

WIN AWENEN NISITOTUNG

Namebin Giizis
Sucker Moon

April 9, 2010 • Vol. 31 No. 4

Reform bill includes long-awaited Indian Health Care Improvement reauthorization

BY RICK SMITH

Mainstream media reports about the recently passed Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, widely bandied about as the “health care reform bill,” are somewhat misleading. Frequently, one sees mention that some citizens are exempt from the bill, American Indians among them. While that detail is true, a fact not surfacing is that the bill also enacted a long awaited revised and permanent reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. After passage by both chambers of Congress, President Obama signed the acts into law on March 23.

This is joyous news for Indian Country.

“Our responsibility to provide health services to American Indians and Alaska Natives derives from the nation-to-nation relationship between the federal and tribal governments,” the president said after the signing. “And today, with this bill, we have taken a critical step in fulfilling that responsibility by modernizing the Indian health care system and improving access to health care for American Indians and Alaska Natives.”

The act was originally passed in 1976 to address long neglected treaty obligations of the United States to American Indian tribes. While some improvement resulted, health care in Indian Country is historically severely under-funded and inadequate. The act was last reauthorized in 1992 and expired in 2001, most Indian health funding became more precarious and authorized on an annual basis.

The permanent reauthorization is sweeping in its scope of addressing ills in Indian Country health care. President Obama said it is aimed at modernizing the Indian health care system and improving care for 1.9 million American Indians. Its intent is outlined in an amendment to the reauthorization titled,



Official White House photograph

President Barack Obama signs the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act in Washington, D.C., on March 23 as officials from the executive and legislative branches of the federal government look on. The lad in the photograph watching Obama apply his signature to the act is 11-year-old Marcelas Owens, who lost his mother to an illness because she couldn't afford health care. The new law includes an updated reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

Declaration of National Indian Health Policy.

The declaration reads, “Congress declares that it is the policy of this nation, in fulfillment of its special trust responsibilities and legal obligations to Indians to ensure the highest possible health status for Indians and urban Indians and to provide all resources necessary to effect that policy.” The section goes on to describe goals such as raising the level of health among Indians, ensuring maximum Indian participation in health care services while services become more responsive to the needs and desires of Indian communities, increase the proportion of professional credentials for health care providers to match the level of the general population, require meaningful consultation with Indian tribes and organizations, ensure government-to-government relationships and provide funding for tribal programs, facilities and organizations on par with those operated directly by the Indian Health Service (IHS).

It appears IHS is optimistic in anticipating the future

brought on by the act's reauthorization. In remarks before the National Congress of American Indians last March 1, Yvette Roubideaux, director of the Indian Health Service, indicated she welcomes the coming changes. “It is clear that tribes, our staff and our patients want change. The call for change is clear. While most cite the need for more funding for the service, it's clear that we also need to improve the way we do business.”

“The new administration and new leadership at IHS provide an opportunity to begin this change. As the new director of IHS, in my confirmation speech I identified four priorities for change to guide our work over the next few years . . .” Her priorities are to renew and strengthen the IHS partnership with tribes, bring the appropriate health care reforms to the IHS, improve the quality of and access to care and ensure all IHS work is transparent, accountable, fair and inclusive.

Bonnie Culfa, director of Sault Tribe health services, pointed out the permanent

reauthorization spares Indian Country from the tumult of requiring passage of the reauthorization every few years and brings a needed broader focus on services. She noted, for example, the inclusion of expanded comprehensive behavioral health prevention and treatment programs instead of the current narrow focus on substance abuse.

She said, among other needs, it also brings mandatory licensing and credentials requirements plus construction and staffing in each IHS area of not less than one inpatient mental health care facility or equivalent to serve Indians with behavioral health problems. “This is significant in that there are few inpatient treatment facilities in Indian country,” Culfa added. The expansion includes Indian youth suicide prevention and funding plus more grants available for mental health services and life skills development programs.

She said, in her opinion, the best part of the re-authorization is it requires the inclusion of dollar amounts to cover medical inflation and population growth as a part of the president's IHS budget submission to Congress beginning in fiscal year 2011. That means additional funding in annual agreements from IHS could begin at that time.

“Having this legislation pass is a great thing for all Native Americans who receive their health care at an IHS or tribal facility,” said Culfa.

The bottom line for Indian Country is that the United States has permanently recognized its trust and treaty obligations for the health care of American Indians, and it appears more money will be funneled into building a better system to help follow through on those obligations.

The historic action received hearty praise from the National Congress of American Indians, American Public Health Association, National Indian Health Board and others.

A few highlights of the reauthorized Indian health care act

According to the Indian Health Service, the reauthorized version of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act signed into law on March 23 differs in several respects from the original version passed by Congress in 1976. It includes many major changes and improvements to facilitate the delivery of health care services, such as:

— Enhancement of the authorities of the IHS director, including the responsibility to facilitate advocacy and promote consultation on matters relating to Indian health within the Department of Health and Human Services.

— Provides authorization for hospice, assisted living, long-term, home and community-based care.

— Extends the ability to recover costs from third parties to tribally operated facilities.

— Updates current law regarding collection of reimbursements from Medicare, Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program by Indian health facilities.

— Allows tribes and tribal organizations to purchase health benefits coverage for IHS beneficiaries.

— Authorizes IHS to enter into arrangements with the departments of Veterans Affairs and Defense to share medical facilities and services.

— Allows a tribe or tribal organization carrying out a program under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act and an urban Indian organization carrying out a program under Title V of IHICIA to purchase coverage for its employees from the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program.

— Authorizes the establishment of a community health representative program for urban Indian organizations to train and employ Indians to provide health care services.

— Directs the IHS to establish comprehensive behavioral health, prevention and treatment programs for Indians.

The IHS provides a comprehensive health service delivery system for approximately 1.9 million of the nation's estimated 3.3 million American Indians and Alaska Natives.

Sault Tribe voters approve Constitutional Amendment

SAULT STE. MARIE

— The Bureau of Indian Affairs Secretarial Election Constitutional Amendment on behalf of Sault Tribe was approved by Sault Tribe voters with 77 percent saying “yes” to the new language.

The amended section of the tribe's Constitution will now read:

“ARTICLE II. DUTIES OF OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the board of directors and exercise any lawful authority delegated the chairperson by the board of directors. The chairperson shall vote only in case of a tie unless otherwise provided in the tribe's constitution and

bylaws.”

The amendment effectively takes CEO duties out of the Sault Tribe chairman's duties.

The vote was 3,315 YES (76.53 percent) and 1,014 NO (23.42 percent), for a total of 4,329 votes. Out of the 6,300 tribal members who registered to vote, 4,333 cast ballots, four of which were spoiled.

Results were released by the local Sault Ste. Marie BIA office the evening of March 30 after the count and certification by the Election Board.

The deadline to file challenges to the results was April 2.

According to the Sault Ste. Marie BIA Office, there were no challenges to the election results.

NCAI winter session focused on executive and legislative issues

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Congress of American Indians ended its executive council winter session with a focus on President Obama's fiscal year 2011 budget, strategies for more effectively engaging the Obama administration and legislative proposals affecting American Indian people and communities in the coming months.

Before the first general assembly, pre-meetings allowed for the exchange of information and sharing of tribal input on timely issues including federal recognition, violence against Native women, the fundamentals of health care reform and the Indian Health

Care Improvement Act, land to trust, eagle feather acquisition and use and development of a national strategy for tribal natural resources.

The general assembly had a packed agenda, with messages from eight cabinet secretaries and administrators and another seven speakers in positions in the administration which are important to Indian Country. Attendees also heard from nine members of Congress regarding pending and future legislation impacting our tribal communities.

The fourth and final general assembly ended with messages from the White House.

Valerie Jarrett, the senior

advisor and assistant to the president for intergovernmental affairs, discussed funding for Indian programs, White House staff working for Indian Country, President Obama's memorandum on tribal consultation, and the first lady's "Let's Move" initiative, which was created to address childhood obesity.

"I think we have made some great strides already, but there's much more to do. I can assure you that the president is working overtime, reaching out and doing his part to make a difference," Jarrett said. "His commitment to partner with you, to take on the issues that matter most to you—this commit-

ment remains firm—and we are resolved to bring about positive change that will move our country—and Indian Country—forward."

Kim Teehee, the senior policy advisor for Native American affairs, discussed the White House "open door" policy for tribal leaders and the listening sessions that the White House will continue to hold in D.C. and throughout Indian Country.

To view copies of speeches, resolutions, pictures and documents distributed during the session, please visit NCAI's Web site at www.ncai.org.

The NCAI will convene again in Rapid City, S.D. on June 20-23.

Newspaper deadline and publication 2010 schedule

Below is the *Win Awenen Nisitotung* production schedule for 2010. Holidays and election schedules have been taken into account. Please save this schedule and use it as a tool for event scheduling and public service announcements.

If there are any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me, Jennifer Dale-Burton, at (906) 632-6398, extension 26073, or send e-mail to jdburton@saulttribe.net.

DEADLINE (Tuesdays)	PUBLISH (Fridays)
April 27	May 7
June 1	June 11
June 22	July 2
July 27	Aug. 6
Aug. 24	Sept. 3
Sept. 28	Oct. 8
Oct. 26	Nov. 5
Nov. 30	Dec. 10



Michigan approves grant to protect natural resources

LANSING – State Representative Gary McDowell (D-Rudyard) on March 10 voted in favor of approving Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grants worth \$685,600 to the Village of

Alanson, Tuscarora Township and Sault Ste. Marie to develop outdoor recreation sites and protect Michigan's natural resources.

"I'm very pleased that the trust fund recognized how vital

these resources are to the U.P., Northern Michigan and to our state as a whole," McDowell said. "Improving Michigan's recreation and tourism attractions makes sense for our local economy, our businesses and our workers."

Under the plan that will now be signed into law, Alanson will receive \$250,000 for the development of an elevated boardwalk, bridge, fishing platform, floating dock, gazebo and pedestrian path at Island Sanctuary Park. Sault St. Marie was awarded \$42,200 for the development of an open-air

picnic shelter at Sherman Park. Tuscarora Township in Cheboygan County received \$393,400 for the development of a half-mile, non-motorized pathway connecting the Gaylord-Cheboygan Trail to the Burt Lake State Park entrance and a pedestrian crossing and outlook over the Sturgeon River.

Walk for Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Sexual Assault Awareness

April 20th, 2010

Sault Tribe Elder Building

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

For more information on this event, please contact:
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Win Awenen Nisitotung
The official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

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

Win Awenen Nisitotung welcomes submissions of news articles, feature stories, photographs, columns and announcements of American Indian or non-profit events. All submissions are printed at the discretion of the editor, sub-

ject 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.

Our name: *Win Awenen Nisitotung*, in our native language, means, "One who well or fully understands," pronounced "Win Oh-weh-nin Nis-toe-tuhng"

Visit us online: This issue can be

viewed online at www.saulttribe.com beginning on its publishing date.

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Coalitions seek better community facilities

BY RICK SMITH

The Strategic Alliance for Health Project is a five-year initiative funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The project allows the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians to partner with four neighboring communities within its service area to work on developing conditions more conducive to the good health of the local citizenry.

Communities need to provide certain support facilities and opportunities for its people, the alliance asserts, in order for them to become more healthy and vibrant. People who live in communities where provisions exist for safe walking and biking, for example, enjoy more health and less chronic disease. Another important detail is the ready availability of more healthful, locally grown fresh foods.

Assorted professionals and other interested people in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Manistique and Munising have established working groups to initiate plans, help get local projects started and offer resources along with staff assistance. The organizations go by the names Building Healthier Communities Coalition in Sault Ste. Marie, Mackinac County Wellness Coalition in St. Ignace and the Strategic Alliance for Health Coalition in Manistique and Munising.

“Sault Tribe Community Health and the Strategic Alliance for Health Project are excited to have this opportunity to increase physical activity and healthy eating through changes in policies, systems and environments,” said Donna Norkoli, project coordinator. “We are striving to make the healthy choice the easy choice.”

The Upper Peninsula coalitions are incorporating fundamentals from the National Complete Streets Coalition, which defines “complete streets” as thoroughfares in a given community designed to accommodate everyone — young and old, motorists and bicyclists, walkers and wheelchair users, bus riders and shopkeepers.

Most streets in U.P. towns seem to have been built in piecemeal fashion to primarily suit demands for automotive traffic. What often eventually evolves is a tangle of inefficient



Photo by Rick Smith

Sault Tribe Strategic Alliance for Health coordinators (Clockwise from top, left) Kerry Ott of Manistique, Jeanette O'Rourke of St. Ignace, Donna Norkoli of Sault Ste. Marie and Randy Sundell of Munising.

and hazardous street conditions for all. The streets of Sault Ste. Marie, for example, are rife with blind intersections and corners for motor vehicle drivers and poor traffic flow, neglected and too few sidewalks, and zero accommodations for bicyclists. Unsynchronized traffic lights even impede the smooth flow of automotive traffic in areas of heavy use.

It stands to reason that people are more inclined to walk or ride bicycles, practices contributory to good health, if inviting facilities are in place for such uses. The coalitions are working to bring those kinds of improvements to the four towns to help foster optimum health in the local residents. They are intent, among other goals, in establishing safe routes to schools, public trails, community gardens, farmers' markets and initiatives on restaurant offerings. They will be working with governmental entities, health departments, schools, businesses and others in pursuing their ends.

Along the way, in the last three years of the five-year movement, the coalitions plan to mentor six more communities in directions leading to support for good health.

According to the National Complete Streets Coalition,

Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood recently called for full inclusion of all citizenry in transportation projects, with particular attention paid to pedestrians, bicyclists and others of all ages and abilities — essentially echoing the national coalition's goals. Ray said the time of favoring motorized transportation at the expense of

other modes of mobility is coming to an end.

Anyone interested in becoming involved with the coalitions should call community coordinators Donna Norkoli in Sault Ste. Marie at 635-8844, Jeanette O'Rourke in St. Ignace at 643-8689 and Kerry Ott in Manistique at 341-8469 or in Munising at 387-4721.

April is "Sexual Assault Awareness Month"

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For more information on events for the month of April or for resources in your area contact the: Advocacy Resource Center (906) 632-1808 "Serving the Community for 20 Years"

Hello, I am Joan "Carr" Anderson running for the Unit 5 Board of Directors

Let me introduce myself — I am the daughter of the late John P. Carr who was the first representative for Unit V. I am a lifetime native of this area, now retired, and my intentions for running are because of the several requests I received from members of Alger and Marquette counties.

— EXPERIENCE —

- Several years working with our area tribal people; chairperson of Munising's Unit V Elder Subcommittee board.
- Served on the local Zoning Board of Appeals for 9 years.
- Worked on the powwow committee and feast for three years and continuing.
- Serve on Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Elder Advisory Committee for Unit V, as alternate, and attend every possible meeting.
- Represent Munising's Unit V at every possible MIEA meeting.
- Attend elder meetings as much as possible in other areas for added knowledge and experience.

— ACCOMPLISHMENTS —

- Protected positions at the casino by having elder meals catered by casino staff.
- Encouraged members to come to meeting, events, social gatherings and meals.
- Chosen by fellow elders for the "Volunteer of the Year" award for going above and beyond my regular duties as chairman.
- Volunteer for many tribal committees.

— GOALS —

- Try to decrease the time it takes for employees to become eligible for health insurance.
- Hold regular office hours to meet our members and conduct monthly meetings.
- Strive to have the board's meeting teleconferenced to our center so members can

- watch them and make use of this expensive equipment.
- Work to see the unused building on M-28 East (the old medical offices) turned into a cultural center for tribal members of all ages.
- Work to see better wages for the low-income wage earners.
- Encourage Human Resources to restructure its hiring practices.
- Work for more supervisor training to ensure less animosity between workers and create a better working environment.
- Strive for members' input on 2 percent monies.



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This ad is endorsed by Joan Carr Anderson.

Elders fundraiser set for Sault Ste. Marie

A soup, salad and frybread fundraiser sponsored by the Unit 1 elders is scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, at the Niigaanagizhik Cultural Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

Lunch is 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner is 4-6 p.m. The cost is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children 5-12 and children under 5 free. Silent auction and 50/50 drawing at 5:30 p.m. License No. SRT-011-10.

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McKechnie tapped to sit on state council

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON
SAULT STE. MARIE
— Laura L. McKechnie of Sault Ste. Marie, Education and Disabilities supervisor for Sault Tribe Early Childhood programs, was appointed March 15 to the Michigan Interagency Coordinating Council for Infants and Toddlers with Developmental Disabilities (MICC). Governor Jennifer Granholm named her to represent tribal governments located in Michigan for a term expiring Oct. 31, 2013.

“Laura is a stand-out choice for this appointment,” said Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy. “She has the expertise and commitment necessary to fulfill the MICC’s mission and at the same time advocate for our tribal

children.”

The 40-year-old Sault Tribe member is in good company. The governor also appointed 21st District State Representative Dian Slavens of Lansing, Eaton Intermediate School Early On District Supervisor M. Elaine Smiley of Petoskey, Community Action Agency of South Central Michigan Director of Education and Children’s Services Deborah S. Bedard of Portage, Macomb Intermediate School District family liaison Julie K. Lagos of Macomb Township and Dickinson-Iron Intermediate School District Superintendent Johanna M. Ostwald of Iron Mountain.

Anne Suggitt, the tribe’s Early Childhood Programs manager and McKechnie’s supervi-



Laura McKechnie

sor, recommended McKechnie for the board position because of her expertise in the area of serving very young children with disabilities. “No one knows the laws better than Laura and she has developed multiple partnerships with agencies in our area that provide disability services to the children enrolled in our program,” Suggitt said.

McKechnie was notified the same day. “It’s a real honor to represent and advocate for our tribal children and families,” she said.

She was delighted, but not surprised, due to the lengthy application process. With encouragement from tribal leadership and her supervisor’s recommendation, McKechnie realized she was ready to take her career to a higher level.

“Funding is so important

to our children at risk,” McKechnie said. “Opportunities with children ages 0 to 5 years are the most important — the money spent during these ages rewards us 10 times as long as they get that early education.”

That’s the MICC’s most important goal, said McKechnie: to assist the Michigan Department of Education in securing funding for early intervention programs throughout the state. The MICC acts in an advisory capacity to assist the Department of Education identify sources of fiscal and other support, assign financial responsibility to the appropriate agencies and promote interagency agreements. The council also helps the department prepare or amend applications for financial and other assistance and the transition of toddlers with disabilities to preschool and other appropriate services.

These are actions that McKechnie would know something about, as part of a team that fights for program funding for tribal children’s services that can sometimes run up short, forcing new levels of fiscal creativity on the staff. Further, as the MICC’s tribal representative, it will be her job to advocate for funding for the tribes, beginning with identifying needs and then working to get those needs funded.

McKechnie’s dedication to education began at her father’s

knee. The late Isaac McKechnie was a member of the tribal board of directors who was passionate about education and he passed that passion down to his eight children, of whom McKechnie is the youngest. Her mother was the late Annie McKechnie, well remembered as a dedicated mother and volunteer by many in the community.

McKechnie has found her own niche in life working in education. She began her college career at Lake Superior State University in nursing, but ended up in education. Since joining the Head Start/Early Head Start staff in June of 2000, she has progressively taken on more responsibility. She began as the education disabilities coordinator overseeing the education and disabilities components for 3- to 5-year-olds. Today, she oversees the education and disabilities components for 0- to 5-year-olds as well as mental health services and transportation services. And now as a member of the MICC, she will advocate for tribal children across the state.

She has also found a home in her childhood roots by moving back to Sugar Island where she was raised, along with her big, extended family and friends. She resides there with her fiancé, Clark King, her son, Frank, 16, and their chocolate lab, Abby. McKechnie also has two daughters Jessica, 22, and Ashley, 19.



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- Re-establishing doctor visits in Marquette
- Re-establishing use of NMU facilities
- Providing meaningful and gainful employment for tribal members
- Bringing more culture into the treatment of tribal members with substance abuse problems (pipe ceremonies, sweat lodges, drumming)
- Make information flow more freely between board and tribal members
- Business Diversification
- Protection of Treaty Rights
- Trade school funding for tribal members

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Charles Matson endorses this ad.

NIHB applauds Senate effort to reauthorize special diabetes program for Indian Country

WASHINGTON, D.C.
— American Indians carry the heaviest burden of diabetes in the United States. On March 3, Senator Byron D. Dorgan (D-N.D.), chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, introduced S.3058 to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the special diabetes programs for Indians. This senate bill would appropriate \$200 million per year for an additional five years to continue the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI).

American Indians are 2.2 times more likely to be diagnosed with diabetes in comparison with non-Hispanic Whites and their causes of death are three times more likely to be linked to diabetes than the rest of the U.S. population. The SDPI supports nearly 400 grant programs offered through Indian Health Service, tribal and urban Indian health programs in 35 states.

The new legislation would provide an increase of \$50 million per year for the SDPI, a program Congress established in 1997. Co-sponsors of the bill include senators Collins (R-Maine), Baucus (D-Mont.), Inouye (D-Hawaii), Hatch (R-Utah), Stabenow (D-Mich.), Durbin (D-Ill.), Bunning

(R-Ky.), Cochran (R-Miss.), Crapo (R-Idaho), Grassley (R-Iowa), Johanns (R-Neb.), Lincoln (D-Ark.), Murkowski (R-Alaska), Schumer (D-N.Y.), Shaheen (D-N.H.), and Warner (D-Va.).

“I am proud of what the Special Diabetes Program for Indians has accomplished. This program has been life-saving to people who have diabetes, life-changing for those who have avoided diabetes because of early detection and prevention efforts and, perhaps most importantly, it is helping to ensure a diabetes-free future for our children and future generations,” said Buford Rolin, vice-chairman of the National Indian Health Board and co-chair of the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee.

The SDPI-supported programs have resulted in a decrease of 13 percent in the mean blood sugar level (A1C), which translates to a 40 percent reduction in diabetes-related complications. “Since this program was created, the key health indicators (blood sugar control, cholesterol levels and kidney function) have improved! When a health program like SDPI works, it only makes sense to continue it and save more lives,” said Stacy

A. Bohlen, NIHB executive director.

The SDPI is one of the most strategic and comprehensive diabetes treatment and prevention programs in the country, but there is still considerable work to be done. Of particular importance is developing better interventions and monitoring systems for the emerging health problems of childhood obesity and Type 2 diabetes. The additional resources being proposed in this legislation can help turn the tide of diabetes throughout Indian Country.

Rolin said, “NIHB is very pleased to see this legislation being introduced. We thank Senator Dorgan and Senator Collins, co-chair and founder of the Senate Diabetes Caucus with the 15 bi-partisan co-sponsors of this bill. No one should have to suffer from this disease when preventative methods are effectively reaching our American Indian people to reduce diabetes-related complications. If we are to win the war against diabetes, we must work to ensure the long term viability of SDPI.”

More about the program for Indians is at the Indian Health Service Web site, www.ihs.gov/MedicalPrograms/Diabetes/index.

Bill Dowd Memorial Playground Committee raising funds for renovations to Sault park

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

SAULT STE. MARIE — A playground on the corner of Shunk Road and 10th Avenue needs new equipment that meets safety standards and a facelift with fencing and landscaping. A throwback to the pre-casino economy, the Shunk Road playground has been around before neighborhood houses had indoor plumbing and electricity.

Nikki Dowd, her late husband Bill, and their children Sawyer, 7, and Adeleigh, 4, were working to raise funds to restore the playground and buy new equipment when Bill, 36, passed away unexpectedly last year. Nikki is pursuing the dream to re-make the playground with help from area businesses. Donations for the Bill Dowd Memorial Playground Committee now total about \$52,000. Sault Tribe Unit I has been a big sponsor of the project by donating \$45,127 in 2 percent funding last year.

One the committee's latest fundraisers, selling pasties at the Antler's Restaurant, netted \$1,600. "Antler's Restaurant has been a big supporter of the playground project and gave us a great deal on the pasties," said Dowd. "They also held a pig roast for us last August and we raised almost \$3,000."

Another pig roast is being planned for this June, she added.

Last October, the Community Services Board recommended the City Commission establish an account to accept donations and grant money on behalf of the committee. The City Commission agreed and an account was set up. The Shunk Road Playground will not be renamed, but the committee hopes for recognition within the park for contributions from the Bill Dowd Memorial Playground Committee. To donate, mail checks or money orders to: Parks and Recreation Department, 325 Court Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI, 49783. Be sure to include in the note field that the funds are for the Bill Dowd Memorial Playground Committee account.

About \$90,000 is needed for Phase 1 of the project, which would cover removing the existing playground and install-



Photo by Larry Jacques for The Evening News

At the Bill Dowd Memorial Playground pasty sale, the Dowd family prepares to make a sale. Sawyer Dowd, 7, Nikki Dowd, Adeleigh Dowd, 4, Kyle Dowd, 8, and Mary Dowd, all of Sault Ste. Marie, help during the sale. The playground they are raising money to renovate is on the corner of 10th and Shunk Roads in Sault Ste. Marie. The sale took place at Antler's Restaurant that donated the space. Sault Tribe Unit I has been a big sponsor of the project by donating \$45,127 in 2 percent funding last year.

ing new equipment in half of the previous playground area. "I sat down with a playground supplier and went through prices for what we wanted to do and it came to over \$80,000, including sidewalks. When you follow safety codes playground equipment is very expensive," Dowd said.

Eventually, portions of the playground will be named in honor of those whose family would like to make a donation in their name, said Dowd.

Phase 2 of the project centers on the basketball court. Under the plan, half of the court would be restored and the other half replaced by a pavilion. "We want some grills and picnic tables available for families so they can cook out while their kids are playing," Dowd said. "Community members will also have access to the

park for birthday parties."

The playground will have a tot lot area for ages up to five, and a separate section for ages five to 12. "If we had our dream, we would purchase the property next to the playground and that would be Phase 3. We would build a parking lot and restrooms there. For the dream, the whole package would cost about \$480,000," she said. "Phase 3 of the project will probably not be realized."

The first phase of the playground project is expected to be completed this summer.

For more information or to make a donation, call Nikki Dowd at (906) 440-3478. To make a deposit into the Bill Dowd Memorial Playground account, visit the Chippewa County Credit Union on 402 W. Spruce Street in the Sault, or in Kincheloe at 4868 W. M-80.

Vote For Keith Massaway



*Aanii,
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kwaamashing nin
doonjiba jichaak
doodem.*

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the Crane.

Board of Birectors

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Unit III

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"Portrait of America" visits Sault Ste. Marie

BY RICK SMITH

A key component of the Community Growth Expo at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie on March 11 was a visit from the 2010 U.S. Census Portrait of America Road Tour. The expo was a special event to acquaint locals with an array of available life enhancing resources and opportunities. The road tour visit was part of regional efforts contributing to a national campaign by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The bureau launched 13 specially marked and equipped vehicles last January to travel throughout each of the 12 Census regions across the country with an additional vehicle visiting high-attendance events nationwide like the Super Bowl in Florida, the Denver Powwow and the San Francisco Chinese New Year parade.

The tour vehicle stop in Sault Ste. Marie was the first of two sites visited by the Census entourage in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, the other stop was in Marquette. Once finished in the U.P., the tour embarked on its last leg of their tour into southeast Michigan.

Its mission was carried in towns large and small across West Virginia, Ohio and Michigan.

Each of the vehicles were christened with names reflecting the 2010 Census. The name of the vehicle making the U.P. visit

was Statistics, not as catchy as some of the names of other vehicles, like Democracy, Liberty or Take 10, but better than the name of the national vehicle, Mail It Back.

People who attended the expo had the opportunity to receive an education about the importance of the 2010 Census and to see a sample of the 10-question Census form. In addition, the tour brought computerized equipment allowing willing volunteers to make service announcements on behalf of the Census. The Census staff also gave away an assortment of goodies like tote bags, shirts, ball caps, flashlights, mouse pads and many other items.

Corporate sponsors of the tour include MTV, Google, Sesame Street, CMT, 3M, Best Buy, BET, Caronfund.org, Telemundo and Valero.

Other components of the Community Growth Expo included table displays featuring a variety of federal, tribal, regional and local resources of interest to folks in the area plus crafts peddlers, live music, a benefit luncheon and visits from local dignitaries.

In addition to the free promotional items given away at most of the expo displays, some rather nifty prizes were won by some lucky folks who took home flat-screen television sets, fitness center memberships and much more.



Photo by Rick Smith

The Portrait of America Road Tour vehicle, Statistics, on hand at the Chi Mukwa Recreation Center during the Community Growth Expo in Sault Ste. Marie.

What to do if you didn't get your 10-question 2010 Census form

What if I don't receive the questionnaire form? If you did not receive a form by April 12, call the Telephone Questionnaire Assistance Center at (866) 872-6868. The lines will be open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. (your local time) seven days a week from Feb. 25, 2010, through July 30,

2010. For the hearing-impaired, TDD (866) 783-2010 during the same times noted above.

What if I don't have a permanent address? You should be counted where you live and sleep most of the time. These residence rules serve as the guiding principle for the Census, whether you are living with relatives because of a natural disaster or foreclosure, or are a college student living away from home or a soldier living on a military base.

What if I don't have a home? At the Census Bureau we understand that these can be challenging times for many people. Because of this, we created the service-based enumeration (SBE) operation. The SBE is designed to provide an opportunity for people experiencing some form of displacement or lack of permanent address to be included in the Census by counting them at service-based loca-

tions, such as homeless shelters, soup kitchens and so forth. The Be Counted form is another way people can take part in the census. Be Counted forms are census forms that are available at various community locations for use by people who either did not receive a census form in the mail or who believe they were not otherwise included on any other census form.

Is there another way to get the form other than the mail? Be Counted forms are Census forms that are available at various community locations for use by people who either did not receive a form in the mail or whose information was not collected on any other form. Be Counted forms are available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese and Russian. These forms can be picked up in various community locations and mailed back in the attached postage-paid envelope

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Health alliance awards grant to Sault public schools

SUBMITTED BY DONNA NORKOLI, ALLIANCE PROJECT COORDINATOR

The Sault Tribe Strategic Alliance for Health Project recently awarded a \$10,000 grant to Sault Ste. Marie Area Public Schools to support development of policies, systems and environmental changes that promote physical activity, improve nutrition and prevent tobacco abuse among youth.

The grant shows the alliance's commitment to school health programs by forming a coordinated school health team which meets at least quarterly, communicate and monitor implementation of the local wellness policy and complete the Healthy School Action Tools developed by the Michigan Department of Community Health.

In June of 2004, the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act was signed into law, making it mandatory for all local school districts participating in the USDA school



Photo by Rick Smith

Dan Reattoir (Left), superintendent of Sault Area Public Schools, accepts a grant of \$10,000 from Strategic Alliance for Health coordinator, Donna Norkoli, in Sault Ste. Marie recently. The funds are earmarked for measures support and promote good health among students attending public schools in the Sault Ste. Marie area. Measures will focus on improving opportunities for physical activity, good nutrition and tobacco prevention.

meals program to create local wellness policies by July 1, 2006.

The Healthy School Action

Tools are a set of online procedures to help Michigan schools create more healthful environments. Schools that support

health help students achieve their academic potential. The tools can be reviewed at www.mihealthtools.org/hsat.

Sault Ste. Marie Area Public Schools will use the funding to hire a part-time school health coordinator to assist with forming a coordinated school health team for the district, reviewing the district's wellness policy, completing the state health tools for all buildings, leading the implementation of the Michigan Model Nutrition and Exemplary Physical Education Curriculum at Soo Township Elementary School, and working with the Strategic Alliance for Health Community coordinator to implement projects proposed by the coordinated health team to improve the health of students in Sault area schools.

The coordinator will also partner with the Strategic Alliance for Health and Building a Healthier Community Coalition to develop an action plan for Safe

Routes to School. This plan will assist the elementary schools in applying for federal Safe Routes to School funding through the Michigan Department of Transportation and the Michigan Fitness Foundation.

Superintendent Dr. Dan Reattoir said, "We are pleased to partner with Sault Tribe on this grant to improve the health of our students and the overall community."

The Sault Tribe Strategic Alliance for Health Project is pleased to be able to offer this funding to Sault Ste. Marie Area Public Schools in order to improve the schools' environments for physical activity and healthy eating. We look forward to a successful partnership in order to improve health outcomes for students, staff and their families.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is the funding source for the grant.

Those wanting more information about the alliance may call (906) 635-8844.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

SUBMITTED BY BECKY PATZWALD, VICTIM ADVOCATE

The month of April has been dedicated to spreading awareness about sexual assault, an issue that for far too long has been kept behind closed doors or simply ignored due to the social stigma associated with it. In creating awareness about the devastating, long-term negative impacts that sexual assault can have, as well as displaying the seriousness and prevalence of such an issue, the hope is that education and awareness will lead to further prevention of such violating and dehumanizing acts.

Sexual assault is defined as any unwanted forced sexual act that occurs without consent. Although often thought of as purely a physical act, rape or molestation for example, sexual assault can occur verbally (sexually harassing comments, threats) as well as psychologically (voyeurism). While primarily seen as a crime against females, accordingly 9 out of 10 rape victims are women, sexual assault can occur to anyone regardless of race, gender, or creed. Moreover, while all individuals are susceptible to being a victim, according to the Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network, an estimated 32.1 percent of rape (or attempted rape) victims are Native American women, the highest percentage among varying races.

It has been reported that as many as 1 out of 6 American women have been victims of physical sexual assaults. With victimization occurring at an alarming frequency, it is important to understand the negative impact that these assaults can have. Such assaults may lead to psychological trauma resulting in flashbacks, PTSD, Rape Trauma Syndrome as well as such mental health concerns such as clinical depression. Furthermore, physical consequences such as unwanted pregnancy as well as STDS may be a result of sexual assault.

Now is the time to take a stand against sexual assault. The Advocacy Resource Center invites you to join us as we walk to spread awareness, as well as honor survivors of sexual assault, on April 20 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Sault Tribe elders building, 2076 Shunk Road, in Sault Ste. Marie.

Immediately following the awareness walk, Indian tacos will be served at a social gathering with a special guest speaker.

Lastly, if you or someone you know has been a victim of sexual assault, we encourage you to contact the Advocacy Resource Center at (906) 632-1808 or toll free at (877) 639-7820 for further information on sexual assault and the resources available.

Elect Lisa Burnside for Unit II



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“These are exciting times for our people. As someone who has grown up in this area and experienced first hand the ups and downs of tribal members, I see nothing but a bright future with new doors opening for all Sault Tribe members. I have had the privilege to serve in our communities for 18 years. It has always been an honor to serve and help our people. Now, as your board member I will have a greater ability to serve our Nation!”

— Lisa Burnside, Candidate for Unit II

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New rule may expedite returns of remains

By Rick Smith

The U.S. Department of the Interior National Park Service recently issued a final rule covering the return of American Indian remains from the custody of museums and federal agencies when such remains can't be traced back to tribes of origin.

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), a federal law passed in 1990, provides procedures for museums and federal agencies to return American Indian remains and other objects directly to known living descendants and affiliated

tribes. The new rule addresses returning unclaimed and culturally unidentifiable remains and mandates that they be transferred to the custody of tribes whose past or present lands are the place of origin of those remains.

The new rule means that museums and federal agencies holding collections of human remains must now review their collections to isolate those of American Indians. If no definitive tribal link to any remains deemed American Indian are found, the institutions must initiate efforts with tribes who,



historically or presently, occupy the lands recorded as whence those remains originated.

"It's been a long time coming," said Cecil Pavlat, repatriation specialist for Sault Tribe. "This closes the loophole scientists have been using to keep ancestral remains for academic purposes. We've been a patient people, and now we can give them proper respect and lay them to rest."

David Tarler of the Park Service's National NAGPRA Program said federal regulations addressing issues of returning American Indian remains and artifacts under the act were formed and implemented beginning in 1995. In the mean-

time, he said, the Park Service worked with tribes, museums and other federal agencies to learn the scope and intricacies of returning remains of obscure tribal origin and other related issues. Tarler noted a mechanism was eventually established for the return of about 5,000 unidentifiable remains having extenuating circumstances until a regulation was put in place.

The National NAGPRA Program estimated culturally unidentifiable holdings of American Indian remains by museums and federal agencies to be 118,400 in 2008. The University of Michigan may have the largest collection in the state with nearly 1,400.

Last year, the NAGPRA program listed 38,671 American Indian remains with identifiable affiliations were returned to their homelands since the passage of NAGPRA.

Rural and Ready Symposium set

Planning for the 2010 Rural and Ready Symposium is currently under way and scheduled for May 26 at Lake Superior State University.

This symposium is intended for all health officials and professionals, emergency planners and first responders, school officials and law enforcement personnel.

To date, topics will include planning and decision making skills for public officials, personal resiliency and preparedness, livestock and animal concerns in a disaster, Michigan State Police explosive ordnance disposal demonstration, infectious disease control, climate concerns, immunization and its purpose.

Registration is \$15.

Visit www.chippewahd.com or call Matthew Carpentier of Chippewa County Health Department at 635-3627 for more information.

The event is sponsored and supported by the Michigan Department of Community Health, Chippewa County Health Department, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Bay Mills Indian Community and several other agencies in the area.

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Catherine HOLLOWELL

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It is the responsibility of your elected representative to the Board of Directors to tackle the formidable challenges we face. It will take vision, strategic leadership, and the necessary skill sets to get the job done. I have what it takes and look forward to contributing at the board level to move our tribe in the Best Way Forward.

There is a full field of candidates asking to be your next UNIT 2 representative, so let me remind you—I did not sit out the last election, or wait for an open seat before deciding to run. I showed the courage to run then—as now—because I care to make a positive difference in our tribe's ability to serve our elders, working families and youth.



My mother, Bernice, and grandmother, Christine -1914

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USDA agrees to increase cooperation for Indian higher education and employment

By Rick Smith

The Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, signed an agreement on Feb. 25 to promote increased cooperation between the department, tribal colleges and universities and American Indian communities. The agreement reinforces a 2002 mandated partnership between the department and the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) to work together in ensuring equality in USDA employment, training and other programs. Vilsack noted the agreement

is an important move in expanding existing cooperation and to show the commitment of the Obama administration in supporting tribal higher education. Calls for comment from the consortium went unanswered by press time.

According to the agreement, all involved parties will work toward strengthening and fully integrating institutions of the consortium into the department's programs and services, including land grants and related programs. The agreement also calls for promoting professional careers in food and agri-



Secretary of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack

cultural sciences for American Indians studying at tribal higher education institutions that have memberships in the consortium.

The American Indian Higher Education Consortium was established in 1972 by six tribal colleges to strengthen federal support for Indian higher education. The consortium now consists of 37 tribal collegiate schools in the United States along with one in Canada. In addition, the consortium supports tribal higher education through technical assistance in networking, mentoring and planning to meet needs.

Michigan is home to three colleges holding memberships in the consortium — two in the Upper Peninsula and one near Saginaw. Other colleges in the Great Lakes states having membership in the AIHEC are in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

The consortium is a 501c(3) organization sponsored by the Bureau of Indian Education and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. For more information about the consortium or the institutions that make up its membership, visit them online at www.aihec.org.

Diane Rosen named BIA Midwest regional director

Diane K. Rosen was named regional director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Midwest Regional Office in Ft. Snelling, Minn.

Rosen has ancestry from the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians and the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians and had been serving as the acting regional director since Oct. 25, 2009.

The Midwest Regional Office oversees four agencies serving 35 federally recognized tribes located within the states of Iowa, Michigan,

Minnesota and Wisconsin. Her appointment became effective on Feb. 28, 2010.

"I want to express my deep appreciation to BIA Director Gidner and to Assistant Secretary Echo Hawk for giving me this tremendous opportunity to serve Indian Country," Rosen said. "I am looking forward to working with the tribes of the Midwest region and I am committed to ensuring they receive the highest level of service from our regional office and agencies."

Rosen's 26-year federal



Diane K. Rosen, recently appointed regional director, served in that capacity since last October.

career began in August 1979 at the BIA's Great Lakes Agency in Ashland, Wisc., as a clerk in the real estate services and tribal operations divisions. In May 1994, she was promoted to tribal operations officer, where she was in charge of the branch of tribal operations assisting tribes with governance matters.

From June 2003 to March 2004, Rosen also served as the superintendent of the Great Lakes agency until being named the acting Midwest regional director.

Rosen graduated from Washburn High School in

Washburn, Wisc., in 1976, attended Chippewa Valley Technical College in Eau Claire and graduated magna cum laude from Northland College in Ashland in 2006, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in management and leadership.

Among the honors she has received are several federal employment and performance awards as well as the Northland College Native American Studies Award for Academic Excellence in 2004 and the Northland College Merit Award for Management and Leadership in 2006.

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James Kelley



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Kronk is one of nine Americans in U.S.-China environmental exchange program

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe member Elizabeth Kronk, an assistant professor of law at the University of Montana, is one of nine Americans selected to take part in the Environmental Justice Young Fellows Exchange

program that will take her to China and Washington, D.C., for studies this summer.

According to the Vermont Law School, the sponsoring institution, the program is funded by a federal grant to support a U.S.-China

educational and cultural exchange program for young professionals working in the field of environmental justice.

The students, nine from the U.S. and nine from China, will be exposed to leadership training and joint examinations

of environmental concerns of minority communities and low-income populations in both countries. Participants will also be mentored in championing environmental justice for those types of populations.

According to the university, Kronk will also participate in a series of roundtables, study tours and one-week internships with environmental justice organizations in each country.

"I am very excited and honored to participate in the Environmental Justice Young Fellows Exchange Program," said Kronk. "I anticipate that I will learn a great deal regarding climate change and environmental justice through my participation in the program. Following the completion of the fellowship, I've proposed to complete an article comparing the unique impacts of climate change on American Native communities with similarly situated communities in China. It is therefore my hope that my participation in the fellowship program will be of some benefit to Indian country."

As an assistant professor of law at the University of Montana School of Law, Kronk teaches courses in civil procedure, environmental law and Indian law.

In addition to teaching, Kronk also currently serves as chief judge for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Court of Appeals.

Her curriculum vitae includes practice in environmental, Indian and energy law as a lawyer in Washington, D.C.,



Elizabeth Kronk

and service as president of the Native American Bar Association of the District of Columbia. She currently serves as chair of the Federal Bar Association Indian Law Section and as a member of the executive boards of Michigan Indian Legal Services and Missoula YWCA.

Kronk graduated from Cornell University with a Bachelor of Science in communication and received a law degree from the University of Michigan Law School, where she served on the Michigan Law Review.

She is a member of the bar associations in the District of Columbia, State of Michigan and State of Montana and is also admitted to practice in the U.S. District Court for the District of Montana.

Kronk was born in Marquette, Mich., and is the daughter of Jenny Lee Belonga Kronk and Tom Kronk. She begins her journey through the exchange program on May 28.

UNIT 2 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Integrity. Leadership. Vision.

To: Unit 2 Tribal Members

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation for Jim Kelley. Jim has been one of the most influential forces in making the Drummond Island Tourism Association one of the best recognized and modeled after programs in Michigan. His vision has been clear, his unrelenting follow through is productive, and he has demonstrated what it takes to be a leader. His integrity has time and again proven that his goals will be accomplished.

When Jim first became involved in the Tourism Association, he proposed bold new tourism goals. His goals were creative, clear, and included deadlines. Each and every goal was achieved and on time. When Jim sets his mind on accomplishing a worthwhile goal, there is no reasonable obstacle that can stand in his way.

Jim's accomplishments are too numerous to list them all, following are but two examples.

When the ORV and ATV trail system on Drummond Island was in jeopardy of being shut down, Jim established a plan to save the trail system. Jim worked cooperatively with everyone involved, including government agencies. He single handedly created a map that was user friendly and produced new signage for the entire trail system. His efforts proved to be a great success as Drummond Island won the National 2010 Outstanding Trails Program sponsored by BF Goodrich Tires.

Another major tourism program Jim initiated and successfully accomplished was the creation of the Drummond Island Tourism website together with printed media. The Drummond Island Tourism website, www.drummondislandchamber.com, was completed in 2009 and is one of the most informative, interesting, and user friendly websites in all of Michigan. The newly created Drummond Island Magazine was another of Jim's visions from start to finish. Both the website and magazine have been a model of success for professional tourism nation-wide.

Jim is an astute, accomplished businessman. Recognizing the Island tourism had very limited financial resources, he researched, developed, applied for, and obtained government grants, sold advertising and tourism goods that amounted to more than \$200,000, and is expected to reach \$300,000.

Jim is a leader with vision, integrity, and boundless energy. He is creative. He gets things done. Anyone who has had the opportunity to work with Jim will tell you that he loves the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and will do anything to help improve this beautiful area he calls home.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like to know any more details regarding my knowledge of the community leader, Jim Kelley.

Sincerely,

G. Dennis Bailey

G. Dennis Bailey

Owner, Drummond Island Yacht Haven, Inc.
Co-Owner, Drummond Island Resort and Conference Center
Commissioner, Michigan State Waterway's Commission
President, Drummond Island Tourism Association
President, Drummond Island Grooming Association

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Kinross fuel discount convenience station open

The Kinross BP convenience store and gas station at 4440 Tone Road in Kincheloe is open again, resuming availability of tax discounted fuel to Sault Tribe members.

Members must show their own tribal identification cards to receive the discount. If using a child's card, that child must be present.

For more information visit the tribe's tax agreement section online at www.saulttribe.com.

Notice to members in Sault Ste. Marie

Contract Health Services office in the Sault clinic at 2864 Ashmun moved to the third floor and now occupies three separate offices, along the corridor between the Behavioral Health Services reception area and dental services.

Our phone numbers and address will remain the same 632-5220 or (800) 922-0582, Fax 632-5248, mailing address PO Box 1628, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

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Heather London

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New Web site dedicated to North American Indians, features free documentaries and entertainment

By RICK SMITH

A new Web site called Native American Entertainment Network (NAE Network) features free video documentaries, dramas, specials and other content about American Indian peoples of North America. The site, www.naenetwork.com, is based in Bellingham, Wash., and was launched last Feb. 20. The debut was officially announced on March 11.

The network's mission is based on "providing a voice to the spirit of empowerment and honor for all the indigenous people of our continent — ensuring the preservation and practices of our traditions, culture and human rights." It goes on to add that the site



NAEnetwork

Native American Entertainment Network

promotes a border-free environment through mutual respect and honor for all involved individual cultures and the positive differences that might influence others in the world.

Site visitors will find an array of categories to peruse that include features, news, government, sports, health, lifestyle, arts and entertainment, history, culture and events.

At this stage, much of the news and some of the other content are geared toward tribes of the northwest United States. That should change eventually as the site invites video submissions "relevant to North American indigenous people" and provides lists of its standards and requirements. The network continuously adds new items to its libraries to interest

all comers, American Indians and others.

The site is hailed as groundbreaking in that it allows indigenous peoples of North America to share their worlds with the rest of the globe's people. In addition, as Tlingit story teller and member of the NAE Network Board of Directors, Gene Tagaban, noted in the announcement, "It provides a

means for our people to tell their stories and come together through the arts — strengthening a sense of pride and honor in who we are historically and moving forward into the future."

Furthermore, the NAE Network Foundation provides "grants and donations to community organizations committed to empowering Native American and indigenous people." The foundation said grant recipients include groups making positive contributions through the arts, health and wellness, education and in other ways. According to the network, a board of directors governs the foundation and makes grant decisions on an annual basis.

Amending Chapter 14: rules of parliamentary procedure ordinance • Replacement of funding for contract health services • Public notice board of director meetings and work short-term strategic plan • Amending tribal bid policies • Chief Executive Officer reports • Compliance audit of Human Resources • Employee payroll deduct at Midjima • Management and Development Department • Class III gaming — request for additional games • Amending Kewadin Casinos Gaming Authority Bylaws • Permanent

Shops • Promulgating a tribal employee rights ordinance • Monthly reporting to board of directors • Re-establishing economic development commission • Protecting sault tribe golf classic scholarship • No vote on all annual budgets 2006-present • Amending team member manuals rehiring policy • Preservation, revitalization, and protection of Ojibwe language within the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians • Establishment of educational assistance award for members with special educational needs • Developing an economic development position • Petition to the Secretary of Interior to issue corporate charter • Reclamation of unclaimed property • Free use of Big Bear fitness center for membership • Business/Strategic plan requirements of all departments • Corporate charter, Sault Tribe Inc. • No vote on Greektown bankruptcy • Resolution submission deadline

• Cross gas station • Tribal non-profit entity • Small business certification • Budget modification policy • Win Awenen Nisitotung • Roseetta Stone • Tribal interpretive center • Hessel campground • Amending to Secretarial Election a Constitutional Amendment separating the chairman and Chief Executive Officer positions • Amending Tribal Code Chapter 42: Gaming Ordinance • Grants • Voiding evergreen contracts • Tribal recycling • Tribal license plates • Chippewa Service and Supply • Marketing plan requirements • Corporate charter, Sault Tribe Inc. • Special meetings called by the board of directors • Voiding evergreen contracts • Tribal recycling • Tribal license plates • Chippewa Service and Supply • Marketing plan requirements • Corporate charter, Sault Tribe Inc. • Special meetings called by the board of directors

RESULTS... NOT PROMISES

TRIBAL MEMBERS:

Election Advertisements are often filled with promises by Candidates regarding what they WILL do if elected. This is not one of those advertisements.

I ran for the Board of Directors on a platform of issues based on moving the Tribe forward in a positive and progressive manner, by placing the Membership First. For my tenure on the Board I have worked relentlessly to ensure that many of these issues were addressed and that changes were implemented.

In the border of this advertisement you will see legislation that I have introduced that has been adopted by the Tribal Board. These are not promises, but RESULTS...

If afforded the opportunity, I will continue to focus upon generating results that will ensure that our Tribe prospers for this, and future generations.



- EDUCATED DECISIONS
- RESPONSIBLE LEADERSHIP
- FOCUS ON DIVERSIFICATION
- ACCOUNTABILITY AND PERFORMANCE
- FOCUSING ON MEMBERSHIP DRIVEN ISSUES



Membership Driven, Results Oriented

Mastaw awes kids with face painting, balloon twisting

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

CHICAGO, Ill — Clayton Mastaw's chosen profession takes him into homes in the Chicago area and to major events such as last year's NCAA Final Four national basketball championship in Detroit. As he works on his clients, he watches as the face under his hand lights up with appreciation and anticipation. And as he reaches for another

brightly colored balloon, a parent snaps a picture.

Mastaw has mastered the art of face painting and balloon twisting and offers his services for kids birthday parties and corporate events. Last October, American Airlines in Chicago hired him for five hours to offer face painting to their employees for Halloween.

A Sault Tribe member, Mastaw was employed at

Kewadin Shores Casino in St. Ignace for two years and at Greektown Casino in Detroit for five years as a poker, blackjack and craps dealer. He moved to Chicago in 2006 to pursue a career in graphic design and Web site building after being involved in a car accident that made it impossible to return to work as a dealer.

He began learning how to

face paint a year ago when his mother, who has a face painting business, needed some help for a major event. He has also taught himself the craft of balloon twisting, often using YouTube videos for ideas.

At Chicago's Winter Fest last December, Mastaw offered clients over 120 different faces they could choose from. "I have always been a little artistic," he said. "I paint myself about five times a week for practice."

It's a family tradition — about 10 relatives on his mother's side of the family are in the business of face painting and balloon twisting. He is currently teaching is younger sister, Candice Mastaw, how to face paint and balloon twist.

Some of his balloon sculptures take as much as an hour to complete, while his favorite, a friendly caterpillar, takes five minutes. He said that his best face painting work tends to

be the scary faces, but he also enjoys making butterflies and animal faces because each one is different.

A Sault Ste. Marie native, he attended Sault Area schools through the seventh grade at which time he moved to Dearborn Heights with his mother, Cindy Fontana of Brownstown, Mich. His father is Daniel Mastaw of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Mastaw said he keeps in contact with friends from the Sault area that he grew up with.

"I love coming to the Sault during the winter months because you always know how to dress," he said. You come any other time of the year and you don't know what to pack. I visited the area last May and brought shorts and t-shirts and it still felt like winter outside."

For more pictures and information, visit his Web site at www.marvelousmasks.com.

Malloy — Running to be Your Sault Tribe Unit I Representative

Aanii (Greetings) Sault Tribe Unit I Members:

My name is Diedrie (D.J.) Malloy and you may remember me as your Membership Liaison. I am running to be your Representative for Unit I.

I did not make this decision alone or in haste. I thought and prayed about it, and a voice kept telling me to "stand up;" so here I am. I am willing to stand up TO the status quo and FOR the people, bringing your voice back to the board table.

It is time for the citizens of this tribe to take back the reins from the current leadership and steer in a new direction. For too long we have been mere passengers in our own government. It's time to chart our own course and elect a leader who will find a way to navigate a path in the interest of all tribal citizens. With your support, I will be that leader.

Are you as shocked as I am that the board sent money from the principal of the Elder Fund to Greektown without regard to the law that forbids it? Are you aware the board failed to ensure those funds were safe, by making the investment a "secured" loan to Greektown and naming the Elder Fund as a secured creditor? The secured creditors will emerge from the bankruptcy proceedings with their funds intact.

When was the last time a Unit I meeting was held in your area? Are you or your children finding it difficult to remain in college, or trade school, because the Education Fund has been all but eliminated? Are you in debt because you



were denied Funeral Assistance for even the humble burial of a loved one?

They balanced the budget. You paid with the loss of Health Services, Elder Dividends, Educational Funding, Elder Programs, Funeral Assistance, Contract Health, Children's Christmas Parties, Elder holiday dinners, 150 jobs, loss of a website, and access to current information vital to the membership. Meanwhile, not one dollar has been offered up in board wages, benefits, or retirement plans to help reduce costs. The membership has been made to act as a pack-mule. It's time to lay the burden where it belongs and hold accountable those who have failed. You can do exactly that with your vote in this election.



Photo by Brenda Austin

Clayton Mastaw with some of his balloon sculptures.

Simpson survives childhood abuse to become child advocate

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

HEMPSTEAD, NY — Steve Simpson survived violent child abuse at the hands of his alcoholic father and lived to share his experiences and offer hope to others. Today, he is a successful child advocate, counselor, author and mortgage banker.

Simpson received national recognition for his work, including the Governor's award and a citation from the city of Hempstead, N.Y., recognizing him for his "continued efforts to raise community awareness about teen suicide, runaway prevention and child abuse." He has also appeared on several CNN shows and ABC affiliates in Chicago, New York and Washington, D.C.

His book, *Runaway*, has been endorsed by the National Runaway Switchboard and several national school curriculums. *Runaway* is a young adult fiction novel that combines young romance, comedy and action while addressing

the very real issues of abusive relationships, low self-esteem and verbal, sexual and physical violence.

"Because it is a fictional story, it is a very non-aggressive tool for both concerned adults and kids," Simpson said. "The young people in the book are the same as today's teens. A young person can read it and say 'that reminds me of my sister, myself or my friend.'"

Simpson said that from his first memory as a baby there was always turmoil and violence. Although his father was physically abusive, it was the verbal abuse that shattered his self-esteem at an early age so that by the time he was a first grader he was the worst student in the class.

"I honestly believed that I was stupid. All I ever heard from my father was that I was useless, stupid and wasn't wanted," said the author. One of the characters in his novel, Steve,

See "Child advocate" pg. 13

VOTE MALLOY TO REPRESENT YOU IN UNIT I

For Restoration of the Elder Fund and Lost Services

With your support, we will offer legislation to begin the replacement of Elder funds and restore programs and services dollar for dollar with any board request for new spending.

For Term Limits, Reduced Board Pay and Separation of Powers

With your support we will offer legislation that provides for separation of powers, term limits and reduced board pay. Until a pay reduction is passed and in effect, I promise to donate at least one week's pay per month to a charitable cause benefiting tribal members.

For Accountability and Regular Communication

I promise to hold regular Unit I Meetings and to be available to you with office hours. I promise honest and accurate monthly Unit Reports, to push for an up to date website and publication of board meeting minutes. As your representative I will take responsibility, and expect accountability, for my actions or inactions; always remembering I am one of you, not above you.

If you have questions or want more information, please contact me
djmalloy@centurytel.net

This advertisement is endorsed by Diedrie (D.J.) Malloy.

Vote Malloy for Unit I Representative

Federal law protects rights of tribal children

STATE COURT GUIDELINES NEEDED TO HELP IMPLEMENTATION OF ICWA

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) is a federal law pertaining to American Indian and Alaskan Native children that many tribal members are unaware of. Attorneys, judges, social workers and state court systems work with this Act almost daily. The United States Congress enacted ICWA more than 30 years ago to protect the best interests of Indian children, and to promote the cohesiveness of Indian families and tribes. Because it is a federal law, it preempts state law in its application, meaning in a state court setting applying the standards of ICWA is mandatory.

For ICWA's protections



Legal Assistant, Amy Perron, and Sault Tribe Prosecuting Attorney, Eric Blubaugh.

to apply, a child must be an enrolled member of an Indian tribe or be eligible for enroll-

ment. The individual tribe to which the child belongs is responsible for determining

membership eligibility.

The ICWA applies to children who have parents whose rights are being terminated, or who have been taken out of their home and placed into a guardianship, foster care or any permanent or pre-adoptive placement.

State court systems and judges in states with very low Indian populations often misunderstand the law, such as Georgia.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' Prosecuting Attorney, Eric Blubaugh, said, "Everyone gets in a sort of professional comfort zone, and state courts are no exception. A state court, when confronted with a case involving an Indian

child, must apply different standards than they would in a case involving a non-Indian child. And the frontline professionals—caseworkers and attorneys—must assess an ICWA case's merits much differently due to the higher standards of proof." When an Indian child is involved in a case in any applicable state court proceeding, the tribe has a right, according to Blubaugh, to be an intervening party to the case. "Right now we have intervened and are monitoring in excess of 80 cases throughout the United States involving Sault Tribe children. As we are trying to monitor those cases, we are taking care of our own child

See "Federal Law," page 28

Remembering childhood days on Sugar Island

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

SAULT STE. MARIE — Diane (LaCoy) Moore was three when her parents moved their young family from Sault Ste. Marie to the other side of the St. Marys River on Sugar Island. Her father, Antoine "Chappy" LaCoy, had been born and raised on Sugar Island and later married Rosena Gravelle from Escanaba. Moving to the north shore of the island, her great aunt Delema Delorme asked Moore's father if he would be willing to operate the family farm for her. Farm life suited the family, and Moore said she has many happy memories of the five years they spent there.

The two-bedroom farmhouse was heated with a wood burning stove and their bathing and drinking water was hauled in from an outside well. The bucket under the kitchen sink where they washed their hands had to be emptied a few times a day so it didn't overflow onto the floor.

Baths were a weekly event. Saturday afternoon, her mother would heat water on the stove and pour it into the big metal tub they all used. During the week the children all washed up using warm water in their washbasins. They did that until they moved back to town when Moore was in the sixth grade in 1952.

Since the house had no

closets her mother improvised and used some wire to hang a pole across a corner of the children's bedroom. That was where they hung their clothes and underneath was a storage trunk for their winter coats and snow pants. They also each had

a drawer in the one dresser they shared. "Even though we were very poor, I don't remember being poor," Moore said.

In addition to raising pigs, cattle and chickens, the family also had a few horses. Her father worked for Barnes

Construction and also did some logging using the family's horses to pull the dray.

Moore remembers a favorite calf that the kids had named Frosting because it looked like it had frosting on its nose.

See "Remembering" pg. 28

From "Child Advocate," page 12 —

From "Child advocate" pg. 12 mirrors his own life by having very low self-esteem and by not being able to do anything right.

"If anyone is thinking of suicide, I understand what hopelessness is," Simpson said. "I have been in touch with many individuals who have thought about suicide and many who have unsuccessfully attempted suicide. I have never heard one person say, 'I wish I had succeeded.'"

Fortunately for Simpson, protective services got involved and he had good experiences in foster care. He joined a support group and was no longer surrounded by adults who were putting him down. That's when he started to see a pattern; all the kids in that group had been told the same things by their fathers.

Bit by bit, Simpson improved in school and became a member of the National Junior Honor Society. He also became active in wrestling and track. "It wasn't magic or a course I took in how to get smart. I could have done that at any time in my life. All those years I was smart, I just didn't think I was," he said.

When he was returned to his mother's care she moved to the town where he resided so he could stay in his school. He



ended up dropping out in 10th grade but went on to earn his GED and today is a successful mortgage banker and writer.

"Child abuse rates are increasing. This past year suicide was up by as much as 15 percent in some states just prior to Christmas. With the economic meltdown, alcoholism and drug abuse are increasing and with those increases child abuse also increases. In many cases there was probably some abuse going on already, but it escalates under stressful conditions," he said.

Simpson's book, *Runaway*, is available at his Web site www.powerpublishingcorp.com as well as at BakerandTaylor.com and BookClearingHouse.com. A portion of the proceeds from the sale of his book are donated to charity.

A vote for the future A vote for our children



The Future of Our Children is why I have decided to seek an elected position with the Board of Directors.
I am Debra Ann Pine
and I am seeking Unit One support in the 2010 election.
I have worked with the tribe's marketing department for almost 15 years and in that time have gained valuable knowledge and insights about our tribe and tribal operations that will prove to be advantageous as a member of the Board of Directors.
Utilizing my consensus building skills will be an asset that will allow me the ability to help build a stronger more united Board of Directors. With unwavering resolve and perseverance I will protect the integrity, identity, and growth of our tribe, for our members, for our children, for our future. Our children are depending on us.

Vote Debra-Ann Pine Unit One

Sponsored by the community member Debra-Ann Pine, Unit One Sault Tribe

Phone - 906.440.1334

Graphic designer Carol Syminow honored: Kewadin Sault Team Member of the Year

Carol Syminow, Kewadin Casino graphic designer, was selected as the Team Member of the Year at Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie on Thursday, March 4. The team member was chosen by peers for this award and will receive a personal plaque; \$200, entertainment tickets, dinner, and a hotel stay along with a plaque that is located in each casino.

Syminow started working with the casino in the design department on May 22, 2000. "Carol is very humble, modest, and reserved," said Bill Marsh, marketing director. "She never

wants to be put on a pedestal for her hard work but she quietly and continuously produces extraordinary art."

When she is not designing the latest Kewadin artwork, Syminow enjoys making wine, traveling and taking local pictures. "I was very surprised," she said after winning the award. "I cannot do my job without the staff around me. Everyone here is amazing and I thank them for that."

Syminow was born in North Dakota and lived in Montana for most of her life. She moved to the Sault in 1999.

Kewadin Casinos, with locations in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique and Christmas, has been in operation for 25 years and employs approximately 1,000 team members.

Kewadin Casinos Sault Ste. Marie Team Member of the Year, Carol Syminow (center) with (left to right) Alan Bouschor, VP Marketing and Sales; Tony Rogers, design center supervisor; Bill Marsh, marketing director; and Tony Goetz, casino COO.



Surveillance manager Jeff Herlik: Kewadin Manistique Team Member of the Year

Surveillance manager Jeff Herlik was recently selected as the Team Member of the Year at Kewadin Manistique.

"Jeff is friendly towards everyone and that is why he keeps getting this nomination," said Ken Ermatinger, Jeff's supervisor. "He works hard and is fair, respects his employees and the company. And, to top it off, he's fun to work with and has a great sense of humor."

Herlik has been surveillance manager since March 1999. According to those working with Herlik, he is an outstanding employee who always has a smile and is willing to help at a moment's notice. Herlik has worked tirelessly to keep the Surveillance Department and casino stay in compliance with the National Indian Gaming

Commission, Michigan Gaming Control Board and Chapter 42 of the Tribal Code.

Herlik has received this honor in the past because he is not only an outstanding team member but he is an outstanding citizen of the community and country in which he lives.

He was nominated for Employee of the Month many times throughout 2009 and received the award in August 2009.

Team members of the year are selected by their peers and receive a personal plaque; \$200, entertainment tickets, dinner and a hotel stay along with a plaque that is located in each casino.

The award was given to Herlik during a special presentation with his family and



Surveillance manager Jeff Herlik (center) was recently selected as the Team Member of the Year at Kewadin Manistique.

team members. Herlik lives in Manistique with his wife Diana and has two children and a granddaughter. Herlik's son and

daughter-in-law, Robert and Bianca, are currently serving in the U.S. Army and stationed in Washington, preparing for a

March deployment. His daughter Becca, is currently living in Germfask with her fiancé, Jeremy, and daughter Lhea.

Jamie Lockhart: Kewadin Hessel Team Member of the Year

Jamie Lockhart, bar server, was recently selected as the Team Member of the Year at Kewadin Hessel.

The team member was chosen by peers for this award and received a personal plaque; \$200, entertainment tickets, dinner, and a hotel stay along with a plaque that is located in each casino.

Jamie, who has worked with Kewadin since 2005, was nominated because of her willingness to help any department when needed and her positive attitude and great customer service. "Jamie is a great employee and very deserving of this award," said Tel Fox, casino manager. "She is well liked by employees and customers, knows what the customers want before they even order and is always smiling and giving her best."

When Jamie realized she won the award she could not believe it. "I was so surprised and I knew something was going on, but when I found out I was team member of the year, I just could believe it," she said. Jamie lives in Cedarville



Jamie's friend Mark (back) and Jamie (front) with her son Adam at the party to celebrate the team member of the year award in Hessel.

with her friend Mark, son, Adam, and daughter Makalya. She enjoys spending time with

her children and most of all participating in their school events.

Team Members of the Month

Roy Perrault from the Horseshoe Bay restaurant received the February Team Member of the Month award at Kewadin St. Ignace.

Roy has been a dishwasher with the casino for almost five years. "Roy is a very hard worker and takes the initiative to check on equipment to make sure it is working properly," said Linda Marshall, restaurant manager. "He looks for ways to improve the restaurant such as organizing the dry storage and he gets along well with his co-workers."

Kelvin McPherson is Kewadin Sault Team Member of the Month for March.

Kelvin began working at the casino in March 1995 in housekeeping and is now a casino



Linda Marshall and Roy Perrault porter working the midnight shift. "I am absolutely honored," said Kelvin after receiving his award.

Way to go, Roy and Kelvin!



Left: Tony Goetz, casino COO, Kelvin McPherson and John Cleary.

JKL Bahweting dominates regional science fair

Photos by Lori Jodoin

JKL Bahweting students attended the Regional Science Fair at LSSU on Friday, March 19, receiving first place in grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6; second place in grade 1 and third place in grade 3. Students who competed in the regional fair were first through third place winners at their own schools.



Scott Colborn, 3rd grade, is all business when he gives a summary of what he found was the best way to keep food fresh. His project took 3rd place among all the 3rd grade entries.



Madison Mayer and Joey Harvey are excited that their team project placed 1st overall for 6th grade.

Fall 2009 2 percent funds purchases Unit II Kindergarten phonics carpet



Photo by Brenda Austin

READING MADE FUN — Kindergartners from Rudyard Schools in Sault Tribe's Unit II gather on a special carpet purchased for them with 2 percent funds. By far the smallest request in Unit II last fall, the donation will have a big impact on these children by helping them learn to read and have fun at the same time.

Soo Pee Wees take CCHA Kids Classic



WINNERS — The Soo PeeWee AA hockey team (11 to 13-year-olds) recently won its district playoffs and its players were introduced between CCHA games at the Joe Louis Arena. The team also won the CCHA Kids Classic tournament last weekend and played its championship game at the Joe Louis Arena, beating Ann Arbor in a 2-1 overtime game Sunday morning on March 21. Several of the players are Sault Tribe members.



Sophie Shepard, 3rd grade, reassures the judge that she really did use manure to build the house she used in the science experiment that earned her a 1st place regional finish for 3rd grade.



Sydney Kuenzer, 2nd Grade, explains her experiment results in her solar heating project. Sydney was the first place winner in the region for 2nd grade.



Annual Teen Health Fair held in Rudyard



Left: Senior nursing students at LSSU, Kyle Waisanen and Garrett Brink (right), were demonstrating the importance of wearing helmets to prevent traumatic brain injury.



Left: Katie Cholcher, an outreach advocate for the Dianne Pepler Resource Center, answered questions and handed out information to students.

Spear-headed by the Chippewa County Health Department, this year's Teen Health Fair was held at Rudyard High School. The fair rotates between different area schools each year.

There were 22 presentors at the fair, including booths from the Sault Tribe STAY program, Bay Mills Health Center, LSSU nursing program and the Michigan State Police.

Photos by Brenda Austin

Right: Trooper Schroeder, of the Michigan State Police, was on hand to demonstrate to students what it might look and feel like to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs and try to walk a straight line. Abby LaPointe, a senior at Rudyard High School, tried out the special goggles.

Far right: Senior Scott Coffey, with help from Alison Cray from the Chippewa County Health Department, tried on the pregnancy belly.



Academy of Performing Arts presents "Cinderella"

On May 1 and 2, the Academy of Performing Arts will celebrate its 9th annual children's theatre performance with the production of "Cinderella," directed and produced by Luanna Luxton Armstrong.

Enter the fairy tale world of Cinderella, brought to life by the dancers and actors, both children and adult, the professional technical staff of Kewadin's DreamMakers Theatre, and designer Larry McCoy's magic touch.

The Academy of Performing Arts and United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula have partnered for this event. A percentage of the

proceeds will be donated to United Way and the Whitney Jo Anderson Scholarship fund.

Dates: Saturday, May 1, at 6 p.m. and Sunday, May 2, at 2 p.m.

Place: DreamMakers Theater inside Kewadin Casino.

Tickets: Adults \$12, children 12 and under \$6. Tickets are available at the Kewadin Box Office by calling 1-800-KEWADIN or (906) 635-4917. Tickets will also be available at the door. For further information call Luanna Luxton Armstrong at (906) 253-2180.

Photo by Brenda Austin

Practicing for "Cinderella," are front left to right, Taylor Friedt and Allison Walsh, and back left, Nadia Chupka, Susie Drockton, and Kitty Drockton performing in a number called "Debutantes."



IF I DON'T SAY IT, WHO'S GOING TO SAY IT FOR ME?



Remaining silent will not allow our voice to be heard in the 2010 Census. The 2010 Census helps determine resources such as schools, housing, roads, and hospitals.

WE MOVE FORWARD WHEN WE PARTICIPATE | 2010CENSUS.GOV



IT'S IN OUR HANDS

PAID FOR BY U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Schoolcraft County crowns royalty



Photo courtesy Manistique Pioneer-Tribune

ROYALTY — Schoolcraft County Little Miss Jailyn Hursh, Miss Schoolcraft County Vanessa Jenerou and Schoolcraft County Little Prince Alex Misniakiewicz (L-R) were crowned in last fall's pageant at the Schoolcraft annual fair. Jenerou will graduate from high school in May.

Staudte-Bellant marriage vows

Stefanie Staudte and Joe Bellant, both of Eulenbis, Germany, would like to announce their marriage, which took place on March 1, 2010, at 11 a.m. in Weilerbach, Germany. The bride's parents are Olaf and Gabbi Staudte of Buseck, Germany. Groom's parents are Francis and the late Joyce Bellant of St. Ignace, Mich.

The maid of honor was Franziska Osadnik, sister of the bride, and best man was Matthew Hodges, friend of the groom.

The bridal gown was cream-colored with pearls and lace. The bride also wore pearls in her hair and carried a bouquet of red roses. Decorations were red ribbons and lace with white pearls.

A reception followed the ceremony at the Bauer Schmidt Restaurant.

Out-of-town guests included grandparents of the bride, Edmund and Anni Staudte of



Hamburg, Germany; Horst and Emmi Raue of Frankfurt, Germany; brother-in-law of the bride, Peter Osadnik; niece, Hannah Osadnik; sister of the groom, Mary Sypher of Longmont, Colo.; Anita Bellant of Rosemount, Minn.; niece, Whitney Bellant of Rosemount; and parents of the bride and groom.

The bride graduated from Giesen High School in 2000

and is employed in customer service at DQS in Frankfurt, Germany. The groom graduated from LaSalle High School in St. Ignace in 1998 and is enlisted in the US Air Force as a Tech Sergeant stationed at Vogelweh Air Force Base in Germany.

A wedding trip to Paris, France, was planned. The bride and groom will make their residence in Eulenbis, Germany.

Barb (Gravelle) Smutek

Leadership for the Next Generation.

Sault Tribe... the Final Frontier. These are the voyages of Barb (Gravelle) Smutek. The four-year mission: to explore strange new worlds inside and outside the seven-county service area; to seek out new life and revitalize tribal civilizations; to boldly go where no one has gone before to benefit our Tribe.



Respectfully
Requesting Your
Vote for Unit 1

Our Strengths ...

Our culture that defines us as a sovereign nation

Our youth who hold the future in their hands

Our elders who provide wisdom - if we are willing to listen...

Top Reasons You Should Vote for Barb:

- ▶ Enthusiastic & Optimistic
- ▶ Intelligent with Strong Communication Skills
- ▶ Balanced & Resourceful with Common Sense
- ▶ A Dedicated Leader who... Wants to Represent YOU!
- ▶ Educated: Masters Degree in Administration (Dec 2010)

Every Vote Counts!

Please exercise your right to Vote!

**YOU ARE INVITED!!!
MEET & GREET**

**Sunday, May 2, 2010, 1-3 PM,
1803 Young Street,
Sault Ste. Marie, MI**

CONTACT ME!

E-mail:

Vote4barb@resourceful.com

Websites:

www.facebook.com/vote4barb

www.myspace.com/vote4barb

(906) 440-9403

First catch, 13 pounder!



BIG FISH — Stephanie Causley wrote in with this marvelous photo of her daughter, 5-year-old Brooke St. John of Manistique, with her very first fish — a 33-inch, 13-pound walleye caught in Kate's Bay in Garden. Way to go, Brooke!

Family Celebration Night successful - thank you!

The Family Celebration Planning Committee would like to take the time to thank the following businesses and volunteers for making our 12th annual Family Celebration Night a huge success. The event is a fun way for families to observe "March Is Parenting Awareness Month." Thanks to all who donated their time planning and organizing this special event for our Sault families.

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services
Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center
Chippewa County Council for Youth and Families
Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District
Sault Tribe Head Start
Sault Tribe Housing Authority
Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities
JKL Bahweting School/Givers Club
Sault Area High School/WOW
Star Line Mackinac Island Ferry
Thunder Falls Family Water

Park
Kewadin Casinos
Sault Ste. Marie Fire Department
Smokey the Bear/Hiawatha National Forest
Taco Bell
I-75 Business Spur McDonald's
The Art Store
Pennzoil 10-Minute Oil Change
Indo-China Garden
A Cut Above the Rest
The Palace Saloon
Glen's Market
Curves for Women
Family Video
Frank's Place
Dondee Lanes
Leitz Sports Center
Country Kitchen
Angio's
MidJim Convenience Store
Applebee's Grill and Bar

Spending time with your family is the most important way you can spend time. Celebrate your family every day and make each moment count. Try to find activities to do together each night as a family. On behalf of our committee, thank you.

Births...

JORDAN ISABEL LADUKE
 Brian and Jennifer LaDuke of Attica, Ind., wish to announce the birth of their



daughter, Jordan Isabel. She was born at 8:37 p.m. on Feb. 6, 2010, at the Clarion Hospital in Lafayette, Ind. She weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces and was 20

inches in length.

She joins her older brother, Calvin, and her 14-year-old sister, Chelsey. Grandparents are Don and Annette Smith of Covington, Ind., Carl LaDuke of Attica and Millie LaDuke of St. Ignace. Great grandparents are Alvin and Pearl Menard of Sugar Island.

ANTHONY DAVID ABRAMSON III

Anthony David Abramson III was born Feb. 16, 2010, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to proud parents Anthony David Abramson Jr. and Brianne Lees. He weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces and was 22 inches in length. Grandparents are Anthony David and Cathy



Abramson of Sault Ste. Marie and David and Cathy Lees of Sanford, Mich.

Tony's nieces are all excited about baby Anthony. Helen and Joy Kerfoot, and Madison,

Julia, Eva and Ana Collins, love fighting over who gets to hold him next. He has three terrific aunts, Lisa Abramson, Laura Collins and Kayla Lees.

Tony and Brianne would like to thank the War Memorial OB staff, and the offices of Andrea Donmeyer and Nelu Cristof for the great care.

MICHAEL JOSEPH OWENS

Brian and Staci (nee Shannon) Owens would like to announce the arrival of their son, Michael Joseph Owens. He weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces, and was 22 inches in length. He was welcomed by his four sisters, Taydra, 14, Mika, 13, Amber, 11 and Bryn, 21 months. He was the second



tubal reversal baby in the family.

Proud grandparents are the late Donald Joseph Shannon and Sherry Shannon of Owosso, Mich., and John and Brenda Owens of Niles, Mich.

Suggitt and Staber announce engagement

Alan and Anne Suggitt announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly Nicole Suggitt to Adam Jeffrey Staber, of Livonia, son of Tom and Sandy Yates. The couple will be married in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. on July 24, 2010.



Avon Foundation Breast Care Fund awards \$50,000 grant to Sault Tribe Health Center

The Avon Foundation Breast Care Fund has awarded a \$50,000 one-year grant to Sault Tribe Health Center to increase awareness of the life-saving benefits of early detection of breast cancer. It is the third year that the program has received funding from the Avon Foundation for Women to support its work on this important health issue, and in recognition of the excellence of the program.

"We are proud that the Avon Foundation for Women shares our mission and has chosen to support our program. With these funds we will be able to assist Native women with important screening and necessary treatment," said Michele Bickham, Radiology supervisor, Sault Tribe Health Center.

The Get on the Path to Breast Health Program at Sault Tribe Health will educate Sault Ste. Marie and surrounding area women and refer them to low-cost or free mammograms and clinical breast exams in their own communities. The vital program will also provide patient navigation services for tribal patients receiving care within one of the Sault Tribe's clinics.

Since January 2009, the Get on the Path of Breast Health Program at Sault Tribe Health Center has reached more than 1,254 women with information about the importance of early detection of breast cancer and has referred almost 723 women



Photo by Brenda Austin

Mickey Bickham, RT, supervisor; Missy Halabrin, RT; Amanda Leonard, LPN, navigator; and Dana Andrews, Avon grant assistant.

for mammograms and clinical breast exams.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women in the U.S., and the leading single cause of death overall in women between the ages of 40 and 55. According to the American Cancer Society, 6,480 new cases of breast cancer will be detected in Michigan this year and 1,350 lives will be lost. Nationwide, there is a new diagnosis every three minutes and a death from breast cancer every 14 minutes. While advances have been made in prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure, early detection still affords the best opportunity for successful treatment. Programs such as Get on the Path to Breast Health help ensure that all women have access to early detection information and options, even poor and medically underserved women.

Since 1993, the Avon

Foundation for Women has awarded more than 1,300 grants to community-based breast health programs across the United States, including the Get on the Path to Breast Health Program at the Sault Tribe Health Center. These programs are dedicated to educating underserved women about breast cancer and linking them to early detection screening services.

The Avon Foundation for Women, an accredited 501(c)(3) public charity, was founded in 1955 to improve the lives of women and their families. Now past the half century milestone, the Foundation brings this mission to life through the Speak Out Against Domestic Violence program and the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade, which raises funds and awareness to advance access to care and finding a cure for breast cancer, focusing on the medically underserved.

Firefighters respond to call at casino

Sault Ste. Marie Fire Department firefighter Phil Sheppard responded to a call on March 16 to Kewadin Casino Hotel at about 9:45 p.m. Staff received reports of the smell of smoke. A problem was discovered with a belt on one of the air handlers that supplies fresh air to the hallway areas.



Sault Tribe Head Start & Early Head Start Now Accepting Applications

for the 2010 – 2011 school year



Head Start

- Full Day, Full Year (Sault)
- Part Day, Part Year (Sault & St. Ignace)

Eligibility

- Children need to be 3 years old by Dec. 1.
- Members of a federally recognized tribe.
- Income eligibility requirements

Early Head Start

- Center-Based Full Day, Full Year (Sault)
- Home-Based (Chippewa, Mackinac & Luce Counties)
- Home-Based services available for pregnant women

Eligibility

- Children from birth to 3 years old.
- Members of a federally recognized tribe.
- Income eligibility requirements.

Children with Disabilities are Welcome.

For more information or an application,
 Please Call
(906) 635-7722

IHS producing glossy magazine for teens

SAULT TRIBE YOUTH FEATURED IN "GEN 7 - YOU ARE THE SEVENTH GENERATION"

BY RICK SMITH

The Indian Health Service is producing *Gen 7 — You Are the Seventh Generation*, a colorful, glossy, photo-laden free magazine geared toward American Indian teens.

The appearance and format are similar to popular mainstream teen magazines. But instead of dwelling on the latest heartthrobs and hip gear, this magazine focuses on more timeless trends for the sophisticated American Indian teen such as pursuing life in a happy and healthful fashion.

One item in the 47-page November 2009 edition of the magazine is a two-page spread titled *The New Celebrity: Water, Fruits, Veggies* featuring photos of youth council members from Anadarko ("Indian Capital of the Nation"), Okla., and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. The piece notes they are among 13 youth councils participating in an initiative to promote health

among American Indian youngsters coordinated by United National Indian Tribal Youth and funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

An additional two pages found further in focuses on actions taken and recommendations given by the Sault Tribe youth council. The first page is an account of a move taken by the council not long ago to have a measure passed by the tribal board of directors to improve snack options for young folks at tribal functions.

The board approved steps such as serving more fresh fruits and vegetables with meals and offering water, milk and 100 percent



fruit juices instead of pop and energy drinks.

The following page has a list of tips from the council on easy ways of developing

improved eating habits.

The magazine includes stories about teens practicing prevention or management of diabetes by keeping a positive attitude, staying active and enjoying good nutrition.

American Indian teens from across the country share pointers on all aspects of forging a good way of life for one's self. The magazine incorporates quizzes like one in the November issue that asks, *Are You a Couch Potato or a Super Spud?*

Gen 7 is produced by the Indian Health Service Division of Diabetes in cooperation with the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee and can be

ordered online at no cost from www.ihs.gov/medicalprograms/diabetes, click on "Gen 7 Magazine."

Higher education update

BY ANGELINE MATSON, EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Self-Sufficiency incentive awards: Checks for fall 2009 semester have been processed and should be in the mail by the time the newspaper goes to press. Any student who submitted grades from fall 2009 between Jan 1-31, will receive a check for \$40 per credit hour.

If you haven't received your incentive award, contact our office. A number of students submitted grade reports that had missing information or did not have a current higher education application or W-9 Taxpayer I.D. form completed.

Higher education grants: Grants will be sent to the universities by the end of March for winter-spring 2010 semester. For the 2010-2011 school year, students who will be attending a Michigan state-supported college or university, full-time, and demonstrating unmet financial need are eligible to apply now. Students

need to file a FAFSA if they have not done so already. To apply for the Sault Tribe grant program, students are strongly encouraged to submit a higher education application on or before July 1.

Memorial and tributary scholarships: Sault Tribe memorial and tributary scholarships for 2010-2011 school year have a June 1 deadline for the application and essay. Please see the tribal Web site or Facebook page "Sault Tribe Higher Education Department" for more information.

Facebook page, Sault Tribe Higher Education: Become a fan of our page on Facebook! I routinely post information that we receive in our office regarding scholarships, internships and other opportunities for college students. It is a way to get timely information and updates.

In closing, if you have any questions, please contact me at (906) 635-4944 or amatson@saulttribe.net. Miigwech.

Summer opportunities for youth

BY ANGELINE MATSON, EDUCATION DIRECTOR

The list below is only a sample of available camps. Check with schools, clubs, universities and browse the Internet for more.

Anishinabek Future Leaders Camp, June 21-25, at Clear Lake Education Center in Shingleton, Mich. Free for youth ages 14-18. Registration deadline is May 10, contact Aagii Clement at (906) 440-9795, or by e-mail at mukkwa@gmail.com.

Sault Tribe Junior Police Camp is being held Aug. 2-6 at Camp Boedne Bay near St. Ignace, Mich. Free for ages 10-15. Registration open until filled. Contact Bob Marchand at (906) 635-6065.

Central Michigan University NAISEC Youth Camp is being held June 20-24 in Mt. Pleasant, Mich. Cost is \$50 for students in grades 8-12. Space is limited, contact Colleen Green at (989) 774-2508 or by e-mail at nap@cmich.edu.

Indian youth Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Program is

being held June 24-July 2 at Camp Nesbit, Sidnaw, Mich.

Free but need to provide own transportation. For grades 7-8. Contact April Lindala, NMU, at (906) 227-1397 or cnas@nmu.edu.

LSSU Superior Adventures, open registration until filled. Science Camp, grades 2-6, cost \$120. All other camps cost \$350 (commute); \$600 (stay in dorms).

For a list of camps offered, Contact Julia Roque at (906) 635-6673, or e-mail edventures@lssu.edu.

Visit their Web site at: www.lssu.edu/summercamps

National Indian Youth Leadership Project Middle School Camp, June 20-24, at Camp Nesbit, Sidnaw, Mich. Camp is free but own transportation is required. For grades 5-6. Contact April Lindala, NMU, at (906) 227-1397 or cnas@nmu.edu.

Sault Tribe Youth Education Circle of Life Camp, for grades 5-8. July 12-Aug 4 (M-T-W). Call the YEA Coordinator in your area or Dee Eggert at (906) 635-7010.

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JKL Bahweting students help animal shelter

SUBMITTED BY LORI JODOIN, JKL SCHOOL

Second grade students began a service-learning project on Feb. 10 to benefit the Chippewa County Animal Control Shelter. They volunteered their time to host a family movie night serving popcorn and drinks, collecting donations, greeting families, cleaning afterwards, all while classmates and families watched *Hotel for Dogs*.

All who came to see the movie were asked to bring either cash donations or items to support cats and dogs at the animal shelter. The event was a huge success and students will take the cash donations on a field trip to a local store, buy additional supplies and visit the animal shelter to drop off all of the donations.



Clockwise from left: Nikki and her mom, Shelly, help make popcorn; Chase handed out stickers and information as Elementary Principal Lynn Methner looks on; Melina Robertson sets out the donation box before the movie starts. By the end of the night, the box was full; Avery and Taylor handed out juice; Lisa-Jo and Alex Brown came to the movie to support volunteer Avery Brown; Mackenzie and Lily were in charge of collecting cash donations for the animal shelter.



NMU Native center showcasing health science professions

The NMU Center for Native American Studies is proud to present the May 13-15 College Prep Medicine Wheel Academy, promoting the health science professions to Native American high school students.

The NMU College Prep Medicine Wheel Academy (MWA) specifically targets Native American youth in grades 10-12 to showcase opportunities in the health science professions. Over the course of two-and a-half days, students will participate in a range of activities including campus tours, financial aid info, hands-on interactive health profession workshops,

leadership-building exercises, social activities and Native American specific activities.

The academy goal is to host 40 Native American high school students at NMU for two campus experiences. Students interested in health fields or those who may be undecided are welcome to apply.

The first campus visit took place in October 2009 with activities using NMU School of Nursing, Clinical Sciences, Speech Pathology and Marquette General Hospital staff and facilities. The next visit will also include activities with faculty from surgical technology and other activities

as described above.

Native Americans are severely underrepresented in the health profession field. The MWA will introduce a wide range of health professional programs offered at NMU and the prerequisites students need to prepare for while in high school. Current NMU students will serve as mentors and assist with interactive learning experiences. In addition, tribal speakers and leaders will provide informational presentations, which are open to the public.

Students will stay in the campus dormitories with meals provided in the dining halls. A charter bus has been

contracted to pick up students starting in St. Ignace. Pick up locations along West US-2 will be determined as applications are received. Should parents or school officials wish to join or chaperone a group of students during this weekend, please let organizers know by April 15, so the organizing team can make the necessary arrangements.

Students are invited to fill out the application (see www.cnaswww.nmu.edu/cnas.) Completed forms can be mailed or faxed as we need parent signatures, and are due Monday, April 19. Selected students will be notified, as applications are received, with

a phone call and a letter.

Send application to College Prep Medicine Wheel Academy, c/o Center for Native American Studies, Northern Michigan University, 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, MI 49855. Or, fax application to (906) 227-1396.

Call the Center for Native American Studies (906) 227-1397 during regular business hours (ET); e-mail: cnas@nmu.edu; or visit our Web site at www.nmu.edu/cnas.

The College Prep Medicine Wheel Academy is made possible by the NMU Wildcat Innovation Fund and the NMU College of Arts and Sciences.

Students, apply now for 2010 Sault Tribe scholarships

Sault Tribe memorial and tributary scholarships for 2010 are listed below. The deadline is June 1, 2010.

Please submit the following: Cover letter stating for which scholarship(s) you are applying, higher education application for 2010-2011 school year; W-9 taxpayer ID form for 2010-2011 school year, essay (300-500 words) about how the scholarship will help you to reach your goals and a copy of Sault Tribe I.D. card.

Bernard Bouschor Honorary Scholarship, 10 at \$1,000 each. Any field of study. Any undergraduate degree. Any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

John P. Carr Scholarship, one at \$1,000. Must be a permanent resident of Unit V. Any field of study. Any undergraduate degree. Any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Don Corp Scholarship, one at \$1,000. Must be pursuing undergraduate degree in history, historical preservation, museum studies or other history-related field. Any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Pamela Cable Gershon Scholarship, one at \$150. Must be a 2010 graduating high school senior with a minimum 2.50 GPA. Must reside within the tribe's seven-county service area. Must be accepted into a two or four-year college or university. Any field of study.

Fred L. Hatch Memorial Teacher Education Scholarship, one at \$1,000. Must be at least one-quarter Indian blood quantum (verified by the Tribal Enrollment Department). Must be enrolled in a Michigan public college or university in a teacher education program. Must be at least a college junior. Full-time status. Must have minimum 3.00 GPA cumulative (submit transcript).

Joseph K. Lumsden Memorial Scholarship, one at \$1,000. Must be at least one-quarter Indian blood quantum (verified by the Tribal Enrollment Department). Any field of study. Any accredited college or university. Must be at least a college junior. Full-time status. Must have minimum 3.00 GPA cumulative (submit transcript).

Martha Miller Tributary

Scholarship, one at \$1,000. Must be pursuing undergraduate or graduate degree in social work, social services or related human services field of study. Any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Vic Matson, Sr. Tributary Scholarship, one at \$1,000. Must be pursuing undergraduate or graduate degree in fisheries or natural resources management or related field of study. Any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

George K. Nolan Tribal Judicial Scholarship, one at \$1,000. Must be pursuing undergraduate or graduate degree in tribal law, law enforcement, legal studies, political science or public administration. Any accredited college or university in the United States. Must be at least a college sophomore. Full-time status. Must be in good academic standing (submit transcript).

June Curran Porcaro Scholarship, one at \$1,000. Must have been homeless, displaced or in the foster care system during your lifetime or be pursuing a degree in the human services field with a career goal to work with such

individuals. Must demonstrate financial need. Must agree to volunteer at least 40 hours at a homeless shelter during the 2010-2011 school year.

Special Needs Scholarship, four at \$1,000. Two awards for age 18 and older; two awards for under 18. Must have a documented physical or emotional disability (submit letter from physician, mental health provider, or special education professional). Must indicate

what educational purpose for which the scholarship will be used and an itemized list of expected costs.

Mail all items to Attn: Scholarships, Sault Tribe Higher Education Program, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 or e-mail (as PDF documents) to Angeline Matson, education director, at amatson@saulttribe.net or fax to (906) 635-7785.

Special needs scholarships

SUBMITTED BY ANGELINE MATSON, EDUCATION DIRECTOR

The Sault Tribe is offering four special needs scholarships for youth and adults with a documented physical or emotional disability. Scholarships are \$1,000 each and must be used for education-related purposes. **Deadline is June 1, 2010.**

Please submit a letter explaining how the scholarship would assist the student and an itemized list of expected costs. Include a letter from a physician, mental health provider, or special education professional documenting the

physical or emotional disability. Also include a copy of the student's Sault Tribe membership card. Two scholarships will be awarded to tribal members ages 18 and older and two scholarships will be awarded to tribal members under 18.

Scholarship winners are determined by the Sault Tribe Higher Education Committee. Names of scholarship recipients are not announced publicly. Scholarships are provided through the Sault Tribe Golf Scholarship Fund.

For more information, call Angeline Matson at (906) 635-4944 or via e-mail, amatson@saulttribe.net.

Lessons learned helped ex-smoker stay quit

FROM COMMUNITY HEALTH

About seven months ago, Jane (*actual name withheld at patient's request*) of Marquette noticed that she was beginning to have difficulty breathing and that her wallet was getting thin from spending money on cigarettes. These reasons, along with other health concerns, led her to the decision that it was time for her to quit smoking for good.

"I was ready at last," she said.

She called her nearest tribal health center and spoke with a health educator who helped her enroll in the Munising-Manistique Nicotine

Dependence Program. Prior to enrolling, Jane was smoking about one pack per day. She had tried to quit in the past but was unable to maintain her smoke-free status. "After being successful for some time, I began playing with fire thinking that I had been quit long enough that I could control it and only smoke in moderation," she said. "In no time, I was back to my old habit of smoking one to one-and-a-half packs per day."

Feelings of failure and embarrassment plagued her after her failed quit attempt.

"The hardest part of quitting was the anxiety and the feeling of loss," said Jane. She found

that the cessation medication Bupropion SR (Zyban), along with a positive mindset, helped her during her quit process.

She reported that the support and communication with her nicotine dependence coach was also very helpful. "She was very understanding and supportive in my quit process. She had great advice and a friendly personality which kept me on track and positive about my decision to quit."

Jane exercises daily and has noticed that she is breathing much easier and that she has more endurance during her workouts since she quit smoking. "I smell good, I breathe

better, I am in the best shape of my life – and hopefully I saved myself a few wrinkles," she laughed.

The advice Jane offers to other people who are thinking about quitting is to concentrate on the positive things that come with being a non-smoker. "Just stick with it. There is no easy way out, but every day puts you a day closer to being successful."

Another important tip she offers is to enjoy the simple things in life. "Take a walk, listen to the birds, smell the flowers, read a book. Keep yourself busy doing things and going places where you do not or

cannot smoke. Change up your routine so that you're not constantly reminded of smoking." For others who are ready to quit, Jane recommends calling the Sault Tribe Nicotine Dependence Program. "I am confident that I will make it the rest of my life as a nonsmoker because someone gave me the tools and advice I needed along the way."

For more information on the Sault Tribe Nicotine Dependence Program and for help setting up an individualized quit plan, call Sault Tribe Community Health at (906) 632-5210 or call your local tribal health center.

Kick Butts Day 2010: Stand Up, Speak Out and Seize Control

BY LAUREN EVELEIGH,
COMMUNITY HEALTH
EDUCATOR

Members of the Bahweting Anishnabek Tribal Youth Council from Sault High and Sault Middle School performed skits for third through fifth grade students at JKL Bahweting School on Monday, March 23, in recognition of Kick Butts Day.

Kick Butts Day is an annual event that empowers young people to stand up, speak out, and seize control against big tobacco companies. Commercial tobacco kills more than 1200 people every day and tobacco companies are working hard to make today's youth tomorrow's customers. The message the skits sent to students is that "tobacco products are dangerous and addictive – don't become another statistic on commercial tobacco's track record."

Front (L to R), Tribal youth council members Karen McKelvie, Jasmine Williams, Mariah Pavlat, Rita DeVoy, Emily Clow and Jill King, YEA coordinator. Back (L to R), Justin Frazier; YEA Computer Lab coordinator, Ethan Matson, council members Justin Dangler, Dylan Mioles and James McKelvie, council advisor.



Front, Rita DeVoy, back left, Karen McKelvie, Jasmine Williams and Emily Clow.



Let's Get Moving Kewadin! begins

The "Let's Get Moving Kewadin!" physical activity and healthy eating challenge sponsored by Sault Tribe Community Health, the Sault Tribe Traditional Foods Grant, the Sault Tribe Strategic Alliance for Health grant and the Kewadin Casinos begins on May 1. The program has a new addition this year sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. Residents of Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Manistique and Munising will be challenging each other to a "Community Challenge." Each community will have a chance to win a shared community prize such as a new park bench for a local park, a bike rack

for a local city, enhanced biking/walking paths, signage and so forth. BCBSM will be offering \$5,000 to purchase such community items. The community with the most miles will receive \$2,000, with the next prizes being \$1,500, \$1,000 and \$500.

"We are pleased this year to be adding the "Community Challenge" in order to increase awareness of the need for safe places to walk and bike in our communities," said Donna Norkoli, Sault Tribe Strategic Alliance for Health Coordinator.

Participants in the Community Challenge can log their "miles" of activity

on the Blue Cross Walking Works website at www.walkingworks.com for a chance to win individual weekly prizes. Registration materials will be available the week of April 19.

For more information about this program and to register please contact the Strategic Alliance for Health Coordinator in your community or Sault Tribe Community Health at (906) 632-5210.

St. Ignace: Jeanette O'Rourke at 643-8689.

Manistique: Kerry Ott at 341-9561.

Munising: Randy Sundell at 387-4721.

Sault Ste. Marie: Donna Norkoli at 635-8844.

Carley wins first month of Manistique competition

On Feb. 1, Manistique health center employees started a three-month challenge to improve their health called "Weigh To Go." The idea was to develop more healthful eating habits and increase daily activity. As representatives of the tribal health care system, the staff realizes it is important to lead by example. Not only are each of them making positive changes for themselves, they are doing it for the sake of their friends and family.

Participants in Weigh To Go committed to three months of weekly weigh-ins and recently completed the first month in the program. At the end of each month, the person with the greatest weight reduction by percent change wins. Alice Carley, LPN, was the Weigh To Go winner for February. She set the bar high and has many of her fellow participants kicking into a higher gear in an effort to dethrone her next month.

The effort was developed by request of the employees for a little "healthy competi-



Congratulations to Alice Carley, LPN, and her new skillet that's sure to help her in preparing healthful meals. Good luck is wished to everyone participating and it is hoped they keep up the great work.

tion." The 12 participants were offered the services of the registered dietitian as needed and healthful snacks are available during the program. There are incentives provided to the person with the greatest percentage of weight loss at the end of each month and there will be one overall winner awarded at the end of the challenge.



SUBMITTED BY CONNIE M. HILL, HEALTH EDUCATOR
Starter plant activities - Bahweting Anishnabek Tribal Youth Council members Emily Clow and Rita DeVoy volunteer their time at a starter plant activity in Sault Ste. Marie. Sault Tribe Community Health Traditional Foods Project, Youth Education and Activities, and Housing traveled throughout the tribal services area planting seeds for vegetable plants to plant in community, home and patio gardens.

Chairman McCoy reports to the membership



DARWIN "JOE" MCCOY
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

Aanii! Hope this report finds you well.

SAULT TRIBE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ACCREDITATION

I would like to recognize our Behavioral Health program employees on the Commission on the Accreditation for Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) survey held recently at the Sault Tribe Health Division. While the results of the survey may not be presented for a few weeks yet, the surveyors acknowledged several of our strengths and made us aware of the areas where we need to show improvement. That being said, I am confident that we will once again receive

full accreditation. This standard of achievement would not be reachable without the excellent performance and dedication of our employees within Behavioral Health and on a whole the Health Division.

Among the number of strengths they were very impressed with was our level of team work within Behavioral Health and the integration with our medical team, noting that it was the best example of full integration for patients that they had ever seen.

LANGUAGE CONFERENCE

Kewadin Casinos in Bahweting (Sault Ste. Marie) hosted the 16th annual Anishinaabemowin-Teg Language conference on the weekend of March 26. I was honored to provide the welcoming to the many nations who joined together in our efforts to preserve our language. This conference is of the utmost importance to our people – not only to preserve our native language, but also to revitalize it and ensure it is passed down to the seventh generation.

Our employees at Kewadin did an outstanding job in preparing for and accommodating the many visitors we hosted

during this year's conference and for that I say chi miigwech to you all. Great job!

ELECTIONS

On Tuesday, March 30, results for the secretarial election held on behalf of the Sault Tribe by the Bureau of Indian Affairs were tallied. The ballot question at hand concerned whether or not our membership believed that the CEO title should be removed from our constitution. The BIA's Election Board has certified the unofficial results as follows: 3,315 Yes and 1,014 No. The next step in the process, once the three-day challenge stage has passed, is to send the results to the BIA for their action pursuant to procedures outlined in Chapter 25 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Following the BIA action the adjustments and new language will be inserted into the tribal Constitution.

Meanwhile, the board will be taking into consideration changes that may need to be made to give effect to the constitutional amendment and will keep members and employees in the loop as we work through the process.

As you may recall, I campaigned on the separation of the

chief executive officer (CEO) position from the chairman's position. The basis for my support of this separation is that we cannot have a management position that is part of an elected position; if we decide to fill the position of CEO in the future, it will be an employment position that takes its direction from the chairman and board of directors and will be subject to all personnel policies and procedures just as every employee within the tribe currently is. This separation is the beginning of the end goal of taking the politics out of the day-to-day operations of the tribe, which is critical to our future success.

GOVERNMENT- TO-GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST) was held in Washington, D.C. March 7-11. MAST's mission is to "advance, protect, preserve, and enhance the mutual interests, treaty rights, sovereignty, and cultural way of life of the sovereign nations of the Midwest..." MAST coordinates important public policy issues and initiatives at the state, regional and federal levels, promotes unity and coopera-

tion among member tribes and advocates for member tribes.

A resolution was passed regarding the Asian carp issue: "Therefore Be It Resolved, that the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes demands that the Army Corp of Engineers and all involved federal and state agencies take immediate action to close the Chicago Sanitary and Shipping Canal and any other constructed waterways by which the watersheds of the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes are connected, and further to ensure that permanent impenetrable barriers are maintained to prevent introduction of the Asian carp and other non-native species into the Great Lakes; MAST urges enactment of federal legislation to permanently close the canals and fund research and monitoring of the Asian carp threat to the Great Lakes."

As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding our tribe that you would like to discuss or meet with me about, please contact my office, toll-free at (800) 793-0660, or locally at 635-6050.

Sincerely,
Darwin "Joe" McCoy
Tribal Chairman

Working hard for you: tribal consultation, elders



**CATHY ABRAMSON, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I**

SECRETARIAL ELECTION – 77 PERCENT VOTED TO APPROVE AMENDMENT – WOW!

I would like to take this time to thank everyone who registered to vote and actually voted in the recent secretarial election. The support was overwhelming to remove CEO from the duties of chairman as stated in our Constitution. As small a change it may seem, we believe it will ultimately make a big difference in our way of tribal governance and in the running of our day-to-day business and governmental operations.

I'd like to thank all those board members who publicly supported this amendment by putting their support in writing in their unit reports and actually registering to vote. Because this is a secretarial election, the list of registered voters is public information. I was a little surprised of certain members who did not register

to vote. The changes to the Constitution are not immediate and will not come into effect until after the challenge period is over and we get the official BIA approval. Until that happens, all day-to-day operations remain as is. It is important that our board of directors (which includes the chairman) works together to make the necessary changes so that our organization may run as effectively and efficiently as possible.

12TH ANNUAL HHS TRIBAL BUDGET AND POLICY CONSULTATION SESSION-WASHINGTON, D.C.

I had the honor of testifying before the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services top administrators in regards to tribal considerations for Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) for FY 2012. On behalf of the National Indian Health Board, I requested that we strengthen our partnership with HRSA and requested a more equitable health care infrastructure throughout Indian Country by addressing the public health issues and concerns consistently identified by the tribes as vital issues that when addressed, will reduce health disparities and improve our health status.

Top budget issue for the HRSA is national Health Service Corps recruitment and retention and health centers. There are 1,068 health care vacancies in our tribal nations'

health delivery system. It was recommended that a portion of the recruitment line increase be allocated to outreach to, technical assistance for and recruitment of American Indians/ Alaska Natives. Another recommendation was to allocate specific funds of the health center increase to developing and sustaining quality health centers in Indian Country.

While there, I also testified on behalf of our own tribe. The following is a summary of what I presented. In order to improve our access to health care, we need be able to recruit and retain competent, trained, direct care health professionals in all health disciplines. Transportation assistance to clinic appointments in the form of a grant or vouchers to assist with gas for travel or public transportation needs to be developed to allow tribal members who need assistance in getting to clinic appointments. Emergency preparedness is an important issue to us. Right now, emergency preparedness funding goes directly to the state budget. Relying on the state to agree to our needs is less than ideal. An example was that Michigan tribes were the last to receive the H1N1 vaccine even though Native peoples had the most adverse outcomes and death rates from getting this flu. Funding must go directly to our tribes. In order to be able to deliver quality health care, we need to be able to adopt new technologies, equipment and automation

to reduce errors and improve documentation. These include implementation of electronic health records, grants for infrastructure support for servers, connectivity and MIS/IT support staffing to maintain the systems. Recognition of our traditional medicine practices and honoring our traditional ways to restore our communities to a more healthy and natural way of our teachings cannot be lost during tribal consultation as related to our access to care issues.

MAST – WASHINGTON, D.C.

I attended the annual Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes' legislative summit in Washington, D.C. Executive Director Stacy Bohlen, Deputy Director Jessica Burger and I gave a presentation update on the health care reform. As you are all aware, President Obama signed the health care reform bill into law and the Indian Health Care Improvement Act was made a part of this. We are extremely excited that we now have a PERMANENT authorization. By doing so, the federal government reaffirmed its trust responsibility to our tribal nations.

Tribal leaders from the Midwest area gathered together to discuss issues such as housing, budgets, health and education, to name a few. We then broke into groups to visit congressional offices to bring our message. Also, at the MAST meeting, tribal leaders passed a resolution that demanded the

Army Corp of Engineers and all involved federal and state agencies take immediate action to close the Chicago Sanitary and Shipping Canal and any other constructed waterways by which the watersheds of the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes are connected to ensure that permanent impenetrable barriers are maintained to prevent the introduction of Asian carp and other non-native species into the Great Lakes. All groups took this resolution with them and we asked our legislators to support us in our efforts.

Elder Advisory Committee

I was happy to attend the Elder Advisory Committee meeting that was held in Newberry, Mich. While there, Director Hoffman gave an update on Greektown and we fielded questions our elders had for us. Mostly, I listened to what our elders had to say. I appreciate the information and ideas that come out of these meetings and I would like to accommodate our members requests as much as I can.

As always, if you would like to contact me, my cell phone is (906) 322-3823. My e-mail address is cabramson@saulttribe.net. I look forward to hearing from you.



Amendment provides stability, accountability



**DJ HOFFMAN, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I**

I am extremely pleased that nearly 77 percent of the voters chose to approve the constitutional amendment to separate the chairman and CEO positions. I introduced this amendment for consideration in 2007,

and again in May 2009 when it was approved by a majority of the board to send to a vote of the membership.

This change will enable the tribe to employ a (non-elected) tribal administrator who will provide managerial oversight for tribal government operations, and effectively enable the removal of "tribal politics" from the tribe's day-to-day business. This will ensure board members focus on planning, policy and the membership as a whole.

This change forces our leadership to adopt new organizational charts and efficiently and effectively chart the course for the future. The tribe's organizational structure and management system will NOW be able to provide for a strict separation of policy-making and management functions, and provide for

clear lines of authority within the organization. Ultimately, this will ensure stability and accountability for membership services, provide a more stable environment for employees and move the Sault Tribe progressively forward.

Many questions have arisen as to who this will be or how it will be filled. Let me clearly state that NO ONE has been slated for this position. The position is a key position that will be approved by a majority vote of the board. This ensures that the membership has the ability to veto the action if there is a belief any improper actions have occurred. It is my hope to place criteria within the job description excluding any former elected Sault Tribe official within the past four years from serving in this capacity at any

time to ensure such indiscretions cannot occur.

While we have taken a very large step as a tribe with this change, many difficult decisions still lay ahead. The status of Greektown remains uncertain. Will the group of noteholders be able to be licensed by the State of Michigan? Under the licensing process, this would appear to be unlikely; however, exceptions to the rule have been the norm for this entire bankruptcy.

In addition to licensing, how can the tribe be forced to convey land that the casino sits upon when it was never transferred by the tribal governing body or an act of Congress? While some may not want to admit it, we as a tribe have a legitimate claim on ownership of the land.

Many questions still persist, as well as the never-ending rhetoric regarding diversification. I have constantly written on the need to diversify. It's time we stopped talking and started acting — and I thank you for making the first step a reality.

I would like to conclude with an explanation regarding the quantity of content within my unit report. Under the rules adopted, all unit reports are restricted to 500 words for board members declaring candidacy for election. These rules apply to everyone...

Sincerely,
DJ Hoffman
Sault Tribe Board of Directors, Unit I
www.djhoffmanblog.com
(906) 635-6945
(906) 322-3801

2009 surplus will cover for 2008 deficit and debt



**BERNARD BOUSCHOR,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

The good news is the Sault Tribe governmental operations finished fiscal year 2009

with a \$5.1 million surplus. Governmental operations are dependent of federal, state and tribal support to fund our government and member services.

Where does tribal support funding come from? It comes from profits and tribal taxes on our business and cash reserves. The primary funding comes from our Kewadin Casino operations and a smaller amount from the other enterprises that we own such as two Midjim stores, Northern Hospitality, Lakefront Motel and other businesses.

The tribal board has transferred nearly all the cash reserves of our businesses, borrowed against the future

revenue of the businesses and the proceeds have been used to cover the deficits of our tribal government, transferred all but \$6 million of trust fund reserves (this is often called the self-sufficiency funds, such as the elderly, education, health and so forth).

As a direct result of the prior administration's excessive spending, we were told that the budget deficit was \$10 million.

There were many occasions when, based on staff recommendations and board of directors' action, we felt that a balanced budget with no deficit had been achieved. The tribal board eliminated staff, eliminated pay raises, cut benefits,

closed two health facilities and cut back or eliminated member services. The information was not accurate as to the size of the deficit. In order to balance in FY 2008 expenditures our business cash reserves were depleted and the tribe borrowed \$5 million from a local bank.

The 2008 audit reported a tribe in financial crisis with a fund balance deficit for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of \$48 million. This is not good for the tribe for the following reasons: we have depleted (spent) almost all of our cash reserves that were available in our self-sufficiency funds; I believe we may have \$6 million left in the

fund.

In closing, the surplus does not wipe out the loan from 2008. In addition, we were informed by our CFO that we need to cover the 2009 deficit, the construction project, and items that were not in the 2010 budget but needed to be included. When these items are included our surplus at this time is projected to be \$800,000.

Greektown Casino bankruptcy should be final in June. We will have lost all of our investment and will retain no interest in the Detroit casino.

Thank you,
Bernard Bouschor
Tribal Council Unit I

Vice chairwoman reports on financial health



**LANA CAUSLEY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT II**

This past month, board members attended Midwest Alliance for Sovereign Tribes (MAST). During this trip to Washington, those involved had the opportunity to receive updates on issues that greatly affect tribal nations in Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois. We attended numerous face-to-face meetings with representatives and staff who can positively affect our tribes when it comes to funding and services for our members.

We also had the opportunity to hear directly from Mr. Larry Echohawk, BIA head and assistant secretary of the Interior, on our input for tribal consultations and commitment from the administration in Washington.

In a combined effort, we brought forward many of our tribes' top priorities, increased funding for health care services, education funding, housing needs and increased law enforcement needs on and off tribal land (additional conservation funding for implementation of 2000 Consent Decree and 2007 Inland Decree). I would like to say miigwech to our own tribal members who addressed tribes at the MAST conference: Stacey Bohlen, for the extensive update and hard work she does on our behalf for health issues and needs and Megan Kelly Powell for the update on our additional education funding needs and the message that our dropout rate is still a serious issue in Indian Country. Miigwech.

The board received the 2009 year-end financial presentation. As reported, we projected a \$5.1 million surplus and, again, as stated, this is not money in the bank, although it does demonstrate a much better picture than past years.

Below are the factors foreseen with this surplus.

\$1,301,967 represents the deficit for 2010 projected. We will attempt to increase governmental revenue (importance of speaking at a national level) and savings in program spend-

ing, as we did in 2009.

\$1,240,245 represents an outstanding negative cash balance in our general fund that has been carried over from prior years.

\$765,346 represents a negative cash balance of indirect monies due to collecting less indirect for 2001-2008. We did not cover this lack in prior years and must now address it.

\$545,000 represents loan repayment to our banking institutions' extension on a letter of credit.

\$351,526 represents the amount that was recently approved for the new women's shelter, based on victims' need.

The list above gives you a true picture of what we face when it comes to the financial health of the tribe. The true amount of surplus sits around \$880,000 after all obligations thus far. We need to increase revenue, lobby for additional funding, direct program savings and be cautious of obligation dollars at this time. Again, Miigwech to all the staff that has took part in our 2009 restructure.

In closing, I would like to say miigwech to the community members — local and from other units — who attended our bear feast this past month. Keeping our traditions alive

with the drum, lodge and teachings makes me so proud. It's important we keep our responsibility to care for our communities in this way — it will keep us strong.

I will attend all area elder meetings this month. If you would like to meet with me please contact me at (906) 484-2921 or lcausley@saulttribe.net. Baamaapii, Lana Causley.

FREE LAKE CAMP

for Sault Tribe Youth

Boys Individual Basketball Camp
June 21st - 24th, grades 4 and up
Monday - Wednesday 9am - 4pm
Thursday 9am - 12pm

Girls Individual Basketball Camp
July 26th - 29th, grades 5 and up
Monday - Wednesday 9am - 4pm
Thursday 9am - 12pm

All registrations are on a first serve basis.
Camps are limited to first 50 registrants.

To register, call Heather @ (906) 635-4777
starting Monday, April 26th at 9:00am

Legislation affecting us: health, education



KEITH MASSAWAY, DIRECTOR, UNIT III

News of the passage into law of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act drew jubilation and damnation from around the country but in that law was the reaffirmation of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. This legislation has been a high priority for all the tribes to get passed for over 10 years.

In its passage, the federal government has finally recognized its obligation to provide adequate funding to the Indian health care that was provided for in the treaties signed so many years ago.

Although we now have their firm obligation written into law, it will still be an uphill fight to get the funding. This funding is our next big challenge, but it will be easier because we have a law that backs our arguments to the fullest. This is great news for Indian Country.

The next big piece of legislation is the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This act has a Native American education reauthorization piece in it and it helps educate the youth of our tribes and provides many ways to help foster and prepare our children to stay in

school and to go on to higher education. I was able to sit in on hearings on Capitol Hill in the Cannon Building in the Senate offices. This experience taught me a lot about how the federal system works and how hearings and testimony are key moments in a bill's exposure to the top leaders and their staffs. I sat with many influential members from many tribes and the Native people of Alaska and listened to their testimony, and sometimes demands, about how it is the federal government's duty and obligation to educate our children. This Act slowly

moves forward and the work by many tribes and educators goes unseen but should be thought of when you hear that this bill has been passed.

I am pleased to announce that the new health care clinic in St. Ignace should be opening as you read this. We are so pleased that the work of so many people went into making this a reality. It is a great asset to our community and our tribal people. Thank you for all the phone calls and e-mails.

Keith Massaway
kmassaway@msn.com
(906) 643-6981

It's a season of change in more ways than one



PATRICK RICKLEY, DIRECTOR, UNIT III

Aanii, all, well it's another changing of the season, rebirth and renewal of things. It's nice to see the open water, the boats are running again to Mackinac Island, the official passage to

spring, the start of preparation for tourist season. We all must have high hopes that the state's and country's economies are making a turn toward the positive, as we all know how much our business relies on tourism. Well, smelt season should be happening any day now, morel picking, steelhead fishing, plus many other activities to get one outside to enjoy that fresh air. Recently, I was hospitalized and had to have emergency surgery — man, things can sneak up on you when you least expect it.

After about two weeks altogether of being bed ridden, listening to the pain of others, I was able to get up and walk with the assistance of someone. You couldn't help but feel for everyone else and somewhat understand what kind of pain people endure on

so many levels. It gave me time to reflect on how easy it is to take things for granted and not give yourself a second thought that something may be wrong. If something doesn't feel right, please get it checked out. The health care providers I dealt with were very professional and caring. Two more days, the doc said, and I probably would have checked out for good. Take care of yourself.

As I stated before, this is the season of change and with change there will be uncertainty. The secretarial election is in and we will have to address a new structure in the tribal operations. Innovative marketing strategies will have to be at the forefront in order to compete at a level just to draw an equal share of the tourist and locals that we so

heavily rely on to keep up and running more incentives. Polite and friendly customer service goes a long way to ensure that our customers come back. Keep up the good work, everyone, and thank you for the hard work you do! We've made great strides in the past year; let's hope we can continue to be resourceful and try to save where we can — thank you!

I hope everyone enjoyed a happy Easter. Oh, here is something someone may find helpful: low-income Michigan residents are eligible for a program that provides a cell phone and 200 wireless minutes a month through Assurance Wireless. People eligible for the program include those eligible for or receiving Medicaid, food stamps, SSI, temporary assis-

tance for needy families, FPHA or section 8, LIHEAP or the national school lunch program. Residents may even apply on household income. Assurance Wireless provides consumers with free voicemail; call waiting, caller ID and access to 911 in case of an emergency. Beyond the free 200 minutes, customers can pay for additional 10¢-per-minute domestic calling, international calling, 15¢ text, e-mail or instant messaging and more. To learn more about Assurance, including eligibility requirements, call toll free (888) 898-4888.

Time to sign off. Remember to be careful out there — the fire danger is high — 'til next time, take care of yourself ...

Baamaapii.
Pat Rickley, (906) 440-5149

Miller updates the issues



TOM MILLER, DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

Warmer weather is here. That is a news flash that I thought was worthy of noting. I hope that everyone is well and enjoying our warm weather. The result of the recent secretarial election for the separation of the chairman's political position and that of the chief executive officer business position (tribal administrator) is a clear indication that the membership understands that it was needed. Now a job description and title change will be developed for that key position and the process will attempt to find the best candidate to fill the tribal administrator position. I believe that this will help the tribe to operate more efficiently and thereby be able to maximize the funding with which to offer services to our tribal members. This position will be evaluated regularly and based upon per-

formance.

Greentown Casino continues to be in the same situation that it has been for a year. We are still seeking investors with which to partner and to help with the restructuring of the debt. We are at the stage that the board of directors must pick one of the potential investors and proceed with them. If we do not, we will never have actually made a true effort to retain the casino.

The budgeting process continues to be the major focus of the board and keeping it under control. I truly believe that we have this back to the point where you will never see "deficit budgeting" again. We will only spend up to the amount of revenue we have available. We are working on several proprietary-type projects that I believe will be very beneficial to the tribe. But by their very nature, they will not be available to the public until later in the process.

There have been several articles regarding the tribe and our fishermen in the Bay de Noc area. The newspaper articles have been negative in nature and highly inaccurate. Suffice it to say that the board is addressing this according to the rules in place at this time. Nothing is being ignored and this issue is being addressed as a serious situation. It has already led to a changing of the rules that will close a loophole on the sale of subsistence fish.

Another issue that is coming

to a head is that of the overturning of the 2008 referendum that blocked a group of individuals from running for the board while they were under litigation by the tribe. I had stated from the very beginning that the constitution clearly states that a referendum vote by the membership could not be overturned by the board or any tribal entity. In this situation it was an election code appellate court opinion that was allowed to ignore the referendum. This allowed an ineligible individual to run for the board in 2008 which was a clear violation of the referendum. We are addressing this error at this time. I will keep you informed as this progress.

I will be doing much traveling in the month of April as I am on the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) working group on the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. I will be in Minneapolis April 5-8 for FMIS training, Washington, D.C., April 12-15 (NCAI) and at Rapid City, S.D., on April 27-29 for the tribal leaders consultation on education. It seems all this has fallen within the month of April. These are extremely important avenues for tribal input and necessitate us participating.

I will be available on my cell at all times. If you have any questions, please contact me at (906) 644-3334 or my cell at (906) 322-3827.

Unit V business



SHIRLEY PETOSKY, DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Dear friends, by the time you read this, it will be April. Imagine!

The secretarial election passed. So now we will be looking for a tribal CEO and also we will have to define our tribal chairman's responsibilities.

I truly wish this had all been done before the ballots were sent out, but we will have to do this now and get it all up and running.

The passing of the national health care reform bill is a great boost to all tribal people — the Indian Health Care Improvement Act is included in the health bill.

A request has been made by the Youth Education and Activities to hire three part-time student service assistants to be located in the Sault, Escanaba

and Munising. The assistant in Munising will be for the summer and will help with the Circle of Life program.

Nutrition services for diabetics, and really for all members, are doing great. I happened to be at the Munising clinic when Cassie Britton was giving a cooking class. Everyone got to try all the food, ask questions and offer ideas. Great group of ladies — I enjoyed myself and learned a few things.

Cassie also holds meetings and a "dish-to-pass" lunch during the month. These are for diabetics but anyone interested in their health and how to take charge of their own life style is welcome.

Our clinic is seeing more and more activities being held there. This is great.

That third floor is calling out to play a part in our lives. We need to get going on this project. I have to admit I need to get busy and have a workshop. We need to put together a list of volunteers and a working plan before we can go forward.

Remember elections are coming up soon, so please be on the look out for your ballots. If they get mislaid they cannot be replaced.

Be good — fight nice — and be a blessing to someone.

Thank you,
Shirley Petosky
Unit V Rep.
(906) 387-2101
shirlypetosky@yahoo.com



Photo by Brenda Austin

Senators Mark Jansen, Alan Cropsey and Jason Allen visited the Sault Tribe in Sault Ste. Marie on March 19, touring the health center and JKL Bahweting School. Afterwards, they were treated to a traditional lunch, including waboose stew, at Niigaanigiizhik Culture Building on the reservation. Above, Jansen and Cropsey chat with (L to R) the school's principal, Lynn Methner, and superintendent, Sue Palmer.



Matthew Bumstead, son of DeJay and Sherri (nee McCoy) Bumstead, and Joshua Payment, son of Isaac McKechnie and Stephanie (nee Payment) Gordon, at their March 2, 2010, graduation from the U.S. CBP Border Patrol Academy. Bumstead earned an expert certificate for marksmanship. Both are finishing Spanish courses, then they are off to California for on-the-job training at the Calexico station. Their first assignment will be in Montana.

Health education classes offered in Sault Ste. Marie

Honoring the Gift of Heart Health classes, Tribal Health Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

- April 13, Act in time to heart attack signs, know your risk
- April 20, High blood pressure and lifestyle
- April 27, HDL and LDL, What's it all about?
- May 4, Healthful eating on a budget
- May 11, Move more, feel better
- May 18, Smoke around you affects your health

Heart health is a gift you can give yourself anytime. This

series is part of our Healthy Heart Project and this new six-session series explores the many things you can do to keep your heart beating strong.

Come to any or all sessions, open to the public.

For questions or registration, call Community Health at 632-5210. Registering for classes is recommended so we can inform you of any changes.

Basics of diabetes and living a full life group education class, May 6, 1-5 p.m., Tribal Health Center auditorium in Sault Ste. Marie.

This is the session to attend if you want to know more about diabetes, just found out you have diabetes, never received diabetes education or it has been a while since you have had an update on diabetes.

The session will include basic information about caring for yourself and your diabetes. You will be given useful information, a book to take home with you, lots of time to ask questions, and a tasty meal.

For questions or to register, call Community Health at 632-5210. Registering for classes is

recommended so we can inform you of any changes.

Chronic kidney disease group education class, May 20, 3-5 p.m., Tribal Health Center auditorium in Sault Ste. Marie.

If you have diabetes, high blood pressure or a family history of chronic kidney disease, you are at risk for developing chronic kidney disease. Join us in class and travel through the time line of the progression of kidney disease. The stages, signs and symptoms of kidney disease will be discussed, as well as nutrition for kidney disease.

Understand your lab results by "knowing your numbers."

For questions or to register, call Community Health at 632-5210. Registering for classes is recommended so we can inform you of any changes.

Garden gourmet cooking group education class, June 17, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Tribal Health Center auditorium in Sault Ste. Marie.

For questions or registration, call Community Health at 632-5210. Registering for classes is recommended so we can inform you of any changes.

American Wednesdays!
All Sites!
www.kewadin.com
for more information

Sizzling Hot Seats!
All Sites - Sundays 4 - 9:00 p.m.

Mega Bingo
Kewadin St. Ignace
April 10, 2010
www.kewadin.com
for more information

Tournaments

\$15,000
Keno
Kewadin St. Ignace
April 30-May 2, 2010

\$8,000
Spin To Win
Kewadin Hessel
April 30-May 2, 2010

\$30,000
Craps
Kewadin Sault
May 14-16, 2010

KEWADIN KLASSIFIEDS

1.800.KEWADIN | WWW.KEWADIN.COM



Little River Band
Friday, March 5th
Sault Ste. Marie,
Michigan



Irish Comedy Tour
Friday, March 12th
Sault Ste. Marie
Michigan

Kewadin Lounge Acts

Sault Ste. Marie
April 9 & 10 - Monkey's Uncle
Thursday Night Comedian
April 8 - Brian Aldridge & Jessica Richeson
Show begins at 9:00 p.m.

St. Ignace
April 9 & 10 - Nixon Dixon
Wednesday Night Comedian
April 7 - Brian Aldridge & Jessica Richeson
Show begins at 9:00 p.m.

Manistique
April 10th - Karaoke

Kewadin Casinos 25th Anniversary Summer Festival!
July 22-24, 2010
Come and help us celebrate our Silver Anniversary!

St. Ignace Anniversary
April 24th, 2010
Random Cash draws 5 - 10 p.m.
Earn Entries April 1 - 24th
Grand Prize draw at 10:15 p.m.

Bounce In Bingo
Kewadin St. Ignace
9:00 a.m to 1:00 p.m.
Northern Pines Lounge
Every Thursday!

Thirsty Tuesdays!
Kewadin St. Ignace
Northern Pines Lounge
Drink Specials!

Ladies Night
All Sites - Fridays!
4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.



HAROLD DERUSHA

Harold L. Derusha, 73, a lifelong Rexton area resident, died peacefully at his home surrounded by his family on March 24, 2010.

Born on April 20, 1936, in Newberry, he was a son of the late Leon J. and Leatha L. (Shoemaker) Derusha. Harold graduated from Rexton High School in the class of 1953 and entered the U.S. Air Force in 1954. He served until his honorable discharge in 1957. Upon his return to the area, Harold worked as a carpenter and roofer. He continued in this occupation until his retirement. He was one of the most respected and busiest carpenter/roofers in the area. His latest employment was with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in the Maintenance Dept. at St. Ignace Kewadin Casino. Harold was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the Rexton Mennonite Church, the American Legion Engadine Post #290 and former member of the Newberry Eagles Aerie #3701. Harold enjoyed carpentry of all kinds, hunting, fishing, and was a gardener and originator of the "Great Pumpkin Contest" in the Rexton neighborhood.

Harold is survived by his companion of over 20 years "Dovie" Caswell, of Rexton, daughter and son-in-law, Kim (Mike) Kerridge of Garnet; sons and daughter-in-law Harold Jr. (Nancy) Derusha, and Jeffrey Derusha, all of Oklahoma, and James (Vicki) Derusha of Tennessee; 10 grandchildren; 11 great grandchildren; and siblings Jean (Dick) Bentele of St. Ignace, Janice Clark of Gladstone, Arlene (Steve) Eastman of Arizona; and Raymond (Ruth) Derusha of Rexton.

Harold was preceded in death by his parents; an infant daughter, Toni Renee; an infant sister, Bonnie Sue; and his brother Donald.

According to his wishes, Harold was cremated. The family will gather at the Rexton Mennonite Church on April 7, 2010. A memorial service celebrating the life of Harold Derusha was held at the Rexton Mennonite Church also on April 7, with Pastor Tim Miller officiating. Inurnment will follow at Caffey Cemetery with Native American Ceremonies provided by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Condolences may be expressed at www.beaulieu-funeralhome.com. Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry assisted the family with their arrangements.

KENNETH (KENNY)

MUSCOE
Kenneth "Kenny" Muscoe of Woodhaven, Mich., formerly of Cedarville,



died on March 16, 2010, at the veterans hospital. He was born on Oct. 18, 1928, to Mitchell and Marguerite (nee Hutchinson) Muscoe.

Kenny grew up, one of five brothers, in Cedarville. He graduated from Cedarville High School in 1946. While in high school, Kenny was a star basketball player and a member of the Cedarville band. One of the great joys of his life was attending the game when Cedarville won the basketball state championship in 2007.

After graduation, Kenny served his country as a paratrooper from 1951 to 1953. He then went on to work in the Detroit area at U.S. Pool Car. He was a member of the Teamsters Union.

Kenny served as commander of his VFW post on two separate occasions. He was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Kenny was loved and respected by all who knew him. He especially enjoyed attending his grandchildren's various sporting events. He also loved gatherings with his family.

Kenny loved to read and was a master of trivia. His nieces tried, for years, to beat him at the game of Trivial Pursuit. They were unsuccessful. He was also an avid golfer. Kenny was a caddy for many years at the Les Cheneaux Club.

Preceding Kenny in death were his parents; three brothers, Mitchell, Robert and Donald; two nephews, David and Paul; and one niece, JoAnn.

He is survived by his loving wife and best friend, Carol, and his brother, Eugene (Shirley) Muscoe. He was also the loving stepfather of Kim (Tim) Duffy, Michael (Lori) Groat, Sheri (Rob) Lindsay, Julie (Tim) Lyons and Jeffrey (Jill) Groat. He had 12 grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He is also survived by several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were on March 20, 2010, at the Trenton Chapel-Martenson Family of Funeral Homes in Trenton, Mich. Condolences may be left online at www.martenson.com.

GERALD M. TRUMBLEY

Gerald M. Trumbley, 65, of Iron Mountain, Mich., passed away at his home on Sunday, Feb. 28, 2010.

Gerald was born Aug. 17, 1944, in Sault Ste. Marie, and was the son of the late Melvin and Arnolda (Lewis) Trumbley.

He was an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Army. Gerald worked for many years as a machinist at Eagle Tool Co. and retired in 2006.

He was an active member of American Martyrs Church and the Kingsford National Guard Armory Retiree Club. Gerald enjoyed hunting, fishing, traveling, golfing and going to the gym. His greatest enjoyment came from time spent playing with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife, Judith; three children, Janice (Tim) Ramer of Wausau, Wis., Jill (Dan) Rochon of Kingsford and Gerald (Jaime)

Trumbley of Iron Mountain; four stepchildren, Anthony (Jennifer) Ozzello of San Jose, Calif., Robert (Karla) Ozzello of Appleton, Wis., Angela (Anthony) Briggs of Iron Mountain and Theresa Ozzello of Iron Mountain; a brother, Kenneth Trumbley of Detroit; a sister, Pamela Knoph of Cadillac, Mich.; a special uncle, Herb (Ellie) Lewis of Kingsford; and 13 grandchildren.

Gerald was preceded in death by his sister, Sandra McKlesky.

The Mass of the Christian Burial was held March 3 at American Martyrs Church in Kingsford, with Fr. Joseph Gouin as celebrant.

Burial will be in the Norway Township Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his memory to the Dickinson County Chapter of the American Cancer Society. Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain assisted the family. Condolences to the family of Gerald Trumbley can be expressed online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com.

DONALD NEIL MCGAHEY

Donald N. "Duck" McGahey, 50, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away Sunday morning, March 21, 2010, at War Memorial Hospital. He was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on May 10, 1959, to Clayton and Marna (Payment) McGahey.

Donald graduated from Sault High School with the class of 1978. He married Kathy Schmitigal on June 28, 1980, at the Central United Methodist Church in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. He was a member of ICWUC/UFCW local # 799C and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Donald loved his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and attended the Living Word Church. He enjoyed playing hockey from youth through high school. He also enjoyed playing softball and cooking fish. He loved spending time with his family.

Donald is survived by his wife, Kathy McGahey; two daughters, Jennifer Lynn and Hannah AnnMarie McGahey; two sons, Nicholas Donald and Samuel Joseph Andrew McGahey all of Sault Ste. Marie; and his parents, Clayton and Marna McGahey of Sault Ste. Marie. He is also survived by four brothers, Clayton (Cheryl) McGahey Jr. of Dexter, Mich., Stephen (Nune) McGahey of Iraq, Randy (Judy) McGahey of Sault Ste. Marie and Kevin (Brenda) McGahey of Sault Ste. Marie; two sisters, Kimberly (Jeff) Cairns of Sault Ste. Marie and Karla (Mike) McLeod of Kincheloe, Mich., along with many nieces and nephews.

Visitation was held March 23, 2010, at Living Word Church. Funeral Services were held March 24, 2010, at the Living Word Church with Pastor Lou Bergman officiating. Burial was at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens.

In lieu of flowers, memori-

als may be left to Hospice of E.U.P. Condolences may be left on line at www.csmulder.com. Arrangements were handled by C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

EDITH FERRIS

Edith Ferris of St. Ignace, 93, passed away Feb. 23, 2010, at Mackinac Straits Hospital Long Term Care in St. Ignace.

She was born Nov. 8, 1916, in Hessel, to Jasper and Lucy (nee Bourisaw) St. Louis.

She married Bob Holtham in 1938 in Bay City. Together they ran the Greyhound lunch counter in St. Ignace until they built their own restaurant, "Nan's Grill." Her pies were very popular with the A&P coffee group. She continued to run the grill after her husband passed away in January 1963.

She married Harvey Lake in 1967, and they resided in Bay City until his passing in 1987.

She married Bill Ferris in 1989, and they lived in St. Ignace. He passed away in 1998.

Mrs. Ferris was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church.

She is survived by two sons and their families, David and Rita Holtham, and Mike and Betty Holtham, all of Lansing; one daughter and her family, Nancy and Stan Jeczmonka of Bay City; 11 grandchildren, Bob, Chris, Matt, Damon, Lisa, Lance, and Luke Holtham, Laurie Costillo, Beverly Bookwalter, and Becky and Doug Jeczmonka; stepchildren, Tom and Beverly Holtham of Sanford, Mike and Jennie Lake, and Judy Lake, all of Oklahoma, Shirley Kelly of Grand Rapids, Stan Ferris of Cummings, Ga., Carol Hamor of Beverly, Mass., and Roger Ferris of Rockford; and a sister, Barbara Powers, of St. Ignace.

She was preceded in death by seven brothers and five sisters.

There will be a funeral mass at St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church in April. Burial will be in Gros Cap Cemetery in the spring.

Dodson Funeral Home in St. Ignace is assisting the family with arrangements.

SUSAN DECOURCY

Susan Anne Andary DeCourcy passed away peacefully at home on Monday, March 15, 2010. Susie was born August 13, 1942, the only child of Paul Joseph and Elizabeth (Simpkin) Andary.

Though never one to seek the spotlight, Susie was, nonetheless, a strong supporter with loyalty and commitment for everything and everyone she believed in.

Susie is survived by her devoted husband, Peter J. DeCourcy; her children, Paul J. Marsh, Peter J. DeCourcy Jr., Mary E. (John) Bowkus, Lona B. Stewart and Jonathan S. (Connie) Marsh; her grandchildren, Michael (friend Audrey) Stewart, Steven Rushford, Morgan Sims, Madison Marsh, Masyn Marsh, Socorro Bowkus,

Jordan Stewart, Jacob Stewart; and one great-granddaughter, Autumn Ward.

She is predeceased in death by her mother, her father and her step-son, Hugh (Hugger) DeCourcy.

Visitation was held at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home on Thursday March 18 from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be at St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral Church, Portage Ave., on Friday, March 19 at 11 a.m. with Father Sebastian Kavumkal as Celebrant. In lieu of flowers, Susie's family is requesting donations be sent to Hospice of E.U.P.

FRANK JAMES PARR SR.

Frank James "Honeyboy" Parr Sr., 73, passed away April 3, 2010, at War Memorial Hospital. He was born on April 19, 1936, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to the late Thomas and Mary (Sylvester) Parr.

Frank served his country with the U.S. Navy aboard the USS Rochester. On Sept. 24, 1966, he married Barbara Krull in Brimley, Mich. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Frank loved to fish, hunt and going for drives. Most of all, he loved to spend time with his grandchildren.

Frank is survived by his wife, Barbara; a son, Frank (Maria) Parr Jr. and a brother-in-law that he helped raise, Ronald Krull of Sault Ste. Marie; three grandchildren, Frank (Brandi) Parr III, Kevin Parr and Derrick Parr all of Sault Ste. Marie; six great-grandchildren, Frank Parr IV, Thomas Parr, Seth Parr, Alivia Parr, Leah Parr and Keeton Sauro all of Sault Ste. Marie; a sister, MaryLou Skipper of Sault Ste. Marie; and two brothers, John and Willard Sylvester of Sault Ste. Marie. He is also survived by six sisters-in-law, Shirley (John) Nolan, Terry (Floyd) Perry, Betty (John) Freiheit, Maggie (Tony) Lane, Wanda (Sam) Marble and Bernadine (Calvin) Krull; three brothers-in-law, Bernard Krull, Donald Krull, and Michael (Kathleen) Krull; and a special friend of the family, Pastor Eloise Kreml.

Frank was preceded in death by his parents, a sister-in-law that he helped raise, Tina (Krull) Laaksonen; and a brother, Mike Sylvester.

Visitation, along with a prayer service, was held April 6, 2010, at the Mackety Memorial Church of the Nazarene.

Funeral services were April 7 at the church with Pastor Eloise Kreml officiating. Burial was at Pine Grove Cemetery.

C.S. Mulder Funeral Home handled arrangements for the family.

Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

Send obituaries with or without photos to Win Awenen Nisitotung, 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783 OR e-mail copies to jdburton@saulttribe.net.



Remembering childhood days on Sugar Island

From "Remembering" pg. 13

Somehow the calf broke a leg on the ice and the children were all devastated. Later in life Moore's mother told her they went into the kitchen and each took a chair outside and lined them up by the barn. "We were saying our Rosary because we wanted that calf to get better and not have to be put down," Moore said.

The one-room schoolhouse they attended, Edison School, was for grades kindergarten through eighth with about three kids in each grade. Each spring, their teacher would tell them to bring a potato to school wrapped in tin foil or placed inside a tin can, and she would lead them through fields behind the school to a creek where the boys would fish for smelt. As the smelt were caught, they threw them up on the beach and the girls would carry them back to their teacher who showed them how to clean and cook them.

"I can still taste that today," Moore said, "the smelt and that potato cooked over the fire were really good."

On Friday nights the kids were allowed to stay up later than normal and Moore said she remembers her father chopping



Diane Moore

wood on his sawhorse while the kids ran around playing. Friday night also meant it was time to find a place in front of the big battery-operated radio and listen to their favorite show, "Fibber McGee and Molly." Her mother would make popcorn and chocolate milk from Hershey's cocoa on the stove, and occa-

sionally a special treat, fried donuts. Another radio show the kids enjoyed listening to every night after dinner was "The Lone Ranger."

Summers would see the children playing school with Moore being the teacher. Summers were also a busy time for picking berries and canning. "Mom used to go to town once a month and pick up a 50 pound bag of flour and whatever else she needed," Moore said. "Everything that we ate and wore was home-

made. We picked strawberries, raspberries, blueberries, apples, gooseberries, June plumes and chokecherries. My mom canned everything. There was a basement in the farmhouse and I can still remember looking at the shelving all around the basement walls and they were just

full of stuff that she had canned. By spring time you could see how it was emptying out."

The kids also learned how to collect Hazel nuts and put them in gunnysacks so they could bang the sacks against a big rock to knock the sticky outer shell off the nuts. The nuts were peeled and stored in jars until just before Thanksgiving then they were taken out and cracked open by the kids with pliers. The nuts were then sealed into jars and used for breads and baking.

Christmas was exciting on the farm. The tree was brought into the house the afternoon of Christmas Eve and left for Santa Claus to decorate that night. One Christmas they walked a mile in their winter boots over bare ground to the church for midnight Mass. On their way home after Mass they had to wade through snow up to their knees.

"We didn't see any tracks from Santa's sleigh in the snow on the way home but daddy told us when we got home that we had better hurry up and get into bed, that Santa knew they weren't home yet and was probably on his way there," she said. "My mom would decorate the tree after we were in bed

and leave each of us girls our doll and the boys their present under the tree." Moore said the tree was lit with little pin candles, because they had no electricity.

Her father who hunted and trapped supplied the meat the family ate; muskrats, beaver, rabbits, squirrels, deer and fish. Moore said her favorite to this day is rabbit. The family kept their food stored outside in the icehouse, including the meat, which was canned. Her mother would take enough meat out of the icehouse for the family to eat for that week and store it in a bucket in the well to keep it cold but not frozen.

"I remember mom telling me the thing she hated to do the most was make blood sausage. She would have to catch the blood from the pig's neck when daddy cut it and take the intestines out and blow them out using her mouth on one end and then boil them. When we moved back to town the only blood sausage I liked came from Wydras' Store in the west end because they made it the old way like mom," she said.

Today, Moore's daughter, Lynne, remembers hearing her mom tell her similar stories of life on the farm.

Federal law protects rights of tribal children

From "Federal Law," page 13

welfare cases in our own tribal court. And in many instances it is much more difficult to deal with a troublesome case from across the country."

Blubaugh is the tribe's sole prosecutor, and works closely with his legal assistant, Amy Perron.

Blubaugh said it is his belief that case law involving both federal and state opinions has been interpreted in such a way as to take some of the original intent out of the Act. "As I read the case law interpreting ICWA, it just seems to be chiseling away at ICWA's original standards," he said.

A study on the implementation of ICWA by the Government Accountability



David Simmons, government affairs and advocacy director at the National Indian Child Welfare Association

Office (GAO) was released in 2005 identifying the need for a monitoring and review process of the Act. Another issue the report identified was the connection between tribal funding

and ICWA implementation – limited access to federal child welfare funding impacts a tribe's ability to serve their children.

David Simmons, government affairs and advocacy director at the National Indian Child Welfare Association, said, "It is really the only major federal child welfare law that doesn't have a federal review of some kind attached to it. We have gone 32 years with no system in place to help measure and identify areas for improvement amongst the various states with regard to ICWA implementation. We are trying to piecemeal and understand the issues and create the most effective solutions. A federal review system is long overdue."

States with larger Indian communities, according to Blubaugh, such as Arizona, Florida, Michigan and California, are progressive in applying ICWA. Michigan has implemented court rules that have standardized how state courts implement ICWA and work with Indian children and their families. A taskforce of Michigan child welfare workers, attorneys and judges was organized and over a period of about 18 months developed a court resource guide that was published and distributed in 2009.

The Hon. Michael J. Anderegg, presiding judge of the 25th circuit court family division in Marquette, Michigan, said, "There have been some proposals to amend ICWA that haven't gone very far. Because we have such a



Judge Michael J. Anderegg, presiding judge of the 25th circuit court family division in Marquette, Michigan.

substantial history with ICWA I think I would be reluctant to go back and try to change the ground rules at this point. We would be better off to adjust how we do business and it may be that we should revisit not the Act itself, but the guidelines for state courts. Those were first published in the Federal Register in 1979 and there has been nothing since then. There are some issues that could be clarified by a federal action that is short of amending the ICWA.

We are fortunate in Michigan because we have had good cooperation between the state and the tribes. I think the more we talk about ICWA and work with it trying to solve problems as they come up, the better off we will all be."

Other states, according to Blubaugh, are behind the times either because they don't have a large Indian population and don't deal with ICWA often, or they just choose to turn a

blind eye and not comply with the Act. "Right now I am having a problem with a case in a Georgia state court," Blubaugh said. "ICWA to them is not a set of safeguards so much as a major inconvenience. And individual tribes can not always afford to appeal every bad court decision that violates the tenets of ICWA. It has been a constant struggle with this court to enforce the rights that we have as a tribe to intervene in that case," he said. "The Georgia court took the approach that because I was not a Georgia licensed attorney, I had no right to file intervention in their court."

"This has been a challenge in several different jurisdictions across the country," said Simmons. "The ICWA does not specifically state that you have to be a licensed attorney within any particular state to file pleadings. The common interpretation is that a duly appointed representative of the tribe should be able to file pleadings on behalf of a tribal child in any state court. Some states have made that even more clear by clarifying that in their own state policies or laws. Typically, what I find is that once judges have a better understanding of how the ICWA works and how tribal governments and their special relationship with the federal government work, usually most of those challenges can be overcome."

To help educate state courts about ICWA, Blubaugh and Perron have developed a brochure they are mailing with their child welfare correspon-

dence. Blubaugh said, "We are trying to educate state courts that ICWA is a set of tools for them to use to ensure that our tribal culture is not being eradicated through their state court system. As we find in the Georgia case, we hope that our partners are not adversaries, we are all trying to do the same thing – work to keep these families together."

According to Simmons, if the ICWA is not complied with the worst that can happen is a placement could be invalidated. "We need implementation of the law to happen according to the way it was designed to happen. For people that willfully choose to not follow the law, there needs to be some kind of penalty," he said.

Blubaugh said it would be a good idea for those states that have not already done so, to form committees to create guidelines on how to deal with ICWA cases relative to their own state codes. Creating a comprehensive manual will provide some much-needed uniformity in the way the state courts deal with these cases.

"Tribes within Michigan are getting better at working together and sharing information," Blubaugh said. "It takes a lot of effort and time to build those relationships and right now there are not a lot of resources to do that. But we are trying."

For more information about the Indian Child Welfare Act, visit www.nicwa.org. To view a summary of findings and GAO recommendations on the 2005 study, go to www.gao.gov/products/GAO-05-290.



Above, elders running the sugarbush at the tribe's culture camp on Sugar Island receive a great big g'tchi miigwech from staff and kids. The elders are Leonard Kimewan, Henry Boulley, Mickey Freshette, Bouncer Cadreau and Friskie Young. Below, children from the tribe's YEA program come to the sugarbush and have a great time with the elders.



Above, YEA coordinator Jill King (middle, back) looks on while elders share warm sap with the children. Below, elders get swarmed by schoolchildren from JKL Bahweting. Sap ran for only one week, and early, necessitating a mad scramble to get everything in place to catch the quick run. Camp coordinator Adrienne Shipman also reported the sugar content was low and they boiled the sap down to 1.5 gallons of syrup.



Onaabanigiizis miinawaa Ziinzibaakwadookeyiizis Mazina'igan

Aaniin Abinoojiinyag
miinawaa Wenijjaanisijig!
Hey kids and parents!
Amy McCoy indizhi-wiini-
goo.
My given name is Amy
McCoy
Miskwaanakwadookwe dash
indizhinikaaz.
But my name is
Miskwaanakwadookwe.
Aamoo indigoo gaye.
They also call me
Bumblebee.
Oshkagoojin wa'aw giizis!

It is a new month!
Mii azhigwa ji-onaabanak.
Now is the time for the snow
to have a hard crust.
Mii iw wenji-izhinikaazod
"Onaabanigiizis" noongom
a'aw giizis omaa Baawating.
That's why it's called the
Hard Crust Moon now here in
Sault Ste. Marie.
Mii zanagak ji-waaban-
damowaad waaboozoog obimi-
kawaanan wii-agoodoowaad
Anishinaabeg.
This means that it will be

harder to see rabbit tracks for
snaring.
Enda-wenipanad ige
wagijayi'ii (or ogijayi'ii) da-
inaagonewaad Anishinaabeg.
It also means that it will be
easier to walk on top of the
snow.
Ziinzibaakwadookeyiizis"
ige izhinikaanaa noongom
giizis. Mii wapii mayaa-
jigaamagak i'iw ziinzibaakwad-
waaboo.
It is also called the "Sugar-
making Moon" because the first
run of sap is beginning.

Biidaasigekwe Odibaajimowinens Angeline Williams ~ from "The Dog's Children"

O'ow ige gaa-tibaajimod:
This she also told:
(Continued from Nanabush
and the Ducks in last month's
language section)

**Bezhik onik odanodaa-
zod dewe'iged nagamod.**
He was using one arm to
beat the drum as he sang.
**Bezhik idash odanokaa-
zod onik nisaad.**
The other arm he was
using to kill them.
**Zhingiben' dash ashk-
waandeng gii-niimi.**
Hell-Diver was dancing
there by the door.

**Gomaapii dash gii-doos-
kaabi a'aw zhingiben'.**
Then at one time Hell-
Diver peered from under his
eyelids.

**Gii-gichi-naa-
noondaagozi:**
He made a loud outcry:
"Ginisigonaa sa niinawi!

Ginisigonaa Nenabush!"
"He is killing us, I tell
you! Nenabush is killing us!"
**Mii dash gii-zaagijiba'
idiwaad minik gaa-bimaa-
diziwaad.**

Then they all ran out of
the place, as many as were
still alive.

**Gii-bazigwinjise
Nenabush.**

Nenabush jumped to his
feet.

**Ogii-bapasidiyesh-
kawaan aniw zhingibenyan.**

He gave Hell-Diver a
couple of powerful kicks in
the rump.

(Nandawaabandan
nawaj Biidaasigekwe
odibaajimowinens ge-
aginzod Iskigamizigegiizis.

Look for more Angeline
Williams' story when it will
be the Sap Boiling Moon.)

Nashke, yo'ow! See, this!

**Wegonesh waa-aabaji-
tooyang imaa iskigamizigan-
ing?**

What do we want to use
there at the Sugar Bush?
Akik (oog)—kettle, pail
Akikoons (ag)— small
pail, kettle
Negwaakwaan (an) — tap
for tree

**Wegonesh ge-izhichigey-
ang netamnising?**

What will we do first?
Nitam biindaakoojige
First, she makes a tobacco
offering

Ininaatig—Maple tree
Manise — s/he cuts wood
Ozhiga'ige—s/he taps trees



Giiwe-baboon ikidowinan
(Winter turns to spring
words)

Maajigaa(magad) — it is
the first run of sap

Gizhigaa — runs hard (sap)

Mooshkinebii — it is full of

liquid (like a bucket full of sap)

Onaabanad — there is a

crust on the snow

Ningide — melts, thaws

Ataadidaa!



Ojibwemowin Pronunciation Key

Short vowels (are said short, or
quick)
/a/ = "uh" like u in up
/i/ = "ih" like i in sit
/o/ = "oh" like o in wrote

Long Vowels (must say twice
as long, or just longer)
/aa/ = "ah" like a in father
/ii/ = "ee" like ee in keep
/oo/ = "oo" like o in nope
/e/ = "eh" like eh in get

As you read a word,
look for syllables with
Consonant+Vowel or Consonan
t+Vowel+Consonant combina-
tions.

For example:
Babaa About, around, here and
there Ba + baa
(Buh + Bah)

Tribes need TAS status to deal with environmental issues

Editor's note: The following is an overview of the presentation Robin Clark made to the United Tribes.

BY ROBIN CLARK, ITCMI ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST

Over the past few years, approximately 10 new coal-fired power plants have been proposed in Michigan. These proposals came in sync with the state's newly acquired authority to permit major sources, the failing state's economy, and before important mercury, greenhouse gas, coal ash and wastewater discharge regulations were in place.

Impacts from the proposed and current coal-fired power plants include mercury contamination in Great Lakes and inland fish, ozone and other criteria pollutant impacts on humans, plants, and wildlife (edibles, medicinals, and otherwise ecologically important species), shifting biomes from

climate change (northern Michigan is at the southern range of many species' habitats); and resulting reduced access to what should be legally-protected, treaty-ceded natural resources, as well as increased utility costs.

An important issue is the need for state and federal governments to recognize tribal rights and responsibilities over treaty-ceded territories when it comes to environmental regulation. With small reservations, much of the tribal hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering occurs on state and federal lands. Impacts on the resources within state and federal lands are important to the tribes and directly impact their access to treaty-ceded resources.

Another important issue is the need for notification and consultation between tribal and state governments on air and other environmental permit-

ting and regulation processes. Tribes are currently included under the public comment period for Michigan air permitting. Tribal environmental staff are currently working on developing better processes for notification, which involve the tribes earlier in the permitting process.

"Treatment as a Sovereign" (TAS) status is an option that would require the state to notify and consult with a tribe prior to the public comment period for state permitting actions. However, the US EPA does not pursue TAS designations for tribal lands where the exterior boundaries are disputed by states. Disputes over exterior boundaries have historically limited tribal pursuit of TAS, but tribes may pursue TAS on undisputed parcels of tribal lands and reserve the right to extend TAS to disputed parcels at a later time.



Photo used Courtesy Little River Band
Robin Clark, Sault Tribe member working with Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan Inc., discusses environmental issues with United Tribes members.

Sault Tribe board members attend MAST in capitol



Sault Tribe officials attended the Midwest Alliance of Tribes in Washington, D.C., last month to help provide a united voice in Washington and meet with members of Congress and their staff. Above are (L-R) Sault Tribe General Counsel Tom Dorwin, Sault Tribe member and National Indian Health Board Public Health Director Rick Haverkate, Sault Tribe Vice Chairwoman Lana Causley, Tom Brierton of Franklin Creek Consulting (who provided his services free of charge) and Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy.



Above, Sault Tribe Unit I Director Cathy Abramson (far left) and Sault Tribe staffer Mike McCoy (far right) and General Counsel Tom Dorwin (middle) pose with other MAST members.

First Nations hold HST rally



Chief Dean Sayers speaking to crowd at Federal Finance Minister's Office (Photo by Alexandra Syrette, Batchewana Communications)

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Friday's
March 28 and April 9, 16 & 23
6:00-8:00pm

Sault Ste. Marie

Anishinaabemowin classes, Thursdays, 6-8 p.m., at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building.

These Ojibwe language classes begin with potluck dinners and you are invited to bring your favorite dish to share.

Instructor demonstrates different stories and language sheets are provided to those in attendance for vocabulary recognition.

It's a great time to eat, visit and enjoy our culture.

Everyone is welcome.

Call 635-6050 for more information.

Drumming, Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building.

The drum is the heartbeat of the Anishinaabe people.

Hear different songs and styles of singing. It's a great time for family participation in singing and dancing or just listening.

For more information, call 635-6050.

Anishinaabemowin language class, Wednesdays, 12-1 p.m., at 531 Ashmun Street.

No registration is necessary. Please bring your brown bag lunch.

For more information, call 635-6050.

Unit I Elderly Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month after the noon meal at the Nokomis/Mishomis Center, 2076 Shunk Road.

For questions, call 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

St. Ignace

Anishinaabemowin language classes, Tuesdays, 7-8 p.m., at the McCann Center.

Participants will enjoy a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. followed by a language lesson at 7 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information, call 635-6050.

Unit III Elderly Committee meets on the second Friday of each month after the noon meal at the McCann Building.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Unit III constituents meetings on the fourth Monday of each month, 6 p.m., at the McCann Center.

For more information, call Keith Massaway at 643-6981 or Patrick Rickley at 440-5149.

Hessel

Anishinaabemowin classes, Mondays, 5-7 p.m., at the tribal center.

For more information, call 635-6050.

Unit II Elderly Committee meets on the third Monday of each month after the noon meal at the tribal center.

Call (888) 711-7356.

Newberry

Elderly Advisory Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 12:30 p.m. at the tribal center.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Unit II Elderly Committee meets on the fourth Friday of each month at 11 at Zellar's Village Inn.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Manistique

Unit IV Elderly Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month after the noon meal at the tribal center.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Naubinway

Unit II Elderly Committee meets on the last Wednesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at the Naubinway Pavilion. For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Escanaba

Unit IV Elderly Committee meets on third Thursday of each month on the second floor of the Willow Creek Professional Building, 3500 Ludington Street. Catered meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by meeting.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Munising

Unit V Elderly Committee meets at the tribal center at 4 p.m. on the first Monday of each month.

Dinners on the third Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Unit V constituents meet, 6 p.m. at the tribal center on the second Thursday of each month.

For more information, call Shirley Petosky at (906) 387-2101.

Marquette

Unit V Elderly Committee meets on the first Thursday of each month, 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Notices

General meetings of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors typically take place on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Open forums for members start about 5 p.m. and meetings start around 6 p.m. All Sault Ste. Marie meetings will be held at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center, other locations are to be announced.

Special meetings typically take place on the second and last Tuesdays of each month. Special meetings may be called from time to time by the chairperson or by majority vote of the board of directors. Locations, dates and times for meetings are subject to change. In

the event a special meeting is called that is open to the public, an official announcement will be released.

General meetings, special meetings and workshops are open to the public unless otherwise noted as closed. To view approved resolutions, please visit www.saulttribe.com and go to the board downloads section.

Meeting schedules are published in the Sault Tribe newspaper annually prior to the start of yearly meeting cycles. Schedule information can be acquired anytime at www.saulttribe.com with a search for "board schedule" or by calling (906) 635-6050.

Foster homes provided by Sault Tribe members are needed for our young.

Make a difference in the life of a child, consider being a foster parent.

Call Anishinaabek Community and Family Services at 495-1232 or (800) 347-7137.

Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities needs your help.

We are looking for volunteers to serve on our Parent Advisory Committee.

The committee is instrumental in developing programs for our children throughout the seven-county service area, creating policy and representing their communities to determine where spending will be most beneficial to the greatest number of our youngsters.

The committee is comprised of volunteers from throughout our tribe's service area and meets once a month on the third Wednesday.

We encourage all relatives of children or anyone interested in their welfare to join us.

All meetings are open to the public and we welcome your participation.

For more information, please call Youth Education and Activities at (906) 635-7010.

Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities in Sault Ste. Marie offers many fun and educational services to youth from kindergarten age to high school seniors.

Computer lab, Monday through Friday, 3:30-6:30 p.m., and on Saturday, 11-4 p.m.

Computers are available for use in a relaxed atmosphere with opportunities for socializing and other fun.

Free tutoring is available daily for everyone. Young folks can learn how to animate objects, customize Web sites and other exciting media projects every Monday.

On Tuesdays, we can conduct science experiments concentrating in school core subject areas such as chemistry and physics.

We dabble in art on Wednesdays, creating all sorts of masterpieces.

On Thursdays, the local tribal youth council works on developing projects for our community and gets some play

in as well.

We have parties on Fridays and show off our moves in Dance Dance Revolution tournaments.

Board game lovers of all ages can enjoy a peaceful afternoon dueling in a fierce game of Scrabble or other games every Saturday.

Come visit for a good time and to meet new people or old friends. Free drinks and snacks are everyday.

We're waiting for you at 2428 Shunk Road next to the enrollment office.

If you have any questions, please call Jill King at 440-4494.

Book your party at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center.

We're equipped to accommodate skating parties, group parties and birthday parties and we rent our hospitality room, basketball and volleyball courts.

Call (906) 635-7465.

DeMawating Development Property Sales and Rentals offers three and four bedroom duplexes for rent. Low move in costs only \$200 for Sault Tribe and Kewadin team members.

First three months of payroll deducted rent will be increased to cover cleaning and pet fees, if applicable. Rent must be deducted from pay to receive the low move-in cost benefit.

Attention American Indians: lease to purchase three bedroom 1.5 bath duplexes available if qualified.

DeMawating is within one of the Sault Tribe's tax agreement areas and an equal opportunity company.

You do not need to be American Indian to rent a home.

For information on any of our properties, please contact the DeMawating office at 42 Wood Lake, Kincheloe (906) 495-2800.

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program available for appointments in Sault Ste. Marie, Kinross, St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique, Marquette and Munising health centers.

Bring semaa for an offering to appointments with healers. Traditional healing is holistic. Women on their moon cycle should make appointments before or after their cycles.

For information, call Ted Holappa 632-5204, Laura Collins 632-0236 or Peggy Hemenway 632-0220.

Sault Tribe arts and crafts exhibitions and sales are scheduled for Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Bawating Art Gallery at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

The events feature handcrafted gifts for all occasions.

Participating vendors must be Sault Tribe members.

For further information, call Elaine Young-Clement at 635-6050 or 322-3961.

Sault Tribe extends an open voter registration policy to all members. Once members register to vote, it is permanent unless members change residency into or out of election units where living when originally registered.

Sawyer Village in Gwinn, Mich., is a Sault Tribe housing enterprise. Housing units consist of three and four bedroom townhouse apartments, duplexes and single homes.

Rentals range from \$350 to \$725 per month. The units include ranges, refrigerators, basements, garages, washer and dryer hook-ups and most of them have a dishwasher.

Flooring options are hardwood or carpeting. Most pets are accepted and we have month to month leases.

Eagle Ridge Apartments, located in Marquette, consists of two buildings with eight two-bedroom apartments in each building. These apartments include all utilities and are \$575 per month with one-year leases.

We have eight experienced team members who manage Sawyer Village and Eagle Ridge.

Come make one of our houses your home. Call (906) 346-3919 to set up an appointment today.

Children must have at least one biological parent who is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians before they can be enrolled as full, bonifide members.

Simply submit a copy of the child's courthouse birth certificate or state copy, social security number and current mailing address. You may mail or fax this information to the enrollment office, or drop it off in person. Please allow two to three weeks for children's tribal cards to arrive in the mail.

Sault Tribe flags are available for purchase by calling 632-6398 or toll free (800) 793-0660.

Desk flags (3x5 inches) are \$3, banners (18x24 inches) are \$30, parade flags (3x5 feet) are \$50, pole flags (4x6 or 5x8 feet) are \$75 and \$100.

Add six percent sales tax and \$4.50 for shipping of first item plus \$1 for each additional item.

Northern Hospitality in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., is a Sault Tribe enterprise at 827 Ashmun Street offering high quality furniture and floor covering goods and services in the eastern Upper Peninsula.

Stop by or inquire by calling 635-4800.

The general mailing address for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

The general telephone numbers are 635-6050 or toll free at (800) 793-0660, fax (906) 635-4969.

KEWADIN ENTERTAINMENT



WYNONNA JUDD

April

Crystal Gayle - Sault Ste. Marie
9th | 7:00 p.m. Friday | \$28.50 | On Sale Now

Rodney Carrington - Sault Ste. Marie
17th | 9:00 p.m. Saturday | \$48.50 | On Sale Now

Box Office Hours

Open five days a week from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.,
Tuesday-Saturday.

Call 1.800.KEWADIN
or purchase online at www.kewadin.com

May

Wynonna Judd - Sault Ste. Marie
3rd | 7:00 p.m. Monday | \$48.50 | On Sale Now

King of the Cage - Sault Ste. Marie
8th | 8:00 p.m. Saturday | \$75 - \$45 | On Sale Now

Chicago - Sault Ste. Marie
23rd | 7:00 p.m. Sunday | \$52.50 | On Sale Now



There's no place like Kewadin.



SAULT STE. MARIE
CHRISTMAS

SAULT STE. MARIE
MANISTIQUE
ST. IGNACE