



Win Awenen Nisitotung

February 15, 2023
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Bahweting Bidajimowin • Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Telemedicine services arrive at remote tribal community health centers

By MARLENE GLAESMANN,
RURAL HEALTH PROGRAM
MANAGER

With the vision and leadership of the tribal board, tribal and Health Division administration and management, a strategic plan to provide improved access to care through telemedicine services provided at remotely located tribal community health centers is now happening. Tribal members living in and around the tribal community health centers located in Gladstone, Marquette, Newberry, Hessel and DeTour will all soon be able to access health maintenance medical services closer to where they live and work by telemedicine. The financial support for the purchase of the telemedicine units and other equipment for the project has been provided by the federal COVID-19 grant funds.

The project has involved the expertise of multiple administrative support and departmental services, such as the

Administration/Health Division Covid Planning Team, the MIS and Telecommunications teams, Central Purchasing Services and Health Division Supply Departments, as well as the Pharmacy and business office services. Local Health Division Telemedicine teams at the Manistique, Munising, Marquette and Gladstone sites have been working diligently over the past three to four months to bring this service to tribal members who live long distances from the main ambulatory care centers where their tribal medical providers are located. These teams are to be commended for the additional time and effort that has been spent during the planning and implementation phases of the program, to include multiple teleconference team calls with the telemedicine unit vendors, as well as staff trainings and mock trials of the new telemedicine units prior to the clinics.

The first two remote sites to

go live in January with this new service were the Marquette and Gladstone Tribal Community Health Centers. As noted in the pictures, elders were able to receive care provided by medical staff located at the main tribal health centers in Manistique and Munising through the use of telemedicine equipment located at the remote tribal community health centers. With the recent installation of high fiber network technology at most tribal sites, the visual and audio clarity of the patient/provider visits using the telemedicine units were noted by staff to be near “in-person” performance during the physical examinations. The use of the telemedicine units stethoscopes, othlmoscopes, otoscopes and dermascope attachments during the exams performed well. The next remote tribal sites to go live will be the Newberry, Hessel and DeTour Tribal Community Health Centers. The initial target group for Phase I of this new service will be currently established, high risk tribal elders who require routine follow-up and health maintenance visits with medical providers.

As local telemedicine teams become more proficient in the general operations of the telemedicine clinics and with the clinical skills required to operate the telemedicine units, the expansion of the service to include additional groups of patients will become better defined. Tribal elders who are already established patients with medical providers located at the Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Manistique and Munising clinics will be given priority. Through phone call outreach to established elders, the Health Division staff will be in direct contact with all elders living in and around the Marquette/Gladstone sites to schedule the telemedicine clinic appointments. Within the next month, this new



REMOTE POSSIBILITIES — Examination of an eye using a telemedicine unit ophthalmoscope.

service will be connected at the Newberry, Hessel and DeTour sites and Health Division staff will also be contacting elders directly in those areas to offer and schedule telemedicine clinic appointments.

The Telemedicine Project Team Leaders, Program Manager Marlene Glaesmann RN MPA and Administrative Assistant Nicole Fuson MHA commented, “This service would have been impossible to provide without the full and visionary support of the tribal board, tribal administration, Health Division administration and the local Health Division Telemedicine Teams.”

A special thanks and congratulations are extended to

the hard-working Telemedicine Project Teams located at the Munising/Marquette sites (Dr. Michelle Kroupa-Kulik, Valerie Ford RN, Secretary Heather Nord, Cassie Steinhoff RD, Amber Perry CHT, CH Clerk Elizabeth Delene and Elder Worker Rosemary Larson) and the Manistique/Gladstone sites (Margaret Comfort PA; Tara Duchene RN; Stephanie Craddock CHT, Kelly Silkworth NAI; CH Clerk Brenda Nelson and Elder Worker Phyllis Huffman) for making this vital improved access to care happen for tribal members.

See more photos on page 16.

Sault Tribe appoints Aaron Schlehuber general counsel

Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. – Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians board of directors have announced the appointment of attorney Aaron Schlehuber as the tribe’s general counsel. Schlehuber is uniquely qualified for the position. He is a Sault Tribe member who specializes in tribal law, gaming, business and finance. He also previously served as the tribe’s staff attorney for nearly 20 years from 2000 to 2019.

“This is home,” said Schlehuber. “My experiences

have prepared me to best serve the Sault Tribe in this new and expanded role – I look forward to the challenge and to serving the Tribe to the best of my ability.”

Schlehuber graduated from Michigan State University College of Law. After serving as a staff attorney for the Sault Tribe, Schlehuber spent two years as a tribal attorney and general counsel for the Bay Mills Indian Community and Bay Mills Community College before recently returning to the Sault Tribe.

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Sault Tribe announces appeal of Lansing and Romulus casino lawsuits

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. – The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians announced Jan. 16 that it will seek relief from a Jan. 3, 2023, ruling from Ingham County Judge Joyce Draganchuk that would award \$88 million in damages to the developers of the proposed casinos in Lansing and Romulus. The tribe’s gaming arm, Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority, had partnered with the developers to construct the casinos. Plans for the two casinos have stalled due to unsuccessful

attempts to gain approval from the U.S. Department of the Interior to bring the proposed casino land into trust, which is required to operate casinos outside of a tribe’s reservation.

“The Sault Tribe is deeply concerned with what it has discovered in reading the Court’s opinion,” Sault Tribe Chairman Austin Lowes said. “Our board has met with our legal counsel and is hopeful a new direction will lead to a better outcome.”

The Sault Tribe Board of

Directors continues to stand firm in its obligation to pursue economic opportunities to benefit its members.

The tribe’s next legal steps will be to motion for relief from the judgment in front of Judge Draganchuk, and further to appeal to the Michigan Court of Appeals if that is necessary. The tribe will be represented by Daniel V. Barnett of Grewal Law PLLC for the remainder of this case after terminating its relationship with the Patterson Law Firm.

Damoose welcomes Lowes to state capitol



State Sen. John Damoose, R-Harbor Springs, welcomed Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes to the Michigan State Capitol as his guest for Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's 2023 State of the State address Jan. 25.

Visit www.saulttribe.com for a complete listing of Sault Tribe job opportunities listed under the "newsroom" drop down menu. There are also drop down tabs for culture and history, government and membership services, among others.

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Eleanor Claudia Jean Adams' birth

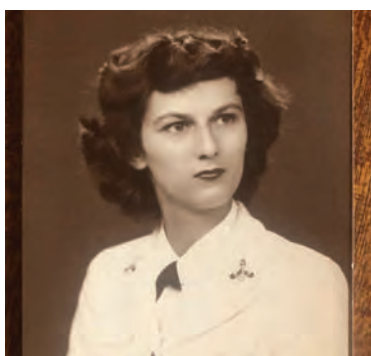


Sault Tribe member Lucas Adams and Cecilia Adams of Grand Rapids, Mich., welcomed a daughter, Eleanor Claudia Jean, on Jan. 9, 2023, at Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids. Ellie weighed in at 9 pounds, 7 ounces, and was 22 inches in length. Grandparents are Sault Tribe member Todd Adams and Christine Adams of Jenison, Mich., and Nathan and Jenifer Topie of Hudsonville, Mich.

Eleanor Fitzpatrick celebrates 98 years



Eleanor Fitzpatrick celebrated her 98th birthday on Dec. 28, making her one of the oldest living Native American Veterans in the U.P. Pictured are (back, L-R) Barbara Brown, Kathy Cryderman, Jim Fitzpatrick, Bill Fitzpatrick, Tom Fitzpatrick, (front, L-R) Eleanor Fitzpatrick, Ann Fox, Tricia Frazier and Helen Thibault.



Eleanor Fitzpatrick in uniform.

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Election Committee announces list of candidates for the 2023 Unit I Special Advisory Election

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In the 2023 Unit I Special Advisory Election, one Unit

I board vacancy will be filled due to former Unit I director Austin Lowes being appointed by election to the vacant tribal chairperson's seat, thus making Lowes' Unit I seat vacant.

On Jan. 24, the Election Committee declared Michelle

Collins ineligible to run for a Unit I seat on the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' Board of Directors. The decision was made based on Collins' failure to disclose necessary information relating to her criminal history in the

background investigation packet. Sections 10.110(1)(k) and 10.111(1)(e) of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe Election Ordinance require candidates to accurately and truthfully provide the necessary information relating to his or her background investigation

under oath and subject to penalty of perjury.

To read the decision, see saulttribe.com.

Special election ballots will be mailed to voters Feb. 24. Special Advisory Election Day is March 20.

Free air quality assessments

The Sault Tribe Environmental Department is currently scheduling free indoor air quality (IAQ) assessments for tribal members residing in the 7-county ser-

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through of the home or business and measurements taken with various IAQ diagnostic equipment.

Once the assessment is completed, the tribal member will receive a free healthy homes kit that includes, green cleaning supplies, a relative humidity meter or a carbon monoxide alarm, a self-test radon kit and educational outreach material.

Assessments can be scheduled for the weekday or the weekend to accommodate different working schedules. Please call to schedule your appointment or ask questions at (906) 632-5575 or via email at rbouschor1@sault-tribe.net.

If you are a tribal member not residing in the service area and have a question about indoor air quality, please feel free to contact the department, we would be happy to assist you.

Snowshoe and Soup shots March 7 at St. Ignace's Little Bear Arena

Sault Tribe Community Health Snowshoe and Soup Shots March 7, 2 -4 p.m., Little Bear Arena, 275 Marquette St. in St. Ignace. Light meal of soup and salad following event.

Meet inside for snowshoes and sizing. Come 15 minutes early for sizing.

Participants must register. Please call Teresa or Jen at (906) 643-8689, ext. 34535, or 34536.

All minors must be accompanied by an adult. Snowshoes available.

Brought to you by Sault Tribe Community Health, Sault Tribe Housing Authority, and the Little Bear Arena.

Medicine Summer Research Program

The Center for American Indian and Minority Health at the University of Minnesota is accepting applications for their Native Americans into Medicine (NAM) Summer Research Program.

NAM is a seven-week summer enrichment program for college sophomores, juniors, and seniors interested in pursuing health careers.

The dates of the program are June 20-Aug 4.

The 2023 NAM program is a

two-summer, in-person cohort. Students will be on campus for seven weeks each summer with housing and stipend provided.

To apply, you will need to upload copies of your transcripts, two letters of recommendation, a 250-word personal essay, and a copy of your COVID-19 vaccination card.

Applications are due Friday, March 10. Questions? Email caimh@d.umn.edu or call (218) 726-7235.

Apply at: www.cnay.org.

Upcoming Sault YEA events

Pizza Night — Calling all mothers, grandmothers, aunts! Grab your son, grandson or nephew and get ready to craft your very own pizza from scratch!

March 3 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Space is limited, first-come, first-served. Big Bear Hospitality Room. Contact Terri to register, tlinacre@saulttribe.net, (906) 253-1321.

Dad and Daughter Dance — March 11, 4-6 p.m. in the Cub Court of Big Bear. DJ: Dennis

Verrett. Snacks Provided. All Ages Welcome

Youth Council — Come and Join Sault Area's Tribal Youth Council Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. at the YEA Wing of the Big Bear. 7th-12th Grade.

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

Election Committee - Two

vacancies (4-year term)

Health Board - Three vacancies (4-year term)

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Carnes BP, 2300 Ludington

St., Escanaba

Kinross BP Local Express, 4440 Tone Rd., Kincheloe

Cedar Pantry, 159 W M-134, Cedarville



WIOA funding for on-the-job training

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 Big Bear Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., or call Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767 for more information.

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Michigan Indian Elders Vacancies

There are two Michigan Indian Elders delegate appointment vacancies and one Michigan Indian Elders alternate appointment vacancy, a 2-year term.

Interested elders should contact Elder Service Division Director Holly Kibble at (906) 635-4971.

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New fish consumption warnings issued

By SCOTT BRAND

Two January reports warning of polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in freshwater fish has fueled new consumption warnings for fish caught both in the Great Lakes and inland waters.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) revised its Eat Safe Fish guidelines in a Jan. 12 press release recommending that no one eat more than one serving per month of rainbow smelt from Lake Superior due to elevated levels of PFOS, a chemical in the PFA hierarchy. Those who dip in Lake Michigan waters are also advised to eat no more than one serving per month, while the Lake Huron advisory sets the official maximum guideline at six servings per year.

A serving, as defined in the MDHHS Eat Safe Fish Guide, is 8 ounces of fish for the average adult weighing in at 180 pounds. Heavier individuals can add 1 ounce of fish for every 20 pounds over the average, while smaller folks and children should reduce their intake by 1 ounce for every 20 pounds under 180. For example, a 90-pound teenager should limit their intake to 4 ounces, while a 45-pound elementary school student should be allowed 2 ounces.

To see these new guidelines and all the other previously published advisories, specific to many types of fish and bodies of water on a regional basis, visit Michigan.gov/EatSafeFish.

Less than a week after that

announcement, the Environmental Working Group (EWG) — established in 1993 with the mission to empower you with breakthrough research to make informed choices and live a healthy life in a healthy environment — issued a report that gained lots of traction in the national media, complete with an interactive map based on Environmental Protection Agency data, showing more than 2,800 locations throughout all 50 states that are known to be contaminated with PFAS.

Attention grabbing headlines using phrasing that would fit the banner essentially came in two forms “Eating just one freshwater fish is equal to drinking water laced with forever chemicals, linked to cancer, for a month,” or “PFAS 280 times greater in freshwater fish compared to those that are commercially caught and sold,” filled newspapers and Internet sites in the wake of the EWG report.

“PFOS levels in fish are so high that even infrequent consumption would significantly increase PFOS levels in people,” read the new EWG report. “The pollution is especially problematic for communities living near bodies of water, whose sustenance depends on consumption of fish they’ve caught, since the more contaminated the fish someone eats, the greater their overall exposure to PFAS and the greater the risk to their health. These are often historically disadvantaged communities who frequently unfairly face disproport-

ionate risk from exposure to PFAS in the fish they catch.”

Lead Biologist Brad Silet of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Fish and Wildlife did not dispute the findings, but wondered aloud why the studies seemingly always focus on fish.

“We as humans anymore are exposed to PFAS in every which way imaginable,” he said. “How much exposure do we get just playing with our dog on the carpet or going for a ride in the car? The fish tend to get the bad angle of things.”

Silet was quick to point out that the method of testing can skew results. Anglers typically filet their fish discarding the guts, flesh and bones, he noted.

“As long as you are testing the right parts of the fish,” Silet explained and not throwing the whole thing into an industrial blender. “People don’t eat the (belly) fat or gnaw on the bones. We are trying to work on what people are eating.”

The focus, Silet believes, on freshwater fish omits a lot of the other things people consume on a regular basis.

“Part of the problem, I guess we face the beef, pork and chicken (industries) have lobbyists saying ‘don’t look at us,’ you never really hear anything about that,” said Silet. “We are trying to get some of these comparisons actually done.”

A recent study “Dietary Habits Related to Food Packaging and Population Exposure to PFAS

published in the October 2019 edition of Environmental Health Perspectives, bolsters Silet’s claim, revealing that microwave popcorn poses a much greater risk of exposure than fish or shellfish.

Consumption of microwave popcorn had significant positive associations with serum concentrations of PFOA, PFNA, and PFOS, in the 24-h recall model, and significant associations were also observed for consumption of popcorn (any type) with these PFASs, in addition to PFDA, in the 12-month recall model. Based on 24-h recall data, serum concentrations for these PFASs changed 3.0% for PFNA to 5.0% for PFOS per 100kcal of microwave popcorn consumed daily, and the largest increases were observed for PFOS and PFOA. For context, the median caloric intake from microwave popcorn among microwave popcorn consumers in the 24-h diet recall was 165kcal. In the 12-month recall model, eating popcorn once a day was associated with 39% higher levels for PFNA up to 63% higher levels for PFDA. Although we could not distinguish between microwave popcorn and other types of popcorn in the 12-month data, analysis of the 24-h recall data shows that microwave popcorn on average accounted for 85% of overall popcorn consumption in the NHANES population.

There are thousands of PFA chemical compounds found in

water, air, fish and soil according to the EPA and studies have shown that exposure to some PFAs may be linked to harmful effects in humans and animals.

The PFAs family is just one of the causes for concern joining PCBs, dioxins and mercury as other potential contaminants in both freshwater and ocean fish.



eat safe fish in Michigan

Learn about eating safe, local, and healthful fish from our Great Lakes State.

eat safe fish

www.michigan.gov/eatsafefish

Saturdays in March * All Sites

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HESSEL + CHRISTMAS + MANISTIQUE

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ICE ICE BABY

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Sault Ste. Marie | March 24-26
Win up to \$15,000 CASH / Bonus Points!

KEWADIN REWARDS SLOT TOURNAMENT

Sault Ste. Marie | Mondays and Tuesdays
February 6 – March 21, 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.
Weekly Prize Pool of 30,000 Bonus Points and \$300 CASH!

KEWADIN MADNESS SLOT TOURNAMENTS

Christmas & Hessel | Wednesdays
March 1-29, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Manistique | Thursdays
March 2-30, 5 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Weekly Prize Pool Of Over 35,000 Bonus Points and \$200 CASH!

RESTAURANT SPECIALS

DreamCatchers and
Horseshoe Bay Restaurants |
March Feature
Guinness Pot Roast, Colcannon Mashed Potatoes, Whiskey-Glazed Carrots & Parsnips.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINING

Join us for Sham-Rockin' good eats and drinks on St. Patrick's Day. Find information at kewadin.com/dining.

Go to kewadin.com/events for more events and information!



Point requirements for all promotions. See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.

LPL Financial taking on Kibble as new partner

By Brenda Austin

David E. Scott, CFP, has been involved in the financial services industry since 2005, and opened his own branch of LPL Financial in May 2008 in Sault Ste. Marie, on the same day he celebrated his twenty-first wedding anniversary to his wife, Cindy.

LPL Financial is the nation's largest independent broker-dealer (as reported by Financial Planning magazine, 1996-2022, based on total revenue) and being independent means each practice is independently owned. Scott said LPL has over \$1.2 trillion in assets under management with over 19,000 advisors and a 1:4 ratio of support staff to advisors. They are currently ranked 442 on the Fortune 500 list.

Being an independent broker-dealer, according to Scott, means LPL doesn't develop their own proprietary products – allowing them to devote time and energy to understanding their client's individual financial objectives, instead of product quotas and sales goals. "I have spent my entire professional career in the world of finance, the first half working in public and private accounting as well as serving as a human resources director. I have always enjoyed helping people and being a financial advisor has given me the opportunity to help people at a much higher level I feel, than I was able to in my



David E. Scott

other roles. I truly love what I do," he said.

Scott said LPL offers investment planning, tax planning, retirement planning, estate planning, risk management, insurance planning, and financial management.

Scott is a certified financial planner, who has earned the CFP® mark of distinction by meeting the education, examination, experience and ethics standards established by the Certified Financial Planners Board of Standards (CFP Board). Scott said that when selecting a financial planner, you need to feel confident the person you choose to help you plan for your future is competent and ethical.

In addition to meeting the above standards, Scott also



Nick Kibble

has the following credentials: BA Accounting, University of Alaska Anchorage, May 1988; Accredited Asset Management Specialist Certification (AAMS); Registered Principal with LPL Financial; Series 24, Series 7, Series 63, Series 66 Registered (Registrations held with LPL Financial).

Sault Tribe member Nicholas Kibble recently joined the LPL Financial practice of David E. Scott, CFP, as a financial advisor.

"I have known Nick Kibble most of his life, as I attended many sporting events and would visit with his grandfather Mr. Jack Kibble as we watched Nick and my kids," Scott said. "I am so excited for this next chapter in my life to bring Nick into the practice on his path to becoming

a partner of the firm and teach him everything I know about the profession. I absolutely love working with Nick, he is so talented, smart and has a wonderful sense of humor and is so laser focused on working to add value to our clients, which is a trait that he has developed in his previous roles as banker and business consultant."

Kibble said he looks forward to meeting with clients and conducting thorough reviews to understand their current financial situation, their future goals and objectives, and their tolerance for risk and analyzing all of this information to prepare a roadmap and a plan to work towards those goals. He said he carefully monitors and communicates the plan's progress as well as making any necessary adjustments.

Kibble said that Dave Scott and LPL Financial are an ideal fit for him as a professional partner. "I've known Dave for nearly all my life, he has been a friend of my family for many years. Dave and I have similar viewpoints, both personally and professionally and I've seen the way he takes extreme care in providing value to his clients. Dave is also a Certified Financial Planner (CFP®), which is a designation I want to pursue in the future," he said. "LPL is also a great fit for me in my career growth because they are an independent bro-

ker-dealer, meaning Dave owns his financial practice and I have a huge opportunity to grow into becoming a partner with Dave." Kibble said he has a degree in mathematics from the University of Michigan. "While it isn't specifically related to finance, it has helped me immensely in the analytical side of financial services. I began my career in banking as a commercial credit analyst and then progressed to being a loan officer in both commercial and residential lending programs. After banking, I worked as a business consultant prior to joining LPL, where I assisted business owners with all aspects of starting and growing their businesses. As a proud Sault Tribe member, I was fortunate to work in partnership with the Sault Tribe EDC providing specialized business consulting to Sault Tribe member-owned businesses."

David Scott's LPL Financial practice is located at 812 Ashmun St., in Sault Ste. Marie. Scott and Kibble can be reached by calling (906) 635-1111, or by emailing Scott at: davide.scott@lpl.com, or Kibble at: Nicholas.kibble@lpl.com. You can also visit their website for more information, at: www.dscott-lplfinancial.com.

The Sault Ste. Marie office of LPL Financial has been thriving locally for over 20 years, and is located across from Parker's Ace Hardware.

George Thorogood coming to Kewadin Casino

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — HB Concerts INC. and Kewadin Casino Sault Ste. Marie are excited to present the beloved, no-nonsense, straight-up blues rock band, George Thorogood & Destroyers on May 11, 2023, at DreamMakers Theater!

On the evening of Dec. 1, 1973, at the University of Delaware's Lane Hall, a guitarist, a drummer, and their rhythm guitarist set up on the small bandstand. Though the three-piece band had barely rehearsed, guitarist George Thorogood and drummer Jeff Simon had been bashing out covers of songs they loved – including "No Particular Place To Go" and "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer" – in suburban Wilmington basements since they were teens.

The Lane Hall audience was wary at first. "Then it was like somebody flipped a switch," Simon recalled. "Everybody hit the dance floor all at once."

"We had the place rockin'," Thorogood said. "From that very first show, Jeff and I knew we were onto something."

Five decades, 15 million albums and more than 8,000 performances later, few bands can still rock the house like George Thorogood & Destroyers. And for Thorogood, Simon, and longtime Destroyers Bill Blough, Jim Suhler and Buddy Leach, their *Bad All Over the World – 50 Years of Rock Tour* will be a celebration like no other.

But when asked to pick a career highlight, maybe one night over the past half century that changed everything for George

Thorogood & The Destroyers, he shakes his head, flashes a huge grin and heads off to soundcheck. "My highlight is when I step on that bandstand," Thorogood said. "The promoters invited us, the fans came to hear us, and we're ready to rock. Every night I play

for people can be the biggest night of my life."

Get ready for an entertaining night of Rock and Blues the way it's meant to be played and don't miss your chance to see George Thorogood & Destroyers live at Kewadin Casinos - DreamMakers



George Thorogood

Theater in Sault Ste. Marie on May 11, 2023!

Five decades, more than 8,000 performances and more than 15 million albums later, on any given night on any stage in the world, few bands can still rock the house like George Thorogood and The Destroyers.

The band also has a long-standing commitment to medical science and social justice that includes a partnership with The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, as well as an ongoing collaboration with Musically Fed, to feed veterans, the homeless and the

food insecure nationwide. A portion of proceeds from the Bad All Over The World Tour will also benefit The Marla Thorogood Memorial Fund For Ovarian Cancer Research in conjunction with Vanderbilt University Medical Center, in memory of George's late wife who passed away in 2019.

Tickets went on sale Feb. 10, and can be purchased at tickets.kewadin.com or at the Box Office starting at \$39.

May 11, 2023

Doors: 7 p.m. / Show: 8 p.m.

Tickets start at \$39

LPL Financial

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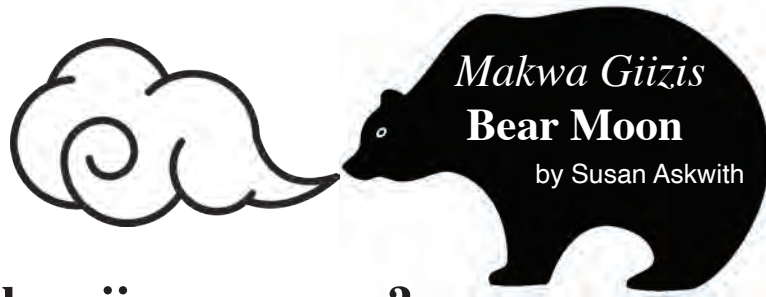
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Anishinaabemowin 2023

*The road to success has so many tempting parking spaces!
Fly! - with words and phrases that tempt you to learn more.*



Aaniish ezhi-giizhigak aawan nangwa? What day is it today?

Ntam-giizhigad aawan.

It is the first day. (*Monday*)

Niizho-giizhigad aawan.

It is the second day. (*Tuesday*)

Nso-giizhigad aawan.

It is the third day. (*Wednesday*)

Niiwo-giizhigad aawan.

It is the fourth day. (*Thursday*)

Naano-giizhigad aawan.

It is the fifth day. (*Friday*)

Ngodwaaso-giizhigad aawan.

It is the sixth day. (*Saturday*)

Niizhwaaso-giizhigad aawan.

It is the seventh day. (*Sunday*)

Aaniish ezhiwebak gojing megwaa?

What's the weather like right now?

Minwaasige giizis. The sun is shining brightly.

min-waa-si-ge gii-zis

Mizhakwad. The sky is clear.

mi-zha-kwad (all have equal emphasis)

Nigwaankwad. It is cloudy.

ni-gwaan-kwad

Gisinaa. It is cold outside.

gi-si-naa.

Zoogpo. It is snowing.

zoog-po.

Noodin. It is windy.

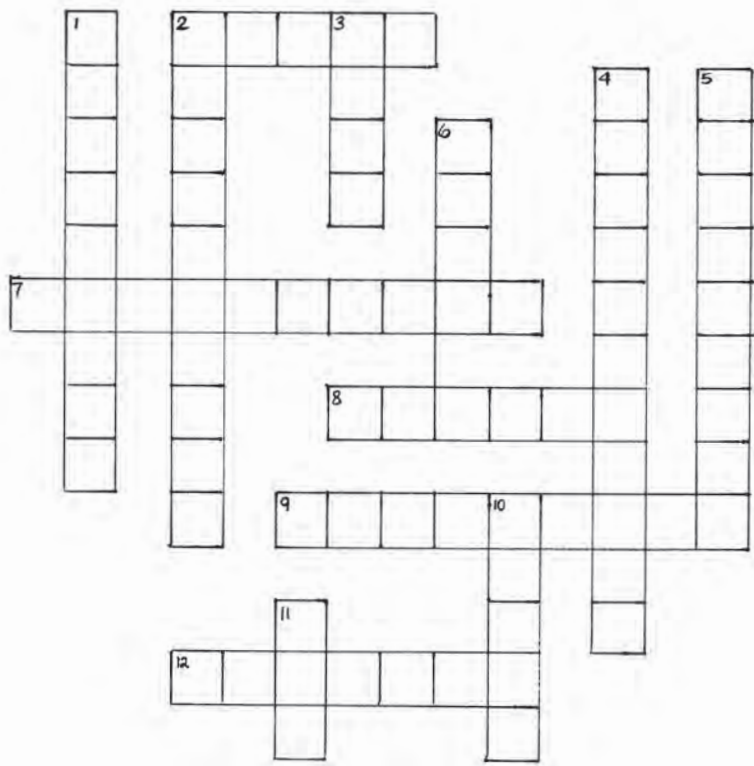
noo-din.

Nichiiwad. It is stormy.

ni-chii-wad.

Weekday words have a number word before the '-giizhigad' which says 'day.' What do you think 'aawan' probably means?

Our human brains are wired to look for patterns in problem solving. Make use of that!



Across

- 2. Part of Friday
- 7. Shiny brightness
- 8. Saturday's weather
- 9. Nothing in the atmosphere
- 12. Niiwo giizhigad weather

Down

- 1. Worst weather
- 2. Part of the 7th day
- 3. Part of Monday
- 4. Clouds are in the sky
- 5. Every 'day'
- 6. Floating flakes
- 10. It is
- 11. Part of third day



Pronunciation?? You'll find the Anishinaabemowin words in this lesson pronounced at this FaceBook link:
www.facebook.com/SaultTribeLanguageAndCulture.

The words in the calendar on the page facing this one are there too. Or you can use the guide below!

Making our Sounds Most letters sound like in English. Here are the exceptions.

- aa sounds like the a in *awesome*
- ii sounds like the e in *be*
- oo sounds like the o in *go*
- e sounds like the e in *Ed*
- a sounds like the a in *about*
- i sounds like the i in *dip*
- o sounds like the oo's in *book*
- g sounds only like it does in *go*

We underlined the syllables that get the emphasis.

Pronounce all the letters. Big deal: if n has an H or S after it, the n has NO SOUND of its own. It's a sign to say the vowels just before it in a nasal way - as if you had a stuffed up nose from a cold.


- 1. What can you catch even with your eyes closed?
- 2. What did the icy road say to the car?
- 3. Where do skiers go to find an ATM ?
- 4. When are your eyes not eyes?
- 5. Where does a snowman get the daily weather report?
- 6. How do you get a snow monster to go away?

Answers: 1. a cold 2. Want to go for a spin? 3. a Snow Bank 4. When winter wind makes them water. 5. the Winternet 6. Get into a heated argument.

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program
GEORGE GOGLEYE
 2023 March Healer
Clinic Hours
 March, 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23, 29, 30, 31
 Sault Ste. Marie Health Center
 (906)632-0236 Lori Gambardella
 Friday, March 3rd
 Munising Health Center
 (906)387-4721 or (800)236-4705
 Friday, March 10th
 Hessel Community Center
 906-484-2727
 Friday, March 17
 St. Ignace Health Center
 (906)643-8689 or (877)256-0135
 Friday, March 24
 Manistique Health Center
 (906)341-8469 or (866) 401-0043
 Any Questions, or to Book an Appointment
 Please Call Traditional Medicine Program at
 906-632-0236 or 906-632-5268

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program
GERARD SAGASSIGE
 2023 March Healer
Clinic Hours
 March 20, 21, 27, 28, 29
 Sault Ste. Marie Health Center
 (906)632-0236 Lori Gambardella
 Wednesday, March 1st
 St. Ignace Health Center
 (906)643-8689 or (877)256-0135
 Wednesday, March 22nd
 Newberry
 906-293-8181
 Any Questions, or to Book an
 Appointment Please Call
 Traditional Medicine Program at
 906-632-0236 or 906-632-5268

Sault Tribe Traditional
 Medicine Program's
**WOMEN'S
 FULL MOON
 CEREMONY**



WHAT TO BRING
 Ribbon Skirt
 Copper Cup
 Tobacco
 Yellow Ribbon

WHEN:
 Tuesday, March 7th
 Social Time 5:30 to 6:00pm
 Ceremony Starts @ 6:00pm

WHERE:
 Located at the Niigaanagijzhik
 Ceremonial Building (11 Ice Circle Drive)
 Women on their moon time may attend
 (offerings can be made on your behalf)

Please contact Lori, Bree, or Katrina with any questions
 Masks are recommended
 906-632-0236 or 906-632-5268
 Chi'Miigwech

Traditional Medicine hosts ceremonies at Culture Camp

Spring ceremonies at Mary Murray Culture Camp begin April 26 this year, hosted by Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program. To participate, please call for an appointment with a traditional healer to determine which camp you will be attending, and if attending fasting camp, how long you will fast. Participants under

18 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information or an appointment, please call Lori or Katrina (906) 632-0236, -0220, or -5268.

Releasing Camp begins April 26 and ends April 30.

Fasting Camp Ceremony begins April 27 and ends April 30.

Women's Fast for Mother Earth is April 29 from sunrise to sunset, followed by a sweat lodge and feast.

Ladies, please be mindful of your moon-time cycle and teachings.

Mary Murray Culture Camp is located at 266 Homestead Rd. on Sugar Island.

SAULT TRIBE TRADITIONAL MEDICINE

Spring Fasting Ceremony
 "MUKADE KEWINAN"
 MARY MURRAY CULTURE CAMP
 266 HOMESTEAD RD. SUGAR ISLAND, MI
 Thursday, April 27th - Sunday, April 30th

MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER, ANYONE UNDER 18 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT
 FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL LORI, BREE OR KATRINA
 906-632-0236 OR 906-632-5268
 FAX 906-632-5202

LADIES, PLEASE BE MINDFUL OF YOUR MOON-TIME CYCLE/TEACHINGS

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program

SPRING RELEASING CEREMONY
 Mary Murray Culture Camp, 266 Homestead Rd. Sugar Island, MI
 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26TH - SUNDAY APRIL 30TH

MUST BE 18 YEARS OR OLDER, ANYONE UNDER 18 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL LORI, BREE, OR KATRINA
 906-632-0236, 906-632-0220, OR 906-632-5268
 FAX #906-632-5202

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program

WOMEN'S FAST FOR MOTHER EARTH
 SATURDAY, April 29th

FASTING BEGINS AT SUNRISE AND ENDS AT SUNSET, FOLLOWED BY A SWEAT LODGE AND FEAST.

@ MARY MURRAY CULTURE CAMP, 266 HOMESTEAD RD. SUGAR ISLAND, MI

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL LORI, BREE, OR KATRINA
 906-632-0236, 906-632-0220, OR 906-632-5268
 FAX #906-632-5202

PLEASE REMEMBER MOONTIME TEACHINGS

Youth Education and Activities presents:

CULTURE NIGHT
 HONORING INDIGENOUS IDENTITY AND CULTURE

THURSDAYS
 6PM TO 7:30PM
 GRADES 8-12
 AT THE BIG BEAR IN THE YEA WING

Limited Transportation Available.
 Call or email Terri to Register:
 (906) 253-1321
 tlinacre@saulttribe.net

Starting February 7, 2023
 Can't wait to see you there!



ZIISBAAKDOKE GIIZIS - MAPLE SUGAR MAKING MOON - MARCH 2023

NIIZHWAASO GIIZHIGAT	NTAM GIIZHIGAT	NIIZHO GIIZHIGAT	NSWO GIIZHIGAT	NIIWO GIIZHIGAT	NAANO GIIZHIGAT	NGODWAASWO GIIZHIGAT
			1 Zhooshkwaade. (S/he is skating.)	2 Gii boonpwa. (It stopped snowing.)	3 Aambe daminadaa goon-genebik! (Let's go play snow snake!)	4 Giizhookonawen! (Dress warmly!)
5 Minisedaa. (Let's cut firewood.)	6 Mikoomiikaa. (There is lots of ice. It is icy.)	7 naabadin (crusted snow)	8 ninaatig (maple tree)	9 ziisbakadaaboo (maple sap)	10 Aagimase. (S/he is walking on snowshoes.)	11 ninaatig ziiwaagmide (maple syrup)
12 Gjibdan! (Taste it!)	13 Maadse gibeyiing giizhigat. (Daylight savings time begins.)	14 Skagamizige. (S/he is boiling down sap.)	15 ziisbaakadoonhs (maple candy)	16 shkode (fire)	17 Gchitwaa Pedii Giizhigat (St. Patrick's Day)	18 Mooshkaneshin Dibiki Giizis (It is a full moon.)
19 Zhooshkwaade. (S/he is skating.)	20 Ntam Mnookomik (First day of spring)	21 kikoonhsag (pails)	22 Aapiji go gisinaa! (It is very cold!)	23 Zookpo. (It is snowing.)	24 Zhooshkwa. (It is slippery.)	25 goon (snow that has already fallen)
26 Noodin gwojing. (It's windy outside.)	27 Giziibiigininjiin. (Wash your hands.)	28 Biiskaan dengwe kaajigan. (Put on a mask.)	29 Goonkaa. (There is a lot of snow.)	30 goon nini (snowman)	31 Nigwaankwat. (It is cloudy.)	

CORA hires Langendorf as environmental coordinator

By SCOTT BRAND

The Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) has tapped a local resident to serve as the new Environmental Coordinator.

Mike Langendorf, a graduate of Sault High and Lake Superior State University and lifelong resident of the Eastern Upper Peninsula, was hired to this post in September.

“Identifying anything that can be impactful to the health, sustainability and protection of the Great Lakes,” explained Langendorf of his role adding that can range anywhere from concerns of a huge oil

spill to the smallest chemicals like PFAS and dioxins in the waterways. “The environmental impacts, be aware of what they are.”

CORA gathers all the 1836 Treaty fishing tribes — Bay Mills Indian Community, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Little Traverse Band of Odawa Indians and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians — to ensure conservation of fishery resources in the treaty-ceded waters in the State of Michigan for the continued use and enjoyment by Indian tribes and all

other persons entitled to use the resources.

Langendorf said the region is vast including a large swath of the Lower Peninsula, portions of Lake Huron and Lake Michigan and much of the Upper Peninsula including Lake Superior and the St. Mary’s River.

“It’s everything that could be an environmental impact,” he said noting that could be water levels, shipping traffic or invasive species. “We are focused on the water and the fishery.”

Langendorf added that there is a wide range of partners involved in this process well

beyond the five tribes involved in CORA. State agencies, such as the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, federal agencies like the Environmental Protection Agency all play their part in the mix. Canadian governmental agencies, which share Lake Superior, the St. Mary’s River and parts of Lake Huron under the 1836 Treaty are also involved.

As a result, Langendorf admits, a lot of his time is spent at a desk or in meetings with the various stakeholders throughout the region instead of in a pair of waders or aboard a boat.



Photo by Scott Brand
Mike Langendorf at his new work station with the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA).



Vote: *Sheila*

BERGER

Unit 1 ~ Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Paid for by Sheila Berger

Dear Sault Tribe Members: After years of serving you as a Membership Liaison in the Tribal Chairperson’s Office, I have fought for you, learned the needs of our Members, and now wish to serve & represent you directly. While our new Board is much better, I believe our Tribal Administration has lost its way & service ethic. My education (bachelor’s in business) & 20+ years of experience has prepared me to serve you. A vote for me is a vote to return our sense of Tribal community & caring for one another.

I would appreciate your vote when the ballots are mailed on February 24th. ~ Thank You, Sheila

Respect Our Elders Youth/Young Adults Tribal Govt Reforms At Large Members

- Fully Replenish Tribal Elder Fund
- Expand Free Childcare Services
- 3 Branch Separation of Powers
- Enact Revenue Allocation Plan
- Increase Annual Elder Checks
- After School Services & Tutoring
- Real Due Process in Tribal Jobs
- Strategic Plan to Benefit All
- Add to the Elder Fund Principal
- Expand Higher Ed Funds by 3X
- Elected Judges w/ Law Degrees
- Equity in Federal Relief Funds
- Medicare Health Supplemental
- Cultural Teachings & Recreation
- Elected Tribal Attorney General
- Automatic Voter Registration
- Increased Elder Heating/Cooling
- Child College Fund Contribution
- Transparency & Real F.O.I.A.
- Improve At Large Representation
- Return Elder Recreation Funds
- Family Supports & Counseling
- Enact Tribal Labor Laws
- At Large Member Health Access
- Expand Elder Meal Program
- Mortgage Down Payment \$
- Tribal Member Promotions
- At Large Member Liaisons

Serious Issues Facing Our Tribe Require Strong Steady Leadership

We have some serious issues facing our tribe including a **\$88 million judgement against our tribe** which was based on a poor deal the old Board entered in 2011. My opponent **Nichole Causley** is pandering to the haters by blaming individuals not even in office when this deal was signed. Additionally, while my opponent wants a naive two branch government, I support a real three branch government. We need strong steady leadership and not a chronic candidate who flip flops and changes election platforms on a whim.

My other opponent, **Joanne Carr** (among others) is on video urging the BOD to not accept the results of the 2022 Tribal election; suggesting they not pick up the ballots and to invalidate the election; and how to appoint DJ Hoffman as Chair without a vote of the people. The new Board took an official vote to post this video as it is so alarming. Go to **Saulttribe.com** to see for yourself. She also once filed a complaint with the BIA to **block the votes of At Large**

Members who live outside of the 7 counties in the UP!

I did not support the old Board’s sole source contracting scheme. We **MUST** follow all applicable federal and Tribal laws when expending funds. I strongly support the Board’s audit of the Sault Tribe Inc. I will always safeguard our assets.

Last year, when I did not advance past the primary, **I endorsed winning candidates Rob McRorie & Isaac McKechnie**. While I also endorsed Nichole, her flip flopping on key issues make her too risky as I fear she’ll side with obstructionist old Board Members rather than Chairperson Lowes and our new positive majority Board.

I believe my endorsement helped Rob and Isaac best the incumbents. Now, I would appreciate your vote to join our new positive majority Board. I pledged to be independent to best serve you. But, I also promise to collaborate with our new Board for our Tribe to succeed.

"I Would Appreciate the Opportunity to Advocate for You & All Members Everywhere!"

**Please
Contribute**

Campaigns Cost Money. Please Consider A Contribution in one of the following Amounts:

[] \$50

[] \$100

[] \$200

[] \$250

[] Other Amount < \$250

Please Mail to: Sheila Berger, 308 W. 9th Ave. Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Facebook: ‘Sheila Berger’

Email: Sheschenk@hotmail.com

Phone: 906.322.6509

Marie Richards attends conference in Chile

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Repatriation and Historic Preservation Specialist Marie Richards attended the sixth meeting of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies (ACHS) biennial and international conferences held Dec. 4-7, 2022, in Santiago de Chile, at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (PUC) - San Joaquín Campus. The conferences are the largest academic events focused on heritage.

Richards said she traveled from Michigan's Upper Peninsula to Santiago, Chile, from Nov. 29 to Dec. 7 to attend the biennial meeting for professional and academic development. "I attended the conference with my dissertation supervisor, Dr. Melissa Baird, and a graduate program colleague as part of a delegation of Michigan Technological University (MTU) researchers," she said.

She has been enrolled at MTU since 2016 in the Social Science Department, working on a Ph.D. in Industrial



Marie Richards brandishes her badge while visiting Santiago de Chile for the meeting of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies.

Heritage and Archaeology. She said her research focuses on industrialization's role in settler colonialism and its impacts on traditional cultural landscapes.

"With my dissertation, I am exploring methodologies to include Anishinaabek narratives in industrial history," she

explained.

The conferences are hosted every other year in different countries, with the next conference in 2024 to be held in Galloway, Ireland.

The first evening she was there, attendees were treated to an opening ceremony with a

keynote address and a play. She said the play was in Spanish about a fictional conversation with Montezuma and the arrival of the Spanish. "I really enjoyed it and appreciated that they provided English captions on a screen behind the actors.

I also got to try local cuisine. The restaurant servers were very patient with my limited Spanish and reliance on Google Translate. I know how to speak Spanish, but do not always know the words; I'm the same with Anishinaabemowin!" she said.

She was able to visit the Plaza de Armas, colonial buildings that were once used as government offices before Chilean independence. One of the buildings is now the Museo Historica Nacional which focuses on Chilean history from Pre-Columbian up to the 1973 coup d'etat. She also enjoyed a gondola ride up a mountain and shopping in a street art market.

"It was definitely good to get outside of my comfort zone. This was my first time traveling outside

of North America," she said.

Richards said that while she had many interesting conversations with colleagues at the conference, one stood out more than others. "One of the keynote speakers is an international law and cultural heritage expert," she said. "Very few academics engage in the legal aspects of cultural heritage. But in repatriation, we are constantly working within a legal process for every ancestor, every cultural object, and protecting every cultural site. Even though only a few of us in the room understood its significance, it was affirming to hear the experts talk and to see a room full of heritage professionals learning about this aspect of heritage work. The academics may learn that we are governments representing our communities to protect our heritage."

Critical heritage studies is a multi-disciplinary field of study that explores the relationships between people, heritage, and power.

School Social Worker position open at JKL Bahweting School

JKL Bahweting Anishnabe School is accepting applications for a full-time School Social Worker 2022-2023 School Year.

Starting salary: \$48,264 (MA)

JKL is a K-8 Michigan public charter school dedicated to outstanding educational experiences, serving approximately 600 stu-

dents. JKL offers a comprehensive benefits package. Candidates must possess a Master's Degree from a graduate school social work program approved by the Michigan Department of Education. The degree program shall consist of a two-year graduate course, including appropriate

methods courses and a minimum of 500 clock hours of supervised social work practicum. Must have current or be eligible for state approval as a school social worker. At least one year experience providing social work services to elementary/middle school-aged children and families.

Applications can be found at www.jklschool.org by clicking on the employment opportunities link on the home page. JKL application package must include electronic versions of the following: application, letter of interest, current resume, copy of school social work certificate, and tran-

scripts. Only electronically filed applications that are complete with all required documentation attached will be considered.

Position is open until filled. Employment at JKL is considered "at-will."

JKL is an equal opportunity employer.

Vote for 30 Years of Service to the Tribal Board and Membership

Knowledgable - Trustworthy - Capable - Informed - Dedicated



Candidate Joanne Pavlat - Carr
Unit 1 Sault Tribal Board of Directors

I'm **Joanne Pavlat-Carr**, an Ojibwe woman with traditional values. I want to be the next Unit 1 Board Member to help get our tribe back on track. I will work to restore and honor our traditional Anishnaabe ways because we need them. We need to be: honorable, trustwrothy and loyal to our people.

With integrity, I will follow the Constitution to the letter and I will work diligently to strengthen all Tribal Laws and Codes because our Tribal Board needs to abide by the same laws that govern our people. I believe we need to elect our Tribal Judges and Prosecutors so that there is a separation of powers between the Tribal board and our judicial system.

With my 30 years of board experience, I know what it takes to get the job done. I will be accountable, transparent and fiscally responsible. I would be honored to serve as your Unit 1 Board Member and respectfully ask for your vote. Miigwech!

While in the military, my family and I lived outside of the seven county service area for 17 years. I know what it's like to need help when it is not available.

I want to be the voice for Unit 1 constituents with eyes and ears for all Tribal members no matter where you live. I want to lend a helping hand by expanding access to:

- Rental Assistance, no matter where you live.
- Homeownership program, no matter where you live.
- Tribal Community Foundation, no matter where you live.

We need to take care of our employees with better wages and better working conditions. Together, we can do it!



My Guiding Principles Are The Seven Grandfathers
Truth, Honesty, Bravery, Wisdom, Humility, Love & Respect

My Husband Fred Carr
51 Years of Marriage

My Parents
Edna & Cecil Pavlat

My Grandparents
Edward & Maggie Gurnoe

Board meets and passes multiple resolutions in January

A meeting of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors was held Jan. 3, 2023, in Sault Ste. Marie and 24 resolutions were approved.

#2023-001: FY 2023 enterprise capital outlays budget modification — Approved an increase in expenses for Gitchi Auto, Home, and RV for \$500,000 from Other Revenue.

#002: Child Care Stabilization Grant, establishment of FY 2023 budget — The board approved the establishment of a FY 2023 budget for Child Care Stabilization Grant with state of Michigan monies of \$109,624.07.

#003: Sanitation BE-22-M79, establishment of FY 2023 budget — The establishment of an FY 2023 budget for Sanitation, with federal IHS monies of \$354,000 was approved.

#004: Sanitation BE-22-M84, establishment of FY 2023 budget — The board approved the establishment of an FY 2023 budget with federal IHS monies of \$75,000.

#005: ACFS – transitional housing, establishment of FY 2023 budget — The establishment of an FY 2023 budget was approved with Other Revenue monies of \$569,845.22.

#006: Health Center, Sault Administration, FY 2023 budget modification — Approved for a change to the personnel page.

#007: Health Center, COVID maintenance and improvements, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved with federal IHS monies of \$48,462.48.

#008: Health Center, COVID testing related activities, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved with federal IHS monies of \$408,118.28.

#009: Health Division, Health and Wellness Indian Country, FY 2023 budget modification — Approved for an increase in federal CDC Revenue monies of \$96,892.97.

#10: Health Division, maintenance, improvement and capital outlays and third-party revenue, FY 2023 budget modifications — The board approved the FY 2023 budget modification for an increase in Third Party Revenue of \$100,000, and an increase in federal IHS Revenue monies of \$243,561.86. The modification to Third Party Revenue increased the transfer out to \$100,000.

#11: Health Center, PRC COVID, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved with federal IHS monies of \$101,610.14.

#12: Health Division, FY 2023 budget modification — Approved for an increase in federal HHS revenue monies of \$14,694.22.

#13: Health Division, Special Diabetes, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved with federal IHS monies of \$912,394.

#14: GRID Resilience, establishment of FY 2023 budget —

Approved with Tribe Support monies of \$10,000 and Other Revenue monies of \$10,000.

#15: Board of Directors Head Start Advisory Committee — Robert McRorie was appointed to the Head Start Advisory Committee until his term on the tribal board of directors expires. Kimberly Vincent-Hampton and Kimberly Lee were appointed as alternate members.

#16: Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) Food Nutrition Services (FNS) — The board directed the Anishnaabek Community and Family Services USDA Program to apply for and administer the Food Nutrition Services program through FY 2025, and authorized Chairman Austin Lowes, to sign, amend, negotiate, and execute agreements for the program.

#17: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development FY 2022 Indian Housing Block Grant Program, competitive grant application — The board authorized the Sault Tribe Housing Authority director to develop and submit an application requesting \$7.5 million for the FY 2022 Indian Housing Block Grant P Competitive (FR-6600-N-48).

#18: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development FY 2022 Indian Housing Block Grant Program, competitive grants – Unit II — The competitive funding will provide site work and infrastructure (water, sewer and electricity) and a minimum of six additional rental units for low to moderate income tribal families in Hessel - two units and in Newberry - four units; the board appropriated \$4 million to Unit II to accomplish new home purchases within Unit II - Resolution 2022-154; and Unit II directors made a commitment of \$1 million of the \$4 million as a leveraged match to the overall 25% project match for the \$7.5M IHBG-C. The board approved the commitment of \$1 million of the ARPA fund appropriation for Unit II Housing funds.

#19: Transportation Program, 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) — The board agreed with the needs and priorities presented in the 2023-2026 TIP and adopted the 2023-2026 TIP for the projects that were developed with the BIA for Tribal Shares Funding.

#20: Approving contract, Traci Swan — The board approved the contract with Traci Swan ending Jan. 31, 2024, for the purpose of providing court administrator and magistrate duties.

#21: Approving contract amendment, Khoury Johnson Leavitt — The board approved the contract with Khoury Johnson Leavitt, ending Dec. 31, 2023, at the monthly fee of \$7,500, for the purpose of providing consulting services to the tribe.

#22: Approving contract amendment Sonosky Chambers — Approved ending Dec. 31, 2023, at the monthly fee of \$7,500 for the purpose of providing consulting services to the tribe.

#23: Clarifying 401(k) employer contributions — Questions have arisen as to the final percentages or determinations of employer contribution percentages following the approval of Resolution No. 2022-306 and the board wishes to clarify the current authorized employer contributions under the Plan. Resolution No. 2022-306 amended the Plan to change the 3% discretionary employer contribution created under Resolution No. 2021-122 into a 3% mandatory employer contribution into the Plan where all employees over the age of 18 automatically receive an annual 3% employer contribution, without any discretionary contribution requirement, after an employee has been with

the tribe for at least one year of employment and completed 1,000 hours of service.

The board clarifies that Resolution No. 2022-306 did not negate or affect the 1% match to the Plan, contingent upon the employee contributing 1%, as authorized under Resolution No. 2017-08. The combination of the currently authorized employer's contributions includes the 3% mandatory contribution, and 1% discretionary contribution, totaling a potential 4% employer contribution each year for employees over the age of 18 who have been with the tribe for at least one year of employment and completed 1,000 hours of service.

#24: Rescinding resolutions 2021-280 and 2022-84 and ARPA fund reappropriation for Unit I for affordable housing — The board previously appropriated \$11 million of approved American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds via Resolutions 2021-280 and 2022-84 to enable

Demawating Development to execute the Market Based Housing Development; the board now wants the project to be overseen by Sault Tribe Housing Authority (STHA), and rescinded Resolutions 2021-280 and 2022-84. A tribal enterprise named Odenaang Homes Tribal Enterprise will be created to execute Affordable Housing Development (AHD) in place of Demawating Development. Odenaang Homes Tribal Enterprise will be managed by the STHA. The board reappropriated the \$11 million of Unit I approved ARPA funds initially appropriated to Demawating Development to Odenaang Homes Tribal Enterprise to be managed by STHA in order to accomplish the AHD. The board also authorized STHA to establish a budget for the AHD.

To view these and other approved resolutions in their entirety, go to saulttribe.com under the Board downloads tab.

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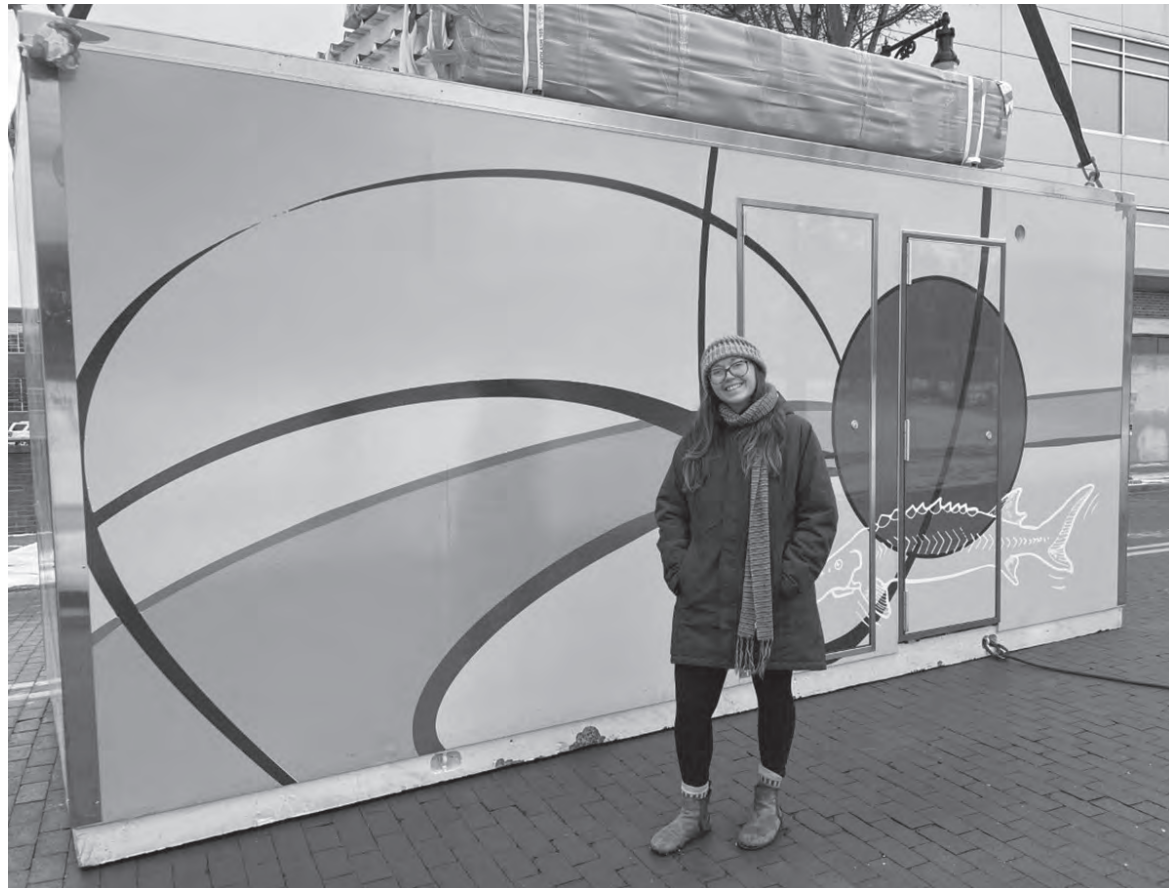
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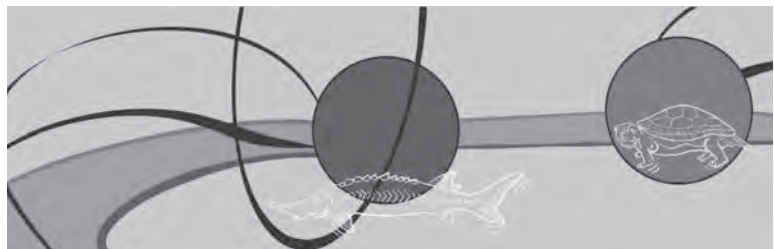
Sault Tribe member creates mural for Grand Rapids park



Grand Rapids Heartside Park has a new self-cleaning, accessible bathroom facility to be open this spring. The mural wrapping the building was created by artist Jamie Shackleton, a member of the Sault Tribe. The mural depicts the Grand River running through four bright circles and four river animals.

“The process included traditionally illustrating each animal and then transferring it to digital illustration,” Shackleton said. “Once digitized, the process included a lot of logistics to work with the building dimensions.”

The mural includes depictions of ospreys, sturgeon, a great blue heron, and turtles. “The animals included were creatures that were great medicine for me to see daily while I was in the Grand Rapids Public Museum Garden while participating in ArtPrize 2021,” Shackleton said.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- ◆ Graduate Degree
- ◆ 20 years Tribal Experience
- ◆ 20 years Community Volunteer
- ◆ \$Millions in Grants for ST
- ◆ JKL School Board Trustee



GOALS

- ◆ Implement Competitive Wage Structure Grid for Employees
- ◆ Increase Elder Services
- ◆ Increase Youth Opportunities
- ◆ Add Recovery Support Services

NICHOLE CAUSLEY

Ballots Mailed Feb. 24, 2023

SA Election Day Mar. 20, 2023

Financial Donations can be made using Venmo or PayPal.



Paid for by the Committee to Elect Nichole Causley, Unit 1 Board of Director Candidate.



Input sought for future development of Shunk Road corridor, tribal lands and facilities

BY SCOTT BRAND

Sault Tribal Board members, employees and interested members of the public provided their input at the final design charrette on Jan. 31, in separate sessions, to further develop plans for the Shunk Road Corridor, tribal lands and facilities.

“This is a vision,” said Design Consultant Sara Kirk of SRP Design Landscape Architecture of the work that has been completed to date. “It’s meant to be flexible — nothing is set in stone.”

Proposed improvements include reconstruction of road-

ways including Three Mile Road, Marquette Avenue, Ice Circle Drive, 10th Avenue, 15th Street, tribal nature preserve with raised boardwalk with interpretive signage and Shunk Road. The latter will be designed, according to initial plans, with an eye toward improving the streetscape complete with pedestrian access, lighting, benches and trees.

“Improving existing roads and adding new ones,” Kirk emphasized.

“All these roads are going to get reconstructed,” said Tribal Transportation Planner Wendy Hoffman, adding the project

“will include multipurpose paths separated from the roadway.”

Additional improvements that could be on the horizon include new administrative offices along the Shunk Road Corridor and the construction of residential buildings off Three Mile Road. There was also a proposal to reconfigure the access road to funnel traffic from Shunk to the main Kewadin Casino entrance.

Cultural and community improvements provided a wide range of options including a potential amphitheater, a combination food court and community area, and expanding recreational opportunities for outdoor sports such as ice skating, cross-country skiing, bicycling and lacrosse.

The Jan. 31 meetings allowed various stakeholders to present their concerns and ideas to move these various projects forward.

No decisions have been made to date, but this exercise will assist in developing future proj-



Photos by Brenda Austin

Planning Specialist Annette Thibert (left) helps Tribal Transportation Planner Wendy Hoffman hold up a map of the Shunk Road Corridor for discussion.

ects and provide a master plan with community input that will enhance the Sault Tribe’s efforts to capture future grant monies to fulfill identified needs and create a vision for the community in the years to come.

Those who were unable to attend the charrette, but would still like to offer their suggestions, are invited to forward their comments directly to Wendy Hoffman at whoffman@sault-tribe.net.



Tribal Transportation Planner Wendy Hoffman highlighted proposed changes to the Shunk Road Corridor, tribal land use and facilities.



Sault Tribe Director of Strategic Planning Larry Jacques shares ideas that were discussed by participants at the table he was sitting at.



2023 Sault Tribe Inland Application

Licensing cost is \$5 per member. Allowable payment methods are check or money order, **made payable to Sault Tribe**, or credit/debit card **at the window only. CASH WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Youth (16 and under) and Elders (60 and over) are not required to pay fees. New members must provide a copy of their **current Enrollment card and proof of hunter safety if born after 1960.** There will be a \$36 NSF charge applied to all returned checks.

Application must be filled out accurately and completely. Please print legibly. It is your responsibility to know and abide by the rules and regulations pertaining to this license under Ch. 21 & 23.

Name: _____
Last First Middle

Mailing Address: _____
Street

City State ZIP

Physical Address (if different than above): _____
Street City State ZIP

Male Female Date of Birth: _____

Phone Number: _____ Tribal File #: _____ STS#: _____

Email Address: _____

Please select one of the following licenses:

- Hunting Harvest Card** (allows Inland fishing, general gathering, small game, waterfowl, migratory birds and general furbearer) Choose the tags you would like below:
 - Deer** *Season dates - 09/05/2023 to 01/07/2024
 - Spring Turkey** *Season dates - 04/15/2023 to 06/15/2023
 - Fall Turkey** *Season dates - 09/15/2023 to 11/14/2023
 - Trapping** (Pine Marten, Bobcat, Fisher, River Otter) *See Ch. 21 for Season dates*

Non Hunting Harvest Card (allows general gathering and Inland fishing ONLY)

Bear and Elk applications will be available in the Tribal newspaper in April 2023. For all other permits pursuant to Ch. 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code, you must contact the Conservation Department at 906-635-6065 (i.e. State/Federal Firewood Permits, Maple Sap permits, Birch Bark Permit, Conifer Bough Permit etc....)

Mail completed applications to: **Sault Tribe Law Enforcement. P.O. Box 925 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783**

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White Feather Gifts offers boutique items

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Tara Hetrick and her mother Christine McCoy are crafters. In 2008, McCoy turned a hobby into a home-based business when she started Candy Creations and Gifts. McCoy offered candy arrangements with silk flowers and Hetrick added wood burned plaques, crocheted items and holiday décor to the mix.

Then, in 2019, they decided it was time for a new venture, and White Feather Gifts was born. Hetrick said she started making dreamcatchers again, a craft taught to her by her Nookomis, Bernadette Azevedo.

“I would help her when I was younger make the sweetgrass rings that held tight to the lids of her famous black ash baskets,” she said.

McCoy want to try her hand at making lotions, an art she learned from her companion Charles Moore and his mother, Virginia, both members of the Little Traverse Band of Odawa Indians. “We worked with some floral scents, such as lilac and lily of the valley and experimented with several sweetgrass fragrance oils, before finding the essence of the scent everyone knows and loves today within our community. We brought our wares to Tyler Nelson at the Kewadin Casino Gift Shop in the Sault and he loved them so much we were approved to become a vendor,” Hetrick said.

She also makes candles, soap, wax melts, incense, earrings, and

crochets dish cloths and hats.

In addition to being a regular vendor at Kewadin Casino in the Sault, Hetrick said she attends craft shows and powwows, is a vendor for the Sault Tribe Language and Culture Department, and Sault Tribe Early Head Start, and some of her products are for sale at the River of History Museum Gift Shop. She also advertises her products online at powwows.com.

She launched her website, whitefeathergifts.net, in April 2022. “The website was a great opportunity to reach out to the rest of the USA and parts of Canada,” Hetrick said. “My favorite type of sales will always be face to face; I love interacting with my customer base, sharing my stories about the products and letting them smell the different scents available.”

Hetrick is employed full-time with R&B Electronics Inc., as a commercial sales manager in charge of selling airplane electrical components all over the world. “I am grateful to my employer, Allie Rogers, for allowing me to pursue my dreams as I continue to work for him. The ladies I work with are my testers and approvers for new scents and ideas,” she said.

Her dream is to open a store front and offer local handmade gifts from Native American crafters and local artists, while maintaining her business website. “I would love to see my products in Indigenous giftshops across the

country. One day I hope to pass down my knowledge and legacy to my girls, Justice Guilbault and Liberty Hetrick, like my mother Christine has done for me,” she said.

Hetrick said her brother, Travis Gardner, is the biggest advertiser for her line of sweetgrass products. “He wears the sweetgrass spray and lotion everywhere he goes. The ladies will come up to him to get a whiff of where the sweetgrass is coming from. My sweetgrass products have since been nicknamed ‘snagging juice,’” she said.

Her Yooper Line of products consists of scents of the U.P., and fond memories she had as a child. “Sweetgrass reminds me of when I was little and the warm sun beating on a field and as a slight breeze picks up you get a hint of warm vanilla. Or when my Nookomis would make her baskets, her home always smelled of sweetgrass. The Superior Shores fragrance is one of a kind. Picture yourself at the water’s edge with the ice melting on Lake Superior, the air is still crisp from winter, but clean and fresh. Then there is the fall season. Who doesn’t love the smell of fall outdoors? A walk in the woods offers hints of cedar and sandalwood, a time of gathering, bonfires and togetherness,” she said. “Which Yooper scent will you fall in love with?” she asked.

Hetrick welcomes the public to periodically check the website (whitefeathergifts.net) for new



Tara Hetrick

merchandise and unique gifts. Coming soon she will be offering koozies and Ojibwe mugs by

artist Tina Gardner. You can also call Tara Hetrick at (906) 203-7508.



Some of the products available from White Feather Gifts when you visit whitefeathergifts.net.



ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 27, 2023

HOMEOWNERS ASSISTANCE FUND



Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic:

Are you at risk for Housing instability?

Are you facing foreclosure?

Are you behind on your mortgage or utilities?

Contact the Sault Tribe Housing Authority to learn more about the Homeowners Assistance Fund

Monday thru Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST

Income eligible, members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and households who own their homes within the seven-county service area may apply for assistance. Applicants must meet all eligibility requirements and have an adjusted gross income at or below 150% of area median or 100% of the United States median income guidelines.

Homeowners Assistance Fund can provide funding to assist with:

- Delinquent Property Taxes and Mortgage payments
- Delinquent Utilities
- Mortgage Assistance
- Homeowner’s Association Fees or Liens
- Facilitate mortgage interest rates and reductions



For more information or to make application contact:

Sault Tribe Housing Authority

154 Parkside

Kincheloe, Michigan 49752

(906) 495-1450 or 1-800-794-4072

Or email HomeownersAssistanceFund@saulttribe.net

“This project is being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number 21.023 awarded to Sault Tribe Housing Authority by the U.S. Department of the Treasury.”

Language & Culture Division holds a Goon-Genebik (snow snake) Workshop Feb. 7 and 9



Language and Culture Director Cathy DeVoy tells the story of how the Anishinaabe snowstick game got started one desperate winter hunting rabbits.



Larry Jacques offers some tips on snake stick aerodynamics. Jacques and Cathy DeVoy facilitated the workshop.



Participants lined up for custom shaping and sanding by Jacques (R) while Logan (L) does his own sanding. In all, 56 snow snakes were made.



Jacques smooths each stick. Assisting were Language and Culture staff Emma Donmyer, Geezhik McCoy and Tyler Bouschor with Josiah Frazier.



Court Morse and Stephanie Hughson working on their sticks, smoothing and decorating their snow snakes.



Ella Black goes "basic black" with her snow snake.



Kellie Paquin, Sylvia Huffman and Hessel YEA Student Services Assistant Kara Windsor (L-R) use bright colors on their snow snakes.



Steve Bernier keeps his granddaughter Claudia's stick steady for her.



Piper Bernier gets photo bombed by Chloe Kannan while sanding her snow snake.



Forest Lee from Hessel gets ready to burn a design into his stick.



Calliana Bouschor color coordinates her snow snake and fingernails.



Jay Johnson and Lorelei Kachur (front and back) work on their sticks.



Oliver Collier chooses his color palette.



Brock Dewey and his son Jasper work on a stick together.

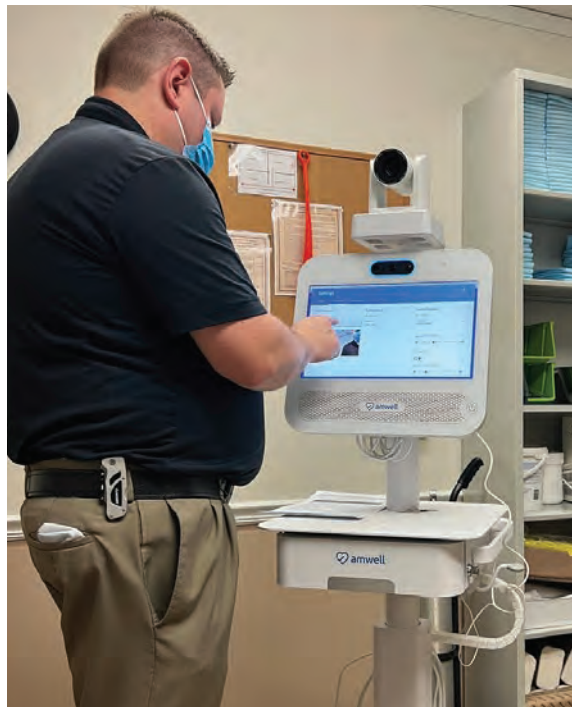


Sienna Huffman from Hessel readies her stick for painting.

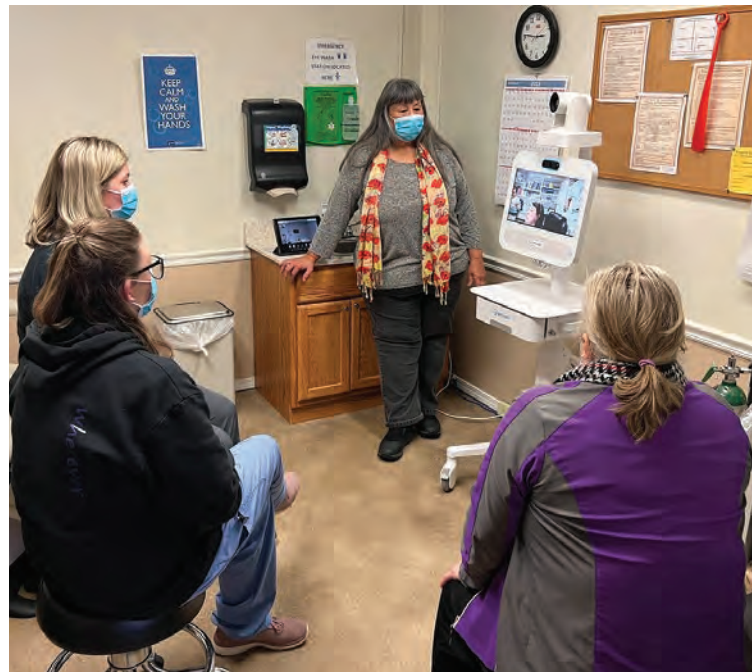
Sault Tribe telemedicine teams available



Munising telemedicine team calling into the telemedicine unit located in Marquette. (L-R) Cassie Steinhoff RD, Secretary Heather Nord, and Physician Leader Dr. Michelle Kroupa-Kulik.



Amwell Technician-Michael Easlick installs and programs the Marquette telemedicine unit.



Telemedicine unit Marquette staff training, (L- R): Amber Perry CHT, Valerie Ford RN, Elder Worker Rosemary Larson, and Telemedicine Project Leader Marlene Glaesmann RN, MPA.



Gladstone/Manistique telemedicine team, (L-R): Stephanie Craddock, CHT, and Tara Duchene, RN, in Gladstone, and Amber Perry, CHT, and Margaret Comfort, PA, located in Manistique.



Staff training and mock telemedicine test in Gladstone by Amwell Technician Michael Easlick (left) with Kelly Silkworth, NAIL, and Tara Duchene, RN.



Tribal elder Mary Conrad with Valerie Ford, RN, at the first Marquette telemedicine clinic with Dr. Kroupa-Kulik, who was at the Munising Tribal Health Center.

December Team Member of the Month



Virginia Manitowabi, LPN, at the Sault Tribe Health Center, was awarded with the December Team Member of the Month by Sault Tribe Health Division Director Leo Chugunov.

SAVE THE DATE

MANISTIQUE TRIBAL COMMUNITY CENTER
5698W US HIGHWAY 2, MANISTIQUE, MI 49854

Saturday, June 10, 2023
Grand Entry: 1pm & 7pm

*indigenous crafts *dancing *food

NIIWIN NOODIN POW WOW

Check us out on Facebook at Niiwin Noodin Pow Wow

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Walking on...

DIEDRIE JO (DJ) MALLOY

Diedrie (DJ) Jo Malloy of Kincheloe, Mich., 68, a strong Anishinaabe Kwe from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, started her journey to the Spirit World on Jan. 25, 2023.



DJ was born on Sept. 29, 1954, to Joanne and Skip Hanchera. She grew up moving from coast to coast with her parents and three brothers, as her father was in the Navy. They settled in Sault Ste. Marie, the home of her parents and tribal community, which she embraced with all her heart. Her Anishinaabe name is Waabishki Binesi Ikwe (White Thunderbird Woman) named by her tribe's Traditional Healer.

DJ attended Sault High, Lake Superior State University, and Michigan State University and leaves behind a legacy of civic leadership at the local and tribal level. She served in several elected and appointed positions throughout her life, all of which complemented her dedicated service to her communities. She was a gift to this world that will be forever cherished by her family, friends, and community.

She is survived by her husband, Ed Malloy; her son, Sam Malloy (Paige Duran); her grandson, Miles Hinton; siblings, Dale (Pam) Hanchera and Darby Hanchera; her cherished nieces and nephews: John Ryan Hanchera, Kassi Dean, Sierra and Shelby Hanchera; and her close friends, Dee Dee Frasure, Barbara Willis Parker, and Tahneal Willis Parker.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Joanne and Skip Hanchera, and brother, John Hanchera.

A traditional Anishinaabe ceremony was held beginning Jan. 27 at the Niigaanagizhik Building in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., followed by a pipe ceremony. Viewing was held Jan. 28 followed by traditional services.

Chi Ishpiming Babaamise Waabishki Binesi Ikwe.

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation in Pickford, Mich., served the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.galerfuneralhomes.com.

MICHAEL A. DOUD

Michael Anthony Doud, 61, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. passed away unexpectedly on Jan. 28, 2023, at My Michigan Medical Center – Sault.

Mike was born in St. Ignace, Mich. on March 24, 1961, the son of D. Michael and Sandra (Grondin) Doud.

He graduated from LaSalle High School with the class of 1979. Mike worked on the boats, in Louisiana, right out of school. Mike served his country in the U.S. Army, in the Infantry. He started in Colorado '84,



Heidelberg, Germany from '86-'89 with his childhood friends, Jodie Becker, and Kevin Becker of St. Ignace. He received an honorable discharge in '89. He then moved back to Michigan, to be with his children.

He loved being a facilitator for AA and Rainbow Recovery and spending time with his family. He also enjoyed woodworking.

Mike is survived by his companion: Brenda Perry of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; his four children: Jessica (Brian) Hauserman of Cadillac, Mich., James Doud, Dakota (Sheila Longakit) Perry, and Destini Reed all of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; and five grandchildren: Liem, Gavin, Milo, Ella Jean, and Paisley.

He is also survived by his father: Mike (Kathy) Doud of St. Ignace, Mich.; a sister: Margaret Doud of Oscoda, Mich.; and two brothers: Patrick (Sara) Doud of Traverse City, Mich. and William Doud of St. Ignace, Mich.

Mike was preceded in death by his mother: Sandra Kay Doud.

Visitation and a Celebration of Life were held on Feb. 3, at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home with Reverend Bob Aldrich officiating. Condolences may be left online at <http://www.csmulder.com>.

MARY E. EAMES

Mary Ethel Eames, 68, formerly of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. passed away on Jan. 6, 2023, at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, Mich.



Mary was born on June 4, 1954, in Sault Ste. Marie to the late Paul Wilfred and Anne Elizabeth (Boucher) Eames.

She was a graduate of Sault Area High School with the class of 1972. She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Mary enjoyed crocheting, her dogs, cats, birds, and fish. She enjoyed watching television, especially the Hallmark and the religious channels. She enjoyed reading her Bible daily as well as praying with her rosary. Mary treasured spending time with her family.

Mary is survived by her children: Jennifer (Johnny) Rutz, and Gerald (Michele) Lawless Jr., both of Spokane, Wash., and Caryn Royer of Sault Ste. Marie; five grandchildren, Angy, Gerald III, Abby, Isaac and Ashton; and great grandson Asher. Mary is also survived by her siblings, David Eames of Washington State, Linda Cook, Phillip (Wendy) Eames, and Jane Cadreau, all of Kincheloe, Mich., and many nieces and nephews who all loved her dearly.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Paul Eames, and her sister Priscilla Eames.

Per Mary's wishes, a graveside service will be held at Wilwalk Cemetery on Sugar Island, Mich., in the spring.

The arrangements were made by C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Condolences may be

left online at www.csmulder.com.

LAURENCE M. MILLER

Laurence Michael "Mickey" "Larry" Miller, 56, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died on Jan. 6, 2023, in Sault Ste. Marie, after being struck by a motorhome, while riding his bike.

Mickey was born on Nov. 2, 1966, in



Saginaw, Mich. He was placed into foster care with the Millers at 2 days old. Paul and Josephine (Pauly) Miller then adopted Mickey, welcoming him into their home with many new sisters and brothers. They loved and cared for Mickey so much.

Mickey grew up in Davison, Mich., and on Drummond Island, Mich. Mickey loved the outdoors, fishing, hunting, camping, snowmobiling, dirt biking and

ATVing. Mickey had his own way of thinking that caused him to do many crazy things. When he was ice fishing and he would get too hot in the shack, he would strip down and dive in the water. Sometimes coming up he would misjudge the hole and smack his head on the ice. His dad said "they never knew how he would come walking in the house with blood pouring out of a cut on his head or with his hat trying to cover it."

Mickey loved speed and owned a 1969 Monty Carlo, which was his baby. There was one time he and his dad were heading in from fishing all day, and they were flying when Mick was distracted and yelled "Hang On" and they bumped the dock.

A few years later, Larry met Heidi Verrett. They raised two children, Hunter and Siera Miller.

Larry is survived by sons, Nathaniel McCall, Hunter Miller, and Christian Shaw; daughter, Siera Miller; grandsons, Nathaniel McCall Jr., Raymond McCall

and Jasper Shaw; siblings, Mark (Lori) Miller Drummond, Paula (Tim) Hippert of Whitehall, Mont., Denise (John) Aitkens of Burton, Mich.; as well as many nieces and nephews.

Larry is preceded in death by his parents, Paul and Josephine Miller; sister, Kathy Welch-Cote; brothers, Michael Miller and John Miller; twin daughters, Autumn Summer Miller; and son, Scott Raymond Miller; wife, Heidi Miller; and mother-in-law, Linda Verrett.

Visitation was held on Jan. 27, 2023, at the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Cultural Center.

The family wishes memorial contributions go towards the Funeral Expenses, C/O Galer Funeral Homes, 24549, S. M-129, Pickford, MI 49774.

Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation in Sault Ste Marie is serving the family. Condolences may be sent to www.galerfuneralhomes.com.

See "Walking on," page 18

JKL Bahweting Anishnabe Public School Academy

OPEN POSITIONS

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Special Education Teacher (Multiple) - Valid Michigan Special Education Teaching Certificate. Patience, tolerance, and ability to work under stressful conditions.

Paraprofessional - General Education (Multiple) - Minimum 60 College/University credits or passing of Work Keys/ETS.

Special Education Paraprofessional (Multiple) - Minimum 60 College/University credits or passing of Work Keys/ETS. Must have a high degree of patience and tolerance and flexibility.

School Social Worker (1) - Master's degree from a graduate school social work program approved by the Michigan Department of education. The degree program shall consist of a two year graduate course, including appropriate methods courses and a minimum of 500 clock hours supervised social work practicum. Must have current or be eligible for state approval as a school social worker. At least one year experience providing social work services to elementary/middle school aged children and families.

Anishinaabemowin Language and Culture Teacher (1) - Completion of, or enrollment in, Anishinaabe language program.

Ojibwe Culture and Language Teacher (1) - Bachelor's Degree, Valid Michigan Teaching Certificate or Permit, and Experience in the instruction of tribal history.

Playground Assistant (1) - Must demonstrate a strong desire to help children. Must hold and maintain current CPI certification in verbal de-escalation and physical restraint (training provided by the school district).

Applications can be found at www.jklschool.org by clicking on the employment opportunities link on the home page. JKL application package must include electronic versions of the following: application, letter of interest, current resume, copy of Michigan Certification, Transcripts, and MTTC results if applicable. Only electronically filed applications that are complete with all required documentation attached will be considered. Positions are open until filled. Employment at JKL is considered "at-will." JKL is an equal opportunity employer.



Walking on continued from page 17

From "Walking on," page 17
MAEBELLE C. BROOKE

Maebelle Claire Brooke, 89, of Clarksville, Mich., passed away Jan. 5, 2023. Maebelle was born to Thomas and Ethel Mae (McGowan) Stafford on Feb. 11, 1933, on Sugar Island. Maebelle spent her younger days growing up on Sugar Island and Sault Ste. Marie; then, in the early '40s, her parents made the move to Hart, Mich. She traveled to the Lower Peninsula in the back of her uncle's truck with her brothers on a ferry boat, being that the bridge hadn't been built. Maebelle was known as a very special person, putting her all into everything she did. Her cinnamon rolls were known as the best around as well as her cookies, pies and other great sweets. She enjoyed canning many vegetables and fruits; the family especially loved her dill pickles. After retirement, she enjoyed sewing and working in her flower gardens.

Maebelle was active with the Mary and Martha group at her church, as well as the local Lion's Club. She also hosted the 5-Day Clubs where she supplied cookies and Kool-Aid to the children.

She will be dearly missed by her children Cathy (Javier) Martinez, July (Mark) Rosenberger, Susan Smith and David (Sylvia) Brooks; grandchildren Matthew, Luke, Jason, Dana, Charlie,



Christina, Brooke, Jamie, Joshua, and Jaylyn; 27 great grandchildren; siblings, Samuel Stafford, Raymond Stafford, Evelyn Blondeau, and Irene Thiele; along with many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Arlen; grandson, Jonathan Rosenberger; and siblings, Charles Stafford, Pauline Moll, Thomas Stafford, Clarence Stafford and Arlene Shepard.

Visitation and services were held Jan. 9 at Calvary Brethren in Alto, Mich. She was laid to rest in Clarksville Cemetery next to Arlen immediately following the service.

Donations to Clarksville Library or Campbell Twp. Recreation Program in her name would be appreciated.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at koopsfc.com for the Brooks family.

RICHARD W. NIKUEN

Richard "Rick" W. Nikunen, 81, of Wetmore, Mich., died early Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023, at D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette, Mich. He was born on July 2, 1941, in Nahma, Mich.

to the late William and Elizabeth (Saccator) Nikunen. Rick served in the U.S. Army from 1964 until 1966 and was honorably



discharged as an SP4 (T). Rick drove a semitruck for a number of years, and on the weekends, he would bring the truck home and pay the neighborhood kids to wash it. He then worked a school bus driver and custodian at the Hannahville School and in Munising. He later worked at the Christmas Kewadin Casino in maintenance, drove bus, and chauffeured community members to appointments. He was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribe. In his younger years, Rick enjoyed boxing. Rick married Charlotte (Paulson) Johns on May 17, 1993. Rick and Char shared their love of music, he would play the guitar and she would sing. Rick loved country music, the twangier the better. He would watch recordings from the Grand Ole Opry and was like a kid in a candy store the time he visited the country music museums in Nashville. Rick enjoyed playing his guitar with friends, shooting pool, fishing, watching boxing, and following grandkids sporting events. Rick was a tinkerer and never threw anything away because he figured he could fix it or use it to fix something else. He looked forward to days when the kids and grandchildren would visit he and Char, the more the merrier.

Rick is survived by his stepchildren, Edward (Cathy) Johns Jr., Dennis (Jennifer) Johns, Michael Johns, Karen (Arlene) Russell-Johns, and Robert "B.J." (Blaine) Johns; numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren; sister, Linda Seymour; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death

by his wife, Char Nikunen; parents, William and Elizabeth; and siblings Darlene, Vern, Vera, Elizabeth, Phyllis, June, and Joseph.

A private family service will take place at a later date. Rick will be buried with Char at the Garfield Township Cemetery in Naubinway. His obituary and online guestbook may be viewed and signed at bowermanfuneral-home.net.

BERNICE M. SANTIGO

Bernice Marie Santigo, 62, formerly of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Jan. 27, 2023, at her home in Traverse City, Mich.

Bernice was born on May 28, 1960, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to the late Howard and Josephine (Peltier) Santigo. She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She enjoyed gardening and taking care of her plants. She also enjoyed feeding the birds, taking bike rides, and collecting rocks. She loved to spend time by the water and with her grandchildren.

Bernice is survived by her three children, Michael Santigo, Keith Santigo, and Amanda Guertin, all of Traverse City; and her six grandchildren, Karter, Aiyana, Sophia, Marleigh, Haven, and Cooper. Bernice is also survived by her spouse, Chris Molzer of



Traverse City; and her siblings, Elizabeth Young, Walter Santigo, Sandra Foldi, Valentine "Mark" Santigo, Laurie (Wayne) Kozeyah, and Margaret Santigo all of Sault Ste. Marie.

Bernice was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Rose Peltier.

Visitation was held at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building on Jan. 31 until the final ceremony on Feb. 1.

Arrangements were made by C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

CHARLES R. SCHWARTZ JR.

Charles R. Schwartz Jr. was born June 27, 1955, and died January 27, 2023.

"Chuck" was the name he was well known for. He was born in Escanaba, Mich., to Charles and Nancy Schwartz.

Chuck graduated from Vicksburg High School. He moved to Arizona, lived and worked in Arizona for 40 years as a superintendent for various road construction companies. He is survived by his wife Arlinda, his daughter Shannyn, grandchildren Dylan and Jocelynn, his sister Lynn, and brothers, David and Patrick Schwartz. He was loved and cherished very much by many extended family and friends and will be missed tremendously.



Chicago man sentenced to 30 months in prison for conspiracy to commit wire fraud

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Michigan Mark Totten announced Jan. 30 that Britan Douglas Groom, 66, of Chicago, Ill., has been sentenced to 30 months in prison for his role in a conspiracy to commit wire fraud causing losses to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of over \$1.1 million. U.S. District Judge Robert J. Jonker also ordered Groom to spend 3 years on supervised release, to pay restitution of \$1.1 million, and to forfeit \$302,052, representing proceeds he personally received from his fraud.

"This fraudulent scheme hurt every member of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians," U.S. Attorney Mark Totten said. "Instead of using the funds for the benefit of all tribal members, Groom and his co-defendant lied to the tribe and used the money for their personal benefit. My office is committed to holding fraudsters fully accountable for their crimes."

Groom pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit wire fraud. From December 2015 to December 2016, Groom's codefendant and friend, Chester Randall Dunican, served as the CEO of GTB LLC, a tribal entity focused

on the development of economic opportunities for the benefit of all members of the tribe. Dunican represented to the tribe that he obtained exclusive distributorship rights with a proprietary water filtration company, R.O. Distributors, and that the tribe would benefit by investing in R.O. Distributors and leasing water coolers that utilized this proprietary technology to various businesses in Michigan and Florida. In reality, R.O. Distributors was a shell company created and controlled by Dunican and Groom.

GTB invested nearly a million dollars in R.O. Distributors. Dunican directed other individuals to send most of the tribe's investment to another shell company, Evergreen Distributors LLC, before that entity transferred over \$700,000 of the proceeds to the

personal bank accounts of Groom and Dunican. Dunican then told the tribe that he expected the business to grow and needed additional funding to continue acquiring inventory. When the tribe resisted, Dunican told the tribe that a company named High Sierra Distributors LLC acquired R.O. Distributors and that High Sierra was a multi-billion-dollar business that could expand the water filtration business nationwide. Dunican asked Groom to recruit someone to pretend to be a corporate representative of High Sierra at a meeting with the tribe to pitch the additional \$2 million in funding. Groom recruited a friend from Illinois who did attend the meeting pretending to be a corporate official of High Sierra. Shortly after the meeting, and before

any additional funds were distributed, the tribe discovered that this individual was actually a schoolteacher from Illinois, uncovered the fraud scheme, and fired Dunican.

The case was investigated by

the FBI Detroit Division, Lansing, and Traverse City offices, assisted by GTB Tribal Police Department and the IRS Criminal Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Ronald M. Stella prosecuted the case.

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Road to Wellness Program receives funding

By BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Behavioral Health's Road to Wellness Program (RTWP) grant has been re-funded through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services for another two years.

The program is designed to offer support to adult tribal members struggling with co-occurring

disorders or mental illness.

You must be an active Behavioral Health client who is at least 18 years old to access the program.

The Road to Wellness Program can assist with transportation for healthcare appointments, appointment scheduling and applying for health insurance, including

Medicaid.

Behavioral Health Grant Coordinator Rhonda Black just celebrated her 2-year anniversary with Behavioral Health. Shelli Gould works with clients on the western end of the tribe's service area and has been providing services for over four years. RTW program drivers Jim Little and

Jacob Sambrano also work for the RTWP.

"We want to help make access to mental and health services accessible to our Behavioral Health clients by eliminating transportation as an issue," Black said. "I will also help them coordinate appointments so conflicting appointments don't happen as

often."

If you are a new client and need a ride to your first appointment at Behavioral Health, they would be happy to transport you.

For information or to schedule an appointment, call Sault Tribe Behavioral Health at (906) 635-6075, for Manistique call Shelli Gould at (906) 450-5308.

February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

FROM THE ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER

February is typically associated with love and relationships. We often find our "first love" or experience "puppy love" during adolescence. It is also during these formative years that teenagers begin to demonstrate behaviors that they have learned from the adults in their lives as they seek their own romantic relationships. It is imperative for adults to help guide our youth and to set positive examples for them as they travel down the road to adulthood. Being a positive role model and educating about unhealthy relationship behaviors for our youth can greatly reduce some of the factors that lead to Teen Dating Violence.

as "the physical, sexual, or psychological/emotional abuse within a dating relationship among adolescents." Dating or domestic violence stems from the desire to gain power and control over the intimate partner.

Teens in unhealthy relationships may not immediately recognize the signs or behaviors that are indicative of dating violence. Oftentimes, teens confuse these unhealthy behaviors with feelings of love and adoration. A young girl may feel that her boyfriend loves her so much because he wants her with him at all times or he prevents her from hanging out with her friends; when, in fact, this is controlling and jealous behavior. That is why it is necessary for parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, guardians, and

friends to have the often-uncomfortable conversations with teens when a red flag is raised. Having these real and in-depth conversations with teens not only establishes the lines of communication but lets them know they can come to you for advice, to vent, or to ask for help. Teens need to acquire the skills for setting relationship boundaries, understanding consent in regard to sex and intimacy, managing feelings appropriately, healthy communication, and having appropriate expectations of others.

Maintaining the lines of communication by talking often will not only help with guidance but will let teens know they can come to you before something happens and possibly prevent future abuse. It is not always easy for teens to express their feelings to adults but knowing they have someone willing to listen is vital.

According to the Indian Health Services website ihs.gov, it is reported that one in three adolescents in the United States is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner. For Native American teens, the rate is even higher. In one study by the Center for Disease Control, the rate of teen dating violence among high school students in Alaska's Native communities is 13.3%, nearly 4% higher than the

national average of 9.8%. Further studies suggest that Native Americans are 2.5 times more likely to experience sexual assault crimes compared to all other races, and one in three Indian women reports having been raped during her lifetime (from The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges). The numbers for Teen Dating Violence continue to climb each year. Violence, including self-inflicted injuries, homicide, and suicide, account for 75% of Native youth deaths according to the U.S. Attorney General's 2014 study.

So, what does teen dating violence look like? Some signs include but are not limited to:

Physical Abuse: Hitting, punching, shoving, restraining, biting, scratching, hair pulling, pinching, or anything that causes harm to another person.

Sexual Abuse: Pressuring or forcing a partner to engage in unwanted sexual activity, using social media or text messages to pressure partners to share photos, raping or coercing partner to perform sexual acts, preventing the use of birth control or other forms of contraception.

Verbal Abuse: Name calling, yelling, insulting, embarrassing, criticizing, and so forth.

Psychological Abuse: Using threats and intimidation, such as

threatening to end the relationship, threats to cause harm to themselves or others, threats to commit suicide, or to cause harm to pets or property. Using controlling tactics such as not allowing partner to see friends or family or preventing them from going places, controlling what clothes are worn; extreme jealousy, spreading rumors, minimizing behaviors, or blaming partner for their abusive actions.

Using Technology: Excessive texting, messaging, or calling, cyber bullying, checking partner's phone without permission, using location services to track partner, stalking, creating fake profiles to spy on partner, posting on partners social media, messaging others about partner, and so forth.

If you find yourself in an abusive relationship or feel you are being treated inappropriately, please tell someone or consider ending the relationship.

If your partner is making you feel uncomfortable or forcing or coercing you to do things you do not agree with, know that you are not alone. There is help. The Advocacy Resource Center resources to assist with teen dating violence and provide care and counseling to those in need. Call (906) 632-1808 to speak to an advocate. Visit ARC's website at www.arcsault-tribe.com.

Letter from TAP coordinator

Aanii, Boozhoo indinawemaa-ganidog Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa citizens. It is with great pleasure that I write to you to share about the wonderful team the tribe has created to promote wellness for the people.

Our tribe has been leading the way in Indian health care systems. One example is our tribe-housed Traditional Medicine for many years. These Traditional healers that have come from other tribes and brought Ojibwe Teachings that help members to understand themselves as Anishinaabe people. Traditional Medicine includes holistic teachings all-encompassing in treating the mind, body, and spirit.

Our Health Division and our tribe have an amazing support system which is SUDS counseling mental health, MAT program (launched in 2018), which is medication assisted recovery. We also have Telepsychiatry set up by Behavioral Health along with group therapy and continued care. This aftercare along with Recovery Housing units with access and support to attend AA, NA, Wellbriety, sweat lodges and church are essential components of ongoing recovery, and "recovery is a process not an event" for any diagnosed addict.

We are a multidisciplinary group using the team approach, because it is most successful. This approach we have working in the health system. Our Health Division can boast and be acknowledged for having a 76% tribal member employee status, which helps members to take care of their families and support the community. Our court system, our judges, and probation officers house Drug Court and this has been a gateway to engaged recovery for many former offenders. They use the harm reduction approach and that has helped many to learn to be

responsible productive members of society.

I've worked for various tribes for prevention, intensive inpatient, outpatient and after care. I have worked with some very traditional tribes. When I say traditional, I'm referring to their core dedication to being active culturally through their programming and systems. Tribes that have drum societies, and Midewiwin. I'm passionate about our ways of knowing and excited to contribute to our community with that same core cultural dedication. I've worked for the state of Minnesota in the Four Winds Treatment center. This facility is a state-run treatment program that is culturally specific for Native Americans. I've provided workshops at the Hazelden Graduate School of Addiction studies, where I also earned my Master's Degree in Addictions Counseling in 2007. I presented to educate about culturally specific treatment practices and how our culture can be tied into Adlerian, Existential, Rogerian and Gestalt therapies, along with cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT).

These experiences and my educational background have helped me to build depth of best practices in addictions recovery for Native Americans. Tribal members who seek recovery choose to learn about themselves as Anishinaabe people and it provides them the grounding for long-term holistic wellness.

So, I'm proud to say and it's with great pleasure that I am a part of a team that promotes wellness in its community. Our Health Division and its workers really do care about the members and their needs.

Respectfully,
Patrick A McCoy,
Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians enrolled member

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.

Healthy teeth contribute greatly to developing speech

BY JESSICA A. RICKERT, DDS, ANISHINAABE DENTAL OUTREACH

When you hold your baby in your arms for the first time, and those big eyes lock into yours, you fall hopelessly in love with life.

Did you know that baby's first tooth bud starts to form four months in utero? During pregnancy, what mom eats, and drinks mightily impacts the formation of baby's teeth and jaws.

Why are "baby" teeth important? Your baby's nutritional needs increase as your child grows and this nutrition will come from the ability to eat many more foods as the teeth erupt. The presence of healthy teeth contributes greatly to developing speech. A baby's smile is so precious, cuter with that first tooth. Your child

can develop the huge variety of human expressions with a healthy mouth and teeth. Each tooth is indeed precious and needs to be cherished.

Even babies with the most vigilant parents will experience injuries as they begin crawling, walking, climbing, jumping, swinging, rolling — are we talking about a human or a monkey, here? Injuries to the little monkey's teeth and mouth are common. I recommend a fluffy bath towel be laid over the tub's edge during bath time, along with a soft bathmat on the floor. Don't let children sit on tables or counters. Always secure children in a car seat. Try to keep children away from stairs.

A visit to a dentist is advised before the age of 1.

Fluoride is recommended

daily. Most metropolitan areas have fluoride added to the drinking water; call your county health department to find out. The pediatrician or dentist can recommend fluoride supplements.

Avoid sugary drinks and foods. Table sugar (sucrose on food labels) is the favorite food for the evil *Streptococcus mutans*, the bacteria responsible for decay. Sticky foods adhere to the crevices of the teeth, increasing decay. Wholesome foods, including fruits and vegetables and meats and crackers and dairy products, contribute to healthy teeth. Children only need water and milk to drink.

As soon as the first tooth appears, begin the healthy habit of daily brushing. Of course, your little monkeys — I mean

children — will mimic everything you do, so be sure to let them see you brushing and flossing. Mom or dad should brush baby's teeth in little circles with a small, soft toothbrush. If toothpaste is distasteful, use water. There are several toothpastes formulated for babies, and they have a bland taste and are not as gritty. Use no more than the size of a pea.

Here's are brushing songs: "This is the way we brush our teeth, brush our teeth, this is the way we brush our teeth so early in the morning."

And, "This is the way we brush our teeth, brush our teeth, brush our teeth, just before bedtime."

Or, "The bristles on the brush go 'round and 'round, 'round and 'round, 'round and 'round, the

bristles of the brush go 'round and 'round, all through your mouth."

Even though you are busy, take time to have some silly fun with you children while establishing excellent dental habits.

Here are free activity pages for children:

www.mouthhealthy.org/resources/activity-sheets/back-to-school

www.mouthhealthy.org/resources/activity-sheets/puzzles

www.mouthhealthy.org/resources/activity-sheets/color-and-count

www.mouthhealthy.org/resources/activity-sheets/sugar-wars

www.mouthhealthy.org/resources/activity-sheets/national-nutrition-month

Oral health equity and the American Dental Association

BY JESSICA A. RICKERT

The American Dental Association defines "health equity" as optimal oral health for all people. We recognize that oral health is an essential part of overall health, and that every individual should enjoy a basic level of oral health that allows them to live, work and play free from pain and dysfunction.

To achieve health equity, we need to advocate for consistent and equitable access to oral care services, collaborate with other organizations to help address the social drivers of health, and work to increase diversity in healthcare providers and cultural understanding across dental teams.

Untreated dental disease has a profound impact on quality of life and productivity. Children suffering with dental disease may be afflicted with pain, poor nutrition, delayed speech development, and miss school. American Indian/Alaskan Native children have the highest rate of early childhood tooth decay with 70% of children

experiencing decay by age 5, and four times the rate of untreated decay compared to the U.S. general population, according to IHS.

Nearly 18% of all U.S. adults, and 29% of lower-income adults reported that the appearance of their mouth affected their ability to interview for a job. Untreated dental decay results in a \$45 billion per year loss in productivity, according to the CDC.

The ADA's Council on Government Affairs works to increase access to care by advocating for comprehensive Adult Dental Medicaid benefits on the federal level, as well as improving access to dental care for pregnant women, young children, and disabled people at the state level.

The ADA Institute for Diversity in Leadership is designed to enhance the leadership skills of dentists who belong to racial, ethnic or gender backgrounds who have been traditionally underrepresented in leadership roles.

Our Council on Advocacy for

Access and Prevention (CAAP) supports a number of programs that promote Health Equity, including the Community Dental Health Coordinators (CDHC) program that trains dental personnel to aid patients access dental care by making appointments, coordinating childcare and transportation to make sure they can keep dental appointments. IHS will be training more tribal citizens who are trusted members of their communities. CDHCs already work within IHS' numerous clinics throughout the U.S. To find out how to develop a CDHC for your organization, contact groverj@ada.org.

The ADA also collaborates with the Society of American Indian Dentists (SAID), the Hispanic Dental Association and the National Dental Association through the Diverse Dental Society to support education and advocacy within those leadership communities to target organizational activities in underserved arenas.

CAAP works with the National Fluoridation Advisory Council and local advocates to promote Community Water Fluoridation throughout the U.S. Safe drinkable water which is optimally fluoridated continues to be the most equitable and cost-effective dental disease prevention strategy, particularly for those children at highest risk.

The National Advisory Council on Health Literacy in Dentistry helps improve oral health outcomes through training of dental students and dental personnel on patient communication skills with webinars, videos and the development of online health literacy tools that can be used by practicing dentists, hygienists, and dental assistants. It is essential that patients understand the information their dental teams are sharing with them.

Our newly developed Health Equity Action Team seeks to lessen Early Childhood Dental Disease through the development of webinars and videos to help

increase the number of children visiting a dentist and establishing a dental home by the age of 1. We are also working with the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology to update our joint Oral Health-Pregnancy Consensus Statement first developed in 2012. Pregnancy complications and maternal deaths have been climbing in the U.S. in recent years, and by encouraging mothers to seek oral care (and dental providers to see them) during pregnancy, we hope to improve health outcomes.

You can find more resources on Health Equity at ADA.org, but please feel free to contact me for more information about our programs and any questions at: lensee@ada.org.

Written by Jessica A. Rickert, DDS, Anishinaabe Dental Outreach, in collaboration and cooperation with Elizabeth Carmen Lense, DDS, MSHA, Manager, Health Equity and Prevention, CAAP, ADA

Stay healthy and independent with the Senior Nutrition Program

BY HILLARY HATCH, SOCIAL SECURITY PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

Are you eligible for Social Security retirement benefits or already receiving them? Did you know that you can also receive healthy meals and other nutrition services through the National Senior Nutrition Program?

Local meal programs in communities across the country are waiting to serve you.

As we age, we have different

needs, different ways we take care of our health, and different nutrients we need to get from our food. But we don't always have enough healthy food or the desire to prepare or eat a meal. Whether you need more food, healthier food, someone to share a meal with, or just want to learn about good eating habits, a meal program can help.

Every day, senior nutrition programs serve almost one million meals to people age 60 and older. With home-delivered and

group meal options, you can get the food you need in a way that works best for you. It can help you avoid missed meals — and save you time and money with less shopping and cooking.

Local programs serve up more than food — they offer opportunities to connect and socialize. We know this improves both your mental and physical health. The programs can also teach you how to create a healthy eating plan. You can learn about healthy food recommendations based on

your age, unique needs, and preferences.

A senior nutrition program can also connect you with other resources like transportation or homemaker services. This helps you stay connected and engaged in your community.

It's no surprise that 9 out of 10 participants say they would recommend a senior nutrition program to a friend. We know these services help create healthy, strong communities where every-

one can thrive at any age.

Find a senior nutrition program in your area and help us spread the word about this program by sharing it with your loved ones, neighbors, and community. Visit eldercare.acl.gov/Public/Index.aspx for more information.

The Senior Nutrition Program is administered by the Administration for Community Living, part of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

EUP Foster Family Enrichment Fund benefits local foster families

BY ASHLEY MORROW

In January, foster families had the opportunity to go bowling at Dondee Lanes in Sault Ste. Marie, thanks to the EUP Foster Family Enrichment Fund.

The EUP Foster Family Enrichment Fund was established at the end of 2022 to provide enrichment activities for children in foster care in Chippewa, Mackinac, and Luce counties. A \$5,000 donation from Kokosing Alberici Traylor LLC, kickstarted the fund.

An advisory committee made up of licensing workers from DHHS, Bay Mills, and Anishnaabek Community and Family Services, as well as the regional resource team

member from Great Lakes Recovery Center, all work together to plan enrichment opportunities for local foster families.

Families will be given the opportunity to go tubing in February at the Sault Seal Recreation Area and attend a pool party at the Rudyard Area Pool in March. All tribal foster homes are welcome to participate at these events.

If you are interested in making a difference in a child's life and becoming a foster parent or an adoptive parent, please contact Anishnaabek Community and Family Services at (906) 632-5250, (800) 726-0093 or acfs-fosterhomes@saulttribe.net.



This little guy at Dondee Lanes aims for the pins.

Photo by Amiee Rice

Online Preserving MI Harvest classes are free and provide food preservation education

BY LAURIE MESSING, MSU EXTENSION

Winter is a great time to begin thinking about spring gardening and summer food preservation. Canning, freezing and drying are the only approved methods for preserving food at home. The method you choose will depend on what you and your family like to eat, what type of produce you have available as well as whether safe guidelines are available for the produce and preservation equipment you have.

Food preservation is a science, and home food preservers must be sure to properly preserve food. If not, dangerous bacteria can be present in the food and can cause foodborne illness when the food is consumed.

Learn some of the basics of home food preservation by joining our virtual Preserving MI Harvest Sessions as part of the 2023 MI Ag Ideas to Grow With conference. Sessions include:

Preserving MI Harvest — Canning Basics: Discover how to safely preserve high and low acid foods at home using your water bath, atmospheric steam or pressure canners and research-based recipes to ensure a safe, delicious product. Offered Feb. 28 at 6 p.m.

Preserving MI Harvest — Canning Pickles and Tomatoes: Pickle and tomatoes are two very popular products to preserve at home. Join us to learn best practices for preserving these tasty foods. Offered March 3 at noon.

Preserving MI Harvest —

Making Jam & Jelly: Enjoy the taste of summer all year round by making jams and jellies using frozen fruit, 100% juice or fresh fruit. Offered March 9 at noon.

Get ready for home food preservation season now!

The 2023 MI Ag Ideas to Grow With conference will be held virtually, from Feb. 27 through March 10, 2023. This two-week program encompasses many aspects of the agricultural industry and offers a full array of educational sessions for farmers and homeowners interested in food production and other agricultural endeavors.

Attendees must register to receive the necessary Zoom links. Registrants can attend as many sessions as they would like and



Photo: Colorado State University Extension

Learn some of the basics of home food preservation by joining our virtual Preserving MI Harvest Sessions as part of the 2023 MI Ag Ideas to Grow With conference.

are also able to jump around between tracks. RUP and CCA credits will be offered for several

of the sessions. More information can be found at canr.msu.edu/miagideas.

Sober activities critical part of recovery process

Sober activities are a critical part of the recovery process. There are many ways that sober activities can benefit the recovering person. Making your recovery fun and enjoyable can make a huge impact on your success. Having fun while in recovery can majorly reduce the risk of relapse and highly increase your success rate.

Support is another large piece of the recovery process. Having a

good support system is very crucial. Sober activities can help you rebuild your past relationships and improve your social skills.

They can help you find meaning in yourself and your relationships with others. Connecting with others can help you to find and give support, inspiration, and even accountability. Having good relationships and a good support system can give you a much better outlook on recovery and the

journey itself.

Sober activities can also help you to realize that you don't have to have foreign substances in your body to have fun. Your mental health, your self-control, and your life in general can improve greatly. These activities will help you to create new hobbies and new traditions to replace the old toxic habits of your past.

Our community is host to many sober activities through-

out the year. This year there is a new sober activity taking place. Sault Tribe Behavioral Health, along with Bay Mills Behavioral Health, are co-sponsoring our first Recovery Gala. This Gala will be held on March 10, 2023. The gala will be 7-11 p.m. at the Chi Mukwa /Big Bear Arena. We would absolutely love for you to join us for this event.

If you are struggling with substance use or your mental health,

the Sault Tribe Behavioral Health Program is always available for assistance. Please call (906) 635-6075. A screening can be done for services, or urgent care services are available 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Behavioral Health offers therapy services, prevention services, and sober living homes for those in need.

If you need immediate help, dial 988 for the Suicide and Crisis Hotline.

Sault Tribe member Tim Collins appointed to National Academy of Sciences forum

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians member Tim (Aasamajiw Zhooniya Waagoosh) Collins has been appointed to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM) Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Disasters and Emergencies.

The Washington, D.C.-based forum, which comprises leaders at federal, state, local, tribal and territorial levels, works to improve the nation's medical and public health preparedness for disasters and emergencies, including emerging threats.

"It's important that tribal health has a clear voice in how

the United States prepares for future epidemics and other health emergencies, especially considering events of past three years," said Collins. "We learned so much about gaps in data, communication and health-care during the COVID-19 pandemic. It's great to be able to help put those lessons to use."

Collins serves as Senior Epidemiologist at the Alaska Native Epidemiology Center in Anchorage, Alaska, where his work focuses on behavioral health surveillance and developing technologies to improve patient communication.



Tim Collins

His appointment to the NASEM Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Disasters and Emergencies is from January 2023 through December 2025.

Meat consumption and your risk of diabetes

LAURA ANDERSON, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Cooking meat properly, along with substituting other proteins, can help to reduce your risk of type 2 diabetes.

For many, meat is considered a staple in the diet and may be the main dish with other foods added as sides. This is known typically as a "Western-based" diet.

Meat provides our bodies with a good source of protein and can be prepared in a multitude of ways including baking, frying, grilling and broiling. With creativity, meat can take on many different flavors and textures from spicy and tangy to blackened and charred. But does meat consumption increase our risk for diabetes?

A study conducted in 2014 and published through the National Institute of Health

(NIH), followed multiple cohorts of men and women for over two decades collecting data related to their consumption of meat, which included red meat, processed meat and chicken.

There are several ways that meat consumption may contribute to diabetes. According to researchers, the nitrates and preservatives in processed meats can damage cells in the pancreas which are involved in insulin production. Red meat contains a high amount of "heme" iron, which can contribute to oxidative stress and inflammation. This study concluded that the consumption of meat is consistently associated with an increased risk of diabetes.

A recent study conducted in 2018, through the Harvard School of Public Health, found that the way red meats are cooked is consistent with

the risk of diabetes in a person. Based on data from over 289,000 adults followed for 12 to 16 years, researchers found that there was 1.5 times more opportunity for type 2 diabetes when red meats, chicken and processed meats were eaten after being cooked at high temperatures. This high temperature cooking method is representative of charring the food through grilling and open-fire cooking.

This was compared to people that ate meat cooked until lightly browned. The exact reason for the increase is unclear but researchers cite that the chemicals produced from charring could cause an inflammatory effect in the body affecting insulin production and usage. The fact that there was an increased risk of weight gain and obesity from eating foods

cooked at high temperatures also may contribute to increase the diabetes risk.

Red meat is generally classified as meat with higher myoglobin levels and is mostly found in four-legged mammals like cattle, pig, lamb, horse and goat. Red meat generally contains higher levels of saturated fatty acids and cholesterol which contribute to cardiovascular disease.

Should you cut meat from your diet if you are at risk or have type 2 diabetes? According to the American Diabetes Association, decreasing the amount of red meat and processed meat in your diet because of the higher saturated fat and salt amounts is recommended.

Try to choose the leanest variety of these meats if you decide to consume them.

Include poultry, fish and seafood and don't forget about non-protein choices like dried beans.

Remember, to read food labels for carbohydrate content.

Incorporating physical activity on a regular basis is also a great choice to reduce the risk of and manage type 2 diabetes.

For more information on managing diabetes, visit MSU Extension's Diabetes website.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension.

For more information, visit <https://extension.msu.edu>.

To have a digest of information delivered straight to your email inbox, visit <https://extension.msu.edu/newsletters>.

To contact an expert in your area, visit <https://extension.msu.edu/experts>, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

Forging government-to-government relationships



AUSTIN LOWES
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

laws passed that will protect and strengthen Indian Country.

Regarding relationships with other tribes, I recently travelled to the Prairie Island Indian Community near Minneapolis to pick up an entire bison that was gifted to our tribe. This amounted to 550 pounds, which has a value of over \$5,000. I began building a relationship with the Prairie Island Indian Community while attending an event for the Midwest Alliance for Sovereign Tribes (MAST), which they graciously hosted. Prairie Island has a food sovereignty program with a thriving bison herd. To show our tribe's appreciation, I gave their tribe's vice president, Shelley Buck, a Pendleton blanket. I will also be traveling to the Oneida Nation near Green Bay in April to pick up two bison that our Elder Program purchased to strengthen our meal program. I recently shared a bison meal with our elders, and I was pleased to see them enjoy it so much.

Regarding food sovereignty, our tribe recently appointed all members to its Food Sovereignty Committee. This is an advisory committee that will make recommendations to the board of directors on how to implement a tribal farm to provide culturally appropriate foods to our mem-

bers, especially our elders. Their recommendations will include which types of livestock to raise (bison, elk, or cattle), which types of produce to grow, potential property purchases, etc. This will be an important program for our tribe because it's difficult to claim sovereignty if we can't feed ourselves. To the members of this committee, miigwech for your service!

I also continue to support accommodations that help our team members. I'd therefore like to highlight the tribe's remote work policy, which passed at a recent board meeting. This will allow certain positions to work from home when illness, school closures, health issues, or other situations warrant it. I also support implementing new pay grids, which address our low-wages, lack of benefits for longevity, and pay compression within our tribe.

The most pressing grid is our health grid. Healthcare is a treaty right, and we are currently unable to sufficiently provide these services due to staffing issues at our health center. We currently have 60 vacant positions there. This causes long waiting lists for appointments and other major issues. I urge our board members to pass the new health grid so we can start providing our members



Tribal Chairman Austin Lowes recently travelled to the Prairie Island Indian Community near Minneapolis to pick up an entire bison gifted to Sault Tribe. A total of 550 pounds was distributed to the Elder meals programs in the seven-county service area.

with the services they not only deserve, but are also entitled to due to our treaty rights.

Lastly, I would like to proudly announce that our tribe hired Aaron Schlehber as our general counsel, which is the tribe's top

attorney who is in charge of our Legal Department. If you see Aaron, please welcome him to the team.

Miigwech!
Austin Lowes
Tribal Chairman

Unit IV tribal elders celebrate Christmas together

Photos submitted by Darcy Morrow



Escanaba elders celebrated Christmas at the Island Resort.



Elder Committee member Nina Sutter did the shopping and handmade gifts for their gift giveaway table this year.



Pictured below, left and right, Manistique elders celebrated Christmas together at the Manistique Tribal Center.



Director Lee provides overview on tribal issues



**KIMBERLY LEE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

Aanii, I hope this unit report finds you safe, warm, and healthy. The past month has been one of solemn discussions and decisions. We continue to work diligently on solutions believed to be in the best interest of all. Our

tribe sent out several referendums to the membership, which require at least 100 signatures for your vote. I encourage you always to do your research and use your voice to form an educated, unbiased opinion for the best interest of all members of our tribe.

Unit I is currently undergoing a Special Election. With the election count day being March 20, this seat expires on July 9, 2024. If you are reading this and Unit I is your voting unit, make sure to cast your ballot. I say this because all 12 of your elected board members make deciding factors for our tribe.

We had a list of incredibly knowledgeable and talented applicants for the Food Sovereignty Committee. The decisions were made, and 12 members were chosen for the committee. It wasn't easy to choose just 12, but there will be ample opportunity in the future for members who wish to help make this dream a reality.

Chi miigwech to all our members who applied. Your nurturing nature will help bring this initiative to life.

We have a couple of incredibly positive things in the making that hopefully will start bringing our members together for opportunity of services and employment soon. The Remote Work Policy and Telehealth have been passed, and the Health team and Human Resource team are working hard to get them running strongly. Director LaPlaunt has worked diligently on providing forward thinking ideas that he is knowledgeable of. The possibilities that modern technology could lead us to are incredible, with two-thirds of the membership outside of the service area. We aren't there yet but one step closer. Patience will be a must as these programs work through the problems.

The board passed a resolution for the COVID-19 Fishing Participant Assistant Relief program.

It is now in the process of being worked on for distribution. The funds were allocated for two categories — subsistence and commercial. They will require different proofs to be deemed qualified. I understand that all fishermen were not satisfied with the avenue this went. Legal gave us their opinion, and we must ensure we adhere to the government guidelines. This was the option legal advised, and we want to see these funds get placed in the hands of our fishers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. I respect your opinions and thoughts on this matter.

I recently joined the MAT Committee (medication-assisted treatment), a movement to help our loved ones struggling with addiction. MAT is a program that we hope will soon be considered for tribal health. Treating those struggling with addiction could be opioids, alcohol. There is much controversy surrounding med-

ications helping with recovery. I believe as a tribe, we need to offer traditional healing methods first, as well as use other available resources when necessary. One size doesn't fit all scenarios or individuals; we must fight this condition destroying our loved ones.

First and foremost, should always be:

- Traditional medicine
- Counseling and behavioral therapy

With the guidance of the professionals:

- Medication-assisted treatment

I am anxious to meet with this committee and continue the initiative to help our loved ones on their path to recovery.

Look out for one another and stay safe.

Miigwech,
Kimberly Lee, Unit 2 Board of Directors, Klee@saulttribe.net (906) 379-8965

Sorenson discusses resolutions and referenda



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

At the Jan. 17 board meeting, the board approved the Remote Work Policy. Now, current team members may be able to work from home, depending on positions and needs of the company. This hopefully also gives us a chance to recruit new talent to our workforce.

I had placed on the meeting agenda to terminate our general counsel. I simply cannot understand why the board voted to renew the same firm's contract only a month ago. I made the motion to terminate our current general counsel and hire a new one. It was, unbelievably, a unanimous vote.

I am so happy to report that the board hired Aaron Schlehuter as our tribe's new general counsel. Aaron is a Sault Tribe member that has previously worked for the tribe for several years as a senior attorney. He previously worked on election, gaming, and treaty rights issues. He has studied Native law and will be a great asset with all the legal issues we have right now.

We have not had any in house attorneys in some time. The tribe has just posted for staff and senior attorneys to build back our Legal Department. We have spent way too much money in the last couple of years with an out-of-state firm. There were a few of them that took turns coming to the Soo and that made it hard for consistency and knowledge.

The board also passed the COVID-19 Fishery Participant

Assistance Program. Letters will be sent out to eligible commercial and subsistence fishers who meet the criteria. The budget for cultural/ceremonial and subsistence Great Lakes subsistence fishers who engaged in subsistence fishing in 2020 is \$506,644.75. This will be evenly split among those who qualify.

The budget for the commercial fishers is \$647,169.27 for those who can demonstrate a total financial loss of 35 percent in 2020. Any funds left over will be designated to improve the fisheries.

The board also passed to end putting the annual COLA increases into the wage grids. I am not sure why we ever did this because it has created a huge wage compression issue. It was only supposed to give current team members a cost-of-living allowance, but this was also incorporated into the base wage for positions and so new hires came in sometimes making the same or close to others that have been employed for years.

Director Freiheit sponsored a resolution titled, "Aligning Board Unit Reports with the Constitution." This resolution did not pass (6 no, 5 yes). First of all, we did not have a newspaper when the Constitution was passed. Included in the resolution, it stated that unit reports could not single out other board members or tribal members for personal criticisms or attacks shall not be published as a unit report. It further states if a board member wishes to publish a writing that includes personal criticism, such writing will be viewed and published as a personal advertisement to which the tribal newspaper shall bill the respective board member and the newspaper shall note that the writing is a paid political advertisement.

Myself, or any other board member, should be able to call out each other on votes or other actions or behaviors to inform the membership. Many members from all over contact me and tell me that they appreciate how blunt I am in my reports. Betty

was asked who wrote the resolution and would not reply but we know who wrote it and it wasn't our Legal Department. I do not believe our reports should be censored and I do not think that anyone should expect the newspaper staff to be put in the middle of these disputes. It takes a thick skin to be in this position and the membership as well as board members have a right to criticize a board member.

The second referendum is out for members to vote on. The deadline and count are Friday, Feb. 17. I voted to disapprove as the previous board had set aside \$25 million to build a recovery campus and the current board voted to cut it to \$5 million. The cost of construction including materials have escalated and \$5 million won't get us far.

Included in the resolution was to give \$1 million to the Traditional Medicine Department (who were never consulted) to have their own building. This doesn't make sense, as the tribe

has been trying to get the ability to bill insurances for these services and we are getting closer to do that. The remaining \$19 million would include \$10 million going to the Soo casino for siding repairs.

I do agree that our buildings need repairs. The casino recently ordered new stools and touchless sinks in the hotel rooms. The building should have been a priority. I just don't believe the recovery campus project should have been cut when our communities are in crisis. There should have also been more input from the Health Division.

There really needs to be more communication and input from our team members and division directors when putting forward resolutions. If they are left out, we have no idea what the implications may be. It also creates low morale when there is no communication and they only see it on the agenda.

The tribe recently lost two great people. Deidre "DJ" Malloy,

a former board member who served with me 2012-2014. She had a real passion for our tribe and our members and unfortunately lost her battle with cancer. Mike Doud of the Soo but originally from St. Ignace was such an advocate for sobriety. He helped many people struggling with addiction and recovery. He also helped many members as an advocate in tribal court.

I recently drove through Odenaang in the Soo and looked at all the houses that are sitting in the snowbanks. How unfortunate that this project was stopped. There is no doubt in mind that if there would have been no meddling, people would have been able to be living in these houses by now. Who knows what the implications will be with foundations filled with snow and ice and houses sitting on trailers.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

Shores is a gateway to U.P.

Dear Tribal Members,
I'm sure you all heard of the recent judgment against our tribe in reference to the Lansing casino deal and all the rumors surrounding it. I won't speak of it directly as it is still winding its way through the legal system. I will say that not one person, chairman or previous board was



**SHAWN BOROWICZ,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

solely responsible for what transpired throughout this ordeal. We just have to let the attorneys work this out and come to an amicable solution for all parties involved. When it is all decided I hope the tribe can put it behind us and move forward with no more finger pointing.

I'm hoping we can get the wage/compensation study finalized so all our employees can get the benefits that they are entitled to. We need to take care of our front-line workers as they are the backbone to our revenue and our future.

In my opinion, the Shores casino in St. Ignace is in a prime location and is the gateway to the Upper Peninsula. Not taking anything away from our other casinos, but the Shores has the best venue for concerts and other events with ample parking for all attendees. The city of St. Ignace and the Mackinac Bridge Authority have events most every summer weekend and

we need to build upon this and be collaborative with the city and Mackinac County to bring more guest to our facility. We really need to be innovative and bring new and exciting things to the Shores as well as all our casinos to be different from our other tribes casinos. I've gotten a lot of input from employees and guests on these issues and I continue to forward them to our casino executives for possible future implementation.

Attended the Sault Tribe I-500 reception and the legislative dinner and spoke one-on-one with several state representatives and our new senator as well as our outgoing senator. I voiced my concerns on several issues facing our tribe and received some good feedback and will be following up with those issues this month.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (906) 379-8511 or sborowicz@saulttribe.net.

Moving forward on Housing needs in Unit II



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

We have been looking at new policies throughout our workforce, some I have agreed with and some need a little more work. One that I'm very supportive is the new Hybrid Remote Work Policy — this brings us up to the times of successful working environments and will also assist us to recruit more members. This policy

obviously will not work for all our team members, but it can be initiated by the team member or the supervisor. There will be a checklist and steps that need to be taken so that it benefits our program, business and team member. Hopefully, this will be a work toward productiveness and retaining members all over. I'm excited about this and look forward to hearing that it's fair and successful for all. (Team members can request as well.)

As you have probably seen, we have a lawsuit against us from the previous developers in Lansing (I am careful not to say much here as all can be used against us). I will say that we have retained a new experienced firm to walk us through this and also have retained a new general counsel for our tribe that will be a knowledgeable, experienced tribal member to advise us as a whole. I'm looking forward to being advised on all our legal items and addressing those.

I'm happy to report that we are now underway with telemedicine in many of the clinics — including our unit. You can call any of our clinics to utilize and arrange this as a measure to get health care services quicker. We are just getting the measures in place so I am sure it will be a work in progress. Please be patient as we get this new service up and running for you. We are also looking at new ways to secure health care professionals, as everyone knows this is a national issue and I'm supportive of ways that we can recruit and retain.

After many requests and advocating on my part, we are attempting to get better at being consistent on open workshops — I've reminded time and time again that there are certain items that need to remain closed (and I support that) but many times, including quarterly reviews from the departments, should and are starting to be open.

This is where we get information, updates and statistics on our programs and departments. These are usually held on Mondays and are open for you to attend. Please come and listen to these any opportunity you get.

I have requested that we begin the discussion in workshops on priorities Constitutional amendments — there is no doubt that we need revisions and also education on our existing Constitution. I look forward to this and have always supported this and hopefully we can make some real needed changes with your input (everyone knows I have received a lot throughout my time). It will be a good thing moving forward.

This month, Director Lee and I have scheduled a meeting to discuss the housing needs in our unit. I'm looking forward to this and hope we can begin identifying locations and plans to construct now that the sus-

pension of the funds has been lifted by the board — there are so many members that need affordable housing and I hope there are no other delays at this point.

The grand opening for the DeTour Heath Clinic is May 19 at 1 p.m. I would like to let members know I will be out of town for my stepson's graduation. I'm very sorry I will miss this event, but I encourage all the community to attend it. It's finally happening.

In closing, please reach out to me at my home number (906) 484-2954, cell (906) 322-3818, or email to talk or meet if I can assist you or provide you with more information on items we pass or my support or non-support on an issue. Spring is coming and it's my favorite time of year — hopefully we are enjoying sunlight again very soon.

Baamaapii,
Lana Causley-Smith,
Unit 2 Board Representative

Thank you to Election Committee volunteers



**MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Seems like we have been stuck in a perpetual election/campaigning cycle of candidates and referendums. I may not agree with all the changes or all the decisions, but I wanted to say thank you to our Election Committee, which has had several members leave, underwent legal changes and has had several deadline issues under

a barrage of challenges. Chi Miigwech for all that you do for our tribe. Volunteering your time and energy is much appreciated. For anyone considering participating in community activities or wanting to know how things work in our election process, I urge to consider joining the Election Committee or one of our other many committees.

We will be implementing a new Tribal Food Sovereignty Committee that will be advising the board on best methods to move forward. I look forward to seeing what ideas and what direction they feel our tribe should move in developing our own programs and solutions.

We know several tribes in the Midwest that already participate in various degrees of food sovereignty, including their own farms and markets, so much of the models have already been created. This will help our tribe be able to pick a path forward

and hit the ground running.

Our tribe continues to make progress toward our homeless shelter. Housing and homelessness continue to be a major issue in all our communities. The struggles of getting the shelter open illustrates one of the issues of our growing government and infrastructure needs. The more we have grown, the harder it is to fund all the various programs and much needed services. All of the revenue our tribe makes (gaming, third party revenue, business taxes, Sault Tribe Inc.) goes straight back into providing member services and running our government.

Compounding the concerns and issues of our infrastructure costs is our wage grid and employee compensation packages. We continue to lose employees due to our low compensation and need to pass a new compensation package. Our

tribe needs to balance the costs of services with properly paying our employees and upkeeping our buildings.

We cannot sustain additional costs without addressing the funding balance issues facing our tribe. The COVID funds allowed us to maintain and keep our tribe and its many services afloat during the pandemic. We were able to pay our employees, provide much needed help to our tribal members, and update several buildings to help prevent the spread. However, these funds are limited and the revenue they helped us replace will be coming to an end in the next few years.

We need to revisit our priorities and services and identify what impact the compensation and property improvements will have on our tribe as a whole.

We have hired a new general counsel for our tribe. I believe the transition will be a good

move for our organization and have high hopes in re-building our legal department and overall vision for our tribe. Congrats to Aaron Schlehber on his new role. He is a tribal member and one of our former lawyers, so he is familiar with many of our legal challenges and will get off to a fast start.

As always, I urge members to seek both sides of all issues, that includes candidates. We will be having another advisory election to fulfill the vacant Unit I seat. A few candidates have stepped forward for your consideration; thank you to all those who seek to help move our tribe forward. I ask the members to seek them out and ask tough questions, ask friends and family their thoughts, stay involved and stay informed.

Any questions or concerns please feel free to reach out to me at (906) 440-7768. Chi Miigwech.

Accessing board meetings on Zoom still a problem



**BETTY FREIHEIT,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello Tribal Members, As of this writing, our Special Election for the Unit I seat is in full swing. Please carefully review all the candidates and information disseminated before casting your vote. Please be aware this is a very

short election cycle. Ballots will be mailed to members on Feb. 24 and must be returned by March 20. That is just a little over three weeks. If you live outside the U.P., please allow a full week for your ballots to be received back to the Sault Post Office.

I have been contacted by members who still cannot access our board meetings on Zoom due to confusing directions or being unavailable during the meeting times. I have forwarded these concerns to the board and we have started to address them and will continue until these problems are resolved.

It is important that all members have access to viewing our board meetings as they represent our government in action. And, for many members watching meetings online is the only

way they have to view our tribal board actions. I understand the need to keep our tribal business actions secure. But we need to balance this against maintaining transparency for our members.

We are also in another referendum election. By the time this report is published, members will have received a referendum ballot, asking them to "Approve or Disapprove" Resolution 2022-289. I am voting to approve, and here is why.

About a year ago, the tribal board approved \$25 million in Rescue Act Funds to construct an inpatient Recovery Hospital in Unit I. The hopes were that it would reduce addictions within our tribal communities. A very worthy goal and a much-needed service. However, upon fully examining this project, our board discovered several weaknesses, or flaws, in the plan.

A major drawback is staffing. We currently cannot attract and retain sufficiently trained medical staff for our clinics. How could we expect to attract even more that would be required for this 24-hour operational facility? We could not expect existing staff to extend services to the Recovery Hospital as they are already strained.

Sustainability is also a major problem. This is a high-cost facility to maintain. The small number of beds and extended treatment design would not generate the revenue needed to keep it operational.

It would be irresponsible to invest millions of dollars into a facility that could not be sustained.

So, in October, the board reduced the prior allocations to the Recovery Hospital from

\$25 million to \$5 million and reassigned the funds to much needed repairs in the casino.

The board has not abandoned the ideal, or importance of recovery services, to members. We have identified a number of outpatient recovery services not currently being offered at our clinic and are asking our Health Center Director to incorporate them.

And, we are continuing to explore more programs to combat addictions in our communities, including ways to sustain an inpatient facility.

Please take care of yourself and family, help your neighbors anytime you can. And please take care of our Elders and check on them often.

Betty F. Freiheit
Unit 1 Director
bfreiheit@saulttribe.net
(906) 379-8745

Director LaPlaunt updates tribal membership

Aanii, Boozhoo!!!

This year is off to a quick and busy start. January was a very busy month for the Sault Tribe, both with tribal-wide policy change, key position changes, and movement within Unit V. I'm hoping that we can keep up this momentum and continue to move our entire tribe forward toward a more successful, sustainable, and lucrative future for our next generation to inherit.

I want to start out by both congratulating and thanking Aaron Schlehuber who recently accepted the role of our Sault Tribe general counsel. Mr. Schlehuber will take place of the Patterson firm and grow our tribal Legal Department from within. He has a wealth of knowledge due to his previous role within our Legal Department and his previous position as the Bay Mills general counsel.

There are a lot of issues on the table, and I know that Aaron will do his best to strengthen our tribe's sovereignty and legal direction. Not only is he a well-respected member of the legal community, but he is also one of our own and takes pride in our tribe. I look forward to working with him and learning from him as we move forward. Again, congratulations and chi miigwech for taking on this tremendous responsibility.

Shifting to policy, I want to give a chi miigwech to Cheryl Nolan, HR director, and the entire policy review team for putting together a solid remote work policy. While this policy will not help all of our staff, it will help our tribe compete in today's workforce and labor market to recruit and maintain employees. It's an added benefit for those who qualify. I'm very thankful for the support of the board on this policy and to see it implemented across the tribe in various capacities.

While we know that this will not impact or benefit every employee, it is a step in the right direction towards the modernization of our workforce. I have requested that the flex scheduling be broken out of the remote work policy to further benefit even more employees across the tribe. We as a tribe have to stop trying this one size fits all, all or none mentality. We have several different divisions, and they need to be treated as such. Policy change should always be a work in progress. Policy cannot sit on a shelf stagnant without revisions and should at the very least be reviewed once a year to ensure efficiency and effectiveness. I am very appreciative of everyone who contributed to this policy process. Chi miigwech!

The Sault Tribe has officially purchased the University BP in Marquette on the corner of N. 3rd St. and Fair Ave. This will be an expansion on the Midjim franchise and brings a strong history of net revenue to the tribe that will be further bolstered by tribal citizens utilizing the station to increase the volume of sales on our own proper-



(L-R) Unit V Director Tyler LaPlaunt and Marquette Mayor Cody Mayer, also a Sault Tribe member, hold up a Sault Tribe flag in front of the tribe's new Marquette University BP.



Kewadin Christmas Manager Karen Heyrman (right) and the Kewadin Christmas crew in front of the Feeding America West Michigan truck at Eden Lutheran in Munising. The crew volunteered at the most recent, and most chilly, food distribution.

ty. Previously, we were paying the other store to house our equipment to provide the gas tax credit and not sharing in any sales at all. This will provide a secure location for years to come to receive your gas tax credit with tribal ID. The gas discount went live at 4 p.m. on Feb. 2. There was a slight delay due to a Charter Spectrum install date change, but I've used it twice already and it has been seamless.

I'd like to give another huge shoutout to Joel Schultz, Jaime MacDonald, and Rachel McKechnie. They worked hard to pull this all together for a quick transition. Please be patient with the staff that are working there. Most of them are college students and just doing their jobs. We are lucky to have them all willingly transfer over with change in ownership. Be kind and patient and understand that change takes time and these employees are just doing their jobs and have no clue about tribal politics, which is a very good thing. We are still waiting on one license from the state, but after that, everything should be business as usual. Chi miigwech to all of our amazing staff!

On the topic of tax exemptions for Sault Tribe citizens residing within the 7-county tax agreement area, please check to see if you qualify for the MI tax exemption. Information can be found here: www.saulttribe.com/

government/tribal-tax-agreement.

If you qualify, you can call Candace Blocher in the tax office at (906) 632-6281. I've spoken with over a dozen people in the past two months who had no idea they even qualified for this. Please take a look at the maps and if you believe you qualify and are within the tax agreement area, reach out to the tax office and get the process started. Again, please be patient. They have a small staff and must comply with policy related to the tax agreement certification. No exceptions.

The next Munising and Marquette Elder meetings will be on March 2. Munising meeting begins at 11 a.m. and meal starts at 12 p.m. at the Munising Tribal Health Center. Marquette meeting begins at 6 p.m. and meal starts at 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Marquette. I'm pleased to see that we are getting new faces and I'd love to continue to see these meetings grow. It's been a pleasure to communicate with our area Elders to keep them informed, answer their questions, and be put on the hotseat. The advice and guidance have been a Godsend. I'm very thankful for the guidance and feedback from our Elders.

Pertaining to the Munising Elders, Chairman Lowes recently reached out to Prairie Island Indian Community of Mde-wakanton Sioux who agreed to donate over 550 pounds of Bison

that they raise in Minnesota. That's well over a \$6,000 donation of meat to our tribe. It was split between all of our Elder committees across the Tribe. Munising was able to get a distribution because the caterer was willing to accept the meat and cook it for the group. So, Bison will be on the menu for March.

Unfortunately, Marquette will not have the same due to the Holiday Inn rules. Hopefully, in the future, this will all change. Again, we will take what we can get and strengthening relationships with tribe in our region is very important as we slowly begin to delve into what food sovereignty can bring us. It will take years, and this is just a taste of what's to come.

Unit V cultural activities continue to grow. The Teal Lake Community Teaching Drum is meeting in Marquette at the Lakeview Arena Citizens Forum the second and fourth Thursday of every month from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Dinner and water is served at every event and you're welcome to bring a dish or snack to pass around as well. This community has continued to grow and we are seeing new faces every week.

I know it seems repetitive to bring this up every report, but it's extremely important to continue to grow our community and our teachings. Our culture and tradition are based on oral communication, that is our sustainability. The more people that

hear and share, the stronger our culture will become. ALL are welcome. We even have people driving all the way from Manistique. It's quite amazing to see the togetherness and feel the heartbeat of the drum. While the focus is Sault Tribe, we are all brothers and sisters and need to work together whenever possible to make our culture present and accessible.

In Munising, our Elder Committee is taking the reigns on getting some activities together. Phillip Martin has put a call out to anyone in the community that can assist with teachings of any kind and begin to engage the youth and anyone in the community interested in learning. It can be anything from storytelling, language, drumming, gathering, hunting, arts and crafts, anything. If someone in the greater Munising area is interested in helping get some regular teachings set up, please reach out to Phillip Martin at (619) 587-0557.

For the past several years I've been involved with expanding Feeding America West Michigan across the U.P. Two of my sites are in Unit V in Marquette and Munising. In Marquette, we operate in the parking lot of the Berry Events Center at NMU. In Munising, we partnered with Eden Lutheran and utilize their space. All you need to qualify is to be in need of food. No judgment and no questions asked.

We are doing monthly distributions at both of these sites for the 2023 calendar year. If you are in need of food, you can find a rolling 30-day calendar across Michigan at www.feedwm.org/mobile-pantry-schedule/.

I am very grateful and happy to see our Christmas Kewadin crew come and volunteer at the coldest distribution this year. We rely heavily on community volunteers, so if you want to get involved, come on down and help out. Chi miigwech to Karen Heyrman and her team. We appreciate your helping hands.

As a board, we have made quite a bit of progress this past six months and I look forward to what we can accomplish together in the next six months. Yes, we are facing many hurdles as a tribe, and as a tribe we can get through this together. Most importantly, we need to be kind to one another and help each other when we are able. We are undergoing a lot of change, and change can be tough.

We are one of the largest employers in the Upper Peninsula with an amazing workforce. It's the employees that keep us operational. When they succeed, we as a tribe succeed. As a board, let's do what we can to give them all the tools they need to be as successful as possible and set them and our tribe up for future success.

Chi Miigwech!

Tyler Migizii Migwan

LaPlaunt

Vice-Chairman, Unit V Director

tlaplaunt@saulttribe.net

(906) 440-8294

Tribal fishers to receive COVID assistance funds



DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

I encourage each Sault Tribe member to start attending board workshops and meetings either in person or via zoom. I think if more members were aware of what is really going on you would be more vocal and start asking hard questions. Don't leave it up to the few tribal members that have been vocal and critical all along, please get involved. To sign up to participate go to the Sault Tribes website; sign up for the zoom link and then you will receive the invite to board workshops and meetings.

Below is the resolution: Approval & Authorization of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Covid-19 Fishery Participant Assistance

Program. The resolution was passed and approved by 10 board members with one board member, Rob McRorie, voting "no."

RESOLUTION 2023-051
Approval and Authorization of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Covid-19 Fishery Participant Assistance Program

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians ("Tribe") is organized pursuant to the Constitution of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians; and

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization, a public health emergency by the United States Secretary of Health and Human Services, a national emergency by the President of the United States, and a Tribally declared emergency by the Tribe's Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors ("Board of Directors") has determined that the COVID-19 global pandemic and corresponding impacts to the national and local economy has and will continue to strain the financial resources of Tribal member fishers and the Tribe's fishing industry, necessitating the invocation of an assistance

program to respond to the public health emergency and its negative economic impacts; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors approved the COVID-19 Fishery Participant Assistance Program ("Program") to offer financial assistance to eligible commercial and subsistence fishers that meet the criteria of the Program in Resolution 2022-271.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the distribution of \$506,644.75 for cultural/ceremonial and subsistence to the Great Lakes subsistence fishers that engaged in subsistence fishing in 2020, to be evenly distributed in equal shares amongst them.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the distribution of \$647,169.27 for direct payments to commercial fishers who can demonstrate a total financial loss of 35% in 2020 by March 31, 2023.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Program shall be funded with CARES Act Governmental Relief Funds received by the Tribe that are allocated through the existing administrative and budgeting processes of the Tribe.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Program applications shall managed and overseen

by the Tribe's Accounting Department with assistance from the Tribe's Natural Resources Department.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the transfer of all leftover Commercial Fisher CARES Act Funds to a designated cost center that will be used to improve the fisheries and managed by the Natural Resources Department.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby authorizes and approves the Natural Resources Department to execute any and all documents and purchases, as may be necessary and appropriate, to carry out the terms, conditions, and intent of this Resolution and Program Restrictions.

The dollar amount to be distributed equally among the subsistence Great Lakes licensed fishers who engaged in subsistence fishing in 2020 is \$506,644.75. This group includes individuals who engaged in subsistence fishing — either by a subsistence license or a spearing license/permit. The tribe's Natural Resource Department will be mailing out the applications to the individuals who qualify.

The dollar amount to be distributed to the commercial fishers is \$647,169.27. These fishers

will receive direct payments after they demonstrate a total financial loss of 35 percent in 2020 by March 31, 2021. The tribe's Natural Resource Department will also mail out applications to all individual captains. After all payments are approved to the qualifying captains if there are any funds leftover, they will be used by the Natural Resource Department to improve the fisheries.

I also wanted to acknowledge the Escanaba elders. I attended their Christmas dinner at the Island Resort, and, as usual, everything was beautiful, and the food was delicious. I was able to visit with some of our elders — it was so nice to catch up with everyone. I would like to acknowledge Elder Committee member Nina Sutter. She did the shopping and she handmade gifts for their gift giveaway table this year. It was beautiful and overflowing with presents. I hope you enjoy the photos of the Manistique and Escanaba Elder Christmas parties in this edition.

As always, if you have any questions, or just want to chat feel free to call me.

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

Director Hampton provides overview for Unit IV



KIMBERLY HAMPTON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

Aniin kina waya (hello everybody).

We have all made it through the month of January and are now into February 2023. This year seems to be going by quickly already. I would like to send you all happy wishes as you move forward through this year. May all of your wishes, dreams and goals come into fruition. In this month's unit report it is my intention to provide updates on those issues I feel are not necessarily covered through other communication avenues. Miigwech for taking the time to read my updates.

Special Advisory Election

There is currently a Special Advisory Election occurring to fill the vacant Unit 1 seat. The three candidates for this seat are Sheila Berger, Nichole Causley, and Joanne Carr. I encourage all in Unit 1 to do your research, reach out to the candidates, and do your due diligence as this Special Advisory Election continues. The timeline for this Special Advisory Election is as follows:

Jan. 20: Deadline for voter registration and last day to receive Letter of Intent for potential candidates

Jan. 27: Nominating petition deadline

Feb. 1: List of eligible candidates available

Feb. 6: Deadline for contests relating to nominations and voter registration

Feb. 24: Special election ballots mailed to voters

March 20: Special advisory election day

March 23: Deadline for contest relating to vote count

Treaty Negotiations

Treaty negotiations are still in litigation and are expected to continue for an indefinite length of time. Sault Tribe is continuing to fight for the treaty rights of our people. This process has endured years already and will continue to be lengthy. I kindly ask you all to be patient with leadership during this time, we will provide updates as allowable, without violation of law and confidentiality.

Powwow Meetings

Unit IV will have a 2023 Niiwin Noodin (Four Winds) Powwow on Saturday, June 10, 2023, with a Ceremonial Opening the evening of Friday, June 9, 2023. Everyone is encouraged to "like" the Niiwin Noodin (Four Winds) Powwow Facebook page to keep updated.

Meetings, open to the public, scheduled for the Powwow Committee, are located at the Manistique Tribal Health Center, 5698W US Highway 2, Manistique, MI, on the following dates:

Feb. 20 at 6 p.m. EST
March 13 at 6 p.m. EST

Unit IV Elder Meetings

The next meeting in Manistique will be held March 8, 12 p.m. EST at the Manistique Tribe Center.

The next meeting in Escanaba will be held March 8 at 5:30 p.m. at the Delta County Chamber Building.

January Activities

Solar Project: There have been meetings with a solar developer to look at locations throughout units that solar projects may be possible. Sault Tribe currently does not have any solar projects planned but discussions are taking place to explore ways that Sault Tribe can reduce the carbon footprint.

Appeal Hearing: I did attend another appeal hearing for an employee. I volunteer to attend these hearings as a way to support our members and employees but also to ensure that due diligence is being adhered to in these cases.

Gladstone Clinic Telemedicine: On Jan. 19, a telemedicine unit was installed at the Gladstone clinic, with recent sessions taking place. This telemedicine unit allows tribal members to meet with a medical provider virtually for such appointments as medication reviews, rather than having to drive to the Manistique clinic to meet with the medical provider in person. A telemedicine unit was also installed in Marquette this month. The first few of these appointments have been successful and will continue to be slowly implemented as our staff is adjusted and positions are

posted to fill the support roles for this new telemedicine program. Additional telemedicine locations will be implemented in the future.

Jay Treaty Border Alliance: I attended my first Jay Treaty Border Alliance meeting in Milwaukee at the Forest County Potawatomi Hotel and Casino. I was able to network with other Native tribes, along with Border Patrol agents with the Department of Homeland Security, in efforts to strengthen the Jay Treaty that was signed in 1794 between Great Britain and the United States, providing that American Indians may travel freely across the international boundary shared by Canada and the United States. Under the Jay Treaty, Native Indians born in Canada are entitled to freely enter the United States for the purpose of employment, study, retirement, investing or immigration. However, those who reside in the United States often struggle with being able to travel so freely. So, Native tribes in the United States and Canada are forming collaboratives in efforts to strengthen the relationships and ensure compliance with the Jay Treaty.

Manistique Fitness Center and Escanaba Community Center: Bid packages have been received for both these projects with a contractor being chosen soon. I look forward to seeing both of these projects break ground this summer to begin building. Both the Manistique community and the Escanaba community need these projects completed in order to work toward the betterment of our tribe.

Remote Work Policy: The board of directors passed a remote work policy to allow applicable employees the ability to work remotely under certain conditions. I do believe this policy was needed in order to move forward and to attract more candidates for open positions within Sault Tribe.

Looking Forward

THSAC: On Feb. 7, I will be attending my first organizational meeting with the Tribal Homeland Security Advisory Council (THSAC) with the first actual THSAC meeting occurring Feb. 14. As Vice-Chair for the THSAC, I will be attending organizational meetings and agenda meetings on a regular basis. This position goes hand-in-hand with the Jay Treaty Border Alliance, as both are related to security at international borders. In the future, I may also be looking at joining the Executive Committee for the Jay Treaty Border Alliance as Sault Tribe works toward strengthening relations with other Native tribes as well as border patrol and leaders of Canada.

I would also like to extend the invite again for anyone who has ideas to better our tribe or Unit IV, please feel free to reach out to me with your ideas. After all, you are the membership and I am your representative.

Miigwech for allowing me to represent and advocate for our members. I am always available for questions, comments, and ideas for growth. My number is (906) 440-8138, email is KHampton@saulttribe.net.

Kimberly Hampton,
Unit IV4 Representative

Board supposed to be responsive to tribal members



ISAAC MCKECHNIE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Once again, members are getting referendums that are costing us tens of thousands of dollars for each referendum.

In 2021, the previous Sault Tribe Board of Directors appropriated \$25 million of ARPA funds to build a new Recovery Campus; this was not a grant. Now fast forward to a Special Meeting held on October 2022 where the board of directors the amended Resolution 2021-167, which originally appropriated the \$25 million for a Recovery Campus. The purpose of this amendment was to reduce the total project amount down to \$5 million so that we could begin to bring immediate services to our members and bring it within the scope and capability of the Health Division. The board also authorized that \$1 million of the remaining funds to be used to expand Traditional Medicine into

its own facility with the input and guidance of the Traditional Medicine program and community.

With the remaining \$19 million in ARPA funds to unallocated funding, the board agreed to invest \$10 million into our Kewadin Sault casino until a valid use can be agreed upon by the Sault Tribe board based on the best interest of the Sault Tribe.

This decision was not an easy decision for any of us, as I have personally experienced the tragedies of drug addiction in our family. This board met and discussed the Recovery Campus in many of our meetings and we determined several things that were of concern, the first being we currently do not offer any basic assistance for patients with drug addictions, such as Medicated-Assisted Treatment (MAT). We have made little to no effort to implement basic recovery services for our loved ones with addiction problems.

There have been a lot of excuses why we can't implement a basic MAT program within our facilities. Implementing the basic MAT program within our current Health facilities is going to be the first step in helping our loved ones, so our goal is to start with the basic treatments and services before plunging into something we do not have the expertise to build or operate.

Another major concern is we have and will continue to have an

employment shortage throughout our tribe. On the health side, we are lacking the professionals such as physicians, NPs, PAs, CNSs, CRNAs, or CNMs waived through SAMHSA, to begin practicing just the basic MAT services. The Health Division has roughly 60 open employment positions — some of these positions have been open for years, so adding another 60-80 health professionals for the new Recovery Campus would only add to this problem and would cripple the current Health Services that we provide.

The referendum ballots to rescind the resolution reducing the amount allotted for the Recovery Campus has been mailed to the members. Most of you should have received your ballot, so by the time my unit report goes to press the referendum ballots will have already have been mailed back. Reducing the funds for the Recovery Campus has caused quite a stir among our members who believed it's the answer to reducing incidences of addiction within our community, but studies have shown the basic Medical-Aid Treatment programs have a greater success rate. This action in no way reflects a lack of concern on the part of the board for providing recovery services to our members. It was only after a series of meetings and an extensive review of our current resources, and the viability of the proposed hospital, to realize we

need a different plan. Please consider these factors when casting a vote to either support or not support the board action.

The board is supposed to be responsive to the needs and priorities for action stated by the members. Yes, we are elected for four years but does that mean once elected we use our own discretion for all decisions? I do not believe so. Our decisions should be informed by input from the members.

But what is the best way to achieve that? And for what issues.

Much of what the board acts on in meetings are routine budgetary and program adjustments or grant approvals. These are standard governmental operation that do not necessarily warrant member input.

But what about policy and Tribal Code revisions? Members should have an opportunity to weigh in on proposed Code changes as these are the laws that direct government operations. And policy changes generally

impact employees and they also have a right to give input.

Having the opportunity for input is an important part of transparency.

This is a worthy goal but not easy to achieve. We need member feedback on the best methods to gather input on decisions.

Board members can hold unit meetings, and should, but these only reach a minority of members. But a great benefit is we get to meet and talk face to face with members.

We could survey members and hope for a sufficient number of returns.

Members can also be encouraged to write and call their reps with feedback.

Finally, board reps could hold monthly town hall meetings via Zoom where members anywhere could participate and give opinions on current and proposed actions of the board.

Please let me know if soliciting input is important to you and the best methods for gathering it.

GAS & CIGARETTE DISCOUNTS

Tribally Owned Offering Gas and Cigarette Discounts

MidJim Convenience Store, 2205 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie; and 3045 Mackinac Trail, St. Ignace.

Tribally Owned Offering Gas Discount Only

White Pine Lodge, 7889 E. W. M-28, Christmas
University BP at 301 W. Fair Ave., Marquette

Non-Tribal owned Stations Offering Gas Discount Only

Newberry BP Express Mart, 13975 M-28, Newberry
Manistique Oil company, 216 Deer St., Manistique
Carnes BP, 2300 Ludington St., Escanaba
Kinross BP Local Express, 4440 Tone Rd., Kincheloe
Cedar Pantry, 159 W M-134, Cedarville

This winter...
**KEEP YOUR
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Help protect yourself, your family and the community by keeping your COVID-19 and flu vaccines up to date. Let's enjoy all the togetherness we can this winter. Find a vaccine location near you at Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine.



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