



Win Awenen Nisitotung

December 15, 2017 • Vol. 38 No. 12
Little Spirit Moon
Manidoo Giisoonks



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

Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority opposes tunnel under Straits of Mackinac

SAULT STE. MARIE — In a unanimous decision, the Native American tribes that make up the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority or CORA, have voiced their opposition to the concept of a new tunnel under the Straits of Mackinac and renewed their plea to Governor Snyder and Attorney General Schuette to immediately decommission Enbridge Line 5. The proposal to replace the section of oil pipeline in the straits with a tunnel comes from what CORA believes to be a highly flawed alternatives analysis recently released by the state's Pipeline Safety Advisory Board.

"It's obvious to CORA that the focus of the alternatives analysis report was not to find solutions that were in the best of interest of Michigan but to allow Enbridge to continue pumping oil to Canadian refineries through a route that endangers our most productive fishing grounds," said CORA Executive Director Jane TenEyck.

The 64-year-old pipeline snakes its way through the heart of the CORA tribes' ceded territories and through waters that the United States and Michigan have promised to protect. The Straits of Mackinac are the most productive waters in the treaty

reserved fishery, producing over half of the tribes' commercial fish harvest. A rupture in the pipeline would be catastrophic for the future of that fishery. It will also devastate the public's 20 million angler days spent every year fishing on the Great Lakes.

The CORA resolution points out that a tunnel beneath the straits would not prevent the threat of an oil spill and that scoping for a tunnel would greatly extend the risk of a catastrophic oil spill into the future.

"This alternative to buy time though the ludicrous idea to build a new tunnel is a stall tactic through the end of the Snyder administration and through 2018 gubernatorial campaigns," said CORA Chair Aaron Payment.

Payment added, "With the decline of environmental concerns and the threat of underwater pipelines, the recent spill at the Keystone Pipeline and ongoing spills by Enbridge it is just a matter of time and we will no longer be able to call Pure Michigan pure."



Aaron Payment

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Tribal Elder turns 90



Pictured from left to right are Clarence Cadreau, Basil Willis, Frank Marble, Dennis McKelvie and Bill Marsh at Basil's 90th birthday Nov. 24 at the Nokomis-Mishomis Place. Barb Willis organized his party.



Kids' Christmas party took place in Kincheloe — See more photos on pages 14 and 15. Above, left to right, Ethan Black, 10, Ella Black, 9, Brianna LaPlante, 7, Katie LaPlante, 8, and Kenzey McKerchie, 3.

Mino Niibaanamaan miinwaa mino nimkodaading!



Elders learn about relaxing with games of Stress Bingo



Above, Sault Tribe Community Health RN Roberta Hoffman calls out different facets of stress from symptoms to relief for the players at a game on Dec. 7 in Sault Ste. Marie while Ken Lively and Elizabeth Young check over their cards.

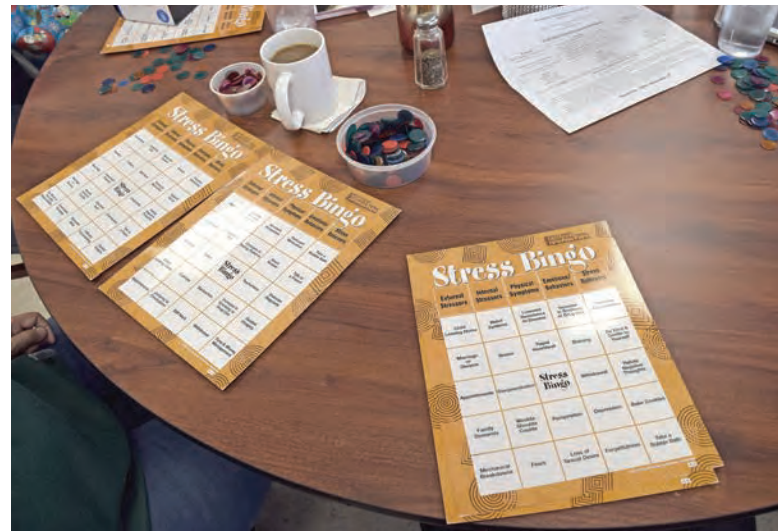
Once a month, Sault Tribe Community Health conducts Stress Bingo games for interested tribal elders in Sault Ste. Marie. The games take place on the reservation at the Mishomis-Nokomis Center.

Stress Bingo is a fun way for people to learn about stress and how to manage it.

In addition to learning and having fun, players in these games have chances of winning some nifty prizes.

The game is easy to learn, especially for bingo fans. Where regular bingo functions with combinations of letters and numbers, Stress Bingo uses stressful situations, symptoms, behaviors, responses and relievers combined with options or variations involved under each category.

Those interested in playing Stress Bingo should get in touch with the folks at Community Health.



A sampling of Stress Bingo cards lay among the bingo chips and chocolate "coffee" at the game. In addition to learning about stress and having fun, the monthly games provide excellent opportunities for socializing with other players.



Left, Bill and Dorothy Wagner enjoy a game. Dorothy shows off a prize won earlier in the proceedings.



Right, facing camera, from left, Pat Rudis, JoAnn Nault and Lou Anne Bush. Facing away from camera are, from left, Susan Lively and Stephanie Lewis.

Photos by Rick Smith



JoAnn Nault selects a wrapped prize from a table covered with booty as Elizabeth Young looks on. Prizes range from many hand-crafted items to modern conveniences.



Nault discovers she won a new Mainstays indoor grill. That is what you could call compounded fun, winning great prizes while having fun.

2017 Sobriety Powwow December 31st • New Year's Eve

Chi Mukwa Community Center
2 Ice Circle Dr., Sault Ste. Marie

- 1 p.m. - Grand Entry
- 4 p.m. - Feast
(Nigaanigizhik Building)
- 6 p.m. - Hand Drum Contest
- 7 p.m. - Grand Entry
- 10 p.m. - Sobriety Countdown
- 11:59 p.m. - New Year Countdown

Head Vet
Bnaaswi Biiaswah, Ojibwe-Odawa

Emcee
Allyn Cameron, Ojibwe

Arena Director
GBA

Host Drum
GBA



Head Male Miisheen Shawanda,
Odawa-Cree

Head Female Miigwaans Smith,
Odawa-Ojibwe



For information or to volunteer contact
Jackie Minton at 906-635-6050.

Absolutely no Drugs or Alcohol.

Notice to resident tribal members: keep address current

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

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@sault-tribe.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.

January 2018 USDA road schedule

Sault Tribe USDA Food Distribution Program staff certify eligibility of clients and distribute food at a central warehouse in Sault Ste. Marie and repeat the process at eight tailgate sites every month serving 15 counties in all. Those counties served are Alger, Chippewa, Delta, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette, Schoolcraft, Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Leelenau and Manistee. Those wishing to apply must reside in one of the 15 counties served in order to apply.

Applicants need to verify membership in any federally recognized tribe for at least

one member of their household. Applicants also must verify all that applies to them on the application, such as all income received, all expenses paid out such as child support, day care, utility bills, rent of mortgage receipts.

Applicants over 60 or disabled may qualify for a medical deduction as well.

Those who may have questions should call 635-6076 or toll free at (888) 448-8732 to inquire.

A nutrition educator is also available to help with any nutrition questions you may have.

The application process to receive these benefits takes up

to seven business days from the date the office receives it, and you cannot receive SNAP (food stamps) and commodities in the same month.

Here is the January 2018 food distribution road schedule:

Monday, Jan. 3	Marquette
Friday, Jan. 5	Newberry
Tuesday, Jan. 9	Manistique
	1 A-L
Thursday, Jan. 11	Rapid River
Monday, Jan. 15	Hessel/
	Kincheloe
Wednesday, Jan. 17	Munising
Friday, Jan. 19	Cheboygan
Tuesday, Jan. 23	Manistique
	2 M-Z
Thursday, Jan. 25	St. Ignace

Adult Education programs available in the EUP

FROM TANYA L. PAGES

Adult Education programs are ongoing at various EUP sites, and I congratulate students who earned their high school equivalency credential (GED) this school year.

If you, family members

or friends need a high school credential, now is the time to begin your journey. Call the Consolidated Community School Services (CCSS) at (906) 495-7305, visit the CCSS Facebook page or send email messages to me at tpages@eupschools.org for

more information.

Let 2018 be YOUR graduating year!

Tanya Pages is the Adult and Alternative Education Programs coordinator for CCSS, which serves the eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Vacancies on various Sault Tribe committees

The following committees have vacant seats.

Sault Tribe members interested in filling these vacancies should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other members to Joanne Carr or Linda Grossett, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783. Call (906) 635-6050 for any questions.

Conservation Committee - Thirteen vacancies - Six commercial fishers, six tribal members and one that can be either a commercial or noncommercial fisher. The deadline for this committee is Jan. 22, 2018.

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - Four vacancies - males (4-year term)

Child Welfare Committee - Five vacancies (4-year term)

Election Committee - Eight vacancies (4-year term)

Higher Education Committee - Three vacancies (4-year term)

Health Board - Two vacancies (4-year term)

Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - Eight vacancies (2-year term)

Elder Advisory Committee

Unit II - Hessel (4-year term), one regular vacancy, one alternate vacancy

Unit III - St. Ignace (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit V - Munising (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one regular vacancy

Elder Subcommittee

Unit II - Hessel (4-year terms),

four regular seat vacancies, two alternate seat vacancies

Unit II - Naubinway (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy

Unit V - Munising (4-year term), two regular vacancies, two alternate vacancies

Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, two alternate seat vacancy

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

December 15, 2017
Manidoo Giisoonhs
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Vol. 38, No. 12

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

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

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

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

Chippewa Indians and is published 12 times a year. Its mission is to inform tribal members and the public about the activities of the tribal government, membership programs and services and cultural, social and spiritual activities of Sault Tribe members.

Win Awenen Nisitotung, in Anishinaabemowin, means, "One who understands," and is pronounced "Win Oh-weh-nin Nis-toe-tuhng."

See our full, online edition at www.saulttribe.com.

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

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

Advertising: \$8.50/column inch.
Submission and subscriptions:
Win Awenen Nisitotung
Attn: Communications Dept.
531 Ashmun St.,
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
Telephone: (906) 632-6398
Fax: (906) 632-6556
E-mail: slucas@saulttribe.net or
jdale-burton@saulttribe.net.

WIOA training funds available

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) Program has funding available for on-the-job (OJT) training and short-term occupational training opportunities.

The program may be able to provide tuition assistance for skills training if it leads to an industry-recognized certification

or under OJT, the program may reimburse an employer 50 percent of your wage for a specified training period. Candidates must meet certain eligibility requirements and be a resident of the tribe's service area.

Please apply at WIOA, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich, or call Brenda Cadreau at 635-4767 for more information.

Liaisons available to help members

Three membership liaisons work with the chairperson's office on membership issues and concerns across the service area. The liaisons respond to membership issues and follow up to ensure they are resolved. Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact the liaisons when they need help with tribal issues by emailing membersconcerns@saulttribe.net or contacting them individually at:

Unit I — Sheila Berger,

Office of the Chairperson, Sault Ste. Marie, (906) 635-6050, (800) 793-0660, sberger@sault-tribe.net

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

Units IV and V — Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469; Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, mjenerou@saulttribe.net.

December dates for units IV and V membership liaison

Unit IV and V membership liaison, Mary Jenerou, is available for issues and concerns on these dates and locations for the month of December.

Munising Health Center:
Dec. 18, 20
Manistique Health Center:
Dec. 21
Escanaba Penn Star: Dec. 19

Phone contacts:

Manistique Health Center:
(906) 341-8469
Munising Health Center:
(906) 387-4721
Escanaba Penn Starr: (906) 786-2636
Marquette Community Tribal Center: (906) 225-1616
Cell: (906) 450-7011

Correction

An item in the Nov. 10 edition of Win Awenen Nisitotung incorrectly identified Kaylynn Cairns as the new Sovereignty in Education (SIE) coordinator for JKL Bahweting Public School

Academy in Sault Ste. Marie.

Cairns is the SIE coordinator for the Sault Tribe Education Department. Win Awenen Nisitotung regrets the error.

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Make a difference in the life of a child: Consider becoming a foster care or adoptive home provider

BY ACFS STAFF

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) is in need of caring individuals who can provide a safe and nurturing home environment for children who have been placed out of their home due to abuse or neglect. Foster care is founded on the premise that all children have the right to physical care, educational, emotional and cultural nurturance.

The family foster care program is designed to provide a substitute family life experience for a child in a household that has been approved and licensed. A relative may become licensed or may be

unlicensed. ACFS makes every effort to place children with a relative if possible.

Children may need foster care for a temporary or extended period of time. The primary goal during foster care is to reunite the child with his or her parents. The foster family plays an important role in the treatment plan for the child and family. Under the "team" approach, foster parents or relatives, together with the worker, attempt to provide the specific kind of help a child and his family need for reuniting the child with the parents.

When the child cannot be reunited with the parents, the

children are prepared for permanent placement with relatives or non-related adoptive families. The majority of adoptions done by ACFS are with relatives or other Native American families. Under certain circumstances, a foster family may adopt children in their care.

When adoption is not possible for older youth, the goal is to prepare the youth for independent living.

Foster care is seen as a short-term solution to an emergency situation. ACFS needs committed individuals who are:

- Willing to work with the child's birth parents;

- Supportive of efforts to return the child home;
- Able to work with children who have significant emotional and behavioral needs; and
- Able to encourage teens toward independent living.

You are not required to own your own home, be married or give up your job and stay home full-time in order to foster children. You may be renting an apartment or be single. You may apply for day care payments for the time that you are working or continuing your education.

- To become a foster care parent, applicants must:
- Complete a licensing appli-

cation;

- Successfully complete background clearances for all adult household members;
- Provide medical statements for all household members;
- Have an environmental inspection (when applicable);
- Provide three acceptable references;
- Pass on-site visits to the home by the licensing worker; and
- Attend training pertinent to foster care issues.

For further information on becoming a foster parent, call ACFS at 632-5250 or toll free (800) 726-0093.

Beware of holiday hazards for pets

Some seemingly harmless holiday fare presents serious harm to household cats and dogs

Most people know about keeping their pets away from electrical cords, tinsel and candles, and certainly know about cats and Christmas trees! But not everyone knows that these holiday foods and plants are bad for your pets.

Holiday foods

The following foods can be toxic or unsafe for pets:

- Cocoa and chocolate
- Grapes, raisins and currants
- Any products with the sweetener xylitol
- Alcohol
- Bread dough

- Rich or spicy foods
- Meat scraps and bones

Holiday plants

Some popular holiday plants can be poisonous or may cause intestinal problems should your pet ingest them.

- Poinsettia sap can cause gastrointestinal upset and be irritating to the mouth of dogs and cats.
- Some species of mistletoe are toxic if eaten and can cause liver failure or seizures.
- All parts of plants belonging to the lily family, including peace and Christmas lilies, are highly poisonous to cats.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Comment sought on long-range transportation plan update

The Sault Tribe Transportation Department invites the public to comment on a long-range transportation plan update for the Draft 2018-2022 Long Range Transportation and Capital Improvement Plan (LRTP).

Notice is hereby given that the public comment period began on Wednesday, Dec. 6, 2017, for the LRTP update for the tribal seven-county service area, which covers Alger, Chippewa, Mackinac, Luce, Delta, Schoolcraft and Marquette counties.

Comments received until



the end of business day on Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2017.

Copies of the plan are available at health and community centers in Sault Ste. Marie, Hessel, St. Ignace, Munising, Manistique and Newberry with fillable forms to share comments or suggestions.

A digital copy is available at www.saulttribe.com/newsroom/3048-public-notice, along with a convenient comment form.

In addition, comments can be sent to Wendy Hoffman, Transportation Department, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or sent by email to whoffman@saulttribe.net. For questions about the LRTP, contact Wendy Hoffman at (906) 635-6050.

Special accommodations: Accommodations can be made for persons with disabilities. Please call Wendy Hoffman at (906) 635-6050 for further information.



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TOURNAMENTS

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- Mariner's Cove - Manistique
- Frosty's Pub & Grub - Christmas
- DreamCatchers - Sault Ste. Marie
- Northern Nook - Hessel

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- \$20 Dining Voucher
- \$20 Kewadin Credits
- Two Concert Tickets

MJ LIVE
Michael Jackson Tribute Concert
February 8, 2018
\$130.20

GEORGE THOROGOOD AND THE DESTROYERS
ROCK PARTY
APRIL 29, 2018
\$163.73

POP EVIL
February 14, 2018
\$163.73

CLINT BLACK
MAY 12, 2018
\$187.13

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PROMOTIONS

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ALL KEWADIN CASINO SITES
Saturdays in January
3 p.m.-10 p.m.

Win up to \$100 Kewadin Credits
Win up to \$500 CASH at 10:30 p.m.

GRAND PRIZE NIGHT
JANUARY 27

WIN UP TO \$2,000 CASH!

Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion. Prize pool includes CASH and Credits.

Senior Day

ALL KEWADIN CASINO SITES
Wednesdays earn \$5 in Kewadin Credits!*

Earn additional Kewadin Credits by playing at multiple locations!

*Must register at Northern Rewards Club.

Players Day

ALL KEWADIN CASINO SITES
Every Monday

After earning 50 base points

- Black Card \$30 Credits
- Gold Card \$20 Kewadin Credits
- Silver Card \$10 in Kewadin Credits

Must register at Northern Rewards Club for promotions and tournaments.

Club hours vary by site.

Enbridge told to make full accounting of Line 5 condition in December

Action comes after revelation of dramatically increased number of coating gaps on pipeline that runs through Straits of Mackinac.

LANSING, Mich. – The State of Michigan recently called upon Enbridge Energy Partners, L.P. to give the Pipeline Safety Advisory Board (PSAB) a full accounting of the status of the Line 5 pipeline in light of new information recently released by Enbridge that additional coating gaps were discovered during the company's latest inspection of the dual pipelines in the Straits of Mackinac.

Enbridge must have given the presentation at the advisory board meeting on Dec. 11 in Lansing about all the findings it has made about the pipeline's condition, that of its protective coating and anchors, the results of its video inspections, automated in-line tests and recent hydrostat and biota testing.

The new information comes after the state requested inspections of each of the anchor locations following initial reports of coating gaps. Those inspections have been completed at 48 of 128 locations, and a majority of those 48 areas have gaps, Enbridge told the state today.

"This is very troubling and points out exactly why the state has been vigilant about getting information from Enbridge," said Heidi Grether, director of the Department of Environmental Quality and co-chair of the Pipeline Safety Advisory Board. "It is essential that we get adequate and accurate information from Enbridge to allow the state to continue our pursuit of protecting the Great Lakes."

Besides ordering the presentation, the state said it will bring on additional technical expertise to evaluate the information Enbridge was to provide in a report about the condition of the pipeline that was built in 1953. A 4.5-mile section of the line from Superior, Wis., to Sarnia, Ont., runs beneath the Straits of Mackinac within an easement issued in 1953 by the State of Michigan.

"A year ago, Enbridge said there were no coating gaps in the straits pipeline. Now, there are dozens," said Valerie Brader, executive director of the Michigan Agency for Energy and

co-chair of the Pipeline Safety Advisory Board. "When will we know the full accounting of what Enbridge knows about Line 5? I sincerely hope there are no more surprises when Enbridge gives their presentation to the Pipeline Safety Advisory Board in December. We and the people of Michigan deserve nothing less, and the state will be bringing on additional experts to examine Enbridge's information and challenge it where necessary."

The latest Enbridge information came just a week before the state was to release on Nov. 20 the final version of the Line 5 Alternatives Analysis report. Developed by independent contractor Dynamic Risk, the report studies what options are available for transporting the 540,000 barrels a day of light crude oil and natural gas liquids that run through Line 5.

Public feedback sessions in December

Three public feedback sessions were scheduled after the Alternatives Analysis release:

• **Wednesday, Dec. 6, in Taylor**, began at 6 p.m., at the Heinz C. Prechter Educational and Performing Arts Center, Wayne County Community College District, Downriver Campus.

• **Tuesday, Dec. 12, in St. Ignace**, began at 6 p.m., at the Little Bear Arena and Community Center.

• **Wednesday, Dec. 13, in Traverse City**, began at 6 p.m., at the West Bay Beach Holiday Inn Resort, Leelanau Banquet Rooms.

The report will be posted on <https://mipetroleumpipelines.com/> and the public will have 30 days to make comments online about what the state should do regarding the future of Line 5.

The Dec. 22 deadline for comments includes two additional days to account for the Thanksgiving state holidays during the comment period.

Those wishing to comment, can also post mail to the Department of Environmental Quality, Attn: Line 5 Alternatives

Analysis, P.O. Box 30473, Lansing, MI 48909-7973.

Dr. Guy Meadows, a professor at Michigan Technological University who is in talks with the state to perform a risk analysis of the pipeline, will also be asked to include information contained in recent revelations in his report, expected to be completed next summer.

The PSAB's last quarterly meeting was scheduled for 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., on Dec. 11, at the Causeway Bay Lansing Hotel and Convention Center in Lansing.

The state will use the information from the Enbridge Energy Partners presentation, the Alternatives and Risk studies, and the outside expert review to ensure the informational basis for any decisions about the future of the questionable situation of Line 5 is robust and complete.

Keep up on PSAB activities by signing up for its listserv at https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MILARA/subscriber/new?topic_id=MILARA_270.

Sault Tribe job openings, see more online at www.saulttribe.com

GOVERNMENTAL OPENINGS SAULT STE. MARIE, KINCHELOE

Health Education supervisor – full time/regular – open until filled
Employee specialist – full time/regular – open until filled
Chief Financial Officer – full time/regular – open until filled
PC technician – mis – full time/regular open until filled
Senior accountant – full time/regular – open until filled
Internal auditor – full time/regular – open until filled
Traditional practitioner assistant I (intern) – full time/regular – open until filled
Child care instructor – full time/regular – open until filled
Traditional Ojibway practitioner – STHC - full time/regular – open until filled
Human Resource director – full time/regular – open until filled
Bus driver – full time/regular – open until filled
Nurse case manager – full time/regular – open until filled
Quality Improvement coordinator – full time/regular – open until filled
Physician assistant or nurse practitioner – full time/regular – open until filled
Early Head Start instructor – full time/temporary – open until filled
Comptroller – full time/regular – open until filled
Pharmacy technician II – full time/regular- open until filled
Cultural repatriation assistant – full time/regular – open until filled
Purchasing director – full time / regular – open until filled
Community Health nurse – STHC – full time / regular – open until filled
Teacher aide – full time/temporary – open until filled
HESEL, ST. IGNACE, ESCANABA, MANISTIQUE, MARQUETTE, MUNISING, NEWBERRY
Chief solo dentist (Manistique)

– full time/regular – open until filled
Community health program manager – rural (Munising) – full time/regular – open until filled
Registered dental hygienist (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – open until filled
Staff dentist (Manistique) – full time/regular – open until filled
Chief solo dentist (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – open until filled
Maintenance technician (St. Ignace) – part time/regular – open until filled
Student services assistant (Escanaba) – full time/regular – open until filled
Community health technician (Munising) – full time/regular – open until filled
Tutor (Escanaba/Gladstone) – part time/seasonal – open until filled
Tutor (St. Ignace) – part time/seasonal – open until filled
Housekeeper – (St. Ignace) full time/regular – open until filled
Student services assistant – (St. Ignace) part time/regular – open until filled

Diabetes case coordinator/CHN (Munising) – full time/regular – open until filled
Patient registration clerk (Manistique) – full time/regular – 12/21/17
KEWADIN CASINO OPENINGS SAULT STE. MARIE
Casino general manager – full time / regular – open until filled
Guest room attendant – part time / regular – open until filled
Lead bar server – part time / regular – open until filled
Count Team verifier-part time / regular- open until filled
Group Tours sales coordinator-full time / regular- open until filled
ST. IGNACE
Bartender – full time/regular – open until filled
Bar server – full time/regular – open until filled
Deli cooks – (1) full time/regular – open until filled
Deli cook – part time/regular – open until filled
Front desk clerk – full time/temporary – open until filled
Front desk clerk – (1) full time/

regular – open until filled
Line cooks – (2) full time/regular – open until filled
Bell valet attendant – full time/regular – open until filled
Cage cashier – part time/regular – open until filled
Gaming dealers – (3) full time/regular – open until filled
MANISTIQUE
Count Team verifier – part time/regular – open until filled
CHRISTMAS

Gaming dealer trainee – (3) full time/regular – open until filled
Bartender – full time/regular – open until filled
Bar server – full time/regular – open until filled
Casino porter – full time/regular – open until filled
Line cook – full time/regular – open until filled
Maintenance technician – full time/regular – open until filled

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Anishinaabemowin 2017

You can begin speaking Anishinaabemowin at any age. It's never too late to learn!

Manidoo Giizisoonhs Little Spirit Moon

by Susan Askwith

Mino Niibaanamaan miinwaa mino nimkodaading!
Merry Christmas and happy New Year!

Wiiba da Niibaanamaam!
Soon it will be Christmas!

Our word for Christmas has the meaning “pray all night,” no doubt from the Christian practice of a midnight service on Christmas Eve. The word will have different endings to add shades of meaning.

That's a characteristic of our language.

Niibaanamaang nagamwinan n'bishigendaan.
for Christmas songs I like them a lot.
Best English for this: I like Christmas songs a lot.



This can be a pattern for speaking about other things to like at Christmas! Substitute the underlined “for Christmas songs” above with some of these:

Segaajagan(an)	Decoration(s)
Ziisbaakadoonhs skowin(an)	Candy cane(s)
Maagweng	Gift (something given)
Shkapijigaanhs(an)	Gift(s) (little package(s))
Daminawaagan(an)	Toy(s)
Waaskonenjigan(an)	Light(s) or Candle(s)
Mdaas(an)	Stocking(s)
Aankoosenh	Sled
Mjitaawin(an)	Treat(s)
Ziisbaakadoonhs(an)	Candy(candies)
Gtotaagan(an)	Bell(s)



You might remember from previous language pages, we divide the world into “living and not living,” and we often use different words for those categories. The items above are considered not living. Now we'll see how we speak of **live** things we like:

Niibaanamaa mitigook n'bishigendmaa.
Christmas trees I like them a lot.
Best English for this: I like Christmas trees a lot.



Go ahead and substitute again with these “live” things!

Aazheniinhs(ak)	Little angel(s)
Goon nini(wook)	Snowman(snowmen)
Gechi-miigwet	Santa Claus (the one who gives greatly)
Adik(ook)	Reindeer/ caribou
Bkwezhigaanhs(ak)	Cookie(s)
Nangoonhs(ak)	Little star(s)

Segaa'aadaa mtig.	Let's decorate our tree.
Kina gegoo waasaabkide!	Everything is sparkling!
Segaa'aadaa bkwezhigaanhsak.	Let's decorate cookies.
Wiikwejiibjigedaa	Let's wrap (gifts)
Wiikwejiibjigan	Paper you wrap with
Zenbaans(ag)	Ribbon(s)
Zenbaansi-segaajigaanhs(an)	Bow(s)

Daawegamingong ndaa zhaa.	I should go to the store.
Zhoonyaa na g'daa'an?	Do you have money?
Kaa, gaawiin depsesinoo.	No, not enough.
Maanda niimdana nswaabik.	Here is \$40.
Da depsen na wi?	Will that be enough?
Enh, miigwa da depsek.	Yes, that will be enough.
Miigwech.	Thanks.



Pronunciation guide; how to sound really good:

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.

Health comments of the month

N'dakaj. I'm catching a cold.
Ekitimishket ndaaw nangwa. I'm a lazy bones today.

Weather comments of the month

Aabidek n'jiishaagwanege. I have to shovel.
Daa baataashin daabaan. The car could get stuck.

What a GREAT time of year for COUNTING !

There are so many Christmas items to count at home and in stores. It's more fun than counting money at this time of year!!

Aaniish minik daminawaaganan **e-bwaat** maampii?
How many toys are here?
Aaniish minik bkwezhigaanhsak **e-bwaat** maampii?
How many cookies are here?
Aaniish minik adikook **e-yaat** maampii?
How many reindeer are here?
Aaniish minik e-piichi-gsinaak **gojiing?**
How many degrees cold (is it) outside?

If you can count individuals, go for it!!! If not, say “niibinaa” which means “many.” Have fun! Counting will help pass the time when you're waiting in lines or drying dishes after dinner. Gindaasan! (Count!)



Here's the counting pattern again.

To count to 100, you need to remember how to count to 10 (**bezhik, niizh, nswe, niwin, naanan, ngodwaaswi, niizhwaaswi, shwaaswi, zhaangswi, mdaaswi**).

For each group of 10, say the *word below*, then say “shi” (= and), then finally add the needed number from 1-9.

11-19 -> midaaswi	20-29 -> niizhdana
30-39 -> nsimdana	40-49 -> niimdana
50-59 -> naanmidana	60-69 -> ngodwaasmidana
70-79 -> niizhwaasmidana	80-89 -> nshwaasmidana
90-99 -> zhaangsmidana	100 -> ngod-waak (waak = hundred)

+100: use the numbers 2-10 to say how many hundreds you want to talk about

Examples: 62: ngodwaasmidana shi niizh
185: ngod-waak shi nshwaasmidana shi naanan
350: nswe-waak shi naanmidana

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

NARF files suit to protect Bears Ears National Monument from harm

FROM NARF

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — President Trump's action to revoke and replace the Bears Ears National Monument is not only an attack on the five sovereign nations with deep ties to the Bears Ears region, it is a complete violation of the separation of powers enshrined in our Constitution. No president has ever revoked and replaced a national monument before because it is not legal to do so. Only Congress may alter a monument. In light of this blatant violation of law, the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), representing the Hopi Tribe, Pueblo of Zuni and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe filed a lawsuit Dec. 4 to protect Bears Ears.

NARF is the oldest and largest nonprofit national Indian rights organization in the country. Since its inception in 1970, NARF has represented over 275 tribes in 31 states in such areas as tribal jurisdiction and recognition, land claims, hunting and fishing rights, the protection of Indian religious freedom and many others.

Five tribes — Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, Pueblo of

Zuni, Ute Indian Tribe and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe — led the effort to establish the Bears Ears National Monument, an area still used for cultural and religious purposes. Increased looting of the estimated 100,000 plus structures, sites and objects within every reach of the monument dictated the need for protections in the form of a monument designation.

NARF staff attorney Matthew Campbell said, "Bears Ears is one of the most important places for Indian Country and that is why Indian Country came together to advocate for this important place. Trump's attack on Bears Ears is an attack on all of us, and we will fight to protect it."

According to NARF staff attorney Natalie Landreth, the administration is not telling the truth. "The Bears Ears monument as created by President Obama preserved hunting, fishing, gathering and grazing rights, and protected these incredible lands from widespread looting and oil, gas and mineral development."

No matter what the president said today, his action does the opposite: by its own terms, in 60 days the revoked lands are open to "entry, location, selection,



Photo courtesy of Tom Peterson

Bears Ears fall sunset. The Native American Rights Fund filed a lawsuit on Dec. 4 to protect Bears Ears from exploitation by land sales and leasing to geothermal and mining concerns.

sale" and "disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing" and "location, entry and patent under mining laws."

Landreth added, "This is taking public lands that belong to the American people and selling

to the highest bidder, there is just no other way to understand it."

This latest action follows on the heels of the administration's other actions against tribes: (1) issuing the permit to the Dakota Access Pipeline, (2) issuing the permit to the Keystone XL,

and (3) revoking the executive order to protect the Bering Sea on April 28. Tribes vigorously opposed all of these efforts. The administration uses the term "tribal sovereignty" but clearly does not understand what that means.

Reports released on inter-governmental collaboration of courts

By Rick Smith

The Michigan Tribal State Federal Judicial Forum recently released a report titled *Michigan's Judiciary Success Stories: How Tribal, State and Federal Courts Are Collaborating to Benefit Michigan Families*. The forum is a body of judges representing each of Michigan's 12 federally recognized tribes, 12 state courts and federal courts and officials.

Joceyln Fabry, chief judge of the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court, contributed to the report with Timothy Greeley, magistrate judge of the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan in Marquette.

According to the Michigan Supreme Court, the forum's priorities are addressing child welfare issues, ensuring all of the court systems collaborate appropriately to meet the needs of American Indian children and families plus ensuring the courts are knowledgeable about the federal Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 and

the Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act of 2012.

"Our Michigan Tribal State Federal Judicial Forum was created in 2014 to provide an ongoing venue for judges from all three jurisdictions to convene jointly so that we can improve working relations and communication," Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget Mary McCormack said in an introduction to the report.

Overall, the 10 contributors to the report highlight aspects of teamwork between the differing court jurisdictions that produce best results in a number of ways.

The contribution by Fabry and Greeley is titled *'Ripple Effects' of Tribal and Federal Court Collaboration Are Felt Throughout Local Community* and largely reflects how collaboration between the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court and the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan provides practical benefits to Sault Tribe members.

"Courts are meant to be a forum for the community to resolve disputes," Fabry said in the report. "Who better to resolve disputes among tribal people than the tribal court? They are attuned to the cultural and social differences that are inherent within our community."

Further, Fabry explained other practical benefits such as tribal courts having the ability to provide more intensive rehabilitation and faster responses in addressing problems due to often carrying lighter caseloads than other courts. "Unfortunately," Fabry added, "this means that on cases where both tribes and the federal government have jurisdiction, as in felony cases, the two entities can often move out of sync. When this occurs, it becomes even more important that the tribal and federal courts work together on cases."

But fortunately, according to the report, Judge Fabry has an excellent working partnership with Judge Greeley including a

standing invitation for the tribe's feedback on mutual cases.

"We're not doing our job well unless we collaborate with the tribe and understand the tribe's needs and how what we do will influence that tribe," Greeley noted in the report. "There are different ways to deal with the same types of problems. The federal court's way may not always be the best way."

Fabry related a story of one person who was subject to both the tribe's court and the federal court. The individual was progressing well through a tribal court program when needlessly entangled in the federal court system due primarily because of slower proceedings by the federal court. Judge Fabry fired off a letter to Judge Greeley describing the program and the defendant's progress in the program, she further invited the federal judge to sentence defendants to the tribe's program when appropriate, which is what Greeley did in this partic-

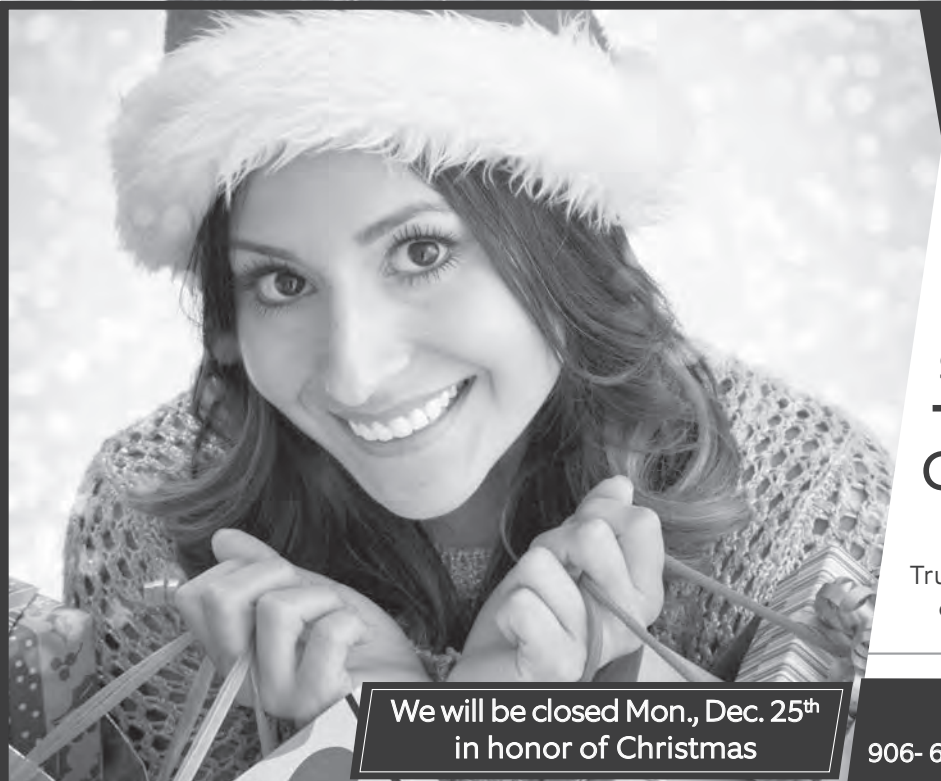
ular case and the individual went on to complete the program and improve her life instead of going to federal prison.

Judge Fabry described the "ripple effect," as evidenced by the cited case, where court decisions may cause far-reaching negative effects on close family and community ties to be avoided and positive outcomes reached instead.

"We want to give people the opportunity to change," said Fabry, "which will hopefully have a ripple effect, maybe they have their children returned home or they become employed, which is a benefit to the public."

According to Fabry and Greeley, the collaborations are integral in rebuilding trust, trust that wasn't there after the centuries of poor relations between American Indians and the federal government.

The reports can be viewed in their entirety online at <http://courts.mi.gov/courts/tribalcourts/pages/default.aspx>.



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SCIA conducts hearings on Indian Country bills

BY RICK SMITH

The U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs heard testimony on Nov. 9 regarding two pieces of legislation — S. 465, the Independent Outside Audit of the Indian Health Service Act of 2017 and S. 1400, the Safeguarding Tribal Objects of Patrimony Act of 2017.

Committee chairman, Senator John Hoeven (R-N.D.), said in a prepared statement he is committed to improving the quality and delivery of health care in Indian Country. He cited concerns about placement of the Indian Health Service (IHS) on the Government Accountability Office's (GAO) High Risk list due to the health agency's inefficiency and mismanagement at various levels. The IHS was listed among other federal agencies charged with helping tribes in areas of education, health and energy development. The GAO examines federal programs and operations vulnerable to waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement to the list and issues a report on findings and recommendations for improvements.

"This bill would mandate a reputable private entity to conduct an independent assessment of the health care delivery systems and financial management processes of the Indian Health Service within the Department of Health and Human Services," explained Hoeven. "The assessment is intended to lead to recommendations on how the IHS, tribes and other stakeholders can improve health care delivery and services provided by the IHS."

Hoeven added he chaired two committee meetings on the IHS problems alone in 2017 and intends to have another meeting in the coming spring to ensure the IHS could be removed from the list.

In introducing the Safeguarding Tribal Objects of Patrimony Act, Hoeven said, "This legislation is centered on providing additional legal protection to Native American tribal artifacts and sacred objects by amending the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of

1979, the Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act and other federal laws which serve to protect and preserve Native cultural heritage."

Among other provisions, the bill would increase criminal penalties for those who repeatedly traffic in American Indian human remains or cultural artifacts and bans the export of illegally acquired American Indian cultural objects and sets penalties for violations.

The bill would also provide immunity from prosecution if individuals voluntarily surrender cultural objects they possess to appropriate tribes no later than two years after enactment of the

bill.

"In addition, Hoeven said, "the bill would require the GAO to report on the number of Native American cultural objects illegally trafficked, and the extent to which the Department of Justice has prosecuted cases of trafficking." Further, he added the GAO must make recommendations to eliminate trafficking and to secure the repatriation of cultural artifacts.

The Department of the Interior, if the measure is enacted, would be directed to convene a tribal working group for providing information to the GAO for the report along with advice on working with the GAO recommendations.

State Senate bill would ban ethnic team names, mascots

BY RICK SMITH

A bill introduced into the Michigan Senate by Democratic state Senator Ian Conyers on Nov. 2 would withhold state funding for public schools that have mascots, nicknames, logos or other team or club descriptions or images based on race

or ethnicity. The proposal also requires the state's Board of Education and Department of Civil Rights to develop a list of officially applicable banned names.

Senate Bill 646 would amend the State School Aid Act of 1979 effectively beginning on Jan. 1,

2019.

"A district or a school operated by the district shall not sponsor or otherwise permit or tolerate the use of any of the following if based on race or ethnicity," reads the proposal, and adds the ban applies to slogans, chants, songs or other formal or

informal auditory practices as well as publications, uniforms, signs or other visual appliances.

The amendment calls for a finished list of prohibited names or terms considered discriminatory or offensive to be finished no later than six months after the effective date of the act. The list must also include racially or ethnically appropriate organizations the state Board of Education and Department of Civil Rights must consult to pursue waivers. The board would be further tasked with periodically reviewing and, if found necessary, revising the list after consultation with the department.

The Department of Civil

Rights would be charged with ensuring all school districts and public schools in the state would be notified of the original lists and any subsequent revisions.

School districts or public schools that fail to comply with the amendment would forfeit state funding in amounts equal to amounts necessary to comply with the proposed law. The proposal does allow a grace period of one year for districts and schools to comply with the new law if satisfactorily requested in writing along with a statement of intent of compliance. Corrective actions or plans of offending districts or schools must be stipulated as well.

DOI blasts BIA loan guarantee program, senior official resigns

BY RICK SMITH

The U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) Office of Inspector General recently issued a 28-page report titled *Stronger Internal Controls Needed Over Indian Affairs Loan Guarantee Program*, which spells out an alarming evaluation of a Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Loan Guarantee, Insurance and Interest Subsidy Program administered by the BIA Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development.

The Indian Financing Act of 1974 established the program, according to the report, "to address the historic reluctance of private lenders to make business financing available to American Indian borrowers on commercially reasonable terms." Essentially, the program guarantees up to 90 percent of loans to qualified tribes

or individual members.

The DOI Office of Inspector General found capital investment controls inadequate and lacked reasonable assurances of meeting program functions. Investigators found loan guarantees were approved without demonstrable benefit to American Indian communities and in excess of regulatory financial caps, which created additional risks on top of dicey loan arrangements.

According to the report, specific issues were found with regulatory compliance, the process in acquiring loan guarantee approvals, separation of duties, monitoring functions, performance plans and authority to issue loan guarantees and reimbursements on defaulted loans.

After the report was released, a senior BIA official who oversaw

the program resigned from his post. Gavin Clarkson, who served as deputy assistant secretary for the office administering the program, was appointed to the position last June 11 and he resigned on Nov. 13 amid evidence and reports of his involvement in a scandalous \$22.5 million loan arrangement for the Lower Sioux Brule to help them buy a brokerage firm that eventually went broke.

The DOI is now facing a lawsuit for reimbursement of \$20 million still outstanding on the loan balance.

For more details, the Stronger Internal Controls Needed Over Indian Affairs Loan Guarantee Program report can be found online at https://www.doiioig.gov/sites/doiioig.gov/files/FinalEvaluation_IALoanGuarantee_Public.pdf.

Applications for congressional internships due by Jan. 31

Expenses for round-trip airfare, housing, food and incidentals included along with a \$1,200 stipend at the end of 10-week internships in Washington, D.C.

BY RICK SMITH

College, graduate and law students with American Indian ancestry hoping to help the nation's lawmakers find satisfactory solutions to issues in Indian Country should look into the Native American Congressional Internship through the Udall Foundation with funding from the Native Nations Institute for Leadership, Management and Policy.

The foundation annually seeks and selects 12 qualified students to place in 10-week internships with the U.S. Senate, House and federal agencies.

The congressional and federal interns get first-hand experience in the U.S. government workings in collaboration with Indian Country and insight

into the government-to-government relationship between the United States and American Indian tribes. Interns are provided with round-trip airfare, housing, per diem allowances for food and incidentals and \$1,200 stipends at the end of the internships.

The Udall Foundation must receive applications from qualified and interested students no later than Jan. 31. More details can be found online at <https://www.udall.gov/OurPrograms/Internship/Internship.aspx>.

According to the Udall Foundation, those selected for internships should expect to work full-time with congressional offices or with federal agencies. In addition, interns meet with elected officials as well as staff at a variety of American Indian

organizations and professionals around Washington, D.C. Interns live in the Washington, D.C., metro area within commuting distance of Capitol Hill for the duration of their internships. The housing arrangement provides private bedrooms, shared bathrooms and a common space with access to stores and restaurants.

From 1996 through 2017, 255 students from 117 tribes have participated in the program.

Established in 1992 by the U.S. Congress, the Udall Foundation honors the late Democratic U.S. Representative Morris K. Udall of Arizona who was known for his advocacy of environmental causes, public lands, natural resources and support for American Indian rights and self-governance.

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Board resolutions passed during November

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors met in a regular meeting Nov. 7 in Sault Ste. Marie, approving 14 resolutions, 10 by unanimous vote. All board members were in attendance.

Resolution 2017-214: Eastern Upper Peninsula Community Development Mini Grant, Establishment of FY 2018 Budget — Approved with Other Revenue monies of \$2,000.

Res. 2017-215: Health Center Administration and Third Party Revenue, FY 2108 Budget Modifications — This was approved with a change in the personnel sheet, reallocated expenses, and increased Third Party Revenue monies of \$51,942.82.

Res. 2017-216: Inland Fish and Wildlife FY 2017 Budget Modification — This was approved with a change in the personnel sheet, reallocated expenses, and increased Federal BIA monies of \$244.19.

Res. 2017-217: Human Resources FY 2017 Budget Modification — This was

approved with a change in the personnel sheet and reallocated expenses. There was no change in total funds.

Res. 2017-218: Tribal Liquor License Midjim Convenience Store, Sault Ste. Marie — The board issued a Class B: Retailer License and Class A: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Sault Midjim.

Res. 2017-219: Tribal Liquor License, Midjim Convenience Store, St. Ignace — The board issued a Class B: Retailer License and Class A: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the St. Ignace Midjim.

Res. 2017-220: Tribal Liquor License, Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center — The board issued a Class A: Retailer License and Class B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center.

Res. 2017-221: Tribal Liquor License, Kewadin Casino Hessel — The board issued a Class A: Retailer License and Class B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor

License to Kewadin Casino Hessel.

Res. 2017-222: Tribal Liquor License, Kewadin Shores Casino — The board issued a Class A: Retailer License and Class B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Kewadin Shores Casino.

Res. 2017-223: Tribal Liquor License, Kewadin Casino, Manistique — The board issued a Class A: Retailer License and Class B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Kewadin Casino, Manistique.

Res. 2017-224: Tribal Liquor License, Kewadin Casino, Christmas — The board issued a Class A: Retailer License and Class B: Retail Intoxicating Liquor License to the Kewadin Casino, Christmas.

Res. 2017-225: Three Mile Road Building, Authorization to Construct Firewall and Lease Space to Kewadin Casinos — The construction of a firewall not to exceed \$20,000 from the Facilities Reserve account was approved, in addition to Facilities

being directed to enter into a lease agreement with Kewadin Casinos enabling the casino to move its existing bus maintenance services into the building when the firewall is completed.

Res. 2017-226: Declaring Billboard Location, EDC Department, Naubinway — The EDC Department was authorized to have a billboard constructed on property located on W US-2 in Naubinway.

Res. 2017-227: Declaring Billboard Location, EDC Department, Wetmore — The EDC Department was authorized to have a billboard constructed on property located on State Highway M-28 E, in Wetmore, Mich.

The board met again on Nov. 21 in Hessel. All board members were present except for Unit I Director Jennifer McLeod, who was excused.

Res. 2017-228: Breast and Cervical Cancer Control Program, Establishment of FY 2018 Budget — State of Michigan funding of \$1,586.96

budgeted to serve low income women.

Res. 2017-229: Health Center Medical Nursing and Third Party Revenue FY 2018 Budget Modifications — Additional fund balance of \$79,178.38 approved to add a nurse practitioner or physician's assistant to staff along with health center upgrades.

Res. 2017-230: Health Center Dental and Third Party Revenue FY 2018 Budget Modifications — Modification approved for \$69,962.99 to hire dental hygienists.

Res. 2017-231: Authorization To Purchase Multiple Parcels of Land Adjacent to JKL School — Authorized the expenditure of \$65,000 plus any closing cost and fees to buy parcels of land adjacent to the school.

To see these and previously passed resolutions in their entirety along with voting records, go to www.saulttribe.com. Follow menu tabs for government, board of directors, downloads, board meeting votes and approved resolutions, year and date of meeting.

Bill to expand help for Indian victims of crime clears Senate Indian affairs committee

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Senate Indian Affairs Committee recently passed legislation to expand critical resources and programs for Indian victims of crime.

The Securing Urgent Resources Vital to Indian Victim Empowerment (SURVIVE) Act, which has nine bipartisan cosponsors, increases resources for tribal victim assistance by requiring a 5 percent allocation from the Crime Victims Fund (CVF) be provided to Indian tribes through a grant

program. Despite high rates of victimization, Indian tribes currently receive less than one percent of CVF resources.

“The grant program created by the SURVIVE Act will improve public safety and strengthen victim services in Indian Country,” said Senator John Hoeven chairman of the committee. “Tribal communities experience some of the highest victimization rates in the country, with little to no resources to assist victims. This bill will establish direct tribal

access to the Crime Victims Fund by creating a five percent set aside for Indian tribes, which amounts to \$150 million per year for culturally relevant and tribal specific victim assistance programs.”

Additionally, the bill empowers tribal victims of crime by:

- Expanding the types of victim assistance, services, and infrastructure for which the funds may be used, including domestic violence shelters, medical care, counseling, legal assistance and

services, and child and elder abuse programs.

- Enhancing Indian tribes' flexibility to deliver culturally tailored victim services that best meet the needs of their local communities.

- Providing for significant confidentiality and privacy protections for crime victims receiving services.

- Increasing the resources available to Indian crime victims from the CVF, which is funded

by fines and penalties paid by convicted federal offenders, without increasing overall spending.

The SURVIVE Act has received support from the National Congress of American Indians, the United Tribes of North Dakota, the Navajo Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, and the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Tribe.

The Senate Indian Affairs Committee unanimously voted to advance the bill to the full Senate.

DOI settles water issues with California band

FROM THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON — U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke and Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians Chairman Mark Macarro signed the Pechanga Water Rights Settlement Agreement (Agreement) on Nov. 29, formally executing a Congressionally authorized pact that protects the Pechanga Band's access to groundwater in the region and provides the tribe with more than \$30 million in federal funding to pay for water storage projects.

The agreement quantifies the water rights claims for the Pechanga Band in Southern California's Temecula Valley that had been pending in an adjudication dating back to the 1950s, resolves potential liability for both the United States and other parties and establishes a cooperative and efficient water management regime involving Pechanga and local agencies.

“The federal government has a critical responsibility to uphold our trust responsibilities, especially tribal water rights,” Zinke said. “This is why we are continuing to work on Indian water settlements with tribes, states, and all water users to ensure there is certainty for all and an opportuni-

ty for economic development in local communities. As a former state senator and congressman who helped usher the Blackfeet compact through to fruition, I understand all too well the hard work and enormous struggle that goes into making these important water rights settlements possible. I congratulate all of you for your perseverance, dedication, and commitment to making this settlements happen.”

Macarro said, “The Pechanga Band has tirelessly pursued the quantification of its water rights and, through negotiations, engaged its neighbors in a multi-year process of building mutual trust and understanding. Generations of tribal leaders have fought from the courts to Capitol Hill to protect this vital resource for future generations. This settlement agreement benefits all of the parties by securing adequate water supplies for the Pechanga Band and its members and encouraging cooperative water resources management among all of the parties.”

Zinke commended the congressional sponsors of the Settlement Act legislation, saying they “fought to bring these settlements across the finish line.” The agreement — introduced by Rep.

Ken Calvert, (R-Corona) — settles competing claims involving the Rancho California Water District and the Eastern Municipal Water District, which both draw from the large aquifer in the region that stretches 750 square miles from Southwest Riverside County to north San Diego County .

“For the tribe, local community, and the many federal employees who have contributed to these settlements, seeing these agreements signed is the culmination of years of dedication and hard work. I think we all recognize that this is just the start of the journey towards settlement finality,” Zinke said.

“The Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians, as well as all of the parties to this settlement, deserve to have some certainty on the future of their water supply,” Rep. Calvert said. “I’m grateful we have been able to enact the settlement and ensure all of the stakeholders in the Santa Margarita River Watershed can better shape their future.”

Interior is in the initial stages of implementing the Settlement Act, which was enacted as part of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (P.L. 114-322) in 2016. The Departments of Justice and the

Interior have an established protocol for processing settlement agreements for execution.

The Act and Agreement establish the Pechanga Settlement Fund and authorize the appropriation of about \$3 million to be deposited into the fund to construct a storage pond. The legislation also authorizes the appropriation of about \$26 million, with about \$4 million in construction overrun costs, to build interim and permanent capacity for water storage, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Also attending the event were Pechanga Council Members, including Catalina R. Chacon;

Robert Munoa; Russell Murphy; Marc Luker; Raymond Basquez Jr. and Michael Vasquez. Deputy Secretary of the Interior David Bernhard and Associate Deputy Secretary Jim Cason also joined the ceremony.

Water resources and management of scarce water supplies are central concerns in the Western states. In many parts of the West, water resources are now either fully appropriated or over-appropriated. These situations underscore the need for cooperative management of water supplies and highlight the important role that Indian water rights settlements can play in the West.

Adult Education students! Enroll in machining technology and certified nursing assistant courses

There is exciting news for current and prospective adult education students in the eastern Upper Peninsula! The Intermediate School District (ISD) received grant funding from the State of Michigan to bring Career and Technical Education training to those enrolled in adult education programs. Machining technology and certified nursing assistant

courses begin Jan. 22, 2018, at the Sault Area High School and Career Center. If completed and passed, each course provides certification for entry level positions in its respective field.

Call Consolidated Community School Services at (906) 495-7305 or send email to Tanya Pages at tpages@eupschools.org for more information.

Nealen leaves tribal dental services after 37 years

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe dental hygienist Marlin Nealen retired after 37 years of service in Kinross and, in later years, Sault Ste. Marie. He acknowledged he's going to miss the people he served, mostly because of bonds formed over the years. "A lot of my patients are my friends," he said.

Born in Wiesbaden, Germany, to a father in the U.S. Air Force and a German mother, Nealen spent his younger years moving back and forth with his family between various stations in Germany and the United States until he was about 19 years old. He joined the Air Force himself on April 1, 1974. It was in the Air Force where he initially received training as a dental assistant and later on received further training as a dental hygienist. He served in the capacity of a hygienist until his discharge on March 31, 1980. Toward the end of summer of the same year, he landed a temporary contract dental assistant position in Kincheloe with the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan. Soon afterwards, the council promoted Nealen to a hygienist post, a position he kept until the organization regrouped in 1982. At that point, Nealen accepted a post as a dental hygienist with the Indian Health Service in Sault Tribe dental services at the clinic in Sault Ste. Marie.

In all, Nealen has 43 years of service in the dental field, 37 of those years helping the folks of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of

Chippewa Indians.

When word of his retirement came up online, many folks sent congratulatory words along with expressions of gratitude. In one exchange, Rick Haverkate, a former patient and now friend of Nealen's who used to head the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan and now serves as a national program director in Washington, D.C., for the Indian Health Service, wrote, "Marlin! You're my hero! You've left an amazing multi-generational legacy and you're irreplaceable. How many teeth do you think you've saved in 43 years?"

Nealen replied, "Thank you so very much my friend. You have no idea how very impactful and meaningful your kind words are to my heart and soul. I have always loved what I do and have been very passionate about trying to help my patients, prevent pain and tooth loss and thereby hopefully enhancing their quality of life. And if I've done that, for even a few, it was all worth while. And along the way, I've made many, many friends. IT'S BEEN A GREAT RIDE!"

For a while, Nealen also taught smoking cessation classes for the tribe. He had smoked for 10 years. A love of teaching borne from general life and his experiences in the dentistry field led to his helping others to quit consuming commercial tobacco products with the Sault Tribe Community Health Nicotine Dependence Program. Particularly amazed



Photo by Rick Smith

Marlin Nealen among some of the equipment and his accolades in his dental operating room in the Tribal Health and Human Services building in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

with the successful responses of two individuals, one who quit smoking cigarettes and another who quit chewing tobacco, he asked them how they did it seemingly so easily. They both said it was because, "You told me to."

They praised his determination in encouraging their progress and providing guidance in their cessation. The incidents reinforced earlier advice he received during a coaching clinic to prepare for coaching children in sports, "Marlin," an instructor told him, "never underestimate the power of your words, because you never know who is listening."

In fact, Marlin related how

cancer was later found developing in the mouth of a former chewing tobacco user who went through treatment. An oncologist told the patient that had the cancer not been found at the time it was, it would likely have been too late to save him. "It's great to save teeth," reflected Nealen, "but not as great as to have possibly saved a life, it has more impactful to save lives. There is also the ripple effect it has on them and their families."

Nealen spoke of the spirit of community he was shown while working for the tribe. He recalled a dark episode in his life in 1996 when his wife, Terry, was dying from leukemia. At the

time, their son, Marlin III, was 11, and daughter, Christy, was 4. "Even though I don't have a drop of Anishinaabe blood in me, there's not a group of people in the world who could have treated us better than the tribe did," he said. Nealen recounted how Betty Smith and Jack Kibble, among others, helped to start a program so employees of the tribe could donate leave time to help fellow employees during times of need.

"I was the very first to benefit from getting leave," Nealen explained, his voice cracking some and taking on an emotionally charged vibrato. "I got over a month leave from other people, it allowed me to spend the rest of her life with her. It was something I'll never be able to pay back, that means more to me than anything."

On the subject of his field associates, Nealen also expressed gratitude. "A lot of good people to work with," he said, "a lot of good doctors, too. The girls here have been like my sisters, lots of little sisters." He singled out Victoria Albert-Ruthruff, a receptionist and scheduler for dental services for 23 years who wasn't afraid to provide him with motivation to stay on task if he needed it. "She always had my back, no matter what, through thick and thin," said Nealen.

Nealen's last day of duty was on Dec. 12, taking leave until his official last day on Jan. 2. Undoubtedly, many are going to miss him.

Jodoin executive assistant to assistant executive director

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member Cody Jodoin was hired recently as the executive assistant to the Sault Tribe Assistant Executive Director Jessica Dumback. Jodoin said he primarily works with the membership service divisions Dumback directly oversees which include: Recreation, Anishinabek Community and Family Services



Cody Jodoin

(ACFS), Education/Culture and Elder Services.

"I primarily assist Jessica with the day-to-day operations she is responsible for overseeing," he said. "If you think of all the paperwork that is processed within the tribe it can be overwhelming at times; I'm here to help make sure nothing falls through the cracks and to help process information quickly and efficiently." Jodoin said he would also be helping Dumback with special projects for membership service programs such as the annual Sault Tribe Golf Scholarship fundrais-

er, which is something Jodoin benefited from during college.

Jodoin graduated from Lake Superior State University (LSSU) in the spring of 2017 with a bachelor's degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Management; he also earned an associate degree from Bay Mills Community College. He is a graduate of Sault Area High School and a former student of JKL Bahweting School.

Jodoin began his career with the tribe right out of high school when he was hired at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center as a Youth Program group assistant in May, 2011.

He worked for the Youth Program for a total of seven years - working his way up to become a group leader and then eventually took over the program as the Youth Program administrator from 2014-2017. In that position he was responsible for participant registration, implementing policies and procedures, hiring staff, planning day to day activities, scheduling field trips and transportation, ordering program supplies and equipment, and supervising up to 14 employees and over 110 children on a daily basis.

Jodoin also worked as an events coordinator at the Chi Mukwa during the non-summer months from 2014-17. In that position he was responsible for overseeing the day-to-day facility schedule, booking space rentals, working with customers to set up and coordinate community events, and he was cross trained to work in all facility departments - including the pro shop, recep-

tion, concessions, fitness center, operations, custodial and driving the Zamboni.

With this new position, Jodoin is seeing things from a different perspective and says he finds it interesting working on the administrative side of things.

"My previous experience working for the tribe has made the transition to this new job very

smooth. It's a new environment with new responsibilities but I feel I'm adjusting quickly," he said.

"Sometimes having new ideas and a fresh face to get different perspectives is needed. For Jessica's sake, to have an assistant who is knowledgeable and understands the policies and procedures and how things work

within the general flow of our organization is huge. Becoming well rounded is never a bad thing; it was a tough decision to leave the Big Bear. I had worked there for seven years, which is almost a third of my life at 24 years old."

Jodoin was married June 17 to his high school sweetheart, Jenna Perry. His parents are Lori and Cory Jodoin of Sault Ste. Marie.

MacArthur recognized by Sault KofC



Photo by Brenda Austin

Knights of Columbus representative Alan LaVictor recognized Sault Tribe Facilities Manager Chip MacArthur with a plaque recently for community spirit in helping out with the Knights of Columbus' parking lot.

Rep. Allor tours Sault health, human services facilities

By Rick Smith

Michigan House Representative Sue Allor visited the tribal health clinic in Sault Ste. Marie on Nov. 20. The Republican member of the House represents District 106, which covers five coastal counties on the eastern side of northern Michigan. The counties she represents are Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Iosco and Presque Isle.

Clinic Manager Tony Abramson Sr. escorted Allor on the tour. Accompanying them were Sault Tribe Board Chairperson Aaron Payment, board member Kim Gravelle, Legislative Director Mike McCoy, Ron Khoury of the lobbying firm Kandler Reed Khoury and Muchmore, tribal attorney Liz Eggert and ACFS Child Placement Program Manager Melissa VanLuyen.

After the tour, the group met in conference with tribal board members Dennis McKelvie and Michael McKerchie along with biologist Eric Clark. Issues of the conference included natural resources and helping people with low incomes to pay winter heating bills.

According to her office, Allor was initially elected to the Michigan House in November 2016 and serves on the House Appropriations Committee and serves as chair of the committee's Natural Resources subcommittee, vice-chair of Appropriation's Health and Human Services subcommittee and serves on the General Government, School Aid and Michigan Department of Education, and Military and

Veterans Affairs subcommittees.

Allor comes from a medical background. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Detroit-Mercy and a Master of Business Administration from Lawrence Technological University. She worked in several hospital units such as maternity, surgical and cardiac step-down.

These days, she and her husband own and operate a small collision repair business in Indian River and Petosky. She and her husband have been married for 40 years. As a member of the Cheboygan County Republican Party, she serves on the Executive Committee and is the committee's current secretary and treasurer. She also served as a delegate to several state conventions.

The representative is strong on health and human services, especially as concerns U.S. military veterans. "The paperwork is a bureaucratic nightmare," she once stated, "the length of time to process a claim is inexcusable, the redundancy of submitting paperwork is overwhelming and, lastly but most important, the limited accessibility to healthcare is inexcusable."

One of the things Allor learned about on becoming acquainted with the tribe's facility is the possibility of the tribe working with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs in improving access to health care for veterans. She also learned to some extent about the tribe's demographics, service area and received a general overview of the tribe.



Photos by Rick Smith

From left, Melissa VanLuyen of Anishinabek Community and Family Services, tribal attorney Liz Eggert, Legislative Director Mike McCoy, tribal board representatives Kim Gravelle (front) and Michael McKerchie, Michigan House Representative Sue Allor (front), Clinic Manager Tony Abramson Sr., tribal board member Dennis McKelvie and tribal board chairperson Aaron Payment in the lobby of the Tribal Health and Human Services building in Sault Ste. Marie on Nov. 20. The state representative toured the facility, met and learned from several of the medical, social services and behavioral health staff as she did, all the while receiving information about the tribe-state relationship from her assorted tour guides. She later met with tribal officials to discuss a variety of matters.



From left, manager of the clinic's laboratory, Martin Storey, explains some of the finer points about the lab and its functions to Eggert, Abramson, Allor, Khoury and Gravelle.



From left, manager of the tribe's Health and Wellness Program, Lisa Myers, with Allor after Myers gave the representative a briefing on the program. Myers was among several who tutored the representative about the functions of programs at the facility.



Abramson and Allor discuss issues surrounding mental health services.



Radiology technician Mickey Bickham explains to Allor some of the particulars about the new mammogram gear at the clinic.



In conference, from left, Allor, Sault Tribe biologist Eric Clark, Eggert, Payment, McCoy, Abramson, McKelvie, McKerchie (partially hidden), Gravelle (hidden) and Ron Khoury of the tribe's lobbying firm, Kandler Reed Khoury and Muchmore. Not seen in the photo but present is Melissa VanLuyen. The group discussed a wide variety of issues mutually important to Sault Tribe interests as well as the state.

Turning the Tide: The evolution of the anti-tribal narratives, from ecological Indians to eco-terrorists

BY TYLER THEEL

The *Turning the Tides* series has emphasized the Great Lakes tribal governments' opposition to Enbridge's Line 5 Pipeline.

Over 7.5 million gallons of oil have been spilled by the company in the Great Lakes region, causing concern to tribal governments, city governments, environmental groups and Michigan residents.

The effects of a spill in the Straits of Mackinac is estimated to cost \$10 billion to clean up and likely billions more annually in losses to the tourism, fishing, hunting, agriculture and gaming industries as well as the foot traffic these industries bring in for local businesses.

This installment in the series tackles the cultural tools, such as stereotypes and revised history, used to diminish the credibility of tribal governments in policy discussion, including the Line 5 Pipeline.

Origins of historically inaccurate tribal stereotypes

Native American peoples' history of colonization, genocide and forcible removal from land has been re-imagined and justified in holiday traditions, policy discussions and school curriculum.

False narratives and cultural stereotypes allow for the justification and continuation of colonial policy including the disregard of treaty obligations, land rights, resource rights and historical/cultural sites, among other things.

These false narratives provide a foundation for stereotypes to be perpetuated in society, and in turn, stereotypes support false narratives. Both stereotypes and false narratives discredit tribal governments and people.

The modern depiction of native people as "ecological Indians" was developed out of the "noble savage" idea cultivated in Renaissance France. The concept of "noble savage" was used to describe an ideal known as "primitivism."

The concept of primitivism imagines a "pre-society" that has none of the negative conditions of modern society.

Society is defined as the group of people who interact in such a way as to share a common culture.

"Noble savage" and "ecological Indian" ideas show a false picture of tribal communities prior to colonization as lacking government, since numerous tribes had democratic institutions such as tribal councils discussing and evolving practices in accordance to a shared common culture. These democratic institutions functioned to mediate problems and place limits on actions or behavior that were against common culture.

The ecological Indian stereotype may at first glance appear like a "positive stereotype" but it can and has been used to marginalize tribal voices.

Conflict and compromise over values, culture and rights has always existed within tribal communities, especially those with

democratic institutions prior to colonization.

Culture, norms, and practices were always evolving through discussion. Moreover, the existence of democracies in tribal communities predates democracy in European countries, most of which were under monarchs during the early periods of colonization in the Americas.

The stereotypes of the "ecological Indian" and "noble savage" are used together in order to represent a "positive" ideal of ecological-mindedness within a negative context of savagery.

The romantic notion that Native Americans were harmonious with nature and bound together by a fixed tradition also assumes that Native American tribes did not engage in rational discourse or transformation in culture and practices over time. The "ecological Indian" idea legitimizes colonization as a civilizing act and depicts tribal people as static fixed traditionalists with no desire or ability to compromise or balance a variety of concerns. It is used to marginalize the voices of tribes and tribal members in discussions related to land, resources and environment. After all, if you truly believe in the myth of the "ecological Indian" you would also believe such a group would have no ability to engage in compromise or reason.

Cultural stereotypes in the North Dakota Access Pipeline debate

It is potentially beneficial for groups such as Enbridge or the Access Pipeline Company to use the "ecological Indian" idea to depict tribal people as unreasonable in opposing the economic, environmental and cultural harms these companies pose. Furthermore, Big Oil and its supporters have essentially combined the "savage" and "ecological Indian" ideas in claiming that environmental advocates, many of whom are aligned with or have participating tribal members, as "eco-terrorists." The term alludes to aggressive and unlawful action (savagery), toward an ecological cause.

The Dakota Access Company and Energy Transfer Partners filed a lawsuit against environmental organizations involved with the noDAPL to accompany their claims of "eco-terrorism."

According to the Dakota Access Pipeline company, environmental groups launched an "eco-terrorism campaign" against the pipeline and engaged in "acts of terrorism," including soliciting donations and interfering with construction, damaging its "critical business and financial relationships," through negative publicity that cost the company millions of dollars. It is seeking damages, which could come to \$1 billion, along with further punitive damages.

The lawsuit also seeks a court order to prevent the groups from conducting more protests. It also claims the groups were guilty of "manufacturing a media spectacle" by drawing attention to the Standing Rock Tribe's concerns of damage to tribal sites of historical significance, and the risks

posed to the tribe's primary water source.

With the evolution of the term "eco-terrorism" in recent years, pipeline companies have manufactured a tool against free-speech through claiming "financial destruction" through activism. Tribal members are concerned that the lawsuit is a tool to intimidate and silence tribal members critiquing pipelines.

Linda Black Elk, a member of the Catawba Nation who lives on the Standing Rock reservation and organized against the pipeline months prior to the protests states that "[the lawsuit] had some major racist overtones. They were basically saying that we were not intelligent enough to know for ourselves what the possibilities were in case the pipeline were to leak. They were basically saying we were manipulated. I think the whole purpose of it is to scare tribes from further activism when it comes to the fossil fuel industries and to scare these green groups to keep them from supporting us in those future fights."

Cultural stereotypes in the Line 5 debate

Such tactics were also employed against Elizabeth LaPensée, Anishinaabe assistant professor at Michigan State University, who faced criticisms of "eco-terrorism" after developing a game called Thunderbird Strike.

The game allows the player to counteract Enbridge's Line 5 Pipeline.



Elizabeth LaPensée

This game is one of many developed by LaPensée using interactive media, storytelling and role playing to empower the player when he or she may otherwise be disempowered by prevailing stereotypes and false narratives of tribal people. The player commands the all-powerful Thunderbird while navigating the Tar Sands of Alberta and other areas along the Line 5 Pipeline. The player can dismantle harmful pipeline infrastructure and rescue various wildlife from pipeline pollution.

Non-tribal members are also encouraged to play the game and learn about the illegal pipeline and its impacts on environmental resources (such as water), local economies and small businesses, culture, and environment.

By suggesting that the game promotes eco-terrorism, the Enbridge Company and its supporters are depicting the game as promoting irrational violence, destruction, and lawlessness —



From the Thunderbird Strike video game developed Elizabeth LaPensée, Sault Tribe member and Michigan State University assistant professor. The game, which allows players to counteract Enbridge's Line 5 Pipeline, has been criticized for "encouraging" eco-terrorism.



things associated with barbarism or savagery toward an ecological goal.

The game is actually thought-provoking and critiques the unlawful actions of Enbridge through protected free speech. If anything, Enbridge, by causing massive oil spills for decades in the region due to haphazard safety provisions and continuous violation of the 1953 Easement law, could be considered as committing "eco-terrorism" provided the company is engaging in unlawful action to the detriment of the environment.

As stated in other articles in the *Turning the Tides* series, the Michigan state prosecutor and gubernatorial candidate, Bill Schuette, refuses to litigate against the ongoing easement violations; by law the pipeline was not permitted to remain in operation as of 2003. The purpose of free speech against Enbridge and other pipeline companies, including Thunderbird Strike, is to encourage Michigan residents to become informed of the unlawful and unethical practices that harm tribal and non-tribal people alike. Raising awareness of unlawful and harmful action is anti-terrorism, if anything.

While she endures negative tribal stereotypes, LaPensée is also undermining them. The criticisms of eco-terrorism by Enbridge and political figures have actually allowed the game and its message to reach higher visibility. LaPensée's philosophy of engaging the public is that education is best achieved through a fun medium.

After all, the vast majority of public schools perpetuate false history of indigenous people. For example, this year the Popular Book Company published a textbook claiming, "the First Nations peoples agreed to move to differ-

ent areas to make room for the new settlements" in reference to forcible relocation.

LaPensée says that, since public schools tend to ignore or misinform students, education must come from outside of K-12 institutions and, therefore, people must choose to partake in that educational process. When education is playful, interactive and fun, people are more willing to participate and learn.

In December of 2017, LaPensée plans to release Thunderbird Strike in the appstore to make the game accessible to the public. She encourages Sault Tribe members to play, and to use the app as a way of educating others and dispelling colonial myths.

Tribal members can learn from LaPensée as an example of how to counteract harmful revisionist histories and the stereotypes they propagate.

It is essential that we educate tribal members about the miseducation and revised histories of tribal traditions. Contrasting these inaccurate accounts with accurate historical and cultural accounts of tribal political traditions is needed for tribal members to recognize and dispel tools used by anti-tribal organizations, like Enbridge.

Moreover, dispelling false narratives and knowing from where they have originated could improve how tribal members see themselves and their communities, and encourage more participation in local tribal policy discussion.

The idea that tribes can be dismissed from rational discussions because they are savage environmental extremists, whether we are talking eco-activists or eco-terrorists, is one of the greatest challenges preventing tribes from presenting legal, scientific, and economic concerns that they share with the people of the region.

Stay healthy during holidays

FROM SAULT TRIBE COMMUNITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Staying healthy during the holidays can be a real struggle for the average community member. An increase of calorie dense holiday meals and a decrease in available time to engage in physical activity can play a role in declining health throughout the winter season. This can lead to increased stress, weight gain, depression and additional health issues. There are several simple strategies that can help you to stay healthy this holiday season.

Avoid overeating at holiday meals and parties by practicing portion control. Portion control can allow you to sample tasty holiday treats without overindulging in high calorie foods. Switching high calorie ingredients in a recipe with healthier alternatives can also reduce the amount of calories you consume while increasing nutrition.

Bringing a fruit or veggie tray instead of a high calorie dish to pass is another way to increase the amount of nutritious foods consumed at your holiday events.

Incorporating a physical activity component at your holiday events is an excellent way to stay healthy during the holidays. For example, taking part in sledding allows everyone to engage in bonding experiences that make lasting memories.

When being active outdoors, it is important to dress appropriately for the weather. It may be cold outside but it's easy to sweat and overheat as your activ-

ity increases. Wearing multiple, moisture wicking layers allows you to shed layers as needed, to keep your body at a comfortable temperature.

Being out in cold weather for long periods of time can lead to hypothermia. Shivering, slurred speech, slow shallow breathing, a lack of coordination, drowsiness and confusion are the most common signs of hypothermia. It is important to remember that the person may not realize they have hypothermia because the symptoms often begin gradually.

Below is a list of possible winter activities you can engage in during the holidays and how many calories are burned per hour:

- Sledding burns 400-600 calories per hour
- Snowshoeing burns 500-700 calories per hour
- Shoveling snow burns 400-500 calories per hour
- Cross country skiing burns 400-700 calories per hour at 2.5 mph
- Ice skating burns 400-600 calories per hour
- Walking the dog burns 150-250 calories per hour
- Downhill skiing burns 314-469 calories per hour

Please see the infographic at right for additional holiday health tips!

You can also learn more about how to stay healthy during the holidays by visiting www.cdc.gov. For more information on the Sault Tribe Health Division and Community Health Services, please visit <http://health.saulttribe.com/>.

Steele joins Sault clinic staff



Photo by Rick Smith

Marcy Steele of Brimley recently joined the housekeeping staff at the tribe's clinic in Sault Ste. Marie. Raised in Brimley and married for 20 years, Steele re-entered the area workforce at the clinic now that her children are grown. She had previous stints as a dealer and housekeeping supervisor with a Bay Mills casino as well as experience with the Sault Kewadin Casino. Her first day as one of the helpful and courteous folks at the clinic was on Nov. 9. Give her a warm welcome if you haven't done so already.

STAYING HEALTHY IN DECEMBER



Winter Walking Safety

DO'S

- Choose the correct snow boots
- Walk on the designated walking path
- Slightly bend your knees
- Keep your center of gravity over your front leg
- Walk flat footed
- Extend your arms
- Walk slowly

DON'T'S

- Take big steps
- Take shortcuts
- Walk fast
- Keep your hands in your pockets

WINTER PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES



400-600 CALORIES
BURNED PER HR



400-700 CALORIES
BURNED PER HR @ 2.5 MPH



400-500 CALORIES
BURNED PER HR



500-700 CALORIES
BURNED PER HR



400-600 CALORIES
BURNED PER HR

TIPS TO BE FIT

Switch up your routine. Its easy to get bored with your work-out when you do the same one repeatedly. Having several work-out routines can help keep you engaged and motivated.

Dress in layers. When being active outdoors its important to dress in layers. It may be cold outside but its easy to sweat and overheat as your outdoors work-out progresses. Shedding layers can help keep your body at a comfortable temperature.



Children keep Santa and Mrs. Clause busy at annual Kincheloe children's Christmas party



Landon Spence, 7, shares with Santa what toys he would like for Christmas.



Mrs. Claus



Savannah, 10, and Raiellee, 13, with Mr. and Mrs. Claus.



Nevaen, 9, Skylar, 10, and Taylor, 12, received gifts from the elves after a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

The annual Kinross children's Christmas party, sponsored by Sault Tribe and the Kinross Recreation Center, was held Saturday, Dec. 2. The lineup to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and receive a gift began at noon with doors to the Kinross Recreation Center opening just before 1 p.m. Over 350 children and adults lined the rec center's hallway as each child or family was let into the main room where they saw Santa and Mrs. Claus and their two helpers, received their gifts and candy canes, and then had pizza and other snacks. The event was very well organized and beautifully decorated.

*Photos by
Brenda Austin*



John, Wendy and Brianna Kennedy, 4, with Santa.



Above, Brianna Kennedy, 4, visiting with Santa.



Michael Smith, Jr., 15, and sister Aliyah Smith, 12.



Austin Fox, 15



Ethan Black, 10, Ella Black, 9, Brianna LaPlante, 7, Katie LaPlante, 8, and Kenzey McKerchie, 3.



Sisters Cyla (right) and Megan Webb with Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus.



Justice Orr, 12, Tylon Melton, 3, and Jamie Orr, 10.



Connor Bradley, 8, Leigha Bradley, 13, Sara Shields, 10, Tyler Bradley, 11, and Laci Bradley, 9.



Brooke Willis, 12, Daitin Willis, 8, and Camron Willis, 10



Santa's helpers (L-R) Cyla Webb and Megan Webb.



Laila Bertram, 8, and Kenna Bertram, 3.



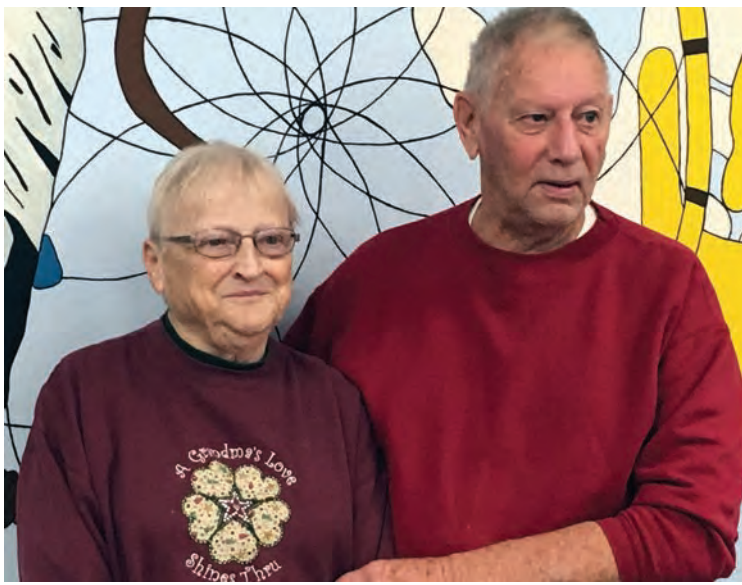
Left to right: Takoda Krogh 16, Thomas Krogh 10, and Travis Krogh 13

Together for 50 years

Kathy and Billy Perry recently celebrated their 50th anniversary. The couple is pictured below throughout their years together.



Marbles celebrate 50th anniversary



Beverly and Frank Marble were in for a big surprise when they walked into the Nokomis-Mishomis Place for the elders lunch on Nov. 9. The elders conspired to celebrate the Marbles' 50th wedding anniversary. Beverly Marble said they were married by Justice of the Peace Virginia Beamish in Brimley on what they later realized was Veteran's Day

Below, friends of the couple were part of the surprise that day, from left, Marlene Predmore, Jay Predmore, Sally MacArthur, Donald MacArthur, Barb Snider, Frank and Beverly Marble.



Deck the Halls, but Don't Ditch your Diet!

Navigate holiday parties like a boss

Your holiday calendar may be bursting with opportunities to eat and drink outside of your regular routine. Make a plan to help you resist the buffet table, like having a healthy snack beforehand.

Sprinkle in opportunities to be active

Keep the inevitable indulgences in check by staying active. Enjoy some winter sports for a change of pace, or schedule in a quick walk or workout before you head to the next party.

Add seasonal, colorful fruits & vegetables

Fruits and vegetables will add flavor, color and nutrients to holiday favorites. And they help you feel fuller longer so you can avoid the temptation to overeat.



Slash unwanted calories with easy swaps

Learn where excess calories, sodium, saturated fat and added sugars are hiding in traditional holiday foods and beverages and some easy swaps to avoid them, like hummus instead of a cream cheese dip.

Enjoy in moderation

Indulging a little won't hurt. Enjoy holiday treats in smaller portions. Make healthy substitutions where you can and plan ahead for healthy meals.

Sault Tribe Health Offices

Sault Tribal Health Center
2864 Ashmun St.,
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-5200
Toll Free: (877) 256-0009

Newberry Tribal Community Health Center
4935 Zeez-ba-tik Lane,
Newberry, MI 49868
Phone: (906) 293-8181

Grand Island Chippewa Community Center
622 W Superior,
Munising, MI 49862
(906) 387-4721
(800) 236-4705

Marquette Tribal Community Health Center
1229 W. Washington Street
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 225-1616

Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center
1401 North 26th St Suite 105
Escanaba, MI 49829
(906) 786-2636

Manistique Tribal Community Center
5698 W Hwy US-2,
Manistique, MI 49854
(906) 341-8469
Toll Free: (866) 401-0043

Sault Tribe Health & Human Services Center
1140 N State, Suite 2805,
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-8689
Toll Free: (877) 256-0135

Hessel Tribal Community Health Center
3355 N. 3 Mile Rd,
Hessel, MI 49745
(906) 484-2727



A message from
Sault Tribe
Community Health

Treaty licensing – Inland and Great Lakes

BY ROBERT MARCHAND
Inland hunting, fishing,
gathering licenses

REMINDER: Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) reminds all tribal hunters that Sault Tribe's deer season ends Jan. 7, 2018. All 2017 harvest licenses expire March 31, 2018. STLE makes the 2018 licenses available in early March 2018 to avoid lapses in your treaty activity.

Even though next year's licenses are available before the current year expires, 2018 licenses are effective April 1, 2018. You will still need to maintain your 2017 harvest license card through the end of March to ensure you are legally participating in allowable activity prior to April 1, 2018.

STLE has received a high volume of calls over this past licensing year from members who said they have not received their licenses through the U.S. mail, even though STLE mailed them out 4-5 weeks prior. This seems to be a growing issue and STLE is working to find a resolution to ensure

members are receiving their harvest licenses in a timely manner. Until a resolution is found, please note that we will not re-issue licenses unless it has been a

minimum of three weeks that they were mailed from our office.

If you held a 2017 harvest license, you are required to submit a harvest report, regardless of activity or lack of activity. These reports must be mailed to Sault Tribe's Natural Resources Department at 2428 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 and they are due Feb. 1, 2018. Please make sure you fill out the report in its entirety – including the cover page.

STLE receives many calls and questions related to where members may hunt with Sault Tribe treaty hunting licenses. Please remember that any treaty licenses issued by Sault Tribe are valid only within the exterior boundaries of the 1836 Treaty area. For additional details, please see Tribal Code Chapter 21.

If a tribal member is hunting on property owned by a non-tribal member, they must



Sault Tribe Law Enforcement Conservation Corner

follow state rules, regulations, seasons and methods of harvest, with written permission or landowner contact information on their person, but they are able to use our bag limits.

If a tribal member is hunting on state, federal or tribal member owned property, they will follow Sault Tribe's rules, regulations, seasons, methods of harvest and bag limits.

Subsistence and subsistence gillnet licenses

2017 Subsistence and subsistence gillnet licenses expire Dec. 31, 2017. If you hold this license in the month of December, please make sure you turn in your December catch report no later than Jan. 10, 2018. 2018 licenses will be made available by the last week in December. If you

are applying through the U.S. mail, please feel free to contact us earlier than that and we will mail a packet to you.

STLE would like to remind all subsistence and subsistence gillnet license holders that when a citation is issued for not filing the required catch reports by the 10th of each month, license holders are still responsible to ensure they submit the report they were cited for. This is a requirement of CORA Code, Section XXII, subsection (b), which states specifically: **Each person to whom a subsistence fishing license has been issued shall file with his or her tribe an accurate report of his or her harvest for each calendar month not later than the tenth (10th) day of the following month.** Subsection (b) (3) states specifically: **The holder of a subsistence fishing license who does not fish during a month shall file a report of "no**

fishing."

The reports can be hand delivered, U.S. mailed or faxed to (906) 635-7707. STLE encourages all license holders who fax their reports to call the office to confirm that the report has been received. Reports can be emailed to BOTH ahorner@saulttribe.net and rshreve@saulttribe.net, you must receive a confirmation email that your report was received.

Commercial fishing licenses

STLE is the Sault Tribe department that issues commercial fishing licenses. STLE is also now the department where reports are required to be submitted. If you are reporting catch for a given period, you must complete both pages of the report **in their entirety**. Failing to do so may result in a citation being issued for inaccurate reporting. If you are reporting no activity, you do not have to use the provided reports, you can submit your report on any type of paper. You are able to fax your reports to (906) 632-0691, but you are required to call (906) 635-6065 after you fax to ensure it was received, that it is legible and that it is complete. Otherwise, please mail with enough advance time for STLE to receive them no later than the 10th of the month for monthly reporting. STLE is working on obtaining a mail/drop box for the front of the George K. Nolan Judicial Building so any licensed fishermen can drop off their reports even when STLE offices are closed. **REMINDER: If you hold a commercial license at any time in the month of December 2017, you are required to submit a report no later than Jan. 10, 2018.**

STLE appreciates the patience and cooperation it has received during this transition period from our commercial fishermen.

The board of directors approved Resolution 2017-127 on June 20, 2017, which amended Tribal Code Chapter 20. This

code amendment changed the criteria for captains to obtain a co-captain. This change is effective Dec. 31, 2017. Please ensure you are reviewing Chapter 20, as amended, prior to requesting a co-captain in the 2018 season. For additional information, please contact STLE.

2018 commercial licenses may be renewed starting the last week of December 2017. You are still required to call and make an appointment to obtain these licenses, whether it be captain or helper. When you arrive for your appointment, you will notice several of the application forms used for these licenses have been amended/updated and a procedure has been developed to comply with Resolution 2017-127.

Reminders

Inland licenses (called "harvest license" or "non hunter harvest card") **do 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 within Sault tribe's 1836 Treaty area. Your current, updated (not expired) Sault Tribe membership card **allows fishing only on the Great Lakes, which includes the St. Mary's River, in the 1836 Treaty area if you follow State of Michigan rules.**

Subsistence/subsistence gillnet: Please remember that if you hold one or both of these licenses, you are required to

submit a monthly catch report. This report must be turned in whether or not you fished, or whether you caught anything. These reports are due by the 10th of each month and must be filled out in their entirety – name ST number, location grid/name, gear used, number **OR** pounds (circle one) of fish caught by type of fish, and signature at the bottom of the report. If you did not go fishing during the month you are reporting, please just indicate "Did Not Fish." If you went fishing, and did not catch anything, please fill out the report with all information, and place a zero across it indicating zero catch.

If you lose your inland harvest card, license or tags; subsistence or subsistence gillnet, or commercial licenses, there will be a \$10 replacement fee 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.

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

Robert Marchand is chief of police for Sault Tribe Law Enforcement.

Referendum calls for united Conservation Committee

A referendum to keep the Great Lakes Conservation Committee and Inland Committees intact failed, 2,647 voted to approve a single committee and 2,057 voted to keep the former committees intact.

The referendum was brought forward after the Sault Tribe Board of Directors acted to dissolve both committees and establish one Conservation Committee. The Election

Committee sent out 14,513 ballots with 4,704 ballots returning.

Those interested in applying for a seat on the new conservation committee should submit a letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other tribal members to Joanne Carr or Linda Grossett, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783. Call (906) 635-6050 for any questions. The deadline is Jan. 22, 2018.

2018 Black Lake Sturgeon Lottery Application

Sault Tribe has an allocation of sturgeon from Black Lake in Cheboygan County in 2018. A lottery will be conducted on on January 8, 2018 to determine who will have the opportunity to harvest a sturgeon. Please fill out the following application and return to Sault Tribe Natural Resource Department at: **2428 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Application must be received by 5:00 pm on January 3, 2018.** Applications received after 5:00pm on January 3, 2018 **will not** be accepted.

First Name	<input type="text"/>	Middle Name	<input type="text"/>	Last Name	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>		City	<input type="text"/>	State <input type="text"/> Zipcode <input type="text"/>
File Number (Red # on Tribal ID)	<input type="text"/>		Phone Number	<input type="text"/>	
STS #	<input type="text"/>	Date of Birth	<input type="text"/>	Sex	<input type="text"/> email address <input type="text"/>

IJC calls on governments to step up Great Lakes restoration and protection efforts

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON

In its first Triennial Assessment of Progress under the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, the International Joint Commission (IJC) called on Canada and the United States to set specific timelines and targets for making critical improvements to wastewater and drinking water infrastructure, reducing agricultural runoff and eliminating releases of toxic chemicals. The report is online at <http://ijc.org>.

IJC Canadian Co-chair Gordon Walker said in a webinar briefing the report's most important theme is prevention, and after that, accountability and engagement. The IJC is a binational organization created by Canada and the United States in the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909. Under the treaty, the two countries cooperate to prevent and resolve disputes relating to the use and quality of many lakes and rivers along the US-Canadian border.

Drinkable, swimmable, fishable waters

While the IJC commended the U.S. and Canadian federal governments on their progress, it reported work needs to be increased in several key areas. The report identified specific gaps in achieving the human health objectives of the agreement for drinkable, swimmable

and fishable waters, and recommends governments set an accelerated and fixed period of time for achieving zero discharge of untreated sewage into the Great Lakes. The governments must also increase funding for infrastructure and provide support to communities to improve their capacity to respond to extreme storm events.

"Our municipalities must not be permitted to dump sewage into our drinking water and we call for a 'zero discharge' objective, which will bring to an end the all-too-frequent beach closings," Walker said.

While governments provide safe drinking water nearly everywhere in the Great Lakes basin, unsafe drinking water incidents have occurred in major cities, and some First Nations and tribes have had longstanding boil water advisories. The IJC recommends infrastructure to be improved to eliminate all longstanding boil water advisories and persistent drinking water violations for communities everywhere in the Great Lakes basin. Governments would monitor and report on source water protection plans.

Lake Erie in trouble

According to the report, western and central Lake Erie water quality remains unacceptable. In order for governments to achieve

the new phosphorus loading targets and reduce harmful algal blooms, the IJC recommends federal, state and provincial action plans that include timelines and actions with deliverables, outcomes and quantifiable measurements to assure accountability. Actions must include enforceable standards for applying agricultural fertilizer and animal waste, better linkages between agricultural subsidies and conservation practices. Ohio must also designate western Lake Erie basin as impaired under the U.S. Clean Water Act.

Lana Pollack, U.S. IJC co-chair, said voluntary measures have failed to protect Lake Erie from extreme algal blooms. "Enforceable standards are essential if governments are to achieve their phosphorus reduction loading targets and the public is to regain access to a more swimmable and fishable lake," she said.

Addressing toxic chemicals

The IJC reported progress addressing toxic chemical releases under the agreement as "disappointingly slow." In the first three years of the agreement, only eight "chemicals of mutual concern" have been identified and no binational management strategies for these chemicals have been completed.

The IJC recommends that the

governments accelerate work on binational strategies with clear timelines for development and implementation. These strategies should have the principle of zero discharge at their core. Governments should also focus on policies and programs based on producer responsibility for a broad range of products, including flame retardants, to help prevent releases toxic contaminants at every stage of product lifecycle.

Increasing public engagement, accountability and funding

The IJC also determined governments need to strengthen public engagement, accountability and funding to achieve the agreement's objectives. Governments need to incorporate more robust public engagement into their activities, including engagement with diverse communities and tribal, First Nations and Métis governments.

Clear, time-bound targets for action are needed, as are long-term goals for improvements. And to support further progress, the IJC recommends that governments' financial investment in restoration and prevention continue at current or higher levels.

Prevention is critical

At the same time the IJC's first triennial report is released,

giant steps backward from the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement are being contemplated in state and federal legislatures. "The Michigan Legislature just passed a bill that will gut Michigan's landmark ballast water law, which is a good example of greed over common sense that must be brought to light by organizations like IJC," Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority environmental coordinator, Mike Ripley, said. "The same thing is happening in Congress where bills to weaken U.S. ballast water regulations have repeatedly been introduced by politicians in the pocket of shipping corporations."

Investing in prevention is the most cost effective strategy. Ripley asked the obvious question, "Why is it that the governments have no problem spending billions of taxpayer dollars to try to fix the damage done by invasive species but they repeatedly cave in to the corporations like the shipping industry and fish farmers that are responsible for the introductions in the first place?"

That is why public engagement is so important. "It's the elected official in every level of government that will have the capacity to create real protection for the lakes," Walker said.

U.S. Forest Service seeks resistant beech trees

FROM THE HIAWATHA NATIONAL FOREST

Once a common and majestic presence in our upland hardwood ecosystems, mature American beech trees (*Fagus grandifolia*) are rapidly disappearing from our Upper Peninsula forests. Beginning in 2000, beech bark disease entered the Upper Peninsula and quickly ravaged stands of beech trees. In the wake of this devastation, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) conducted salvage operations to utilize beech prior to its decay. Then, Hiawatha National Forest (HNF) employees shifted attention to the survey and identification of beech trees resistant to the disease vector, the organisms transmitting the disease. After a several years of effort with partners, today, we are preparing for the reintroduction of American beech.

The journey toward this hopeful approach began in 2011, with the initial wave of the disease in full swing in the Upper Peninsula. Genetic studies by Jennifer Koch with the Forest Service's Northern Research Station (NRS) have shown that when two resistant parents are bred, at least half of the resulting seedlings will be fully resistant, a substantial increase over the 1 to 5 percent of beech trees with resistance typically found in natural forests.

Hiawatha National Forest silviculture staff were invited to participate in a project with USFS's NRS and Region 9 to survey, identify and propagate disease resistant beech trees. The journey toward this hopeful approach began in 2011, when the initial wave of the disease was in full swing in the

Upper Peninsula, and will culminate with the development of a seed orchard containing the disease resistant beech trees identified in the HNF. The seedlings produced by this seed orchard, enriched for resistance to the disease, will be used to restore healthy American beech trees to the HNF.

"During the survey phase, we conducted 5,600 acres of stand examinations in prime American beech habitat on the forest's east zone, where the disease first hit the national forest. We located 52 healthy-looking, potentially-resistant trees – trees that lacked signs of infection such as cankers," said Sam Barnes, a silviculturist on Hiawatha National Forest.

During the 2012 field season, Hiawatha staff field tested these healthy looking trees to see if they were actually resistant to the disease complex. Beech bark disease involves both beech scale insect (*cryptococcus fagisuga*) and a fungal component. The testing protocol involves an artificial infestation technique in which beech scale eggs are introduced to apparently healthy trees. A year later, in summer of 2013, Hiawatha silviculturists checked the artificially infested trees.

"Nineteen of the 52 trees resisted the infection during that 2012-13 field test," said Barnes.

In order to grow new resistant trees that would thrive in our local climate, it was necessary to clone these resistant trees rather than gathering seed, which might be a mix of different non-resistant genotypes. During the winter of 2013-14, Hiawatha foresters worked with went to great lengths – or

rather, heights – to gather numerous small branches from each of the resistant trees.

Foresters delivered these branches, called "scion," to the Forest Service's Oconto River Seed Orchard (ORSO) in Wisconsin. Specialists at ORSO grafted the scions to healthy rootstock and began tending the little trees. A second round of scion-gathering and grafting was done during winter 2014-15.

The disease resistant grafts will be planted in an orchard where they can pollinate each other. Years later, the seeds these trees produce can be harvested with assurance that both parents were resistant. The seeds will then be grown into seedlings for planting in forests such as Hiawatha National Forest. "We have begun the hard work of establishing the orchards, but it will be some years before they yield operationally significant amounts of seeds to be grown into seedlings and planted on the landscape," Scott Rogers, ORSO Forest Service Orchard manager, said.

"We look forward to someday planting and monitoring resistant beech seedlings on the Hiawatha National Forest," Sam Barnes, a Forest Service silviculturist, said. He added that if the trees prove to be resistant, this artificial regeneration could one day bring high quality beech timber products back to the region.

The forest also continues to record potentially resistant trees encountered while performing other work.

"In 2016, we identified and



Photo Courtesy USFS

Josh LeDuc, a Hiawatha NF forester, gathers scion by climbing potentially resistant trees. Foresters also use marksmanship to obtain scion by carefully selecting branches and shooting them off.

set up field tests on 12 additional trees, with 10 of those proving to be resistant. And, this year, we set up challenges on 30 additional trees," Barnes said.

If all goes well, ORSO will supply both state and federal forest managers with genetically diverse, regionally adapted, beech bark disease resistant planting stock to carry out management plans for dealing with the disease.

American Beech is tree species important to our forests. From a wildlife management perspective, the mast and buds of beech trees provide an important food source for many species of birds and mammals. In some Northern hardwood forests, beech is the only mast-producing species and has been linked with the success of black bear reproduction. On the Hiawatha National Forest, beech is by far the major producer of mast. The Hiawatha has only one commercial species of oak and one

non-commercial species, but both are minor components compared to beech. The decline of such a predominant mast-producing species will undoubtedly have a major impact on many different wildlife species. Beech is also valued as a timber product. Its attractive pinkish brown close-grained wood is hard and strong, so beech has been used to make furniture, toys, tool handles, baseball bats and more. In addition to economic and wildlife uses, a mature beech forest provides a beautiful setting for recreation activities.

It is not feasible to control the natural spread of BBD because animals and the wind move both the scale and fungus. However, the public can help slow the spread of the disease. Don't move beech firewood or logs from infested areas to uninfested areas. Once scale infests trees in your area, report new finds and watch for resistant trees.

Silet accepts lead fisheries biologist position

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Brad Silet has been hired as the lead fisheries biologist for Sault Tribe's Natural Resource Department.

Silet is a tribal member from St. Ignace who previously worked in the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department as an assistant biologist for four years before returning to Michigan State University (MSU) for a master's degree in fish and wildlife, graduating in 2017.

Sault Tribe Executive Director Christine McPherson, said, "We are thrilled to have Brad onboard to oversee Sault Tribe fisheries staff. Brad is very happy to be back, working as the lead of fisheries management issues for his tribe."

Silet said the fisheries program has a great staff that is dedicated to the management of the resources in the Great Lakes and inland lakes and rivers. "I am very excited to be working for tribe again in the Natural



Resources Department. I am grateful for this opportunity to manage the tribe's fisheries and aquatic ecosystems in the eastern Upper Peninsula." He currently oversees a staff of eight.

As the Lead Fisheries Biologist, Silet is responsible for the fisheries management in the 1836 ceded territory of the Great Lakes and inland lakes and rivers. This includes developing fisheries management plans, fisheries

research, assessing activities, reporting to the proper agencies, writing grants for funding, and ensuring the program remains one of the leaders in the field.

He said the department has a very busy year ahead of them. "Winter is full of inter-agency meetings and planning our many assessments for the coming spring through fall. Our staff is currently working on numerous off season tasks such as repairing assessment nets and finishing up this past year's diet analysis of lake trout," he said. "Our hatchery is hoping for another good year of raising walleye - with over 1.8 million walleye raised and stocked last year in waters of the 1836 ceded territory. We are hoping to match that same number again this year."

Silet said fisheries staff are concentrating on lake trout and whitefish in the Great Lakes, and will also be looking at walleye for inland waters and Great Lakes waters. He is responsible

for knowing and implementing management of the 2000 consent decree fisheries for the Great Lakes and the 2007 consent decree for the Inland waters. Beginning in the spring, fisheries staff begins their fieldwork collecting samples in the Great Lakes from Marquette east in Lake Superior and Escanaba east in Lake Michigan all the way down to the Fairport area and in Lake Huron down to Alpena. Fisheries staff collect information for catch and discard estimates, age at capture and stomach content analysis, and more.

Silet said he will be directly involved in the 2000 consent decree negotiations that are coming up again in 2020 for the Great Lakes. "The beginning stages of the upcoming negotiations are happening right now,"

he said, "and will be ramping up quickly as we get closer to 2020."

Silet graduated from LaSalle High School and attended MSU, graduating with a bachelor's degree in Fisheries and Wildlife in 2010. The following year he took more classes from MSU to complete an American Fisheries Society certification as a Fisheries Scientist. Then in the fall of 2011 he was hired as an assistant biologist with the tribe's Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (IFWD). "With the IFWD, I mainly dealt with activities in regard to the 2007 Consent Decree but I did work at times with Inter-Tribal Fisheries and Assessment Program with the Sault Tribe Hatchery and some Great Lakes walleye assessments," he said.

Still need a tree?

GLADSTONE, Mich. – Did you know holiday trees are available for cutting on Hiawatha National Forest land? If you are one who likes the "thrill of the hunt" — the excitement of trudging through the snow in search of the perfect tree — then we have the perfect opportunity for you! For the price of a "tree tag" (\$5) and a little sweat, you can cut your own tree from National Forest land!

To obtain a permit, in the form of a "tree tag," stop at your local Ranger District office. Along with your permit you will receive tree cutting guidelines, information regarding cutting areas, and suggestions for flame-proofing your tree.

If you buy a tree tag and cut your tree on the Hiawatha National Forest, we invite you to send us your favorite photo of your family's tree-cutting outing via our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/HiawathaNF/>. Photo Release forms are required and are available at http://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd478711.pdf or at our district offices. We'll use the photos to

create an online holiday tree-cutting photo album that we hope will add to the fun of cutting your tree and spread the idea of getting outdoors in the winter.

For more information about tree tags, contact one of the following U.S. Forest Services. Call our offices Monday through Friday 8-4:30: Munising 387-2512; Rapid River/Manistique (906) 474-6442, or St. Ignace/Sault Ste. Marie 643-7900.



Photo by USFS
Cut your own tree from the national forest with a tree tag.

Gregorini takes post as assistant biologist with wildlife team

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Jared Gregorini, 31, graduated in May with a Bachelor of Science degree in conservation biology from Lake Superior State University.

Putting his education to the test, he was hired as a summer field technician for the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department during the past two summers. While he was working there this summer the assistant biologist position became available. Gregorini said he was "wildly excited" about being hired.

Gregorini said he started his career in the information technology field to gain a foundation in computer knowledge before switching to conservation biology.

As an assistant biologist, he spends a lot of time during the summer months doing fieldwork, such as collecting data on snow-

shoe hares and martens. When they live trap the snowshoe hares they collect foot length, fecal pellets and blood samples.

Several martens have already been live trapped and collared with a GPS device and they are working to recapture one of those to reclaim the collar and collect the data stored on it. "This time of year we go out into the Hiawatha National Forest where we are placing live traps around a one square-mile area trying to recapture a marten with a collar that was placed on it two years ago. Once we get it back we will send it away to have it analyzed and find out more about the home range of where it goes and what habitats it stays in," he said. "In the summer we are working with the hares, live trapping them and placing radio collars on them so we can triangulate their position and gather data on far they are

going."

Gregorini said the snowshoe hare population is believed to directly correlate with local deer populations, meaning the more data they can collect on hares enhances their ability to determine what both the deer and hare habitat is looking like. This research is also used to determine if any restoration projects might need done to restore habitat and get hare population levels up, which would also have a positive effect on deer.

"I am excited to be working for the tribe," he said. "My grandfather (the late Arthur Kelly) was a tribal member and always instilled the importance of working with the tribe." Gregorini has dual citizenship and is from Sault, Ontario, Canada, his father's home country, and his mother is from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Precautions to prevent water pipes from freezing

BY CRYSTAL FALK

With winter finally here, we are starting to experience the cold temperatures of Michigan. One of the worst things that can happen during these cold months is having your pipes freeze, but there are some simple things we can all do to prevent pipes from freezing and breaking. When pipes freeze and break, not only does it cost you money in repairs and cause a mess for you to clean up, but it also can waste a lot of water and cause a large water bill for that month.

Some simple precautions that should be taken are listed below. Some of these methods use water, but a much smaller amount than if your pipes burst, not to mention the costly repairs and damage burst pipes can cause.

- Close all inside valves that supply water to outdoor hose faucets and drain outside, open faucets and leave open for the winter.
- Do not leave garden hoses

attached to outside hose faucets, this causes the outdoor faucets to hold water and freeze.

- Check around the home for other areas where water supply lines are in unheated areas such as basements, crawl spaces, attics, and garages and under kitchen and bathroom sinks. Remember, both hot and cold water lines can freeze in these areas.

If you do have water lines in these areas, try to insulate these lines or let the water run (the size of a pencil lead, even just a small drip will help), open doors on sinks, keep garage doors closed and if you live in an apartment building, keep entry doors closed. If you live in a mobile home, make sure your water connections are insulated. Pipe wrap is inexpensive and available at any hardware store or big department store. Pipe wrap will not only keep your pipes from freezing but will also save you money on heating your hot water.

- If you have pipes in areas where freezing is most likely, letting a faucet drip during extreme cold weather can prevent a pipe from bursting. It's not that a small flow of water prevents freezing, as water can freeze even with a slow flow. By opening a faucet, it will also provide relief from the excessive pressure that builds between the faucet and the ice blockage when freezing occurs. If there is no excessive water pressure, there is no burst pipe, even if the water inside the pipe freezes.

A dripping faucet wastes some water, so only pipes vulnerable to freezing (ones that run through an unheated or unprotected space) should be left with the water flowing. The drip can be very slight. Even the slowest drip at normal pressure will provide pressure relief when needed. Where both hot and cold lines serve a spigot, make sure each one contributes to the drip, since both are subjected to freezing.

If the dripping stops, leave the faucet(s) open, since a pipe may have frozen and will still need pressure relief.

- All household members should know where the shut off valve is located and know how to shut off the water. This will save wasted water and water damage to your home in the event that a pipe does burst. You may even want to practice this with your family just like a fire drill.

- In the event you do have pipes freeze, keep your faucets open so when the lines start to thaw, the water will flow, aiding the melting process. Please DO NOT USE a torch, kerosene heater, propane heater or any other open flame that may cause the water to boil, it will damage pipes and could start a fire. Should you use other devices such as heat tapes or hair dryers, DO NOT allow these to come in contact with water.

- When away from the house for an extended period during the

winter, be careful how much you lower the heat. A lower temperature may save on the heating bill, but there could be a disaster if a cold spell strikes and pipes that normally would be safe, freeze and burst. A solution is to drain the water system. This is the best safeguard. With no water in the pipes, there is no freezing. This remedy should be considered even when the homeowner is not leaving but is concerned about a serious overnight freeze.

To drain the system, shut off the main valve and turn on every water fixture (both hot and cold lines) until water stops running. It's not necessary to leave the fixtures open, since the system is filled mostly with air at that point and not subject to freezing. When returning to the house, turn on the main valve and let each fixture run until the pipes are full again.

Crystal Falk is on the staff of the Sault Tribe Environment Department.

Tribal community members remembered, walking on

JULIA M. CAPTAIN

Julia Mary Captain, 88, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Nov. 3, 2017, at War Memorial Hospital. Julia was born on May 2, 1929, in Barbeau, Mich., to the late Archie and Louise (nee Boulley) Cadreau.



Please remember me as I was, happy and loved. I had so many good friends, loved county music, loved sing along (even did a little singing myself). Loved to go to house parties and nice bon-fires, I always had a lot of fun. Julia was a member to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Julia is survived by her son, Thomas J. (Lola) Captain of Sault Ste. Marie; her brother, Archie Cadreau of Holland, Mich.; her sister, Vida Captain of Sault Ste. Marie; granddaughters, Michelle Captain and Angela Captain of Colorado; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, Andrea, Dion, Dominic, Jackie and Andrea's daughters and Anthony; cousins Clarence (Chris) Cadreau of Sault Ste. Marie; nieces and nephews, William, Ada and Kathy Ann; and dear friend and partner in crime at Tendercare, Marian Osborn.

Julia was preceded in death by her daughter, Diana Marie (John) Gates; a granddaughter, Lisa; precious great-grandson, Thomas Sebastian Captain; two brothers and her parents.

"Remember me in your prayers."

According to Julia's wishes, no public services will be held. Arrangements are in the care of C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

KIMBALL J. EDDY

Lifelong Newberry resident, Kimball J. "Kim" Eddy, 72, died on Nov. 23, 2017, at his residence under the care of North Woods Hospice and his loving family.



Born on June 15, 1945, in Dollarville, son of the late Leslie and Pauline (nee

Keltz) Eddy, Kim attended the former "Pratt School," Pentland Elementary, and was a graduate of Newberry High School.

Kim married the former Judith Lorraine Green in July 1966 at the Newberry United Methodist Church. Kim joined the National Guard in 1963 serving as a heavy equipment operator and later as first cook for 16 years. During his time in the National Guard, Kim spent time in Detroit during the riots and in Lansing during the time of the "pre-riots." Kim was employed as a licensed practical nurse at the former Newberry Regional Mental Health Center for 29 years, retiring upon its closure. Following his retirement, Kim also was employed at Beaulieu Funeral Home as a funeral assistant professional.

Kim was a member of American Legion Post 74 in Newberry serving as post commander for two years and second vice commander for five years. He was honored to present the American flag to the surviving families of deceased veterans for several years. He was proud to be master of ceremonies during Memorial Day services and was involved with the POW/MIA program on Veterans Day.

Kim was a very active member of the Newberry United Methodist Church serving in the choir, liturgist and several committees. His passion was cooking and enjoyed cooking meals for the weekly Kiwanis Club meetings and the free community meals for the church for several years. Kim was also one of the first volunteers in the eastern Upper Peninsula Search and Rescue and the Luce County Sheriff's Auxiliary. He was also well known as the annual Santa Claus for the children in the Newberry area following in the footsteps of his brother, Bob, and father, Leslie. Kim was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians serving as chairman for the Newberry Elders Subcommittee and trustee and former vice president of the Tahquamenon Area Credit Union Board.

Survivors include his daughter, Karin Denice (Eugene) Cole of Newberry; grandson, Kristopher Cole of Newberry; longtime companion of over 18 years, Linda Grant, and her family; siblings, Judy Stucke of Lomira, Wis., Joan Karlson of Newberry, Marie Smith of Newberry and Bob (Louise) Eddy of Newberry; several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Judith, on May 14, 1996. In addition to his parents, Kim was also preceded in death by his sisters, Barbara Simmons and Sally Burke; and brothers-in-law Bill Karlson, Dennis Stucke, Tommy "Smitty" Smith, Ray Simmons and Clarence Burke Sr.

Friends called at the Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry on Nov. 26, 2017, and the Newberry United Methodist Church Nov. 27, 2017. Funeral services celebrated the life of Kim Eddy on Nov. 27 at the Newberry United Methodist Church with Reverend Tim Callow officiating. Interment with military honors provided by the American Legion Post 74 and Michigan National Guard followed at Forest Home Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the Newberry United Methodist Church in his memory.

Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry is assisted the family. Condolences may be expressed at www.beaulieufuneralhome.com.

EARL MCKERCHIE

Earl "JR" McKerchie of Sugar Island passed away on Nov. 23, 2017, at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. JR was born on April 1, 1935, in Sault Ste. Marie, the son of Earl and Adeline McKerchie.



He is survived by a son, Earl "Rob" McKerchie; daughters, Pamela McKerchie and Debra McKerchie; grandchildren, Melissa McKerchie, Katie Lustila, Emily McKerchie, "Ray Ray" McKerchie, Robert McKerchie, Robert "Bob" McKerchie and Brian McKerchie; siblings, Bernice "BC" Roberts of Valdosta, Ga., Loretta "Etta" and Robert "Bob" Peterson of Montello, Wis., Clarence "Pokey" McKerchie of Meridian, Idaho, Kenneth "Kenny" McKerchie and Sharon Jaros of Sault Ste. Marie, Carol and Robert Lawrence of Eckerman, Mich., Michael "Mickey" and Barbara McKerchie of San Jose, Calif., Raymond and Sue McKerchie of Sault Ste. Marie, Russell and Linda McKerchie of Kincheloe, Mich., Irene "Peewee" and James Sears of Goodrich, Mich., Beverly "Jeanie" and Dennis Watson of Sault Ste. Marie, Daniel "Sandman" and Loris McKerchie of Sault Ste. Marie; also survived by several

nieces and nephews.

JR was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, George McKerchie.

Funeral services took place on Nov. 29, 2017, at the Niigaan-agiizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie with Brother John Hascall officiating. Military honors and a luncheon followed the services.

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

RONALD L. PETERS

Ronald L. Peters, 74, of St. Joseph, Mo., passed away due to complications from heart surgery at Mosaic Life Care on Oct. 15, 2017.

Ronald was born on Jan. 21, 1943, in Munising, Mich., to the late Thaine and Bernice (nee Branam) Peters. His family moved to Marquette and he attended Marquette Public Schools where he played football in high school. After high school, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps where he spent several tours in Vietnam and Japan. He later retired from Camp Pendleton Marine Base, Calif., in 1981. He married Ruth Winovich in Youngstown, Ohio, in 1968. They had a son, Robert, in 1972. In 2008, Ron and his wife moved to St. Joseph to be closer to their son and family.

Ronald was proud of his Native American heritage and was an elder member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He enjoyed fishing with his grandchildren and attending their sporting events and gymnastics and spending time with his family. He enjoyed coming back to Michigan for summer family reunions. He loved country music, old cowboy shows and watching NFL games on TV.

Ronald is survived by a son, Robert (Kim) Peters, St. Joseph and grandchildren Jasmine, Lance and Karina; sisters, Sharon LaCosse of Marquette, Yvonne (Dave Johnson) Peters, of Chatham, Kim (Terry) Alworden of Gladstone and Denise Nichols of Gladstone; brothers, Gary (Beverly) Peters of Gwinn, Harvey Peters of Little Lake, Mark (Terrie) Peters of Rapid River and Dennis (Kay) Peters of Gwinn;



numerous nieces, nephews and cousins; aunts, Delores Ring of Youngstown and Eileen Branam of Marquette; uncle, Dee Peters of Daggett, Mich.; godmother, Helen from Ohio and lifelong friend, Tom DeRocher, of Marquette.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Ruth, in 2014; parents, Thaine and Bernice Peters; sister, Vivian Price; brothers-in-law, John Price, James LaCosse and Warren Nichols; sister-in-law, Sally Jo Peters; and nieces, Alicia and Shannon Peters.

Ronald has been cremated under the direction of Heaton-Bowman-Smith and Sidenfaden Chapel in St. Joseph. A family service at the Perkins Cemetery in Perkins, Mich., took place on Oct. 28, 2017, with military and tribal honors.

The Skradski Funeral Home of Gladstone was in charge of the arrangements.

(Editor's note: Mr. Peters' obituary is re-run to include his family members).

In memory of my dear mother, Gloria "Shine" Paquin Sept. 6, 1928 — Nov. 12, 2007

Not a day goes by, thinking of you, our daily talks. Riding the back roads was treasured time, along with our fishing time, looking at the beautiful scenery, the bubbles in the fish hole, which was grandpa's favorite, too, sitting watching the beautiful blue sky with white clouds above with the sound of ripples of water flowing so softly through the rocks below the bridge we were on, talking as hours would tick slowly by. You were so excited to get a bite and bring happiness as you reeled him in.

As we were fishing, not to forget your excitement and my astonishment when you spotted that dead goose being dragged off by a skunk! The baby muskrats you spotted underneath the bridge trying to keep from flowing in the fish hole, and all the visits with the people who came along to talk with us as well as the couple who walked down to warn us of the bear that started walking down our path, was then our cue to go home and call it a day. Our time riding around looking for mushrooms, all the mushrooms you spotted as well as the mother and her baby woodcocks and so many things I can't count brought so many pleasurable memories. I love you always and forever.

So, shine on, my shining star, until we meet again.

Love, your daughter, Connie Paquin

You could be qualified for student loan forgiveness

If you are employed by a government or non-profit organization, you may be able to receive student loan forgiveness under the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program. The program forgives the remaining balance on your direct loans after you have made 120 qualifying monthly payments under a qualifying repayment plan while working full-time for a qualifying employer.

If you want to qualify for Public Service Loan Forgiveness now or in the future, complete and submit an employment certification form as soon as possible.

Too many borrowers wait to submit this important form until they have been in repayment for several years, at which point they learn that they have not been making qualifying payments.

Qualifying employment includes government organizations at any level (federal, state, local or tribal), 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations and qualifying public services.

To download a form, visit: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service#qualifying-employment>.

Early Childhood Education gets mini grant

BY TAMMY PINKOSKI

In November, Sault Tribe Early Childhood Education was awarded a mini grant from United Way of the EUP. *(See photo on right.)*

The Early Childhood Education program will receive the extra support needed to bring a "literacy night" to children aged 1 through 5 and their families. We will host one literacy event in Mackinac County and at least one in Chippewa County.

The event will consist of a meal, a children's book and a parent-child activity. Each family will receive that book to add to their home library. The teachers will provide a hands-on parent and child activity that correlates to the book.

This event will support three of the five school readiness goals: "Approaches to Learning," "Cognitive and General Knowledge" and "Language and Literacy." Depending on the teacher's choice of book, the remaining two school readiness goals, "Social-Emotional" and "Physical Development"



may also be addressed.

By hosting this event, we are offering more opportunities in the community on positive parent-child relationships, families as lifelong educators, families as learners, family engagement in transition, family connections to peers and the community, and families as advocates and leaders.

Tammy Pinkoski is a family service coordinator for Sault Tribe Early Childhood Education.

Community Health hires Diabetes Program manager

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Devin Krause, MSN, RN, has worked for Sault Tribe Community Health for the past six years as a nurse, and recently accepted the Diabetes Program manager position.

She earned a Master of Science in nursing (nurse educator) from Wilkes University and a B.S. in nursing from Lake Superior State University (LSSU).

Additional work experience includes working as a psychiatric nurse for the state of Michigan Department of



Devin Krause, MSN, RN

Community Health working in the Department of Corrections

in Kinross for about four years. Previous to that position, she worked for Sault Tribe Community Health for about three years.

In her new position, she supervises the diabetes case coordinators, Community Health nurses and dieticians. In addition to being responsible for managing the Sault Tribe Diabetes Program, she also oversees the diabetes grant and nutrition services. Krause will be coordinating grant activities, data coordination, oversight of educational services, and

providing direct patient care to improve diabetes control and outcomes.

Krause consults with her staff, offering advice or recommendations on diabetes clinical management issues and also consults with diabetic patients to define needs or problem areas and works with patients' providers. She is responsible for conducting the annual diabetes audit and disseminating the results and for writing and submitting project narratives and grant objectives for grant applications and reports.

Krause is a Sault Tribe member and is married to Douglas Krause. Together they have blended their family of four children: Jacob Driedric, 22, who is in his final year at LSSU; Hunter Krause, 19, a freshman playing hockey at Finlandia University in Hancock, Mich.; Brenden Krause, 18, playing hockey for the Eastern Hockey League for Total Athletics Seahawks in Hyannis, Mass.; and Sophie Driedric, 12, who is a grade 7 student at Sault Area Middle School.

ACFS offers tribal families many types of assistance

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) offers many types of assistance to tribal individuals and families; from the USDA Food and Distribution program to heating, cooling and weatherization programs (all falling under their Direct Assistance offerings); Indian Child Welfare Act monitoring, the Binogii Child Placement Agency, Family Support Services, Child and Adult Protective Services and the Advocacy Resource Center Victim Services Program.

A past article (July 14 issue, page 11) explored the Direct Assistance offerings, while here we will briefly touch on other programs offered under the ACFS umbrella.

Indian Child Welfare Act monitoring: The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is a federal law providing special protections for Indian children and their families. The law applies to state proceedings in which a child cannot be returned to the custody of the parent; including voluntary and involuntary proceedings such as guardianships, removal due to abuse and neglect, requests for termination of parental rights and petitions for adoption. The Sault Tribe Child Welfare Committee speaks on behalf of the tribe in these matters.

The tribe monitors all child welfare cases under state court jurisdiction throughout the country. The tribe becomes a legal party to each case and has access to all case records. ACFS has an ICWA attorney that represents the tribe's interest in each case on behalf of the Native child.

Binogii Child Placement Agency: The Michigan state-licensed child placing agency is responsible for foster home licensing, foster care services, foster home services and adoptions for Sault Tribe children and families residing in the tribe's seven county services



This year ACFS held its 19th annual Family Celebration in the Sault.

area.

Family Support Services: ACFS identifies families who may be at risk, and assesses their needs to match them with supportive services. Programs offered by the Family Support Services Program include the Prevention Program, which assists families with self-identified issues affecting the family's wellbeing. Also offered are Family Continuity Services; Adolescent In Home Assistance; Adult and Adolescent Anger Management Coaching; Nurturing Parent Education; Adolescent Nurturing Parenting; and Children In the Middle.

Child and Adult Protective Services: Children's Protective Services (CPS) promotes the stability of families and provides permanent places to live for children who cannot safely remain with their own families. Investigations generally take 30 days from the time the case is assigned. In Home Care is a program for those CPS cases that extend beyond the initial 30 days.

In Home Care services provide monitoring and referrals to help the family alleviate safety concerns. If the children's safety cannot be ensured, the agency petitions to remove the children from the home.

Child Protection and Family Support services are provided to prevent or reduces the risk of out-of-home foster care placements. There are a number of internal and community based services offered to address identified safety concerns.

Adult Protective Services investigates reports of abuse, neglect or exploitation against tribal adults who are determined to be vulnerable and reside on Sault Tribe land.

Advocacy Resource Center

Victim Services Program:

The Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) provides assistance and support to victims and survivors of abuse or crime – regardless of the involvement of law enforcement or length of time since the victimization occurred.

Services offered to victims include core advocacy, meaning intervention and brief counseling and emotional support, a safety plan, case management, referral to community based resources, assistance with transportation and education on the dynamics of domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence and stalking.

Other services include emergency legal advocacy, criminal justice advocacy and information and help with the State of Michigan Crime Victims Compensation Program. The ARC maintains client confidentiality as protected by law in a location that is kept confidential to protect the safety of those seeking services there. There are no fees for services provided by the ARC.

For more information about ACFS programs and services, visit www.saulttribe.com, and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/acfsfamily.

com/acfsfamily.

You can also call the ACFS main office at (906) 632-5250 or toll free 800-726-0093.

ADDITIONAL ACFS NUMBERS

• **Advocacy Resource Center** 632-1808, or 877-639-7820

• **24 hour crisis pager** 278-0033

• **Child Advocacy Center** 632-4001

• **USDA** 635-6076, or 888-448-8732

• **ACFS Kincheloe** 495-1232

• **ACFS St. Ignace** 643-8689

• **ACFS Munising** 387-3906

• **ACFS Manistique** 341-6993

Satellite office hours are available for the Direct Assistance component at the Hessel and Escanaba Tribal Centers.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors 2018 Calendar

January 2	Sault Ste. Marie	January 16	Sault Ste. Marie
February 6	Sault Ste. Marie	February 20	Sault Ste. Marie
March 6	Sault Ste. Marie	March 13**	Manistique
April 3	Sault Ste. Marie	April 17	Munising
May 1	Sault Ste. Marie	May 15	Sault Ste. Marie
June 12**	St. Ignace	June 19	Sault Ste. Marie
July 10**	Escanaba	July 17	Sault Ste. Marie
August 7	Sault Ste. Marie	August 21	Sault Ste. Marie
September 4	Sault Ste. Marie	September 18	Sault Ste. Marie
October 2	Sault Ste. Marie	October 16	Sault Ste. Marie
November 6	Sault Ste. Marie	November 20	Hessel
December 4	Sault Ste. Marie		

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

General meetings of the Board of Directors are held the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month. All general meetings start at 5:00 p.m. All Sault meetings will be held at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center, other locations to be announced. Meetings with ** are changed to accommodate the Chair/Board attendance at MAST, NCAI, United Tribes, various Wash. D.C. meetings or holidays.

All special meetings will be announced.

For further information please call Joanne Carr (ext. 26337) or Linda Grossett (ext. 26338) at the Administration Office, (800) 793-0660, (906) 635-6050.

Healer availability for December

Sault Ste. Marie
Dec. 18, 20,
call Peggy Holappa
at 632-0220 for appointments.

Munising
Dec. 19,
call 387-4721
for appointments.

Advocacy Resource Center

How Hospice of the EUP offered help, hope

When most people think of hospice care, chances are they are looking primarily at its medical aspects — when they want to make sure a family member is getting the proper medications and is comfortable in his or her final days. Professionals who are skilled at working with patients in these circumstances make sure these critical needs are met.

While the medical component's importance in keeping a dying person comfortable is a key part of hospice care, it is certainly not the only one. As many of those who work in the hospice field will tell you, hospice is not about dying; it is about living.

But for those whose who associate hospice only with death, it may be difficult to understand that not only will hospice help a person live their final days in comfort and dignity, it can also help the patient's family and friends cope with a stressful situation, and may even bring them closer together.

That was certainly the case when Marion Eavou came to live at Hospice House in September 2016. She was there until April 9, 2017. For every minute from the day she arrived, a member of Marion's family was with her, which is no small feat when one considers that her large family hadn't spent much time together in more than 30 years.

"It was a life-saver for our family. It really was," said Gina Hiipakka, one of Marion's daughters. "If it had not been for hospice, I don't know what we would have done."

Marion had lived in Brimley and in Sault Ste. Marie, but had been away from the area for some time. As she approached the end of her life, dementia and other health issues caused her to be frightened and confused. Most of the family members would have had a difficult time caring for her at their homes. Two of Marion's daughters had expe-



Photo by Tom Pink

Front row L-R Bev Eavou, Gina Hiipakka, Carol Eavou, Loretta Eavou, Ursula McKerchie. Back row L-R Mark Eavou, David Hiipakka, Lisa Eavou, Lawrence McKerchie, Al Eavou.

rience with the staff and care provided through the Robert and Helen Ball Hospice House, so the family chose to bring Marion there, where she could be close to everyone.

"When we came to Hospice House, everyone was so understanding," said Hiipakka. "It was a difficult situation, because our mother was distrustful of everyone who was trying to help her... But the staff was very protective of her and helped her understand that her room there was hers for as long as she needed it."

"Even when she had episodes where she was confused, the staff was so kind with her and would repeatedly tell her what they were doing and why they were doing it. They did it over and over and over again."

The Eavou family soon found out that hospice care was just as good for them as it was for their mother.

"Our family sort of took over the sunroom," Hiipakka said,

referring to a large room on the northwest side of Hospice House. "It became a place where we could relax and share our thoughts and our memories, as well as discuss things that we needed to. We basically hadn't been together for the last 40 years...but we got together and we supported each other."

"The atmosphere was so homelike," she continued. "The staff make us feel like we were a part of their family, and we really needed that at that time. They knew everyone's name. It was a very special arrangement and so nice that our mother's grandchildren, great-grandchildren, sons and daughters could come and treat it like their own home. We'd walk in, take off our shoes and head for the coffee pot. If mom was sleeping, we didn't have to leave — we'd go sit in the sunroom."

Hiipakka said everyone who cared for her mother — nurses, social workers, members of the

clergy and house staff — took a great interest in her and her family. "The social worker said, 'I wish more families could utilize this place for more than a few hours,' and I agree. There was so much leading up to her final hours that you can't pack into a few hours or a day."

Toward the end of Marion's stay, Hiipakka said some staff would even call in to Hospice House on their days off because they didn't want to be away on her final day. "Everything about the place was wonderful. I can't say a single staff member wasn't kind or caring. They were all lovely. They formed an attachment to my mom, and we formed attachments to them."

The experience of becoming a family again while caring for their mother is something the Eavou family will never forget, Hiipakka said. This summer, they held a barbecue at Al and Carol Eavou's home in Brimley and invited all hospice staff. In the invitation, they said, "We all so need to see you all. Life isn't the same without you. We hope ALL of you can make it."

Not everyone could make it, but many did and Marion Eavou's life, and the reuniting of her family, was celebrated again.

"When our hospice patients pass away, there's always a part of them and their families that stay in our hearts," said Tracey Holt, executive director of Hospice of the EUP. "And, certainly, that is the case with Mrs. Eavou. You can't spend seven months with someone day-in and day-out without that happening."

In a note to the hospice board of directors, Holt noted how humbled all of the staff were with the gratitude expressed by the Eavou family. "Mrs. Eavou's family never left her alone for a second. Not only did we care for her, we helped them to reconnect as a family. The relationships that were formed through their hospice experience will never be forgotten. This is

a simple reminder of who we are, what we do, and why we do it, even in the most difficult of times."

Holt and Hiipakka both said the Eavou family got to know several other families who were visiting and caring for family members at Hospice House, and they are still in contact with each other. They often interacted in the sunroom. "Everyone was very relaxed and they enjoyed visiting with each other," Holt said. "It gave everyone a good feel for what takes place here."

"I have not run across people who were so dedicated," Hiipakka said of the Hospice House staff. "It is a unique setting in the community. The people are genuine. It's not a job for them; it's more of a calling."

Marion's daughter Loretta noted the importance of the community's involvement with hospice, and her family's appreciation of that connection. "We are truly grateful to the community," she said. "Thank you to everyone for the donations and support that really helps hospice continue to provide a much-needed, loving and compassionate service for the Eastern U.P."

Marion Eavou was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Samuel, as well as a daughter, Mary Roberta, and a son, Robert Anthony. In addition to daughter Gina and her husband David, Marion is survived by Mark and Beverly (Nolan), Alvin and Carol (Nolan), Lawrence and Ursula McKerchie, Loretta, Linda and Lisa Eavou, and Anne Graham, as well as 40 grandchildren, 65 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren, and her siblings Margaret Chioini, Virginia Keim, Michael Currie and Richard Nelson.

For more information about how hospice can help your family, contact Tracey Holt at 308 W. 12th Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. 49783, or call (906) 259-0222.

2018 Elder committees meetings

Clip-N-Save

Elders Advisory Committee — March 26, April 23, May 29, June 25, July 23, Aug. 27, Sept. 24, Oct. 22

The Elderly Advisory Committee meets at 12:30 p.m. at the Newberry Tribal Center. Representatives from all elder subcommittees attend on the **fourth Monday for months March through October. (Meeting in July changes to Tuesday because of holiday.)**

Unit I Sault subcommittee — Jan. 3, Feb. 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July 3, Aug. 1, Sept. 5, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, Dec. 5.

The Unit I Sault Ste. Marie Elderly Subcommittee meets monthly on the **first Wednesday of every month** after the noon meal at the Nokomis-Mishomis Center, 2076 Shunk Road.

For questions, call Elder Services at (906) 635-4971

or (888) 711-7356. (Meeting in July changes to Tuesday because of holiday).

Unit II Hessel subcommittee — Jan. 15, Feb. 19, March 19, April 16, May 21, June 18, July 16, Aug. 20, Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 19, Dec. 17.

The Unit II Hessel Elderly Subcommittee meets monthly on the **third Monday of every month** after the noon meal at the Hessel Tribal Center.

Unit II Newberry subcommittee — Jan. 19, Feb. 16, March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, Aug. 17, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Dec. 21.

The Unit II Newberry Elderly Subcommittee meets monthly on the **third Friday of every month** at 10:30 a.m. before the meal at the Zellars Village Inn, Newberry.

Unit II Naubinway subcommittee — April 25, May 30, June 27, July 25, Aug. 29, Sept. 26, Oct. 31, Nov. 28, Dec. 26.

The Unit II Naubinway Elderly Subcommittee meets monthly on the **last Wednesday of every month** at 6:30 p.m. at the Pavilion. (No meetings in January, February, March)

Unit III St. Ignace subcommittee — Jan. 12, Feb. 9, March 9, April 13, May 11, June 8, July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9, Dec. 14.

The Unit III St. Ignace Elderly Subcommittee meets monthly on the **second Friday of every month** after the noon meal at the McCann Building.

Unit IV Manistique subcommittee — Jan. 10, Feb. 14, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, Aug. 8, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 12.

Unit IV Manistique Elderly Subcommittee meets monthly on the **second Wednesday of every month** after the noon meal at the Manistique Tribal Center.

Unit IV Escanaba subcommittee — Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 15, April 19, May 17, June 21, July 19, Aug. 16, Sept. 20, Oct. 18, Nov. 15, Dec. 20

The Unit IV Escanaba Elderly Subcommittee meets on the **third Thursday of every month** at the Willow Creek Professional Building, second floor meeting room, 3500 Ludington Street. Catered meals begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by the meeting.

Unit V Munising subcommittee — Jan. 4 & 18, Feb. 1 & 15, March 1 & 15, April 5 & 19, May 3 & 17, June 7 & 21, July 5 & 19, Aug. 2 & 16, Sept. 6 & 20, Oct. 4 & 18, Nov. 1 & 15, Dec. 6 & 20.

The Unit V Munising Elderly Subcommittee meets monthly at the Munising Tribal Center (old Lincoln School), **first Thursday of the month** the meeting is at 11 a.m.; meal is at noon.

On the **third Thursday of the month** the meal is at noon, the entrance to the building is off Munising Avenue (M 28) across from the American Legion.

Please use the west entrance.

Unit V Marquette subcommittee — Jan 4, Feb. 1, March 1, April 5, May 3, June 7, July 5, Aug. 2, Sept. 6, Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6.

The Unit V Marquette Elderly Subcommittee meets monthly on the **first Thursday of every month** at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn.

For questions, call Elder Services at (906) 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

'TIS THE SEASON: SAULT TRIBE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTIES REGISTER TO VOTE & ENTER \$1,000 DRAWING

Please join me this year in being a **Good Samaritan** Ring the Bell or Donate



Please Stop By

Ahneen, Boozho, Negee,

In the spirit of Christmas, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and safe New Years. For me, Christmas is both a joyous and solemn time of reflection. Not only because of the promise for ever lasting life, but also because it brings out the best in mankind to help one another as the Good Samaritan. It also marks the anniversary of my Gram Maria (Boulley) Parr's death in 1989. She always made sure we had a gift, a spread of fruits and nuts at her house, and would cook a humongous holiday meal. My Gram's, Aunt Pearl's and our home were arranged in a triangle such that we would eat Christmas dinner three times.

Growing up in poverty, we lived on welfare, food stamps or commods, had sponsors though the

Save the Children Foundation and bought most of our clothes from the Salvation Army. These experiences shaped me for life. Because of the generosity of others, I live my life in much the same way of giving back to others. It feels great when you help someone

else and it is the Christian thing to do. In our Anishinaabe Biimaadziwin, we have teachings that say we are often tested by Gitchi Manitou to see if we are generous enough and recognize the unifying spirit of the Creator in each other. While acts of kindness may not get you into heaven, if you perform these acts with kindness and the love of God, they are their own rewards.

For many years, I have been a bell ringer for the Salvation Army. Each year, I set a goal of ringing the bell for 20 hours across several days. This year, I gained approval to ring the bell at Kewadin Casino in the Sault. While not quite a sacrifice as ringing the bell outside of local businesses, with JC Penneys and Kmart gone from the Sault, we needed to



add another location so I pledged to cover collections at the casino. If this paper reaches you before Christmas, please stop by. I will be ringing the bell the week of Dec. 18 until Christmas Eve. I hope to see you.

Another spiritually rewarding annual ritual I partake in is raising funds for our Sault Tribe Children's Christmas Party. When I was a little boy, annually ~ Santa Claus would appear at the Finlayson School and hand out gifts. One year, as an eager 7-year-old, I stood with my childhood friend Michael Nolan waiting in line to see Santa. I was just giddy until, Michael whispered in my ear to tell me that Santa was George Nolan. I was devastated. It was explained to me later that for former Tribal Vice Chair and Tribal Leader George Nolan filled in for Santa from time to time. I was relieved.

I am proud to report that

my former office staff and I raised over \$12,261 to add to the Tribal Special Events budget of \$12,000 and another 10,000 from Kewadin Ca-

sinos for a total of \$32,261 for gifts for tribal kids!

Chi McGwitch, Negee!



Original Artwork by Aaron A. Payment

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SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

Non-resident Members must choose one of the five election units in order to vote in Tribal Elections. They should consider selecting the unit in which they have the closest ties and indicate below the unit they select. Registration is permanent unless you move in/out of an election unit. This form must be received by the Tribal Election Committee ninety (90) days prior to a general election in order for the registration to be valid. The address to which my ballot should be sent is:

Please Print

NAME _____ MAILING ADDRESS _____

STREET (PHYSICAL) ADDRESS _____

CITY & STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

To verify identity, please include last four numbers of your social security: - - -

I understand that this voter registration card must be completed and received at least 90 days prior to a general election to be eligible to vote in Tribal Elections.

I register to vote in Unit _____ SIGNATURE _____

(Must have signature to be Valid.)

Please Mail to:

Sault Tribe Election Committee, PO Box 102, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

We must take the politics out of our businesses



DJ HOFFMAN
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

The holiday season is upon us. It is a time to enjoy family and friends and to appreciate the important things in life. I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very merry Christmas and happy new year. While there are only a few weeks left in 2017, there is still much for us to do as a tribe

CASINOS

The casinos are the driving force behind the majority of our non-grant tribal operations revenues. As of today, Dec. 3, the board has yet to review these budgets in detail. Casino budgets have a direct impact on the tribe's governmental budgets. Without detailed projections from this revenue source, it is irresponsible to approve budgets (Schedule C) that are reliant on this income.

While I have stated it in the

past, as well as unsuccessfully proposed legislation to enable it, the tribal board of directors should not be the Gaming Authority or Gaming Commission. These bodies should be comprised of an independent body that has knowledge and experience in the gaming industry. Free of politics, our casinos may once again be a potent economic force.

SCHEDULE C BUDGETS

The tribal board reviewed Schedule C this past month and will be considering approving a (90 day) continuing funding resolution to conduct business as normal until the Schedule C are finally approved. Schedule C budgets are the largest tribal support funded budgets. As stated in the above, Schedule C budgets are dependent upon this income. Without an approved casino budget, the only responsible approach to Schedule C is a continuing funding resolution.

Continuing funding resolutions are not new to the tribe or governments in general. As an example, continuing funding authority resolutions have been passed routinely for various tribal budgets (including Schedule C): 2012 (Res. 2012-163), 2013 (Res. 2013-209), 2014 (2014-171), 2015 (2015-247), and 2016 (Res. 2016-282).

Tribal budgets primarily are generated from historical department's operational needs. Aside from new approaches or innovation, a primary element missing

from a majority of these budgetary discussions is the individual plans involved for each budget has been a detailed program plan. Without proper planning there is no reasonable manner with which to gauge our tribe's needs, successes, failures, goals and objectives.

One area that has created an issue this budgetary cycle consists of self-insurance. In our tribal Self-Insurance Program there will always be fluctuations between budgetary amounts and insurance claims. This year insurance has incurred additional expenses in the amount of nearly \$1.7 million. This budgetary shortfall will need to be addressed and this is not the first time that additional funds have been necessary in this area in differing fiscal years. Budget modifications have been approved in the past to address similar shortfalls, examples such as: Resolution 2014-165 (Governmental Health Insurance Budget Modification) and Resolution 2012-234 (Self Insurance Budget Modification).

While there are surely to be political statements or pre-campaign fodder created from the actions within this year's budgetary process, it has been consistent with past practice. The tribe currently has nearly \$5.5 million in Contract Support Settlement/Ramah Settlement funds, in excess of \$7 million in third-party revenues (which can only be utilized for health-related services) and

over \$2.5 million in cash reserves within Kewadin Casinos. It should be noted that while the tribe can perform at a much more efficient level any claims of doom and gloom are premature.

JKL BAHWETING SCHOOL

The middle school expansion is in the home stretch. The interior work with drywall, plumbing and electrical is nearly complete and the facility should be ready by the time the students return from Christmas break. The entire board of directors should be extremely pleased with what they have enabled to occur. It is truly an example of what can be accomplished when we collectively work together for a common goal for the benefit of the children and community.

BIG BEAR COMMUNITY CENTER

Last month, I wrote that I was eagerly anticipating the new layout of the Big Bear to focus on our youth. While "only one member," I am still awaiting the transition of this phenomenal opportunity for our tribal children and membership.

I am hopeful that administration will adhere to the resolution and provide "priority" in locations and space to ensure the smoothest transition and most effective access to services and programming to the membership.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

It is the end of 2017 and to ensure consistency and reiterate

its importance I will once again emphasize this area as a major emphasis. I have, and will continue to, stress the need to diversify economically. To ensure that we are able to diversify we must adopt plans and embrace opportunities outside of the realm of casinos.

In addition, the tribe needs to ensure that its business approaches are separated from its tribal politics. Fortunately, we have hired an economic development director who is moving our tribe forward in these areas, slowly but surely. The tribe has added several small businesses (self-storage), lease holding and capital financing. We are positioned to take several larger leaps in the near future; however, we must take politics out of the business environment.

As we enter into the holiday season it is time to express our appreciation for what we have as individuals, and as a tribe. I am grateful and extremely appreciative for the opportunity to serve the members of the tribe as an elected representative. I wish you all the best during the holidays, and, please remember life is precious and short. Make the most of it while you can and cherish those you call friends and family. Sincerely,

DJ Hoffman,

Cell: (906) 203-0510; tribal e-mail: djhoffman@saulttribe.net; personal e-mail: djwhoffman@hotmail.com

Strategic planning, budgets, Christmas parties, elder checks



BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

The members agreed with the board of directors in the referendum vote to combine the Inland Fishing and Hunting Committee and the Great Lakes Fishing Committee. The vote was 2,647 to approve and 2,057 to disapprove. There were 14,513 ballots mailed.

The board decided at the Hessel Nov. 21 meeting to set a deadline of Jan. 22 to accept applications for members that are interested in serving on the conservation committee. If you are interested you will need a letter of interest along with three letters from members supporting your appointment. The board will then decide at the next meeting who will be appointed.

There have been concerns and statements in regards to Mackinac Island kids for Christmas. I can only speak to the time that I have been on the board, which is since 2012. Keith and I have sent over around 60 gifts each year for all kids 12 and under. The Sault Tribe does not have a party over

there but does send gifts. Every December, I receive a list of the number of kids, their age and gender. We then send the gifts over to the Island where a group of women led by Trish Bunker distributes the gifts, normally through the First National Bank.

This will be the third year our kid's Christmas party is held at the Kewadin Shores Event Center. We used to use the Little Bear conference room but we outgrew the space. We have been very fortunate that the casino team members enjoy shopping, wrapping, decorating and volunteering to help make this a great party for our community. We usually have \$3-5,000 to put on a party and have about 350 gifts. We also get prizes for our fun fair and other expenses, which, if we are lucky, we can spend \$10 per kid. We all know you can't get much for \$10.

In the annual tribal budget there is \$2,000 allocated for units II, III, IV and V. Unit I receives \$4,000. The other money comes from letters sent out to all businesses that the tribe does business with. This year we also included boxes at each casino for Tito tickets to be donated for the parties. If it wasn't for the businesses making donations to the tribe, we wouldn't have much to work with.

There have been many statements that the tribe needs tribal labor law. For anyone who has worked outside of Sault Tribe, you know that you may call in once or screw up once or twice and get let go. When working for the tribe you have in most cases multiple write-ups before you can be terminated, which Human Resources has to concur

with. After termination, a team member has the opportunity to ask for an appeal hearing for one final chance to keep their job. The appeal panel consists of three board members, a manager and a team member with a similar job. The terminating manager or supervisor comes and presents their side of the case and then the team member comes in and presents their side of the case. After all concerns or questions have been answered there is a blind vote. If the team member does not win the appeal, they can re-apply.

I am not saying our policies or procedures could not use some overhaul but team members have many more opportunities than those outside the Sault Tribe. Team members can also be referred to an employee assistance program to help correct their situation. We have also recently hired an employee specialist (Gloria Kemp) to help team members with their concerns or issues. Gloria will hold hours in all areas.

We have recently hired a new health director, Leonid Chugunov, who began working on Dec. 4. We have recently voted to hire a new CFO and a team recently interviewed for a new HR director.

On Nov. 20, the Housing Commission held a strategic planning session. We discussed the needs in each community. Many of our communities have housing shortages, such as Sault Ste. Marie and St. Ignace, that have waiting lists. The groups of people who usually fall through the cracks are single people and those who are not quite consid-

ered elders. The point system used puts families and elders as priorities.

We discussed the ideas of buying mom and pop motels and turning them into efficiency apartments, building apartment buildings, buying or building tiny homes or yurts.

We also discussed the needs for emergency housing and transition housing for people released from prison and those after treatment.

There was a list of activities that we would like to see on the reservations such as police officers presence, cultural and educational workshops, pickle bar court, corn hole, etc.

We are still working on our big Schedule C budget at the final hour. We have yet to meet on the casino budget either. This is a problem every year that we run into, which leads to a continuing funding resolution until we get it passed. At this point the budget isn't balanced and we are working with the executive director on possible solutions.

While reviewing budgets, we discussed the annual elder checks. The estimate is \$490 going to 5,843 elders. In 2016 there were 5,220 elders who received \$552. In 2015 there were 4,921 who received \$563. The total distributed is \$2.8 million yearly. The first year that checks were disbursed, they were only 900 elders.

There has been so much cancer diagnosis in our community during this past year. I am thankful that our PRC is able to cover the cost of treatment for our people. I only wish we could diagnose our people at earlier stages

such as yearly physical blood draw testing.

As I get older, I realize how important and am thankful for the good health of my family. That definitely seems to be the one thing that money cannot buy. We often take that for granted as we wish we had this or that material thing. I wish each and every one of you good health in 2018.

I have also realized that shopping is so overrated. I think that gifts are for kids and I for one really only care that Christmas is about decorations, food and family. People waste hundreds of dollars on things they don't either need and probably don't even want. It is all about the kids and teaching them that it is better to give than receive.

Thank you for all the emails, texts, messages and phone calls. Please contact me with any questions or concerns at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

My wish for 2018 is that we get the tribe on a better track for the future. We need to make the tough decisions on where the best bang is for our buck. These decisions will not always be popular but we have to be there for the next seven generations. We have a real threat to our St. Ignace Casino with Mackinaw City going Class III. St. Ignace is the casino that really keeps the revenues in check.

Merry Christmas and happy new year to all of our members and our team members and their families! We couldn't do all we do for our people without the hard work and dedication of our team members. Thank you team Sault Tribe and Kewadin!

Depending less on grants, more on earnings



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aanii Anishinaabek, before I launch into my article, I want to take a moment to say MIIGWECH (thank you) for this beautiful year. It was one filled with many challenges, obstacles and great joy. We welcomed new members into our families, but also said farewell to others. Life is like that, tremendous joy, as well as pain. We are taught how precious each of us is and to never take for granted the time we have together. I want to wish you all the joy of this holiday season, the love of family and all the good things the Creator has provided for us. Miino-niibaaniima – Merry Christmas.

A politician tells you what you want to hear, a leader tells you what you must know. I do not consider myself a politician, although I work in political are-

nas. For years now, you have heard me say the tribe needs to prioritize its spending, that we need to spend less time talking about “grants” (which is basically free money) and spend our time focused on the dollars the tribe actually earns. The money we have earned has been going down, and that’s not good. But we spend precious little time discussing that and planning for the future. Our focus seems to always be on the coming fiscal year, and I believe we are heading for trouble. On Monday, Dec. 4, a vote will occur that will ask me to approve a budget that is not balanced, and in the negative more than \$800,000. I will not vote to approve an unbalanced budget. Accounting is not my area of expertise, and the budgeting of the tribe is quite complex; however, I feel we should only immediately approve those budget requests that are grant based, and require no tribal dollars. Then we should PRIORITIZE what remains according to a predetermined order from the most important, to the least. For me, the most important items are those that are VITAL (meaning life supporting) to our people. This would include food, medicine, housing, public safety, care for our children and our elders. All other cost centers should be closely examined, and brought in line with the ACTUAL dollars the tribe has brought in. Each

of us must do that with our own personal budgets, so should our tribe. I am not saying anything against my fellow board members who support approving the proposed budget, but for me it feels wrong, and I won’t do it. I won’t spend what we don’t have.

There is another issue that has been rather contentious. The position of the chairperson having supervision over staff. To be clear, there are administrative personnel assigned to assist the chairperson and I believe that a chairperson really does need support personnel to do his/her job efficiently and effectively. However, the board of directors (including the chairperson) are not legally considered “employees,” and are not subject to the tribe’s employee policies. This is not to say anything against ANY past, present or future chairperson or board member, but in all fairness, employees need to have the protection of the employee policies. Imagine having a need to file a grievance against the person who is your supervisor, but you can’t because the policies you have to follow do not apply to your supervisor because he/she is a board member or a chairperson. Until a supervising chairperson or board member is subject to the tribal employee policy as any other employee is, I will not vote to support placing staff under their supervision. Personally, I have had many of

the tribe’s employees help me, so that I can do my job better (and I’m very grateful to them for that), but I do not supervise them.

On a happier note, our school is growing! Most people are unaware that the tribe contracts with a Michigan state charter school to provide educational services for children enrolled in our tribal school. It is a testament to the seamless integration of the two schools that outwardly it feels like there’s one school and one operation. But the fact remains that the tribal school contracts with a charter school that is authorized by Northern Michigan University. This arrangement has been for the most part, a successful one, and our children overall do well academically. With a tribal school and a state charter school operating under one roof, it allows the entire school operation to be funded at a level that is unknown elsewhere in the Upper Peninsula. This arrangement allowed for the addition of a HUGE gymnasium just last year and we are currently in the final stages of a nine-classroom addition that will provide an incredible area dedicated to the instruction of our tribe’s culture and language.

The tribe has also been working very hard to expand educational services beyond the K-8 program offered by the charter school. There were unique chal-

lenges and very difficult obstacles to overcome, but we are hopeful that 2018 will be the best year yet for our tribal students! Tribal education has come a long way and we are very proud of our kids!

In addition to working through the challenges and threats to Indian education, I have been heavily involved in face-to-face testimony with the federal government to protect our people through the Department of Justice, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Education, safety and food are TREATY RIGHTS, and I believe that when the feds sit at a table to “talk” about these things, we should be at that table each and every time. There’s a saying that “if you’re not at the table, you’re on the menu.” I won’t let our people be “on the menu” without a fight. So, I travel more than I’d like, to be a loud, resounding voice telling the feds, “This is a treaty right. You OWE us! We upheld our end, you need to uphold yours.”

And so, my fellow Anishnaabek, may your holiday season be safe, fun and filled with love.

Anishnaabe gagige!
(Anishnaabe for always!)
Miinwaa shawiindekaa (With many blessings),
Jennifer McLeod, (906) 440-9151, JmcLeod1@saulttribe.net or jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

State bill takes away ballast water protection



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello, I hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends. I would also like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and happy new year.

One of the committees I sit on is Early Head Start. We meet on a monthly basis and we want to bring to your attention that Early Head Start is accepting applications for vacancies in the home-based program. This is a program for infants, toddlers and pregnant women. It includes weekly home visits, which are conducted by highly qualified home visitors and are 90 minutes long. There are two group socialization events each month. The home visitor and the parent nurture the child by engaging in activities that promotes learning, large and small muscle development, social and emotional development, health, nutrition and the Ojibwe culture and language. Services are provided to Chippewa and

Mackinac counties.

Applications are available by calling (906) 635-7722 or e-mail Shondra Gervais at sgervais@saulttribe.net.

I would like to inform you about State House Bill 5095 Elimination of Ballast Water Protection. This is a bill that would put Michigan’s ballast water standards in line with the less stringent federal ones. The new bill would replace the state’s requirement that oceangoing vessels using Michigan’s ports treat ballast waters to kill any potential invasive species before discharging back into the waters. Opponents agree this bill is less restrictive than the U.S. Coast Guard regulations.

Environmentalists have warned the bill would put the Great Lakes at risk of new invasive species. Invasive species were brought to the Great Lakes in the ballast water of ocean-going ships or “salties.” This has been the greatest disaster for the Great Lakes and our tribal fishery our generation has ever seen. It has totally changed the food web of the lakes and has now led to the crash of whitefish in Lake Huron and Lake Michigan. The future livelihoods of our tribal fishermen and the state’s fishing industry are at risk if this bill passes.

Supporters of this bill say Michigan’s standards, approved in 2005, have put its ports at a disadvantage because no other state or Canadian province uses such strong requirements. The supporters feel with less stringent

regulations the Michigan ports would do better business. This decision would put the Great Lakes at risk for the benefit of a few.

The bill has passed both legislative houses in identical form and is sitting on Governor Snyder’s desk. The governor does not agree with this bill and said he does not want to see the state go backward in its protection of the Great Lakes. At this point they are in negotiations on

the issue.

We cannot risk destroying the Great Lakes! We need to let Mother Earth heal, but because of big businesses this seems like a never-ending battle.

A reminder to our employees that we have an employee specialist, Gloria Kemp, who is available to assist you with any employment issues you may have. Gloria travels to all five Kewadin Casinos and can be reached at (906) 635-6050 or

(906) 203-4849. You can also e-mail her at gkemp1@saulttribe.net.

As always, please keep the men and women in the armed forces in your prayers and thoughts for a safe return to their families.

Please feel free to call me at (906) 203-6083 or e-mail me at KKGravelle@saulttribe.net.

Thank you,
Kim Gravelle

We will be successful if we work together



**KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

We face many hurdles in the coming weeks and months. The board needs to prioritize its time and work on the pressing problems we have before us. They range from budgets to elder care,

from education to health insurance. None of these are quick and easy fixes. We will never be successful unless we work together and compromise with each other. Digging our heels in and not listening or ignoring the coming problems will not serve our members well.

The budgets will move into the next year on a continuing funding resolution on 2017 levels. This is the only option at this time but it still only compounds the existing problem of not having a balanced budget. As you have heard other board members say, we need to prioritize and trim our spending to fit our revenue.

We are moving into another election period. The pandering to the voters is already started. I don’t know why but some think that if you promise the world and everything good the people will

vote for them. I just caution that although it may sound wonderful to have all they promise it is not going to be a reality in most cases.

The tribal youth Christmas parties will be going on the week of Dec. 11. By the time this gets to the members they will already have happened in all the units but I know that all the hard work of the board members and the volunteers will put some very bright smiles on the children’s faces.

I wish you and yours a very merry holiday season and a happy new year. I hope that our tribe and our country have a fresh start in the new year and prosperity and stability are the new normal.

Thank you for all the calls and e-mails.

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

Reflect on how far we've come, what we have



MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

My Uncle Junior walked on suddenly last month, he will be greatly missed. I got to catch up with family and friends I have not seen in a long time and hear some interesting stories of J.R.'s. Many didn't realize he served on our board of directors in the '70s. He didn't do it for the money (we didn't have any),

he didn't do it for prestige or recognition — he did it to help his tribe, he did it because he wanted to better our community. Thank you, Uncle Junior, for your service to our tribe and our country as a member of the U.S. Army.

It's time like these we should reflect on how far we've come. We often take many of our programs and services for granted, but it wasn't so long ago that we didn't have any services and offered very little to our membership. Today, we are quick to judge services and oftentimes only reflect on what we "don't" have rather than what we do have. As a board member, I often hear the many criticisms and complaints a member experienced with one of our many, many programs; but we have to maintain perspective of the hundreds and thousands of members that received good experiences.

Many program directors and

managers only come before the board for budgets and presentations and often the time gets spent on policy discussions and what we hear from members (complaints). Much of the good these programs offer and do for our people isn't focused on—and I want to thank our dedicated staff in continuing to accomplish great things. Your hard work is noticed and greatly appreciated.

Our communication isn't always the best, and we need to work on how information is relayed. The board oftentimes does not do consensus voting on issues brought up during membership and board concerns, which is fine most times as this is usually a time just to express concerns. Unfortunately, some of the time it gets relayed as board direction or directive, when in fact, it may have only been one or two board members with a concern. That is NOT "per the board" nor should it

shape policy or require unnecessary strain (completing lengthy reports, complicated research, etc.) on an already limited staff. I will try to help remedy this communication lapse or, hopefully, we recognize a need for a more collective approach rather than just one or two individual's perception reflecting on the whole board.

Our tribe is experiencing many changes, as some of our workforce is retiring and others leaving for new adventures; much of our institutional knowledge and a lot of our experienced team members are gone. As we welcome our new health director this month, I want to thank those areas that are without key employees and that are short-staffed such as accounting (open chief financial officer and senior accountant positions), Human Resources (director) and many areas throughout the casino and tribe. It isn't easy

running our tribal organization and even more difficult with open positions in key spots, the employees in these areas deserve recognition and praise. Chi miigwech.

I want to thank the membership on the recent referendum vote. Whereas I had hoped for a different outcome, the people have voted and our tribe will be moving forward with one Conservation Committee. This is a critical time as we prepare for the 2020 negotiations and I look forward to getting the committee going again as soon as possible. We must remain vigilant and continue to fight to ensure our treaty rights are honored.

As always, I urge tribal members and team members to share ideas and thoughts to help move our tribe forward. Please contact me to further discuss issues at (906) 440-7768.

Chi miigwech,
Michael McKerchie

Manistique Health Center gets full time dentist



DENISE CHASE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

I'm happy to report that we were informed Indian Health Services approved the assignment of Dr. Drew Lusby to the Manistique Health Center Dental Department.

Dr. Drew's first day of employment with us will be on Dec. 18. After a brief period of orientation and training, he will begin to see patients the week of Jan. 2, 2018,

at the Manistique facility.

The full time chief solo dentist position has been vacant for 2.5 years, and services have been lacking for our children and elders. We have had excellent part-time dental services provided by Dr. Schilling, a visiting dentist the tribe contracts with. Dr. Schilling fills in only part-time as she has other obligations elsewhere she is committed to. So we look forward to having the dental services up and running full time. Make sure to call and get your checkup scheduled.

I reported in my last update that we would be planning and organizing the children's Christmas parties and would inform you of the dates in this report. Following are the dates and times of the children's Christmas parties:

Manistique Tribal Center,
Friday, Dec. 15, 5-8 p.m.

Escanaba, Civic Center, 225
N. 21 St., Saturday, Dec. 16, 12-3
p.m.

Unit's IV and V, Marquette, please call (866) 279-8323 by Dec. 13 to register, Northern Michigan University student library, Sunday, Dec. 17, 1-4 p.m.

We will have pizza, pop and snacks for everyone who attends. Please bring your children to see Santa and receive a present. Hope to see you there!

If you have any questions, call Denise (906) 203-2471, Darcy 298-1888 or Viola at 341-6993.

I would like to share this public service announcement sent to Director Morrow and myself from Major Robert Lapoint to share with members living in the Schoolcraft County area.

"Serve your community and the nation, become a Selective Service System local board member.

"The Selective Service System wants to hear from Native men and women around the State of Michigan. We are looking for individuals who might be willing to serve as members of local draft

boards in your county of residence. We have current openings in Marquette, Luce, Schoolcraft, Isabella and Roscommon Counties. We are always looking for alternate board members from all over Michigan.

"A prospective board member must be a citizen of the United States, at least 18 years old, registered with the Selective Service (if male) and not be an employee in any law enforcement occupation, not be an active or retired member of the armed forces, and not have been convicted for any criminal offense. Once identified as qualified candidates for appointment, they are recommended by the governor and appointed by the director of the Selective Service, who acts on behalf of the president in making the appointments. Each new member receives five hours of initial training after appointment, followed by two hours of annual training for as long as he or she remains in the position. They

may serve in board member positions up to a total of 20 years, if desired.

"Local board members are uncompensated volunteers who play an important community role closely connected with our nation's defense. If a military draft becomes necessary, approximately 2,000 local and appeal boards throughout America would decide which young men in each community receive deferments, postponements or exemptions from military service, based on federal guidelines.

"If you believe you meet the standards for Selective Service board membership and wish to be considered for an appointment, please contact Major Robert Lapoint, rlapoint@harbcprps.org or call 231-838-0776."

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

Denise Chase, (906) 203-2471, or dchase@saulttribe.net.

Possibility of a west end cultural camp not dead



ANITA NELSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Holiday greetings! I would like to wish all of you happy holidays and very safe travels during this Christmas season.

I'm quite busy with holiday parties but would like to touch on a few subjects in this report that are of interest. For those of you who are interested in being a member of the new Conservation Committee, please submit your application as soon as possible.

You will be required to write a short sentence or two about why you are interested in serving on this Conservation Committee. Remember to include that you are a tribal member of Unit V and that you would like to exercise your rights to hunt, fish, trap and gather because it provides for my family. I support carrying on my treaty rights. Please send your letter of interest and three recommendations from non-immediate family to Joanne Carr or Linda Gossett.

In Manistique, we are pleased to announce that after 2.5 years of vacancy, the position for a dentist has been filled at the Manistique Tribal Health Center. Indian Health Service has approved the assignment of Dr. Drew Lusby to the Manistique Tribal Health Center Dental Department. The first day of employment for Dr. Drew Lusby is Dec. 18, 2017, but he won't be seeing patients until early January. I read that he likes to be called Dr. Drew.

To tribal members of this

western end the possibility of having a cultural camp is not dead. There was a resolution put before the board of directors to rescind Resolution 2015-89 that was enacted to provide a cultural camp in the vacant M-28 Building. I voted to have it tabled until I could accumulate more information regarding financial cost and also to talk with the members here that wanted this property for cultural purposes at the time the previous health and tribal services moved out. I plan to have a speaker visit our January elder meeting regarding this matter so I will be contacting you when confirmed. This is your opportunity to voice your concerns so please try to attend.

The last couple of months, I attended meetings here, the Sault and Hessel. The Hessel meeting made my trip worthwhile. Kudos to the elders of that area. These hardworking elders stayed for hours and made homemade bread, pies, delicious chili and fry bread for us to purchase.

Some of the best I've ever tasted! They hung around for hours while the board conducted a very lengthy meeting. Thank you, ladies, your time was appreciated.

In October, I attended the Marquette elders meeting at the Holiday Inn. I brought with me several copies of the Elder Health Care Fund information. This packet consisted of income eligibility, dental and optical benefits, medical equipment that is available and other special benefits. In addition, I brought a cheerful bouquet of colorful mums for a drawing for one lucky elder. The lucky winner was Mrs. Tillison.

In October, I also attended another Michigan Indian Elder Association (MIEA) conference. The Ojibway Tribe was again a very gracious host. The meeting was informative and the food and auction were wonderful. There were many homemade items. Again, we raised over \$3,300 for student scholarships. Please check the newspaper for scholarship eli-

gibility and deadlines. The trees were in full color, which made it a very nice trip.

I attend the Munising elder meetings and dinners on a regular basis as I am still on the local elder committee. They have now elected officers for this year. Deb McNeill is our new chairperson, Tom Derwin, vice chair, Kim Swanberg, secretary, and Kathy Syers, treasurer. Kathy has been serving in that position for many years.

If you have any tribal concerns, please contact me at the number below. At each board meeting a time is set aside for us to bring up your concerns, especially those who cannot attend the meetings. The Marquette elder meetings are at 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Marquette. The Munising elder meetings are at the Grand Island Room at 11 a.m. Both are held the first Thursday of the month.

Anita L. Nelson, Unit V
Director
(906) 379-7825

A 2018 Christmas wish for peace and unity



CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

Here we are at the end of a year that presented great challenges for our tribe, both internally and from external forces. One thing you can say about our people is we are resilient. And, I'm pretty sure each of us has the capacity to see the big picture and to know inherently the right direction. Honesty, knowledge and kindness will take us much

further in caring for our families and the communities we live in than any misplaced show of punitive force on our own people.

My Christmas wish for our tribe in 2018 is that we rise above the disrespect, abuse, finger-pointing and power trips — for the sake of our tribe as a whole.

Peter MacDonald, 90-year-old president

of the remaining Navajo Code Talkers, said it best: "When we come together as one we are invincible." We are stronger together. Let's turn things around in 2018. Turn crisis into opportunity.

From our family to yours — Richard and I wish you a very blessed Christmas and a most happy New Year!



Richard and Catherine Hollowell



Naubinway Eeders at their subcommittee meeting with Unit directors Lana Causley and Catherine Hollowell along with guests.



Five generations with Fannie Aslin as their elder, from left, her daughter, Roberta Chippewa; grandson, John Chippewa; great-granddaughter, Brianna Chippewa; and great-great-grandson Mason McAlpine in Newberry.



Hessel elders enjoy their Christmas feast get together.

Avoiding 2018 deficit budget a balancing act



LANA CAUSLEY-SMITH,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

As I stated in many reports throughout the years, we have been working on our schedule C budgets for 2018. The staff is in the process of presenting budgets, very little will change from 2017. As I've stated for the many years, our process is flawed, as we have no concrete way to measure the amount of funding we provide compared to the number of members served.

We need a complete overhaul of our systems and the executive director has spoken of that so it's movement forward and we may see something in the future. Our discussions on priorities are often pushed to the side as when it comes to how the money is allocated, it usually comes down to how long it's going to take to get the votes to pass the budgets. It's certainly not the staff's fault as they try and provide what all we request and ask for. I'm hoping by next year with new executive leadership and authority in place we will have a consistent and better format to provide and present next year. As always, having the amounts requested for each program, the number of members served in each and the outcome that benefits areas is truly the guts of the information needed.

I will say at this time that we are facing a deficit if we pass the budgets this far. We have problems with our insurance this year so we are faced with trying to find the funding this year to

cover that, which is \$1.8 million, and we also have many needs and wants in each program. I will not pass a budget that would be considered deficit spending therefore we need to look at items that are savings and not essential, we do this every year as the tribal casino businesses are not in a position to increase the amount they provide to us each year (\$18 million). The board has been meeting on this and to keep the process moving forward, I request a date for the next meeting every session, or sometimes it gets stalled completely. I will say the cost of living increase is already completed so in January you will see the increase in your pay — that's already voted upon.

As many are aware, we had the count for the recent referendum vote for combining the two committees into one Conservation Committee (like it was for many years). Recall, the chairman sponsored and circulated a petition to overturn the board's vote, once the mailing and count was

finished the membership voted to keep the vote the same, agreeing with the board decision. Now, with a cost to send a mailer upon us (we will have to include it in the budget at the end of the year, \$30,000-plus); now, we should move forward in creating one committee, all the stall tactics should be exhausted. Members who are interested in being on this committee, please provide a letter of request and three letters of reference to Joann Carr as soon as possible. The board will be provided with all those interested at a meeting in January 2018.

I want to say thank you to all the local community members who work and dedicate time to our local children's Christmas parties. I just want you all to know that many members look forward to that and are appreciative.

I'm very much looking forward to the annual elders Christmas party this coming week. I hope to see many of you there and I know I will be miss-

ing many I've met and come to love. Hopefully, it's a time to visit and celebrate our way of life and the good things our tribe has done and continues to do. Seeing all of you during the season is one of my best memories and keeps me going throughout the year. I hope all members have a very blessed holiday season with your families.

Going into 2018, I will continue to be at the table to work to improve the peoples' lives and well being, some votes are hard and members always don't get to hear all the facts, just know when decisions are made there are many factors to be considered and know I'm always protecting the members and challenging many items that aren't in the best interest of your families.

If you would like to meet and discuss please contact me at (906) 484-2954, (906) 322-3818, or lcausley@saulttribe.net. Baamaa pii.

Lana Causley-Smith
Sault Tribe Board of Directors

TOTALLY 80'S NEW YEAR'S EVE!

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 31



TWO RAD PROMOTIONS

NOON YEAR'S EVE
9 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.

DUDE! WIN YOUR
SHARE OF \$10,000 IN
CASH & CREDITS

NEW YEAR'S EVE
6 P.M. - 11 P.M.

LIKE WIN YOUR SHARE OF
\$25,300 IN CASH & CREDITS!
FREE CHAMPAGNE TOAST, CAKE,
HORS D'OEUVRES, GNARLY PARTY
FAVORS AND MORE! (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)

SEE NORTHERN REWARDS CLUB TO REGISTER AND FOR MORE DETAILS. *MUST EARN 50 BASE POINTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR HOT SEAT AND CASH DRAWS

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

RIGHTEOUS NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY!



FEATURING

THE SPAZMATICS

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 31
DREAMMAKERS
THEATER
SHOW BEGINS
AT 10 P.M.

