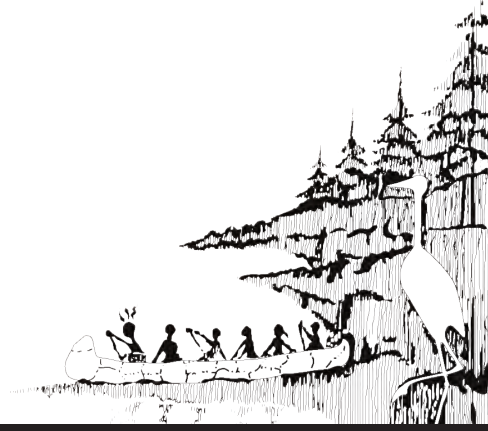




Win Awenen Nisitotung

January 18, 2019 • Vol. 40 No. 1
Spirit Moon
Manidoo Giizis



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

Waiver advances recovery hospital project

The 160-acre site of the recovery hospital will include living quarters, walking paths, a pond and nature trails.

By RICK SMITH

The development of a much-needed drug and alcohol recovery hospital in the eastern Upper Peninsula (EUP) took a significant step forward recently when the Sault Tribe Board of Directors consented to a waiver on court jurisdiction in preparation for forming partnership between the tribe and the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation.

The waiver allows tribal Health Division Director Leo Chugunov to negotiate terms for entering a Patient Care Network agreement with the foundation for operating the recovery hospital. Chugunov championed the partnership with the foundation because it is world-renowned for excellence in addiction counseling and treatment.

Aside from the assortment of construction and landscaping jobs to build the facility, Chugunov said the recovery hospital will employ at least 100 people year-round in a variety of well-paying jobs.

According to the foundation's website, the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation is "a force of healing and hope for individuals, families and communities affected by addiction to alcohol and other drugs. It is the nation's largest non-profit treatment provider, with a legacy that began in 1949 and includes the 1982 founding of the Betty Ford Center. With

17 sites in California, Minnesota, Oregon, Illinois, New York, Florida, Massachusetts, Colorado and Texas, the foundation offers prevention and recovery solutions nationwide and across the entire continuum of care for youth and adults."

Chugunov said the foundation brings numerous advantages for the tribe in treating drug and alcohol dependencies.

A Rural Health Project community assessment in the mid-1990s found alcohol abuse in the EUP "considerably higher than state and national levels." The elevation was attributed to a number of factors including widespread acceptance of alcohol abuse as culturally normal in the region, inadequate community awareness of the extent of the problem, inadequate education on the health dangers of excessive alcohol consumption, lack of activities that don't involve alcohol, a lack of detoxification and treatment centers for youth and adults along with other contributing conditions.

Exploration and studies have been taking place on different aspects surrounding the establishment of a recovery hospital in the area. In the spring of 2001, the EUP Detoxification Planning Task Force was created in response to growing concerns about the lack of detoxification and recovery services. The coalition consisted of Sault Tribe health and human services, Sault Tribe Police Department, the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Lake Superior State University, Great Lakes Recovery Centers, Upper Michigan Behavioral Health, EUP veterans services, War Memorial Hospital, Hiawatha Behavioral Health and others. The coalition released a report at the end of 2001 outlin-

ing the need for recovery services, plans and statistics.

A 160-acre parcel of land about four miles west of the I-75 interchange on M-28 is the planned future site of the recovery hospital. The facility will include living quarters for those in extended recovery, walking paths, pond and trails. The aesthetic of the place is

planned to be relaxing and healing. Placement of the facility on the site will allow for a discreet traffic flow.

"It's a big project," said Chugunov, "it's going to be nice."

The project includes other facets such the Tribal Action Plan or TAP, the tribe's strategy against alcohol and drug abuse. To name

a couple of the other tribe's departments playing key roles in developing the project, the tribe's Planning and Development team and the Housing Authority.

The project is still in the planning stages but a big step was taken with paving the way for an agreement with the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation.

Wings of Mercy available to help U.P. patients

By BRENDA AUSTIN

If you are a health care provider – the following is important information you can share with your patients who travel long-distance for medical treatment. If you or a family member are a patient with a medical need that necessitates you travel a distance for treatment, but can't afford the cost of transportation – Wings of Mercy may be able to help.

Wings of Mercy Managing Director Grace Spelde and Brian Allan, former pilot and volunteer, want the community of Sault Ste. Marie and surrounding areas in the U.P. to know about the service they offer to qualified patients - free air transportation for themselves and one family member or friend to their appointment(s) at distant medical centers.

Wings of Mercy is a 501(c)(3) faith-based organization and seeks "...to honor God by serving and sustaining life for those in need," according to their website.

The organization has minimal staff and low overhead, with FAA-certified pilots who donate their time and often their own planes to help patients in need. They are entirely funded by charitable contributions, with 80 percent of all donations going directly to pay for fuel expenses for medical flights.

Pilots don't need to own a plane to volunteer their time. Various pilots, donors and corporations have made available a mixed fleet of single-engines, multi-engines and even a few business jets for use by Wings of Mercy. Each flight is manned by two pilots and on average is a time commitment of five hours, with patients being picked up at the airport closest to where they live, and flown to the airport closest to their appointment. Once they arrive, ground transportation is the patient's responsibility.

Brian Allen has flown flights out of the U.P., along with many



Photo courtesy of Wings of Mercy

Mother and son pilots fly a 7-year-old leukemia patient to Cincinnati Children's Hospital.

other pilots. "We would like to spread awareness that there are many suitable city airports such as in St. Ignace, Escanaba, and Sault Ste. Marie," he said. Although Allen no longer has time to volunteer as a pilot, he helps the organization with ideas for fundraising and expanding their coverage. "We want to expand the knowledge that we exist so we can help as many people as possible. The pilots and ground crew and everyone involved with Wings of Mercy are all very passionate about helping patients and their families, and because of aviation we aren't limited to the communities of Holland or Grand Rapids (their main office is located in Zeeland, Mich.) – we cover the entire Midwest."

Spelde said the patient application process is used to establish both a medical and financial need for their assistance, and once someone is approved they can fly with them for a year. "A phone call is a good place to start," she said. "We can go over things such as checking to see if you have flown on a small airplane before and if you are claustrophobic." The application can be downloaded from their website at wingsofmercy.org, or Spelde said she would be happy to email it.

"Most of the people we help have a household income of \$50,000 a year or less, but that can change according to how many dependents they have at

home. We treat everyone on an individual basis and look at every application - we want to help as many people as we can," Spelde said. "We have been helping a little guy from Brimley, Mich., with flights to Boston Children's Hospital and the University of Michigan for his medical needs."

The organization is growing their volunteer base by connecting with pilots throughout the Midwest, such as the two in Chicago who do numerous volunteer flights and hold a fundraising event at their airport each summer. Spelde said there is a similar group in Traverse City also donating their time and aircraft and organizing fundraising activities.

The organization was founded in 1991 by Michigan native and pilot, Peter VandenBosch. At age 68, VandenBosch was retired when a friend suggested he use his twin-engine plane to fly low-income patients to receive medical treatment. Since then, Wings of Mercy volunteer pilots have flown over 8,000 missions and the organization has grown from a handful of volunteers to a registered, organized nonprofit with its beginnings in Zeeland, Mich., and has since opened two additional chapters in Minnesota and eastern Michigan.

For additional information, or to download an application, visit the Wings of Mercy website at www.wingsofmercy.org, or call them at (616) 396-1077.

www.saulttribe.com

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 30
Gaylord, MI
49735

Win Awenen Nisitotung
531 Ashmun St.
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Upper Peninsula's winter wonderland



Downtown Sault Ste. Marie from the Ashmun Street Bridge.



Photos by
Brenda Austin

A nice evening in downtown St. Ignace.



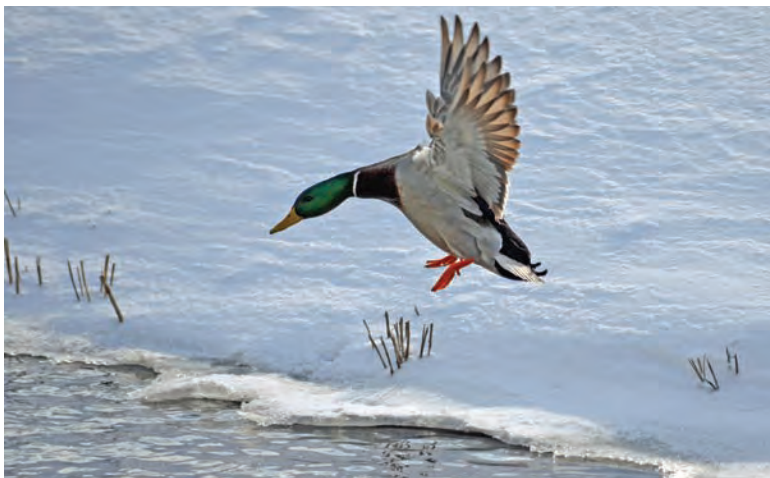
St. Mary's River with a Canadian freighter headed towards the Soo Locks.



Morning chores



Mallards keeping an eye on the river otter swimming by.



Nailed it!



Deer feeding in Marquette.



3rd Annual Market Walk



Walk to earn tokens to spend on locally grown produce at the Munising Farmers' & Artisans' Market!

Visit the Tribal Health Center Walking Track (located upstairs)

The Market Walk is a **FREE** program to promote healthy living. It is open to Tribal Members and all Alger County residents!

Walk at the Munising Tribal Health Center's Walking Track located upstairs at 615 W. Munising Ave. between 4:30-8:00pm M-F, starting January 14 and ending on April 12, 2019 or until all available tokens have been distributed.

For every mile walked, receive a token worth \$1.00 from the track attendant. Tokens can then be redeemed at the Munising Farmers' and Artisans' Market located at Bay Shore Park on Tuesdays from 4:00-7:00 pm May-October.

Please make an effort to redeem tokens within one market season.



The Alger Wellness Coalition, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and the Munising Farmers' and Artisans' Market are partnering to provide local residents an environment to be more physically active and to eat more locally grown fruits and vegetables.



Supported by the Sault Tribe's Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country Grant. Made possible with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Sault Tribe's many employment opportunities

Apply online or sign up for notifications at saulttribe.com.

GOVERNMENTAL OPENINGS SAULT STE. MARIE and KINCHELOE

Administrative assistant to chairperson – full time / regular – open until filled

Child care aide – full time / regular – open until filled

Child care instructor – full time / regular – open until filled

Clinical applications coordinator – open until filled

Deputy dental director – full time / regular – 01/28/19

Facilities manager – (Education) – full time / regular – open until filled

Fisheries Assessment biologist – full time / regular – open until filled

General counsel – full time / regular – open until filled

Human Resource generalist – full time / regular – open until filled

Human Resource manager – full time/regular – open until filled

Language instructor – full time / regular – open until filled

Medical case manager – behavior health – part time / regular – open until filled

Medical laboratory technician – full time / regular – open until filled

Purchasing director – full time / regular – open until filled

Senior accountant – full time / regular – open until filled

Teacher aide – part time / regular – open until filled

Tribal attorney – ACFS – full time / regular – open until filled

Traditional Ojibway practitioner – STHC - full time / regular – open until filled

YEA manager – full time / regular – 01/07/19

HESSEL, ST. IGNACE, ESCANABA, MANISTIQUE, MARQUETTE, MUNISING and NEWBERRY

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

Maintenance technician (St. Ignace Lambert Center) – part time/regular – open until filled

Tutor (Escanaba/Gladstone) - seasonal – open until filled

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

Maintenance technician (Sawyer Village, Gwinn, Mich.) – open until filled

Housekeeper (Hessel and Kincheloe) – full time/regular – open until filled

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

KEWADIN CASINO OPENINGS SAULT STE. MARIE

Guest room attendant (4) – part time / regular – open until filled

Secretary (Convention sales) – open until filled

Executive host/hostess – part time – open until filled

Player's Club clerk – full time / temp – open until filled

House person – full time regular – open until filled

House person – part time regular – open until filled

Catering manager – full time regular – open until filled

Entertainment manager – full time/regular/exempt – open until filled

Server-Banquets – two part time / on call – open until filled

Box Office ticket vendor – part time/regular

Accounting clerk – full time/regular

HESSEL

Deli cook – full time/regular – open until filled

MANISTIQUE

Count Team verifier – part time/regular – open until filled

ENTERPRISE OPENINGS

Midjim cashier (St. Ignace) – part time/regular – open until filled

Vacancies on our Sault Tribe committees

The following committees have vacant seats as of Jan. 3. 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 with any questions.

- Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - five vacancies - three males (4-year term), two female (4-year term)
- Child Welfare Committee - four vacancies (4-year term)
- Election Committee - six vacancies (4-year term)
- Higher Education Committee - Two vacancies (4-year term)
- Health Board - six vacancies (4-year term)
- Conservation Committee - one vacancy (fisher) (1-year term)
- Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - six vacancies (2-year term)
- Elder Advisory Committee

- Unit I - Sault (4-year term), one regular vacancy
- Unit II - Hessel (4-year term), one alternate vacancy
- Unit III - St. Ignace (4-year term), one regular vacancy, one alternate vacancy
- Unit IV - one regular vacancy, one alternate vacancy
- Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one alternate vacancy
- Elder Subcommittee
- Unit I - Sault (4-year term), one regular vacancies
- Unit II - Hessel (4-year term),

- two regular seat vacancies, two alternate seat vacancies
- Unit II - Naubinway (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, two alternate seat vacancies
- Unit III - St. Ignace (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, one alternate seat vacancy
- Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy
- Unit V - Munising (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies
- Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, one alternate seat vacancy

This year's New Year's resolution — make a difference by fostering a child

January is known for New Year's resolutions. We all know the typical go-to resolutions such as losing weight or quitting a bad habit.

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) asks you to do something extraordinary for your New Year's resolution and make a difference in a child's life by fostering. Helping children

in foster care is a resolution in which everyone can be proud. Fostering is a way to make a positive difference in a child's life by providing a stable and loving home with the support and encouragement a child needs to flourish and do well. Anyone wishing to find out more about becoming a foster parent may call ACFS at (906) 632-5250.

Training opportunities available for eligible applicants

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) Program has funding available for on-the-job 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 seven-county service area.

Please apply at WIOA at Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich, or call Brenda Cadreau at 635-4767 for more information.

Tribal members: need assistance?

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@saulttribe.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.

February 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 households. 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 or 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 February 2019 food distribution road schedule:

Cheboygan	February 27
Hessel and Kincheloe	February 11
Manistique 1	February 5
Manistique 2	February 19
Marquette	February 7
Munising	February 25
Newberry	February 15
Rapid River	February 13
St. Ignace	February 21

CORRECTION — On page 1 of its Dec. 21, 2018, issue, *Win Awenen Nisitotung*, reported the 2 percent funding amount for Harbor View Assisted Living Hospice House in DeTour, Mich., as \$100,000 when the contribution was \$10,000.

Tribal board meets in Sault Jan. 22

The next meeting of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors will be the regularly scheduled Jan. 22 meeting in Sault Ste. Marie. Agenda items from the cancelled Jan. 8 meeting will be moved to the Jan. 22 meeting. A notice will the full agenda and meeting details be sent out Jan. 17. Any questions may be directed to Joanne Carr, (906) 635-6050. Thank you.

Conservation Committee meeting rescheduled for Jan. 23 in the Sault

The Sault Tribe Conservation Committee meeting scheduled for Jan. 21, 2019, has been changed to Wednesday, Jan. 23, beginning at 5 p.m. in the Sault Ste. Marie

Kewadin Casino. Any questions may be directed to Linda Grossett, (906) 635-6050. Thank you.

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

January 18, 2019
Manidoo Giizis
Spirit Moon
Vol. 40, No. 1

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.

"For All Your Tire Needs"



U.P. TIRE
 Complete Tire Sales & Service

BRIDGESTONE Firestone

(906) 632-6661
1-800-635-6661

1129 E. Easterday Ave., Sault, MI 49783

Tribal elders sought for Michigan Indian Elders Association

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians has two open delegate positions and one open alternate position for the Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA).

The MIEA mission is to provide a forum in which American Indian elders may speak, learn, grow and exercise control over their environment by having rep-

resentation on state and national aging organizations, enable access to services, provide prevention training, act as an advocate for member organizations, perpetuate a positive influence on the youth member organizations and promote emotional and spiritual well-being through social interaction.

Any interested Sault Tribe elder 60 years and older, please send a letter of intent and three letters of intent to Elder Services Division 2076 Shunk Rd. Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. The letters are due March 1, 2019. Any questions, please contact Latisha Willette or Sharon Hovie for more information.

January

2019

TVSO SCHEDULE

Sun	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
		Holiday 1	Off 2	Off 3	Off 4	5
6	Munising 8:30-3:30 7	Escanaba 8:30-3:30 8	Rapid River 10-3 9	Sault 7-3:30 BVA Hearing VA 8:30am 10	Manistique 8:30-3:30 11	12
13	Sault 8:30-3:30 14	Newberry 8:30-3:30 15	Hessel 8:30-3:30 16	St. Ignace 8:30-3:30 17	Manistique 8:30-3:30 18	19
20	Sault 8:30-3:30 21	Escanaba 8:30-3:30 22	Marquette 8:30-3:30 23	Munising 8:30-3:30 24	Manistique 8:30-3:30 25	26
27	Sault 8:30-3:30 28	Newberry 8:30-2:30 29	Hessel 8:30-3:30 30	St. Ignace 8:30-3:30 31	Manistique 8:30-12:30 2/1	

Tribal Veterans Service Officer Stacy King holds office hours at all Sault Tribe health facilities. King can be reached at her email, s.king@michiganlegion.org, her primary work cell phone, (906) 202-4238 or her office, (313) 964-6640.

During the Federal Government Shut Down,
Kewadin Casinos is
offering a
FREE Buffet Dinner
every Saturday night
to all members of the US Coast Guard and
affected Federal employees

This offer is available from 4 p.m. to close at
Horseshoe Bay Restaurant - Kewadin St. Ignace or
DreamCatchers Restaurant - Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie.
Please bring your federal government identification
with you to the buffet.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE
AND DEDICATION.**

Kewadin Casinos treats federal employees to Saturday night buffet

During the federal government shut down, Kewadin Casinos is offering a FREE buffet dinner every Saturday night to all members of the U.S. Coast Guard and affected federal employees along with their immediate families. This offer is available from 4 p.m. to close at the Horseshoe Bay Restaurant at Kewadin St. Ignace and the DreamCatchers Restaurant at Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie.

"Kewadin Casinos and Sault Tribe would like to show our

support for the Coast Guard and other federal employees with this small gesture," said Tribal Board Chairperson Aaron Payment.

Please bring your federal government identification with you to the buffet. Thank you for your service and dedication.

For more information about the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, please visit www.saulttribe.com. For more information about Kewadin Casinos, please visit www.kewadin.com.

Indian Health Service announces new Office of Quality

The Indian Health Service has opened an Office of Quality to strengthen the agency's efforts to ensure delivery of quality health care at federally operated facilities serving American Indian and Alaska Native people.

The plan was developed in consultation with tribes served by IHS in response to challenges in delivering quality health care in Indian Country, and will be led by IHS Deputy Director for Quality Health Care Jonathan Merrell, RN, BSN, MBA.

**Check out
gitchiauto.com**

Sault Tribe's new enterprise, Gitchi Auto Home & RV Sales has a new website, gitchiauto.com, featuring their new and used cars, trucks sales and service. Visit gitchiauto.com today!

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Anishnaabek Community and Family Services

Advocacy Resource Center

30 Years of Honoring our Ancestors, Supporting Survivors, and Advocating for the Next Seven Generations.

Serving Survivors Since 1989
906-632-1808

On tip reporting, income tax and the law

Ask the Employee Specialist



BY GLORIA KEMP

Dear team members, this is another in a series of articles to provide information about company policies and practices and to address questions from team members. Those who have questions they would like to see addressed in future articles are invited to send them to the employee specialist, Gloria Kemp.

Question: I work in a tipped position that is not food and beverage. Do the same laws apply to reporting my tips?

Answer: Yes. If you earn more than \$20 in tips in any month, the IRS requires you to declare the full amount of your tips. The law applies to those employees who customarily and regularly receive tips including waiters, waitresses, counter personnel (those who serve customers), bellhops, valets, gaming dealers, bartenders, bar servers and so forth. Tips fall under the U.S. Wage and Hour Division of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA):

- a) All cash and non-cash tips are considered income and are subject to federal income taxes, Social Security and Medicare taxes. Non-cash tips are those tips received through electronic payment such as credit/debit cards or gift cards. Also included would be the value of tickets to shows/concerts or other

items of value. If there is tip sharing in your department, those tips must also be declared. Each team member is responsible for the amount of the shared tip received.

It is your responsibility to keep a daily tip record, report tips to Kewadin Casino or Sault Tribe and to report all tips on your income tax return. The Tip Reporting Policy in the Sault Tribe Casino Team Member Manual states that tips must be reported on form 4070 and that the form must be turned in to Accounting. Sault Tribe has instituted an electronic system whereby tips are to be entered into the time clock at the end of your shift. This eliminates the need to fill out form 4070 and trying to keep track of the paperwork.

Even though you might think that it is okay to not declare all of your tips, you should think

about it before you don't. There may be situations where it is better to have declared all of them rather than to have a little more "tax-free" income each pay period. Some of the reasons include:

1. When you want to purchase a big ticket item like a house or new car, the lending institution is going to want to know your income. The more money you earn, the more likely the lender is going to approve a loan.

2. If you are laid off for any length of time or need other federal or state assistance, the amount of benefits you receive may be based on the amount of your wages including tips.

3. When you apply for Social Security benefits, the amount of benefits you receive is based on the 35 years you earned the most. You may think that what you are doing now is only temporary but something may happen so you don't work for a number of years. The years you did work will be used to calcu-

late the Social Security benefits you will receive for the rest of your life.

4. IT IS THE LAW!

Please send your questions to Gloria Kemp, Employee Specialist at gkemp1@saulttribe.net or call (906) 635-6050, Ext. 26230 or mail to 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

This article was prepared for general information purposes to help you to better understand Sault Tribe's policies and the workplace. The information presented is not intended as legal advice. While it was accurate at the time it was written, the controlling laws and tribal employment policies can change. You should always check the tribe's intranet for current copies of any applicable employment policies. If there are any inconsistencies between this article and applicable laws and/or policies, the applicable laws and/or policies shall apply.

Roy Electric Co. Inc.

INDUSTRIAL - COMMERCIAL - RESIDENTIAL

Don't get caught without power again!
Generators: Sales, Installation, Maintenance
by a Trained Licensed Electrician
Visit our website for a list of services!

(906) 632-8878

www.royelectriccompany.com

Home • Auto • Life • Boat
Motorcycle • RV • Motor Homes
Business • Snowmobile

906-253-1904
Bouschor & Sherman
Agents

2681 Ashmun St.
Sault Ste. Marie, MI

INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.
"We Cover Your Assets"
INSURANCE

Email: bbouschor@nustarinsurance.net
www.NuStarInsurance.net



ALL SITES LOYALTY THURSDAY THURSDAYS IN JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2019

The lower your Northern Rewards number the more Kewadin Credits you will receive every Thursday

Northern Rewards numbers
1-50000 ~ \$25 Kewadin Credits

Northern Rewards numbers
50001-100000 ~ \$20 Kewadin Credits

Northern Rewards numbers
100001 and up ~ \$15 Kewadin Credits

Customers that are qualified on the Thursdays can receive an additional \$20 in Kewadin Credits for earning 100 base points
See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.

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



SAULT STE. MARIE + ST. IGNACE
HESSEL + CHRISTMAS + MANISTIQUE
1-800-KEWADIN | KEWADIN.COM

ALL KEWADIN CASINO SITES

COLD CASH SATURDAYS - January and February*

Hot Seat Draws 1 p.m.-10 p.m. Win up to \$200 Kewadin Credits
CASH Draws 10:15 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. Win up to \$500 CASH
See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.
Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion

*Excludes Sault Ste. Marie on February 2

LET IT RIDE! - Fridays in January and February

Hot Seat Draws 2 p.m.-10 p.m. Win \$25 Kewadin Credits
Progressive CASH Draws 6 p.m.-10 p.m. Win up to \$500 CASH
If the prize isn't claimed, it rolls over to the next CASH draw!
See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.
Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion

THE BIG GAME! - Sunday, February 3

Hot Seat Draws 12 p.m.-6 p.m. Win up to \$100 Kewadin Credits
Free Hors d'oeuvres 6 p.m.-7 p.m.
See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.
Must earn 10 base points to qualify for promotion

BE OUR VALENTINE - Thursday, February 14

Hot Seat Draws 12 p.m. - 8 p.m. Win up to \$100 Kewadin Credits
Earn Entries to win a Gold Dipped Rose. Drawings begin at 10 p.m.
See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.
One entry with every 25 base points. Entries must be in the barrel by 9:45 p.m.

KEWADIN CASINO SAULT STE. MARIE

I-500! - Saturday, February 2

Hot Seat Draws 1 p.m.-11 p.m. Table Draws* 11:15 p.m.-11:45 p.m.
Free Hors d'oeuvres 6 p.m.-7 p.m.
See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.
Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion. *100 base points required for table draws.

\$22,500 Mega Bingo - February 16

\$15,000 Keno Tournament - March 1-3

* Point requirement for all promotions. See Northern Rewards Club for more details.
Must register at Northern Rewards for promotions and tournaments. Club hours vary by site.

Anishinaabemowin 2019

Gebeying da waaseyaa bangii endso giizhigat. Mino nimkoodaading!
The daylight is longer a little bit every day. Happy new year!

Manidoo Giizis

Spirit Moon

by Susan Askwith

Wenpanad naasaap bezhik, niizh, nswe! (Easy like 1, 2, 3!)

Gindaasadaa! (Let's count!)

Bezhik (one) jigjigaaneshiinh (chikadee)

Niizh (two) jigjigaaneshiinhak (chickadees)

N'swe (three) jigjigaaneshiinhak (chickadees)

How do you say that?

N'swe (three): Remember "N" doesn't sound like "en." You say "nnnnn" without even moving your tongue, almost like a hum. That's how to say it in "n'swe." And the "e" at the end, sounds like "e" in the English word "bed."

Jigjigaaneshiinhak eat seeds (**miinkaanan**), fat (**mide**), and bugs (**mani-dooshenhsak**). They need a lot of food (**miijim**). Sometimes they die in winter (**bboong**) if they are too hungry (**zaam e-bakadewaad**) or too cold (**zaam e-biingechwaad**).

Jigjigaaneshiinh: chickadee
 Jigjigaa-: the sound it makes
 Bineshiinh: bird

How do you say that??

The "nh" (together) has no sound, it is only a **sign** to you that the 'ii' in front of it sounds nasal. Normally it sounds like the "e" in the English word "key". It feels like it's coming from the back of your mouth. Before the "nh" you make that same sound through your nose.

Some jigjigaaneshiinh feathers (**miigwaanhsak**) are black (**mkadeziwag**) and some are white (**waabsh-kiziwag**).

Here comes the sun and I say:

"It's alright!"

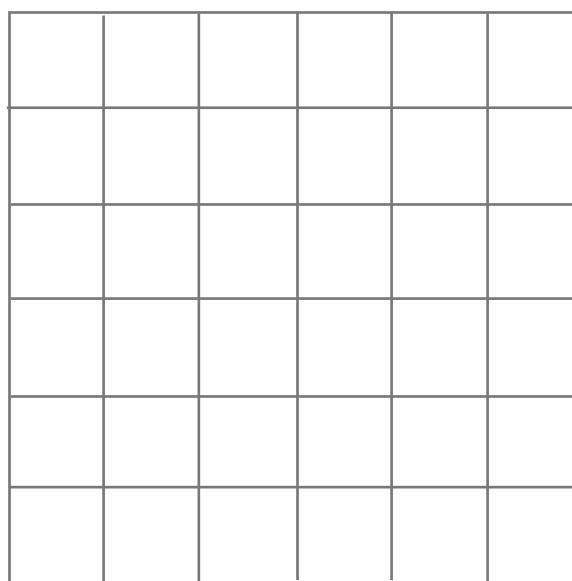
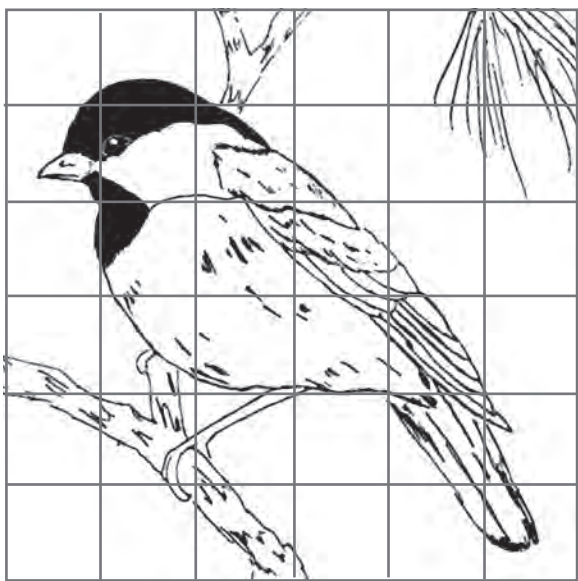
The Beatles



**Giizis biskaabii
 nda kid dash:
 "Nishin!"**

Anishinaabek

Use the grid to draw jigjigaaneshiinh!



Little chats

Bangii ganoozh! (Have a little conversation!)

Maaba gnawaabam! Look at him/her! (Watch him/her!)

N'waabmaa. I see him/her.

Note: This is the way to talk about "things" that are alive.



One of our tribal members is Cherry Meyer, currently doing the final work on her PhD at the University of Chicago. Her study is linguistics, specifically in Anishinaabemowin. Each month in 2019, Cherry will have a "Little Chat" for us! Of course language is especially fun for talking back and forth with someone else. These chats will give us short comments to exchange. Remember, we learn best by practicing! Have fun together with a friend.

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
 - aa sounds like A in fall
 - o sounds like OO in book
 - oo sounds like O in grow
 - i sounds like I in fit
 - ii sounds like EE in feed
 - e sounds like E in fed
 - 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.

Report issued on failures of federal trust duties

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights recently released a report, *Broken Promises: Continuing Federal Funding Shortfall for Native Americans*.

The commission majority found the federal government is not meeting its trust responsibilities, and budgets and spending of federal agencies sponsoring American Indian and Native Hawaiian programs, including the Departments of Health and Human Services, Interior, Housing and Urban Development, Justice and Education, are inadequate.

Prompted by concerns raised by American Indian communities and members of Congress, *Broken Promises* updates a 2003 report, *A Quiet Crisis: Federal Funding and Unmet Needs in Indian Country*, which similarly evaluated expenditures of federal agencies on American Indian programs.

Broken Promises, based on expert and public input, and extensive research and analysis, offers actionable recommendations to the president, Congress and agencies to meet the federal government's trust obligations.

Chair Catherine E. Lhamon said, "The harrowing inequities documented in this report, across every issue area the Commission examined, cry out for immediate

federal action to ensure Native Americans live, work and learn with the same expectations for opportunity and equality to which all other Americans have access."

Key findings from the commission majority include:

- Federal programs designed to support the social and economic well being of American Indians remain chronically underfunded and sometimes inefficiently structured, which leaves many basic needs in the American Indian community unmet and contributes to the inequities observed in American Indian communities.

- Unequal treatment of tribal governments and lack of full recognition of their sovereign status by state and federal governments, laws and policies diminish tribal self-determination and negatively impact health, criminal justice, education, housing and economic outcomes.

- For example, American Indians have 1.6 times the infant mortality rate of non-Hispanic whites and the life expectancy for Native peoples is 5.5 years less than the national average.

- In the areas of public safety and justice, also for example: in 2017, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) estimated it funded only 21 percent of law enforcement, 49 percent of detention center, and 3 percent of tribal court needs.

- During the last 15 years, most federal funding for American Indian programs has remained stagnant; yet even when funding for programs has increased, these levels have not kept pace with declines in real spending power.

The federal government has failed to keep accurate, consistent and comprehensive records of federal spending on American Indian programs, making monitoring of federal spending to meet its trust responsibility difficult.

Key recommendations from the commission majority include:

- The United States expects all nations to live up to their treaty obligations; it should live up to its own.

- Congress should honor the

federal government's trust obligations and pass a spending package to fully address unmet needs, targeting the most critical needs for immediate investment. This spending package should also address the funding necessary for the build out of unmet essential utilities and core infrastructure needs in Indian Country such as electricity, water, telecommunications and roads.

The federal government should provide steady, equitable and non-discretionary funding directly to tribal nations to support the public safety, health care, education, housing and economic development of Native tribes and people.

It should also provide sufficient funding, training, tools, and

resources to tribal nations to provide their citizens the opportunity to exercise self-government and self-determination.

- The commission also reversed its previous opposition to federal recognition of Native Hawaiians. Congress should pass legislation facilitating the reorganization of a Native Hawaiian governing entity and to confirm the special political and legal relationship between the United States and such an entity.

In February 2016, the commission held a public briefing on the subject, hearing from a broad range of panelists. Their testimony, along with that submitted by members of the public, played an integral part in informing this report.

In addition, the commission considered evidence from federal officials, tribal officials, community leaders and advocates, scholars and researchers and legal experts; official visits to Standing Rock in North Dakota, Pine Ridge in South Dakota, and the Quinault Nation in Washington; and activities of our state Advisory Committees, among others.

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the president and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement.

A 51-state advisory committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. The commission, in its seventh decade, is a continuing legacy of influence in civil rights.

For information about the commission, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow on Twitter and Facebook.



Photo by Carol Highsmith

Members of the Native American Women Warriors, based in Pueblo, Colo., is an association of active and retired American Indians in U.S. military service. They were at a Colorado Springs Native American Inter-Tribal Powwow and festival in that central Colorado city. See www.loc.gov/pictures/collection/highsm/item/2015633462/.

NCAI responds to new *Broken Promises* report

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) stands in strong support of the key findings and recommendations contained in the *Broken Promises: Continuing Federal Funding Shortfall for Native Americans* report, which would serve to improve the state of public safety, health care, education, housing and economic opportunity across Indian Country. This report confirms what Indian Country knows too well — federal programs designed to support the social and economic well being of American Indians and Alaska Natives remain chronically underfunded, leaving many basic needs unmet.

The United States is a nation that bases its greatness to a significant degree on its rule of law. Within that framework, treaties and intergovernmental agreements carry supreme legal weight. Our tribal nations seek only those things promised to us and our citizens by the U.S. Constitution and the solemn treaties and agreements reached between our tribal nations and the United States. When tribal nations agreed to accept smaller land bases, the federal government promised to safeguard our right to govern ourselves, and to enable tribal governments to deliver essential services and provide them adequate resources to do so effectively. We appreciate *Broken Promises* report's recommendation that "the United States

expects all nations to live up to their treaty obligations; it should live up to its own."

While prosperity in the minds of many Americans may evoke a version of the American Dream based solely on building personal financial wealth, prosperity for most Native people centers on the preservation and practice of Native cultures and languages, active participation in sacred clan and kinship systems and close stewardship of tribal homelands. Despite the forced taking of tribal lands and resources, attempts to terminate tribal nations' unique political status as governments, and severe underfunding, tribal nations are slowly but surely proving successful in their efforts to build sustainable tribal economies and rebuild tribal communities in accordance with their cultural values. If the United States lived up to its commitments to support Indian Country in the ways that it has promised, tribal nations and governments could do so much more.

NCAI thanks the commission, their staff and the 20 members of Congress who sent the bipartisan letter requesting that the United States Commission on Civil Rights produce this updated report. We look forward to working closely with the administration and Congress to tackle the crisis in Indian Country documented by the *Broken Promises* report.

TRIBAL MEMBER REGISTRATION IN THE TAX AGREEMENT AREA

TRIBAL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

(Including the Issuance of Certificates of Exemptions)

INITIAL REGISTRATION AND OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Under the Tax Agreement between the Tribe and the State, tribal members who live within the "Agreement Area" are able to claim exemption from certain state taxes. In order to take advantage of these benefits, the member must be registered with the Tribal Tax Office and must prove that they do live in the "Agreement Area."

The registration process begins with the member filling out an "Address Verification Card" and providing their name, address, and other personal information. The member must also provide a copy of their MI driver's license, MI State ID card, or voter's registration card. All of these forms of State identification MUST have the member's current address and that address must be located in the Tax Agreement Area. Members must also include a utility bill in their name and their current address as an additional proof of residency in the Tax Agreement Area.

The Tribal Tax Office cannot register a member with the MI Department of Treasury unless these documents are included with the "Address Verification Card."

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTIONS

Tribal Code 43.1103 states that Resident Tribal Members shall notify the Tribal Tax Office in writing prior to moving their principal place of residence.

If the Tribal Tax Office receives a request for a Certificate of Exemption and the address for the member on the request is not the same as the address that the Tribal Tax Office and MI Department of Treasury have on record, then no Certificate of Exemption can be issued.

We will usually attempt to contact the member to ask them to update their address by filling out the "Address Verification Card" and providing the required documents, but it is the member's responsibility to provide this information. A Certificate of Exemption cannot be issued unless the member has filed the correct information proving that they live within the Agreement Area.

Elders, youth enjoy mentoring social at Big Bear

By RICK SMITH

The Sault Tribe Wellness Collaborative, consisting of staff members from the Big Bear Arena, Community Health Education, registered dietitians and Youth Education and Activities (YEA), hosted a social gathering for elders and youth in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on Dec. 12 on the second

floor of the Big Bear.

Described as a free youth mentoring event, attendees enjoyed board games such as cribbage and euchre as well as crafting, physical fitness exercises and a traditional feast. Also on hand to set a relaxed mood was a string quintet from JKL Bahweting Public School Academy.

One member of the collaborative said the social was the first conducted for quite some time. "I believe in the past there were elder socials that occurred at Big Bear," she said. "There is a possibility that more will occur in the future but they are not scheduled at this time."

Funding for the function came through

a Tribal Practices and Wellness in Indian Country grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Special Diabetes Program for Indians grant through the Indian Health Service.

Big Bear Arena staff were said to have been key in creating and hosting the successful event.



Photos by Rick Smith

Youngsters with Sault Tribe's Youth Education and Activities program helped in the kitchen in preparing food for the feast.



This string quintet from JKL Bahweting Public School Academy set a relaxed mood for the function.



Plush snowmen and an elf greeted attendees before signing in, registering for prize drawings and receiving cloth bags with information and gear for supporting good health from the National Institute on Aging, Sault Tribe Community Health and the Big Bear Arena. Seen here from left, Kaylynn Cairns, assistant events manager; Stacy Storey, registered dietitian; and Deana Knauf, United Way RSVP director.

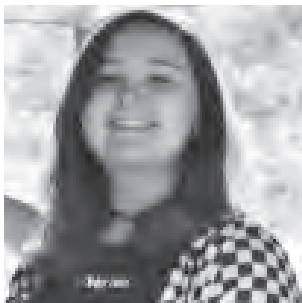
Gregurash and Page are 2018 Elder Advisory Scholarship winners

Karissa J. Gregurash is a sophomore at Bay De Noc Community College majoring in pre-professional health. She has a 3.8 GPA. "This scholarship will aid me in achieving my career goal of becoming a physical therapist or environmental scientist," she said. "I enjoy spending time with my family, running, swimming and four-wheeling. I am active in the Society of Health and Medicine and participate in volunteer work such as the bone marrow drive we did last month."



Karissa J. Gregurash

Sarah Page graduated from Gwinn High School in 2018 and is currently attending Northern Michigan University. She is majoring in theater technology. Sarah is the daughter of John and Joy Page and the granddaughter of tribal elder Donald and the late Betty Page, and Gerald and the late Shirley Raymond.



Sarah Page

Both scholarship winners are members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.



2019 elders' checks disbursed Jan. 11

Every January, Sault Tribe mails checks to its elders aged 60 and older. According to the tribe's Enrollment Department, 6,082 elders will receive a check for \$477. This year's interest came to \$2,902,696.

After the tribe received its share of the Michigan Indian Land Claims Settlement Act funds in 1997, funds were put into an interest bearing account for seniors. Because it is derived from a settlement, interest payouts are non-taxable.

Elders' checks are not affected by the federal government shutdown. Checks were mailed out on Jan. 11.

Kelleys together 40th years



Dennis Lee and Crystal Ann Kelley of Shelburne, Ontario, Canada, celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on Jan. 16, 2019. They were married in San Diego, Calif., on Jan 16, 1979. They presently reside in Shelburne and have two grown children and six grandchildren.

Their son, Dennis John Kelley, lives in Ferndale, Wash., with his wife, Stephanie, and their three children, Chloe, Chase and Lily. "Lee" (as family and friends call him) and Chrystal have a daughter, Tanya Christine Firth, who lives in Innisfil, Ontario, Canada, with her husband, Paul, and their three children, John-Paul, Shiriya and Aliyah.

Lee was born in Long Beach, Calif. When he was a young child, his family moved to San Diego County where he eventually graduated from Monte

Vista High School in Spring Valley, Calif. He attended classes at Grossmont College in El Cajon, Calif.

Years after Lee and Crystal were married, they moved to the state of Washington where Lee acquired a class B commercial driver's license for buses. He worked for King County Metro in Seattle for 19 years as an equipment service worker. During his vacations, he funded his own trips to Israel where he did volunteer work with the homeless in Tel Aviv and Old Jaffo. Today, his hobbies remain in giving hope to the downhearted by serving in soup kitchens, working with youth and lending a helping hand where needed. He also loves fishing when opportunities arise. Lee is presently employed in security work in Ontario.

Crystal was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and is a Sault Tribe member. She is the youngest sister of Patrick Hascall (spouse, Nancy) and Wanda Donnay of Brimley, Mich., Brother John Hascall (St. Isaac Jogues) of Sault Ste. Marie, Hudson "Mike" Hascall (spouse, Lynn) in Kailua, Hawaii, and H. Paul Hagmeier in Palm Desert, Calif. Other siblings who walked on are Sharon (Hascall) Montgomery, Clintia (Hascall) Seavoy, Marcia Hascall, Clinton Duane Hascall, Jr., and his twin, Clayton Dennis Hascall.

Crystal grew up in California from the age of 7. She graduated from El Cajon Valley High School and Grossmont College, both in El Cajon. She took art classes in Art Instruction School and the Institute of Children's Literature. Later on, she was employed in Washington state as a health care worker and an early childhood educator and child-care supervisor. She sings and plays guitar for special occasions, writing many of her own songs. She loves sharing her Anishinaabe roots using her guitar and Native hand drum. She taught some of her Native roots teachings to school children in Ontario, Canada, and enjoys being a free-lance writer.

Rural Health clerk needed

The Sault Tribe's Elder Employment Program is accepting applications for a part-time Rural Health Program clerk at the Manistique Tribal Health Center. Applicants must be Sault Tribe members aged 60 or over and reside in the seven-county service area.

Applications and job details may be picked up at the Manistique Tribal Health Center, 5698 W. US Hwy 2, or by contacting Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767. Deadline to apply is Feb. 15, 2019.

BMCC is your EUP Community College

- Affordable Tuition Cost
- Tuition Free for U.S. Federally Recognized Tribal Members
- Quality Transferable Courses
- Highly Qualified, Credentialed Faculty
- Small class size
- Excellent Student Services
- On Campus and Online courses available

APPLY TODAY!

BAY MILLS Community College

Bay Mills Community College
12214 W Lakeshore Dr. Brimley, MI 49715 • 906-248-3354 • www.BMCC.edu
Bay Mills Community College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission
hlcommission.org

MIEA student incentive program now open

The Student Incentive Program is offered by the Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) to recognize students who achieve all “A” grades for a marking period as well as students who achieve perfect attendance for a marking period.

A minimum of \$3,000 is available to fund the program this year. An award of \$25 will be made for each qualified entry up to the minimum available funds in the program. In the event that the number of qualified entries exceeds the funds available, the winners will be determined by lottery.

TO QUALIFY:

- Students must be enrolled members or direct descendants of enrolled members of one of the MIEA constituent tribes.

- Students must be in grades 1-12 at a public or private school.

- Home schooling is not eligible.

- Students must be in grades 4-12 to qualify for straight “A” awards (A-, A, A+).

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

- The first two marking periods ONLY of the 2018-19 school year will be used to determine the winners for this lottery.

- Students can qualify for both perfect attendance and straight “A” grades for both marking periods. For example, straight “A” grades and perfect attendance for both marking periods would mean four chances to win.

PLEASE SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- Parents of students must complete and sign Student Incentive Program application forms in order for students to qualify for awards.

- A copy of the child’s report

card signed by the parent or a letter from an administrator of the student’s school must be submitted with the completed application form to verify the achievement of straight “A” grades and perfect attendance.

- A copy of student’s or parent’s tribal identification card.

- The drawing to determine the winners takes place at the April 2019 conference of the Michigan Indian Elders Association.

VERY IMPORTANT:

These directions must be followed for students to be considered for awards. Completed application forms (included with these instructions), signed report

cards or verification letters of achievement from school administrators and copies of students’ or parents’ tribal identification card must be received or postmarked no later than March 15, 2019. Applications received or postmarked after March 15, 2019, will not be accepted; no exceptions. Please send the aforementioned documents to LeAnn Stindt, 103 Big Bear Road, Iron River, MI 49935.

Please note this is not a Sault Tribe program. All applications must be sent to the address indicated on the application. Visit <http://michiganindianelders.org/students.php> for an application.

NIHB soliciting for fellowships program

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) health policy fellows are a diverse group of talented Native young adults who work alongside tribal leaders, policy specialists and public health experts to develop feasible Indian health policy solutions. During their year-long tenure, fellows are provided with the tools, resources, and mentorship to become effective Indian health policy advocates.

Here are advantages of NIHB gained by health policy fellows:

- Learn about Indian health policy and the nation-to-nation relationship between tribal governments and the federal government.
- Gain strong policy analysis skills.
- Develop policy papers with recommendations for change.
- Educate congressional and tribal leaders on important health policy issues.
- Network with tribal, congressional and federal agency leaders.
- Grow team-building, indig-

enous leadership and consensus-building skills.

- Impact the development of NIHB’s evidence-driven health programs and policies.

Eligibility requirements:

Applicants must be enrolled in a federally recognized Indian tribe and be between the ages of 18 to 24. Must have an interest in Indian health policy or healthcare and be able and willing to participate in fellowship trainings, activities and projects. Must demonstrate strong leadership qualities and able to actively engage with their tribal community leaders.

Questions about the NIHB Health Policy Fellowship and applications to join next year’s cohort should be directed to the NIHB’s Native youth engagement manager, Dr. Wendee Gardner, at wgardner@nihb.org or (202) 548-7297.

The NIHB Health Policy Fellowship is made possible by a generous grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

2019 OsteoCHAMPS Rural Scholarship Program open

Applications for the 2019 OsteoCHAMPS Rural Scholarship Program is now open. The Michigan Center for Rural Health provides five full-tuition scholarships for high school students from rural Michigan. Application deadline is March 1, 2019.

Send a high school student from your community to Michigan State University’s College of Osteopathic Medicine for a health science summer immersion program! “Everything about OsteoCHAMPS is amazing,” said one attendee from the Upper Peninsula. “The experiences I had and people I met will truly stay with me for the rest of my life,” said another.

The intent of the rural scholarship program is to increase the number of rural high school students in Michigan who select health care as their profession of choice and to assist in the pre-professional preparation of those interested in the health sciences. The cost of this one-week program is \$1,500 per student. The Michigan Center for Rural

Health (MCRH) provides full scholarships for up to five qualified rural applicants.

The student spends eight days in a structured environment on the campus of Michigan State University. While on campus, the student studies biology, anatomy and chemistry. In addition to improving their knowledge of science, they enhance their study skills, increase motivation and develop leadership qualities.

In order to be eligible for the program, applicants must be entering the 11th or 12th grade in the fall of 2019 with a GPA of 3.0 or higher and pledge to abide by all rules and regulations of Michigan State University, the Housing Facility and OsteoCHAMPS Program.

Learn about the OsteoCHAMPS program at www.com.msu.edu/OsteoCHAMPS. Deadline to apply is March 1, 2019.

If you have any questions please contact Rachel Ruddock, workforce development manager, at (517) 355-7758 or rduddock@hc.msu.edu.

Pavlat competes at Microsoft

Lauryn Pavlat of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., was selected to represent Michigan in the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) National Championship put on by Certiport in Orlando, Fla., this summer. The MOS Championship lets students from every state compete using their skills in Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel.

To achieve a spot in the top three positions for each competition, students must get a perfect score in the shortest amount of time possible. Pavlat achieved first place in Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, two out of the three competitions that Certiport hosts which placed her in a position to represent Michigan in nationals against the champions of every other state in the United States. Among these two certifications, Pavlat earned certifications in Intuit QuickBooks, an accounting

software, and Microsoft Outlook emailing service. She continues working hard and has started the certification process for Microsoft Excel. Pavlat completes these certifications and preparations with the help of her business administration services teacher, Diane Harrington, at the Sault Area Career Center.

To compete in nationals, students must pay for their transportation there and home, along with their hotel room and miscellaneous expenses throughout the trip. Pavlat and her family have set up a GoFundMe page to help reduce some of these expenses so she can focus solely on competing this summer. If she places, she will earn a scholarship, and if she wins first place she will represent the United States in the World Championship in New York City.

You can find the GoFundMe



Lauryn Pavlat

page at www.gofundme.com/help-lauryn-go-to-national-championships, a can/bottle drive is also planned. Stay up to date on her progress and fundraising dates on her Facebook page by searching for Lauryn Pavlat.

Open Enrollment

*Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School
2019-2020 School Year Open Enrollment and
Lottery Information*



Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is a public school academy where all students attend free of charge. Open enrollment for the 2018-2019 School Year begins on January 28, 2019, and ends on February 11, 2019, at 4 p.m. (EST), with extended hours from 4:30 – 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6.

Only those who complete and turn in an enrollment application to the school office during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery. The lottery will be held in the school cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 21, 2019, for those wishing to attend. Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.

Applications may be picked up from the school office or from the school website at www.jklschool.org beginning January 28, 2019.

Those selected from the lottery will be eligible to attend the 2019-2020 school year provided they *respond within three school days* of notification. If the deadline is not met, those children will be dropped from next year’s roster and the next name on the waiting list will be accepted.



Report: Great Lakes Basin vulnerable to oil spills

BY RICK SMITH

While Enbridge Line 5 has been the recent focus of regional attention as a potential threat to Great Lakes waters, shorelines and inhabitants, it's only the proverbial tip of the iceberg of areas in the region vulnerable to catastrophic damage by oil spills.

In light of the rapid increase in oil production in the central

northern United States and western Canada and accompanying expansion of pipeline and rail transfer facilities along with refineries across the Great Lakes region since 2010, the Great Lakes Science Advisory Board of the International Joint Commission investigated the region's vulnerabilities to oil spills as well as potential responses. In short, the

board found existing crude oil transportation systems around the Great Lakes make the entire regional ecosystem vulnerable to spills, especially in 15 areas highly valued for their biodiversity and fish habitats.

The Great Lakes Science Advisory Board submitted a 59-page report to the commission last October. The report, titled

Potential Ecological Impacts of Crude Oil Transport in the Great Lakes Basin, can be downloaded by clicking on the link at <https://ijc.org/en/sab/ijcs-science-advisory-board-investigates-potential-impacts-crude-oil-transport-great-lakes>.

According to the organization's website, the United States and Canada formed the International

Joint Commission as an instrument to help the two countries to cooperate in managing and protecting the Great Lakes waters. The commission adheres to the *Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909*, of which both countries are signatories. The commission's Great Lakes Science Advisory Board provides research and scientific guidance.

Helping Mother Earth and ourselves with reusable bags

BY RICK SMITH

In case you weren't aware of it, seems discarded plastics are getting out of hand these days. They're washing up and fouling the beaches on remote islands in the Pacific, the Atlantic and elsewhere. Birds and other wildlife are eating some of that stuff, causing agonizing death for those who ingest the waste. Reports surface every now and then of a huge floating island of plastic trash about the size of Texas floating adrift in the Pacific, posing a fatal hazard to sea creatures of all kinds. After drifting on the surface of the waters for so long, those plastics degrade and sink, threatening the ecosystems of the deep. The situation isn't isolated to the oceans; it's fostering growing dangers to life on lands and in the waters of the Great Lakes



as well.

Adding to the problem is the fact that plastics can take about 450 years to decompose.

Among the Anishinaabe, many take pride in their ancestral inheritance as caring stewards of the earth, but it may seem a lost cause to stem the mounting threat

of discarded plastics. However that may be, Sault Tribe quietly and regularly offers free tools to those interested in helping to start curbing plastic pollution. Most tribal functions such as fairs or expositions concerning health, cultural affairs, social services, and so on provide reusable

bags containing literature and promotional items related to a particular activity. The bags can be used to carry freebies and other materials often offered at those kinds of functions.

Some of these bags are simply constructed of cloth while others are more elaborate, even insulated with zippered fasteners. But they're all quite sturdy and, among other uses, make excellent reusable shopping bags, relieving one from having to use the ubiquitous plastic shopping bags — which contribute to the plastic pollution now infecting Mother Earth like a spreading disease. Will employing reusable bags solve the world's plastic pollution? No, but it's a start, and why shouldn't it start with the Anishinaabe? If enough people are seen shopping with reusable

bags, it might evolve into a trend that evolves into a widespread customary practice.

Some stores sell reusable bags emblazoned with the store logo you can see for several blocks. But the Sault Tribe bags are complimentary and the logos are neat and discreet. Besides, who really wants to pay to be a walking advertisement for a store chain.

In any case, getting into the practice of taking along reusable shopping bags allows one to feel good about doing something to help Mother Earth, no matter how small a contribution it may seem. Because like the growing tide of plastic pollution, the popularity of reusable bags can grow as well. And wouldn't that be something to hand down to the coming generations?

Wood: low hanging fruit of the renewable energy world

BY BILL COOK, MSU
EXTENSION FORESTER/BIOLOGIST

Heating, cooling and wood are comfortable and long-established partners when considering alternatives to fossil fuel use. Although, the media spotlight too frequently shines only on power generation.

Now, with long nights and cold temperatures, many people are acutely aware of the need for heat and how many dollars are required to feed that need. Roughly 40 percent of Michigan's total energy budget is expended on heating and cooling. However, many people use the words "energy" and "electricity" as synonyms, leaving heating and cooling out of the discussion, as well as transportation. This tends to push fuel sources for heat onto the backburner, so to say.

Within the residential sector, about three-quarters of Michiganders heat with natural gas. This is the least expensive and automated way to heat homes, as long as the environmental costs of extraction, distri-

bution, and waste are left out of the equation.

For those off the natural gas grid, most heat with propane or electricity. That's about 650,000 households. It's this market that might benefit from less expensive wood and wood pellet heating appliances, as well as those homeowners on the grid that dearly regard environmental quality.

For those hearty souls happy with processing firewood, and haven't a concern about smoking-out neighbors, then a wide range of stoves and outdoor boilers are available. Roughly 130,000 households have done this already. The are some excellent products available. These technologies are the least expensive heating alternative by quite a margin. However, messing with wood isn't everyone's cup of tea.

Advanced, fully-automated wood pellet furnaces and boilers (much different than stoves), have a huge potential to satisfy those on a budget, who desire clean heating and don't want to

do much more than adjusting a thermostat. Southwest Michigan is an especially "ripe" landscape. However, there are three problems with achieving these admirable goals in home heating.

One, the capital cost is high, especially for homes "wired" for electric heat. However, if one looks at the total cost over the life of the appliance, it's usually less expensive than propane and easily less expensive than electricity. And, the costs of fossil fuels are likely to rise, while the costs of wood pellets are likely to remain stable.

Two, delivering wood pellets, in the manner of propane or fuel oil, requires enough customer demand to support a specialized truck. A marketing plan and, perhaps, some patient capital, will be needed. But once a bulk pellet delivery network is established, we'll have the beginnings of a significant renewable, sustainable, and local economic driver.

Three, HVAC companies must be aware of and be trained to install these advanced wood pellet appliances. Currently, most

HVAC companies are unfamiliar with the technology. There is one HVAC company in all of Michigan that's trained in the installation of these advanced wood pellet appliances.

For larger buildings with more square footage than houses, heating (and cooling) with wood chips is an even easier financial sell. Schools and hospitals are common users of these technologies, although the wood products industries have been following this low-cost pathway for decades. Wood is, by far, the most common renewable energy source for Michigan, especially in the heating and cooling sector.

Michigan is home to one of the few manufacturers of these wood chip systems. Messersmith Manufacturing has over a hundred deployments around the nation. That means even more home-grown potential for the state economy.

The next upward tier towards more renewable energy independence are the large, community-level, combined heat and power (CHP) stations that

are so common in many of the more energy-advanced European nations. The closest example to Michigan, perhaps, is the CHP plant that heats and cools downtown St. Paul, Minn.

These CHP facilities supply heating and cooling first, as district energy, and are then large enough to emplace an electricity-generating turbine into the mix. This makes sense, as the combustion of anything, including fossil fuels, generates far more energy as heat than power. Most power plants throw away most of the energy as waste heat.

District energy is a distributed network that heats multiple buildings from a central heating facility. Michigan has a couple of these examples, such as Bordine's Nursery in Grand Blanc and the Pinecrest Medical Care Facility in Powers.

Perhaps, the most interesting component of all these technologies is that they're market-ready. In the renewable energy world, this is the low-hanging fruit. Sometimes the easiest solutions are among the best solutions.

Enjoy Michigan's Free Fishing Weekend February 16-17

Ready to experience some of the finest fishing around? Check out the 2019 Winter Free Fishing Weekend Saturday, Feb. 16, and Sunday, Feb. 17. Those two days, everyone — residents and non-residents — can fish without a license, though all other fishing regulations still apply.

During this weekend, the DNR also will waive the regular Recreation Passport requirement for vehicle access to Michigan's 103 state parks. Several locations may be hosting official Winter Free Fishing Weekend

events perfect for anglers of all skill levels.

Michigan has celebrated winter's #MiFreeFishingWeekend every year since 1994 to build awareness of the state's vast aquatic resources and fishing opportunities. With more than 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, tens of thousands of miles of rivers and streams, and 11,000 inland lakes, Michigan and fishing are a natural match.

"There's nothing better than bundling up and heading out on the ice for Michigan's annual Winter Free Fishing Weekend,"

said DNR Fisheries Chief Jim Dexter. "There can be a great social component to ice fishing, making it a perfect activity for friends and family."

#MiFreeFishingWeekend activities — coordinated by a variety of groups, schools, local and state parks, businesses and others — are being scheduled in communities across the state, making it easy for people to find places to fish. Learn more at michigan.gov/freefishing or contact Elyse Walter at (517) 284-5839.



Photo courtesy of Michigan Department of Natural Resources
Young boy holding a pan fish.

Manistique children's Christmas party fun

Sault Tribe children, youth and their families were treated to a children's Christmas party in Manistique where they got to visit with Santa and his helpers and receive an age-appropriate gift. And, no party is complete without pizza and drinks, of which there was plenty for everyone.



Photos by Darcy Marrow



Free of Charge

"RESOLUTION RESET" Cooking Class

Let us Help You Recommit to Your Goals!

Thursday, Jan. 31
Big Bear Kitchen
2nd floor Sault Ste. Marie
12-1 p.m.



2018 exits with exuberance at Sault Tribe New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow at Chi Mukwa

Folks enjoyed the traditions and excitement of the annual Sault Tribe New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow on Dec. 31 in Sault Ste. Marie at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. Some associated functions, such as the feast, also took place at the nearby Niigaanagizhik Building. The staid swaying of older dancers in their finery contrasted sharply with the exuberant vigor of youngsters in regalia.

Photos by Rick Smith



A young lady rocking a jingle dress rocks along with the spirit of the drum as she dances with others at the Sault Tribe New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow in Sault Ste. Marie on Dec. 31 to bid adieu to 2018 and usher in 2019.



Marvelous regalia worn by the head male dancer at the powwow, Mr. Ray Cadotte of Mt. Pleasant, Mich.



This group of girls don fine examples of regalia worn by shawl and jingle dancers as they vigorously follow in a dance.



Dancer in blue with flying fringes.



Jingle dancer and more flying fringe.



A young male dancer steps lively to the beat of the drum.



Another lad pouring out energy in his movements as he dances.



These two ladies share some mid-dance humor.



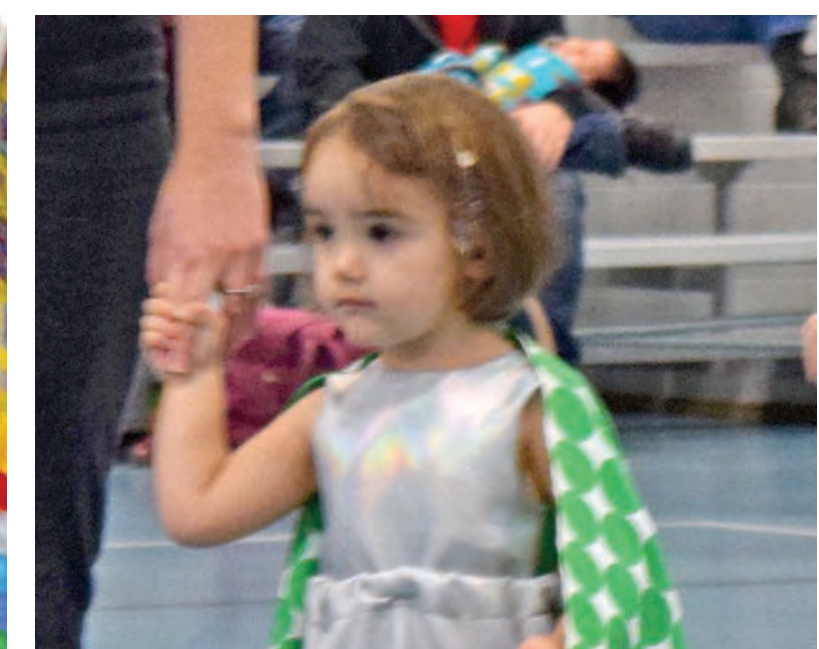
The design on this shawl is displayed as the dancer moves in the circle.



These two seem to be pondering something that caught their attention.



A happy dancer.



A learning dancer.

Marquette children's Christmas party held

The annual Marquette children's Christmas party was a huge success with lots of children who were treated to pizza and other goodies, a visit with Santa and his elf and gifts! Some children were shy and some not so much, but everyone had a good ol' time visiting with family and friends during the festive event.



Bring your Valentine for hands on cooking fun!

Date Night Cooking Class



Thursday, Feb. 7 Big Bear Kitchen 2nd floor
Sault Ste. Marie 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Health educators share advice on being well in 2019

BY SAMANTHA RADECKI, CHARLEE BRISSETTE, JOSH FIRACK, HEATHER HEMMING AND MARY-ELLEN HEMMING

The new year can be a time of rebirth and renewal — and with positive energy and the right intentions, your resolution can be achieved and maintained throughout 2019. If you're resolving to improve your health and wellness — whether by exercising more regularly, becoming mentally and emotionally balanced or finding a deeper connection with spirit — Sault Tribe Community Health Education is here to help. Below, our health educators share their best advice for being and staying well in 2019.

Charlee Brissette, personal trainer and Native dance fitness instructor — Look to the medicine wheel — From an Anishinaabe Ojibwe perspective, wellness can be found by balancing the four aspects of health represented in the medicine wheel: East, spiritual health; south, physical health; west, mental health; and north, emotional health.

“One way to identify your new year's wellness resolution is to first assess how balanced you are in your life. To do this, take a look at each direction and rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being a state of total fulfillment in that area of your health. If you feel you can improve in one aspect of your life, what is something you could do to improve that area? For instance, if you give yourself a five in spiritual health, what is one thing you could do to improve in this area? Let that one thing inspire your resolution.” Connect with your WHY — Charlee also says the most

critical part to being successful in pursuing your goals is to be deeply connected to your reason

WHY.

“Why is it that [insert goal here] is important to you? Those



Heather Hemming leading Gail Nesberg in a stretch.



Health educator, Charlene Brissette, working out on machines.



Health educator, Samantha Radecki, on a cross-country ski trail.

that have a strong reason why, are more inclined to stick to their behavior change, whether it's quitting commercial tobacco, eating better or exercising more. Business and life coach Tim Robbins says it best, “The secret to unleashing your true power is setting goals that are exciting enough to ignite your passion.”

Josh Firack, exercise physiologist — Exercise: Start small and be consistent — For many, improving health with diet and exercise is a top priority in the new year. If being more active is on your list and you plan to stay with it, our health educators say to start small and smart. Josh Firack says, “If you're new to exercise or have just been away for a while, don't try to do too much right at the start. Over the years I've witnessed so many people who have resolved to exercise in the new year overwhelm themselves to the point where they quit a few months in. You want exercise to fit into your life, not take it over. You could commit yourself to working out two or three days a week for 30-60 minutes a session for two weeks. Once your routine becomes a regular part of your week, then you can add more days or more time if you want to. Just remember, the biggest part of fitness is consistency. If you're consistent and continue to challenge yourself within your workouts, you will see results.”

Mary-ellen Hemming, personal trainer — Staying fit: Get creative with “workouts” — Mary-ellen agrees with Josh and says “doing a little something is better than doing nothing at all when it comes to physical activity. Even if you only have 10-20 minutes to devote to activity for the day, it will help your physi-

cal health and will also continue to reinforce the habit. Research shows that physical activity in chunks of 10 minutes or more has beneficial effects for health. Keeping resistance bands at your desk, taking walks of 10 minutes or more, taking the stairs at work and other short bouts of activity are helpful in continuing to strengthen your body and strengthen your mental association for physical activity.”

Heather Hemming, exercise physiologist — Shift your mindset to create new habits — Additionally, Heather says that simply shifting the way you view exercise can make a powerful impact on your routine and results. “I always encourage people to think of exercise as something they “have” to do everyday, such as going to work. You have the power to make the healthful choice and what's best for you. Put yourself and your health first.”

Samantha Radecki, yoga teacher — Pick one thing and always begin again — Finally, to see your resolution, whatever it may be, create real change in your life, Samantha says “Commit to that one thing, that one WHY, and give yourself permission to begin again.”

“For example, if my resolution is to find a deeper connection with spirit, I would focus on doing one thing to support this resolution. For me, it's practicing meditation. I would resolve to meditate for 20 minutes, three times per week, and I would also resolve that if one week I do not meet this goal, I will begin again the next week. I will reaffirm to myself that, ‘It's OK I'm not perfect. I am doing my best. I will begin again, and again, and again.’”

PFAS contamination detected in Kinross water wells

BY MICHAEL C. GUILMETTE JR., SAULT TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPT.

KINCHELOE, Mich. — Citing the unknowns of the effects of PFAS on human health, the Chippewa County Health Department and Kinross Charter Township are taking precautionary steps to limit exposure to these chemical contaminants following detection in two of the township's wells.

PFAS, or perfluorinated alkylated substances, are a family of chemicals known as “fluorosurfactants,” commonly used in manufacturing, food handling and fire suppression. A few of the most famous ones are called PFOS or PFOA. These substances began to be phased out of most manufacturing in 2015, but are still used in some industries today.

During a public meeting on Jan. 3 at the Kinross Township Hall, Trevor Quinlan, the emergency preparedness coordinator for the Chippewa County Health Department, told the audience of about 20 people there is not enough research or confirmable data on the short or long-term effects of chronic exposure to PFAS.

While the data is lacking, some of the hypothesized effects of exposure include growth, learning and behavior of infants and chil-

dren; a lowering of a woman's chance of getting pregnant; interference with the body's natural hormones; increased cholesterol levels; effects on the immune system and increased risk of certain types of cancer — namely kidney and testicular cancer.

Quinlan said that PFAS cannot be absorbed through the skin, so there is no danger from bathing or swimming in water tainted with the chemicals. Drinking contaminated water, however, can lead to exposure. Aside from water, there is speculation PFAS can also be ingested from food cooked in non-stick pans manufactured before 2015.

PFAS are very persistent in the environment and everyone in the United States has some level in their blood. Fish are also testing positive for PFAS and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources has published advisories against eating some types of fish in certain areas. In the Upper Peninsula, fish testing positive for PFAS are only found in one creek near Marquette.

The Lifetime Health Advisory limits for PFAS and related chemicals, set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, are 70 parts per trillion, although the U.S. Army believes the limit should be greater than 140 parts per trillion. Quinlan said during

the presentation that Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder proactively set limits in the state, erring on the side of caution.

Brian Masterson, superintendent of the Kinross Charter Township Water and Sewer Department, said PFAS was detected in wells 1 and 2, both of which are located at the vacant Kinross Correctional Facility on Water Tower Drive. Masterson said that while the source of the contamination is unknown, he believes that a large fuel tank fire near the site in the 1960s — when the site was part of the former Kincheloe Air Force Base — and a leaking storage tank from a technical training building for airmen may be responsible. The leaking tank was discovered and remediated in the 1990s.

In response to the PFAS detection, Masterson said the township has limited drawing water from the contaminated wells to emergency use. Day-to-day water usage is sourced from wells 5 and 6 on Country Club Drive, nearly 2 miles away from the wells 1 and 2. No PFAS have been detected in wells 5 and 6, and Masterson said given the groundwater flow patterns, he does not expect to see contamination in these wells.

Quinlan said that testing individual wells is not possible at this time, since the testing takes six

weeks and the samples can be easily contaminated. He also cautioned against getting PFAS information from unreliable sources, as there is a great deal of misinformation being reported and posted online. He recommended www.michigan.gov/pfasresponse and

www.kinrosstownship-mi.gov as sites for accurate information.

Anyone with questions about PFAS can contact the Chippewa County Health Department at (906) 635-3620 or the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575.



**MY LIFE IS MOBILE.
SO IS MY CREDIT UNION.**

With our web enabled mobile app, you have access anywhere in the world, anytime, wherever you are. View accounts, transfer money, make deposits and more all from the palm of your hand using your smart phone or tablet.



**Sault Ste. Marie • Brimley • Bay Mills
Kinross • Cedarville**

www.socoop.com NCUA Insured

Walking on

ROXANN E. LAVAKE

Roxann LaVake, aged 53, of St. Ignace, Mich., passed away on Dec. 30, 2018, at home in St. Ignace following an auto accident and health concerns. She was born on April 2, 1965, in Hartford, Wis., graduated from Grafton High School and proceeded onto school and joined the painter's union.

She was a loving daughter, sister, aunt and girlfriend. She had a heart of gold and loved her family. She loved the outdoors and hunting as well as Lake Michigan. Her friends knew her as generous, selfless and kind. She was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She will be forever missed and always in our hearts.

Roxann is survived by her mother, Doris LaVake; two sisters, Tina Green (Cox), and JoAnne LaVake; one brother, Richard Green; her niece, Aleksia Erickson; and special friend, Chris Reimer.

She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Clarence Savard and Lucy May; Nelson and Helen LaVake.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Dodson Funeral Home in St. Ignace.

MELANIE L. NOLAN-LEASK

Melanie Lorene Nolan-Leask of Barbeau, Mich., passed away on Dec. 20, 2018, at her home. Melanie was born on May 13, 1962, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., the daughter of George and Sally Nolan.

She enjoyed reading Steven King novels, doing crosswords, drawing, sewing as well as playing bingo and pull-tabs.

Melanie is survived by her husband, Mark Leask; son,

Chris (Nicole) Goetz; daughters, Ashleigh Loonsfoot, Deborah Loonsfoot and Jodi (Tony) Carey; mother, Sally Nolan; sisters, Marsha (Lynn) Nolan-Ailing, Molly Nolan, Marlene Nolan, Monique (Billy) Bennett; brothers, Mark Nolan, Michael Nolan, Martin Nolan and Matthew Nolan; grandchildren, Sierra, Trevor, Dominic, Jonathan, Isaiah, Maxx and Ethan.

She was predeceased by her father George Nolan.

Visitation and services took place on Dec. 28 at the Niigaanaagizhik Ceremonial Building with Brother John Hascall officiating.

Memorial contributions to the Chippewa County Animal Shelter would be appreciated. Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com.

LARRY D. MCCOY

Larry Dean "Buzz" McCoy, aged 62, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Dec. 27, 2018, at his home.

Larry was born on April 13, 1956, in Sault Ste. Marie to the late Margaret Rosemarie McCoy. He was raised on Sugar Island. Larry served in the United States Army and was a Special Forces Green Beret and paratrooper. He served at Fort Bragg and in Germany. Larry was a Sault Tribe member and helped as a fire keeper. He was also a member of the Mason Lodge 358. He was an ordained minister and was an excellent counselor. Larry was an on-stage magician for Disney and later did theater prop work and special effects both here and in South Carolina. Larry loved to play and collect three string (cigar box) guitars. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, collecting aquarium fish and cooking/eating.

Larry is survived by his wife, Susan (Jarvis) McCoy, whom he married on Aug. 18, 1997, in Sault Ste. Marie; two sons, Jeremy McCoy and Joshua McCoy both of Kansas; and one grandson who is due to be born in April. Larry is also survived

by his brother, Rob McKerchie of Rudyard, Mich.; two sisters: Pam McKerchie of Newberry, Mich., and Deb McKerchie of Sault Ste. Marie; and several nieces and nephews.

A gathering and memorial service took place on Jan. 3, 2018, at the Niigaanaagizhik Ceremonial Building.

C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services assisted the family. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com

HELEN A. WICKMAN

Helen Ann Wickman, aged 88, of Livonia, Mich., passed away on Dec. 28, 2018. She was the loving wife of Stanley; beloved mother of Paula (Roy) Anderson, Marshall (Peggy) Wickman, Noreen (John) Lenardon and Lisa (Michael) Perez; proud grandmother of Chelsea (Jeff Kent) Anderson,

Marie (Eric) Parsons, Mallory (Antony Hernandez) Anderson, Andrew Wickman, Christian, Olivia and Jessica Perez and Annelisa Lenardon; and great-grandmother of Merida and Patrick Parsons.

Loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and cousin, Helen will be remembered as a determined woman with strong family ties. Helen was a homemaker, raising four children, working for Detroit Bank and Trust, and as a retail manager through the years. She shared her artistic talents by sewing, designing wall hangings, refinishing furniture, quilting, crafting ornaments and planting flowers. She was meticulously organized. Her passion was family, researching the family tree and sharing all she learned with her children, nieces and nephews. It was through this research that she became a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, following her mother's heritage. She had an affinity for Mackinac Island, vacationing there regularly

with her family. Helen treasured her time with her grandchildren, supporting them by attending their various concerts, games and plays. She was active in the PTA and church, sang in choirs and taught Sunday school. Helen enjoyed playing games and meeting new people. Helen met Stan when he offered her a ride home after a party. They married in June 1952 at Victory Lutheran Church in Detroit, a double wedding (with sister Barbara and Glenn Frederick).

Helen is loved and missed by many.

BARBARA F. WILSON

Barbara F. Wilson, aged 71, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died on Dec. 26, 2018, in Petoskey, Mich. She was born on Feb. 16, 1947, in Sault Ste. Marie, to William Johndrow and Lois Patricia Sharpe.

Barbara grew up in Sault Ste. Marie. Her parents managed the Salvation Army Store where she met and married her husband of 47 years, Edgar Wilson. Barbara's life centered on her family which included not only her children and grandchildren, but also War Memorial Hospital (retired after 44 years), Sault Tribe elders, and the Congregational Church in Brimley. She greatly enjoyed cooking and baking for holiday meals and fundraisers. She loved concerts and trips with her husband, watching sporting events (Lakers, Colorado Avalanche and Michigan Wolverine games) with her daughter, reading a good book or the Bible and snuggling with the family pet, Fallon. She will be greatly missed by her loved ones!

Barb is survived by her husband, Edgar, whom she married on May 7, 1971, at the Salvation Army Church in Sault Ste. Marie; daughter, Heidi Wilson of Sault Ste. Marie; stepson, Edward (Colleen Tennant) Wilson of Grawn, Mich.; stepdaugh-

ters-in-law, Gloria Mominee of Dafter, Mich., and Cindy Wilson of Brimley, Mich.; grandchildren, Jake (Shena Sloboda) Wilson, Anna (Joe) Johnson, Pamela (Cody Greff) Wilson, Samantha (Grant) Prindville, Calvin (Kara) Wilson, and Alex Wilson; and great-grandchildren, Gavin, Porter, and Haven. She is also survived by brothers, Richard Phillips of Ft. Myers, Fla., and Ray (Pam) Phillips of Cottage Grove, Wis.; sisters, Sandra (Salim) Ahmad of Minneapolis, Minn., Brenda (Theo) Perkes of Twin Falls, Idaho, Melody Roach of Dallas, Texas, and Pauline (Kip) Phillips of Minneapolis.

Barb was preceded in death by her parents; stepsons, Mark Wilson and Gary Wilson; and stepdaughter, Cynthia Wilson; and sister-in-law, Doris Phillips.

A gathering and memorial service took place on Jan. 5, 2019, at the First Congregational Church in Brimley.

Memorials may be made to the War Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, 500 Osborn Blvd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or to Hospice of the E.U.P., 308 West 12th Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

R. Galer Funeral Home in Pickford, Mich., served the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.rgalerfuneralhome.com.

HAZEL M. CALDWELL

Hazel M. (nee Paquin) Caldwell, aged 101, passed away on Nov. 10, 2018, with family by her side. She was born in St. Ignace, Mich., on Oct. 4, 1917, to Noel "Teddy" and Mary (LaTandress) Paquin. Hazel attended Ursuline Academy.

Survivors are son, James (Brenda) Caldwell of Michigan and Florida; daughter, Nancy (Dennis) Lake of California; six grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; along with many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by husband, Clayton Caldwell; brothers, Tom and Norman Paquin; sisters, Edna Bryant and Madeline Andress.

How to find safe cleaner choices for your home

BY ROBIN BOUSCHOR, SAULT TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

Maintaining a home requires cleaning counters, windows, floors and so much more. This helps keep dust and allergen

accumulations down and infectious diseases at bay. Even though it may seem counterintuitive, cleaning products can contain what are known as environmental hazards such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which are

emitted as gases from certain solids or liquids. VOCs include a variety of chemicals, some of which may have short and long-term adverse health effects.

To help reduce exposure to VOCs it is advised to choose less

harmful cleaning products by looking for products that have a low VOC content, low toxicity and are biodegradable. When using a cleaning product, it is important to follow the instructions carefully and make sure you are in a well ventilated area before use. Equally important is following the manufacturer's storing instructions since some products can give off harmful gases even when being stored.

Luckily, there are several places a consumer can look online to help them obtain safer cleaning products. The first is www.epa.gov/saferchoice, which is a program that allows use of its logo on products made of safer chemicals. A Safer Choice logo on a product means the Safer Choice scientific review team has screened each ingredient for potential human health and environmental effects and the product contains only those ingredients that pose the least concern among

chemicals in their class.

Second, <https://toxicfreefuture.org/>, which provides information regarding public health and environmental issues associated with a variety of products, including cleaners. Finally, another great resource is <https://www.greenseal.org/>, it contains Green Seal's voluntary environmental standards for industrial and institutional cleaners. The web site also includes the Choose Green Report for household cleaners. Alternatively, even a simple combination of baking soda and vinegar can work really well in cleaning common use areas like a sinks, toilets or bathtubs.

If you have any questions, please contact Robin Bouschor at the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575 or via email at rbouschor1@saulttribe.net. The information in this article was provided by the U.S Environmental Protection Agency.

MSU offering free series - Matter of Balance

Classes begin Jan. 11, series teaches how to improve balance, flexibility and strength

Michigan State University Extension provides a free series titled Matter of Balance at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, north of Engadine on M-117. The series is an eight-session series starting on Friday, Jan. 11, then continuing for seven consecutive Fridays from 1-3 p.m.

If you have fallen in the past, are concerned about falling or have restricted your activity due to fear of falling, we encourage you to attend.

If you are interested in learning how to improve balance,

flexibility and strength then Matter of Balance is the series for you!

The series is designed to help people to maintain and increase their sense of balance. Many older adults experience concerns about falling and restrict their activities. A Matter of Balance is an award-winning program designed to manage falls and increase activity levels.

Participants will learn to view falls as controllable, set goals for increasing physical activity, make changes to reduce fall risks at home and exercise

to increase strength and balance.

Participate in this series to start or maintain a physical activity routine that will help you improve and maintain your sense of balance and well-being. Bring a friend or two!

If the Engadine Consolidated School or Newberry Schools are cancelled due to wintery weather, the class will be cancelled and made-up the following week.

Call Tracie Abram, Michigan State University Extension educator, to register at (906) 235-2985.

~ Please Clip & Post Where Tribal Children Can See this

THE NEW YEAR REPRESENTS

“As a kid, I never could have imagined today. I will leave the ladder down behind me so girls of color know they can be anything they want to be.”

-Rep. Deb Haaland-



Aaron A. Payment

Representing All Members Everywhere!

Ahneen, Boozho, Negee,

I am overjoyed and with some friends' electoral victories. Last month, I announced some of these. This month, I got to participate in inaugural celebrations with our new Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer and Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist. I even appeared in a video in celebration of our new Governor. Check it out at the

<https://youtu.be/nZWNbQFzvH4>

Youtube site below:

This Michigan governor inaugural was the first time I can recall tribes being invited to participate. We had a tribal flag posting of the colors. Our was posted by Tribal Veteran Nick VanAlstine. He made me and many members proud. In the upper right, I stand with a few of my fellow elected tribal chairs. We have a great team with these leaders, as well as, the remaining seven from the other tribes in Michigan. During the campaign, I forged a new relationship with Lt. Governor Gilchrist and volunteered to help reach out to tribal colleges and Lake Superior State University and Northern Michigan



Above: Congresswoman Debra Haaland



Above: Congresswoman Sharice Davids

University to implement some of the technology ideas he has for job training and connectivity. I am also happy to report that my long time friend from Rudyard, farmer Gary McDowell was hired as the State Department of Agriculture Director! I was pleased to have been invited by Governor Whitmer to be the first to sign her nominating petition. I will do what I can to ensure our tribal issues are heard and we forge a strong relationship with the Governor, Attorney General

and Secretary of State to protect our resources and rights.

I was also overjoyed to travel to Washington DC to celebrate with first two American Indian women to be elected to Congress Debra Haaland (D-NM) and Sharice Davids (D-KS). It was so emotional and inspiring to know we have finally smashed this glass ceiling! I played a smaller role with Sharice by attending her campaign events and giving from my own pocket.

For Debra, I was the first Tribal Leader to host a campaign event to elect her. I also helped coordinate her first meet and greet and a National Tribal meeting and took every opportunity I could to get the word out. I did so as I was raised by Indian women and believe it was time for this unique, nurturing but strong perspective to be felt in Congress. Debra was so humble and appreciative. My sisters, kwe cousins, and nieces having the opportunity to break any barrier is the greatest reward.

The day before New Year's eve, I was contacted by a reporter from the New York Times for which I did a small interview last fall. This time, he wanted to visit our reservation and report on the impact of the federal government shut down. Fortunately, our Board of Directors authorized the expenditure of unspent tribal support funds so we could minimize the impact, but if the shutdown last longer than a few weeks, it could cost us over a million and we will eventually have to consider cutting services and laying off team members. Recall that 100% of our net revenues already goes for services and operations.

The New York Times piece opened doors to be able to get our tribal message out and for the benefit of all tribes across the country. Recall that I also serve as the



LtoR: Little Traverse Chair Regina Gasko Bentley, Gun Lake Chair Bob Peters, Keweenaw Bay President Chris Swartz & Bay Mills Chair Bryan Newland. What a Team!



Above Left: Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist & Rudyard Native Gary McDowell who is the new Michigan Department of Agriculture Director under the Whitmer Administration.



With NPR News Anchor Audie Cornish & a snapshot of the CBS Newsroom

1st VP for the National Congress of American Indians.

our way. Those who landed at Plymouth Rock were given



With NPR News Anchor Audie Cornish & a snapshot of the CBS Newsroom

This story led to over a dozen interviews with: CBS & ABC News, NPR with Audie Cornish, Michigan Public Radio, TV 9 & 10 News, Cheddar News, German News Network ADR, NPR On-Point, Live from the BBC, a few others I had never heard of. My focus was on the federal government abrogating our treaty and trust responsibility for services for which we “pre-paid”. As long as we cannot take back our land, we fully expect the federal government to honor our treaties; as a government is only as good as it word.

Our ancestors welcomed the settlers as it was

Chi McGwitch, Negee!

refuge by the *Chi McGwitch*



Graduation with my 3rd Master's degree this time in Education Specialist at NMU

TRIBAL CHAIRPERSON OFFICE HOURS COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5
Friday ~ February 22	Monday ~ February 18	Monday ~ February 4	Monday ~ February 25	Monday ~ February 25
Nokomis-Mishomis Elder Center (Sault)	Hessel Tribal Center Hessel, MI	St. Ignace, MI	Manistique Tribal Center Manistique, MI	Holiday Inn Marquette, MI
Office Hours*: 1pm - 4pm Community Meeting: 5pm (*523 Ashmun)	Office Hours: 1pm - 2pm Elder Meeting: 12pm	Office Hours: 2pm - 4pm (Lambert Center) Community Meeting: 5pm (McCann Building)	Office Hours: 11am-12pm Elder Meeting: 12pm	Office Hours: 3pm - 4pm Community Meeting: 5pm

Appointments will be honored first and open time provided. **Please call Sheila at 906-635-6050 to schedule an appointment.**

Dates and times are subject to change depending on the weather and unforeseen circumstances. In February, Kincheloe, Hessel, Escanaba and Marquette will be scheduled. Lower Michigan meetings will be scheduled as well in the Spring.

Call: **800-793-0660**

Cell: **906-440-5937**

Email: **aaronpayment@yahoo.com**

Facebook **'Aaron Payment'**

Breaking down elders' Land Claims payments



DJ HOFFMAN
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

The new year has many challenges ahead and I am hopeful we can accomplish much more in 2019 than we were able to in 2018.

GOVERNMENT SHUT DOWN

The federal government shutdown has now been in effect for several weeks. Several of the governmental agencies that provide funding for our tribal services have been impacted by this

unfortunate shutdown. However, the tribe has diligently drawn down its funding in advance and as of today there has been no financial impact on tribal operations or services. We are hopeful this will be resolved soon, and fortunate to not have had to draw from tribal reserves at this time.

TRIBAL BUDGETS

A continuing funding resolution was adopted for FY 2019 budgets in the final meeting in 2018.

The tribal board will be discussing these budgets in depth during the month of January with final consideration for approval soon thereafter. It is imperative that we start to look at multi-year budgeting to ensure continuity of programming and proper planning occurs.

CASINOS

The casino budgets were finally received in the last weeks of 2018. The tribal Gaming Authority adopted a continuing funding resolution, not to exceed 60 days to ensure there are no disruptions in our operations

and, hopefully, an efficient and detailed review of these budgets will take place within the next few weeks

JKL BAHWETING SCHOOL

The school (play area) drainage and sports activity areas have been completed and the school will be enjoying many new activities this spring for all of the children. This project is an excellent example of positive and productive collaboration on the part of the tribal board of directors for the benefit of our tribal and community children within the school.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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

Currently, the tribe's EDC is embarking on many different revenue generating opportunities.

As we speak, the tribe is closing on nearly 86 new rental properties in Kincheloe. These rentals will complement our existing DeMawating rentals and increase our overall profitability in the long term.

ELDERS' LAND CLAIMS CHECKS

This year's checks have been mailed and should be received prior to the publication of this newspaper.

This year, 6,082 elders will receive \$477. In an effort to provide more clarification regarding the annual check distribution, you will find a detailed breakdown of each annual check by year, as well as the amount of elders and check amounts in this report.

As you will see, the number of elders has drastically grown (which is extremely positive) while the total fund dividend has remained relatively the same.

In order to increase this annual amount, we must work

to add to the principal annually. Fortunately, we were able to add nearly \$250,000 this year and I look forward to working with other members of the board to devise a mechanism for continually adding to the fund. This is the only sustainable manner in which it can grow.

In closing, I will continue to push forward with members of the board who wish to be progressive.

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

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

CHECK DATE	JANUARY 1999	JANUARY 2000	JANUARY 2001	JANUARY 2002	JANUARY 2003	JANUARY 2004	JANUARY 2005	JANUARY 2006	JANUARY 2007	JANUARY 2008	JANUARY 2009	JANUARY 2010
YEAR	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
NUMBER OF ELDERS	1926	2002	2100	2222	2315	2610	2535	2584	2939	3098	3333	3516
AMOUNT	\$900.00	\$1,233.00	\$1,264.00	\$1,280.00	\$1,339.00	\$1,301.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$630.00
YEAR	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019			
NUMBER OF ELDERS	3889	4130	4669	4614	4921	5220	5519	5822	6082			
AMOUNT	\$614.00	\$575.00	\$553.00	\$591.00	\$563.00	\$552.00	\$520.00	\$493.00	\$477.00			

New digital recipe platform for people with diabetes

Hundreds of meal planning options that are healthy, tasty and nutritious for people with diabetes.

FROM AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION

Featuring hundreds of healthy recipes, the American Diabetes Association (ADA) has launched Diabetes Food Hub, a new digital cooking and recipe destination to help people living with diabetes and their families eat healthfully. Including a collection of tasty recipes approved by ADA's nutrition experts, Diabetes Food Hub provides simple solutions to daily

meal planning challenges for people with diabetes.

Diabetes Food Hub provides recipes with easy-to-read nutrition guidance, tips for healthy eating and meal prep inspiration from ADA diabetes experts to help put healthy living within reach for all people. At launch, the platform includes hundreds of recipes for breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks and even desserts that are appropriate for people with diabetes. Users can customize their search by cuisine types such as comfort food, Mediterranean, Southwest, and more, as well as filter by preferences such as

low-carb, low-sodium, vegetarian, budget-friendly, or gluten-free.

By creating a free profile, users can also enjoy a personalized experience, as the site learns likes and dislikes over time and offers suggestions based on past user preferences.

More than just recipes, the platform also contains powerful features designed specifically to address the needs of people living with diabetes. Users can drag-and-drop recipes into a weekly Meal Planner, which automatically calculates nutrition information, and create an editable shop-

ping list, organized by grocery store department to make your shopping trip easier. Nutrition Facts are available for all recipes, including total carbohydrates, calories, fat, and protein. Values for sodium, potassium, and phosphorus are also available to help users track their intake and create a meal plan suitable for blood glucose management, kidney disease, heart disease, or other health conditions. Diabetes Food Hub allows users to create personalized diabetes meals based on nutrition criteria they have developed with their diabetes care team.

"It's important to remember that when it comes to nutrition, there is no one-size-fits-all eating pattern for people with diabetes," said Sacha Uelmen, RDN, CDE, Director of Nutrition at the American Diabetes Association. "Diabetes Food Hub makes it easy to find healthy recipes that fit your lifestyle, and includes shopping lists, meal prep tips from nutrition experts, and more."

Explore the interactive site and healthy recipes and resources available on the Diabetes Food Hub at www.diabetesfoodhub.org.



More Time for What You Love

And less time spent on banking. With automatic savings you don't even have to think about saving money. You tell us the amount, and we'll deduct it from your account every month. See us today.



First National Bank
OF ST. IGNACE

Community People You Know™

www.fnbsi.com

Celebrating **130** years of service to the area. Member FDIC

906-643-6800 • 132 N. State St. • P.O. Box 187 • St. Ignace, MI 49781

Open your account today by stopping at one of our 7 local banking offices! St. Ignace • North Bay • Moran Township • Cedarville • Mackinac Island • Naubinway • Newberry

Director Sorenson updates Unit III members



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

Things seemed to be pretty quiet when I wrote my last report, but it seems that the Christmas season always brings out the worst in some individuals who want to invoke pandemonium. I realize the holidays are not always easy on people, but I don't appreciate individuals trying to ruin other's family time.

The elder dinner for units I, II and III is always such a wonderful time, catching up with elders from other units you might not see very often as well. The meal was enjoyed by all as well as the entertainment. I appreciate the words and acknowledgment by Director Causley-Smith of all the past leaders of the Sault Tribe. We should always remember those who have paved the way to the success of our sovereign nation.

Then on Dec. 20, the chairman posts on Facebook, "ST Elder Checks drop from \$1,600 in 2007 to \$478. (A 70% Decrease)." What kind of leader makes statements like that? This happens every year upsetting the elders, like the board is purposely cutting the amount of their checks. Then when it comes to letters being sent out by administration he wants to make sure that it states the amount comes from the interest.

I know there has been prior newspaper articles written with the history of the Land Claim's Fund (Elder Fund) that need to be re-iterated every year because of misleading statements. There is no action by the board to the amounts of the elder check except for the bidding that went on in 2007 by Director Abramson and Chairman Payment. That led to the additional money being paid out of the general fund in addi-

tion to the total interest of the Land's Claim Fund divided by the number of elders. That also was part of the \$70 million in debt we faced in 2008 when over 100 team members lost their jobs as well as other programs and services cut.

During the Dec. 11 board meeting, the executive director had made us aware of the president's intent to invoke a government shutdown. Immediately a resolution was written and added to the agenda for the meeting. The resolution was for the CFO to draw down any funds available and to use tribal funds as necessary so it would be business as usual for the tribe. There have been statements that the shutdown is costing us \$100,000 per day. I am not sure where the chairman is getting those figures as we have not been given those. We have been told that we were able to draw down funds and are not in any immediate funding issues. The staff will continue to evaluate the situation and keep us informed otherwise.

Well the election is about a year away and it is obvious the chairman is on the campaign trail as was advertised in the last issue of the paper. I have no problem with having office hours or town hall meeting, etc. but why haven't they been done in the last three years? It's unfortunate that this happens. Director Massaway and I have always had monthly member meetings even prior to me getting elected; the Unit III directors have had them. I used to attend them then. Sometimes members do not show up, but at least there is an avenue for members if they wish to meet with us. I believe we should all hold hours but do it consistently not just prior to an election.

I have also heard that someone was allegedly making death threats to the chairman. I am concerned that the board was not notified of this. I know if I was being threatened, I would be filing a report with the police and surely not putting it on Facebook. I believe that something similar was put out there before about trying to run someone over as well. Sometimes sympathy goes a long way but repetition is recognizable.

Hopefully at the second board meeting for the month of January, we will be ready to pass some or

all the budgets. I think it is crazy we continue to operate this way. We have a lot of programs and departments that would like time with the board and reviewing budgets will take away from that.

One of my major concerns for the near future is the number of job openings. We should not be having that many jobs open this time of year when many people are out of work. We struggled all last summer being shorthanded at the casinos. That is hurting our customer service and employee morale. We have yet to meet with our HR director to see if the audit we did is being implemented. I am going to be very vocal about our labor issues.

We have some many good people, programs and services to be thankful for but we also have to hold people accountable because people deserve better. As a board member I am getting tired of asking the same questions or bringing up the same concerns with no resolve. Everyone has a job to do and if people cannot do the job, then we need to make the necessary changes. Maybe a different position is better suited for the individual but things need to change. We have a habit of putting people in jobs that they are either not the right fit or they are not trained and communicated well enough to be in those positions.

On a good note, I was once again involved in organizing the St. Ignace fourth annual Pink in the Rink hockey game. I started this event four years ago when many other rinks were doing these games as well as our local basketball team having a pink game. The first year our hockey association bought the pink jerseys and we gave all the proceeds to the Mackinac County Relay for Life as I was then involved as a team leader with the Relay for Life. The last three years we have been sending the proceeds to the Hospice of the EUP Hospice House. The last few years' proceeds were about \$2,500 with this year's game pulling in over \$3,000 and attracting around 200 spectators. Our midget team plays against alumni players and we have raffles, chuck a puck, 50/50, clothing sales and jersey sponsorships. Our community really enjoys it and I had the pleasure of watching my sons play against each other.



Featuring the St. Ignace fourth annual Pink in the Rink hockey game participants. Proceeds go to the EUP Hospice House.



Names of those who are remembered or honored are sewn on the back of players' jerseys.



From left to right are Unit III Director Bridgett Sorenson's mother, Loncie Sorenson, her son, Konnor Rickley, her grandmother, Eudene McDowell and Sorenson, all tribal members.

Since many people have a family or friend who has suffered from cancer, we all want to see a cure. Many times our loved ones need the assistance of hospice during their last days. The hospice house in Sault Ste. Marie is a beautiful building and gives families privacy and resources to help during their time of need. My family was fortunate enough to have a place for my uncle in his last days this past July. Everyone is so friendly, the facility is very

clean and there is kitchen access with some food and a gathering space that makes a person feel at home and at peace.

We have also purchased camouflage jerseys and have held camo games with proceeds donated to the Mackinac County Veteran's Office.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, Bridgett91@yahoo.com or 906-430-0536. Happy New Year!

Striving to be guided by Seven Grandfathers



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

We're always reminded by our elders that we should be guided

by our seven sacred teachings, not only at this time of year but year round. Those teachings are Truth, Honesty, Love, Respect, Courage, Wisdom and Humility. I want to start this year out by sharing those thoughts and renew my commitment to you to strive to be guided by those teachings.

I hope you are all healthy and happy and taking this time to be surrounded by family and friends.

With this unit report I would like to share, once again, a little bit about the Michigan Indian Lands Claim Settlement Act (MILCSA) that is the origin of the elders' checks. I hope to address in the future other history surrounding MILCSA because

the Act is a material significance of our tribal history and represents a founding document of our tribe. The Sault Tribe received a one-time settlement payment of \$19 million around 1998 (after 50-some years of our parents and grandparents fighting hard to get redress for their land claims complaints).

\$19 million. With the magic of compound interest (leaving the fund alone and allowing it to grow by interest earned) it probably would have grown to around \$74 million over the last 20 years. That's a huge amount of money. But the terms of the Michigan Indians Lands Claim settlement mandates the fund

disburse ALL interest earned throughout the year to all elders (elders checks). Thus the fund remains at the original base of \$19 million.

So, how many dollars of interest has been disbursed over the last 20 years of the settlement fund? From 1998-2008: \$65,461,282; \$65.4 million, plus the original \$19 million is a bit higher than the \$74 million cited above.

In 1998, when the terms of disbursement were set (written in stone per the agreement), we had 1,926 elders. Today, we have 6,073 elders. This is a simple but truthful explanation of how and why this year's elders' checks

will be \$477. This year's elder fund interest was \$2,897,194.26, which translates into individual elders' checks of \$477 to 6,073 elders.

Here are a few other points that factor into the discussion about the MILCS fund:

— Besides the mandate to disburse ALL earned interest to elders on an annual basis, the other purpose of the fund was for economic development. And the tribe has used the fund on occasion to do just that. Some of our bricks and mortar construction has been used for that purpose, as well as gaming development at Greektown and downstate. It

See "Hollowell," pg. 21

Staying on top of the partial federal shutdown



**LANA CAUSLEY-SMITH,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

As many members have probably seen the Facebook page I created this past year, I wanted to share my final post (suggestion by a trusted advisor) for 2018.

I want to give a little history about this Facebook page. During the year, I became real discouraged about negative posts, people bashing one another, the constant complaints about our tribe and not seeing the good things that happen or any kind of good acknowledgment about the people who work hard day after day for us. I saw families fighting, friends becoming enemies and just political views being expressed turn into hard feelings. So, one early morning (I'm up early), I decided I would make it my goal to spread recognition of our team members on a page, we have so many who are employed by us who are talented, dedicated and deserve a thank you. Instead of doing nothing, I wanted to figure out how we could acknowledge and recognize and I created my own Facebook page. I snapped pictures of many and wrote from the heart how I felt about them and what I witnessed, if I saw good things happening I shared that as well. My only goal was to spread recognition, plant seeds of pride for our tribe and open communication on what we have available and what we are doing as often as I can. I do have to say so many people were happy and thankful to see this but there are a few who just can't accept it's a good thing and let it be.

Now, personally, when this page was created, I was feeling defeated and wanted to step up in a way to make a difference for people any way I could, because collectively we had not been. Morale was very low (it's okay to try and boost that any way possible) for our workforce; I'm not saying this was the answer for everything but it made a mark. In the end, it also helped me, in my line of work I cannot always be feeling and seeing negative, that wears on a person and being a grandma, I know that kindness (I have to hold on to that daily) and leading people helps my spirit to keep me humble and reminds me of our ways — kindness is our traditional way, so this is what I did. I hope you enjoy my last post for 2018 and I will continue to recognize team members dedication, write about things that our people can be proud of and communicate effectively without debate on things that are going on in our communities, I don't comment after posting but I do offer anyone to contact me to talk about them. It's been good and no matter what I will continue to plant seeds whenever I

can — this is what I choose to do as a leader and a person. It's been good for my heart and many others. I bet we've learned a lot about our people who work for us, I know I have. P.S. Rest assured, I can still be a pistol at the board table, just want to make sure I don't get lost in all the negative.

With that being said, I know our administration will work on an official final year-end report for the members and it will be in a coming article of the paper. The comments below are not a complete picture, just my thoughts one early morning. No matter our diversities, who likes whom, who supports who, we are a tribe of people and we DO have accomplishments and good people who dedicate themselves and a lot of work to keep us united and tied together. I will do my part to help that.

"One last post for 2018! It's kinda long.

On the eve of this past year I want to share with fellow members a few of our tribe's accomplishments for 2018 and also say chi miigwech, too, to all the people who liked, shared and read my early morning posts on this site. (It's personally been good for my spirit as I get bogged down myself sometimes, life is like that.) Below is certainly not a complete list but just some thoughts. We will always have so much to do to retain, protect and enhance our people. I'm hoping 2019 will come with many more good things. I do recognize we have many areas to give attention, prioritize and work toward, But planting seeds, making effective communication, recognizing team members and being proud of who we are always has been one of my goals and it will remain my priority for 2019.

Chi miigwech to all the team members and community who have made these things possible for our people, and again, I'm not running for anything, just want to share some of your tribe's accomplishments! (Some are on vicious attacks for no real reason — hurts but I will live) and if you have any questions about these accomplishments or services, please just pm me or call and I will assist you.

*Mino Nimkodaading
Happy New Year!*

- *Opened a brand new elders complex in St. Ignace.*
- *USDA opened the new "store" at our distribution location.*
- *Opened our own home, car and RV business.*
- *Secured over 500 acres of land back to our tribe's land base.*
- *Development of storage units and billboards for addition revenue.*
- *Funded \$1.6 million for projects in our local communities from 2 percent distributions.*
- *Renovated numerous projects at our casino properties (still in works).*
- *Opened and housed two tribal members' businesses.*
- *Provided thousands of meals and gathering/visiting from our elders meal program.*
- *Telemedicine implemented for mailing prescriptions.*
- *Dedicated 160 acres and budgeted implementation dollars for a recovery center.*
- *Scheduled and conducting teaching and workshops in unit with local artists/community mem-*

bers, "Paving the way to cultural pride."

- *Budgeted for Lake Whitefish Rearing Project for 2019.*
- *Added enhancement dollars to land claims fund.*
- *Staff/leaders advocated and worked toward securing and increasing dollars for programs and services: Heath, Court, ACFS, Victim Services and Education.*
- *Established Treaty Rights Negotiation Team for coming 2020 Consent Decree and full Conservation Committee of members for this.*
- *Thousands distributed from team members dress down funds for emergency and families needs.*
- *Annual COLA increases, team members' years of service recognitions and restored longevity increases.*
- *Our communities' drums and singers hosted countless powwows, gatherings and ceremonies.*
- *Brought home many ancestors in our ways of repatriation.*
- *Restored eyeglasses (all) and durable medical equipment (elders) regardless of income.*
- *Eliminated income guidelines for funeral assistance for members.*
- *Heath/fitness coaching through referral from doctor (Community Health Education Programs amazing).*
- *Secured tribal veteran service program advocate.*
- *Secured two docking/harbor sites for fishermen (one complete, the other in the works).*
- *Distributed thousands in education scholarships and enhancement funds.*
- *Will distribute \$2.9 million to all elders of the tribe from Land Claims Fund, and, finally, we*
- *Serviced many, many families with dollars provided by the casino workers dedications on the floor to keep us going and the government departments that service our members every day. We held and hosted amazing powwows, ceremonies and teachings in all units. We all need*

to hear and be proud of the good stuff. Again, thanks for reading!"

And above is what I choose to do to help recognize our people and show a few accomplishments. Here are a few other priorities I'm working toward for 2019 and one is a project that myself and a member have put many hours of time into, this is being steered by a member who shared an idea and together we have written a proposal and put pen to paper to present an alternative for the court when it comes to "low level offenders and youth." Incarcerations and fines are not the answer to rehabilitate anyone, so we have some thoughts on working them into our community for a alternative justice program, recruiting elders and community members to advise and direct. Encouraging and supporting people with our resources available and instilling our traditional ways in their life will be the answer to break cycles in our communities when it comes to low level offenders in the court process, similar to our Drug Court program. We have tried to come up with a name for this and "Mashkawizii," "inner strength, a strong person, their power" is what we have come up with. This I will see through and report to you.

We are facing struggles at the national level with the partial governmental shut down as the funding does affect some of our programs, we had immediately responded to this at the board level and secured plans moving forward to take care at the onset. The longer the shut down continues is a worry but I assure you that this is priority and we will work through what needs to be done to secure our services. Its nothing new that we need to fight to just retain what is a trust responsibility from the government so I will stay off that rant but know that we intend to figure it out for our operations.

I'm looking forward to traveling to Washington with other leaders in March (if we all don't plan to

go collectively sooner, which is a good idea) for our annual Midwest Alliance for Sovereign Tribes (MAST) conference, where we have an opportunity to discuss our collective areas of concern for our tribes and educate national leadership about our people and our needs. We are updated on statistics in Indian Country, unite with priority issues with other tribes and make face-to-face visits with representatives to educate and personally discuss what is imperative and important to us. I will report in April the outcome of this important visit.

Also, during this past month I have taken part in meeting with the National Tribal Advisory Committee (NTAC) for behavior health as I'm the delegate seat for the Bemidjii Area. The group has worked on recommendations for funding that will go to the Assistant Deputy Director of IHS and the needs in Indian Country I also look forward to meeting face to face in the spring for a meeting to work through our options and funding needs with them at the national level ongoing.

In closing, I'm looking forward to a good 2019 and I'm focusing on some clear goals and marks I would like to make for our people. I would like to remind members that we hold office hours at the Hessel Tribal Center on Mondays and you can call me whenever is convenient for you to meet or I can travel to you. I'm in the Newberry area on the third Friday of each month as well and we can meet at the tribal center or you can just contact me with any issues, ideas or concerns that you have: (906) 484-2954, (906) 322-3818 or lcausley@saulttribe.net.

Baamaapii.

Lana Causley-Smith

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of

Chippewa Indians

Board of Directors, Unit II
Representative

Chi miigwech volunteers!



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello, my family and I would like to wish you a healthy happy new year and hope everyone was able to spend quality time with their family and friends over the holidays.

I want to offer a sincere thank you to all the individuals who hosted elder dinners and Christmas parties in each of their communities. The many volunteer hours, donations and contributions ensured these parties were successful.

I attended our New Year's Eve Sobriety Powwow and had a wonderful time. It was enjoyable visiting with friends and family who were in attendance! Helping prepare food for the Sobriety Powwow allowed me to visit with people in the kitchen and share a lot of laughter and stories.

In December, the tribe's Environmental Program had an open house. My 12-year-old grandson and I attended this function and he loved the displays and hands on projects. While there, Robin Bouschor, Sault Tribe environmental specialist, informed us of the Science Discovery Club in Sault Ste. Marie. This is part of the Chippewa County 4-H Club. It focuses on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) principles. The group generally meets once a month and performs simple experiments, projects and fun interactive games.

Some of the highlights from last year, included making "edible" air, exploding bags, bee motels, nature hikes, plant identification, creating poster boards

using exploding paint and marble runs. These projects give you experience in engineering, problem solving, creativity, with math incorporated into some of the projects.

If you would like to enroll in Michigan 4-H you can enroll online at <http://msue.anr.msu.edu/uploads/236/74629/4-H>. Make sure you select Chippewa County's "Science Discovery Club."

Robin created this club to bring more STEM related engagement to the youth of our community. Robin has a Bachelor of Science degree in geology and is currently working on her Master of Science degree in administration.

Please keep the men and women in the armed forces in your prayers and thoughts for a safe return to their families and thank you to our team members for their dedication and hard work.

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

McLeod dedicating 2019 to new and better ways



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin Anishnaabek, in my true teacher fashion, I am looking back over the past year thinking about what I've accomplished, what worked well, what didn't, where I need to improve and what I want to accomplish in the coming year, both personally and for our tribe.

I am pleased with some of the things I accomplished in 2018. In addition to my work as a member of the board of directors (we did some good things in 2018), some of the highlights I am reflecting on involved my federal and national committee work. Working with elected tribal leaders from across Indian Country, our committees were influential in areas of Indian education, community health and many aspects of the Farm Bill. I was honored to be chosen to be chairperson of a tribal leader committee that works with the USDA for the Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations. I was chosen to be the representative for the Bemidji Area for Community Health Aide Program Tribal Advisory Group (CHAP TAG). These groups did really great things for Indian Country, and I got to be a part of it. In example, there is a Farm Bill waiting for signature that has unprecedented support for tribes, and we are now looking at dental therapists, which will greatly improve dental care for tribal members.

During 2019, one of the committees will be ending, but with the remaining ones, I re-dedicate myself to doing my best, standing up for what our people need and making sure we receive it. Closer to home, I continue to serve as the chairperson of the JKL Fiduciary Committee. We have done SO MUCH for our children at our tribal grant school. The gymnasium built a couple of years ago, continues to be a vital part of school life. We built Middle School classrooms, with state of the art technology, science rooms etc. We also added ninth grade, and are looking at new possibilities to provide our children the best education in the Upper Peninsula! I am so proud to serve with these committee members: DJ Hoffman, Kim Gravelle, Mike McKerchie, Catherine Hollowell and Aaron Payment. This committee works hard, often at a moment's notice, to ensure the tribes vision of education in our school comes to pass. Our school is a really good school, but there is still much room for improvement.

In 2019, I dedicate myself to finding new and better ways to

improve the learning experience for our students, and the teaching experience for the school staff. Every person who works at JKL is a part of the teaching and learning for our children. From superintendent to teachers, paraprofessionals to building personnel, lunch ladies to bus drivers and especially to our parents, you are all important to the quality of our school and I thank you for all your hard work. Together we can make JKL School the greatest it can possibly be!

I also serve on the board of director's Advisory Committee for Head Start and Early Head Start. Under Anne Suggit's direction, our tribe is a LEADER in quality early education programming. All the staff, parents and children of Head Start and Early Head Start work together as an extended family to provide a safe, exciting learning environment. Anne's professionalism is the driving force for our accomplishments, and she deserves to be acknowledged for her years of dedication. Miigwetch to all! It is my hope that someday we could build a state of the art facility for this educational program as well, wouldn't that be amazing?

But all of this work pales in comparison to the work I do with tribal members. Over this past year, I have been blessed to help members in need, near and far (more so than in previous years). Some of the requests would break your heart (they did mine) and sometimes, there was simply little to nothing I could do. I want to say that those times when help was found was amazing, however those times when I was powerless to do anything was truly hard. I wish I could have helped every single person, but sometimes all I could do was listen and let them know I cared. Interactions with tribal members are important to me, and I have used these conversations as opportunities to identify areas of need and look for solutions. There is so much to do moving forward in 2019. Over this past year, I had occasion to work with tribal members to solve problems within the tribe itself. Sometimes, the conversation starts out with a very angry tribal member and ends up with a new level of understanding, and a much less angry member (but not always!). Such calls are not easy, but I do the best I can to listen, and help. Tribal members have done a great job keeping me informed about what matters to them. I am so grateful for the times where I have been a part of the SOLUTION.

Another great thing I've been able to do a couple of times, was to meet up with members when I've been on travel. What a good thing that is! They provided me with unique "long distance" perspectives on our tribe. Recently, there has been a new and exciting interaction with tribal members. I met with a young member concerning the tribe's marriage ordinance. He made some very valid points and I am working with him and our tribe's legal staff to make changes that are more reflective of who we are as Anishnaabe people. I view my role in this as a partner to this young man, and am inspired to work with him

to make our tribe better. I look forward to the day when he and I present this to the board of directors for their consideration. I welcome other members to contact me if they have ideas regarding our laws that will help make our tribe better.

All in all, 2018 was a year filled with lots of hard work for me, but I am so inspired for 2019! I won't bore you with all my personal goals (with the exception of focusing on my health, lol), but one thing I did, that makes me so proud, is my new wardrobe of traditional ribbon skirts. Long ago, when I first started teaching at Hannahville Indian School, I ALWAYS wore a skirt — everyday, for years! My skirt wearing drove some of the students crazy, but I refused to wear jeans or even dress pants to school! When they finally insisted on an explanation, I told them I wear skirts to remind me that the work I am doing (educating other people's children) is sacred work, and the skirt reminds me of who I am, what I am doing and who I'm doing it for. I was thinking about those days, and decided the same holds true for the work I am doing for my tribe NOW, and so I wear a skirt. This is sacred work. I know who I am, what I am doing, and who I am doing it for. This time, there is an additional reason — when I wear my ribbon skirts to D.C., San Diego, Albuquerque or Billings, from Capitol Hill to a hotel conference room, there is no mistake, when they see my skirt, they know there is an Ojibwe woman



McLeod wore her regalia to the inauguration celebration for Governor Whitmer, saying, "My traditional clothing reminds me of home and who is counting on me."

present from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe. I even wore my REGALIA to the inauguration celebration for Governor Whitmer (see picture)! My traditional clothing reminds me of home and who is counting on me.

Most of my skirts are made by one of our elders. Her work makes me proud and gives me strength. My regalia includes a yoke that was presented to me when I was just 16 years old, with much love from an uncle. I know in this way, I never walk alone.

I don't want to end my writing here, without acknowledging that many of our people did not make it to 2019. It seems so many

walked on this past year. I know the pain the loss of a loved one can bring, and to those who are suffering, I send up prayers for comfort. My prayers for 2019 include thanks to the Creator for the healing miracles that occurred; for the babies who were born into our tribe, for the many blessings of food, shelter, good health and most importantly, LOVE. In 2019, I am wishing you all the blessings of the One who created us all and bid you a happy new year!

Niikaanigana (All My Relations), Jen McLeod (906) 440-9151 jmcLeod1@saulttribe.net jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

Striving to be guided by Seven Grandfathers

From "Hollowell," pg. 19
has always been used as a "loan" from the fund. Many have been paid back in whole. Others are still outstanding. But those dollars have been borrowed at a very hefty interest rate of 12 percent (as opposed to the average .025 percent a normal money market rate of return would provide). We have always paid on a monthly basis the interest owed on any outstanding loans.

— On occasion we have deposited large sums into the fund, such as \$1 million received from a separate litigation, and a recent decision to direct all interest earned from 12,923 shares in common stocks owned by the tribe to be deposited into the MILCS/elders fund (this is an enhancement to the fund of about 250K annually). But keep in mind, even the one time million-dollar deposit into the fund translates into an annual interest return of \$120K. Divide that by 6,043 elders and it equals \$19 at 12 percent interest earning rate (or \$5 at 2.5 percent money market rates since its not a loan from the fund).

— It bothers people that money was borrowed from the fund for economic purposes, some that did not pan out (Greektown, for example). It also bothers people that only loan interest is being paid back on some outstanding loans (again, Greektown) and that the principal is not being paid down. That's a valid objection. But keep in mind if the entire origi-

nal \$19 million in the fund had no loans against it, where it was sitting in a normal interest bearing (2.5 percent) money market account, the annual yield (interest disbursed to elders) would be \$475K; with 6,043 elders, the checks would be \$79.

— This is the time of year when I hear from elders who insist there must be corruption going on with the tribe's financial assets. They cite the time they got an elder check around \$1,600 (2008). That \$1,600 check in 2008 is an example of fiduciary irresponsibility — big time. It was an election year and the checks were "supplemented" with dollars from other sources that we could ill-afford to expend. (We went into a financial tail spin months later that resulted in a forced Greektown bankruptcy filing and the tribe's inability to make payroll.) I recall my brother saying at the time, "I really appreciate these extra dollars in my elders' check, but not if the tribe can't afford it."

— Here is something else I hear this time of year (wholly unrelated to the MILCS/elder fund topic): "My friend is a member of tribe 'X' and he gets an annual per capita payment of \$40,000. Why doesn't our tribe do that? The answer to that complaint is simple math. (I will use Saginaw Chippewa Tribe for this illustration): You can go to the state of Michigan website and glean from audited and reported "2 percent local revenue sharing

data" and calculate each tribe's gaming profits. You can see for yourself, the HUGE difference in gaming revenue between the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe (for example) and the Sault Tribe. We are not even in the same league. Yes, we can always improve profits and our own customer experience, but these huge differences in gaming revenues are because the population and the "market" is downstate.

Now, add to that equation that the Saginaw Chippewa have a tribal membership of around 4,000 members. Our tribal membership is over 40,000. That's just an honest and simple explanation of why we are not a per capita tribe.

It is a good lead in as to why our tribe sees value in exercising our right to conduct gaming in the downstate market. Since before there was a United States of America, our people had a historic economic foothold downstate. No tribe currently headquartered down state has some exclusive claim, from an economic perspective, to the downstate region. There is no language that would prevent us from enhancing our long standing economic relationship and interest in the "Pays d'en Haut" (southern area).

I wish you all the very best in the New Year.

Catherine Hollowell
Unit II Director
Sault Ste Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians
(906) 484-6821

Marrow updates Unit IV membership

See photos on next page...



DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

The Unit IV Manistique children's Christmas party was held on Dec. 15 at the Manistique Tribal Center. We had a great turnout with over 120 children attending, along with their families. We would like to thank the casino for donating food and drinks this year, we really appreciate it! We would also like to thank volunteers who helped the day of the event: Jeanie Knoph, Mary Jenerou, Susan Snyder, Karen Lindblad, Joanie Miller, Viola Neadow and, especially, our Santa and elves Abby and Lorelei Vallier. Director Chase and I really appreciate your help.

The Marquette elders held

their annual Unit IV and V children's Christmas party at NMU on Dec. 22 in Marquette with a total of 62 children attending, along with their families. They served a pizza buffet with chips, cookies and drinks. Children also enjoy coloring along with a clown who makes balloon art for all the children before Santa hands out their gifts. Thank you to all the volunteers who put on this event. Director Chase and I really appreciate it!

On Jan. 5, we held our last dream catcher workshop in Sands Township with an excellent turnout. This was such a great

family event; we had nine adults and 14 children. The positive feedback Director Chase and I have received from each of the workshops has been overwhelming. We are so glad to be able to bring these cultural workshops to our area. It is so nice to enjoy our families interacting and learning our cultural ways it makes my heart so full. We are currently working on the 2019 cultural workshops; please watch for announcements in our tribal articles, on the Sault Tribe website and Sault Tribe Facebook page.

The government shut down has caused a lot of uneasiness in

our team members due to media information that has been put out there. This information did not give the true story and has put many at unease. Our tribal administration executive director and CFO have kept us informed of the shutdown and assured us that we have resources to sustain our operations for a couple of months. At the current time there are no immediate or significant concerns in any of our tribal programs. We are hopeful that the shutdown will be resolved.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (906) 298-1888 or dmorrow@saulttribe.net

Reflecting on 2018 and looking forward to 2019



MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

As a new year starts, it's important to reflect on where we came from and what we got accomplished. 2018 brought us some much needed employee benefits with the longevity recognition and wage increases. The Sault Tribe's Economic Development Division continues to diversify our tribal assets and have created new businesses and an environ-

ment to have member-owned businesses develop and grow (Sault Tribe Business Alliance). Many of our programs continue to grow and service thousands of members: Anishnaabek Community and Family Services, Education Division, Health and Community Health Services, Housing, Elder Services and our Natural Resources programs.

Our casino team members continue to excel and I believe 2019 will be a great year for our properties. Some many needed upgrades and renovations will allow our properties to shine and bring additional customers "Up North" to enjoy much of what Kewadin has to offer. Our continued success with our casino properties allows many of our services to be provided for tribal members. I do not think most members realize how many services our tribe provides to its members and I want to thank all our dedicated team members for their continued efforts to make our tribe success-

ful. Chi miigwech.

Even with all our successes, we still have a lot of work to accomplish. Our Cultural Division requires a much needed re-organization and needs a full staff to adequately help our tribe and share traditional knowledge. With our newly hired Human Resource Director, I hope our HR Department can assist managers and directors to fill the tribe's many vacancies and help with any barriers that may occur. All of tribe's many internal departments can get back to the basics of helping managers get a job done and provide pathways and solutions to any problems or obstacles that exist or arise.

With the closing of 2018, a few members of the board and other tribes were able to meet with the then Governor Elect Gretchen Whitmer and her team to address issues facing tribes in Michigan. It was a great experience, we addressed several issues and she participated in a pipe ceremony.

Regardless of political beliefs (Republican or Democrat), the fact that she reached out to the tribes in Michigan demonstrates her willingness to work with tribes. The tribes were also invited back to participate in her inauguration ceremonies. I was very proud to watch one of our local veterans, Nick Van Alstine, carry our flag during her inauguration on Jan. 1.

I recently became the delegate for the Bemidji Area for the Tribal Advisory Committee for the Administration for Children and Families. And as such, they flew me and other members of the group out to Washington, D.C., to discuss national issues under the ACF programs. It was a great meeting with a great group of people — not only did we discuss problems but we also got a chance to discuss possible solutions and funding opportunities. The Secretary for ACF, Lynn Johnson, and her entire staff were very attentive and wanted to work with the various tribes to help address

our needs.

A great way to end the year was helping with the kids' Christmas parties — huge shout-out to Dee Dee out in Kinross, Jill in the Sault and the many, many helpers it takes to pull off the parties. You did a fantastic job and seeing the hundreds of kids smiling was a great way to end the year.

Helping at community events, representing our people at state and federal events and looking for solutions that our tribe faces is a great honor and I want to thank everyone for that privilege and opportunity to serve our people. I look forward to a great 2019 and wish everyone the best.

As always I encourage you to be an active part of your community. Volunteer at events, attend meetings, join committees, provide input and shape our nation. Call me at (906) 440-7768 to discuss anything further. Chi miigwech.

Director Matson updates Unit V membership



CHARLES MATSON SR.,
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Aanii, I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays and got to spend time with their family and friends. We had a great time at the kids' Christmas parties and the elders' dinners. It was great seeing our community getting out and enjoying the season together. I would like to say thanks to all the volunteers who help to put these events together.

We are going into the third week of the U.S. government shutdown. This has not had a hard impact on tribal operations yet and our departments are bracing for the impact if it continues. Our cash flow is enough to not have to take immediate action yet but with spring grant funding moving clos-

er we will have to prepare if these funds are not allocated until a later date. It is my hope this problem is solved before this report goes to print but we just cannot predict what will happen with the government.

Cultural activities and education programs have and will continue to be provided in our unit. These will include hand drum making, basket weaving, traditional story telling, regalia making and subsistence net making classes. These will be advertised in the tribal, local papers and be posted in the tribal center. Make sure and try and get out to these events if possible, they are a great way to immerse our communities in our traditions. Hope to see you there.

Work is continuing on establishing permanent powwow grounds in Unit V. It is my belief this would take a lot of the stress off of the volunteers who put this event on by being able to store and set up all of the things needed to put on this event. It will also give us a place we can set up the way we want it and call our own.

In the coming years, we will have to invest in the areas that the tourist industry is growing. This will help us maximize our profitability in our gaming operations and provide much needed revenue outside of them. I believe we still need to make a push to seek sports

betting in our casinos we need to at least take a real hard look at the potential and see what the positive impact could be on our gaming operations.

The Line 5 tunnel has been approved by a lame duck legislature. We will have to see where the new administration and state

legislature will stand on this. We do know as a tribe we were given no meaningful consultation on this and were only offered lip service. None of the risk to our tribal communities was addressed and our concerns were just brushed off by the state government. If our concerns are not going to be

addressed and given their just due, then maybe it is time to start really thinking about litigation.

With the winter snow season upon us, I wish everyone safe travels. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (906) 450-5094 or email me at cmatson@saulttribe.net.

Massaway updates Unit III



KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. Now it is time to get back to work for the board on so many topics. I will touch on a couple of them today. As always, the budgets are in the continuing funding

phase. We need to get better at finishing our review and edits on time. This does not seem to bother some board members but it creates a lot of worry in myself and it needs to get done. The budgets are not substantially different from the previous year and it should be done quickly. Our federal government seems to be in the same boat, but they are playing brinksmanship with their budget. I hope that is over soon so that does not cloud our budgeting.

I wish to thank everyone again for the great children's Christmas parties that were held by the tribe all over the U.P. Ours went extremely smooth and all the volunteers and helpers made it seem so easy. These type of events do take a lot of

time and skill and we couldn't do it without all of you helping. Thank you, again, and seeing the smiles and joy on those children's faces makes all that work worthwhile for me.

I am the chair of the Audit Committee and the audits are going on now for the tribal government and the casinos. They are progressing very quickly and at the last review, we had not run into any challenges or findings yet. The auditors always commend our financial department and employees for all they do to make the job of the auditors that much easier.

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

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

Sands Township dream catcher workshop rocks!

Unit IV tribal families at the Sands Twp. dream catchers workshop had a wonderful time learning how to make dream catchers from YEA Coordinators Patty Teeples and Janet Krueger. The workshop is funded by the Unit IV Education and Cultural Fund. Lunch was served, and each participant received a Sault Tribe sweatshirt. Photos by Denise Chase & Darcy Morrow.





UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

Sammy Kershaw

JANUARY 26

SHOW STARTS AT 8 P.M.
TICKETS \$22.50

ST. IGNACE
EVENT CENTER



DARREN McCARTY

FEBRUARY 15, 2019

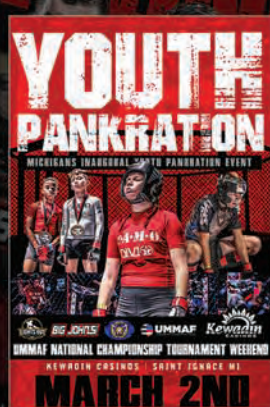
SHOW STARTS AT 7 P.M.
TICKET PRICE \$10

ST. IGNACE
EVENT CENTER



SLAPSTICK
COMEDY TOUR

ST. IGNACE EVENT CENTER



Collin Raye

MARCH 9

SHOW STARTS AT 8 P.M.
TICKETS \$22.50

ST. IGNACE
EVENT CENTER



Pam Tillis

MARCH 23
STARTS AT 8 P.M.

SAULT STE MARIE
DREAMMAKERS
THEATER

TICKETS \$22.50

SAULT STE. MARIE
DREAMMAKERS
THEATER

THE GUESS WHO

IN CONCERT

APRIL 20, 2019

TICKET PRICE \$25.00

1-800-KEWADIN | tickets.kewadin.com