our tribe) to guide and manage our properties. This will come with changes as always but this new CEO having the status he does in working in Indian casinos, being a member of a tribe and his years of experience is a combination too for a good structure. I have supported the last two in this position and did not interfere or micromanage and this will be the same, some things I will like and some things I won't but in the end I am not the CEO and do not have the experience as one to manage at that level. I will respect that and support the needs he has to improve our work place for staff and increase our revenue.

With this update about our tribe it comes with two more announcements for executive staff, as reported by other members of the board, we have hired an economic development director. He has been in the position for a couple months and it's impressive the ideas and study he is doing on advancing our current business properties and looking at others to move forward on. We have about eight or nine in the hopper this far and vetting from himself, discussion with staff,

board and solid recommendations from him from his experience and vetting are all what is needed for successful endeavors. Joel Shultz is the tribal member whom we have hired and he comes with many credentials and a very successful history. He is flooded with many ideas and suggestions, some I see he agrees with and some he does not. Nevertheless, I'm sure we will be seeing many opportunities come forward in the future with this position secured.

In this past month we have been informed that there will be a recommendation for a new hire for the health director position. As you know, our tribe is in the process of planning an evaluation of our all our tribal clinics to get recommendations on best practices and above all quality of care for our members health services. I was the author of this resolution with other board members to begin this process and it is moving forward to secure a firm. Our executives and the existing assistant health director have been working to move this forward with input and understanding of what we need. We are shooting for a September deadline to secure a firm and complete the evaluation for recommendations to implement.

In my last report I explained many things that we have and are moving forward on. I want to also say this is about my fifth draft of this month's report. I just spoke

with one that helps and advises me (I have people that I trust to keep me in check; sometimes it's just my grand daughters). There are times I want to just lay it all out there as I get so frustrated, I always struggle with that as I know how elders feel about bickering and how staff are disrupted with that but in the end I try to keep a balance. There is so much I could write and say that many would lose sleep for, but in the end it's my responsibility to keep to the facts and work through fires and struggles quietly in my position (most of the time). I want to thank all our team members and staff who keep this tribe going daily, tying loose ends and keeping the ship steady. I also want to assure members that the board has been meeting and discussing many items that have been long overdue; we don't always group hug, but lately we have had a laugh or two. We have many things to get through and long hours are put in by all. I have witnessed a concerning pattern that some choose to go on Facebook or other social media sites, this disturbs me so much as like the above comment made, we must get through things as leaders.

We are bound by confidential rules for employees, investigations, property, proprietary casino business info, our internal legal strategies and so on. The facts are in a movement forward. This past few months, most since the change in

administration in our tribe, we have hired a new CEO, hired a EDC director, secured the 2020 treaty negotiation's legal firm, passed all 2017 budgets with capital improvements and raises for team members, completed the Human Resource audit for recommendations for improved department and workplace standards, finishing selection for new health director, completed the RFPs for the health assessment, surveys out for members input, have been steadfast in paying down our debt (about \$3 million left for outside loans, when I began on the board 13 years ago it was about \$700 million that included Greektown debt) and we are now discussing a change in our education program structure and the services provided and how we will implement the strategy and plan for the coming negotiations for our consent decree.

The national government is insecure at this time and that just means we need to be at our best to be prepared for anything that will trickle down to us; it's uncertain about our funding, so that's what we must focus on. I want to once again thank all the team members who focus on this tribe daily with your dedication, all the things above could not get done without you. Contact me if you would like to meet or discuss any items, ideas or issues.

lcausley@saulttribe.net
(906) 484-2954 or 322-3818

Fact check information you read on social media



**DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

The annual Elder Nahma Indian Pointe Cemetery clean-up will be held on Saturday, May 13, at 10 a.m. and the rain date is set for Saturday, May 20. Lunch and drinks will be provided by the Casino. Please bring your lawn chair and rake.

2017 Gathering of the Clans Powwow will be held on June 10 and 11 on the powwow grounds located directly behind the Manistique Community Center at 5698 W US-2 in Manistique, MI. Grand entries on Saturday are at 12 and 7 p.m., and Sunday Grand entry is at 12 p.m. The Feast will be held Saturday at 5 p.m., please bring a dish to pass. We will also be accepting donations for the Saturday auction, please drop off items at ACFS window for Viola. Any questions, please call Viola at (906) 341-6993, Denise at (906) 203-2471, Mary at (906) 341-8469 or Darcy at (906) 298-1888. Hope to see you there!

Most members are on social media or have family members who keep them informed of what is on social media. I believe social media should be used for spreading the truth. Not everyone has the moral character to tell the

truth while they have hatred pouring out of their keyboard. What happened to communicating as adults and having a conversation face to face or over the phone? The new way to do things is to slander people on social media and spread horrendous lies. The chairman has a persuasive way of convincing people everything he says is the truth. Please fact-check any information you read on social media. I know most members I talk to want the tribal politics on social media stopped. It is an embarrassment to the tribe and to our members. The chairman has told so many untruths that I have lost count, his hatred seems to stem from a majority of the board voting "yes" to remove his executive director duties. He has shown his true colors and a lot of members are not impressed.

At the last board meeting in Munising, a past Manistique casino team member got up and talked about how she had been in a closed session four years ago. At that time, she left paperwork and got no response. She then stated she came to a closed session two years ago and again no response from his administration. Every tribal member deserves to receive a response back in writing when they come to the board. With the change in administration, I am confident members will receive a response back.

The board has been working on issues in our fisheries that have been brewing for a while; the chair has said, "The board is on a witch hunt and this has all been fabricated." How unfortunate — we have a chairman who thinks our fishermen are not important enough to allow our fisheries department or the Great Lakes committee structure to be looked at. With the 2020 Consent Decree coming up, we need to have the

best interest of all our fishermen in mind.

There have been a lot of unanswered questions and at the last board meeting in Munising (April 18). I made a motion to "formalize the fishing investigation to report to the membership. Have the Executive Director prepare a statement to be released of what the findings were and how the issues were dealt with for board approval by April 25." We have a responsibility to report the facts to the membership, not have all these stories being made up. That is not productive for our members.

The chair called a special meeting for Tuesday, April 25; the subject was "CORA BSD – Contribution."

Resolution 2017-72 below: CORA BIOLOGICAL SERVICES DIVISION FUNDING

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians enjoys a court-affirmed treaty right to fish upon the ceded waters of the Great Lakes and is fully committed to the protection and full exercise of that precious right; and WHEREAS, the exercise of that right by the Tribe and by its members is governed by a 2000 Consent Decree in the case of *United States v Michigan*, WD Mich, File No 2: 73 CV 26, that allocates the rights and duties of various parties within the Great Lakes fishery including the Sault Tribe, four sister tribes, the federal government, and the state of Michigan; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the 2000 Consent Decree, the Sault Tribe is a member of the five-tribe Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) and is, through CORA, committed to the establishment of a joint biological program to be administered by

CORA known as the Biological Services Division (BSD); and

WHEREAS, following the recent break-up of the existing inter-tribal biological program, CORA voted affirmatively on April 7, 2017 to establish the BSD and to request an annual budget of \$46,400 from each tribe (to be pro-rated for 2017).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Sault Tribe supports of the establishment and operation of the BSD as described in the 2000 Consent Decree.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Sault Tribe commits to provide funding to support the BSD at CORA's recommended level of \$46,400 annually, which shall be prorated by month (or week) for the remainder of 2017 based on the start-up date of BSD.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Chairperson and Executive Director are authorized to execute any and all documents and contracts necessary to effectuate the establishment and funding of the BSD under the administration of CORA at that recommended level, with the FY 2017 contribution to be paid out of the existing budget for cost center 1024 (Conservation) (no effect on tribal support).

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the current ITFAP program budget shall be renamed STNRD (Sault Tribe Nat. Res. Dept.).

The resolution passed six to four to contribute \$46,400 to CORA. The "no" votes were directors Chase, Sorenson, Causley-Smith and myself. It was a budget modification and needed seven "yes" votes to pass. But the chair ruled it was legal and closed the meeting down.

Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) dissolved the Inter Tribal Fisheries Assessment Program (ITFAP), which was the

program run through our tribal fisheries program. CORA then formed a new program, Biological Services Program (BSD); and now wants each tribe to contribute the above dollar amount to fund this new program. Our chairman is also the chairman of the CORA committee and Dennis McKelvie is a voting CORA member. Jane TenEyck, the CORA director, attended the special meeting and answered some questions the board members had of this new program. Jane was asked what the funding was going to be used for and she stated staffing and that CORA had already decided to hire two of Sault Tribe's existing staff. Jane stated their names out in a public meeting. By Jane admitting CORA already decided on hiring them, that means our chairman knew of this and agrees with this! Did he vote for this? Give him a call and ask him. Again I ask, is our chairman looking out for you our fishermen?

As a board member, my job is to be your voice at the board table. Nothing about the way I have presented membership issues has changed since I was first elected 2012. If the complaint needed to be held in closed session that was how I handled the issue. The chair has twisted what was said in closed sessions and made his own story out of it. So, to protect myself from the chair and his untruths I have been asking members to put their complaints in writing. That way the chairman can't say Director Chase and myself are making up the issues just so he can continue to protect his friends and family.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Thank you, Darcy Morrow,
Unit IV representative
(906) 298-1888
dmorrow@saulttribe.net

Gathering of the Clans Powwow June 10 & 11



**DENISE CHASE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

2017 Gathering of the Clans Powwow

On behalf of the Gathering of the Clans Powwow Committee, I would like to invite you to attend our community gathering and powwow.

The powwow will be held the weekend of June 10 and 11, on the powwow grounds located directly behind the Manistique Community Center at 5698W US-2 in Manistique, Mich.

If you would like to volunteer for the powwow, please call Viola at (906) 341-6993, Denise at (906) 203-2471, Mary at (906) 341-8469 or Darcy at (906) 298-1888. We will also be accepting donations for the auction; please drop off items at the ACFS window for Viola. If you would like to sign up for a vendor table, please call

Viola for more information at 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137.

This year's host drum is 4 Thunder, the co-host drum is Bahweting and the invited drum is Mukwa Giizik. Grand entries on Saturday are at 12 and 7 p.m., and Sunday Grand Entry is at 12 p.m. Feast Meal is at 5 p.m. on Saturday. Admission FREE! Hope to see you there!

Indian Pointe Cemetery Clean Up

The Unit IV Escanaba Elder Committee has scheduled the cemetery cleanup for May 13 starting at 10 a.m. In case of rain they set a backup date of May 20.

Please make sure to bring your rake, gloves and lawn chair if you can help.

Job Openings

There is a driver position posted again through the Elder Services Division. The position is posted for a part-time driver. The position covers the western end. The driver would be responsible for providing rides for elders to and from medical appointments, hospitals, regional medical facilities, health clinics and doctor offices. The pay is \$9.32 per hour. The position is open until filled. If interested, call Sault Tribe Human Resources Dept. at (866) 635-7032 or apply online at saulttribe.com.

A student services assistant position is open until filled

with the Youth, Education and Activities program in Escanaba. The wage is \$10.43 an hour. The position works under the Youth Services coordinator. The position helps implement direct services for Native American youth, preschool through 12th grade, and is aimed at academic improvement, career choices, cultural growth, recreation, drug/suicide/bullying prevention and socialization. The position assists with the development of program activities, recognition, events and recruitment of program participants. If you are interested in the position look online at saulttribe.com to review the job opening and to apply.

There will also be a tutoring position posted in Escanaba to start next fall, so watch for the posting.

Health Director

Interviews have been completed and we are just waiting for a recommendation to come forward from the interview committee on which candidate they selected for hire. I will update you in the next report.

Health Assessment

It's in the final stages before selecting someone from the RFPs submitted. The committee has required more information and then will make a recommendation for selection on who will audit out health clinics and satellite clinics. Hopefully someone will be select-

ed by the next paper and will update you.

Now, I don't like to be negative in my unit report. But, frankly, I have no choice but to address the continuous lies being spun and put out by the chairman. If you have any questions about the misinformation he's putting out on social media please call us and find out the truth. Sometimes I feel like we're back in grade school. I'm tired of wasting valuable time and energy putting out fires with a leader sitting at the head of this tribe who has an elementary playground mentality. This is embarrassing to our tribe, he needs to grow up and act professional!

When we bring issues forward from employees who contact us (which we are obligated to report) regardless of who they are related to (yes, including his sister the Manistique casino manager) we get immediately retaliated against by the chairman, by him putting out a barrage of LIES against our character. He has used tribal employees' confidential information that he acquired when he had the executive director duties along with his delegated authority. I'm glad that he finally fessed up and asked for his delegated authority to be rescinded. Obviously, he couldn't handle it and all the confidential information he acquired daily in the position. That's why

it was so important to fill the Executive Director position with a non-political person, not the chairman (no matter who it is). Putting our staff names in his social media blasts is very unprofessional.

A couple of lies and misinformation he recently put out on social media is that myself and Director Morrow had a removal petition on him going around at the Manistique reservation, this a blatant lie. I called him out on it and he spun it and said someone told him about it. I said, "Give me the name I'll stop by their house on my way home," and then he backpaddled and admitted it wasn't true. You have to ask yourself, why does he make up these untruths? Such a web he spins.

Another blatant lie is that we're trying to get two tribal employees fired. One is related to myself and one to him; I am not like him, I won't put staff member names out in the public, they should be protected. As far as the casino goes, we are obligated as Gaming Commissioners, Board Members, and Gaming Authority members to bring employee and community issues forward that are not being addressed by management regardless of who they are related to.

If you need to contact me you can reach me at (906) 203-2471.

Moving at a snail's pace in the right direction



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

I want to address one concern team members keep inquiring about. Is the board going to act on the HR audit? It is very sad when our team members lose faith in the leadership to follow through on issues when they have given their input on several occasions through surveys, exit interviews, in letters and conversations. I can tell you that I will continue to fight for change and implementation for better working conditions for our team members, better policies and better customer services practices. The audit results were presented to the board and executive director and we have yet to see implementation. I am adding a follow-up presentation to the workshop agenda as this has been long enough.

Our new Kewadin CEO started on April 17th and drove to Munising on April 18th to meet with the board. He brings 20 plus years of managing native casinos. Hopefully some of our long-standing management positions will start to be filled in now. I am looking forward to Ron's expertise to bring forward policy changes and fresh ideas. He has made it to each casino for a site visit. We met with him again on April 25th to review the casino annual audits. The audit showed we have no major issues with any of our casinos just minor recommendations from the firm.

The April 18th board meeting in Munising became one of the many circuses under the Payment reign. He is the one who changed the membership period from 5 p.m.-6 p.m. to 4 p.m.-6 p.m. and runs the meetings. It was 4:30 p.m. as the board was discussing the highly controversial co-captain commercial fishing issue with a room full of members, most tribal fishers. When it became my turn to speak I asked that he allow the members to speak since it was their time and I wanted to hear from them. He resumed hearing from the board members on the list.

Many fishers did speak on both sides of the co-captain resolution in which it would end captains being able to have someone run their boat for them unless it was a medical issue. There was no established process on who would approve this or how long it would take or if there was even an appeal process. One of my concerns were if a fisherman had to bring a family member to the hospital and couldn't run his boat and his crew couldn't work, not to mention would they have to wait for a board meeting to grant-

ed approval? Would they have to make an appointment through law enforcement? They are many national and Native holidays that their office is closed as well as weekends and nights. There were no answers for this. I also asked since the issue of co-captains has been a hot topic for years because supposedly they are the reason for the over fishing. So, if every license holder fished instead of their co-captains, wouldn't we have the same problem? The other question I asked is what would be the amount in pounds we would be saving by not allowing co-captains on the lakes? There was no answer for that either. Our tribal fishing attorney could not attend the meeting, so some of these questions may have been able to be answered.

Instead Unit I board members pushed hard when, to the best of my knowledge, most of the fishermen come from units II, III, IV and V. I realize the right to fish belongs to the Sault Tribe and it is our responsibility to manage the resources, so let's put all the issues and concerns on the table, not just try and limit someone's competition on the lakes.

When I tried to discuss my firsthand knowledge of the fishermen's struggle to make a living, since I lived with a fisherman for nearly 20 years, they wanted to call me out for a conflict of interest. The chair made comments about who was coming and going out of my house. With the next resolution, I asked the chair if he would be asking anyone if they had a conflict, since it was a relative of a board member, to which the answer was no. Apparently conflicts of interest are defined by some of only being if you yourself get a pecuniary benefit. This just proves that every decision the chair makes is personal and political.

During more of the membership issue time frame we had a member want to address the board about the Manistique casino. The chair told her she had to speak in closed session because it involved an employment issue. The member said, "I haven't worked there in years." She also told him, "It is okay for you to put people's names and lies all over Facebook, but I can't come to a meeting to discuss this?" I do not like when a member vilifies our staff or another member during a meeting and recorded on Ustream. I also couldn't argue with the fact that what she said was true. He has no business spreading lies and vilifying people on social media or elsewhere.

In case people are not paying attention, the tides are definitely turning. Tribal members and team members are getting fed up with the lies, the hostile work environments, the bullying and protected families that are apparently more

important than the other 42,000 members and 1,600 team members. One just has to look at the turnover in certain areas, customer service, team member morale, team member attendance, etc. to see what is happening.

There is a resolution to take out a \$3.5 million loan for a JKL School expansion in the Sault. This concerns me for several reasons:

The JKL Fiduciary Committee is the sponsor of the resolution. The only board members allowed on that committee are Unit I board members. They have no bylaws. They decide on a dime to call a meeting if three of them are present and make decisions. I have never seen any meeting minutes and there are no rules of notice to call a meeting, which would be in a set of bylaws.

The school expansion has not been brought to the full board before the resolution was slapped on the agenda for a vote. Does the school support this since they will be paying increased rent to cover the loan? Does the parent committee and parents support this? What are the reasons for the expansions? I hear rumblings of a waiting list but what are the numbers? Last time they did the same thing when they drove the gym down everyone's throat.

Meanwhile, I am trying to get a long-term 2% agreement for \$25,000 for 10 years for a much-needed fire hall in St. Ignace. I am not sure that seven board members will vote to support this. If you have read many of my other unit reports you know that Unit III earns much more 2% dollars than we get to distribute in our own community. One of the concerns of other board members is the need in their areas too. I understand that many smaller communities in our service area are underserved but some of these areas do not have a casino and 2% was for impact on the local communities. All I

am asking for is what our casino earns and what our community is entitled to. Our volunteer fire department services our casino, hotel, Midjim, juvenile detention center, housing, elder center, head start, health center and future elder complex. Many of these volunteer firefighters are also tribal members.

The chair put out on Facebook how he was told many things that were discussed in closed session while he was not in office. So apparently, he thinks it is ok that people were telling him these things then but now, if you don't support him he wants to throw people under the bus. If things are wrong, they are wrong. He has been consistent by showing everything depends on who it is. He can say in one hand people who steal should be fired and the other hand approaches management to rehire his friends termed of the same wrong doings. He can say violators should be prosecuted until he finds out their names. We have had arguments of conflict of interest in hiring and it depends on who you are. So, for all those who still believe that he follows policy, it is the policy of his interpretation. He accused me of being racist while he is trying to protect a job of an individual who made several racial remarks as an employee on the clock. You hear him preach sacred cows? He is the master of protecting for political gain.

We have passed resolutions concerning ethics, bullying and VAWA but apparently, these do not apply to the chairman of the Sault Tribe. The women on the board have never been treated so badly. Very few times does he ever get after a man on the board. There continue to be many lies spread in the fishing community. The board has voted to allow information to be made public in this regard. As much as we want to communicate what the results are, we are bound by confidenti-

ality. I can verify that it was not a witch hunt. I did overhear the chair tell a member that justice shouldn't be blind. Hopefully by the next issue of the newspaper the information is available to the membership.

I am sad to hear of yet another of our tribal dentists is leaving, Dr. Bryan. We have lost too many staff including many professionals in the last few years. It is very hard to recruit these professionals and when we do, we can't keep them. We have yet to replace the nurse we lost a couple of months ago. We are still in the process of working on our health audit and deciding on a firm to conduct it. We were hoping to have the process complete by September.

There will be a cleanup of the Wequayoc Cemetery on Saturday, May 20th, at 10 a.m. Please bring your rakes, pails, scrubbers, and a dish to pass.

A reminder that Keith and I are available on the third Mondays of the month at the McCann School at 6 p.m. for any member concerns or questions.

If you are in the St. Ignace Area please consider stopping in to enjoy the Native American Festival on May 26th-28th at the Museum of Ojibwe Culture. There will be workshops, a powwow, feast, teachings, etc. This is always one of my favorite events of the summer which this year takes place during my son's graduation so I probably will not be around much if at all.

The next board meeting that will be held in St. Ignace will be on Tuesday, June 6th.

Law Enforcement is having a golf scramble on Saturday, June 10th, to raise money for the annual Jr. Police Academy. This will take place at Tanglewood in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information please call (906) 635-6050.

Please feel free to contact me at (906) 430-0536, Bsorenson@saulttribe.net or Bridgett91@yahoo.com.



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