



Win Awenen Nisitotung

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Bahweting Bidajimowin • Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

New state funding will increase support for tribal foster parents, Sault Tribe advocacy pays off

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

In Michigan's state courts, families participating in the Guardianship Assistance Program (GAP) are able to receive financial support from the state. But if guardianship was granted by a tribal court, or from another state, that funding wasn't available until recently.

Michigan's new state budget will help the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) improve and increase support for all foster parents.

"The bipartisan budget I signed a few weeks ago will put more money in the pockets of foster parents so they can pay the bills and put food on the table while caring for their foster kids," said Governor Gretchen Whitmer. "Foster families work hard to care for their children and we must have their backs. The budget boosts the resources they receive so we can keep children safe and healthy."

The bipartisan legislation will help ease the financial burden for tribal members who are caring for children (who are members of Native American tribes throughout Michigan) of relatives or friends, ensuring that Native American children will also now benefit from

guardianship assistance. This also includes permanent placement with guardians.

The bills were introduced in March by Sen. Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) and Sen. John Damoose (R-Harbor Springs), and were designed to fix the state's Guardianship Assistance Program to be more inclusive.

Sault Tribe Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry, said, "While these children are in foster care, the foster parents receive payments to help cover the cost of caring for them and the same is true when they are moved into a permanent guardianship situation, unless it is ordered by a tribal or out-of-state court. We couldn't finalize guardianships for Native American children living with relatives who are tribal members because they would be cut off from payments through GAP. The language in the state statute was changed to include tribal courts and out-of-state courts. It's small changes to the language that make a big impact."

"I'm involved in the lives of families affected by this," Fabry said. "I have cases pending in my court where kids have been placed in foster care with extended family. In tribal communities, we try not to



From left: Heather Williams, MDHHS Children's Services Administration; Jessica Dumback, Sault Tribe assistant executive director; Tim Click, bureau manager, In-Home Services, MDHHS CSA; Lorna Elliott-Egan, director of Tribal Government Services and Policy, MDHHS; Chardae Burton, director, MDHHS Legislative Affairs; Elizabeth Hertel, MDHHS director; Jason Cross, ICWA manager, MDHHS Children's Services Administration; Senator John Damoose; Demetrius Starling, director, Children's Services Administration, MDHHS; Governor Gretchen Whitmer; Senator Jeff Irwin; Austin Lowes, Sault Tribe chairperson; Mike McCoy, Sault Tribe legislative director; Melissa VanLoven, Sault Tribe Child Placement Program director; Jennifer Constantino, Sault Tribe ICWA attorney; Sault Tribe Hon. Judge Jocelyn Fabry; Juanita Bye, Sault Tribe ACFS director; Kirstie Sieloff, Khoury, Johnson & Leavitt.

terminate parental rights. Even with permanent guardianships, children are placed with relatives so their parents know they're not going anywhere."

When reunification isn't possible, the tribal courts focus shifts to doing everything possible to keep that child within their tribal community, often through a relative guardianship that enables them to maintain contact with their parents

and their culture.

"Connection is everything for not only kids but our tribes," Fabry said. "In order for our tribes to continue to have people who know the language and practice traditional cultures and ceremony, we need to make sure our children remain in their communities with those who can be their parents and teachers."

Sault Tribe Child Welfare

Committee Chairperson Latisha Willette said, "The Child Welfare Committee was excited that the Governor signed the budget to allow our tribal guardianships to receive GAP funding. Some of our proposed guardianships were in limbo until the funding was expanded. We are always looking at ways to keep children with family and every little bit helps with that goal."

Tribe announces appeal of court-ordered fishing decree

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians announced that it will appeal an August 24, 2023, ruling from U.S. District Court Judge Paul L. Maloney that would regulate all 1836 Treaty Tribes' fishing rights for the next 24 years.

"The Sault Tribe has been deeply disappointed in the court's order, which restricts our rights

as a sovereign nation, affects the livelihood of our citizens, and limits the ability of our people to feed themselves," Sault Tribe Chairman Austin Lowes said. "Our legal counsel has reached out to the other parties in this case to see if there was room for settlement outside the legal avenue of an appeal. Unfortunately, those conversations proved to be

in vain. The tribe has no choice now but to pursue an appeal and fight for a better outcome for our citizens."

Lowes said fishing is an integral part of the tribe's identity and way of life, both culturally and economically. "Our tribe would never take actions to harm the fishery. Our members represent the largest commercial fishing operation in Michigan, and we also represent the largest number of subsistence fishers among the tribes," he said. "That's why the Sault Tribe Board of Directors is committed to protecting the treaty

reserved fishing right for many generations to come and will take the necessary legal steps to do so."

Sault Tribe has been a long-time leader in sustainable fisheries management. The tribe works closely with other tribal governments, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and many others to ensure the health of the Great Lakes. The Sault Tribe Fisheries Program continuously analyzes the health of the fishery through activities like disease testing and invasive species

monitoring.

Sault Tribe also operates several hatcheries throughout the Eastern Upper Peninsula to help replenish the fish stock.

The tribe has raised and stocked more than 18 million walleye in Michigan waterways since 1995. It has also recently been developing a similar program to help boost whitefish numbers in the Great Lakes.

The tribe's next legal steps will be to file a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, which it intends to do by the Oct. 23 deadline.

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Automatic voter registration notice

Notice to all adult tribal members: Under the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors Resolution 2023-233 Equal Protections in Sault Tribe Voter Registration, you are now automatically registered to vote if you will be 18 years of age on the date of the election. If you reside within one of the tribe's five election units, you will be automatically registered to vote within the unit you reside, per the tribe's usual process. However, if you reside outside the election units, you will only be eligible to vote in Sault Tribe chairperson elections and referendum elec-

tions until you designate a unit in which to vote. Members that do not reside within a unit must choose which unit they would like to vote in to be eligible to vote in unit director elections. Once you are registered to vote in a unit, your registration is permanent unless you move out of an election unit or you move into one of the election units.

New voter registration cards were sent out in the mail on Sept. 28, 2023, to all newly automatically registered voters to prepare for the 2024 General Election. Keep an eye out for your card in the mail and if you would like

to vote in unit director elections, you must return this card, declaring which unit you would like to vote in. This card must be received 90 days before the next tribal General Election.

Failure to return this card shall mean you are not able to vote for unit directors. New voter registration cards are also available for pickup at the tribe's Enrollment Department at 2076 Shunk Rd. or at the tribe's Administration Building at 523 Ashmun St.

Please call the tribal registrar at (906) 632-8552 if you have any questions.

Sault Tribe members punch 2023 bear tags



Courtesy photos (From left to right) Rich Drilling, Caleb Pietras and Jacob Sambrano had successful hunts in September.

Bruins bagged

Rich Drilling, 19, of Howard City, Mich. shot his bear with a 30.06 rifle while hunting the Baldwin Unit in Newaygo County.

He drew his tag through the Sault Tribe's Bear Tag Lottery.

Drilling's bear measured 70 inches from nose to tail and weighed an estimated 350 pounds.

Per tradition, a tobacco offering was done at the hunt site, sprinkled on the ground with a prayer.

The hide is currently being tanned, according to the family and the meat is in the freezer.

Drilling is a full-time college student at Ferris State University.

Thirteen-year-old Caleb Pietras took his first bear on Sept. 15 while hunting in Lake County.

Jacob Sambrano harvested his bear three days after the season started on Sept. 10 after receiving his permit through the Sault Tribe's Lottery.

Sambrano did not get an official weight on his bear, but indicated he retained all of the fat gifting some to family members and trading additional fat for sweetgrass.



CALLING ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS GIVE YOUR INPUT!

All community members are invited to an open event to participate in a facilitated discussion on the housing needs of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians community. Light refreshments and door prizes!

When: October 25th, 2023; 6:00 to 7:30 PM

Where: Sault Kewadin Casino, Grand Island Room I & II

AND

When: October 26th, 2023; 5:30 to 7:00 PM

Where: Manistique Tribal Community Center

All Participants in this survey are eligible to participate in a raffle for a \$50 gift card.



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PYQJ25P>

Your responses to this community survey will help The Sault Tribe Housing Authority in many ways:



Housing Authority can better meet the housing needs of the community



Housing Authority can determine the make-up of future housing developments



Housing Authority can seek additional funding sources to fund projects



Housing Authority can prioritize future new projects to better serve the community

The Housing Authority is seeking the responses from all Tribal members living in and out of the Tribe's service area. We look forward to your input!

Halloween Spooktacular! Friday, Oct. 27 5-7 p.m.

There will be Trunk-or-treating at the Farmer's Market Pavilion on the corner of Portage Ave. and Ashmun St.

And Trick-or-Treating at participating downtown businesses on Portage Ave. and Ashmun St.

Parade of Frights begins at 6:30 p.m. with contests for best individual, walking group, and float. Candy and prizes!

Parade begins on W. Portage Ave. (corner of Magazine St.) until Ashmun St. and will continue on Ashmun and Library Dr. where it will stop.
Visit: Lockcity.doitbest.com

Tribal roll opening Referendum

On Sept. 19, 2023, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors declared the Referendum Petition on Resolution 2023-261 Tribal Roll Opening to be valid. This referendum will now be sent out to a vote of the Sault Tribe voters. Ballots will be mailed within the coming weeks and will be due back no later than

Nov. 20, 2023. Sault Tribe's Interim Election Committee would also like to announce that the Referendum Election ballots will be counted on Monday, Nov. 20, 2023, at approximately 5 p.m. in the Grand Ballroom at Kewadin Casinos in Sault Ste. Marie. Sault Tribe members

are welcome to attend and watch the process and/or follow the count results. Tribal members interested in volunteering to assist the Interim Election Committee in opening ballots should contact the Committee at elections@SaultTribe.net or call either Lona Stewart or Ashlee Mielke at (906) 635-6050.

The following Sault Tribe Committees have vacant seats. Sault Tribe members interested in filling these vacancies should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other members to Lona Stewart at 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, or call (906) 635-6050 with questions.

- Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - 10 vacancies - five males and five females (4-year terms)
- Child Welfare Committee - Three vacancies (4-year term)
- Health Board - Two vacancies (4-year term)
- Housing/Utility Authority - One vacancy (4-year term)
- Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - (2-year term)
- Unit I - Two vacancies
- Unit II - Two vacancies
- Unit III - Two vacancies
- Elder Advisory Committee
- Unit I - Sault - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)
- Unit II - Hessel - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)
- Unit II - Naubinway - One regular vacancy (4-year term)
- Unit III - St. Ignace - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)
- Unit V - Munising - One regular vacancy (4-year term)
- Unit V - Marquette - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)
- Elder Subcommittees
- Unit I - Sault - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)
- Unit III - St. Ignace - One regular vacancy (4-year term)
- Unit IV - Escanaba - Two alternate vacancies (4-year term)
- Unit V - Munising - One regular vacancy, two alternate vacancies.

SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEA INDIANS TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT NOTICE OF REVIEW

BIA Tribal Transportation Program – Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) Notice is hereby given of availability for public review and comment of the following document; Draft FY2024-2027 Transportation Improvement Plan

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Transportation Department invites membership and the public to review and comment on the Draft 2024-2027 TIP. The thirty (30) day review period will begin on Nov. 1, 2023. This notice is in accordance with 25 CFR 17:170.413, 170.422, 170.423. The TIP is the short-term strategic transportation plan detailing the departments planning, maintenance, safety, construction, transit, and administrative projects over the next five years. The Draft 2024-2027 TIP will be available for review at the following location: Tribal Administrative Offices 523 Ashmun St. Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

The TIP is a federally mandated document that provides a brief description of each project that will use federal transportation funds. Projects must be listed on the TIP to use federal funding. In addition, this Public Notice satisfies the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians public participation process for the development of its Program of Projects.

The Department will accept comments from the public on TIP until the close of business day on Dec. 1, 2023, at 5 p.m. In addition, comments can be sent to Wendy Hoffman, Transportation Department, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI. 49783 or sent by email to whoffman@saulttribe.net. For questions or concerns about the TIP, contact Wendy Hoffman at (906) 635-6050.

Special accommodations: The location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for any accommodations can be made by calling Wendy Hoffman at (906) 635-6050 at least 48 hours in advance.

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.

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 eli-

gibility requirements and be a resident of the seven-county service area.

Apply at WIOA at Big Bear Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie, or call Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767.

Senior Employment positions available

Three Senior Employment jobs are available. If interested, reply to the Elder Employment Program, Attn: Brenda Cadreau, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or call (906) 635-4767.

services to the Community Health Program and staff located at the center.

The Hessel Tribal Center is looking for a *kitchen aide*.

The kitchen aide, under the direction of the cook, assists with the preparation of elder congregate meals for an assigned

meal site.

Must undergo and pass a Criminal background investigation and pre-employment drug test. Must be insurable to drive GSA vehicle.

Experience in home meal preparation and Serve Safe Certification preferred.

The program may be able to

Enrollment announcement

Up to date addresses sought

Sault Tribe members whose addresses are not up to date have "bad addresses" with the tribe's Enrollment Department.

Please check over the names on the list and if you see a friend or relative on the list let them know.

Go to the tribe's website at saulttribe.net and scroll down

Membership Services to Tribal Enrollment. Then go to the Information column on the left side of the Enrollment page and select "Up to date addresses sought."

Call 800-251-6597 or email Stacey Synett at ssynett@saulttribe.net.

GAS & CIGARETTE DISCOUNTS

TRIBALLY OWNED OFFERING GAS AND CIGARETTE DISCOUNTS

MidJim Convenience Store, 2205 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie

MidJim Convenience Store II, 3045 Mackinac Trial, 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 Sunoco Gas Station, 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


net or contacting them indi-

vidually at: Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, Mich., (906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net. Mary


Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469;

Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, mjenerou@saulttribe.net. Michelle

Moore at (906) 635-6050, mmoore@saulttribe.net.



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Membership liaisons available

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

net or contacting them individually at: Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, Mich., (906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net. Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469; Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, mjenerou@saulttribe.net. Michelle Moore at (906) 635-6050, mmoore@saulttribe.net.

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

October 18, 2023
Falling Leaves Moon
Bnakwe Giizis

Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor
Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary
Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
Scott Brand.....Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

Subscriptions: \$18 per year, \$11 for senior citizens and \$30 to Canada. Call for other foreign countries.

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

Advertising: \$8.50/column inch. (Paid advertising with editorial content will be treated as editorial content.)

Submission and Subscriptions: Win Awenen Nisitotung Attn: Communications Dept. 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783; (906) 632-6398 Email: slucas@saulttribe.net or jdale-burton@saulttribe.net

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Native American owned consulting firm hires two nationally recognized advisors

Kauffman and Associates, Inc. (KAI) announced the addition of two new members to their leadership team, Dr. Aaron Payment and Dr. Joni Buffalohead. Each brings decades of experience doing socially impactful work across tribal and urban Indian communities. Their expertise and deep knowledge of federal Indian policy, tribal programming, and community change will not only further existing initiatives, but enable new, exciting directions for KAI.

"I am elated to have Dr. Aaron Payment and Dr. Joni Buffalohead join the team at KAI," said KAI President and Founder Jo Ann Kauffman. "Their professional integrity and reputation for respectful and insightful work with tribal nations precedes them, and I know they will bring their own vibrant



Joni Buffalohead

and culturally aligned vision for serving communities and organizations to KAI."

Dr. Payment is well known across Indian Country, and brings over thirty years of national, regional, and local experience to his new role as vice president of tribal relations and learning. His experience includes nearly a

decade with the National Congress of American Indians, a Presidential appointment to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education, and a close affiliation with the National Indian Health Board. He is currently leading all KAI education contracts, including assisting the federal government with creating a 10-year plan for supporting tribal revitalization of Native languages.

"I have long admired KAI President Jo Ann Kauffman for her dedicated focus on indigeneity and tribal capacity-building," said Dr. Payment. "I am excited to continue my work furthering Native health, education and tribal relations as part of her amazing team."

Dr. Buffalohead will serve as KAI's new vice president of behavioral health transformation,



Aaron Payment

after spending the past twenty years working to improve the health care systems and community well-being among Minnesota tribes and urban Indian populations. She has worked extensively with all eleven Minnesota tribes to bring equitable access to statewide resources. She is currently leading

KAI's team addressing the opioid epidemic across Indian Country. "I'm thrilled to be working with an organization that so clearly shares my commitment to building holistic relationships with urban and rural Native communities," she said. "Together we'll continue to create powerful, sustainable change that empowers future generations to live healthier, more fulfilling lives."

KAI works to improve the well-being of all vulnerable populations, with a special focus on American Indians and Alaska Natives. Using innovative, Indigenous methods, KAI has built a national reputation for quality consultation and management support. Contact Mikayla Holm for more information at mikayla.holm@kauffmaninc.com.

Rudyard Kinoomage Gamig opening on Oct. 20

Community invited to attend opening ceremony at Rudyard Area Schools

FROM JACKIE MINTON, YEA YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR

On Friday, Oct. 20, the Youth Education and Activities Program located in the Rudyard Area Schools that services tribal families in Unit 1 and Unit 2 will unveil the boarding school educational panels presented to

each unit by the Ojibwe Museum of St. Ignace. In addition to this, we will have our grand opening for our new Kinoomage Gamig (Learning Lodge) built by Rudyard students along with Sault Tribe Language and Culture Department and community elders.

This is the first kinoomage gamig to be built and maintained in a public school setting in the Great Lakes area and possibly the entire country.

We would like to have your support by attending our opening and honoring the Rudyard Area Schools administration and staff

for their encouragement to our students learning in environments that are inclusive of our traditional life-ways.

Our ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. and end at 11:45 a.m. Rudyard Area Schools has reached out to the YEA Program by being inclusive and supportive to our

students and integrating traditional Anishinaabe teachings throughout the school.

Recognition of these efforts fosters good community relationships among each other.

We are looking forward to seeing you at this meaningful gathering.

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All Customers Receive One FREE Entry to Win Up to \$2,000 CASH!

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Christmas | Tuesdays in November

Two Times Points!

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October 9 - December 7

Christmas | Mondays Manistique | Wednesdays
Hessel | Tuesdays Sault | Thursdays

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PINKTASTIC SPIN TO WIN
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Point requirements for all promotions. See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.



KEWADIN EVENTS



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

Manistique Health Center gets remote access to Social Security field agent

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

If you are a Sault Tribe member residing in the Manistique and Munising areas, you will soon have remote access to a Social Security field agent from a meeting room inside the Manistique Health Center.

Beginning Oct. 30, from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. tribal membership, parents to Native children, non-Native spouses or representatives for a tribal member will have accessibility to talk to a Social Security field agent from the Escanaba Field Office.

Sault Tribe Membership Liaison Mary Jenerou said the new remote access capability will empower the membership to address any Social Security

issues they have without having to drive 50 or more miles for an office visit.

Jenerou said, "We are the first tribe in the mid-west region to collaborate with the Social Security Department to provide this service."

There are two designated staff members at the Manistique Health Center to assist with the walk-in appointments.

"The membership will no longer have to travel to the field office or be on hold for over an hour on the phone to ask a simple question or inquire for social security benefits," she said. "The Poly-com equipment is the same equipment the tribe uses for meetings, trainings, orientation

and Human Resources, only it's a smaller size for desktops."

The premium audio and video products from Poly (part of HP's portfolio) will allow members to have the best possible remote access using the newest technology.

Jenerou said that at the end of the Obama administration, Social Security agencies were instructed to work with Indian country in rural areas that are 50 plus miles from a field office. "Social Security was awarded the technology and equipment for qualifying Native agencies. I was first approached 2017, maybe 2018, from the Mid-West Regional Social Security Director regarding this project.

It was actually supposed to be launched at the St. Ignace Health Center, but it fell to the wayside and a few years went by with no further contact from the Social Security agency."

"Along comes the end of 2021 into 2022 and we are approached again regarding this project. My window of opportunity was reopened. From the first inquiry for this project I always felt the target area was Manistique. We started with Zoom meetings with the Office Manager for the Manistique Health Center, Marlene Glaesmann, and MIS Director Jay Eggert, Mid-West Regional Social Security Director Doug Nguyen, Social Security

Technical Assistant David Nguyen and Social Security PR Marketing Director Vonda Vantil," she said.

The tribe signed an MOU with the Social Security Department committing to the project, under the umbrella of the tribe's health department. "So began the collaboration to install the provided equipment and choose staff that have knowledge of technology and Social Security policy to assist the members with their walk ins," Jenerou said.

Beginning Oct. 30, and the last Monday of each following month, you can walk into the Manistique Tribal Center and speak to a Social Security field agent.

Sugar Island Veteran's Memorial desecrated

BY RANDY MENARD

The Sugar Island Veterans Memorial located on Sugar Island's S. Brassier Rd. has continuously been desecrated over the last several years with both graffiti sprayed on it and trash being purposely discarded in front of it. Lately, this disrespect has escalated to the level of someone needing to say, "Come on people, please grow up!"

Word is, the garbage is being deposited due to a personal vendetta against a local island resident, with the belief that the resident is the property owner upon which the monument sits.

Nothing is farther from the truth.

The Veterans Memorial "aka Stoneman" was originally erected in the early 1990s by

Bill Montgomery of CCMS Construction during the building of the "Emergency Road Project" that later became known as South Brassier Road.

The property that the monument sits on is owned by the Jennette family and the caretaker of the property is their 89-year-old cousin and lifelong island resident Harold Belanger. He is an Army veteran and has also been one of several people who have been cleaning up the debris that has been thrown in front of the Stoneman over the years.

Can anyone envision the personal embarrassment of seeing an almost 90-year-old veteran down in the ditch cleaning up people's trash in front of a monument that was erected to honor him and all the

other men and women of this island who have proudly worn a uniform in the defense of our country? These actions are not only an insult, but a slap in the face to all that has ever defended this great nation. Not to mention the negative effect this has on the Island's public image.

The Michigan State Police said that they have no problem checking into this, because not only is it disrespecting our veterans, it is an offense that carries a \$500 fine and possible jail time. (Yes, littering is a crime.) The State Police talked about posting cameras to monitor the area, but do we really have to go to this level? Can't this issue be resolved by grown adults without local law enforcement having to get involved?

If anyone witnesses any further dishonoring of this memorial, please contact the Michigan State Police post in Sault Ste Marie.

There have been several people and veterans alike who have shared in the care and

maintenance of the memorial over the years, and a well-deserved "Thank You" is in need of being said.

Michigan State Police can be reached at (906) 632-2217.

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Anishinaabemowin 2023

Our language is a reflection of ourselves — our character and our growth.



Bnakwe Giizis Falling Leaves Moon

by Susan Askwith

Anishinaabek think of this late fall as a time to remember, honor, and pay respects to family and friends who have walked on. Traditionally we have prepared their favorite foods to eat in their honor, placed small portions on plates and offered them in sacred fires, set places for them at our tables, and lit candles so they might find their way back to the spirit world. This is kindness toward those who we have loved and valued.

G'mkwenmaanaan. We remember him/her.

G'mkwenmaanaanik We remember them.

G'mnaadenmaanaan. We honor him/her
(So how would we say 'we honor them'?)

Geyaabi ningodweyaangiziwan aawiwag.
They are still my family.

Gii n'nijkewenh aawi. She/he was my friend.



European superstitions are still part of Halloween here today. Some are fun and some are scary!

What's wrong with Black Cats?

"Witches avoided detection by turning themselves into black cats."



Why all the costumes?

"If you left your house you might meet dangerous ghosts of the dead. If you wear costumes, they won't recognize you. They'll mistake you for fellow spirits!"

What's up with Jack-o-lanterns?

"At Halloween, Europeans thought spirits of the dead roamed freely among the living and were scary and dangerous. They began carving angry faces into vegetables, particularly turnips. They'd put bits of lighted candles into the cavities and set the carving outside their houses to frighten off bad spirits. Today we use pumpkins - so much easier to carve and plenty of space for battery lights!"

What about trick or treat ?

"As part of their Halloween festival, people went from house to house asking for small breads — soul cakes — in exchange for prayers for those who had died. This evolved to treats of candy or money — just for the entertainment of seeing cute costumed kids having fun in the fall."

- TasewanHalloween
- GaazhigCat
- JiibayGhost
- Nbwaakaawkwe.....Witch
- KosmaanPumpkin
- DengwenhFace
- JiisTurnip
- ZiisbaakdoonhsCandy
- NoknowewinCostume
- Zhoonyaa.....Money
- JichaagSoul/ Spirit
- SkaanBiscuit/Scone
- MijjimFood
- ShkodeFire
- Jiibay kanan.....Skeleton
- N'gokaan..... Cemetery

Soul Cake: This recipe makes a "cake" that's a cross between a scone and a shortbread cookie. Expect to get about 14 golden cakes.

With beater — 3 minutes on medium: 1 1/2 sticks of butter, 1 cup sugar, 1 tsp. vanilla and 1/4 cup of plain yogurt.

Mix together: 3 1/2 cups flour, 1 1/2 tsp. baking powder, 2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice, 1 tsp. salt.

Next, **alternate** between adding the dry mix (to the buttery part) and 1/2 cup plus an extra tbsp. of milk. Stir this by hand. Finally stir in 1/2 cup raisins. This dough will be a little bit sticky so...

Put the dough **in the freezer** for 20 minutes then press it out to 3/4" thick. Cut out circles (you'll need to flour the cutter between cuts), and put the 'cakes' on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Cut about halfway through each cake to make a 4 wedge design on the tops. Brush with milk and sprinkle with coarse sugar. Put the pan into the **freezer again** for 20 minutes then into a **425 degree** oven for 25 minutes. They'll be gold-colored and crispy on top. Let cool then enjoy them with a cup of tea!



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

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.



What do you get when you divide the circumference of a jack-o-lantern by its diameter? **Pumpkin Pi!**

What do witches ask for at hotels? **Broom service!**

The maker of this product does not want it, the buyer does not use it and the user does not see it. What is it? **A coffin!**

Why is a cemetery a great place to write a story? **There are so many plots there!**

How did the real estate agent sell a home with a dozen witches in the bath-tub? **By noting it comes complete with a self-cleaning coven!**

What does a French skeleton say? **Bone-jour!**



Honoring and learning from our Anishinaabe clans

In our culture the oral tradition is important. We learn and are taught through stories. An Anishinaabe teaching on the clan system is an example of this...

A long time ago, before humans inhabited this world, it is said that the clans were already here. Before the humans arrived, the animals, fish and birds were told by the Creator that humans were coming and that these humans wouldn't have anything and would be pitiful. So, each of the animals, fish and birds said, "We will take care of them and show them how to live in harmony with all of Creation. We will sacrifice ourselves as food so they won't starve and we will supply them with our skins so they will be warm. We will teach them what medicines and ceremonies to use to heal themselves."

These clans are still with Native people today.

Your clan is with you from the day you are born. It is said that your clan walks with you and looks after you. Your clan takes care of you so that you don't have to go through life without help and protection. The spirit of your clan is for you to use because you are a member of that clan; you always offer tobacco when you ask your clan for help.

The Mohawks' family-oriented culture is based on the clan structure. Within the clan structure of the Six Nations, the clan is passed down through the women. Among the Anishinaabe, the children of the family are of their father's clan. The clans of a Nation are often the animals and other creatures that inhabit the region. In the Great Lakes area, the wolf, bear, turtle and deer are common clans. The Anishinaabe say that their clans may be almost any animal, fish or bird. Some of the clans of the Six Nations are the Turtle, Bear, Wolf, Rock, Snipe, Pipe of Peace

and the Heron.

Within a clan there may be many different types of an animal, bird or fish. For example, the turtle clan includes different types of turtles, such as snapping turtles and painted turtles.

Each clan has its own duties and responsibilities. You can consult the elder clan members for the teachings of your clans.

Among the Anishinaabe, the Crane clan, for example, is involved in leadership and the sharing of knowledge, particularly the teachings. Their role is one of leadership because the cranes were instrumental in establishing the clan system for the Anishinaabe. It is said that the cranes have a loud voice that can be heard for miles. When the crane gives a teaching, it can be heard far away in other parts of the world; people listen and learn when a crane teaches.

The Eagle clan represents the family unit; both parents protect and bring food to the eaglets. The eagle also teaches about respect, hunting, being a warrior and being in balance with the environment.

The Bear clan are like the guardians of the communities. They are also the protectors and carriers of the medicines.

Learning your clan

If knowledge of your clan is lost to your family and if your search through family, church, treaty, band or school records does not reveal this information, you can offer tobacco and make the request to know what your clan is to a spiritual person who has the ability to find out what clan is watching over you.

Honoring your clan

To honor your clan is to be a brother, uncle, sister or aunt to all the people who are of your clan. When you meet someone of your clan who is younger than you, they are considered to be your nephew or niece. When you meet someone of your clan who is the same age, they are consid-

ered to be your brother or sister. It is your responsibility to take care of the relatives of your clan. When a clan member visits your community, you ensure that this person is taken care of. When you do this, you bring honor to your clan and yourself.

Depending on what clan you belong to, you may feast your clan monthly; once or twice a year; or four times a year at the change of the seasons. Many people will make their food and tobacco offering to their clan by leaving the offering outside on the ground or in the water. For example, a member of the Bullhead Fish clan puts their offering of tobacco and food on a raft which is sent onto the lake. In some communities all the members of a clan may gather to feast their clan and to hold clan ceremonies.

Many people put out a food offering for their clan in the fall, to give their clan strength and energy to survive the winter and in the spring to revitalize their clan's spirit after a hard winter.

Some Bear clan people feed their clan when the bear is going into hibernation and again in the spring when the cubs are born.

They might leave a food offering of strawberries, raspberries, salmon and other types of meats and berries a bear would like. Generally, a food offering will consist of any food your clan would eat. Members of the Bullhead Fish clan, the boss of all fish clans, feed the clan when the ice comes in and goes out.

In the past, clans were painted on warrior shields encircled with medicine bundles. Today clan markers, items which represent your clan such as antlers, skins, skulls, a painting or carving of the clan, may be hung in a respectful manner.

Referrals to healers, elders and medicine people

As our awareness and knowledge of our traditions and culture increases, so does our honor and

respect for these ways. This has not always been the case in our communities.

There are always those who present themselves as healers, elders or medicine people who have not earned that title and may use the teachings and medicines in the wrong way. It is important for everyone, especially young people, to be aware of this and to exercise caution when they seek healing, teachings or advice. It is advisable to consult with people whom you trust to get referrals to respected and recognized traditional healers, elders and medicine people.

To obtain a referral to a healer, elder or medicine person in your area, or to make an appointment in the seven-county service area, call Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine at (906) 632-0236.

Special acknowledgement is

given to the following healers and elders who contributed their knowledge and understanding of the traditions and culture in the preparation of the brochures from which this article was taken: Jake Aguonia, Garnett Councillor; Harlan Downwind, Roger Jones, Rose Logan, Mary Louie, Dorothy Sam, Nelson (SugarBear) Shognosh, Geraldine Standup and Ella Waukey.

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TRIBAL MEMBERS!

If you aren't using some parts of your harvest this fall, such as bear fat, deer fat, or bear claws, Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine could use them for medicine and ceremony. If you think you might have something to help our healers, call (906) 632-0236.

SAULT TRIBE TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PROGRAM

2023 NOVEMBER HEALER'S CLINIC HOURS

GERARD SAGASSIGE

<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">November 6,7,13,14,27,28</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Sault Ste. Marie Health Center (906)632-0236</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Wednesday, November 1st</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">St. Ignace Health Center (906)643-8689</p>
<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Wednesday, November 8th</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Manistique Health Center (906)341-8469</p>	
<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Wednesday, November 15th</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Newberry Health Center (906)293-8181</p>	<p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Wednesday, November 29th</p> <p style="font-size: 0.8em; margin: 0;">Munising Health Center (906)387-4721</p>

GEORGE GOGGLEYE

November 1,2,3,8,9,15,16,17,22,29,30

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center
(906)632-0236 Lori Gambardella

ANY QUESTIONS, OR TO BOOK AN APPOINTMENT PLEASE CALL TRADITIONAL MEDICINE PROGRAM AT 906-632-0236 OR 906-632-5268

MSHKA'ODIN GIIZIS - FROZEN MOON - NOVEMBER 2023

NIIZHWAASO GIIZHIGAT	NTAM GIIZHIGAT	NIIZHO GIIZHIGAT	NSWO GIIZHIGAT	NIIWO GIIZHIGAT	NAANO GIIZHIGAT	NGODWAASWO GIIZHIGAT
			1 ntam goon (first snow)	2 N'giisaadendam. (I am sorry.)	3 Zhiitaa. (S/he is getting ready.)	4 ezhi-dgongeng gegoo (recipe)
5 Gibeyiing giizhigat. (Daylight savings time ends.)	6 Oodetoo. (S/he is going to town/window shopping.)	7 mkoomiins (icicle; ice cube)	8 Gsinaa. (It is cold outside.)	9 Biiskan g'bootsinan. (I am putting on my boots.)	10 waaboowaan (blanket)	11 Zhimaaganish Giizhigat (Veterans Day)
12 gzhaabkizigan (stove/heater)	13 baashkaminsigan (preserves/jam)	14 Waawaashkesh'ke. (S/he is hunting deer.)	15 N'segaajige. (I am decorating.)	16 nangoonhsag (stars)	17 giizhigong (in the sky)	18 Nwebi. (S/he is resting/napping.)
19 washkobang (dessert)	20 Mishkepo. (It is wet snow.)	21 Niiskaadat. (It is nasty weather.)	22 mizise (turkey)	23 Miigwechiwe Giizhigat (Giving Thanks Day)	24 manoomin (wild rice)	25 pkweshmowin (pillow)
26 Mkoomi giigoonh'ke. (S/he is ice fishing.)	27  Mooshkaneshin Dibiki Giizis (It is a full moon.)	28 goonens (snowflake)	29 aanakwat (cloud)	30 mshkiigomitig tamarack		

Tribal member Mike Wartella inducted into Jackson Lumen Christi Athletic Hall of Fame

JACKSON, Mich. — Sault Tribe member Mike Wartella, with a coaching career that spanned 36 years, was recently inducted into the Lumen Christi Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2023!

The Titan's had winning seasons in 25 of Wartella's 33 seasons as their head coach, including a school-record 23 wins during the 2019-20 season. Lumen Christi also had 10 teams ranked inside the Top 10 in the final standings of their respective division and had 10 teams finish Academic All-State.

The 2016 inductee of the Michigan High School Hockey Coaches Association Hall of Fame led the Titans to 11 conference titles, two regional titles, 10 regional final appearances, and one state semifinal appearance. Wartella said there has been a hockey program at Lumen for 48 years and he's been involved with it for about 40 of them.

His playing career includes: Four-year varsity player 1975-1979; captain 1979; played on two state championship teams in 1977 and 1978; Final Four 1979; career scoring 152 points, fourth all time; career assists 92, second all time; and single game scoring record eight points, tied for second all time.

Coaching career: 36 years as head coach from 1985-2021;

523 wins, 310 losses and 51 ties; fifth all time wins, 523 MHSAA; second all-time games coached, 884 MHSAA.

Eleven conference titles; 10 regional finals; two regional titles and one final four.

Ten teams all state academic; 10 teams ranked final season top ten; nine teams with 19 or more wins; 23 wins in the 2019/20 season for a school record; 25 seasons with .500 or better record; Michigan High School Hockey Coaches Association Hall of Fame – 2016.

Wartella, a 1983 graduate of Michigan State University, retired from the State of Michigan in 2018 after 32 years with the Secretary of State, the last 18 years as the Customer Services Administration Director.

"My induction into the Lumen Christi Athletic Hall of Fame was a great honor for me, I was surprised and humbled to be selected by the committee," he said. "I was very fortunate to be hired by AD Jerry Sykes in 1985 and enjoyed excellent support from the Lumen Christi community throughout the years. I had some great players and teams over the years and some outstanding assistant

coaches who put in endless hours to establish Lumen Christi hockey as a well-respected program in the State of Michigan. Coaching at Lumen Christi was a truly special time in my life and each of the 36 teams and players holds a special place in my heart. The Hall of Fame honor was certainly the icing on the cake!"

Congratulations Coach Mike!

Right: Coach Wartella in front of the Lumen Christi Hall of Fame. Below: Wartella with members of the Titan's team during a game.



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Births celebrated throughout tribal community

BROOKS VAUGHN MCKERCHIE

Brooks Vaughn McKerchie was born on Sept. 14, 2023, in Mobile, Ala. to Austin and Ashley McKerchie. Brooks joins his older brother Bentley McKerchie, completing the family. Brooks weighed 6 pounds, 4.5 ounces and was 19 inches in length.

Grandparents are Harold III (Joe) and Megan McKerchie, Chris and Jamie Seaman, Margaret Sprayberry and the late Jamie Sprayberry. Great grandparents are the late Harold Jr. (Bud) and Linda McKerchie, Alan and Theresa Hobbs, Wayne and Karen Wallace and Carolyn Seaman, all of Mobile. Great great grandparents and tribal member are the late Harold Sr. (Cub) McKerchie and the late Mary Joyce McKerchie of Sugar Island, Mich.



MIA SOPHIA FERGUSON

Jena M. Capriccioso (KazNoDayKwe) and Kyle Q. Ferguson are beyond thrilled to announce the arrival of their precious little daughter, Mia Sophia (Waabishkaa lotus Waabigwan Kwayzenhs), born 11:33 p.m., Sept. 6, 2023, at Munson Medical Center in Traverse City, Mich. Mia weighed 6 pounds, 12.5 ounces and was 19.5 inches in length. Mia was happily welcomed home by her three excited furry pet siblings, Maizey, Manitou and Moki. All are doing wonderfully and look forward to traveling to Sault Ste. Marie soon to see the beautiful Upper Peninsula autumn color changes.



LEIGHLYN RAY-ANN BROWN

Leighlyn Ray-Ann Brown was born Sept. 30, 2023, at Spectrum Butterworth Hospital in Grand Rapids, Mich. She weighed 6 pounds, 14 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

Parents are Ashlyn Murphy and Malcolm Brown, formerly of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Grandparents are Mary Peterson and Doug Murphy of Muskegon, Mich., Heidi and Roger Steinkohl of Sault Ste. Marie, and the late Johnny Brown of Las Vegas, Nev. Great grandparents include Sandra Earl of Muskegon, Joann and Joe Smith of Reunion, Fla., and Barbara Dietz of Sault Ste Marie.



JAMES PATRICK MCCABE IV

James and Victoria McCabe of Ferndale, Mich., welcomed their son, James Patrick McCabe IV, on Sept. 11, 2023. He weighed 8 pounds, 4 ounces and was 21 inches in length. He was born at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich.



JKL Bahweting students learn about wild rice

On Sept. 18 and 19, students at JKL Bahweting Anishinaabe PSA had an outdoor learning experience about manoomin - or wild rice. Presenter and

local Anishinaabe inini, Jefferson Ballew, taught students about the different types of manoomin, how to woodparch it, and how to dance the manoomin. At the end

of the presentation, Mrs. Hoffman the JKL Anishinaabe izhitwaawin miinawaa Anishinaabemowin kinoomaaged, gave students a taste test. Students were able to

enjoy a mix of manoomin, blueberries, and pure maple syrup. Many expressed that it was their first time eating this traditional food.



Photos by Tan-A Hoffman
Jefferson Ballew teaching about manoomin parching.



Middle school students learning how to use the push pole and rice knockers.



Middle school and second grade Mrs. Miller and Miss B's class watching Mr. Ballew winnow the rice.



Mrs. Butzin's fourth-grade class.

Ashlynn Brown is 2



Sault Tribe member Ashlynn Brown turns 2 on Oct. 28! She is the daughter of Sault Tribe members Scotty and Arianna Brown.

New program will benefit dental health

BY SCOTT BRAND

With a quick visit before returning to her dental therapy studies at Skagit Valley College (SVC) in Washington, Dana Obey met with Sault Tribe Health Recruiter Mary McLean and Dental Director David Drockton preparing for her 2024 clinical rotation.

"I have family in West Branch and wanted to visit while I'm here," said Obey having completed her first year of school. Obey was one of six applicants accepted into the new program at SVC designed to improve dental care for Native Americans.

This effort appears to have been kindled in 2016 after Director Timothy Lozon of the

Division of Oral Health for Indian Health Services pointed to studies that showed an estimated 44.5% of people over the age of two had a dental visit in the past year in the United States, but that number was only 28.8% for Native Americans and Alaskan Natives. That same document also revealed that Native Americans and Alaska Natives have a much higher rate of tooth decay.

"So many Native Americans have had bad experiences with mobile dentistry," said Obey underscoring the importance of dental therapy. "It is designed to create a rapport and spend a lot of time with community outreach."

While Obey will be trained to



From left, Dental Director Dave Drockton meets dental therapy student Dana Obey and Sault Tribe Health Recruiter Mary McLean.

do the basics "drill, fill, extract, and clean," like any other dentist, this particular role is more about preventative measures.

"My job is to pull people in," she said. "Start with the kids and

build a relationship with them so they trust you."

"That's why Dana is such a good fit," said Dr. Drockton of filling this position with a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Obey grew up just outside of Detroit in Hazel Park, Mich. She became a certified dental assistant after completing a program at Everest Institute in Southfield, Mich., and served in that capacity for 14 years before enrolling at SVC in 2022.

Mary McLean indicated that Dana is one of two Sault Tribe members who have entered into Dental Therapy programs. "We are excited for the future of implementing Dental Therapy

into our Dental Department and the opportunity to have Dana join the Sault Tribe Health Division upon her graduation. The addition of these providers to the Dental Department will have a significant impact on patient services and relationships in the community."

The Sault Tribe Dental Department hopes to employ dental therapists to expand access to dental care throughout the Upper Peninsula.

Another Sault tribe member, Lynda Gregorini, will be starting the Advanced Dental Therapy Master's Program at Metro State University in Minneapolis in January 2024.

Walk for recovery held on tribe's reservation

The annual Recovery Walk was held Sept. 21 with participants gathering inside Big Bear Arena to register for the event and claim a free T-shirt and swag bag. Informational booths were set up inside for those interested in recovery resources and information. The walk began after motivational recovery speakers addressed those gathered about their recovery journey and the people and resources that made a difference in their lives. The walk, held in honor of National Recovery Month, is sponsored by Sault Tribe Behavioral Health with support from Sault Tribe Court and Sault Tribe Housing.



The Soo Eagles hockey team participated in the annual event.



Photos by Brenda Austin



Participants gathered in front of Big Bear Arena for the opening ceremony and recovery speakers.



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Artwork created by Reese Carter



Open to the public, everyone is welcome! No alcohol, drugs, politics, or pets

Letter from Tribal Action Plan coordinator

BY SAULT TRIBE TAP COORDINATOR PATRICK MCCOY MA,BS,CAC1

While substance use disorder is one of our nation's biggest public health problems, it's too often perceived as a moral issue or a criminal matter rather than an illness.

People with substance use disorders often suffer in isolation, are outcast, and even imprisoned. They suffer in shame, guilt, and embarrassment, terrified to find themselves in this situation. The

initial decision to take drugs is usually voluntary, but with on-going use, drugs change the brain in ways that make quitting very difficult even for someone who wants to because their brains are high jacked by their addiction. They develop into a state of making excuses for their use. So with that being said it's easy to understand that addiction is a disease and not only that it is a disease, but it's a disease that tells you, you don't have a disease. As it has been said in groups like AA

it's cunning, baffling, and powerful and there are stages of denial that usually require a crisis for the addict to address their behavior.

Sometimes this crisis is incarceration and that's why Drug Courts work. We have our very own drug court and it has helped many addicts to find and achieve recovery and to start living as a productive member of society. I've known many addicts that have achieved sobriety through a court ordered treatment process that later have written letters of

thanks to Judges and POs for keeping them accountable to attend their treatment plans.

When the courts are not involved crisis may be addressed through family and societal interventions that help the addict look at themselves and realize that their substance use is affecting and hurting the people they love.

Many times on the reservations people know the people that are struggling with addiction and those that are struggling with recovery. It's important to support

them, although it's also important not to enable; this behavior leads addicts back to using.

If you see someone that is staying sober always support their recovery actions. Your encouragement can help to keep those that struggle to maintain sobriety motivated to be drug and alcohol free.

When we work together we can heal as a community.

Email Patrick McCoy at pmccoy@saulttribe.net or call (906) 632-5211.

Tribal health staff test out latest continuous glucose monitor

Staff at the Munising Tribal Center recently had an opportunity to test out the latest continuous glucose monitor to hit the market.

The Dexcom G7 is a 10-day wearable device that continuously monitors blood sugars so patients can make better treatment decisions and troubleshoot

problem areas in their diabetes care with less finger sticks. This device joins the other available devices, the Dexcom G6, and the Freestyle Libre 2 and 3.

The staff is committed to keeping up with the latest technology to help their patients have more success in their blood sugar control.

Walking in their patient's shoes for 10 days by wearing the sensor gives them a better idea of what their patients must deal with on a daily basis and familiarizes them with how the technology works.

CGM's are receiving much better insurance coverage in

recent months as well, making them more accessible to more patients who may benefit from them.

Below: Staff from Munising Health Center sport CGMs on their upper arms to familiarize themselves with their usage.

Pictured from left to right are Dietician Cassie Steinhoff RD CDCES, Clinic LPN Marla Wardowski, Dr. Michelle Kroupa-Kulik, Community Health Nurse Valerie Ford RN, Clinic Secretary Heather Nord, Staff Pharmacist Sarah Seder PharmD and Clinic LPN Gabi Tyner.

Michigan Indian Elder Conference attendees welcomed by local drums



The Michigan Indian Elder Conference was welcomed by the Bahweting School Drum (above) led by Chris Gordon and JKL Bahweting students Grayson Kibble, Zachary Kibble, Wyatt Kibble, Wyatt Kincheloe and George Solomon and four dancers Maci Gordon, Skye Downwind, Gabby Gil and Poppy Solomon. The Bahweting Elder Drum (below) consisting of Bud Biron, Geezhik McCoy, Greg Solomon, Ed Cook, Tyler Bouschor, Tim Derwin and Grey Shea.



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.

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Special delivery arrives at the Lodge of Hope

BY SCOTT BRAND

The Lodge of Hope accepted a generous donation consisting of nearly 12,000 ready-to-eat food packets from Mike Peters of 4 Fires Ministries on Sept. 21.

"There are 54 boxes," said Shelter Manager Annie Thibert of the donation. "Each box has 36 pouches and each pouch contains six servings."

The pouches come in three separate flavors, Apple Cinnamon Oatmeal, Fortified Rice-Soy Casserole and Fiesta Rice Dinner.

"All you need is hot water to have a complete meal," said Thibert. "They are high protein and high nutrition."

The Kids Against Hunger donation was initially shipped up

to Lake Superior State University where students from the GEAR UP program, which is an acronym for Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, assisted in delivering the protein-packed pouches.

"There are no reporting requirements," added Thibert of the paperwork often associated with donations, "as long as it goes to Indigenous people or an Indigenous household there are no strings attached."

Thibert also added that Peters has provided various tribes with similar donations in the past.

"I think it is amazing, absolutely amazing," she said, adding the meals will be stored at the Lodge of Hope to be utilized by

shelter guests. With a three-year shelf-life, the option is also open for distributing them to other Sault Tribe service departments should the need arise.

"We have already distributed some to shelter guests with positive reviews," noted Thibert of the feedback she has had from those who have tried the meals.

Thibert also added that she wanted to extend her appreciation to Mike Peters and all of the local folks who have helped to donate to the hygiene closet and the winter clothing drive. Donations are still being accepted at the Lodge of Hope and anyone with items to give can contact Thibert at (906) 632-5200 to make arrangements for pick-up or delivery.



Mike Peters presents one of nearly 12,000 food pouches to Lodge of Hope Shelter Worker Lori Wilkins and Manager Annie Thibert.

Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan receives funding to help reduce health disparities

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has awarded the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan (ITCMI) \$1,021,899 for the first year of a five-year program to prevent chronic diseases and help reduce health disparities within tribal communities.

The program is called the Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health, or REACH.

The following tribal communities will be receiving funding under the new program: The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, The Bay Mills Indian Community, Hannahville Indian Community, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, and the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, in an effort to improve long term health outcomes for their communities.

The ITCMI will be working with their tribal partners to enhance existing resources and address health needs among Native American communities in Michigan.

Terry O'Toole, PhD, MDIV, program development and evaluation branch chief in CDC's Division of Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity, said, "With this funding, organizations will plan and carry out local, culturally-appropriate programs to address a wide range of health issues among racial and ethnic minority groups where health gaps remain."

REACH program funding will allow the ITCMI to implement proven public health strategies. Health Education and Chronic Disease Department Director at ITCMI, Laura Fisher, said, "The REACH Journey to Wellness Project will assist the Sault Tribe with addressing health disparities within the tribal communi-

ty. The project will address social determinants of health and its impact on chronic diseases, such as heart disease, diabetes, and stroke. Areas of focus include nutrition, physical activity, assisting with adult immunizations, and tobacco control within our tribal population and will be tailored to best fit Sault Tribe. The ITCMI is excited for this collaboration."

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Tips & Tricks to Start and Grow Your Small Business

Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023

Sault Tribe Administration Building
531 Ashmun St, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

No charge for the training or lunch.

Join the Michigan SBDC and Sault Tribe Thrive for this business-building event for a full- or half-day training.

Agenda

- 9-10 a.m. Registration/Networking/Light breakfast
- 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Tips & Tricks to Starting a Small Business
 - a. Business planning
 - b. Market research
 - c. Financial projections/pricing

12-1 p.m. Lunch/Networking

- 1-3 p.m. Tips & Tricks to Grow your Small Business
 - a. Marketing
 - b. Export
 - c. People-Resources



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The family farm, a great place to learn and grow

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Goodman family farm in Rudyard is where Becky and Dean Goodman raised their two girls, Kaitlyn (24) and Kylie Goodman (19) and taught them the value of working towards a goal.

Goodman Farms was established in 2016 when Kylie, then 12, and her dad, bought three heifers to breed and their herd quickly expanded. "It was a learning curve in the beginning, and we didn't start off breeding show cattle. It took many years and mentors to get where we are now," Kylie said. "We now see what good genetics are and have learned how to pick out bulls that will produce good calves with the cows and heifers we have. We are now at 15 cows and three heifers which we artificially inseminate and have a couple embryo transfers done."

Kylie said they sell most of their calves to local fair kids. "We have had four grand champions and four reserve grand champions at the Chippewa County Fair and two grand champions and one reserve grand champion at the Gladwin County Fair."

Raising animals has impacted who Kylie has become and she said they "have helped raise me." Kylie's older sister Kaitlyn also loved showing animals at the county fair.

Their mom, Becky Goodman, said Kaitlyn and Kylie both loved animals from a young age. "The livestock started in 2015 with Kaitlyn's chickens that produced eggs which she would sell at school. She then wanted to get a goat so she could milk them to raise bottle calves and make goat milk soap. Kylie purchased the sibling, so we then had chickens, two goats, and a bottle baby calf. One thing led to another and the next thing you know the Goodman's were raising cattle," Becky said.

Before the Goodman's purchased their first livestock, they had about 10 bluetick hounds. "I always had that responsibility of an animal relying on me to feed and care for them. But when I started buying my own steers and pigs, that responsibility really

kicked in - I had to be out there a minimum of twice a day for an hour. Most of all though, I found people who I could connect with and who had that same drive and passion for the agriculture industry. The people I met while raising livestock have probably impacted me the most. It's a tough hobby, but it makes the hardest working and most genuine people I have met, which pushes me to be my best self. I would not be where I am without all of the people who have supported and mentored me along the way. I am so grateful for my family and long nights in the barns," she said.

In March 2022 Kylie fell in love with a newborn steer they named Felix. "I couldn't wait to get him out in the show ring. We did a total of four jackpot shows and the fair at the end of the year. Our second show, Winter Classic, was at Michigan State University where I showed Felix in the Howard and Doris King Memorial Bred and Owned Show and he was selected overall grand champion. He was also selected as fifth overall bred and owned. That was a memorable weekend for the whole family as there were around 400 other market animals competing. The last show we did was the Cherry Capital in Traverse City where Felix was selected champion maintainer, which put us into the overall drive where he was selected third overall market animal. The fair was the last place where Felix and I would get to step into the showing together and it's one I will never forget. Felix was selected grand champion steer, bred, owned, and shown, and tri-county bred. He then helped me win reserve overall beef showman, which then advanced me to the overall showman competition where I received first," she said.

Felix was offered for sale at the Chippewa County Fair livestock auction with the 1,365-pound steer going to Tri-County Builders at a price of \$7.50 a pound, earning her over \$10,000.

When she started getting competitive in showing steers, Kylie said her main goal was to win a

belt buckle. "This steer helped me achieve that for the first time and didn't stop at just one, but helped me get awarded three buckles. I have been going to jackpot shows with my steers since 2017. In my first year I only did one show. The following year I decided to quit sports and focus on showing cattle and doing more jackpot shows. My parents and sister agreed, and we started doing more shows and that is what our family vacations consist of now," she said.

Since 2016, Kylie and her family have raised seven steers for the Chippewa County Fair, five of which were born on their farm. "I raised one steer that I brought to the U.P. State Fair, and I also raise an alternate steer every year. I have also raised a pig for the past eight years for the Chippewa County Fair," she said.

Kylie said she loves everything about working with animals. "Some days are more challenging than others, a 1,000-pound animal has a mind of its own and doesn't always cooperate. I truly bond with all of my steers and cows, and they are a daily part of my life that I enjoy each day. Every year I learn something new from my steer and I am very grateful for each of them and all the life lessons I have learned from them. My favorite thing to do is be in the barn or showing!" she said.

Kylie is attending Michigan State University and studying animal science, possibly with a degree in animal nutrition in mind. "I am taking an animal nutrition class that I find very interesting. Animals can eat food that is inedible for humans and turn it into meat that humans then consume. As an animal nutritionist, I would be evaluating and forming diets for livestock and even household pets," she said.

Older sister Kaitlyn earned her bachelor of science degree in animal science in 2021 and started the College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University that fall. Kaitlyn is currently in her third year and will graduate in May of 2025 with her doctorate in veterinary medicine.



Traverse City Cherry Capital Beef Classic 2023 - Kylie with Felix who was selected Champion Maintainer and Third Overall Market Animal.



In December at the Michigan State University Howard and Doris King Memorial, Felix and Kylie (above) won Bred and Owned Show and Felix was selected Overall Grand Champion. He was also selected as fifth overall Bred and Owned.



In August at the Chippewa County Fair, Felix was selected Grand Champion Steer, Bred, Owned, and Shown, and Tri-County Bred. Kylie won Reserve Overall Beef Showman, which advanced her to the overall showman competition, where she took first place.

Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course wrapping up 2023

BY SCOTT BRAND

Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course, located at 2600 W. 16th Avenue in Sault Ste. Marie Mich., is wrapping up another busy season under the ownership of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Director of Operations Alexandra Schulte described the grounds as a 5,400-yard golf course, comprised of the usual 18-holes.

"They're par 3-5 with a lot of dog legs on the course," said Schulte. "It's a really challenging course with all the dog legs that make you think on each shot and each approaching shot."

Schulte brings a wealth of experience to the operation having golfed for the Arkansas Razorbacks in college and a professional stint on the Symetra tour which serves as feeder system for the Ladies Professional Golf Association. She had been

in golf management before coming to the Sault in July of 2022 to oversee both the Tanglewood Golf Course and Bear on the Mountain Golf Course in Hessel.

Tanglewood Marsh has nearly 300 people in golf leagues with men, women and co-ed divisions in addition to the daily walk-on golfers. Schulte was quick to credit Maintenance Superintendent Don Cole for keeping the fleet of 74 carts operational and overseeing the other heavy equipment that keeps the grass mowed and the greens clear.

"He has a good firm knowledge of this property," she said of the two decades Cole has invested on the course.

Tanglewood Marsh opens the first week of May and remains open, weather depending, through the third week of October. The clubhouse, howev-

er, is available for rent throughout the winter for wedding receptions, Christmas and birthday parties or any other event. While the regular menu consists of hot dogs, brats and a full bar catered events can provide a full menu for guests.

Schulte also expressed interest in expanding future winter activities to snowshoeing and cross-country skiing.



Above: Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course. Below left: Signage. Below right: A family foursome comprised of Tina Garner, her two sons, Travis Gardner and Samuel Gardner with nine-year-old, Temperance Gardner.



Walking on...

AMY BETH DROUILLARD-ADCOCK

Amy Beth Drouillard-Adcock, 35, of St. Clair Shores, Mich., lost her battle with breast cancer on Aug. 24, 2023. She passed away at Ascension St. John Hospital, Detroit, peacefully with family by her side.



Amy was born on July 22, 1988. She was a loving wife to Kyle, a fierce, but good-hearted "hockey mom" for Nolan, and she had an infectious smile with bright eyes. She was known for her ability to light up the room with her fun-loving nature, free-spirited personality, and of course, her singing and dancing. Amy was beautiful, passionate, and had an effervescent spirit that made her the life of the party.

She was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, attending the Powwows with her grandma, Georgeanna "Georgie" Drouillard, and family. As a young girl, Amy attended Tribal Craft Classes, making snow snakes, dream catchers, and moc-casins.

Amy worked at Tim Hortons Café and Bake Shop, LaVida Massage, and HR Cleanings. She enjoyed many types of music, but country music was her favorite, as she camped out and enjoyed the Faster Horses Country Music Festival a few times. She was a big fan of: Reba McEntire, Brooks & Dunn, and Chris Stapleton. Amy was a dedicated hockey mom for her son, Nolan. She never missed a game until she became ill, but even then, she watched the action on Live Barn Streaming. She always volunteered to help in any way she could, whether it was: selling raffle tickets, heading up fundraisers, or just bringing her delicious Bacon-Wrapped Jalapeno Poppers to an event.

When Amy was 12-13 years old, she used to be one of Santa's elves at the annual "Skate with Santa" at the St. Clair Shores Civic Arena, giving candy and toys to the children. Amy was a proficient cornholer and was always seen participating in local tournaments. And of course, she loved her two cats, Luci and Junebug.

Amy is survived by her dedicated husband, Kyle Adcock, her son, Nolan Cliff, her father, Clarence Drouillard, her mother, Nancy Drouillard, and her brother, Joe (Amy Lynn) Drouillard. She was preceded in death by her paternal grandparents, Clarence (Sr) Drouillard, and Georgeanna "Georgie" Drouillard and her maternal grandparents, Richard and Louise Zopff.

Amy grew up in Eastpointe, Mich., attending East Detroit high school, class of 2006. She cherished the friendships that she made during her life and touched anyone she came to know.

Amy and Kyle planned to be married on Aug. 26, 2023 at a scenic outdoor venue with all their family and friends present and a festive reception to follow.

The wedding was canceled 4 days before the scheduled event when Amy's health took a turn for the worse. She was admitted into St. John Hospital on Aug. 24 and put on hospice care.

The doctors and nurses got Amy into her wedding dress, they lit candles, and had soft music playing. About 10 to 12 family members were present, since many had arrived from out of town for the ceremony that had been canceled. Kyle and Nolan were dressed in their wedding clothes. Amy and Kyle were married in the hospital room and it was a beautiful ceremony. When anyone said how beautiful Amy looked in her wedding dress, it brought a smile to her face. Mentioning her wedding ring also brought a big smile from her. There was a short daddy-daughter dance to Christina Aquilera's "I Turn to You." Then the nurses brought in a wedding cake. A few hours later, Amy passed away peacefully with family gathered by her side. A smile was on her face.

She will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her. Amy's radiant spirit and loving generous nature will forever be remembered and cherished.

A celebration of Amy's life was held at Blossom Heath Park in St. Clair Shores, Mich on Friday, Oct. 6.

EVELYN M. BLONDEAU

Evelyn Mary (MacGowan) Blondeau, 97, passed away on Sunday Sept. 24, 2023.

Evelyn was born on Jan. 31, 1926 in Sault Ste Marie, Mich., to the late Thomas and Ethel "Mae" (MacGowan) Stafford. She was adopted and raised by Mary and Pauline MacGowan, her maternal aunts.



She attended the Loretto Academy in Sault Ste. Marie and Bishop Baraga High School in Marquette, Mich. In 1946, Evelyn married Louis Blondeau in Marquette. Evelyn worked as an office manager in the real estate business for over 25 years, retiring in 2004. She was an elder of Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She moved from Marquette to the South Bend, Ind. area in 2014.

Evelyn is survived by two daughters, Marie (Kerry) Hyde and Angela (Ted) Blanchard; one son, Paul (Pam) Blondeau; daughter-in-law, Kathleen Blondeau; grandchildren, Jason, Lindsay, and Matt Blondeau, Barbra (Jonas) Rutledge, Kristine (Jeff) Johnson, and Jammie DesJardins; great-grandchildren, Jenni Blondeau, Matthew Burgess, Mia DesJardins, Olivia and Penelope Rutledge; her siblings, Samuel Stafford, Raymond Stafford, and Caroline Thiele and sister-in-law, Mickey Stafford. She was preceded in death by her parents, her aunts, her former husband, Louis Blondeau; her son, Kenneth Blondeau and grandson, Bryan Peter Blondeau; siblings, Charlie

Stafford, Pauline Moll, Clarence Stafford, Thomas Stafford, MaeBelle (Arlen) Brooks, and Linda Shepherd.

Online condolences to the family may be sent via the Palmer Funeral Homes website at www.palmerfuneralhomes.com

ROBERT LESLIE EDDY

Longtime Newberry resident, Robert Leslie Eddy, 83, died Tuesday evening Sept. 26, 2023 at his residence. Born June 10, 1940 in Newberry, son of the late Leslie and Pauline (Keltz) Eddy, Bob married the former Louise Crow on Feb. 12, 1961 in Kalamazoo, Mich. They moved to the Newberry area in 1968 where he was employed as a truck driver and also owning Bub's Bar in McMillan for several years until his retirement.



Bob was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Newberry Elks Lodge #1705 and the Fraternal Order of Eagles #3701.

Bob and Louise enjoyed camping for 20+ years at the Big Lake Campground where many lifelong friends were made. As an Eddy family tradition spanning generations, Bob also served as Santa Claus for Christmas holiday events in the community for several years.

In addition to his parents, Bob is preceded in death by his wife Louise on April 16, 2022; infant son Robert Leslie Eddy Jr.; siblings Barbara (Ray) Simmons, Sally (Clarence) Burke, Kimball (Judith) Eddy and Joan (Bill) Karlson; brothers-in-law Dennis Stucke and Tommy Smith; son-in-law Stephen Masich.

Survivors include his loving daughters Mindy Masich of Newberry and Missy (Andy) Evans of Cheboygan, Mich; grandchildren Michelle (Rudy Mendoza) Masich, Rob (Kara Lyke) Masich, and Miranda (Mike Peters) Masich; great-grandchildren Tyler Masich, Hailey Mendoza, and Aaliyah Masich; sisters D. Marie Smith of Newberry and Judith Stucke of Lomira, Wisc.; several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Per his request, cremation services were accorded. A gathering of family and friends celebrating the life of Bob will be held Saturday Oct. 28, 2023 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the American Legion Post #74 in Newberry.

Condolences may be expressed at www.beaulieufuneralhome.com.

Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry is assisting the family.

TAMMY ANN GOINGS

Tammy Ann Goings, a beloved daughter, sister, aunt, cousin and friend, passed away peacefully at home in Sun City, Calif., on Sept. 3, 2023, with parents/family at bedside. Born Oct. 15, 1973, in Lincoln, Neb., she grew up in Imperial Beach, Calif. Tammy was known for her loving, thoughtful, and selfless nature, and she touched the lives of everyone she met.

Tammy was the cherished

daughter of Ruth and John Clingan and the adored sister of Tina Blinsman. Her love extended to her three nieces and six great-nieces and nephews, as well as



many aunts, uncles, and cousins. She had an innate ability to make each member of her family feel special and loved, and her strong-willed and loyal nature was a constant source of comfort for them all.

After graduating from Mar Vista High School in Imperial Beach, Calif., Tammy participated/volunteered in the community including organizations like the Kiwanis Club and the Boys and Girls Club in her younger years. Her love for her community was only surpassed by her pride in her heritage. As a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in Michigan, she was passionate about her Grandfather's heritage, and learning about her cultural traditions.

Tammy was a woman of many interests. She was incredibly patriotic, and she enjoyed collecting eagles, marbles, and dream-catchers. She found joy in playing slots and bingo at the casino, family game nights, painting, and coloring; her creativity shining through in each piece she created. She had such love for animals she studied online and got a Veterinary Assistant Degree. Her favorite animals were dogs and eagles. Tammy's compassionate nature was evident in the care she provided for her own pets. She was also a fan of watching movies and dancing, and her infectious laughter and joy-filled spirit would light up any room.

Perhaps one of Tammy's most remarkable qualities was her ability to inspire humbleness in those around her. She had a gift for making people feel comfortable and loved, and her presence had a calming effect on those she encountered. Her generosity knew no bounds, and she was always willing to lend a listening ear or a helping hand to those in need.

Tammy will be remembered as a beacon of love, thoughtfulness, and selflessness. Her spirit was a testament to the power of kindness, humility, and genuine care for others. Her memory will live on in the hearts of all those who were fortunate enough to know her, and her impact will continue to inspire those who carry on her legacy of love and humor.

In her life, Tammy Ann Goings was a source of joy, warmth, and compassion, and these qualities will continue to be celebrated in her memory. As we say goodbye to this remarkable woman, we remember her not just for the life she lived, but for the lives she touched and the love she shared. Her legacy will forever be a testament to the power of kindness, humility, and genuine care for others. Rest in peace, dear Tammy. You will be deeply missed, but your spirit will forever live on in our hearts.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the National Brain Tumor Society.

JOHN F. KIRKPATRICK

John Kirkpatrick, 79, passed away Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023, at his home in Rhodes, Mich. He was born Feb. 7, 1944, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to the



late Jack and Josephine (Smith) Kirkpatrick. John was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He was a graduate of Sault Ste. Marie High School, class of 1963. John was a U.S. Navy Veteran, aboard the U.S.S. Oklahoma City, a guided missile cruiser, during the Vietnam conflict. John worked at Consumers Energy for 35 years before retiring. He held several roles in his long career, retiring as a Maintenance Supervisor at the Karn Weadock Generating Plant in Essexville, Mich. He was a dedicated employee and made many life-long friendships during his career. He married the love of his life, Sharon D. Mull, and raised four children.

John's passion for the outdoors expressed itself in a strong affinity for hunting and fishing. He loved being outside hunting wild game, or on the water boating and catching fish. He also enjoyed bird watching in his backyard and tinkering with wood-working projects at his home. John's greatest joy and passion was his family, his wife of nearly 60 years, four children, seven grandchildren and two great grandchildren. John also had many loyal and loving pets in his lifetime, especially his Australian Shepherd Shabby who patiently waited for him beyond the rainbow bridge. He was a member of the Hope Lutheran Church of Rhodes where he found peace in worship and fellowship of friends and neighbors.

He is survived by his son, John D. Kirkpatrick, of Midland, Mich., Melissa M. Kirkpatrick (partner Frank Filiczowski) of Bay City, Mich., Janet K. Baranek, of Midland, (partner Douglas Jezak), Shaun F. (E'Lisa) Kirkpatrick, of Rhodes; seven grandchildren: John D. (Josie) Kirkpatrick, Jessica Williams, Frankee (Jake) Milkowski, Kaleb Kiper, Morgan (father Anthony) Baranek, E'Liyah Gonzales, and Nicolas Gutierrez; great-grandchildren Lilly and Jackson Williams. Also surviving are his sister-in-law Judith C. Peters; brother-in-law Michael D. (Patricia) Mull, plus many nieces and nephews and those he considered to be his "extended family". He was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Josephine (Smith) Kirkpatrick, in-laws Douglas and Winifred (Burden) Mull, brother Jack W. Kirkpatrick, sister Jean (Leon) Williams, and sister Jane (James) Eisenhauer.

Those wishing an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the American Heart Association, or any U.S. veteran organization of your choosing.

See "Walking on," page 19

Advocacy Resource Center visits Munising

Photos by Cultural Healing Educator Grey Shea

The Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) ventured to Munising Sept. 28, for one of its “Culture is the Key to Healing” workshops. Participants learned the legend of the dreamcatcher, had an Anishinaabemowin lesson with words relating to it, and made their own dreamcatchers with traditional willow hoops. Stay tuned to the ARC’s Facebook page for upcoming virtual and in-person “Culture is the Key to Healing” events, as well as others! www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC.



L to R - ARC Cultural Healing Educator Grey Shea, Katie Sullivan, Miles Williams, Kathy Nord, Katy Gauthier, Sandra Gomez and Anita Nelson.



Miles Williams with his completed dreamcatcher.



ARC Community Educator Jess Gillotte-King.



Rachel working on her dreamcatcher.

Sault Tribe Language and Culture hosted a community canoe build workshop



The workshop was presented by Ron Paquin and Adam Avery.



The build took place from Sept. 13-17 at the Mary Murray Culture Camp on Sugar Island.



Heating the top gunnel.



Inserting the ribs.



Laying out bark.



Placing the frame on the bark.



Visitors from Peru help with the build.



Putting stakes in the frame.



Manistique Tribal Dental Clinic Temporary Closure

DUE TO COMPUTER SYSTEM UPDATES AND STAFF TRAINING

The Manistique Dental Clinic will be closed **October 20th** reopening on **November 1st**

Sault Ste Marie and St. Ignace will be available for emergency appointments during this time.

Sault Ste Marie 906-632-5200

First come, first serve starting at 8:00am.

St. Ignace 906-225-1633

First come, first serve starting at 7:30am.

Please call our clinic with any questions 906-341-9547.

We apologize for any inconvenience.



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Meet the Indian Energy Management Team



Allen G Cadreau, Founder/CEO | Henry J Bouley Jr, COO/CIO, Tribal Liaison | Allen J Cadreau, VP Engineering | Nicole Reiter, VP Business Development, Tribal Liaison | Jessica Cadreau, VP Asset Management | Dr. Craig Reiter, Maada'oozh General Manager, CSO



Michael Firenze, Director R&D, Federal Program Manager | Anthony Vastola, Pre-Construction Manager | Adam Dombrowski, Sr Field Supervisor | Jeremy Sanders, Project Engineer | Jeff Trueblood, Principal Engineer

INDIAN ENERGY The Indian Energy Group

The Indian Energy Group

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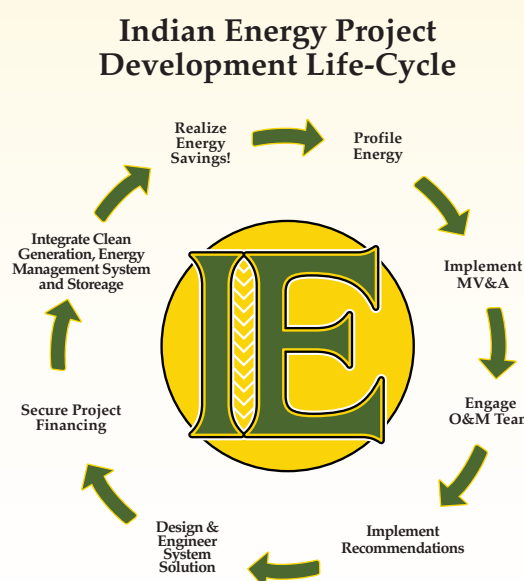
Chippewa Sustainable Solutions Inc. – SBA 8(a) Approved Energy Developer. Co-owned by Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians and Indian Energy. Provides sole source contracting capabilities for energy resiliency to the US Government and its agencies.

Indian Power – Mexican registered energy development firm. Co-owned 50/50 by Mexican Ejido land-owners and Indian Energy. Responsible for all energy development south of the US/Mexico Border.

Jingtamok LLC – Special purpose entity that holds the Power Purchase Agreement and the generation assets for the Viejas Enterprise Microgrid.

Maada'oozh LLC – Provides supply chain logistics and operations & maintenance of energy generation, storage and infrastructure. Assists the State of California with meeting their energy technology spend goals. Develops sales channel agreements with technology providers.

eRift Technologies – Delaware registered C-Corp. Wholly owned by Indian Energy and will hold all the Company's intellectual property resulting from the RICU at MCAS Miramar.



2023 Miramar Air Show

Indian Energy sponsored the Energy Expo within the Technology and Innovations Exposition at the 2023 Miramar Air Show held from September 22nd through the 24th. Indian Energy hosted current clients, State and Military Officials, future clients and displayed the technology aboard Marine Corp Air Station (MCAS) Miramar, and the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay's lands. Indian Energy answered questions and explained how microgrids work and their benefits.



MCAS Miramar Sargent Major You and MCAS Miramar Commanding Officer Col. Thomas Bedell flanked by the Indian Energy and Indian Power team and guests.

Karin Burns (CEO San Diego Community Power) and Allen

Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians Tribal Councilor Adrian Brown and wife Fawn, with Craig, Mike and Allen

Representatives of the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians, Kimberly Peralta and Dario Garcia with Allen

MCAS Miramar CO Col Bedell and Allen G Cadreau discussing energy resiliency strategies



Future Engineers! Interactive children's STEM exhibit



MCAS Miramar CO Col. Bedell and Sargent Major Young viewing the capabilities of IE's off-road Mobile Microgrid (aka The Caboose)

Next Issue: Indian Energy's Development Pipeline and the Rapid Integration and Commercialization Unit (RICU) at MCAS Miramar

Orange Shirt Day online photo event held

Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center's 2023 Orange Shirt Day Online Photo event garnered nearly 150 photos of people donning their orange shirts for the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Several group participants, such as the student bodies and staff of JKL Bahweting Charter School, Malcolm High, and Ojibwe

Charter from Bay Mills Indian Community and various tribal and non-tribal offices and businesses, submitted their photos. At the same time, many individuals posted their "selfies" to show their respect. We saw many friendly faces from all seven counties participating, making the event a success.

The online photo opportunity

has grown significantly since the first event in 2021. What started as a COVID-safe event now appears to be a mainstay event for ARC. It is astounding to see so many people taking notice and wanting to participate in the Day for Truth and Reconciliation to honor and remember Native American children who attended residential boarding schools.

Promoting awareness for victims and survivors of the schools does not have to end in September.

ARC encourages you to wear your orange shirts throughout the year and speak the truth about boarding schools. Also, please remember that an orange shirt can be any orange article of clothing or jewelry; it does not have to be a particular shirt to show your

respect.

Orange Shirt Day is about sharing the truth, honoring our relatives and ancestors and healing. Contact the Advocacy Resource Center if you need support at (906) 632-1808 or visit our website at www.arcsaulttribe.com.

See all photos at www.arcsaulttribe.com



Anishnabek Community and Family Services Kincheloe office staff.



Tyler Bouschor and family.



Amanda Oberhansli



Missy VanLuven



Cathy Abramson



Keeweenaw Bay Ojibwe Community staff.



Greg Solomon and Cathy Burgos.



Gail Sulander, Angeline Bouley and Greg Gierke.



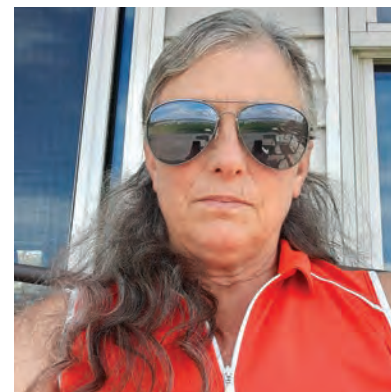
Renee Picher



Jo-Nell Berger, Janet Krueger, and Madison Ozanich.



Malcolm High School students and staff.



Jeanne Kennedy



JKL school students gathered in support.



Sault High football team showing their support of Orange Shirt Day by wearing orange leg and arm bands.



National Child Welfare Workforce Institute team.



Anishnabek Community and Family Services staff.



Sault Tribe Head Start.



Sault Tribe Head Start.



St. Ignace survivors event.



Sovereign Communications staff show support.



St. Ignace Tribal Health Center.

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LYNNE M. CLARK

Lynne M. Clark of Rapid River, Mich. (formerly of St. Ignace, Mich.) was a beloved grandmother, mother, and wife during her incredible 74 years of life. She passed away Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023 at Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital in Manistique. Lynne was born on Nov. 1, 1948 in St. Ignace, the daughter of J. Raymond and Evelyn (Savard) McCall.



Lynne attended St. Ignacious Loyola Catholic middle school and graduated in 1962. She then went on to LaSalle High School in St. Ignace, and graduated in 1966. After high school, Lynne attended Nursing School in Petoskey, Mich., where she became a CNA and worked at the Little Traverse Hospital.

In the fall of 1968, Lynne met Mike, the love of her life at a dance. They were married soon after on June 21, 1969. They were married for 54 wonderful years and had 2 daughters, 6 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Family was everything to Lynne and she spent most of her 54 years of marriage taking care of her growing family. She often volunteered at her daughters' schools and events and was their biggest cheerleader. She never missed a basketball game, little league game, school concert, dance or bake sale.

Most importantly, she was always available to host a "pajama party" or play a round of "Go Fish" or "Crazy Eights" with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, to whom she was Nana. In addition to her loving husband, Michael, Lynne is survived by: two daughters: Melissa Lynne (Kevin) Schimke of Rapid River, and Karen Eve (Ryan) Rose Escanaba, Mich., a sister Debra Guilbeau, brother Steve Utter, step siblings Ruthann VanderVeen, William Utter, and James Utter. Grandchildren: Michael Rose, Moriah Germain, Christopher Rose, Lea Kang, Adelia Kang, Zach Cantrell. Great grandchildren: Ashton, Madelyn, Cameron, Lillian and Kennan. And several nieces, nephews and cousins.

In addition to her parents, Lynne is preceded in death by: Brothers: Larry McCall, G. Michael McCall and Terry Utter.

The family received friends on Friday, Sept. 22, 2023 at the Skradski Funeral Home in Gladstone followed by a memorial service and luncheon at the Gladstone American Legion Post 71.

The Skradski Family Funeral Homes of Delta County assisted the Clark family.

Please visit www.skradski-funeralhomes.com to offer an online message of sympathy to the family.

JUDITH MAXWELL

It's hard to put into words the impact that Judith Maxwell had on her family and friends.

She was a faithful wife, caring sister, devoted twin, engaged mother, doting grandmother, loving great grandmother and cheerful friend to all that were lucky enough to know her.



Judy was one of 11 siblings including Leora Sunderland, Wanda Foley, Joan Stevens, Orville Leask, Dorothy Spray, Angus Leask, John Leask, Monica Vallance, Grace Ann Doyle and Gerry Bussler. She was born Judith Mae Leask on Aug. 6, 1942 to Thomas and Adelaide Leask. She passed peacefully on Aug. 30, 2023 in the independent living wing of The Brook where she had spent the last year, smiling, laughing, bragging about her family, telling jokes and stories, connecting with old friends and making new ones.

Judy graduated from Cheboygan High School in 1961 and married her high school sweetheart Fred Maxwell on May 12, 1962. Inseparable, you would rarely see Fred without Judy or Judy without Fred. They were an incredible and loving team serving their friends, family and the community. Fred Maxwell passed away July 23, 2015.

Judy leaves behind a legacy of love, warm hugs, full bellies, dirty jokes, jewelry, holidays and weekly trips to Sally Annie's "Salvation Army."

Judy's love language was food. She always found a way to get you to eat one more bite. To finish the last cinnamon roll or take another scoop of her famous baked beans. It simply didn't matter how full you were. Her love of jewelry dates back to her days working alongside Joan and Jerry Rogers at Rogers Jewelry Store. Its widely debated whether she ever got an actual paycheck or if it all went towards jewelry that she sprinkled around to her kids and grandkids.

Judy loved the holidays, especially Christmas. Having worked at the Mackinaw City Christmas Store for several years, she had accumulated a virtual treasure trove of holiday cheer. Christmas at the Maxwell house was filled with love, energy, bottomless beverages and little and big bodies strewn about every flat surface. It was the definition of family.

For everything you know about the full and impactful life of Judy Maxwell, there is one story that few know. While at a wedding reception several years ago, she saved the life of Cheboygan resident Dale Bur by calmly performing the Heimlich maneuver while he choked on a piece of steak. Her reward from Dale: A gift certificate for a steak dinner for two.

Family members reflecting on, and celebrating the impact that she had on their lives included her three daughters Camy (Tom) Watson, Carman (Mark) Winter, Cassie (John) Watson, her son Fred Maxwell, twin sister Gerry (Tim) Bussler, grandchildren Trent (Erin) Watson, Gera

(Kavon) Frazier, Trey Watson, Grace (Lukas) Buck, Maxwell Watson, Isabel Watson, Sydney Winter, Kate Winter, great grandchildren Kali, Alayah and Kyler Frazier and Lyra and Julian Watson, sister-in-law Mary Charboneau, brother and sister-in-law George and Lissa Maxwell, nephews Tom, Tim and Travis Bussler and many more nieces and nephews.

A celebration of Judy's life with family and friends was held on Sept. 3, 2023 at the Nordman-Christian Funeral Home. The celebration was followed by a luncheon at Spare Time Lanes, where Judy and Fred participated in bowling leagues for many years.

Those wanting to share a memory are invited to do so at stonefuneralhomeinc.com.

For those wishing to make a gift in Judy's honor, please consider supporting the Cheboygan Salvation Army, 444 S. Main St. Cheboygan, MI 49721.

Your donation will stay local.

MELISSA (MISSY) SUE LACROY

Melissa (Missy) Sue LaCoy, 40, passed away on Sept. 1, 2023. She was a native of Michigan most of her life and has lived in Murfreesboro, Tenn., for the last eight years. She worked at Brookdale Senior Living. She was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.



Missy was an avid and competitive sports fan. She traveled the world for sports. When Missy was 17, she was chosen to represent the USA as an Olympic teenage athlete. She played on several hockey teams throughout her life that took her to many great places and led her to many championships. Missy found her passion in sports again when she moved to Tennessee. She was a part of several different softball and hockey teams that created many friendships throughout the United States. You could find her in many social settings, always with a smile on her face. She was the life of the party and always made everyone feel welcome. Her door was always open, and her grill was always hot.

She was a more the merrier type of person. She loved spending time with friends and family on the lake. She was a loving wife, mother, daughter, sister, granddaughter, aunt, and friend. She had a big heart and had so much love to give.

She is survived by her husband, John LaCoy; parents, Russell and Veronica Rickley; children, Andrew Milligan, Allisson Milligan, and Madelyn LaCoy; sisters, Katie (Tim Ogle) Rickley, Laura (Alberto) Montero and Marcie (Dustin) Fierek; nieces and nephews, Carson Fierek, Marlie Fierek, Lincoln Fierek, Hayden Blosser, Elizabeth Blosser, Luna Montero, Mateo Montero, and Harper Ogle; grand pups, Toby Frank and Charlie; grandparents, Stan and Sandy

Stump and Harley Daniels; and many aunts, uncles & cousins,

She was preceded in death by grandparents, Lynne (Granny) Sparks, Deward and Mabel Rickley and many uncles and great uncles.

Missy's passing leaves a void in the hearts of her loved ones, but her memory will forever warm our hearts. She will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her. May she rest in eternal peace and she's forever playing ball or hockey. Visitation with the family was held on Sept. 14, 2023 at Jennings & Ayers Funeral Home followed by a memorial service.

A celebration of life took place on September 19, 2023 at the Little Bear East Arena, 275 Marquette Street, St. Ignace, MI 49781.

The Burial services took place immediately following the celebration of life at Wequayoc Cemetery, 2354 E. M-134, Hessel, MI 49745.

Please leave online condolences for Missy at www.jenningsandayers.com, Jennings & Ayers Funeral Home, Murfreesboro, Tenn.

In lieu of flowers, the family is asking for memorial donations toward a scholarship that will be created in Missy's Memory. Donations can be made to Veronica Rickley, 275 N. Marley St., St. Ignace, MI 49781 or dropped off at First National Bank of St. Ignace, mention "Missy LaCoy Memorial Scholarship."

MARK D. MURRAY

Mark D. Murray, 67, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. passed away unexpectedly Sunday, Sept. 10, 2023 in Sault Ste. Marie. He was born April 16, 1956 in Detroit, Mich., to Charlie Osco Murray and Norma Jean Mushinski.



Mark grew up in Detroit and Belleville, Mich. After high school he went into the U.S. Army where he served his country. Once back in Michigan he married Tammy Fisher in 1978. Mark and Tammy moved to Cookeville, Tenn., and that is where their son Jeremy was born. After moving back to Michigan their daughter Rene was born 18 months later. After separating from his wife Mark moved to Sault Ste. Marie, and this is where he and his partner Chevonn had their son Marcus. Mark loved living in the Soo so that he could hunt and fish, work outside on various projects, and grill. Mark loved to cook and eat delicious food.

He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and was very proud of his native heritage.

Mark is survived by his special friend, Crissy Burt; children, Jeremy D. Murray, Marcus J. Murray, and Rene A. Henderson

(Murray); sisters, Pat Leask and Kelly Morrow; brothers, Mike Murray, David Murray, Timmy Murray, and Garrett Murray; cousin, Tom Mounts; and grandchildren, Gavin T. Henderson, Reese A. Henderson, Conor J. Murray, and Brody J. Henderson.

Mark is predeceased by his parents and brother, James Murray.

Traditional Services were held on Oct. 14, 2023 at the North Shore Sugar Island Township Park on Sugar Island. Final resting place is Riverside Cemetery in Sault Ste. Marie. Following the burial there was a luncheon at the Sault Tribe Cultural Center. Galer Funeral Homes assisted the family with arrangements.

RICHARD (RICK) MICHAEL BENNETT

Richard (Rick) Michael Bennett of Bridgton, Maine, 61, died unexpectedly from surgical complications on January 17, 2023.



Rick, was one of four children of Roberta and Russell Bennett of Pontiac, Mich. He graduated with honors from Waterford Mott H.S., where his creativity was showcased through his participation in puppetry, painting projects, theater, and as the yearbook photographer.

After high school, Rick joined the Air Force, earning awards for marksmanship. Upon fulfilling his commitment, of which he was very proud, Rick began a career in building construction which ultimately brought him to Maine. Working with Community Concepts, helping families to build their own homes was dear to Rick, and showcased his caring spirit. Later in life, Rick used his construction expertise to excel as a property adjuster in the insurance industry. Rick was well respected for his knowledge, ability to listen, and offer help without hesitation.

At home, Rick enjoyed using his construction abilities for remodeling and fine woodworking projects. Rick was an amazing cook and loved experimenting in the kitchen, creating spice blends, and growing his own produce. Rick was also greatly fulfilled by his love of his three dogs.

Rick is preceded in death by his mother, Roberta, brother Rusty, and brother-in-law, Michael Dooley Sr.

Rick is survived by his loving wife, Deborah, daughter Lauren (Gregg) Porter, of Salem, Ohio, son, Richard Bennett of Chester, W. Va, bonus daughters, Andrea Woods of Casco, Maine and Teresa (Scott) Lovejoy of Rockwood, Maine, sisters, Michele (Wayne) Beckley, Denise Dooley, several nieces and nephews, and beloved grandchildren; Anna, Courtney, Dean, Hunter, Jonah, Lainey, Lake, Landon, and Wilder.

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RUSSELL GENE BENNETT

Russell Gene Bennett, 89, was born Nov. 13, 1933 and passed away Aug. 12, 2023. Born in Raco, Mich., Russ lived in Sault Ste. Marie and attended McKinley School. One of his favorite memories of childhood in the Sault was ice skating out onto Lake Superior and opening his coat and letting the wind carry him back to shore.



His family moved to Pontiac, Mich., where he attended Pontiac High School and later graduated from Waterford Township High School.

Russ worked as a mechanic for both GM and Ford and carried his love of cars to drag racing a '55 Chevy on a quarter mile track, a hobby he shared with his family and friends.

He began working in residential construction and later as a superintendent in commercial construction which took him to sites throughout the United States. Traveling out of his Lakeland, Fla. home base, he often photographed the landscapes of Colorado, the historic landmarks of D.C. and the glitz and glamour of Las Vegas during his travels.

Russ encouraged and trained others in the construction trade, patiently stressing quality, and pride in workmanship.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Agnes Johns Bennett and Russell Michael Bennett, his sons, Russell Charles Bennett and Richard Michael Bennett, and sister Betty Wilson.

He is survived by his daughters, Michele Bennett Beckley and Denise Bennett Dooley, remaining siblings, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

WILLIAM C. "BILL" RICHARDS

William C. "Bill" Richards, 58, passed away on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2023. Bill

was born in Ishpeming, Mich., on March 16, 1965, the son of the late Theodore S. "Sam" and Elizabeth I. "Bette" (née Joseph) Richards.



Bill graduated from Westwood High School, class of 1983.

During his high school years, Bill was a member of the Ishpeming Boxing Club. Throughout his children's childhood, Bill would take them to wrestling and boxing matches. Bill was an avid hunter and loved to bring his children fishing.

Bill served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1983 to 1994. After completing boot camp at San Diego, Bill was stationed in California and Hawaii. He served in Kuwait during Desert Storm in 1991. Throughout his military career, he received numerous decorations and medals. Bill and his family moved back to Michigan from California in 1994.

After the Marines, Bill worked for the U.S. Postal Service as a building equipment mechanic at

the Marquette Post Office for many years until his retirement. He took great pride in maintaining the historical building and made many friends along Washington Street. Bill had many passions. One he loved to share the most was his horses. Bill created Sleighman, through which he shared his beloved Norwegian Fjord horses with countless sleigh rides over the years. With the help of family and friends, Bill turned his property into a winter wonderland for so many families. Throughout the seasons, locals and visitors joined him for many horseback rides.

Bill is survived by his children, Marie Richards and Allen Richards; his brothers, Harold Richards, Sam (Rae) Richards, Dale (Judy) Richards, Nick Richards, and sister Marijane (Butch) Laakso; his stepmother Joyce Richards; along with nieces, nephews, and cousins. Plus, his countless friends and other people important to him. His parents, sister, Margo Kari, and nephew, Bryan Kari, preceded him in death.

Bill's family greeted relatives and friends and shared their stories of Bill on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2023, at Bjork & Zhulkie Funeral Home, Ishpeming, Mich.

We concluded with Military Honors accorded by the U.S. Marine Corps.

In the language of our ancestors, we never say goodbye, only that we will see one another again—baa maa pii.

RONALD JOSEPH SHOWAN

It is with great sadness we announce the peaceful passing of Ron Showan, at home, at the age of 75 on Oct. 8, 2023. Ron, born June 26, 1948, was a loving and proud father to Chance "Chuck" and Christina and father-in-law to Michael McKerchie. His children meant the world to him, and he shared an extraordinary bond with Chuck who he spoke to every Sunday about the happenings of the week, life in general, and the old TV shows they both enjoyed. He was the very best grampa to Myah, Ella and Lucas, he also spoke often of his fondness for their older sister, Kayla.



Ronnie will be missed by his brother Gerry and sister Terry. He will be reunited with his brothers Milton "Bum" and Ted, sisters in law Sallie and Brenda, parents Fred "Knobby" and Mary (nee Boyer) Showan along with many friends, cousins, aunts and uncles.

Cherished uncle and mentor to Todd (Cherie), Brooke (Norm), Marianne (Karl), Lisa (Matty), Pam and Mariah. Dearly loved great uncle to Summer (Scott), Kaleb (Taylor), Jada (Wes), Will, Ty, Chase, Darby and Alexis. Great, great uncle to Addi, Griffin and Renan.

Ronnie was strong willed and stubborn as hell, traits he passed onto his children and grandchildren. He was a great storyteller and his grandson Lucas learned this well from him. He was fiercely competitive, and he instilled that in his children, nieces, nephews and in every ball player he coached

over the years.

He was the Showan deer camp hunt master for 35 years and was an accomplished fisherman. He had lots of hunting buddies, but he absolutely loved and cherished the time he spent hunting and fishing with his son Chuck.

In running the Thessalon Marina as the Harbour Master through most of two decades, he was loved by the boating community from across the Great Lakes who came to tie up in Thessalon because they knew he was there.

Ronnie was a strong supporter of all community sports and played crucial roles as a hockey player and referee, as the manager of the Thessalon Curling Club, setting up various softball leagues and salm-on tournaments. He initiated the refurbishing of the main ball field at Lakeside Park in 1993 obtaining sponsors and financial support from many local businesses.

Ron's true passion was coaching softball and this career spanned across an incredible six decades, from the mid 1970's until his final championship in 2023. He worked closely with his nieces and had a big part in their development over the years taking great pride in the players they became. His record of wins over that time is a testament to his dedication and coaching skills.

Most meaningfully, he was the beloved and respected coach of the Showan Ladies' Family ball team for over 30 years. Under his guidance, the Showan team won many A and B Division titles.

Ronnie loved to visit and chat at the Sinton Tavern and Sunset Beach Restaurant and on the streets of his much-loved hometown of Thessalon. He would share stories with anyone who came along for more than a minute.

Ron received the gift of sobriety over 43 years ago beginning his journey at the Ken Brown Recovery Home. He was grateful everyday for his recovery and remained willing to share his experience, strength and hope with those who asked. His family is extremely proud of his victory and this accomplishment.

Dad, grampa, uncle, brother and friend, Ron leaves an incredible hole in our family but as we all know "there's no crying in baseball," so we'll pick up and honour him by playing our best game every day.

"I think I broke my toe."

"Can you walk?"

"Yep."

"Then get out there!"

Chance and Christina would like to thank their cousins and dad's friends for the love and care given to him over the years. Special appreciation to Pam, who he affectionately called "Pammie," for always being there for him in the past few years. Knowing he had you made our distance easier, and we'll always love you for it. We are also thankful for the kindness shown by the EMT first responders, OPP Sgt. Richard Brisson and Constable Jeff Timmermans, and his niece Brooke Showan of Beggs Funeral Home, all of whom provided him with such professional care and showed the utmost dignity and respect in his passing. Chi Miigwetch.

Funeral service were held at

Beggs Funeral Home on Oct. 13, 2023, with officiant Father Clarence. Burial was at Pine Grove following services.

The family would appreciate donations to the Ken Brown Recovery Home Foundation www.kenbrownrecoveryhome.org or to the Sault Ste. Marie Special Olympics at www.ssm.specialolympicsontario.ca.

MIRIAM GENEVIEVE WARNER GRATHWOHL WESTERVELT

Miriam Genevieve Warner Grathwohl Westervelt

was born on July 10, 1925, to Walter and Elena Warner in Strongs, Mich. near the shores of Lake Gitche



Gumme. She received her wings and went to walk with the angels on April 28, 2023, surrounded by her daughters.

Miriam was known by several names: growing up people knew her as Babe, then Mom, becoming a Nana and ultimately a GG. She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Her native name was Ogama Gaba Wik meaning Great Medicine Bear.

Miriam was born and raised in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, and during her lifetime she witnessed incredible changes to her world: from growing up without a car, electricity, and plumbing to her using technology like today's teenager! After graduating from high school, she worked in the Willow Run Bomber Plant supporting our country's effort in WWII.

Miriam lived a very full life with her husband Robert, of 53 years, raising their six children. His career required frequent moves around the country which allowed her to showcase her creative talents in Interior Design. She was highly skilled at needle work including crochet, cross stitch and sewing. It was not uncommon for her to make a dress in one night for one of her 5 girls. As an accomplished artist she also owned her own business, 'Miriam of Columbine' as a commissioned ceramic artist.

Travel was part of Miriam's DNA. After she crossed the Mackinac Bridge, she jokingly said she just kept running! She lived in 11 states, having visited all 50 as well as traveling extensively out of the country. Her explorations of the world included such places as climbing the Great Wall of China; visiting the gardens of Peterhof in St. Petersburg, Russia; the Vatican in Rome; and the House of the Virgin Mary in Ephesus, Turkey. There is absolutely no doubt she had an adventurous spirit! Never one to say no to anything involving her girls: she rafted the Arkansas River in Colorado, parasailed in the Dominican Republic, drifted in a hot air balloon, and zip lined the jungle in Nicaragua at 95 years old!

Mom worked tirelessly to provide the necessities, opportunities, and little luxuries for her kids. Whether it be taking ice skating classes with her daughters when she was 46, sewing a beautiful dress for her daughter's college spring formal, or stopping along

our many cross-country trips to visit anything worth our time. An exceptional example was to attend our first powwow in Montana which led to the beginning of learning more about our heritage. Mom took us to the Gathering of the Nations Powwow in Albuquerque, N.M., which ultimately led to attending powwows in upper Michigan and finally to our naming ceremony in Sault Ste Marie. She would proudly boast that all six of her children graduated from college and led successful and productive lives. Her children have her to thank for the solid and positive foundation she provided.

Miriam was predeceased by her husband, Robert in 2008, and her daughter Charlene Gruver in 2015. She is survived by her daughters Denise Schmallen, Roberta Selleck (Peter), Valerie Knafelc (Jay), Rhonda Moore and her son, Randall Grathwohl as well as 11 grandchildren: Chris, Brodie, Nicholas, Christopher, Carissa, Ryan, Nicole, Kaley, Tyler, Sarah, and Rachel, plus 20 great grandchildren.

Her new residence takes her to a wonderful place where she will be socializing, dancing, gardening, and reading to her heart's content. Music, laughter, and love are guaranteed. Food is delicious and she will never gain an ounce.

She left detailed instructions for her children to celebrate her time here, which has now been completed. Mom has been laid to rest with her husband at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona; with her father whom she lost when she was only eight years old in Bay View Cemetery, Brimley, Mich.; and with her mother in Hulbert Cemetery, Hulbert, Mich.

DAVID LEE ROULEAU

Dave Rouleau, 75, passed

away on March 22nd, 2023, at his home in Evanston, Ill., surrounded by his beloved family. Dave was grateful to have learned



more about his Native American heritage as an adult and considered membership in the Sault Tribe a gift from his father, Colin "Jack" Rouleau. He carried his membership card in his wallet, read the monthly newspaper *Win Awenen Nisitotung*, and donated his copies to the Mitchell Museum of American Indian's library.

Born on May 20, 1947, in Detroit, Mich., he was the son of Jack and Virginia Rouleau.

He was a veteran of the Vietnam War and served in the Army from 9/26/66 to 9/25/72.

Dave graduated from Michigan State University and worked at Ford Motor Company. As a member of the Bahá'í faith, he believed in the oneness of humanity, the oneness of God, and the oneness of religion. Dave served at the Bahá'í National Center in Evanston, Ill., in the offices of community development and education for 32 years.

During his retirement, Dave volunteered for the World Center
See "Walking on," page 24



SAULT TRIBE thrive

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

This business directory is intended to foster an empowered economy between Sault Tribe citizen-owned business, Sault Tribe enterprises, tribal businesses, and the global economy.

Sault Tribe Thrive's Business Directory is open to all Native/Indigenous entrepreneurs, artists, nonprofits, tribal governments, tribal colleges, and tribal enterprises throughout the Sault Tribe

service area and at large. Sault Tribe Thrive is proud to offer free basic business listings for all Sault Tribe citizen-owned businesses and Sault Tribe divisions, sub-divisions, and enterprises.

Sault Tribe Thrive reserves the right to review applications, request additional information before listing, and to refuse applications if they cannot be verified.

To be listed in the directory as a Native-owned business, you will be required to complete an intake form and provide the tribal file number from your tribal identification card. The intake form can be found by selecting "More Info" at www.saulttribe-thrive.com/business-development-2/.

Sault Tribe Thrive is an MBDA AIANNH Project estab-

lished in 2019, funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency, with administrative support from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Sault Tribe Thrive provides business support to Sault Tribe citizen-owned businesses through outreach, advocacy, and business consultation initiatives.

To view the online business

directory, go to: www.saulttribe-thrive.com/business-directory/.

Connect with us in person at the Tamarack Business Center in Downtown Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Find us online at Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube, or by email at info@saulttribethrive.com, or phone (906) 635-6050, ext. 26121.

Let's Connect!

Brimley 49715 Innes Welding & Repair David Innes Brimley, MI 49715 (906) 440-5364 thepropmaster@hotmail.com Manufacturing	bloomcosault.com Retail	Flowers Automotive James Flowers Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-8074 flowersautoservice@gmail.com Transportation	php?id=100088037838388 Transportation	Pennzoil Tracy Smart Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 635-3018 admin@pennzoilsaultstemarkie.com facebook.com/Pennzoilssm Transportation
Dafter 49724 NMK Consulting Charlee Brissette Dafter, MI 49724 (906) 630-3082 cnbrissette@gmail.com Consulting	Bonacci Contracting Carmine Bonacci Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-1425 bonacci10@gmail.com Construction	Frank's Place Dawn Bumstead Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 440-4457 dawn@franksplace.biz Food & Beverage	Lockview Restaurant Amy Goetz Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-2772 lockview2019@gmail.com thelockviewrestaurant.net Food & Beverage	Prescription Oxygen Ron Gordon Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632 3772 ron@prescriptionoxygen.com facebook.com/PrescriptionOxygen Healthcare
Floor Masters Art Derry Dafter, MI 49724 (906) 322-0252 art.derry@yahoo.com Construction	C.H. Marine Service Chris Hank Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 203-6396 chmarineservices@gmail.com facebook.com/CHMarineServices Transportation	Gitchi Enterprises Todd Olmstead Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 203-4491 tolmstead@saulttribe.net gitchiauto.com Transportation	Long Ships Motel Scott Albon Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-2422 scotty_joce@yahoo.com Hospitality	Proline Auto Mike Pages Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 259-0809 mpages73@gmail.com facebook.com/ProLine-Auto-408518942632829 Transportation
Kincheloe 49788 Anchor Systems Frederick Carr Kincheloe, MI 49788 (906) 240-1180 advantage@anchorsystems.tech anchorsystems.tech InformationTechnology	Castle of Wood Nick Deplonty Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 748-0739 nickdeplonty@gmail.com facebook.com/CastleofWood Hospitality	Great Lakes Roofing & Insulation Systems Craig Miller Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 647-2916 info@greatlakesroofing.com greatlakesroofing.com Construction	McGahey Construction Randall McGahey Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 440-6305 ashmuncreek@sbcglobal.net kyle-mcgahey-g7ez.squarespace.com Construction	Regal Home Care Breana McCoy Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (620) 308-0277 regalhomecare@outlook.com regal-homecare-906-live.com Healthcare
DeMawating Development Theresa Germain Kincheloe, MI 49788 (906) 498-9800 tgermain@saulttribe.net demawatingdevelopment.com Other	Contain A Pet of Eastern Upper Peninsula Melinda Menard Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 290-0478 capofeup@yahoo.com containapetofeup.com Recreation	Hilltop Bar & Restaurant Brandon McKerchie Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 259-2621 mckerchiebrandon@yahoo.com facebook.com/sugarislandhilltop Food & Beverage	MCS Flooring Sonja McLeod Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 440-7702 mcsflooringsm@gmail.com Construction	Roy Electric Jeff Roy Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-8878 royelectric@lighthouse.net royelectriccompany.com/home Utilities
Red Sky Woman Designs Helen Wilkins Kincheloe, MI 49788 (906) 322-9597 redskywomandesigns@gmail.com facebook.com/Red-Sky-Woman-Designs-179306729328391 Arts/Culture	Creative Memories Janet Hess Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 630-3878 jhess4cm@hotmail.com creativememories.com/user/JanetHess Arts/Culture	Hunt's Maintenance & Services Tyson Hunt Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 748-1920 tysonhunt2019@gmail.com Janitorial Services	Medical Arts Optical Melanie Cook Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-2289 melaniebea@aol.com melaniecookhearingaids.com Healthcare	Sabatine Appraisals Stephanie Sabatine Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 322-2960 stephsabatine@gmail.com Real Estate
Sault Ste Marie 49783 APB Tree Service Andrew Bizant Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (976) 623-9937 andrewbizant@gmail.com Environmental	Crooked Music Zack Crook Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 259-7400 crookedmusicstore@gmail.com facebook.com/CrookedMusicStore Arts/Culture	Kewadin Casinos Allen Kerridge Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 1 (800) 539-2346 akerridge@saulttribe.net kewadin.com Hospitality	Midjim Convenience Stores Jamie MacDonald Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 635-4782 jmacdonald@saulttribe.net saulttribe.com/enterprises/midjim Retail	Salon C Cathy McClellan Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 635-3964 cathyan906@gmail.com saloncssm.com/ Personal Care Services
Ashmun Creek Apartments Randy McGahey Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-4470 ashmuncreek@sbcglobal.net ashmuncreek.com Real Estate	D & S Custom Upholstery Dwayne Lehn Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 748-1047 dwayne191@gmail.com facebook.com/D-S-Custom-Upholstery-143701853133290 Retail	Kristi Harwood-Causley State Farm Insurance Kristi Harwood-Causley Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 635-5377 kristi@teamkristi.com teamkristi.com Insurance	Mike's Garage Mike Cook Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 635-5755 mikemike1962@hotmail.com mikes-garage-sault-ste-marie.edan.io Transportation	Saulteur Scott Lavictor Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (313) 244-9793 scott@saulteur.com saulteur.com Consulting
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Carrow Super Market
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Sault Tribe Thrive - beyond Michigan's border

From "Directory," page 23

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 Business Services

Big Bear ice prepped for 2023/2024 hockey season

Approximately 10,000 gallons of water was utilized in late September as the Olympic Hockey Rink at Big Bear Arena was prepared for the 2023-24 season.

The current home of Sault High Blue Devil Hockey is the only remaining Olympic-sized rink in the Upper Peninsula and joins the NHL-sized rink, which takes an estimated 9,000 gallons of water, also housed inside the facility. Combined the two rinks see a lot of activity throughout the season including the Soo Michigan Hockey Association's participants ranging in age from 3-18, training camps for the Soo

Eagles and Jr. Greyhounds, a variety of hockey tournaments, the Chippewa Hockey club, various men's leagues, Hiawatha Skating Club, public skating, drop-in hockey, stick n'puck and school fun days where youngsters come to enjoy a day away from the classroom with their peers.

The artificial ice is kept cold throughout the season with special in floor pads at an average temperature of 16 degrees. Maintenance Worker Philip Eames noted that the cold temperatures provide a hard ice surface and fuel a lot of compliments from those who play and train here.

"They work less," noted Eames. "They don't have to skate as hard on the cold ice."

"We try to keep it an inch and a quarter all year," said fellow Maintenance Worker Joe Brown. "Never less than 7/8ths of an inch," added Eames.

The ice will remain intact until mid-May, according to the crew's best estimates.

From left, Jake and Jeff Remelius of Mid-America Rink Services join Big Bear Maintenance Workers Joe Brown, Philip Eames and former team member, Logan Roberts after putting the new ice on the Olympic Hockey Rink. (Photo by Scott Brand)



Photo by Scott Brand

St. Ignace elders fund activities

St. Ignace elders held a fund-raising rummage sale at McCann Building recently and made about \$1,000. They use the money they earn to attend different functions and activities throughout the year.

Any leftover items were donated to the Hope Chest in St

Ignace.

This year they went to a dinner theater production of Young Americans in Harbor Springs.

The following elders helped with the sale: Sally Valentine, Mary Hough, Cliff and Delores Marshall, AraJean Leveille,

Debbie Donn, Joanne Smith, Phyllis and Louie Colegrove, Bob Colegrove, Darlene Belleville, Delores Calcaterra, Linda Marshall, Rhett Clement, Kevin Hayes, Joyce Borowicz, Mary Chingwa and Scott Alexander.



Joann Smith (left), and Phyllis Colegrove.



Delores Marshall, Sally Valentine, Debbie Donn, and Darlene Belleville helping with the rummage sale.

Walking on continued

From "Walking on," page 20 of the Bahá'í Faith in Israel and for Interfaith Action in Evanston which serves people who are hungry or homeless.

Dave enjoyed teaching the Bahá'í Faith, reading, playing board games, magic tricks, gardening, watching movies, traveling, spending time with his family/grandchildren, and making people laugh. He will be remembered for his incredible, timely, and thoughtful humor, his wise, reflective words, and the joy he brought to everyone he came across.

Dave enjoyed playing Ticket to Ride with his family and Star Realms with his son. He loved ribs, pizza, and anything sweet his granddaughter would bake.

He learned Japanese for his daughter-in-law and loved traveling to Japan, Michigan, and Hawaii when possible.

He was the devoted husband to Dixie Rouleau for 45 wonderful years; loving father to Brian Rouleau (Satomi Kunishi) and Sarah Vargas (Antonio Vargas); dear brother to Janice Wilson (Thomas Wilson); fun-loving grandfather to Shayan David Saghri, Hana Kunishi Rouleau, Keyan Daniel Saghri, guardian angel for baby Leon Michael Vargas; respectful son-in-law to Phyllis Hahn; dear brother-in-law to Terry Hahn (Teresa Velasco); friend to Emad Saghri; fun-loving uncle to Keith Wilson (Jennifer Wilson) Amanda Wilson, Nathan and Louisa Hahn, great-uncle to Avery, Jadon, Mallory and Stone.

A teaching of Baha'u'llah is "Strive then with heart and soul to distinguish yourselves by your deeds." Dave, you did this so beautifully.

Chairman reports on tribe's business, activities



AUSTIN LOWES
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

Aaniin,

Much has happened since my last unit report. The most notable is the Sault Tribe's decision to appeal the 2023 Consent Decree, which was recently approved by the United States District Court for the Western District of Michigan. All tribes that were signatories to the 1836 Treaty of Washington have an inherent right to fish in the ceded territories. This territory is managed by a Consent Decree, which is an agreement between the involved tribes and the state of

Michigan. This decree will be in effect for the next 24 years, and it will determine what species of fish our commercial fishermen can catch, the areas in the Great Lakes they can fish, how much fish they can keep, the seasons they can fish in, and the type of equipment they can use.

The Sault Tribe is appealing the Consent Decree because it contradicts what was promised to us in the 1836 Treaty of Washington. In this treaty, the five signatory tribes, which includes the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians, ceded nearly 14 million acres of land to the United States, which allowed Michigan to become a state the following year. This represents 37% of Michigan's current land. In exchange for this land, the Sault Tribe was promised perpetual access to natural resources in the ceded territory, including hunting and fishing rights.

The Consent Decree does not provide this. It requires Sault Tribe commercial fishermen to report to the state of Michigan what they catch every two weeks, which is an assault on tribal sovereignty. It also prevents Sault

Tribe commercial fishermen from fishing in ceded waters that are literally minutes from their homes. I am deeply offended by this, as should you be. Our ancestors paid for our treaty rights with land and blood. I am proud that the Sault Tribe is standing up for tribal sovereignty by appealing the 2023 Consent Decree.

I'd now like to discuss the Hessel Golf Course. It was purchased in 2021 for \$750,000 and required \$250,000 worth of golf carts and other amenities to open. Since opening, the golf course has not generated a single dollar of profit. On the contrary, the golf course is expected to have an operational loss of \$240,000 this year.

Hessel Ridge is a beautiful property, but you don't buy businesses because they're beautiful — you buy them to make money. Businesses should not lose one-third of their purchase price every year they operate. Private business owners wouldn't tolerate this, and neither should the Sault Tribe. To stay in business, Hessel Ridge has to be subsidized by profitable EDC businesses, which prevents our

businesses from growing.

When the last board purchased Hessel Ridge, it was against the recommendation of our EDC Division. The previous EDC Director, along with the current one, have also reported that Hessel Ridge may never be profitable. This is due to its remote location and the northern climate it operates in, which shortens the season. Hessel Ridge was also purchased without a liquor license or a way to serve food. There are 650 golf courses in Michigan, with over 50 in the Upper Peninsula. The lack of amenities, along with an absence of hotels and restaurants in the area, make it a challenging to earn a profit.

If Hessel Ridge continues to be unprofitable, I'm supportive of it closing and keeping the land. We lost \$70 million in the Greentown bankruptcy and \$25 million in the JLLJ settlement. It's time we listen to our business professionals.

I'd like to conclude my report by reporting that I was recently elected the Vice President of United Tribes of Michigan. This is an organization comprised of

the 12 federally recognized tribes in Michigan. Officers, such as the vice president position, are voted on by the chairpersons of each tribe. I'm honored to have the support of tribes throughout Michigan. This is the second year I've had this position, and I'm proud of the work we do throughout Indian Country.

During the last year, we advocated for the Guardian Assistance Program to be amended to create financial parity for child welfare cases originating in tribal court. Prior to this bill being amended, children with guardianship orders starting in tribal courts did not qualify for assistance through this program. Being a guardian is expensive, and this exclusion created financial barriers for individuals wanting to become tribal guardians. At least ten Sault Tribe families were impacted by this. Since this bill was successfully amended, with the help of advocacy from United Tribes of Michigan, tribal guardians are now eligible for this state program. We will continue to work on issues like this.

Austin Lowes,
Chairman

McRorie addresses Sault Tribe issues of the day



ROBERT MCRORIE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

To all of my fellow Sault Tribe members, I hope my report finds you well in both health and spirit. I hope you are spending quality time with family and friends. With the holiday season quickly approaching, I remind our members to check in on loved ones often. Although the holiday season is a time for fun and gatherings, for many, it is a very lonely time. Reaching out, to simply talk and listen, may mean more to someone than you think. As a tribe, our greatest duty is to be there for one another when needed, this is who we are as Ojibwe People.

I will start my report by reiterating what I believe is the most crucial issue that we must work through. The issue of open enrollment. Although I do not normally advise members on how to vote, I am asking all members to strongly consider voting to DISAPPROVE the board's decision when voting on the referendum on Resolution 2023-261 "Tribal Roll Opening," until we can work through some long standing issues. We are in no position to make impulsive decisions of this magnitude without fully assessing the impact this will have on each department and program that pro-

vides services to our people.

On Aug. 1, 2023, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors voted to pass Resolution 2023-261 "Tribal Roll Opening." This resolution authorizes open enrollment pursuant to the Tribal Code Chapter 11: Membership Ordinance.

I support opening our rolls pursuant to the Constitution; however, I cannot support opening them pursuant to the Membership Ordinance, until our code is realigned with the Constitution.

There are major issues with this that I believe must be addressed before moving forward in this process. My concern, along with many other members, is that there is a major discrepancy between who our Sault Tribe Constitution identifies as an eligible member and what the Tribal Code says about membership eligibility.

Our Constitution clearly identifies the Six Historical Bands of Ojibwe Indians that are Sault Tribe members and reads, "All persons descended from the six historical bands (Grand Island, Point Iroquois, Sault Ste. Marie, Garden River, Sugar Island and Drummond Island Bands) of the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Indians whose names appear on any historical roll, census or record made by officials of the Department of the Interior or Bureau of Indian Affairs." This was voted on by the members of the six historical bands and ratified on Nov. 13, 1975.

In 1978, with no input from the membership, the board of directors arbitrarily added the Mackinac Band to the Membership Ordinance via a code change. I believe this decision is unconstitutional and was a drastic overstep of the board's authority. I do not believe a decision of this magnitude should have been

made without the input of the membership. The six historical bands are of Ojibwe descent and the Mackinac Band is of Ottawa descent. In later years, the Little Traverse Bay Bands was also added to the Membership Ordinance via a code change. Any action to change the very foundation of who we are, as a sovereign nation, should rest in the hands of the six historical band members. This should have never been a decision of the board. Since the addition of bands that were not listed in the Constitution, our tribe has nearly doubled in numbers. Again, I believe there are some major issues with this decision that must be addressed prior to opening the rolls. I believe it would be the continuation of an unresolved mistake, by the board of directors, to proceed without correcting the poor decisions of previous leaders.

After much thought, consideration, and prayer, I have come to the conclusion that, as a leader of our sovereign nation, I cannot, in good conscience, sit silent as our government makes what I view as a crucial mistake. This decision will affect us all and many generations to come. It is a decision that will further change the very foundation of who we are as Ojibwe people. For this reason, I have initiated the referendum process, and have gathered a sufficient number of signatures to contest the board of directors' decision to open the rolls.

I want to be very clear that I am not looking to offend anyone, nor do I have any resentment towards the members of the Mackinac or Little Traverse Bay Bands in any way. In fact, I pray the Mackinac Band receives the federal recognition it rightfully deserves as a tribe.

This referendum simply plac-

es this decision in the hands of the members, where it rightfully belongs. You, the members, should always retain this right.

The next issue we must address is Constitutional reform. Our tribe is long overdue for revisions to the Constitution. Our Constitution was ratified in 1975 and has been referred to by many as a "cookie cutter constitution," meaning it was very close to a general template to establish federal recognition. Throughout our post-recognition history, our members have consistently asked for Constitutional reform. It has never happened for one reason or another. My suspicion is that it never happened because the board of directors has never taken a real initiative to see it through. My belief is that this is because true constitutional reform will mean the relinquishment of unchecked legislative authority held by the board, placing more power into the members hands with true checks and balances.

How we move forward with this is crucial. This must be membership input driven and not revised by the board behind closed doors and then put out to a vote by the membership. We must allow every opportunity for members to voice their concerns and participate in any proposed revisions. Many members have requested to vote on the, "new constitution," that was drafted by a previous Constitutional Committee; however, I do not believe this is the best path moving forward. I believe too much change, so suddenly, would create chaos and unstable governance. I also believe this would place members in the position of "take it all or get nothing," which I also do not believe is fair to our members. I believe the best way to move forward is to work on each

amendment individually with full transparency and input from our members.

Vice Chairman LaPlaut had placed on the agenda a resolution to begin the process of selling the Hessel Ridge Golf Course. I am in 100% support of this, and I do not believe this should be a controversial issue. It is quite simply common sense and fiscal responsibility. When this property was purchased for \$750,000 by the previous board, they were advised not to make this purchase. They were told it would not turn a profit. Against the advice of their business professionals, they made the purchase anyway. An additional \$250,000 was spent on new golf carts. To date, the property has lost \$288,045 in operational costs. This brings the total loss on Hessel Ridge Golf Course to \$1,288,045. This is absolutely unacceptable. That is more than \$1.25 million in lost revenue that could have been spent on membership services to enhance the lives of our youth, elders, and tribal households in need. The directors who vote to keep failing businesses owe the membership an explanation. To me, there is no reasonable excuse to be so reckless with our peoples assets. My question to the directors who vote to keep this property is, "Are you willing to pay for the losses that this property is taking on out of your own salary?" You can bet they are not willing to. If they are not willing to gamble with their own money, why are they so willing to waste the tribes? We need to responsibly walk away from businesses that bleed the tribe of funds and resources. We must maximize profits to maximize services. It is really that simple. Do not accept excuses from directors who are emotionally attached

See "McRorie," Page 26

Home Replacement program, healthcare reform



ISAAC MCKECHNIE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Home Replacement Program

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians recently provided a one-time trailer replacement program to members of Unit I. The program was administered through the Sault Tribe Housing Authority and Unit I members were encouraged to apply.

The primary objective of the program is to provide single-wide trailer replacement homes for tribal households who live in substandard housing, are homeless or have no other resources for housing assistance. Priority was extended to the elderly, dis-

abled low-income families with dependent children, veterans or individuals living in overcrowded and unsafe conditions.

The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, a part of the American Rescue Plan, delivered \$350 billion to state, local, and tribal governments across the country to support their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Under the program's final rule, "Development, repair, and operation of affordable housing and services or programs to increase long-term housing security" is an eligible use to respond to the negative economic impacts of the pandemic on households and communities.

Participation in the Replacement Home Program was limited to 24 low-income families and participants; each participant was required to provide documentation to verify their low-income status. Sault Tribe member households were selected based on specific selection criteria and an application point system. Last week, 12 elderly and 12 families were selected to receive replacement homes based on an approved selection process.

Health Care Reform

I look at healthcare as an opportunity both for the quality of healthcare in our community and as a business. I feel that our next business revenue source should be in the healthcare industry. When I say that, I mean it's an opportunity to find and create more professional ways to meet the gaps in services and fulfill the needs of our community. Healthcare has become very complicated in how we pay for it and capture its cost. It's not just the facility, but the doctors, nurses and administration. We need to look at how we can manage all of those services, and how we can fill gaps in the healthcare marketplace to better meet the needs of our people, from a financial standpoint.

In creating a long-term plan for a healthier tribe, we need to start by understanding the needs of the individual and the community. We will do this by gathering information through surveys, assessments, and focus group studies that give us a full picture and help us understand what actually needs to be prioritized.

There are a couple key aspects when it comes to healthcare, but first and foremost we need to run

it like a business. We must run our healthcare system in a very professional way and provide the highest quality of care to our people. So whether or not we are trying to increase revenues, we need to run it like a business.

The second, possibly opening clinics up to non-Natives. In doing so we've expanded our market and become more inclusive, which will allow us to improve the health and wellbeing of the whole community that the tribe is a part of. Opening up the clinics to the broader community will enable us to launch our services to the next level.

Things to consider:

1. Expansion of our market (non-Native family members, children, workers and general community) and generate more revenues to put back into our healthcare services.
2. With the increase in revenues, we can improve the quality of our providers that we are able to recruit and retain.
3. Expand services into specialized areas and preventative care.
4. Expand access to services (national telemedical service, transport to clinic, mobile units).
5. For our tribal citizens that

are interested in pursuing these careers, we can help them get through their schooling, and we offer them great employment packages when they are finished with their schooling.

One of the main problems we face is substance dependency, and that happens from our tribal citizens living in environments that cause the dependency. Our focus should be on building a tribal healing facility to treat our loved ones in a controlled environment.

After a few years, we would need to build a transitional housing complex so our citizens would not have to go back to the environment that caused the issues in the first place. Then, they can transition out of transitional housing into their own place when they have become self-reliant, enhanced their self-esteem, and restored their cultural identity as an individual.

That is how we can look at healthcare holistically, and we only are able to do that because of our revenues and the system in that way.

Sincerely,
Isaac McKechnie, Unit I
Director
imckechnie@saulttribe.net or
(906) 440-6661

Members have the right to removal, referendum



BETTY FREIHEIT,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Hello Tribal Members, Referendums should always be final!

Our Constitution affords two rights to members: Removal and Referendum. When enacted, the results of actions are to be final.

Board members who attempt to manipulate or override these results are embarking on a dangerous course of action. Both Lana Causley and Bridgett Sorenson should know better. Shawn Borowicz has no excuse

either.

Our Constitution is clear on this matter in ARTICLE IX-RIGHT OF REFERENDUM:

"A vote of a majority of the eligible voters voting in such referendum shall be conclusive and binding upon the board of directors provided, however, that at least (30%) percent of those entitled to vote shall vote in such referendum conducted pursuant to tribal ordinance."

During the recent board meeting, three board members attempted to place resolutions on the agenda to overturn the results of the recent referendums dealing with vacating the Special Election and changing a positive majority to a simple majority.

The above board members, to include Michael McKerchie and Darcy Morrow, are again desperately attempting to place an individual on the board, when they are all well aware that there were unlawful election violations. Did they forget that they took an oath to uphold tribal law?

They claimed that, even

though the referendum ballots received were less than the required 30% of eligible voters, that those who did not vote supported vacating the two board resolutions on the ballot.

That conclusion really cannot be made as more than 70% of eligible voters did not even return their ballots. One can offer a lot of reasons as to why, but the fact remains that there was not enough interest. This is the a result and cannot be dismissed.

The 30% return rate is not some arbitrary figure thrown into the Constitution. It is a standard percentage used to validate many surveys, polls, and election results. We need to make sure we protect members rights.

Another very controversial issue is the Hessel Golf Course. A resolution on the agenda for the past meeting to sell this golf course was tabled. Our Economic Development director has recommended our golf course be sold as it has experience a near \$380,000 operation loss. Further, it is not

anticipated that this course will ever generate sufficient profits to recoup the initial investment. The property cost \$750,000 and is expected to lose \$250,000 per year.

There was never an economic plan for the property when purchase and that then EDC Director advised against it. Currently our EDC Director has to take revenue from our other Enterprises to keep the Hessel Golf Course operational.

This has turned into a very emotional issue with members of the Hessel community. Many have come forward in support of keeping the course open and giving it more time to generate increased revenues. Others have asked that even if the course is closed, that the tribe retain the land as this has historical and cultural significance to the community. The Hessel golf course is named after Lana Causley's father's traditional name.

It is regrettable that this purchase was ever made. It

was part of a pattern of reckless financial investments that occurred all too often in prior years. The vote was 10-2; Austin and I voted "NO."

Both golf courses were purchased with gaming dollars.

Our new EDC director is going through all enterprises and properties to identify those not making money, or expect to make money.

Is it time for the tribe to replace the directors who are directly responsible for enacting legislation that caused our tribe to lose millions of dollars?

We need to stop the financial draining of tribal resources, even though it will mean some unpopular decisions, and with that I will end my report.

Please keep yourself and family safe. Help your neighbors anytime you can. And please look out for our elders.

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

McRorie report continued

From "McRorie," Page 25
to businesses that will never make money.

On Oct. 2, 2023, I had the honor and privilege of giving the welcoming speech at the 2023 Michigan Indian Elders Association Fall Conference. I would like to say Chi Migwech to our Sault Tribe Elders Division and every staff member who made this such an amazing event for our elders and the elders of Michigan tribes' who were here to participate. I received many compliments on how well our staff did as hosts. My message to our elders was simply thank you for all you have done for our people. The opportunities we enjoy today are because of their

sacrifices many years ago. Our elders endured circumstances and suffering that we could not imagine. They are the reason we have retained our culture, language and way of life. We are the descendants of those who could not be broken or removed, the toughest of the tough. The gratitude we owe them is immeasurable. Chi Miigwech to all of our amazing elders!

Like always, if you have any questions or ideas to help move our tribe forward in a positive direction, I would love to hear from you. Remember to take time from your busy schedules to spend some time with family and friends.

Chi Miigwech

Sault Tribe Member Newspaper Subscription Form

To receive a FREE tribal newspaper subscription in the mail, tribal members under 60 are asked to complete the form below and send it to: Win Awenen Nisitotung, 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783, or email it to slucas@saulttribe.net. Those 60 and over do not have to fill out this form. Those who prefer to get their newspaper online do not have to complete this form.

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Unit III director discusses Sept. 19 board meeting



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

On Sept. 19, the board meeting was held in Munising. I attended by Zoom for the workshop and meeting while also trying to participate in a family funeral. I take meetings seriously and I try to always attend in person but I also needed to be able to be there for family. I did miss the last couple of agenda items with one being, "Creating department specific Human Resource departments." I do not agree that we need to have multiple HR departments. I requested to take this off the agenda so the board, the executive director, HR staff and other pertinent staff could have frank discussions as to the issues and get it all on the table, but that didn't happen, unfortunately. The vote did pass and now we will apparently have multiple HR departments for casino, enterprise, health and the rest of the tribe.

The first position I held after my internship with the tribe was in HR as an employment rep. At that time HR ran like a well-oiled machine, in my opinion. We had specific reps that worked with separate areas, such as one dedicated to the casinos. We all recognize there are issues with the time it takes to get team members hired. I also know that all policies HR has to follow are board-approved. So, many of the issues, very possibly have to do with board policies. I didn't see the harm in having a grown-up discussion on everyone's concerns. How much additional cost will this result in? Are we cutting jobs to current staff? Are we giving them priority to move to different areas? We seem to have lots of experts calling the shots because they think it's a better idea. Let's be honest, wouldn't all departments and divisions want to do their own hiring, etc.? Doesn't mean it is what is best or that it will even be better or not cost more.

There was also a vote to change the removal from office code again. It was updated to state that after the Tribal Registrar certifies the signatures, then Legal shall review, and if Legal determines there are not the required number of signatures, then the petition is declared invalid and the board will not vote on it. I don't personally like that because it is the board's job, even though most wouldn't vote on many of their own removals, and it puts stress on Legal, as in its chain of command. I still will never agree about the 10% requirement when the Constitution clearly states 100 signatures and then the code says

or 10%, whichever is greater. It then doesn't say 10% of the total ballots, sent, counted, per that person or the entire unit. Even if the legal clarification is 10% of the total votes cast in a unit like they said with Issacs' that is completely unfair compared to the other units. It makes it much harder to garner signatures in Unit 1 then the other 4 units for removal.

There is work being done on the Tribal Code Chapter 12: Referendum Code and Chapter 16: Removal from Office. I believe the membership should be invited to a workshop of these code changes as well as Chapter 10: Election Code. Our codes do need to be cleaned up and changes made but there should also be an effort to take input from members. Right now, it might be put on the workshop agenda a few days in advance but it should be planned with ample notice and a portion for members to comment during the workshop. Currently there is not input at the workshops, only during membership issues for five minutes prior to a meeting.

There was a special meeting called for Tuesday, Sept. 26, to set a date and time for Darcy's removal hearing. I was not able to attend as I was at a HUD TIAC. The date was set for Friday Oct. 6 at 1 p.m.

While I was at the HUD TIAC, tribal leaders met with HUD staff including Deputy Secretary Adrienne Todman. We covered many areas of concern for tribal housing issues and together legislate for changes. On the last day we toured many housing projects of the Tohono O'odham tribe. The tribe has about 36,000 members and owns 2.8 million acres, which is the second largest tribal land holding in the U.S., equivalent to the state of Connecticut. One of the most recent projects completed was a large gymnasium with locker rooms and a stage. Next to it was a very nice splash pad, and lastly a big state-of-the-art fitness center. This was located on one of their reservations. Next, they had started a big homeownership project during COVID that is going to be completed soon. We toured a couple of the houses that were very similar to our houses, but, of course they have dirt and sand yards with the desert. They were able to use as much as \$4 million of gaming revenue on some of these projects as combined with other grants and tax credits. I really wish our tribe was able to do the same but that is probably going to take moving into a downstate market.

At the Oct. 3 meeting, Lana, Shawn and myself had sponsored two resolutions to honor the non-binding referendum results on the simple majority and the voiding of the Unit 1 election, since the votes that were cast clearly stated the membership did not support those board decisions. Unfortunately, Tyler made the motion with support from Betty to remove it from the meeting agenda. It is pretty sad when the minority are not even respected enough for a discussion to be had on the resolutions. The total

ballots may not have garnered the 30% but that does not mean it was supported by the members and shame on those that were advocating to not vote at all. I understand people are frustrated and confused but don't allow anyone to take away your right to vote on something — it is your voice!

Next on the agenda was the resolution sponsored by Tyler to sell the Hessel golf course. The board voted in 2021, I believe, to purchase Hessel and Tanglewood courses. Hessel has 157 acres and is one of the most beautiful courses around. The current board voted unanimously to apply for trust status for Hessel on Jan. 17, 2023.

We are a very land-poor tribe, so why would we sell this property? Yes, it is true we are currently losing money on this property, which is very normal during the first few years. The golf pro we hired over both courses was previously contracted and could not even do many things such as review financials or staffing. She was made a team member a month or so ago. The board had previously discussed giving the courses at least another full season to see how it goes before closing the courses. The courses have not been marketed at all, the casinos should be including them in their VIP program too. Some went off on a tangent about losing money, which I fully understand, but there are many areas that do the same that are protected. The casinos used to give the government \$17 million a year and I believe next year it will be about \$5 million. Now I am not saying to sell the casinos or close any down, but I am saying there is a lot of work to be done. I don't claim to be a business expert but I do know that you need to market a business and give a good effort before you just give up on it. Fortunately, we had enough votes to table the sale. It is a shame that placing items on the agenda sparks this type of retaliation.

I was fortunate enough to work with Shirley Donovan Sorrels, the Director of the Museum of Ojibwa Culture in St. Ignace for the last decade or so. She recently retired after 21 years and the museum will now be managed by Tom and Francie Wyers. Over the years, Shirley has worked with our tribal community on so many grants and projects such as a new long house, clan park, medicine gardens, boarding school wall, buying products from Native artists, facilitating workshops, children and adult activities and the annual Native American Festival. Shirley is one of a kind and will be greatly missed as she retires to Canada with her sister. I was able to gift her with a black ash basket on behalf of the tribe at her retirement party.

On Saturday, Sept. 30, I had the pleasure to attend the Orange Shirt Day Remembrance Walk at the Ojibwa Museum. The walk was organized by survivors of Holy Childhood in Harbor Springs. There was a remembrance bell that was designed and donated by Bill Krieger that each survivor rang. A ceremony was conducted by Daryll Brown and

lunch was served before the walk. Each of the four ladies carried a flag during the walk-through downtown St. Ignace. They are hoping to make this an annual event to break the much-needed education and healing for many of these adults that suffered during their childhood.

The TED Grant applications, which college students applied for with the September deadline for \$1,000, should be processing

soon. There may also be an extension of the program, so check the website if you or a student you know would like to apply.

Reminder of the COVID mortgage assistance program through Housing. Please check the website for an application or call (906) 495-1450.

Please contact me with any comments or concerns at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.



Oct. 3 board resolutions removed from agenda



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

This month has gotten extremely worse for retaliatory measures at the board table.

I have no other outlet other to voice to the members in my unit what is taking place.

Before the meeting on Oct. 3, I placed two resolutions on the agenda to uphold and honor the will of the members disapproval vote on the referendums that had been recently sent out although it did not meet the 30% requirement to change. The first referendum (see resolutions below) the members clearly voted to disapprove the boards actions to change the vote from 7 to 6 on passing legislation and the other was the members disapproving voiding the special election in Unit I where a tribal member clearly won without any violations months after the results. I (along with co-sponsors Sorenson and Borowocz) placed both of these on the agenda within the rules in place of the five days advance notice. I did have immediate resistance but I will not go into that but will state — within hours after I placed these on the agenda there was an item added to “Sell the Hessel golf course!” In my opinion, this is blatant retaliation in my unit due to the fact I placed the others resolutions. All the team members read this on the website and had no idea it was coming and management also communicated such. Fast forward to the meeting — immediately the majority of six swiftly removed my items from the agenda but not after I nearly begged (and other directors supported at the very least a discussion).

Honoring Non-Binding Referendum Results On Resolution No: 2023-189 Reinstating Positive Majority Requirement For Past Actions

WHEREAS Tribal Code Chapter 14: Rules of Parliamentary Procedure had previously required a positive majority of seven votes to overturn a past action of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS on May 31, 2023 the Board of Directors adopted Resolution No: 2023-189 which removed the positive majority requirement resulting in the need for only a simple majority to overturn a past action of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS on September 11, 2023 Resolution No: 2023-189 was subjected to a popular referendum; and

WHEREAS the referendum failed because it did not garner the minimum threshold of votes needed to constitute a binding referendum result; and

WHEREAS the non-binding

referendum results were 2,349 in favor of repealing Resolution No: 2023-189 and 1,421 in favor of leaving Resolution No: 2023-189 in place; and

WHEREAS the requirement of a super majority being required to overturn a past action of a governing body is common requirement of parliamentary rules; and

WHEREAS while the minimum threshold for a binding referendum was not achieved the will of those who did vote in the referendum supported overturning Resolution No: 2023-189 and the Board of Directors desires to honor that will.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors hereby amends Tribal Code Chapter 14: Rules of Parliamentary Procedure at 14.118 Recall Motions (3)(a) follows: The motions to rescind or amend something previously adopted allow the Board of Directors to change a previous action of the Board. These motions can be made if written notice of intent to make the motion which details the complete substance of the proposed motion to rescind or amend something previously adopted, including a copy of any proposed resolution, is provided to all Board members at least five days in advance of the meeting. These motions require a second. Except as may be otherwise required in the Tribal Constitution and By-Laws, a Simple Positive Majority vote is required for passage. The motions are debatable, but not amendable, and a negative vote on these motions can be reconsidered, but an affirmative vote cannot be reconsidered.

Honoring Non-Binding Referendum Results on Resolution No: 2023-190 - Cancelling Special Advisory Election

WHEREAS on May 31, 2023 the Board of Directors adopted Resolution No: 2023-190 which set aside the 2023 special advisory election to fill a still vacant Unit I seat on the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS on September 11, 2023 Resolution No: 2023-190 was subjected to a popular referendum; and

WHEREAS the referendum failed because it did not garner the minimum threshold of votes needed to constitute a binding referendum result; and

WHEREAS the non-binding referendum results were 2,053 in favor of repealing Resolution No: 2023-190 and 1,716 in favor of leaving Resolution No: 2023-190 in place; and

WHEREAS the winning candidate of the 2023 special advisor election was not accused of any wrong doing in the conduct of the election; and

WHEREAS while the minimum threshold for a binding referendum was not achieved the will of those who did vote in the referendum supported overturning Resolution No: 2023-190 and the Board of Directors desires to honor that will.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors hereby rescinds Resolution No: 2023-190 and directs that the winning candidate

from the 2023 special advisory election be installed at the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

I explained that we should entertain due to the fact that I had at least 4,402 members voting to disapprove the actions that had been taken by the board to lower the majority number and void the election but it fell on deaf ears by the majority. Also during this meeting we had the discussion on closing the course immediately — what!? How? There were members attending who said they thought it should have at least another year to improve the revenue as it was a new business and other employees that attended and spoke as well. With all this being said, myself and other board members reminded the board that we had just held a discussion two months ago and it was recommended by the EDC director to at least give it more time to increase revenue through marketing plans and strategic business plans forthcoming — then out of nowhere it’s placed on the agenda to immediately sell the LAND. Now, to be fair I will state that the course is not in a profit making position right now as the other course we own is not as well — but that course did not make the agenda to sell that evening! We have other businesses that lose about a million a year and those did not make the agenda to take any action either — improvement actions or selling. It’s blatant folks. If the course was managed properly and given attention and dedication by management, it may work quite successfully. I’m not hear to bash the management, but I was taken aback by the actions and numbers given that evening. I communicated and reminded the board that at least 10 families worked at the course and although it’s a messily seasonal

positive it still feeds families and it’s economic improvement in our community. I also must say that two weeks ago the course had began accepting money for the 2024 season pass at the course — how can this even happen if there was any plan to sell the land before my sponsoring the member driven referendum results — this going directly along with my opinion that it was nothing more than retaliatory in nature. It’s a very sad and frustration position to witness and be part of...I will stop here and let you know that the decision was tabled, for which I’m very thankful as maybe we can have a mature, professional discussion on how to use the land if they do not let the course open again or come up with a plan to increase revenue and make it profitable. Quite frankly, if it’s done correctly, this should be the ultimate goal or the land will likely sit and rot like other land we have, including homes and such. I voiced my desire for a real look at a vision plan with the our casino and campground and the local airport and marina right in the community to collaborate and market. We shall see how this plays out. In the end I certainly hope we do not sell back 157 acres of Indian Land. I will do all I can to represent protecting this land and any other and be fair and supportive when solid plans come forward to improve and increase revenue. Simply selling should never be an option when we know the asset we have at hand. We paid a little over \$700k for this land, and an immaculate 18 hole golf course in this day and age is worth many times over that amount and an easy Google search tells you the real data. I’m sorry to lay this out this way, but I have to express these things.

Good news is - I recently had the opportunity to attend the

Michigan Indian Elder Conference that was held in Sault Ste. Marie (I like to attend our local members conferences first and foremost) it was an amazing well put together event that our Elderly Division hosted. I am thankful for those Elders in our unit that went to represent. I know many others would have liked to attend but it was limited to those on the Elder Committees in each area. This meeting held special healing for many as there was a guest speaker — my dad. He shared his story and also expressed his desire to make all knowledgeable about the devastating Residential School Era. All Elders who attended were gifted a special quilt handmade by women of the tribe and gifted to all that had been taken from their homes as children. I was immensely honored to witness this and it will forever hold deeply in heart and in many others.

In closing, I know the report was harsh. There are so many things I could have gone into but kept it specific to our area — I will gracefully carry on and represent — I’ve seen these kinds of tactics in my tenure but not nearly as blatant.

I would like to remind that we have many specials teaching cultural workshops to members planned in our area. These are always free to the members and so many enjoy the opportunities to learn and I’m thankful for those who share the knowledge of our ways to everyone. Watch the sites for updates and listings at the respective tribal centers.

Enjoy the fall season and if you want to meet or discuss anything, please reach out to me at (906) 322-3818 or e-mail lcausley@saulttribe.net. Please take care and take care of each other. Baamaapii, Lana Causley-Smith.

Lana Causley-Smith,
Unit II Director

Lee discusses Unit II matters



**KIMBERLY LEE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

Aanii,

I hope this message finds you healthy, happy and well.

The selling of Bear on the Mountain Golf Course was added to the Oct. 3 list of resolutions. I supported tabling the resolution at this time as it needs much more discussion and information before a decision of such magnitude is made. I agree that we cannot support losing such a significant amount. But it needs to be adequately closed for the winter and discussed what the future for the course holds.

I co-sponsored the resolution

to split up the Human Resources Department. For years, this department has been held up by multiple barriers, making it impossible to hire employees quickly and efficiently before they end up employed elsewhere. We have lost many suitable applicants based on hiring effectiveness. We are hopeful this change will come with the support needed to be timelier and more efficient.

On Sept. 27-29, several board members visited the Jamestown S’klallam tribe health clinic in Sequim, Wash. We left feeling incredibly optimistic about the future and ideas for implementing things in our healthcare centers. We all know that our current structure could be more efficient. We cannot continue to operate this way. It is costing all of us our health. We have some exciting things at the forefront that can help us in the future.

On Oct. 2, I had a wonderful visit with Rudyard Area Schools. Superintendent Tom McKee gave me a tour of the programs they have to offer. And it was amazing to see how they excel academically and in the agendas implemented. I would love to visit every school in Unit 2 for a similar tour.

On Sept. 15, I attended the

Newberry Elders meeting. It is always a pleasure to have lunch with them, give unit and tribal updates, and answer any questions they may have. The Elder’s Advisory Committee meeting is held on the same day as the Newberry meeting. We discussed many topics and expectations that they have for the future of our tribe and have scheduled a discussion with the board on constitutional reform.

On Sept. 25, we attended a grand opening ceremony for our fire lodge in Hessel. What a joyous day. We celebrated the lodge upgrades from fantastic community members—Chi-miigwech to David Dutcher, Bob Causley, and John Causley. Your work is magnificent, and we all appreciate you sharing your gifts.

In closing, remember we are here for a purpose. All of our journeys differ, and some are more challenging than others. Be understanding and respectful and take care of one another. I matter, you matter, we matter.

Miigwech for your time.
Kimberly Lee
Unit 2 Board of Director
Klee@saulttribe.net
(906) 379-8965

Unit IV director reviews September's issues



**KIMBERLY HAMPTON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Aniin kina waya (hello everybody). Happy Halloween and Happy Fall. As we move into cooler weather I would like to remind everyone to stay healthy. It is important to eat healthy foods, stay hydrated and take multi-vitamins in efforts to stay healthy as the illness rates are starting to increase. I encourage you all to get outside and get some fresh air before the snowflakes arrive. I wish good luck to all hunters out there. Have a great Fall everyone.

Katchup with Kim

During the end of February 2023, I started holding Zoom meetings called "Katchup with Kim" as an avenue for our tribal membership, within Unit 4 as well as any of our units including at-large members, to converse with me and hold discussions regarding upcoming resolutions, ideas members have for our tribe, and current issues. I openly welcome anyone to attend these

Zoom meetings as change will take a tribe. Below is the Zoom meeting schedule with Meeting ID and Password:

Thursday, Nov. 9, at 7 p.m. EST; Meeting ID: 906 440 8138; Password: KimHampton

Thursday, Nov. 30, at 7 p.m. EST; Meeting ID: 906 440 8138; Password: KimHampton

Powwow Meetings

Throughout the upcoming year, there will be regularly scheduled powwow meetings to keep the committee on task. However, it was a committee decision to hold off on meetings until January 2024. I also encourage everyone to "like" the Niiwin Noodin Pow Wow Facebook page to keep updated on meetings, and so forth.

Meetings, open to the public, scheduled for the Niiwin Noodin Pow Wow Committee, will be located at the Manistique Tribal Health Center, 5698W US Highway 2, Manistique, Mich.

Maamawi (together) Craft Night

The next Maamawi Craft Night is scheduled for Thursday, Nov. 16, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Manistique Tribal Health Center, 5698W US Highway 2, Manistique. There are no skills required to join. Bring a project to work on, work on a group project, or just come to socialize. There will be miscellaneous crafting supplies to get us started. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own snacks or drinks. Everyone is welcome to participate, open to the public.

Unit 4 Elder Meetings

I encourage our tribal elders to attend elder meetings to become involved as well as stay updated on what our elder committees are working on.

The next meeting in Marquette, which is a combination of Units 4 and 5, will be Thursday, Nov. 2, 5:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Marquette.

The next meeting in Manistique will be held Nov. 8, 12 p.m. at the Manistique Tribal Center.

The next meeting in Escanaba will be held Nov. 8, at 5 p.m. at the Delta County Chamber Building.

September Activities
Tribal Homeland Security Advisory Council (THSAC): I and the rest of THSAC are working on creating collaborative work groups to begin addressing the issues that affect Indian Country. There is information I am not authorized to release regarding the THSAC at this time, but what I can share is that we are working as a collaborative group of various tribal leaders on priorities to help protect and advocate for all tribal nations. I will provide the assurance that task groups have been created to focus on cybersecurity, grants and funding, as well as a group focused on Murdered and Missing Indigenous Peoples (MMIP), which I am assigned to. The MMIP task group has been busy meeting with different agencies, begun gathering data, and will soon be drafting a briefing on how to improve education and prevention of MMIP.

Manistique Fitness Center and Escanaba Community Center: The Manistique Fitness Center project has begun and is making great progress. The Escanaba Community Center project has made a lot of progress. Throughout the month of September there were regular progress meetings between all parties involved in both projects. I look forward to seeing these projects move toward completion which will likely be pushed out until the beginning of 2024.

Manistique Dental and Pharmacy Annex

In September, there were planning meetings held to start planning and preparing for an expansion of the dental clinic in Manistique, as well as a larger annex for Pharmacy. The hope is to expand the building to add in additional exam rooms in order to increase the number of patients that are able to be seen and to provide Pharmacy with a much larger area as well as a drive through Pharmacy pick up. Updates will be provided throughout the project.

Looking Forward

LIHEAP-I would like to remind everyone that the Sault Tribe's Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will be available beginning Nov. 1. In order to receive an application, visit your local ACFS office. This is a first-come, first-served program, so apply as soon as you can. The Manistique ACFS office is located within the Manistique Tribal Health Center.

Feeding America-Drive Thru will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 25 at 10 a.m. located at Central Park Ball Field, on Tannery Rd, 345 Elm Street, Manistique. Feeding America offers free food distribution for anyone and everyone.

Previous US Forest Service Building

By the time this unit report will be published, the board of directors will have already received the keys and taken a facility tour of the previous U.S. Forest Service building, located at 499 E. Lakeshore Drive, Manistique. The BIA has chosen to transfer ownership of the previous Forest Service administration building, and accompanying buildings and property, to the Sault Tribe. I am very excited to begin exploring ideas and planning great ventures for this property.

I look forward to re-engaging with members during Katchup with Kim sessions, catching up on those messages, voicemails, and so forth, that need to be followed up on, as well as moving forward on goals I have for Unit 4 and working with the rest of the board of directors to move Sault Tribe toward unity and success.

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

Kimberly Hampton,
Unit 4 Representative

Unit I director issues their September report



**MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

As many of those who attend or watch our meetings know, our tribe is still in turbulent times. Our most recent meeting held had resolutions that were removed from the agenda. There are times when items have been requested to be removed for one reason or another — this was not one of those times. The resolutions were removed to prevent discussion on them. If a board member does not agree with a resolution, they can have their voice heard and simply vote "no" on them. Removing them from the agenda keeps the membership from hearing the discussion.

The resolutions that were removed were on the board's decision to change positive majority to simple majority and the board's decision to void the Special Advisory Election to fill the still vacant Unit 1 seat. Some may argue that they have

been already dealt with, but with the recent referendum results, the board had new additional information and at the very least a discussion should have taken place. But, that was denied when the majority removed it from the agenda.

I am concerned about the ongoing trend of not wanting to hear the membership's voices. When asked for a special prosecutor to look into criminal allegations from the past general election, this majority said no. When removal petitions were properly submitted to have outside hearing panel look at alleged violations of one of their own, this majority said no. They have voided elections based solely on what "they" interpret as violations. This majority has also automatically registered voters who for years have chosen not to register just to raise the referendum threshold and make future referendums all but impossible. All of these decisions only make it harder for the membership voices to be heard — we should be working together to hear all the members but instead this is happening. We need to learn how to compromise and move our tribe forward.

Let me be clear, good things are happening in our tribe and this majority can make a lot of necessary changes, but they must also hold each other accountable, follow our laws, and listen to the membership.

I was reluctant when the tribe purchased golf courses but open to the idea of additional land and new economic development.

Understanding that new business ventures take time, it was decided earlier this year to operate the golf courses at a loss and re-evaluate after next season. In less than two months, it was brought back as a resolution to sell. I am not opposed to closing the golf courses if they continue to lose money but feel we can do something with the land to help diversify our economic development. I also think it is unfair to our directors to agree on a plan only to change it so soon.

This only sets it up to fail. Any implementation plan to help the golf courses succeed, such as increasing advertising, doing joint promotions, or other avenues to increase sales at the golf course are unlikely to be done now.

Managers and directors are already feeling micro-managed and many are feeling uneasy. We continue to work through wage disparity and internal service bureaucracy to help our tribe move forward. We have to ensure that we get the proper information to make decisions; in this

ultra-political environment that is getting harder to do. In the upcoming year, the board will have to take a hard look at how we spend all funds. We are not in a position that our team members have to make board members happy and not tell us what we need to hear.

As always, please reach out to me to discuss any of these or any issues our tribe is facing. I can be reached at (906) 440-7768.

Chi Miigwech,
Michael McKerchie

Fine tuning HR and billing



**SHAWN BOROWICZ,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

Hello all,
First I would like to talk about the recent changes being implemented in our Human Resources departments, which I believe will be a good thing for all the departments involved. Under this plan, the various departments can

concentrate on their specialized field of work and interview and hire the best qualified individuals. This plan will work great if they are not micro-managed by other individuals within the tribe.

Our healthcare division needs some fine tuning and the main issue is the amount of money that is never recovered from billing. Why a third party biller has never been hired to recover these funds is crazy. They work on a percentage they recover and it costs the tribe nothing. When I worked in EMS downstate, initially the city did its own billing and we survived. Several years later, we hired a billing company and soon we were recovering millions.

It's tough to find qualified health care professionals that want to work in the U.P., especially physicians. We should look at corporations that doctors start where any number of doctors

work for a corporation for a set amount of money for a certain number of years. A lot of the bigger hospitals do it this way as they come with their own staff, liability/malpractice insurance and benefits. This would take away all the liability the tribe faces now.

The recent removal petitions submitted with only one moving forward will be taking place in October/November. I still don't think it's the board's decision to dismiss them, I think our only action would be to move them on and let the three or four judge panel decide. This way there is no issue of the board covering anything up.

Stay healthy and happy, I've been hearing this is going to be a rough flu season. Any questions or concerns, I can be reached at (906) 379-8511 or sborowicz@saulttribe.net.

Unit V director reviews tribe's current issues



TYLER LAPLAUNT
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Aanii, Boozhoo!

Greetings, everyone! Fall is in full effect and we've had a beautiful start to the changing of the seasons. Remember to slow down and get outdoors to experience some of the beauty that nature has to offer in this seasonal transition. Fall is also a great time to hold a fast and contemplate on any tough decisions or changes in your own life.

Changes within the tribe are also a continuous process and should remain that way. One of the biggest recent changes that was made was a resolution to separate our Human Resources (HR) Department to better serve our business and healthcare needs. This is a change that will gradually take effect over the next several months. Our hope is that, once HR is moved around, the hiring process will be more efficient across the tribe, leaving less of a gap in employment, more flexibility with management, and fill our long list of open positions, located here: <https://saulttribe.hirecentric.com/jobsearch/>.

What does this change entail? We decided to take a four-directions style approach and break up the government HR structure to create Government HR, Health HR, Kewadin HR and EDC HR.

Our current Government Human Resources Department will remain, overseeing tribal policies and employment. However, the size of that department will be reduced as Kewadin, Health, and EDC will now all have their own HR Departments or staff created in order to streamline operations. This will remove many of the barriers that our executives and managers face. Bottom line, there is no one left to point the finger at if our businesses cannot get people hired and maintain operations in a fluid and effective manner.

Several months ago, the board of directors passed Resolution 2023-261. This resolution would open tribal enrollment on Feb. 1, 2024. Director McRorie was the sole dissenting "no" vote on this resolution. One meeting later, he tried to revise the resolution to eliminate the Mackinac Band from being allowed to enroll once enrollment opened back up. That amendment failed. Unable to change the resolution, Director McRorie then started a referendum petition to ultimately nullify Resolution 2023-261, which, if he has his way, would close enrollment for everyone. Putting us right back to ground zero with closed enrollment.

This referendum should be coming out shortly after this paper is printed, so I am asking you to vote to APPROVE RESOLUTION 2023-261. By approving this resolution, enrollment will continue to proceed to opening on Feb. 1, 2024. I stand by my decision and belief that we are all related. We absolutely are. There is no room for lateral racism when there are so few of us left due to colonization and genocide. Why attack each other. Director McRorie and I still see eye to eye on many of the issues that plague our tribe and I'll continue to work with him to improve this tribe, now and into

the future. This is one area where I strongly disagree with him and will continue to fight until all of our tribal people, citizens, are recognized as such by our tribe. Again, please vote to APPROVE and open our enrollment again, once and for ALL.

At our last meeting, on Oct. 3, I recently put up a resolution to begin to sell the Hessel Ridge Golf Course. That resolution was tabled. This was one of many purchases that was made by the previous outgoing board. That single golf course is costing our tribe roughly \$250,000 in losses per year with a purchasing investment of \$750,000 and \$250,000 in capital improvements. Our losses per year are roughly one-third of the purchase price of the property. That makes no sense to continue to operate and it puts us in a deficit for our EDC that's sole purpose is to expand business opportunities and make money.

With \$250,000 in losses per year, that's the equivalent of purchasing a new small business investment every year, or heck, loan it out to people interested in business investments. Long story short, it makes no sense that we continue to hold on to losing businesses and properties. We have to be smarter and more fiscally conservative.

Yes, we have to spend money to make money, and that makes sense for successful businesses. We did not have the previous performance financials for this property before the purchase, no business plan, and the amount of capital investments we would have to make are currently beyond our means due to settling the \$88 million JLLJ casino development lawsuit that they also left us with. Would these board members who want to keep this property do so out of pocket? The answer is no. Never. The tribe is not a personal piggy

bank for certain families to fund their playgrounds and the wasteful spending absolutely must stop.

All of that being said, I understand the attachment to the land. I was willing to compromise and amended the resolution to sell, to just close down and allow the land to stay within the Hessel community. They still tabled the resolution with the amendment to keep the land. So, what is it? Is this golf course an attachment to the land? Or is it really just a personal playground?

The wasteful spending absolutely must come to an end and we need to set our EDC up for success. How can the EDC be successful when the board legislates for the EDC to continue to operate a business with a \$250,000 per year loss? This money comes from other successful businesses that we have within our EDC portfolio, and makes it far more difficult on our Executive Director of Enterprise Operations to create a successful business portfolio and strengthen our tribal economic footprint.

The Unit 5 Powwow is set for Dec. 2 at the Northern Center at NMU. This is a joint effort between the Elders of Unit 5, both Munising and Marquette, and the Northern Michigan University Native American Student Association (NMU NASA). It's so wonderful to see our Elders working with young Native students to bring about a good event for the community. The posters are being created and more information will be forthcoming. Everyone is invited to attend this one-day event. If anyone is interested in helping in any way, please reach out and I'll connect you with the planning committee.

Chairman Lowes and I are working with the U.S. Forest Service to come up with a plan to get a powwow back on Grand

Island in the not-so-distant future. This is something that is close to the Grand Island Band community and we are going to do our best to advocate and negotiate to get this done. Keep us in your prayers as we continue to fight to provide ceremony where it was originally intended.

Our Culture Night at the Lakeview Arena Citizens Forum is still going strong. We are seeing upwards of 40 people every week we meet. Everyone is welcome, so just pop in and say hi. Meet some new people and have some fun. Culture Night is the second and fourth Thursday of every month from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Lakeview Arena Citizens Forum in Marquette. This is your invitation to get started.

Elder meetings and meals are open to all Sault Tribe Elders in their respective units from ages 60-plus. If you are interested in attending a meeting and meal, just pop in. It's a great way to get to know your community and to help provide input and feedback to your leadership. I am very thankful and honored by the level of guidance that my Elders continue to provide me in my communities.

Unit 5 Munising Elders, your next meeting and meal will be Thursday, Nov. 2, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Munising Tribal Health Center Community Room in Munising.

Unit 5 Marquette Elders, your next meeting and meal will be Thursday, Nov. 2, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Marquette.

I wish you all a safe and happy month. For the hunters out there, good luck!

Chi Miigwech!

Tyler Migizii Migwan
LaPlaut

Unit 5 Director/Vice-Chairman

tlaplaunt@saulttribe.net
(906) 440-8294

A new Escanaba community center on its way



DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

I would like to share some great news for Unit 4. Construction of the community center in Escanaba on the reservation is moving along nicely and per the construction schedule looks like it will be completed in December 2023. It will be nice to have the community center on the reservation for health fairs, cultural teachings, elder meetings, YEA events, traditional funerals, etc. Traditional Medicine will also have its own area on site.

It has been hard through the

years for Traditional Medicine staff to do their practice in a rental building we did not own. Most rentals will not allow them to perform smudging, and so forth. This will be a great addition to services on the western end of Unit 4.

The Manistique exercise facility that is being built across the parking lot of our Manistique Tribal center is coming along also. We have been informed the construction completion date has been pushed back to Jan. 24 for this project.

We have been working on items that need to be purchased for the inside of both facilities. There are a lot of moving parts when it comes to construction, so we are trying to make sure nothing is missing before we open them.

I would like to thank the staff that have attended our construction meetings, I appreciate all your work and effort to make both projects a great success.

Now for some other great news. Director Chase and I started working on the Manistique Ranger District Complex project in 2019; it was brought to our attention by Transportation

Planner Wendy Hoffman. We have finally gotten approval for the conveyance of the property from the federal government for zero dollars. This complex has 4.36 acres of property, along with many historical buildings on site. It is located next to the Manistique Big Boy on US 2, right across from Lake Michigan and the boardwalk. What a great addition for the tribe and the Unit 4 community! The vision is to have a Sault Tribe museum with all of our history and also an area for the Elders and community members to come and sell their Native crafts. The two houses on the property will be fixed up so we can house members on site for teachings and classes, from Traditional Medicine, the Language and Culture Dept., community members, and so forth. The Natural Resource Dept. and Fisheries will also have on site buildings for them to expand their services out to the Unit 4 area. They will also hold on site teachings for community members. This is a great addition for the tribe and to get more members involved in our cultural activities and teachings. These buildings are

historical, and we will be able to apply for historical grants that are available to help with any cost of fixing the complex up.

I would like to send a big "Thank You" out to Wendy Hoffman — if she had not brought it to our attention, it would not have been possible!

I met with the Health Director and staff from the Sault and Manistique along with an architect group to work on an expansion of health services at the Manistique Tribal Center. The main expansion will include more operatory rooms and space for the dental division, and an expansion to our pharmacy to include a drive through, along with some internal changes to our current health side of the building. When the Manistique Tribal Center was originally designed, it was built with plans for an expansion in the future. We knew we would need to expand as our health services increased. I am very excited for this expansion to happen to be able to service more of our members.

We continue to have a majority of rogue board members doing whatever they want,

changing code to fit with their agenda! I hope members start to open their eyes to what is really going on!

I encourage each Sault Tribe member to please start attending board workshops and meetings either in person or via Zoom. Here is the link: <https://fs29.forms.site/Sault/q1aksnvjv3/index.html> to attend via Zoom. You just need to fill out the form and verify you are a Sault Tribe member, and they will email you the meeting link. You can use the same link each time to attend the workshops and meetings. I think if more members were aware of what is really going on you would be more vocal and start asking hard questions. 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.

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

How did these mushrooms get into the trees?

BY SCOTT BRAND

An October mystery, arising in the tamarack swamps of the Eastern Upper Peninsula, has a relatively simple, and perhaps surprising answer: *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*.

But you probably know him better by his North American name, the red squirrel.

While this critter is commonly found at bird feeders squabbling with other feathered and furred visitors for sunflower seeds and other goodies and even running off his bigger cousins — gray, black and fox squirrels — it seems the industrious little fellow is far more than just a quarrelsome forest dweller, with multiple publications showing the red squirrel plays a critical role in the ecosystem. That trait is primarily recognized as hiding various seeds and nuts that go unrecovered during the winter which subsequently take root becoming future plants and trees.

A less recognized contribution, however, comes from the red squirrel's affinity for fungus.

"Use of Conifers by Red Squirrels in Montana for Drying and Caching Mushrooms" written by Paul and Lisa M. Hendricks for the Winter 2015 Northwest Naturalist reveals the red squirrel diet includes a wide range of mushrooms making them important dispersers of fungal spores. "Red squirrels may also collect fruiting bodies (sporocarps) of mushrooms and deposit them in trees for drying, caching and later consumption," noted the article.

"This behavior has been widely reported in the literature." In their published account, detailing multiple visits to a Missoula County, Montana canyon in 2014, the Hendricks found that multiple trees were used to cache mushrooms with the red squirrels favoring dry branches for hanging their harvested mushrooms. The mushrooms did not remain at that location indefinitely.

"The disappearance of mushrooms from the larches we monitored," reads the published

account, "may mean that they were eaten relatively quickly or, more likely, moved to protected sites once the fungi had dried such as platforms in dense tangles

of conifer branches known as witches brooms, hollows in trees or stumps, or added to caches of cones."

Aboutsquirrels.com, a website

dedicated, naturally to the squirrel, provided some additional evidence to support the symbiotic relationship.

"Squirrels consume mush-

rooms, all kinds of mushrooms, and they enjoy them," reads one informative post. "This fungus which is naturally present in squirrel environments and is a staple of the squirrel diet is high in vitamins and minerals."

And unlike humans, the squirrel doesn't have to pore over numerous mushroom identification books to see what they can and cannot eat.

"Toxins found in toxic mushrooms do not affect squirrels," notes aboutsquirrels.com. "Squirrels may even consume deadly mushrooms like the death cap mushroom without harming themselves."

"Furthermore, squirrels consuming mushrooms are beneficial to biodiversity. When squirrels eat mushrooms the spores remain in the squirrel's feces. The spores are expelled with the feces, where they germinate and grow into new mushrooms."

Other interesting information from aboutsquirells.com estimated the average life span at 5-10 years with some squirrels living for up to two decades.

The omnivores can and will eat almost anything they happen upon, but the website notes they are not fond of spicy offerings avoiding hot peppers, onions and garlic.



Tamarack trees, losing their needles, serve as an ideal holding spot. At this time of year, the red squirrels are busy caching their winter supplies throughout our area.

Sault Tribe Community Health

2023 Walk-In Flu Clinics

Check flu clinic schedule for your area and Mark Your Calendars!



FREE flu shots for:

- Sault Tribe members
- Members of a federally recognized tribe
- Health Division Employees

FLU SHOTS ARE A \$10 CO-PAY FOR NON-NATIVE SPOUSES

HELSEL TRIBAL HEALTH CENTER
(906) 484-2727

Hessel Tribal Health Center, 3355 N. 3 Mile Rd.
Monday, Oct. 16, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

SAULT / KINROSS AREA
(906) 632-5210

Big Bear Arena, 2 Ice Circle Dr.
Wed., Oct. 18, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 27, 12 - 4 p.m.
Wed., Nov. 1, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Wed., Nov. 15, 1 - 4 p.m.

NEWBERRY TRIBAL HEALTH CENTER
**Flu Clinic-Oct. 18, 3-5 p.m. (Drive through)

MANISTIQUE TRIBAL HEALTH CENTER
**Health Fair & Flu Clinic Oct. 13 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
**Flu Clinic- Oct. 16, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-4 p.m.

MUNISING TRIBAL HEALTH CENTER
**Flu Clinic- Oct. 24, 3pm-5pm (Drive through)

GLADSTONE TRIBAL HEALTH CENTER
**Flu Clinic-Oct. 27, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

ST. IGNACE AREA
(906) 643-8689, ext. 34531
Sault Tribal Health Center
St. Ignace, 1140 N. State St.
(2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM)
Friday, Oct. 20...9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Friday, Oct. 27...9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Kewadin Shores Casino
(Employees Only)
Wednesday, Nov. 1...9 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Flu Clinic
Oct. 27...10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Health Information and goodie bags will be given to all attendees.



38th Anniversary CELEBRATION

Saturday, November 4



WIN
your share of
\$12,000 CASH

All customers receive one FREE entry
to win up to \$3,000 CASH

CASH Draws 6 p.m. - midnight

\$3,000 CASH Grand Prize at midnight
Champagne, cake and hors d'oeuvres



See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details. May earn additional entries with every 50 base points.

SPOOKTACULAR COSTUME CONTEST



OCTOBER 28

Win Your Share of
\$1,500 CASH

1st Place \$150

2nd Place \$100

3rd Place \$50

Drink Specials*

Live Entertainment*

Kewadin
CASINOS
ALL SITES

*Available at select locations. Subject to change or cancellation at Management's discretion.

KENNY G

THE MIRACLES HOLIDAY & HITS TOUR 2023

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 9 AT 8 P.M.

TICKETS START AT \$46.50
DREAMMAKERS THEATER



1-800-KEWADIN
tickets.kewadin.com