



Win Awenen
Nisitotung

Referendum results

Sault Tribe members vote on two investment opportunities: Unofficial results announced

BY MICHELLE BOUSCHOR

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Sault Tribe Election Committee announced unofficial results for two referenda sent to eligible Sault Tribe members earlier this month. All completed ballots returned to the tribe by Jan. 27 were counted in a public meeting at Kewadin Casino Convention Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

One referendum sought to repeal *Resolution 2010-226, Equity Purchase of Energy Development Company Indian Energy LLC*. The resolution was approved Oct. 26 by the Sault Tribe Board of Directors. The voters decided, by a vote of 2,597 to 2,383, to approve Resolution 2010-226, thereby upholding the board's action.

The other referendum sought to repeal *Resolution 2010-249, Pursuit of Settlement of a Land Claim With Respect To Property in the Romulus, Michigan Metropolitan Area*. The resolution was approved Nov. 9 by the Sault Tribe Board of Directors. The voters decided, by a vote of 1,864 to 2,986, to not approve Resolution 2010-249, thereby overturning the board's action.

Anyone seeking to contest the results of the vote counts must submit his or her challenge to the Election Committee by the end of business on Jan. 31, 2011.

Results will be certified and deemed official at the next board of directors meet-

ing or within seven days of all challenges being resolved.

For this election, 14,417 ballots were sent to tribal members with 4,980 voters returning their ballots on Resolution 2010-226 and 4,850 voters returning their ballots on Resolution 2010-249.

"The board respects tribal membership's right to vote and the referendum process," said Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy. "The board will continue to explore business and other investment opportunities across the state, including in Metro Detroit as provided in written agreements with former Govs. John Engler and Jennifer Granholm that can help the tribe achieve our goal of economic self-sufficiency. That's what we have been elected by the membership to do."

McCoy urged tribal members to get all of the facts on future proposed referenda. "We know that with both of these petitions, members were given both accurate and inaccurate information," McCoy said. "It is very important for those members of voting age to know the facts about any petition they sign."

McCoy said he hopes members understand that referendum elections are expensive and time consuming. The cost to the tribe of holding a referendum election is more than \$30,000.

"The tribe is a democracy and our members absolutely must have the power to put the actions of elected leaders to a vote of the membership," McCoy said. "But the referendum process is expensive to the tribe, so it is not some
See "Referendum," Page 19

Abramson to chair NIHB

BY STACEY BOHLEN

WASHINGTON, D.C.

— The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) on Jan. 17 elected as its chairperson Sault Tribe Unit Director Cathy Abramson, NIHB Bemidji Area representative.

"I am humbled to be elected chair of the nation's premiere American Indian health policy and advocacy organization," said Abramson. "When you think about NIHB's exciting contributions to our people's health just last year — health care reform, Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Special Diabetes Program for Indians, the largest increase in IHS funding history — I am committed to continue this momentum at NIHB working with this excellent board and staff."

Abramson added, "Tribes are invited and welcome to contact NIHB or me anytime to share your ideas on how to move our people's health forward."

The NIHB Board of Directors adopted the 2011 NIHB legislative priorities for which Abramson will be leading tribal health advocacy. These priorities include:

— Preservation of permanent reauthorization and implemen-



tation of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act,

— Support the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,

— Behavioral and mental health services especially for youth suicide prevention programs fashioned after the Special Diabetes Program for Indians, and

— Recruitment and retention of health care professionals, childhood obesity, and increasing Indian health appropriations.

During the meeting, it was announced that the NIHB will sponsor a National Tribal Health Care Reform Implementation Summit on

March 30-31 in Washington, D.C.

Former Chairman Reno Keoni Franklin, NIHB's California area representative, expressed his confidence in Councilwoman Abramson as she takes over leadership. "Knowing that the Bemidji Area has the lowest per capita Indian Health Service funding, it is very exciting to have a seasoned tribal leader from that area to elevate the issues, concerns and needs of Indian Country."

He added, "NIHB is also very excited to support the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes as they work to create an area Indian health board, 'Midwest Area Tribal Health Board.' The time has come to strengthen the Bemidji tribes' health status and the creation of this area Indian health board will mean there's a regional tribal entity to do that."

Abramson's spirit name is Wabanung Kwe. She is a member of the Wolf clan. She resides in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., known to the Anishinaabeg as Bahweting. She represents the Bemidji area tribes (Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota) on the NIHB.

See "Abramson," Page 20

Tribe settles 6-year legal battle

SAULT STE. MARIE — After losing the case in Circuit Court and to avoid at least \$1.2 million in likely additional legal costs that would have resulted from an appeal, the Sault Tribe has decided to settle a 6-year legal battle in the so-called "7 + 2" lawsuit against a former tribal chairman and key employees.

The lawsuit was filed by the tribe in an effort to recover about \$2.66 million paid by former Tribal Chairman Bernard Bouschor to former employees Dave Scott, Dan Weaver, Jolene Nertoli, Joe Paczkowski, Jim Janetta, Dan Green and Paul Shagen. The case centered on whether Bouschor was acting within his authority to pay out seven key employment contracts.

Emmett County Circuit Judge Charles Johnson and a Chippewa County jury ruled against the tribe and in favor of Bouschor and the other defendants in November. Five of the tribe's attorneys, including its staff lawyers, examined the case and set the tribe's odds of winning on appeal very low. Most alarming, if the tribe had appealed, the tribe would have to put \$1.2 million in cash into an escrow account controlled by the court to cover fees and other costs associated with the appeal. While many are disappointed about losing the case,

tribal leaders determined the additional costs would have placed a significant burden on tribal budgets when the chances of winning on appeal were slim.

Under one settlement in the lawsuit, the tribe collected \$1 million from the Miller Canfield Law Firm for its role in the case. The firm provided legal advice to former Chairman Bouschor on the legalities of paying out the employment contracts. Under the most recent settlement, the defendants' attorneys will be compensated for a portion of their legal bills as ordered by the court. The tribe's legal team was able to negotiate a settlement of \$295,000 as full and final settlement of the matter, which was approved by the Circuit Court and a majority of the Sault Tribe board.

The courtroom case lasted nearly two weeks. The case was litigated for the tribe by attorney Bill Horton, renowned as one of the best litigators in the state. The tribe fully prepared for the trial, including conducting a mock trial and focus groups, to ensure the message was thorough and clear to the jury. The trial was ultimately well litigated, but the jury returned a "no cause of action" verdict against the tribe to determine the former chairman acted in the best interest of

the tribe and the employment contracts were valid as paid.

While this has been a painful chapter in the history of the tribe, the majority of the tribal board recognized settling the case meant protecting limited funds for projects, services and programs to enhance the lives of tribal members. This was not a decision made lightly, but the majority of the tribal board felt they had pushed this case as far as was financially prudent and decided not to risk scarce tribal dollars on appeals the tribe had little to no chance of winning.

The defendants did not profit from their actions. The attorney fees and turmoil of six years of litigation have taken their toll. The Sault Tribe board took every reasonable action to find that measure of justice demanded of membership, and made sure those involved were put before a jury in a court proceeding six years in the making.

In the end, the tribe lost the case and the defendants were acquitted of legal wrongdoing by a jury that included one Native American juror. The board's wisdom and resolve allowed the tribe to recover \$1 million from Miller Canfield Law Firm and avoid paying that amount plus some by filing an appeal that we would not have won.

Board paves way for school move

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — In an effort to expand class sizes and offer more to students, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors passed a resolution on Jan. 26 to designate a section of property at the Sault Tribe's 320-acre Odenaang housing site off Shunk Road as the site of a future school. The decision is just the first step in a lengthy process, which may take years, that will involve moving J.K.L. Bahweting School to a new location.

"It's a great move for our students at J.K.L. Bahweting," said Joe McCoy, tribal

chairman. "It will not only increase the room students have, it will be able to house all of the classes in one building and we may be able to expand more grades by adding more classrooms."

The tribe has been unable to acquire enough land over the past three years to expand the school at its current location.
See "School Move," pg. 20



Members needed for new conservation committees

Great Lakes Conservation Committee: The newly established Great Lakes Conservation Committee has nine open seats on the committee.

Interested tribal fishermen should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation to Tara Benoit at 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Please call (906) 635-6050 or email tbenoit@saulttribe.net with any questions. Deadline for applications is March 1, 2011.

Inland Conservation Committee: The newly established Inland Conservation Committee has nine open seats on the committee.

Interested tribal members should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation to Tara Benoit at 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Please call (906) 635-6050 or email tbenoit@saulttribe.net with any questions. Deadline for applications is March 1, 2011.

Winter and spring recreation opportunities —

Munising sno-show

Munising is the place to be March 4-6. This is Munising's third annual Snowmobile Extravaganza, to be held at the west Munising Bay boat launch area. Masters Extreme Racing will be the sanctioning body, according to Masters president, Skip Schulz.

This year features pre-registration on Friday, March 4, ice drags for Saturday, March 5 and groomed snow drags on Sunday, March 6. There will be a kids' 120 race on Saturday, 25-lap outlaw enduro course on Sunday and a vintage/antique sled show both days, with Sunday being vintage judging with trophies.

Racers and fans will be treated to emcee Skip Schulz's colorful commentary and music through a Magnum P/A 15,000 watt system. Johnny Dogs & Wallace Mobile concessions will offer walleye fish sandwiches and a track side breakfast.

Race weekend event buttons are available for \$5. This race is, in part, sponsored by Kewadin Casino. Munising's event is organized by Kenny McNally, a Sault Tribe member, and wishes all who love snowmobiling to come and enjoy Munising in the wintertime. For more information on the races contact Kenny McNally at (906) 387-2587.

73rd Gold Medal basketball tourney

HERMANVILLE, Mich. — The 73rd annual Gold Medal Classic Tournament, the granddaddy of independent basketball tournaments, will be held at the Hermansville Community Center Gym March 24-April 3.

This year's tournament will feature class A, B, C, D, EE, E and rec divisions along with women's class A and B divisions, if enough teams are entered.

The Hermansville tourna-

ment was established in 1936 by the late Joe Rodman and has been held every year except during WWII. Raymond Bray will serve as tournament manager for the 22nd consecutive year.

For more information, or to enter the tourney, contact Bray at 1333 Curry Rd., Norway, MI 49780, (906) 563-7338, or raybray6@hotmail.com.

Girls on the Run of Chippewa County announces its 2011 spring season

Girls on the Run of Chippewa County's 10-week program will begin on the week of March 7 and end with a 5K celebration on Saturday, May 21.

Registration is on Saturday, Feb. 5, from 9 to 11 a.m., at Avery Square in downtown Sault Ste. Marie.

Spring 2011 sites are JKL Bahweting PSA, Brimley Area Schools, Pickford Public

Schools, St. Mary's Catholic School, Soo Township Elementary School and Washington Elementary School.

Participant fees range from \$15 to \$55 depending on household income. Registration is first-come, first-served.

Girls on the Run is a nationwide program that recognizes every girl is special, every girl is strong and every girl is a winner. It teaches girls in grades 3 through 5 about health, friendship, body image, self-esteem, community service and running.

During the 10-week program, while practicing for the end of the season 5K run, the girls learn about themselves, about developing healthy relationships and about helping make their community a better place for all.

For Girls on the Run participants, the finish line is just the beginning.

For more information, call the council at 632-8109 or visit www.gotrchippeewa.org.

Sault Tribe Unit I Elders Committee ninth annual pancake supper

Support their activities




Tuesday, March 8, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Nokomis/Mishomis Place, 2076 Shunk Road in Sault Ste. Marie. Pancakes, sausages, eggs and beverages, \$5 for adults, \$3 for ages 5-12, children under 5 free.

Newspaper deadlines

Below is the Win Awenen Nisitotung production schedule for the rest of 2011. If there are any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Jennifer Dale-Burton at (906) 632-6398, ext. 26073, or e-mail jdburton@saulttribe.net.

DEADLINE DATE (Tuesdays)	PUBLISH DATE (Fridays)
Feb. 22	March 4
March 22	April 1
April 26	May 6
May 31	June 10
June 28	July 8
July 26	Aug. 5
Aug. 23	Sept. 2
Sept. 27	Oct. 7
Oct. 25	Nov. 4
Nov. 29	Dec. 9




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10 Signs of an abusive relationship

- History of legal or discipline problems.
- Blames you for his/her anger.
- Serious drug or alcohol use.
- History of violent behavior.
- Threatens others regularly.
- Insults you or calls you names.
- Trouble controlling feelings like anger.

— Tells you what to wear, what to do or how to act.

— Threatens or intimidates you in order to get their way.

— Prevents you from spending time with your friends or family.

Advocacy Resource Center

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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.

Subscriptions:

The regular rate is \$18 per year, \$11 for senior citizens and \$30 to Canada. Please call for other foreign countries. Subscribe by sending your name and mailing address to the address below with your check or money order made out to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

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Chippewa County Animal Control Shelter receives \$16,100 in tribal 2 percent funding

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

SAULT STE. MARIE

— Communities across the Upper Peninsula benefited from \$380,000 in last fall's 2 percent distributions from the Sault Tribe and Kewadin Casinos. Local communities use the funds for road projects, public safety, technology improvements, playground equipment, reading programs, recreational projects, and at the Chippewa County Animal Control Shelter the funding is used to spay and neuter cats and dogs.

According to shelter manager Holly Henderson, the \$10,000 designated for the spay and neuter program will pay for about a third of the spays and neuters needed by the animals and the other \$6,000 will be used for vaccinations. "We spent about \$30,000 last year on spaying and neutering. The only way we are going to be able to fight this the right way is to spay and neuter all our animals before they leave the shelter," she said. "I think in a few years we are really going to see a reduction in the number of animals coming into the shelter."

A year ago, with the help of Friends of Caring Animal Shelters (FOCAS), the shelter started spaying and neutering all cats and dogs before they were adopted. But according to Henderson, that funding is a limited source and is running out.

The shelter depends on volunteers and donations. Henderson said they haven't had to purchase dog food in over three years thanks to local residents who donate the food. They do occasionally have to buy cat food. If you would like to help, the shelter has a list of items they could use. A few of those are: washable blankets and towels, soft dog treats, canned cat food, bleach, kitty litter and gently used leashes and collars.

Volunteers willing to spend extra time with cats and dogs who need more attention are always welcome. Additionally, Henderson said they are looking for someone to build a website for the shelter. "We have Petfinder.com, but I would like to have our own website where people can access FOCAS and Guardian Angels for Animals, a non-profit that pays for the medical needs of shelter animals, and look at events happening at the shelter," she said. She is also hoping someone will volunteer to do a monthly newsletter.

With spring right around the corner, foster families for mother cats and their kittens are needed and, occasionally, for mother dogs and their litters. The shelter provides foster families with food, litter and cages.

On the shelter's wish list are at least 10 more Kuranda dog beds. Twelve of the shelter's 22 kennels are equipped with

the indestructible beds made of stainless steel tubing and chew-proof fabric. Henderson said there is also a less expensive PVC version of the bed they would like to try out. To donate a Kuranda dog bed to the shelter visit kuranda.com/donate.

The shelter averages 80-90 cats with their current occupancy at 52. They also have 22 dogs right now with space for 24. The adoption fee for a dog is \$60, which includes spay or neuter with parvo and rabies vaccines. Cats are \$25 and, if old enough, come spayed or neutered with their PRC vaccine. Kittens and puppies under 12 weeks old are \$50. For more information contact the Chippewa County Animal Control Shelter at (906) 632-2519.

The shelter is a no-kill shelter for friendly adoptable pets with a small staff of one full-time employee, one three-quarter-time employee and three part-time staff. The shelter's euthanasia rate last year was about 4 percent, which according to Henderson is incredible for a county run animal shelter. Animals may be euthanized due to temperament or health issues.

Another area animal shelter, which could use the community's support, is the Best of Friends Humane Society. The private, non-profit organization operates with no paid staff, depending entirely on the help and donations of volunteers.

With the recent death of the organization's founder, Adele Harvey, the humane society's future is uncertain. The shelter currently houses about 20 adoptable cats and a male 9-month-old bulldog and lab mix.

Karen Bartunek is fostering two special needs kittens through the shelter that need a very committed person to give them a good "forever home." The kittens are blind, one totally and one with some sight in one eye. They must remain together for life as they are



Special needs brothers Boston Rob (above) is blind and Rupert (below) has very limited sight in one eye.



brothers and have come to rely on each other. The 5-month-old kittens, Boston Rob and Rupert, are named after two characters from the TV show *Survivors*. Even though they are blind, they are very independent and run, jump and play like other cats. A household with a lot of foot traffic and doors that open a lot would not be appropriate.

If you would like to volunteer or make a donation of food or other items, or for more information about adoptable pets, call the Best of Friends Humane Society at (906) 248-3316.

Twice a year U.P. communities receive 2 percent of the revenues from slot machine play at the tribe's casinos. Donations from the fall of 2010 benefited communities and citizens in seven U.P. counties.

Scoreboard purchased with 2 percent funding



Photo by Brenda Austin

Sault Tribe donated \$23,000 in 2 percent funding last fall to the Sault Blue Devils swim team to purchase a new scoreboard. Above, Sault High senior Nick Donaldson, second from left, presents a thank you card from the team to Sault Tribe Board of Directors representatives D.J. Malloy, Bernard Bouschor and Debra Pine.



Left, Chippewa County Animal Control Shelter Manager, Holly Henderson and a young cat looking for a forever home. Below, Best of Friends volunteers, Karen Bartunek (left), a three year volunteer and foster home provider and Jessica Stanaway (right), a 10-year volunteer at the shelter. The cats are all available for adoption.



Since 1993 more than \$31 million has been awarded by the Tribe to communities extending

from St. Ignace to Manistique, to Marquette to Sault Ste. Marie.

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Important information about the \$3.4 billion Indian Trust Settlement

For current or former IIM account holders, Owners of land held in trust or restricted status, or their heirs

There is a proposed Settlement in *Cobell v. Salazar*, a class action lawsuit about individual Indian land held in trust by the federal government. This notice is just a summary. For details, call the toll-free number or visit the website listed below.

The lawsuit claims that the federal government violated its duties by (a) mismanaging trust funds/assets, (b) improperly accounting for those funds, and (c) mismanaging trust land/assets. The trust funds include money collected from farming and grazing leases, timber sales, mining, and oil and gas production from land owned by American Indians/Alaska Natives.

If you are included in the Settlement, your rights will be affected. To object to the Settlement, to comment on it, or to exclude yourself, you should get a detailed notice at www.IndianTrust.com or by calling 1-800-961-6109.

Can I get money?

There are two groups or "Classes" in the Settlement eligible for payment. Each Class includes individual IIM account holders or owners of land held in trust or restricted status who were alive on September 30, 2009.

Historical Accounting Class Members

- Had an open individual Indian Money account ("IIM") anytime between October 25, 1994 and September 30, 2009, **and**
- The account had at least one cash transaction.
- Includes estates of account holders who died as of September 30, 2009, if the IIM account was still open on that date.

Trust Administration Class Members

- Had an IIM account recorded in currently available data in federal government systems any time from approximately 1985 to September 30, 2009, **or**
- Owned trust land or land in restricted status as of September 30, 2009.
- Includes estates of landowners who died as of September 30, 2009 where the trust interests were in probate as of that date. This means you have asked a court to transfer ownership of the deceased landowner's property.

An individual may be included in one or both Classes.

What does the Settlement provide?

- A \$1.5 billion fund to pay those included in the Classes.
- A \$1.9 billion fund to buy small interests in trust or restricted land owned by many people.
- Up to \$60 million to fund scholarships to improve access to higher education for Indian youth.
- A government commitment to reform the Indian trust management and accounting system.

How much can I get?

- Historical Accounting Class Members will each get \$1,000.
- Trust Administration Class Members will get at least \$500.
- If you own a small parcel of land with many other people, the federal government may ask you to sell it. You will be offered fair market value. If you sell your land it will be returned to tribal control.

If you believe you are a member of either Class and are not receiving IIM account statements, you will need to call the toll-free number or visit the website to register.

What are my other rights?

- If you wish to keep your right to sue the federal government about the claims in this Settlement, you must exclude yourself by **April 20, 2011**.
- If you stay in the Settlement you can object to or comment on it by **April 20, 2011**. The detailed notice explains how to exclude yourself or object/comment.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia will hold a hearing on June 20, 2011, to consider whether to approve the Settlement. It will also consider a request for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses in the amount of \$99.9 million. However, Class Counsel has fee agreements that would pay them 14.75% of the funds created for the Classes, which could result in an award of \$223 million. The Court may award more or less than these amounts based on controlling law. If approved, these payments and related costs will come out of the Settlement funds available for payment to Class Members.

If you wish, you or your own lawyer may ask to appear and speak at the hearing at your own cost. For more information, call or go to the website shown below or write to Indian Trust Settlement, P.O. Box 9577, Dublin, OH 43017-4877.

Indian Country Today Media Network launched

By RICK SMITH

The publisher of the newspaper *Indian Country Today*, a multi-regional weekly focused on news of interest to American Indians, recently announced the creation and launch on Jan. 14 of the Indian Country Today Media Network, a combination of a new website and weekly magazine, *This Week From Indian Country Today*, to replace the newspaper.

Spokeswoman Heather Riley said publisher Ray Halbritter has long held an intention to expand "with an eye towards the future, the common cause of all American Indians, the bet-



terment of the nations and the country as a whole." Halbritter intends for the network to be the place where people of all Indian nations can go to for relevant news and a forum for the exchange of ideas.

Riley said plans call for the acquisition of more network components, which will be announced later. "Anyone can be a blogger on the social net-

work," she said, "the news and entertainment site will have curated columns. Everyone is entitled to an opinion; however, the site will be moderated to ensure civility and decency."

The website is operational and people are encouraged to visit www.indiancountrytoday-medianetwork.com, the use of www.indiancountrytoday.com automatically transfers to the

network site.

Halbritter gave everyone on the staff of the *Indian Country Today* newspaper the opportunity to relocate to New York City, where day-to-day network operations are based, and he said they were able to accommodate almost everyone who expressed an interest.

Riley said the network will be under the partial guidance of an advisory board comprised of leading members of American Indian nations and government officials; among them, Sault Tribe member Rob Capriccioso, the organization's Washington, D.C., bureau chief.

Several more appointments to the board will be forthcoming and announced over the next few weeks.

Indian Country Today began as the *Lakota Times* in 1981 and was founded by renowned, award-winning journalist Tim Giagoa on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. The name was changed to *Indian Country Today* as coverage expanded beyond the scope of solely Lakota interests. It was sold to the Oneida nation of New York in 1998 and currently operates under Four Directions Media, an Oneida enterprise.

Sault Tribe member new Washington D.C. bureau chief for Indian Country Today Media Network

By BRENDA AUSTIN

WASHINGTON, D.C. — As *Indian Country Today* newspaper makes the change to its new look, a magazine called *This Week From Indian Country Today* and a redesigned website, staffers are making the move to their new offices in downtown NYC and others are settling into their new jobs throughout the country.

Among those is Sault Tribe member Rob Capriccioso, the new bureau



Rob Capriccioso, Indian Country Today Media Network Washington D.C. bureau chief

tribal leaders and citizens for their reactions on issues of the day.

"There is a lot of administrative, legislative and judicial activity — plus activism — happening here every day that Indian Country Today reports on and analyzes for our readers," he said.

Capriccioso said some great examples of stories ICT covered first hand this past year includes these major administrative and legislative events: President Obama signing the Tribal Law and Order

Act; Elouise Cobell shaking the hands of legislators who championed the settlement of her long-running case against the federal government; and teepees being constructed on the White House grounds to help draw attention to Indian issues.

"I like it best when we can feature the voices of Indians who are making an impact in Washington and beyond. We are going to keep getting better at that all the time," he said.

One of the few outlets with people on the ground in the nation's capital focusing full-time on Native issues, Capriccioso said ICT's coverage is unique. "I hope our work encourages more publications, even the big guys like the Washington Post, to better focus on Indian policy. There is no reason for a paper like the Post not to have a dedicated staffer covering Indian policy. Hopefully our presence will make other publications take notice so that overall Indian coverage gets better and tribal citizens are better served."

Addressing the new changes at ICT, he said the website is more accessible to readers and offers more opportunities to connect through social networking. The new site offers news as it happens while the magazine offers more flexibility of

presentation to highlight more Indian writers, photos and opinions.

Capriccioso said he loves getting back to the Sault to stay connected with his own culture and people. "Many of our tribe's own citizens are impacted by the decisions that happen in Washington, even if they don't know it. I hope being there to cover Indian news helps our people be more informed and stronger in the long run," he said.

Capriccioso is married to Katrina Morgan, a Johns

Hopkins School of Public Health graduate who works for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. They have a 20-month-old daughter,

Bella, are expecting their second child, a son, in late-March. Capriccioso is the son of Marcy and the late Robert Capriccioso of Sault Ste. Marie.

Moving ?



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The straight scoop on free credit reports

By RICK SMITH

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) wants to give you some friendly advice about getting free credit reports. In a nutshell, getting an annual free credit report is a very good idea, but steer clear of getting any credit reports through any source other than the Annual Credit Report Request Service.

According to the FTC, folks can ensure accuracy in their credit histories and check for fraudulent accounts in their names by acquiring annual credit reports. Not only that, but credit reports contain information on a number of particular personal details that can be sold to creditors, insurers, employers (employers must have your written consent) and others who may want it for evaluation purposes.

The Fair Credit Reporting Act and the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act require three nationwide companies to provide folks with free copies of their credit reports upon request every 12 months. The agencies legislated to provide the free reports are Equifax, Experian and TransUnion. Those three companies carry out their mandated duties through the Annual Credit Report Request Service, the official central agency to help folks to acquire free credit reports. The website suggests visitors avoid taking links to the site and type www.annualcreditreport.com directly into the

browser address bar to avoid imposter sites and ensure one's arrival at the legitimate site.

The service is online at www.annualcreditreport.com. People who do not have access to the Internet may contact the service toll-free by telephone at (877) 322-8228 or by mail at Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

Online requests for reports should be immediately available. If you request your report online at annualcreditreport.com, you should be able to access it immediately, requests by telephone are processed and mailed within 15 days, orders sent by mail using a proscribed request form should be processed and mailed within 15 days of receipt. However reports are ordered, turn-around times may take longer to receive if the reporting company needs more information to verify your identity.

Orders may be slowed by surges in the volume of credit report requests and, in that event, folks may be asked to resubmit their requests or orders may be delayed. In either case, the companies will advise patrons if either situation should occur.

Reports from all three reporting companies can be made individually or simultaneously through the central processing site. The FTC recommends reports from all three companies as they get their informa-

tion from different sources and information details may vary between the companies.

The reporting companies and information providers (individuals or organizations that provided the reporting companies with information about you) are responsible for correcting any inaccuracies in credit reports they process. Parties who want corrections made to their credit reports have the lawful right to initiate corrections by contacting the reporting companies and the information providers. The reporting companies and information providers must be informed in writing about any discrepancies and questioned items must be investigated unless challenges are considered frivolous. The reporting companies also notify the sources

of disputed information and the sources must conduct their own investigations and report findings to the companies.

Credit reporting companies can retain most accurate negative information in credit reports for seven years and bankruptcy information can be kept for 10 years. There is no time limit on reporting about criminal convictions, information reported in response to applications for jobs that pay more than \$75,000 a year or information reported as a result of applications for more than \$150,000 worth of credit or life insurance. Any information about lawsuits or unpaid judgments against parties can be reported for seven years or until the statute of limitations runs out, whichever is longer.

The FTC warns against using credit reporting services frequently seen on the Internet or in advertising offering free credit reports, scores or monitoring as they are not part of the legislatively mandated free annual credit report program. The FTC reports that, in some cases, the services provided come with "strings attached" where people find themselves paying fees they weren't necessarily aware were part of the bargain.

As part of its responsibilities, the FTC is charged with helping U.S. citizens to avoid unscrupulous business practices.

To learn more about the Federal Trade Commission or free credit reports, visit www.ftc.gov/credit or call toll-free at (877) 382-4357.

Resident tribal members are entitled to tax benefits; but registration is required

Sault Tribe members living in and around the tribe's service area are eligible for tax benefits.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the state of Michigan signed a tax agreement that benefits many members whose principal residence is within specific agreement areas which is often on or near tribal reservations.

The complete tax agreement along with agreement area maps is available on the tribe's website at www.saulttribe.com.

Those members living in the agreement area receive state tax discounts on many purchases. The agreement applies to the Michigan sales tax (6 percent of retail price), use tax (6 percent of purchase price), motor fuel tax, cigarette tax and the single business tax.

Members are also entitled to an annual income tax refund check, which is 4 percent of adjusted gross income and must be filed when filing your income taxes.

Those members who do not

live in the agreement area are not eligible to receive sales tax discounts, tax exemptions or an income tax refund. However, they are able to receive gas, diesel and cigarette tax discounts at certain retail stores located in the agreement area. Fuel and cigarette tax discounts are realized at the time of purchase.

If you are age 16 or over and want to receive these tax benefits, you are required to sign a Sault Tribe tax agreement registration card to verify your residency in an agreement area.

Before you can request an annual tax refund or tax exemption, you must first sign and return a registration card to the Sault Tribe tax office to verify your residency in a tax agreement area. This is mandatory for all tribal members.

After your residency has been verified by the tax office, a letter will be sent to you confirming your status in the agreement area.

If you are unsure if you are registered, please call the tax

office and ask Candace Blocher at 632-6281 or toll free, (866) 632-6281, to verify your card is on file.

Once registered, members are then required to fill out certain tax forms and submit it to the state or tribe's tax office.

It is the responsibility of Sault Tribe members to notify the tribal tax office when they change addresses, even if the address change is still in the agreement area.

Please note, if you have moved out of the tax agreement area and are still receiving certain tax benefits or exemptions through this agreement, it may be considered tax fraud. Please contact your personal accountant or call the tribal tax office with questions.

Members are responsible for complying with the agreement and are encouraged to contact the Sault Tribe Tax Office with any questions about any of the provisions of the state-tribe tax agreement.

Free tax help from AARP Make an appointment today!

AARP Tax-Aide is a program of the AARP Foundation, offered in with the IRS. The program is again taking calls to make appointments to prepare income tax returns for elderly and low-to-middle income taxpayers, including those only receiving Michigan Property Tax and Home Heating Credits.

Tax preparation sites are set in Sault Ste. Marie, Newberry, St. Ignace, Kinross, Cedarville, Engadine and Manistique with a new site in Chatham. Some of these sites are open only one or two days. Interested people must phone for appointments, phone numbers and dates are listed below. All sites are handicapped accessible and Equal Opportunity.

The program does Form 1040 and its required schedules. All returns are e-filed unless they must be sent as paper returns. The service is free, including e-filing.

When you come for your appointment, please bring Social Security cards for all to be included on the return, all 2010 information, such as a W-2 from each employer, all forms showing federal income tax paid and so on. When you call for an appointment, the counselor will remind you of the information you must bring.

Check to determine eligibility for Michigan credits for

property tax relief and home heating relief. Very often people think they don't owe any tax so they don't bother to see if they are eligible for the credits. A Tax-Aide counselor can determine this for you. Bring your property tax statements and home heating bills with you to your appointment.

Call 1 (800) 227-7669 or visit www.aarp.org/taxaide and enter your zip code or the sites as indicated below.

Sault Ste. Marie, Bayliss Public Library, 253-9519, Fridays starting Feb. 18, 9-5 p.m.;

Cedarville, Les Cheneaux Community Library, 647-7362, Saturdays, Feb. 12 and 26, Mar. 12, 12-3 p.m.;

Kinross Recreational Center, 647-7362; Thursdays, Feb. 17 and Feb. 24, 8-4 p.m.;

St. Ignace Public Library, 643-7307, dates and times pending;

Tahquamenon Area Senior Citizen Center, 293-8467, Mondays starting Feb. 21, 9:30-4 p.m.;

Chatham, Rock River Township Hall, Alger COA 387-2439, Thursdays, March 17 and 24, times pending;

Manistique; 293-8467; Wednesday, Feb 16; 8-4 p.m.;

Engadine; Garfield Township Hall, 293-8467; Tuesdays, start date pending; 9:30-5 p.m.

Get a free tax return and test your Earned Income Tax Credit eligibility

FROM EUP UNITED WAY

SAULT STE. MARIE — More workers could be eligible for a special tax credit this year and not know it. As a result, they may overlook claiming the Earned Income Tax Credit, or EITC, which can put anywhere from \$2 to more than \$5,600 into their pockets.

People move into and out of EITC eligibility based on changes in their earnings, their parental status or their marital status according to Tracey Laitinen, Executive Director for United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula. "Many people

will qualify for the first time this year due to economic changes in their incomes," she said.

Laitinen encourages anyone who earned \$48,362 or less from wages, self-employment or farming in 2010 to see if they qualify. Eligible workers can get their EITC only if they file federal income tax returns — even if they are not otherwise required to file — and specifically claim the credit.

"IRS estimates four out of five eligible workers claim their EITC. We want to raise that to five out of five," Laitinen said. "You earned it. Now file, claim

it and get it."

Taxpayers can schedule to have their taxes done for free by calling United Way of the E.U.P. at 632-3700, ext. 3, and asking for Kimberly. Students at LSSU have donated their time again this year to assist with the FREE Volunteer Tax Program.

"EITC is a financial boost for working people hit by hard economic times. This is money that can make their lives a little easier, especially families with three or more children who get an extra boost with a larger credit this year," Laitinen said.

The Internal Revenue Service is a bureau of the United States Department of the Treasury and its mission is to provide America's taxpayers top quality service by helping them understand and meet their tax responsibilities and enforce the law with integrity and fairness to all.

The agency can be contacted via www.irs.gov or local offices.

Attention Sault Tribe members: Tax exemption policy reminder

All enrolled Sault Tribe members residing in the tax agreement areas, and thus eligible to receive tax exemption under the state-tribe tax agreement, must request "tax exemption certificates" prior to initiating a significant transaction or purchase that would entitle a tribal member to a Michigan sales tax exemption.

The tax exemption policy specifically applies to the sales and use tax for purchases of vehicles, modular homes, mobile homes, building materials, home improvements, treaty commercial fishing expenses and taxes paid on tangible personal property acquired within tribal and trust lands for commercial

use. Members are required to submit 4013 tax forms when filing their income taxes if they wish to obtain the annual sales and use tax refunds.

The exemption policy requires members to obtain and complete a "Tribal Certificate of Exemption for Sales and Use Tax (Form 3998)" prior to a tax exempt purchase. Following the submission of completed 3998 forms, and as long as members are qualified to receive tax exemptions, a signed "letter of authorization" and a "tax exemption certificate" will be issued. The original certificates must then be provided to the sellers or vendors prior to purchases or at times of purchases.

A copy of the certificate must also be retained by the purchaser.

Members must provide the Sault Tribe Tax Office with sellers' contact information, the purchasers' contact information, and specific details of items to be purchased, all of which is required on the 3998 tax form.

The only way to obtain a 3998 tax form is to contact Candace Blocher or Melanie Lyons from the Sault Tribe Tax Office at (906) 632-6281 or 635-6050.

For more information regarding the 3998 tax form, please visit the Sault Tribe's official website at www.saulttribe.com or visit michigan.gov/treasury.

Tribal member appointed to state humanities board

By RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe member DJ Hoffman was recently appointed to the Michigan Humanities Council Board of Directors by Governor Jennifer Granholm in Lansing, Mich.

According to the state, the Michigan Humanities Council was founded in 1974 as the state affiliation with the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The council's mission is to connect "people and communities by fostering and creating quality cultural programs." The council works toward its goals of fostering cultural exploration through a variety of methods. It conducts and awards grants for statewide public humanities and cultural programs, initiates organizational and institutional partnerships to bolster humanities concerns in the state and leads public efforts in humanities. In addition, the council strives to foster a greater understanding and engagement in the cultures, histories and values found in communities.

"DJ Hoffman is a natural fit on the Michigan Humanities Council," said Granholm. "DJ's great work in economic development for the tribe along with his devotion to the community in Sault Ste. Marie are just two of the reasons I appointed him to the council."

A former representative on the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians



DJ Hoffman

Board of Directors and numerous other mainstream and tribal boards, Hoffman is actively involved with many of the support mechanisms of his mainstream and tribal communities.

Hoffman was the economic development director for the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan in Sault Ste. Marie before his election to the tribal board of directors in 2006. He also has experience as a junior investment manager for the tribe and as a marketing representative for Kewadin Casinos.

Hoffman holds degrees from Lake Superior State University and Michigan State University and is completing a master's degree in public administration from Northern Michigan University.

Hoffman will serve a two-year term alongside 24 other members of the Michigan Humanities Council Board of Directors.

The council describes the humanities as those things that place us in the worldwide neighborhood of humankind and to see and understand where we, as humans, have things in common and where we are different. It is explored mostly through fields such as cultural anthropology, comparative religion, ethics, philosophy, archaeology, languages, history, arts and others.

Attention resident tribal members in registered tax agreement areas:

The Tribal Tax Office will not be sending a mass mailing of the 2010 Michigan Resident Tribal Member annual Sales Tax Credit Form 4013.

Resident tribal members may contact the Tribal Tax Office to request 4013 Sales Tax Credit Forms.

The 4013 Sales Tax

Credit Forms will also be available at the following tribal centers:

- Tribal administration in Sault Ste. Marie.
- Manistique health center
- Munising health center
- Hessel health center
- Sault Ste. Marie

health center

- St. Ignace health center

This change is being put into effect to help alleviate delays in Michigan income tax refunds and credits due to incorrect addresses. The Tribal Tax Office can be reached at 632-6281, or toll free at (866) 632-6281.

TOURNAMENTS

Weekly Poker Tournaments

Sault Ste. Marie - Thursdays & Sundays
St. Ignace - Wednesdays & Saturdays

\$15,000 Spin to Win Tournament

Kewadin St. Ignace
February 11-13, 2011

\$15,000 Poker Blast Tournament

Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
February 18-20, 2011

\$15,000 Video Poker Tournament

Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
March 4-6, 2011

\$15,000 Keno Tournament

Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
March 18-20, 2011

Slots of Fun Tournaments

2-7 p.m.

Mondays - Hessel & Christmas
Tuesdays - Manistique

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Sault Ste. Marie
Michigan



The Pink Floyd Experience

Tuesday, March 15 - 7 p.m.
Sault Ste. Marie
Michigan

KEWADIN LOUNGE ACTS

Sault Ste. Marie	St. Ignace
Feb. 4 - Splitshot • Feb. 5 - UFC	Feb. 4-5 - Crossroads
Thursday Night Comedy	Wednesday Night Comedy
February 10 - Keith Lenart with Kate Brindle	February 9 - Keith Lenart with Kate Brindle
Shows begin at 9 p.m.	Shows begin at 9 p.m.
Manistique	
February 4 - Karaoke • February 5 - Bearwalker	

VALENTINES DAY!

Monday, February 14
All Kewadin Sites

Stop by the Northern Rewards Club for your FREE gift from 6-10 p.m.

Dine in the restaurants or Hessel Deli for a chance to win "Dinner on Us" from 4:30 -9 p.m.

Valentine Buffet

DreamCatchers Restaurant
Sault Ste. Marie

Valentine Specials

Horseshoe Bay Restaurant
St. Ignace

Don't Miss ...

THE BIG GAME BAR PARTIES

All Kewadin Sites
- AND -

THE BIG GAME THEATER PARTY

Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
Sunday February 6, 2011

FORTUNE FEBRUARY

February 19, 2011
All Kewadin Sites

There could be over 4,000 winners in one day!

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Help for college financial aid applicants

Hundreds of volunteers will help college-bound Michigan students and their families complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA at more than two dozen, statewide College Goal Sunday events Feb. 13, 2011.

College Goal Sunday is a collaborative effort of the Michigan Department of Education, the Michigan Student Financial Aid Association and Edu-Guide. The program was created to increase the number of students who continue education

beyond high school and earn post-secondary degrees.

The FAFSA is required of any student seeking financial aid including grants, loans, and many scholarships. Last year, more than 1,900 students received assistance at College Goal Sunday events.

"It is critical that high school seniors and their parents are aware of these College Goal Sunday events," said Bryan Taylor, President of EduGuide. "Students must complete and file a FAFSA in order to secure financial aid

and should file by the March 1st priority date to ensure eligibility for federal and state programs." Statistics show that students who complete and submit FAFSA forms are more likely to go on to college.

On College Goal Sunday, financial aid experts will be available to guide students and their parents through each step of completing and filing the FAFSA.

Students under 23 years of age are encouraged to attend with a parent or guardian. Parents and students should

bring their completed 2010 Federal tax return (1040) if possible, or their W-2 and 1099 forms.

Dozens of sites across Michigan will be hosting College Goal Sunday on Feb. 13, 2011. For a complete list of locations and additional information, visit www.micollegegoal.org/Parents/Locations/tabid/1362.

Valuable prizes will be awarded during College Goal Sunday events, including a \$1,000 scholarship, three \$500 scholarships, an iPod Nano and a Dell laptop computer.

Additional support for College Goal Sunday was provided by the C.S. Mott Foundation, the Lumina Foundation for Education, and the DTE Energy Foundation.

Task force created to address suicides in Indian Country

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention was created in 2010 in large part because the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention recognized in 2001 the growing need to work with public, private and philanthropic communities and organizations to respond to the growing number of suicides in the United States.

As part of the Alliance's commitment to work with at risk communities and populations, three new task forces were recently added to address suicide prevention efforts in high-risk populations, with one of those being American Indians and Alaskan Natives. The two other groups include youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender and military service members and veterans. This brings to six the number of task forces formed by the Alliance.

Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates and Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius launched the Alliance with the input and support of the National Council for Suicide Prevention, the

Veteran's Administration and many public and private sector stakeholders.

Sault Tribe Vice Chairman Lana Causley, said, "It's our responsibility as parents, community members and leaders to identify the needs of our youth that struggle in their adolescent years. Many factors contribute to our at risk teens and with us recognizing and facing the staggering numbers of youth that need us to protect them, we can — and need to — assist them and their families."

According to a recent press release by the Action Alliance, suicide is the second leading cause of death for American Indian youth and young adults ages 10-34.

Jointly leading the American Indian and Alaskan Native Task Force are three well-known names throughout Indian Country: Indian Health Service Director Yvette Roubideaux, Interior Dept. assistant secretary of Indian Affairs Larry Echo Hawk and National Indian Youth Leadership Project Executive Director McClellan Hall.

Roubideaux believes the task force will be able to make a dif-

ference as it works to end the rising number of suicides. "For American Indian and Alaskan Native communities this assistance is especially needed," she said.

The first three task forces created by the Action Alliance include Data and Surveillance, Research, and National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (NSSP). The first two task forces are working collaboratively to identify and develop systems and strategies to improve the collection of data on suicidal behaviors, while reviewing research on suicide prevention and keeping the NSSP updated on their findings.

Sault Tribe Unit I Director Cathy Abramson, said, "I'm proud of the fact that our suicide prevention staff has developed a program to address awareness and prevention with activities and trainings that recognize and include our unique cultural perspective. I'm also very pleased that the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention has added a new task force to address suicide prevention efforts within our American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations."

Speaker at LSSU on how kids are conditioned to kill

Calling all parents and community members — Internationally renowned speaker Lieutenant Colonel Dave Grossman presents, *How Our Kids Are Learning To Kill: Lessons From Jonesboro, Littleton and Vietnam*, Monday, April 4, 6-8 p.m., at the LSSU Fine Arts Center.

The event is free and open to the public. Email Lisa Jo Gagliardi with any questions at lgagliardi@eup.k12.mi.us. The event is sponsored by the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District, Take the Challenge, LSSU and Lt. Col. Grossman.

Grossman is one of the world's leading experts on the causes of violent crime and the author of the acclaimed book, *Stop Teaching Our Kids To*

Kill. He raises awareness on the effects of violent visual media on children and adolescents.

According to a 2009 Michigan youth risk behavior survey, by the time the average child reaches 18, they will have witnessed 200,000 acts of violence and 16,000 murders through visual media.

High school students reported in the survey:

— Watching more than three hours of TV on an average school day (3 in 10).

— Playing more than three hours of video games or using a computer for something other than schoolwork on an average school day (1 in 4).

— Being in a physical fight in the past year (1 in 3).

— Being bullied in the past year (1 in 4).



Lt. Col. Dave Grossman, author and speaker will present facts and insights at LSSU on April 4 about how everyday activities can mentally condition children.

Upper Peninsula College Goal Sunday events Sunday, Feb. 13, 2-4 p.m.

Escanaba — Bay de Noc Community College, Student Center Building, 2001 North Lincoln Road, Escanaba, MI 49829

Marquette — Northern Michigan University, Don H Botton University Center, Ontario/Michigan Rooms (Second floor), 1401 Presque Isle Avenue, Marquette, MI 49855

Sault Ste. Marie — Sault Area High School, 904 Marquette Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

College Horizons deadline is Feb. 14

PROGRAM HELPS AMERICAN INDIAN HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WITH ACQUIRING HIGHER EDUCATION GOALS

SUBMITTED BY EDUCATION

College Horizons is a non-profit organization that encourages and facilitates higher education of young American Indians. They offer a one week "crash course" during summers providing outstanding high school sophomores and juniors with excellent information about college admissions, financial aid and taking tests. Admissions counselors from the Ivy League schools and other highly competitive universities are on hand to interact with students and begin the recruiting process.

High school sophomores and juniors can apply for one of these summer workshops:

- Colorado State University (Fort Collins, Colo.) June 12-17
- University of Rochester

in New York, June 26-July 1

Interested students should visit www.collegehorizons.org for the application and more information or become a fan on Facebook.

Please note there is a \$50 deposit due at the time of the application.

The Sault Tribe Education director has information about resources for those families who might have difficulty coming up with the deposit and the remaining \$175 program fee and transportation costs. Do not let the cost of this excellent program keep you from applying.

Contact Education Director Angeline Bouley-Matson at (906) 635-4944 or via email at amatson@saulttribe.net for more information.

Miigwech.

Coming conferences for youth and family empowerment

Disconnected youth in March

Chippewa County Council for Youth and Families presents Dr. John Seita *Connecting With Kids Who Outwit Adults*, a one-day conference to enhance your understanding

of disconnected youth, on Thursday, March 10 from 8 a.m to 4 p.m.

A parent session will be offered from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Social work continuing education credits pending.

Suicide prevention in April

The Sault Tribe Alive Youth (STAY) Project is hosting Empowering Lives, Empowering Communities Conferences April 26-27 in the Sault and April 28-29 in Marquette.

Topics are suicide prevention, bullying

prevention, risk and protective factors and healthy living. Included are a blend of forums, presenters and workshops with both local and national speakers.

Contact STAY at 635-8629 or stayproject@saulttribe.net.

Online science fair offers very exciting prizes

BY RICK SMITH

Youngsters between the ages of 13 and 18 years of age are invited to submit projects in an online science fair competition that offers scholarships of up to \$50,000 and choices of outstanding adventures exploring scientific fields. Aside from a passion for science and some determination, anyone who wishes to participate just needs to have access to a computer connected to the Internet and a web browser.

The Google Science Fair, touted by its sponsors as the first global online science

competition, is backed by the partnership of Google, *Scientific American* and *National Geographic* magazines, CERN and the LEGO Group.

Young competitors may enter the contest individually or in teams of three. In the end, there will be three finalist winners, one from each age category of 13-14, 15-16, 17-18, and one of the three finalists will be selected as winner of the grand prize.

The mind-boggling grand prize package includes a \$50,000 scholarship, which would be divided equally among team members should

a team win; a 10-day trip with a parent or chaperone to the Galapagos Islands aboard the expedition ship National Geographic Endeavour; choice of fantastic trips, experiences and internships offered by the competition sponsors, such as a one-year internship in Switzerland; personal LEGO color mosaics that come with specially-made LEGO boxes; and digital access to the archives of *Scientific American* for the winner's school.

A \$25,000 scholarship goes to each of the remaining finalists, again split among team

members, and a choice of one of the once-in-a-lifetime experiences offered through the sponsors. Finalists will also win personalized LEGO mosaics and digital access to the *Scientific American* archives for their schools.

Prizes going to 15 semi-finalists include a LEGO goodie bag of high tech sets and gear, a Google package that features a Chrome Notebook and an Android phone along with a year's subscription to *National Geographic* magazine.

A People's Choice Award of

a \$10,000 scholarship finishes off the potential prize purse.

The call for entries into the competition closes on April 4, the first round of judging starts in May and semi-finalists will be announced on May 9. Public voting for the People's Choice Award commences on May 9 until May 20 and the winner will be announced on May 23 along with the naming of the finalists. Winners will be announced about July 11.

For complete information, rules and links, go to www.google.com/events/sciencefair.



Photos by Jennifer Dale-Burton
INDIAN POWER — Tribal members Allen Cadreau and Henry Boulley (left, L-R) attended an Elders Advisory Committee meeting at Nokomis-Mishomis Place to answer questions about their business, Indian Energy LLC. The tribe recently purchased a \$2.5 million, 15 percent equity stake in the new company, a utility-scale green energy power plant development firm. Tribal members recently approved the equity purchase by referendum. Above, Cadreau chats with two elders after the presentation.

NMAI opens 2011 high school essay contest

BY RICK SMITH

The Smithsonian Institute National Museum of the American Indian recently announced an invitation to all American Indian high school students to author essays on obstacles blocking progress in their tribes and how they can be conquered.

The deadline for submissions is April 1, 2011. Prizes include \$2,500 scholarships, all-expense-paid trips to Washington, D.C., for an honors ceremony, writing workshops with a leading American Indian author and a tour of the nation's capitol in addition to the museum's Cultural Resources Center.

Judges will announce five finalists of the 2011 Young Native Writers Essay Contest in May who will be ceremoni-

ously awarded the scholarships to the colleges or universities of their choosing.

The honors ceremony will take place tentatively in July at the Washington, D.C., offices of the competition's co-sponsor, the Holland and Knight Charitable Foundation, funded by the international law firm of Holland and Knight LLP. Teachers who inspired student essay entries will accompany the winners. First-place winners will receive a special award for display at home or school and all participants will receive official recognition certificates honoring their efforts.

According to the foundation, the Young Native Writers Essay Contest is designed to encourage young American Indians to consider crucial issues faced by their tribes today and to develop

possible remedies.

This is the sixth year for the annual writing contest. The idea came in 2005 as an effort toward community healing following the March 2005 tragedy on the Red Lake Indian Reservation when an Anishinaabe high school student shot family members, several classmates, a teacher, a security guard and then himself.

The competition is open to all American Indian high school students in grades 9 through 12 only who have a "significant and current relationship" with an American Indian tribal community.

Those interested in learning more about the competition should visit www.nativewriters.hklaw.com or send email traffic in care of Susan Bass at susan.bass@hklaw.com.

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Superintendent Position JKL Bahweting PSA

The JKL Bahweting PSA in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., is conducting a search for a superintendent. The board is seeking to employ a qualified candidate with experience in working with diverse populations. Applicants should complete an electronic application, which can be found at www.jklschool.org by clicking on the "employment opportunities" button on the home page. You must include a minimum of letter of interest, current resume, credentials, and references. Only electronically-filed applications will be considered. More information regarding this position and qualifications can be found at www.jklschool.org under "employment opportunities." Application deadline is February 18, 2011.

Prospective applicants can contact Pete Everson, Superintendent of Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District. Pete is facilitating JKL Bahweting School with this superintendent search.

His contact information is:

Pete Everson
peverson@eup.k12.mi.us
906-632-3373, ext.110



Prospective applicants should not contact any current employees or Board members at JKL concerning this posting.

Sault winter Farmers' Market in operation

By Rick Smith

Seeking to establish a continuing market through the winter for farmers and other purveyors of locally grown foods in the Sault Ste. Marie area, the Greening Michigan Institute of Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) is sponsoring a weekly farmers' market on Saturday mornings in the Community Room of the Bayliss Public Library.

The market opened for business on Jan. 8 and is scheduled to operate from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Saturday until May 7.

Among the local delicacies one may find at the market are fresh eggs, baked goods, maple syrup, buffalo and fish.

MSUE District 2 coordinator Jim Lucas said a winter market allows fans of fresh foods to acquire some of the popular items sold at the Sault Farmers' Market during summers since 2003. "Chickens don't stop laying eggs just because it's winter," he said. "We have products people want, so we're making it available to them." His district covers the six eastern counties of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, encompassing Chippewa, Mackinac, Luce, Schoolcraft, Alger and Delta



Photo by Rick Smith

LSSU Professor Sherry Duesing (standing, left) peers at the camera as she chats with Dick Timmer, whose family produces genuine maple syrup, and fishmongers Bob (seated) and Rory Parrish look on at the debut of the winter Farmers' Market in Sault Ste. Marie. Tammy Biron (background, right) readies hand crafted soaps and other wares as another peddler prepares a display of home-made jams, jellies and crafts. The winter Farmers' Market is scheduled for Saturday mornings until May at the Bayliss Public Library.

counties.

Ken Miller, Bayliss Public Library director, said representatives from the library began participating in the summer Farmers' Market a few years ago to take advantage of an opportunity for a public presence outside of the library.

Further, the market is an ideal setting for the Friends of Bayliss Public Library organization to raise operating funds through sales of books on gardening.

Delighted to receive an invitation from Lucas to host a winter farmers' market, Miller con-

sidered the library's Community Room as a good launching pad but paused over concern that the facility is only available to nonprofits; and the farmers are essentially business operators who would be selling wares in the library.

"As we discussed this issue,

I came to the conclusion that it was sponsored by a non-profit — MSU Extension Service, it is a genuine community service — making unique farm-fresh products available in the community and it is supporting a deserving group of local businesses — the farmers," said Miller. "So, as unlikely as it seems, we will be hosting the Farmers' Market at the library! I hope this will also have the result of bringing more people to the library who otherwise might not have come. That they will see what their library has to offer — MUCH more than just books — and that they will become new library users."

Winter farmers' markets have been operating in many other cold climate areas for years conducting business in churches, businesses, community buildings and any other place where there may be heated, vacant spaces. Of course, winter markets don't require the same amount of space as summer markets because of the seasonal losses of fruit and vegetable crops.

Anyone wanting further information about the weekly market may call Jim Lucas at 635-6368 or Ken Miller at 632-9331.

McKelvie returns to Tribal Court in new role

On Jan. 20, Pat McKelvie returned to work at Tribal Court, serving in the new role of Specialty Court coordinator.

In his new position, McKelvie will oversee the Drug Court, Domestic Violence (DV) Court and Teen Court programs, as well as any Specialty Court programs Tribal Court incorporates in the future.

Specialty Court programs are not courts in and of themselves, rather they are sentencing and dispositional programs for adult criminals and juvenile delinquents.

The Specialty Court coordinator is a new position, funded by a three-year grant from the Department of Justice.

McKelvie previously worked at Tribal Court from 2003 to 2007 as the adult probation officer. At that time, he also served

as unofficial coordinator of the Drug Court and was instrumental in the development and enhancement of the program in its early days.

"I am excited about the direction that Drug Court is headed," McKelvie said. "Current collaborative efforts with 91st District may result in Drug Court being an option for a much broader range of tribal participants."

As a member of our DV Court team prior to his return to Tribal Court, McKelvie was involved in the development of that program from its infancy.

As to the new DV Court program, he said, "I see DV Court improving victim safety and enhancing defendant accountability. As the team continues to meet and discuss ongoing issues, we are not only address-



Pat McKelvie

ing the ever growing demands of violence in our tribal community but hopefully offering solutions as well."

With a degree in human services and an employment background that includes probation, substance abuse counseling, men's education group facilitator, anger management

coach, nurturing parent program facilitator, and working with juveniles both at the court and with ACFS, McKelvie is uniquely qualified to serve as the Specialty Court coordinator.

Moreover, McKelvie's belief in the effectiveness and benefits of specialty courts is apparent.

"Specialty courts are effective—increasing rehabilitation rates, maintaining community safety, reducing recidivism, and using resources wisely," he said. "The positive outcomes of therapeutic jurisprudence result from the cooperation of the tribal chief judge, law enforcement, prosecutor, defense attorneys, Sault Tribe Behavioral Health, an education specialist, a cultural training specialist, the Specialty Court coordinator, Anishnabek Community and Family Services caseworkers,

community support representatives, victim's advocates and a board representative."

He added, "This problem-solving team approach allows people with addiction and or domestic violence issues to heal and atone, rather than perpetuate disease, violence and criminal activity."

Tribal Court is thrilled to have McKelvie back as a member of the staff and is looking forward to the improvements he makes to the programs available to members in Tribal Court.

"This return to Tribal Court is not only exciting, it is an opportunity for me to give back to the court and more specifically the tribe, both of which have invested so much in my life and my recovery. Miigwech," McKelvie said.

Caseworkers offer help and access to resources to families

By Brenda Austin

SAULT STE. MARIE

— Tara Stevens-Calder is a caseworker for the Sault Tribe Binogii Placement Agency within Anishnabek Community and Family Services. According to Calder, when people hear the term caseworker they often become defensive and tend to view her in a negative way.

"When you have a family that really wants a child and a child that really needs a home and you can get them together — that's a wonderful thing," Calder said. "Sometimes the perception of caseworkers is that it is a bad thing when we are working with families. That is not the case, we are there to help and keep our tribal families together."

Calder said she is there to

help families in crisis. She can direct them to services that would help meet their needs, provide transportation when appropriate and sometimes help people find jobs and housing. One of the most rewarding things she does is help families become stronger and healthier so their children can remain at home instead of being placed into the foster care system.

Sometimes there is no other option than to place children into foster care, often with other tribal families or relatives. When this happens, Calder and the team at ACFS work with these families by offering them parenting classes, counseling, treatment for substance or alcohol abuse and any other services deemed appropriate for that family.



Tara Stevens-Calder

Calder began working for ACFS in 2007 as the Child Advocacy Center coordinator. In 2008, she applied for a caseworker position and was hired. Some of the agency's caseworkers spend more time working

in different areas such as foster care and adoptions. Calder said she works in a variety of areas, including monitoring the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) cases from throughout the country, providing family and prevention services, liaising between the Department of Human Services (DHS) caseworkers and the tribe's Child Welfare Committee, conducting protective services investigations, licensing foster care families and completing paperwork. Calder has also been qualified as an "Indian expert witness" in several state courts, including Chippewa County, for cases involving ICWA monitoring.

About 50 percent of her time is spent in the office and the other half with clients. "Your heart has to be in your work and

you have to be here for the right reasons," she said. "You have to be dedicated to children and families and want to make a difference in someone's life every day."

Some of the biggest success stories, according to Calder, are when clients are offered support services and are successful at keeping their children in the home. "There are situations where we have done everything we can to help parents reunify with their child or children once they have been removed, but sometimes that is not possible. We do everything we can in cases like that to locate family members to place the children with so they are not completely removed from their family and those that love them."

Sault business passes 30 years of service

By RICK SMITH

If you live in the Eastern Upper Peninsula, it's safe to say you benefit from the handiwork of the Roy Electric Company. Safe passage through cold, dark nights on the sidewalks of downtown Sault Ste. Marie, studying at Bay Mills Community College, flying out of Kinross International Airport and many more activities and places are aided by the company's installations. In a sense, Roy Electric has grown by helping the region grow, something it's been doing for over 30 years.

According to two of the three owners, Sault Tribe members Jeff Roy and Sandy Gaus, the company opened for business on Feb. 20, 1980, in a garage on Riverside Drive at the home of Roy's father, Rodney Roy, just in time for Jeff to begin learning about the trade.

As time went on and the company grew, Sandy Gaus joined the company in 1984 to handle the administrative component of the company structure. The



Photo by Rick Smith

Owners of Roy Electric Company pose at the entrance of their office and warehouse facility at 2901 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Last year, the company passed the 30-year mark of helping the eastern Upper Peninsula grow as well as contributing work with projects elsewhere. Left to right, Jeff Roy, Sandy Gaus and Ken Dale.

company relocated before its present site was built at 2901 Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie in 1985. Ken Dale began working for the company in 1988; he took a hiatus for schooling and other pursuits before returning in 1998. The trio of Jeff Roy,

Gaus and Dale formed a partnership and assumed ownership of the company in 2002.

The company tackles projects both large and small but, after 30 years, even a cursory partial roster of Roy Electric's major projects is quite extensive. It

includes most Sault Tribe facilities, from the earliest days when the first casino opened to most of the tribe's other construction and renovation projects to date. They helped the City of Sault Ste. Marie with the downtown streetscape project, courthouse updates, two jail expansions, marina construction and many other works. The City of St. Ignace also received services such as wiring the new marina. Safe takeoffs and landings at the Kinross International Airport are made possible, in part, by the runway lights and other gear the company installed. The Helen Joy Newberry Hospital and Health Care Center helps people with power put in place by Roy Electric. They also helped the United States government with service at the Pendills-Sullivan Creek National Fish Hatchery.

An example of the company's work among private concerns can be found at the 200-unit West Pier Place Apartments in Sault Ste. Marie.

"We try to stay home and

stay local," said Dale. But that doesn't mean they won't travel, they have been involved in projects outside the EUP at points west and some distance south of the Mackinac Bridge.

In addition to business pursuits, the company enhances the Sault community through volunteerism in a number of functions that probably go unnoticed by most folks. They note services rendered at events such as fishing derbies, the annual I-500 snowmobile race, ball games and the annual sidewalk sales.

Roy indicates the situation surrounding the national and local economies has made business rough for about the past 10 years. He remains optimistic and hopes to pass the business down to the next generation someday.

"I'm proud to have kept this business going from my father," said Roy. "And I'm proud of the partnership. We're still doing well. We've been here 30 years, and we don't plan on going anywhere."

Food bank helps non-profits feed EUP needy

By BRENDA AUSTIN

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Feeding American West Michigan Food Bank, formerly known as the Eastern Upper Peninsula Food Bank, has been helping local non-profit agencies feed hungry families in Luce, Mackinac and Chippewa counties for over 20 years.

The food bank serves a total of about 70 programs in Chippewa County including several tribal programs, 19 programs in Mackinac County and 13 in Luce County.

Those figures vary each month; some are holiday programs that serve once a year, while others have limited funding.

Of the programs the food bank serves, there are about 14 Sault Tribe programs, according to branch manager Lee Ann Izzard, including Sault Tribe Housing, Tribal Court, Child Care, Head Start, Early Head Start, elder meals, Youth Education and Activities (YEA) and the Health Advisory Program.

Sault Tribe agencies use the food bank to supplement the budget they are given to run these programs.

Any agency receiving food and non-food items through the food bank must be registered as a non-profit 501c3 corporation.

During the month of December, three Sault Tribe programs from Chippewa County (YEA, Head Start and elder meals) and the YEA program from Luce County used the food bank.

These programs drew 1,741 pounds of food during December for a cost of only \$273.98, with most of this cost coming from the shared maintenance fee of .16 cents a pound used to offset operating expenses.

Purchasing these same products from the store would have cost \$3,699.78 (at the national



Photos by Brenda Austin

Above, Roxanne Blalock, a part-time employee at the food bank and Manager Lee Ann Izzard. Below, volunteer Jim Cornwell works in the warehouse.



average of \$2.17 pound) for a savings of about \$3,425.80 for just one month.

Some of the other local agencies receiving food bank items are the Salvation Army, First Church of Christ, Living Word Church, Community Bible Church and the Diane Peppler Shelter.

The food bank offers a wide range of food from fresh

dairy products to fresh frozen meat, canned goods and apples, onions and potatoes.

In addition they offer non-food items such as toilet paper, paper towels, cleaning supplies and occasionally pet food.

"We are one of the lowest priced food banks," Izzard said. "We try to keep our shared maintenance fee as low as we can and still be operational."

The food bank receives deliveries every other Wednesday from their main warehouse in Grand Rapids while one of their largest sources of local donations comes from the Sault Ste. Marie WalMart. Other donations come from the annual postal service food drive and the Michigan Harvest Gathering, a collaborative effort between state employees, hospitals, the Department of Corrections, Charter Commutations and others. Izzard said local individuals donate food and cash to the program.

The food bank also receives grant funding through the Food Bank Council of Michigan and about \$9,000 a year from the United Way of the EUP.

Although the food pantry cannot help individuals, Izzard hopes that will soon change. The smallest of the seven branches in Michigan, West Michigan Food Bank is beginning some much-needed changes this year. The food bank plans to eventually offer a food pantry inside its warehouse and will either expand the current warehouse or move to a larger facility. Izzard also hopes to offer a mobile pantry for clients within the next few years. This would allow non-profit organizations to distribute food to the needy without having a building or pantry of their own. The mobile pantry would park in designated parking areas for a few hours for each distribution. Clients would walk around the truck, often an old pop delivery truck, selecting the goods.

The food bank is primarily supplied by surpluses and edible but unsaleable errors of local and national food and grocery products companies. Over 1,300 food pantries are served through their seven warehouses, including homeless shelters, soup kitchens, domestic violence shelters, rescue missions

and other charity agencies across 40 Michigan counties. The distributed food aids about 100,000 needy families in West Michigan each year. In 2009, the warehouses distributed over 24.5 million pounds of food and other goods — over a million pounds every 15 days.

Izzard said they always welcome people who would like to volunteer their time or who have community service to fulfill. Volunteers help clean the warehouse, condense and organize items on shelves, sort out and stock weekly donations and office and computer work as needed.

To find out about volunteer opportunities or for more information, contact Lee Ann Izzard at (906) 632-0348, or by email: leeanni@feedingamericawest-michigan.org. The food bank is located at 815 Meridian St. in Sault Ste. Marie.

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Opinion: The health care repeal exception



BY MARK TRAHANT, GUEST COLUMNIST

Will Republicans muster enough votes to repeal the health care bill? A Michigan Republican said over the New Year's weekend he sees "significant" bipartisan support for repeal, possibly even enough votes to override a presidential veto.

U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R-Michigan, said on Fox News Jan. 2, "If we pass this bill with a size-able vote, and I think that we will, it will put enormous pressure on the Senate to do the same thing."

An outright repeal, however, requires two-thirds majority in both the House and the Senate. A hurdle that is about as close to impossible as it gets in Washington, D.C.

That's why the Republican strategy includes three other elements: Investigate, repeal sections and refuse to limit the

money needed to implement the law.

"The so-called Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) has been widely criticized by the American public, and for good reason," Upton wrote last month. "... Real oversight is needed, and the Energy and Commerce Committee will work closely with other committees of jurisdiction to reveal, repeal and replace this law."

And to use Upton's phrase, these "so-called" probes already know what they will uncover. As Upton himself put it: "Our investigations will demonstrate the need to repeal this law and replace it with common sense reforms that lower costs and increase accessibility to healthcare without increasing government."

But this is where the story gets complicated. Too bad there's not that same passion for oversight when it comes to the historical underfunding for Indian health programs. Or, in general, what will any of these investigations say about American Indian and Alaska Native health? Will there even be a question about the impact of "reveal, repeal and replace" for Native American communities?

I doubt it.

Yet many Republicans — often with districts with large numbers of American Indian or Alaska Native voters — say they don't like and will vote to repeal the health care reform law, but they do like the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. New South Dakota Rep. Kristi Noem said as much during her election campaign.

But that logic is flawed: if there is a repeal of the health care reform bill, there also will be a repeal of the "permanent" status found in the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. The two laws are one.

There is no way, politically at least, to repeal health care reform except for the Indian health care provisions (or for that matter, other popular measures, such as relief for the donut-hole in Medicare). This is a simple way of pleasing folks back home that means

nothing. There is no exception; there is only a divide between those who would work with this law, complicated as it is, and those that would start over with nothing.

Beyond that stark rhetoric however is a practical question. Will the new Republican majority support stable funding the Indian Health Care Improvement Act? The law is only an authorization to spend money — it must be implemented by an appropriations from Congress.

This is where the seeds of tragedy are being planted. The Republicans are creating a new powerful budget post, chaired by Paul Ryan from Wisconsin. He will have the authority to set a ceiling for federal spending. The spending committees, then, would have to spend below that ceiling. Some Republicans in Congress have promised to roll back that spending as much as

20 percent. Imagine the impact on an already starved Indian health system. (Ryan has also called for abolishing Medicare for those under 55 years old as well as the Children's Health Insurance Program and Medicaid. All three are key elements of funding the Indian health system.)

Republicans promised a frugal government. If that's really what they want, then the Indian health system should be fully funded because it's the most efficient health care delivery system in the country.

But that would require an exception to flawed logic.

Mark Trahant is a writer, speaker and Twitter poet. He is a member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and lives in Fort Hall, Idaho. Trahant's recent book, The Last Great Battle of the Indian Wars, is the story of Sen. Henry Jackson and Forrest Gerard.

Culture Department sets four language camps

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

SAULT STE. MARIE — Nothing but the 'Nishinaabe language will be spoken 24 hours a day for four days at the Sault Tribe's new language immersion camps. The tribe's Language Department will be holding four language immersion camps a year beginning this February through 2013.

Learners will be engaged in cultural and household activities to help them gain an understanding of the language used while doing familiar daily chores. About eight fluent mentors from Ontario Canada will be on hand to help language learners practice and communicate.

Language Instructor Orien Corbiere said the camps will be videotaped for the creation of a language resource development instructional video.

The first camp is scheduled for February 17-20 at the

Mary Murray Culture Camp on Sugar Island and is limited to 30 participants. The Language Department is recruiting language learners from the tribal membership to attend the camps with first priority given to those who currently attend language classes. Second priority will be given to tribal members who demonstrate a dedication to learning 'Nishinaabemowin.

Learners who are accepted must commit to attending all 12 immersion camps.

Corbiere said the intent of the camp is to take the learner beyond the level of a basic speaker, making prior knowledge of the language beneficial but not totally necessary. Corbiere said that in some cases exceptions could be made. Families are welcome and an adult must accompany young children while teens must have parental consent to attend the camp.

Weekly 'Nishinaabe language classes are held in Sault Ste. Marie on Thursdays from 12 to 1 p.m. across from the River of History Museum in the old Woolworth's building and from 6 to 8 p.m. at the tribe's cultural building across from the powwow grounds. There are about 50 people attending language classes on a weekly basis throughout the tribe's service area, with more online students from across the country.

People attending the camp are requested to arrive the night prior to camp starting and bring any personal items and bedding they may need. Food will be provided. For those not wishing or able to stay the night, camp begins at 9 a.m. on Feb. 17.

To register or for more information, contact Orien Corbiere or Cheryl Bernier at (906) 635-6050 or visit the Language Department at 523 Ashmun St. in downtown Sault Ste. Marie.

Language conference set for Sault in July

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Sault Tribe's language conference will take place this summer on July 6-9 at the Niigaanagiiizhik Building, powwow grounds and the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center.

This conference is bringing together language learners of all ages who may attend a range of workshops during the three-day event. We believe we can impact more members due to

the increased cost of registration fees.

We regret scholarships for ATEG conference will not be funded in the spring since we will be having a language conference.

For more information or registration call Cecil Pavlat or Theresa Lewis at (906) 635-6050 or email cpavlat@saulttribe.net or tlewis1@saulttribe.net.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Employment Opportunities

GOVERNMENTAL OPENINGS

Sault Ste. Marie:

Clinical social worker – Full time/regular – Open until filled

Compensation specialist – Full time/regular – Feb. 24.

Events worker – Seasonal – Open until filled

Family nurse practitioner/physician assistant (Community Care Clinic) – Two part Time or on call and one full time/regular – Open until filled

Pro shop worker II – Full time/regular – Open until filled

Youth program group assistant – Part time/seasonal – Open until filled

For additional information or to apply, you may contact either one of our employment offices at:

Sault Employment Office
(906) 635-7032 or toll free (866) 635-7032 or
STEmployment@saulttribe.net, 2186 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie

St. Ignace Employment Office
(906) 643-4176
3015 Mackinaw Trail, St. Ignace

Rich potato soup recipe for winter

SUBMITTED BY BOB FLOWERS

This thick, rich soup combines the smoky flavor of bacon, ham and vegetables in a creamy base sure to warm you on these cold winter nights. Serve with buttered bread, favorite crackers and a good herbal tea.

Ingredients:

2 large Yukon gold potatoes, peeled and cubed

1 medium sized yellow onion, peeled and diced

1 stalk celery, washed and sliced

5 tbs. bacon grease

1 cup cubed ham

3 tbs. flour

12 oz. condensed milk

1 cup fresh milk (2%)

1/4 tsp. liquid smoke

Add one tablespoon of bacon grease to a large saucepan and melt over medium heat. Add onion and celery and stir for one minute, add potatoes and stir. Cook over medium heat, stirring every two to three minutes until the potatoes just start to brown. Add a half-cup of water and cover. Cook for 15 minutes.

While potatoes cook, place remaining grease into a small

frying pan and melt over medium heat. Add flour and stir until combined, cook for two to three minutes, stirring every half minute or so, until the flour just starts to brown making a roux. Remove from heat, remove pot lid and pour roux into potato, onion and celery mixture and stir. Add condensed milk while stirring and let come to a slow boil over medium heat. When soup has thickened, add fresh milk and liquid smoke, stirring until incorporated into soup. Add ham and stir.

Serve hot.

Log onto Facebook and search for Chippewa County Against the Abuse of Prescription Drugs. Join the conversation and help seek remedies for one of the area's most pressing problems.

Makogizis Mazina'igan

Aaniin Abinoojiinyag
miinawaa Wenijjaanisijig!
Hey kids and parents!

Amy McCoy indizhi-wiinigoo.
*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-ondaa-
diziwaad makoonsag.
*Now is the time for the
bears to be born.*

Mii iw wenji-izhinikaazod
"Makogizis" noongom a'aw
giizis omaa Baawating.
*That's why it's called the
Bear Moon now here in Sault
Ste. Marie.*

Izhinikaazo ige
"Namebinigiizis" onzaam
aamiwag namebinag.
*It is also called the
"Sucker Moon" because the
Sucker fish are spawning.*

Margaret "Chi-Meg"
Benoit, Margaret Vassar,
Catherine LaPointe and
Anne Causley ingii-ig gii-
ikwezensiwiwaad, ikidowaad
"Mako" gawiin ogii-ikidosiin
"Makwa."

Margaret "Chi-Meg"
Benoit, Margaret Vassar,
Catherine LaPointe and
Anne Causley told me that
when they were girls, they
said "Mako" (for bear) and
didn't say "Makwa" (for
bear).

Gidaa-manaaji'aanaanig
igo Baawating chi-ayaa'aag.
*We should honor the wis-
dom of Baawating Elders.*

Niwii-miigwechiwi'aag
ongow chi-aya'aag gaa-
waadookawiwaad.
*I am thankful for these
elders who helped me.*



Nashke, yo'ow! See, this!

**Da-minobimaadiziyang...
That we can all live a good life...**

**Mashkawiziimagad imaa anishinaabe
bimaadiziwin.**

There is power in the Indian way of life.

**Gidaa miigwechiwendam gii-ondaadiziyan
ji-anishinaabewiyan**

Be thankful that you were born a human
being, an Indian.

Zhawenim giiji-bimaadizijig.

Be kind to others.

**Gidaa-miigwechiwendam awegodogwen ge-
ayaaman.**

Be thankful for what you have.

**Wiidookaw miinawaa zhawenim giiji-anishi-
naabeg.**

Do something for your people and be kind to
them.

Zaagi'idig. Zhawenindig.

Love each other.

**Manaaji' giiji-bimaadizi ahzi debweyendang,
gaye wiin.**

Respect each other's beliefs.

Manaaji'idig.

Respect each other.

Gidaa-baapi'idiz wanichigeyan.

Laugh at yourself when you make a mistake.



Biidaasigekwe Aadizooke Angeline Williams- from "The Dog's Children"

The following Nanaboozhoo teaching
is told only in winter out of great respect
for the spirits whom are in the legends.
They are resting now and our talk will not
disturb them from their important works.
As soon as the water breaks, the trees bud
and the crows return, we are not to tell
any more Aadizookaanag, or sacred, living
teachings.

O'ow gaa-aadizooke:
This sacred teaching she
told:

Nenabozh gii-niimi'iwe.
Nanabush gave a dance.

Ogii-maawanzomaan binesi-
wan zhiishiiban gakina endas-
wewaanagizinid.

He called together all the
kinds of birds—that is, ducks.

Gii-nagamo dash gii-
niimii'iwed: "Gakina basang-
waabig!"

As he made them dance, he
sang: "All of you, close your
eyes!"

Aw bezhig idash ashkwaan-
deng gii-dazhigaa.

Now, one of them danced by
the doorway.

Ogii-noondawaawaan mizita-
agozinid.

They heard him cry out.

Mii iw nisaad.
That was when he was kill-
ing them.

"Gego ganage inaabikego!"
"Be sure not to open your
eyes!"

Bezhig onik odanokaazon
dewe'iged nagamod.

He was using one arm to
beat the drum as he sang.

Bezhig idash odanokaazon
onik nisaad.

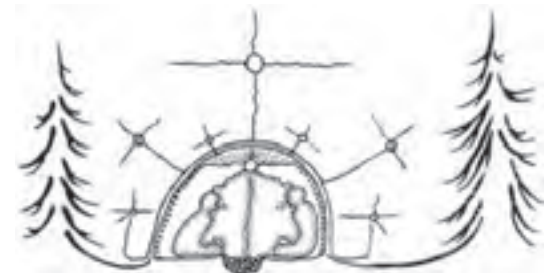
The other arm he was using
to kill them.

Zhingiben' dash ashkwaan-
deng gii-niimi.

Hell-Diver was dancing there
by the door.

Gomaapii dash gii-doskaabi
a'aw zhingiben'.

Then at one time Hell-Diver
peered from under his eyelids.



Gii-gichi-naanoondaagozi:
Ginisingonaa sa niinawi!
Ginisingonaa Nenabozh!"

He made a loud outcry:
"He is killing us, I tell you!
Nenabozh is killing us!"

Mii dash gii-
zaagijiba'idiwaad minik gaa-
bimaadiziwaad.

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

Gii-bazigwinjise Nenabozh.
Nenabush jumped to his feet.

Ogii-bapasidiyeshkawaan
aniw zhingibenyan.
He gave Hell-Diver a couple
of powerful kicks in the rump.

Nandawaabandan nawaj
Biidaasigekwe odibaa-
jimowinens ge-agingzod
Ziinziibaakwadokegiizis.

Look for more Angeline
Williams' story when it will be
the Sugar-making Moon.

ANISHINAABEMOWIN PRONUNCIATION KEY

Short Vowels (are said short, or quick)

/a/ = "uh" like u in up
/i/ = "ih" like i in hip
/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
Consonant+Vowel+Consonant combinations.

IKIDOWINAN

Use the new word list above to discover meaning for the following hidden words
from Angeline Williams' Aadizookewin:

R J J E K Z R W Z C E
M H M G M G I H Z E B
I D U A M L F G S S F
I C F N I A P O M R X
D H U A N I E M R N J
A L X G I N M A W I M
S H S O K A J A I I Q
H S F G J G L P N M I
F H O E C A K I A I Y
W V Z G F M S I I G S
G J U J R O U N X L Q

Gego ganage... by no means
Aniw..... that, those (animate)
Bezhig..... one
Minik..... a certain amount
Mii dash..... then
Niimi..... s/he is dancing
Gii..... past tense
Nagamo..... s/he is singing
Gomaapii..... soon, after a while, in the
end, in time

JKL hosts Fun Day for students and families

On Dec. 20, 2010, JKL Bahweting students were treated to a Fun Day at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. Activities included dodgeball, skating, parachute activities, scooter races and many others. Submitted by Lori Jodoin.



First grade paraprofessional Tara Allison and Jory Homminga (L-R) had time to get the parachute pulled down over their heads.



Noah Noble and Trey Forgrave did their best to keep their portion of the parachute inflated.



Jacob Wilkins and Memphis Meyer preparing for impact during a friendly game of dodge ball.



Jaelyn Azevedo and Randi Bumstead enjoyed the parachute activities.



Ali Robertson, Ava Fazzari and Helen Kerfoot enjoy the skating activities.



Dalton Graham, Adrianna Bouschor, Alivia LaJoie and Hailey Clement patiently wait their turn to participate in an ice skating relay.



Sault High athletes Tyler Beamish, Sean McGahey, Ben Formolo, Cody Jodoin and Tommy Coates volunteered time during their first day of Christmas vacation to help out with the on ice activities during the Chi Mukwa Fun Day.



Kirstyn Beaulieu, first grade teacher and Cathy Wilkinson, music teacher demonstrate how to participate in the scooter races.

DANCING IN THE NEW YEAR AT CHI MUKWA



Traditional drummers and singers at the Sault Tribe's Jan. 31 Sobriety Powwow.



Dancers counting down the hours to midnight and 2011.

Photos by Jennifer Dale-Burton



Jingle dress dancer.



Mens fancy dancer.



Bridget Boissoneau tending to the Wiingashk display of sweetgrass wares.



Miriam and Lillian Clark.



Thanking veterans for their sacrifices.



Young dancers.

Is Your Teen in a Dating Relationship?

The teen years are when sexual feelings develop. It is a time when dating starts and teenagers are experimenting with different types of relationships. These are the years when it is fun and exciting to meet someone new ... and sad and difficult to break up. But abuse has no place in a healthy relationship. Dating violence can happen in all types of homes, and in families of all cultures, income levels and educational backgrounds. **Teen dating violence is NOT limited to families with a history of violence.**

It's never too early to talk to your teens about healthy relationships and dating violence. Starting conversations — even if you don't think your teen is dating — is one of the most important steps you can take to help prevent dating violence.

If your Teen is in an unhealthy relationship or you would like more information on teen dating violence, please contact the ARC:



Advocacy Resource Center
Phone: (906) 632-1808
Toll Free: (877) 639-7820
24-Hour Pager (906) 278-0033



TEEN DATING VIOLENCE FACTS

Nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experienced dating violence from a dating partner in a single year.

One quarter of high school girls have been victims of physical or sexual abuse or date rape.

One in three adolescent girls is a victim of physical, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner.

Pink Floyd Experience presents *Animals* live



By MICHELLE BOUSCHOR

Without question, Pink Floyd remains one of the most influential rock bands of all time. Their record-breaking status is legendary. The 1977 concept album *Animals* was a statement regarding the decline of society of the day. While making the album set in motion discord that would eventually destroy the band, the subsequent tour for this release planted the seeds for what would become *The Wall*.

March 15, at 7 p.m. in the DreamMakers Theater at Kewadin Casinos Sault Ste. Marie, the Pink Floyd Experience will present *Animals*

live in its entirety with a spectacular light and video show, full quadrasonic sound and six outstanding musicians dedicated to bringing you the most authentic Floyd experience possible.

Today, years since their last live performance, Pink Floyd's appeal continues and spans the generations. Their shows were described as theatrical with mind-blowing lights and unsurpassed sound. The show is not only onstage, it engulfs the audience. In keeping with this tradition, the Pink Floyd Experience is a full-on sensory assault — interpretive videos,

plane crashes, flying pig, helicopter — it's all there — live. This is the show for the ultimate Floyd fan, and it gets closer to the true Pink Floyd concert experience every year.

In addition to *Animals*, you'll hear all of Pink Floyd's greatest hits performed live, like *Money*, *Have A Cigar*, *Time*, *Comfortably Numb*, *Run Like Hell* and many rarities not often heard live.

Don't miss out, tickets are \$34.50 and can be purchased by calling 800-KEWADIN or clicking www.kewadin.com

Tickets on sale Feb. 1 for Gretchen Wilson

Get your tickets Feb. 1 to see southern rock's independent, take-no-guff, hard-working and hard-partying country girl, Gretchen Wilson.



This American country music artist will perform in the DreamMakers Theater at Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie on June 22, 2011 at 7 p.m. Ticket price is \$54.

Wilson made her debut in 2004 with the Grammy Award-winning single *Redneck Woman*, a number-one hit on the billboard country charts.

The song served as the lead-off single of her debut album, *Here For the Party*. Wilson followed this album one year later with *All Jacked Up*, the title track of which became the highest-debating single for a female country artist upon its 2005 release. A third album, *One of the Boys*, was released in 2007.

Overall, Wilson has charted 13 singles on the billboard country charts, five of which have reached Top 10: the No. 1 *Redneck Woman* as well as *Here For the Party* (No. 3, 2004), *When I Think About Cheatin'* (No. 4, 2004), *Homewrecker* (No. 4, 2005), and *All Jacked Up* (No. 8, 2005). The album *Here For the Party* was certified 5x multi-platinum by the RIAA for sales of 5 million copies, while *All Jacked Up* was certified platinum. She has sold over 6 million records worldwide.

Don't miss your chance to get tickets by calling 800-KEWADIN, or visiting www.kewadin.com.

KEWADIN DONATES TO LOCAL PRESCHOOL



Kewadin Casinos and Soo Cooperative Preschool hosted a Breakfast with Santa in December. Proceeds were split between the preschool and the casino's holiday giving program. Preschool board president, Anne Ohman accepts \$991 from casino representatives Janice Frye, Douglas Hartley and Kimberly Russo. Also in the photo are preschool students Will Ohman and Elizabeth Laitinen.

D.L. Hughley comes to DreamMakers Feb. 26



American actor and stand up comedian D.L. Hughley will be performing in the DreamMakers Theater at the Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie on Feb. 26 at 7 p.m.

Hughley gained notoriety over the years through his touring with the Original Kings of Comedy troupe, which included the late Bernie Mac and several other comedians, as well as starring in his own TV sitcom, *The Hughleys*, on ABC. He's also appeared on shows ranging from a correspondent on the Jay Leno Show on ABC to host of CNN's DL Hughley Breaks the News to his very own Comedy Central half-hour special.

From 1992 to 1993, Hughley was the original host of ComicView, the stand-up comedy program on BET. In 1998, through 2002, he wrote, produced and starred in the

television sitcom series, *The Hughleys*.

During 2005, he had a short-lived talk show on Comedy Central called Weekends at the D.L. He is a member of The Original Kings of Comedy, and has also had roles on Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip, and on NBC's *Scrubs* as Turk's brother. He was the host of the 2008 BET Awards. Hughley has starred in a variety of films including *Inspector Gadget* and *Inspector Gadget 2*, *Scary Movie 3* and has guest starred in many sitcoms including *Scrubs* and *Hawaii Five-O*.

Get your tickets now to see one of the Original Kings of Comedy, stand-up comedian D.L. Hughley, live at Kewadin Casino's DreamMakers Theater on Feb. 26, in Sault Ste. Marie. Call 800-KEWADIN or visit www.kewadin.com.



Jacob Green of Security was voted Team Member of the Month for January. He works the graveyard shift. Congratulations.

Melissa VanLuven hired as new ACFS Binogii Placement Agency Program Director

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

A long-time employee of Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS), Melissa VanLuven was recently hired as the Binogii Placement Agency Program director.

VanLuven has worked for ACFS since 1998 when she became a parenting educator, caseworker and then in 2003 the child placement services supervisor.

As a supervisor, VanLuven has overseen all programs under ACFS and focused on foster care licensing, adoptions and monitoring the Indian Child Welfare Act. As director, she now oversees the entire program, including family services programs such as in home care, Family Continuity,



ACFS Binogii Placement Agency Director Melissa VanLuven

adolescent in-home care assistance and parenting classes; licensing and contracts, protective services and prevention.

VanLuven said she is proud

of the programs offered by child services and what they are able to do for tribal families. "As a tribe we have gone through a lot of changes over the past few years. When the economy is down, people who live in poverty struggle even harder. We are taking a look at what we need now, how our needs have changed and what options and resources there are to make a plan and move forward as a program," she said. "We try to work with families in a positive way so they can get better and do better. To have that opportunity is exciting."

VanLuven attended Central Michigan University before transferring home to Lake Superior State University to

complete her degree in sociology with minors in counseling and substance abuse counseling. After completing her internship with the Chippewa Country Children's Protective Services, she worked on a contract basis with Inter Tribal Council of Michigan before applying for a position with the tribe in 1996 as a patient benefits coordinator with Superior Health Alliance. Two years later, she accepted the parenting educator position with ACFS.

Raised to be a good friend, good neighbor and help out when she could, VanLuven said her parents influenced her career choice by instilling those values into her from a very young age. "Indian child

welfare is specialized with a very different approach and focus," she said. "Some of the basic best practices are the same for both Indian and non-Indian children, but the tribe has its own interest in tribal cases and I think it can take a long time to acquire a good working knowledge of that. Our agency spends a lot of time trying to educate other professionals because I don't think they really understand."

Reporting to VanLuven are two child placement supervisors who oversee caseworkers. "We touch a lot of lives every day through our agency. We have lots of good things to look forward to and work towards. I am excited to be a part of that," she said.

Births...

JADYN DELANIE RICKLEY

Lawrence and Kathleen Rickley of Mackinac Island announce the birth of their daughter Jadyn Delanie Rickley born Dec. 20, 2010, at Northern Michigan Hospital of Petoskey.



She weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces and was 18 inches in length. Jadyn joins her brother, Anthony, and sister, Makayla. Proud grandparents are Larry and Irene Rickley of Mackinac Island and Beverly and the late Gary Green of Miles City, Mont.

BRIN D. COMPTON

Brin Denise Compton was born on Aug. 24, 2010, at Beaumont Hospital in Royal Oak, Mich., to Sean and Terri (Hoyer) Compton. Brin

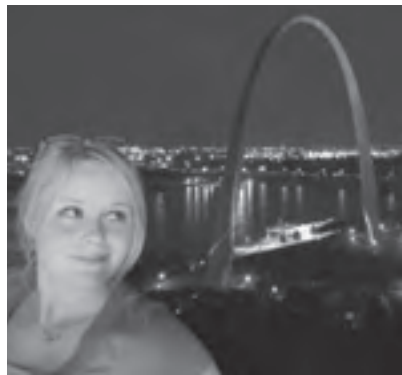


weighed 1 pound, 15 ounces and was 10.5 inches in length. Proud grandparents are Sheila Compton of Sault Ste. Marie and the late Denise Hoyer of Royal Oak.

Proud uncle is Eric Hoyer of Eastpointe, Mich.

The family resides in Eastpointe with their three dogs, Bailey, Molly and Honey Soo, who were excited to welcome the new addition to their family.

Nelson named Buder Scholar



Sarah Nelson, a current dual-degree master's in social work and master's in public health candidate at Washington University in St. Louis, was recently selected as a Buder Scholar by the Kathryn M. Buder Center for American Indian Studies. This honor includes a full-tuition scholarship.

Sarah is a Sault Tribe member from Negaunee, Mich., and a 2009 graduate of Michigan Tech University in Houghton, Mich., with a Bachelor of Science in psychology. Sarah's interests include conducting research in American Indian family planning and financial literacy services at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Sarah will be presenting at the 2011 NICWA conference in Anchorage, Alaska, later this year.

Sarah is the daughter of Mike and Regina Nelson of Negaunee, the granddaughter of Bill Demmon of Gwinn, Mich., and the great-granddaughter of Theresa Downey of St. Ignace, Mich.

Celebrating 50 years together

Celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Feb. 10 is Jerry and Brenda Garries of St. Ignace. Jerry is the son of Charles and Jean Garries and Brenda is the daughter of William and Leona Johnson, all of St. Ignace. Jerry and Brenda have four grown children, two sons in Battle Creek, Mich., and two daughters in St. Ignace. They have four grandchildren and one great grandson.

Jerry and Brenda resided in Battle Creek for many years and then moved to Florida for four years before deciding to return to their roots in St. Ignace. Jerry and Brenda are



both very active with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and enjoy seeing and talking with old friends about growing up here. There will be a celebration this summer to share this occasion with family and friends.

Patrick Harrington II inducted into Phi Theta Kappa

Congratulations to tribal member Patrick Harrington II for his induction to membership into "Phi Theta Kappa" International Honor Society, which serves to recognize and encourage the academic achievement of 2-year college students and provide opportunities for individual growth and development through honors, leadership and service programming. In 1929, the American Association of



Community Colleges recognized Phi Theta Kappa as the

official honor society for 2-year colleges.

What proud parents we are (Patrick and Renee Powers-Harrington from Cheboygan) to celebrate Patrick II for his intense studies at Jackson Community College. Patrick currently has a GPA of 3.9 in medical courses and is aiming to get into the radiology program this year. Great work, Patrick.

— With love, mom and dad

Walking On

DORINE CHANDANAIS Dorine Georgina Chandanais passed away at her residence at Freighter View Assisted living on Jan. 8, 2011. She was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on March 23, 1915.

She was very active in the St. Mary's Church especially the St. Mary's Altar Society. With her background in nursing, she was a very active caregiver to her family and friends. She graduated from Loretto High School in 1934 and attended the Detroit Mercy College graduating with the class of 1937. She was very



proud to have worked at St. Joseph Hospital in Ann Arbor, Mich., for 50 years.

She is survived by several cousins.

She was predeceased by her parents, Peter and Delia; two sisters, Marie and Adelaide Chandanais; and one brother; Paul Chandanais.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Jan. 14, 2011 at St. Mary's Pro Cathedral with Fr. Sebastian Kavumkal and Fr. Ted Brodeur as co-celebrants. Her final resting place will be at Riverside Cemetery in the spring.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Mary's church in her name.

Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home assisted with the arrangements.

DEBRA T. KNIGHT

Debra Knight, 46, of Alpena, Mich., passed away Dec. 17, 2010, in Saginaw, Mich., with her loving husband by her side.

Deb was born on Sept. 4, 1964, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. She always had a smile on her face or a laugh for everyone she encountered. Deb's many passions were her many nieces and nephews — she loved them dearly. She loved her trips to the family cabin on Lake Superior, playing cards and would play for hours, crocheting, crafts and her pet dogs. She graduated from Brimley High School and was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

She is survived by her loving husband of more than 20 years, Wayne Knight; brothers and

See "Walking On" page 18

From "Walking On" page 17 sisters: Joseph (Iris) Cole of Cary, Ill., Frank (Linda) Cole of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Susan Weseman and Michael (Leona) Cole both of Brimley, Mich., Cathy (Keith) Schmiedel of Oshkosh, Wis. and her extended family in Alpena, Mich., along with numerous cousins.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Lawrence Cole and Lorraine Moran, sister, Patricia Runge, brother, Lawrence Cole, Jr.

A memorial service was held Dec. 28, at the Armella Parker Center in Bay Mills with Brother John Hascall officiating. Snow Funeral Home of Saginaw assisted with arrangements.

RONALD EARL CLOW

Ronald Earl Clow, 60, Nevada, Mo., passed away Jan. 5, 2011, at Freeman Health Systems West, Joplin, Mo. He was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on June 29, 1950, to Earl Ross Clow and Maxine Winona DeMerse Clow. He was married in 1983 in Ashland, Ore., to Nancy Seeley, and she survives of the home.

Ron spent most of his formative years in Southern California. He graduated from the California State University, Northridge, with a Bachelor of Arts in sociology in 1975. Ron developed his own residential/commercial construction and investment property company, Ron Clow Construction, spanning over four states, specializing in custom homes, office construction, management of investment properties, remodels and renovations. With over 20 years of running his prolific business, and family desires to settle in the Midwest, in 1998, Ron was hired by the City of Nevada, Mo., as a building inspector. During his tenure with the city of Nevada, Ron advanced to planning director/building official in 2003, and to economic development director/planning director in 2006. He was passionate about recycling and developed the recycling program in Nevada. He received the Community Improvement Pacesetters Award for his work in opening the Nevada/Vernon County Recycling Center. Instrumental in the establishment and chairing of the Vernon County Enhanced Enterprise Zone, he was also an executive board member on the Kaysinger Basin Regional Planning Commission and chairman of the Kaysinger Business Conferences.

Characterized by his peers as a man who exhibited the highest level of professional knowledge with diligence, hard work and the highest standards of excellent communication skills, Ron was also a very compassionate and devoted family man, father and husband. He thoroughly loved his daughters and gave his undivided parental support to all of their special interests, including their love for animals and equestrian activities, 4H, academics and show choir. Ron also internalized the importance of extended family and remained close to all of his brothers and sisters and extended family. A man of good

humor, Ron enjoyed basketball, baseball, camping and napping with his wiener dogs. He will be missed and was greatly loved by family and friends.

Survivors in addition to his wife, Nancy Lea Seeley-Clow of 28 years, include two children, Cara Rose Clow and Kelly May Clow, both of the home; one brother, Richard Wayne Clow, Brimley, Mich.; and two sisters, Rhonda Sue Hermes, Norman, Okla., and Sharon Lee Crist, Goldendale, Wash., and many close relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held Jan. 11, 2011, at Ferry Funeral Home, Nevada, Mo., with Rev. Greg Ferree and Rev. Mark Mitchell officiating. Interment followed in Newton Burial Park, Nevada, Mo.

Memorial contributions may be made to "Education Fund" to be used for Ron's children's college education. These contributions may be sent in care of Ferry Funeral Home, 301 S. Washington, Nevada, MO 64772.

WELDON J. HOWELL

Weldon Howell, 79, passed away Jan. 5, 2011, after a long illness.

He was laid to rest Jan. 21 at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell, Fla.

He was born Oct. 21, 1931, on Sugar Island, Mich. Wel was a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars, serving in the U.S. Navy. He was employed as a carnie, paperboy, with Ford and Chrysler, and retired from installing insulation. He lived throughout Michigan, in Texas and retired to Florida.

Weldon was predeceased by his parents Charles W. Howell, Ellen McCoy (Howell), his brother "Bud," and sisters Genivieve and Shirley. He is survived by his wife, Inez Carol Howell; his son, Kelly (Shannon); sisters, Irene, Maryanne and Dorothy; and several grandchildren.

JUDITH LYNN BANEY

Judith Lynn Baney, 46, of Rogersville, Mo., passed away Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2011, at her home. Judy was born on July 31, 1964, in West Covina, Calif., to Oather Talmasha Ponders and Margaret Louise "Hicks" Ponders, the youngest of 10 children. Judy is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She was of Baptist faith, baptized in 2001. She attended school in Everton, Mo., at Moberly Area Junior College and Southwest Missouri State in Springfield. She had been a sales associate for Lowes and had been married to Michael Baney.

Surviving is her two daughters, Bree Nikol Talmasha Baney and Taylor Michael Baney, both of Rogersville; her mother, Marge, of Springfield; four brothers, Don Ponders and wife, Marilyn, of Grants Pass, Ore., Dennis Ponders of Hollister, Mo., Lance Ponders and wife, Cathy, of

Bolling Green, Mo., and Paul Pounders of Kansas City, Mo.; four sisters, Virginia Casterton of Hollister, Sharon Horn and husband, Ron, of Rogersville, Velma Ingersol and husband, Bill, of Branson and Cinthia Preston and husband, James, of Rogersville; aunt, Ginny Bruter of Michigan; and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Judy was preceded in death by her father, Oat; a brother, Danny, and nephew, Joey. Services were held Jan. 8, 2011, at the Preston-Marsh Funeral Home in Rogersville. After cremation, burial was with her father in the Fordland cemetery in Fordland, Mo.

PATRICIA JEAN GREEN

Patricia "Patty" Lalonde Green, 72, passed away Jan. 14, 2011, at Gratiot Medical Center in Alma, Mich., after a long illness. Pat was the granddaughter of the deceased Dolphis and Mary Lalonde and Mabel White Aslin of St. Ignace.

Patty was born Nov. 9, 1938, in Detroit where her father was employed. Her parents were Francis Leo Lalonde and

Mildred Pearl Ocha Lalonde, both of whom were St. Ignace residents at one time. Pat attended school at the Ursuline Academy and the Lasalle High School in St. Ignace.

She married Stephen Virgil Green of St. Ignace on June 11, 1954, in Cheboygan, Mich. They had three children, Karen, Sandra and Vicky.

She had a few hobbies such as reading, collecting elephant figures, and she loved to play bingo and gamble at the casino. From her window she enjoyed watching the birds and squirrels that she fed.

Patty worked for several different businesses, including Norris Industries (car parts), Tekon Truck Stop in Tekonsha, Mich., as a cook, the Whistle Stop as cook and bartender in Burlington, Mich., and bartender at the St. Ignace Moose Lodge before retiring due to disabilities.

She was a parishioner of St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church in St. Ignace in her youth and St. Mary's in Alma, Mich. She was a member of the Moose Lodge 999 in St. Ignace

and of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

She is survived by two daughters, Sandra Green Bailey of St. Louis, Mich., and Karen Green (Ron) Paschalle of Jackson, Mich.; five grandchildren, Stephanie Bailey (Randy) Stage, Scott and Stephen (Brandy) Bailey, Tony Green and Justin Paschalle; seven great grandchildren, Quintin Kipker Stage, Cody, Gabrielle, Wyatt and Kaylee Bailey, Ryan Green and Jared Pitts; two sisters, Carol (Harold) Lalonde Hamp of Elwell, Mich., and Mary Margaret "Mernie" Lalonde Lannom (John) of Murfreesboro, Tenn; and many nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives.

Patty was preceded in death by her grandparents, Dolphis and Mary Lalonde and Mabel White Ocha Aslin; parents, Francis and Mildred Ocha Lalonde; husband, Virgil S. Green, youngest daughter, Vicky Green; sister, Shirley Ann Lalonde; and son-in-law, Boyd Bailey.



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You'll have access to your money the day of issuance when YOU request the IRS to send your income tax refund check directly to your checking or savings account at First National Bank of St. Ignace.

Choose your savings account and you'll be earning interest immediately on the dollars with us.

We accept all checks for Direct Deposit at no charge to YOU.

It's all about YOU



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Manistique health staff step back in time for health

President-Elect John F. Kennedy wrote an article in *Sports Illustrated* in December 1960 titled, *The Soft American* — here is an excerpt,

“...There is an increasingly large number of young Americans who are neglecting their bodies — whose physical fitness is not what it should be — who are getting soft. And such softness on the part of individual citizens can help to strip and destroy the vitality of a nation.

“For the physical vigor of our citizens is one of America’s most precious resources. If we waste and neglect this resource, if we allow it to dwindle and grow soft, then we will destroy

much of our ability to meet the great and vital challenges which confront our people. We will be unable to realize our full potential as a nation.”

In the early 1960s when Kennedy wrote this article, about 30 percent of the adult population was overweight and another 13 percent were considered obese. Today, 50 years later, about 30 percent of the adult population is still overweight, but 35 percent are now obese.

President Kennedy also took an idea conceived by President Eisenhower and made it a national mandate: The President’s Council On Physical Fitness to improve the fitness

of school children in the United States.

Today, that challenge has been extended to all Americans, and the staff of the Manistique Tribal Health Center are stepping up to the challenge. Starting in mid-February, employees in Manistique will be signing up to begin an employee wellness program focused on improving fitness and targeting better nutrition at breakfast.

Some of the activities in which staff will be participating include a 50-mile march (one mile each day for 50 days), a weekly milk and breakfast cookie event and learning the exercises to a song

commissioned by President Kennedy for his newly formed President’s Council On Physical Fitness and used at schools across the nation.

Through the employee wellness program, participants will

learn about how to add physical activity throughout their day in easy and enjoyable ways, improving their health along the way and acting as role models for their families and community.

Get dog tags before March

Chippewa County dog owners in need of a dog license should make arrangements to buy licenses before March 1 to avoid a fee increase.

Licenses are available at the Chippewa County finance office in the Court House, or at the Chippewa County Animal Control Shelter at 3660 S. Mackinac Trail, both offices are open

Mondays through Fridays.

State law requires all dogs be licensed annually. Individual dog licenses can be purchased for \$25, or \$10 for spayed or neutered dogs, through March 1. Those fees double to \$50 and \$20 on March 1.

Contact the Chippewa County administrator’s office for more details at 635-6330.

The medical scoop on safe snow shoveling practices

SUBMITTED BY JULIE GARDEN-ROBINSON AND JOCEY MATHERN

It happens every winter in the Midwest: Snow falls, usually leaving piles of the stuff to clear from your sidewalks and driveway. There are a few things to consider before you grab a snow shovel after a major snowfall.

The good news is that 15 minutes of snow shoveling counts as moderate physical activity, according to the Surgeon General’s 1996 Report on Physical Activity and Health. We all should aim for at least 30 minutes of moderate physical activity of some kind on most days of the week. A 170 pound person shoveling for 30 minutes will burn about 250 calories.

The bad news is that researchers have reported an increase in the number of fatal heart attacks among snow shovelers after heavy snowfalls. This rise may be due to the

sudden demand that shoveling places on an individual’s heart. Snow shoveling may cause a quick increase in heart rate and blood pressure. One study determined that after only 2 minutes of shoveling, the heart rates of sedentary men rose to levels higher than those normally recommended during aerobic exercise.

Shoveling may be vigorous activity even for healthy college-aged students. The weather can make shoveling



more difficult. Cold air makes working and breathing hard, which adds some extra strain on the body. Shovelers also are at risk for hypothermia, a decrease in body temperature, if they are not dressed correctly for the weather conditions.

Who should think twice about shoveling snow? Those most at risk for a heart attack include:

- Anyone who already has had a heart attack
- Individuals with a history of heart disease

— Those with high blood pressure or high cholesterol levels

- Smokers
- Individuals leading a sedentary lifestyle

Should you rush out and buy a snow blower? Not necessarily. Not everyone who shovels snow is going to have a heart attack. Snow shoveling can be good exercise when performed correctly and with safety in mind.

Also consider back safety when shoveling snow. Even if you exercise regularly and are not at risk for heart disease, shoveling improperly could lead to a strained back. If you’ve been inactive for months and have certain risk factors, use some common sense before taking on the task of snow shoveling.

Be heart healthy and back friendly while shoveling this winter with this pile of snow shoveling tips:

— If you are inactive and have a history of heart trouble, talk to your doctor before you take on the task of shoveling snow.

— Avoid caffeine or nicotine before beginning. These are stimulants, which may increase your heart rate and cause your blood vessels to constrict. This places extra stress on the heart.

— Drink plenty of water. Dehydration is just as big an issue in cold winter months as it is in the summer.

— Dress in several layers so you can remove a layer as needed. Synthetic fibers help wick away perspiration better than natural fibers.

— Warm your muscles before shoveling by walking for a few minutes or marching in place. Stretch the muscles in your arms and legs because warm muscles will work more efficiently and be less likely to be injured.

— Pick the right shovel for you. A smaller blade will require you to lift less snow, putting less strain on your body.

— Begin shoveling slowly to avoid placing a sudden demand on your heart. Pace yourself and take breaks as needed.

— Protect your back from injury by lifting correctly. Stand with your feet about hip width

apart for balance and keep the shovel close to your body. Bend from the knees (not the back) and tighten your stomach muscles as you lift the snow. Avoid twisting movements. If you need to move the snow to one side, reposition your feet to face the direction the snow will be going.

— Most importantly, listen to your body. Stop if you feel pain.

Julie Garden-Robinson, Ph.D., L.R.D., is a food and nutrition specialist, and Jocey Mathern, a former program assistant, at North Dakota State University Extension Office.

Referendum leaves one, takes one

From “Referendum,” Page 1 thing to take lightly. Holding a referendum is a serious and costly matter.”

The tribe’s seven-county service area is divided into five election units encompassing Mackinac, Chippewa, Luce, Delta, Alger, Schoolcraft, and Marquette counties. The right of referendum is provided for in the tribe’s Constitution and is implemented by Chapter 12 of the Tribal Code. According to the code, an ordinance or resolution enacted by the board of directors can be submitted to a popular referendum by a petition signed by 100 eligible voters of the tribe.

The referendum ballot is a standard format. The tribe’s resolution or ordinance as a whole is either approved or disapproved by the tribe’s eligible voters. The referendum ballot asks a simple question:

Do you approve or disapprove of [name of ordinance or number of resolution]?

_____ APPROVE
_____ DISAPPROVE

According to the Tribal Code, at least 30 percent of the eligible voters must cast a ballot to make the results binding. If less than 30 percent of ballots are cast, the election is null and void.

The resolutions and Tribal Code are available online at www.saulttribe.net.

Evidence shows brief exposure to secondhand smoke unsafe

SUBMITTED BY INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF MICHIGAN

A new report finds that cellular damage and tissue inflammation from tobacco smoke are immediate and that repeated exposure weakens the body’s ability to heal the damage.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Office of the Surgeon General released their 30th report in a series of reports on tobacco use, titled, “*How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease: The Biology Behavioral Basis for Smoking-Attributable Disease.*”

“This report provides further irrefutable evidence that shows what health officials have been saying for years: there is no “safe” level of exposure to secondhand smoke, and brief exposure to secondhand smoke can do immediate damage and even prove fatal,” said Deana Knauf, SEMA Project coordinator for the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan.

Dr. Gregory Holzman, chief medical executive for the state

of Michigan, recognized the importance of these findings as they relate to Michigan’s Smoke-Free Air Law. “We’re fortunate in Michigan to have a law in place that protects the majority of nonsmokers from secondhand smoke exposure in workplaces, bars and restaurants,” he said. “We expect to see a decrease in heart attack admissions since the law was enacted, which will result in saved lives and decrease health care cost.”

These findings offer further evidence of the importance of investing in tobacco prevention programming in Michigan.

“We need to ensure that resources are available to prevent youth from starting to smoke, to protect nonsmokers from the health harms associated with secondhand smoke and to provide help to smokers who want to quit,” said Noel Pingatore, from the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan.

According to Holzman, the report also emphasizes the health benefits of quitting smoking. “It is never too late

to quit smoking, but the sooner that a person quits, the better for their health.”

For more information on how to quit smoking, Sault Tribe members can call (906) 632-5210.

The Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) Tobacco Quitline, 1 (800) 784-8669, continues to provide free telephone coaching for the uninsured and those with Medicaid and Medicare, and free nicotine replacement medications for those who qualify. Information on quitting smoking and printable Michigan Smoker’s Quit Kits are available through MDCH by visiting www.michigan.gov/tobacco.

Copies of the full report, executive summary, and the easy-to-read guide may be downloaded at www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/tobaccosmoke. To order printed copies of these documents, go to www.cdc.gov/tobacco and click the publications catalog link under “Tolls & Resources.”

Great American Spit Out coming Feb. 24

SUBMITTED BY LAUREN EVELEIGH, SAULT TRIBE COMMUNITY HEALTH

Through With Chew Week is right around the corner. This annual health campaign will take place Feb. 20-26 with the Great American Spit Out on Thursday, Feb. 24.

The goal of Through With Chew Week is to increase awareness about the health dangers of spit tobacco and the myths surrounding these products — and to encourage people who use them to quit.

Spit tobacco is a concentrated and dangerous form of tobacco commonly known as “chewing tobacco” or “snuff.” These products contain 28 known cancer-causing agents as well as high levels of nicotine that can lead to cancer, heart disease and stroke.

“Spit tobacco is a very addictive product and it is not a safe alternative to cigarettes,” stressed Julie Trotter of the Chippewa County Health Department. “An average size dip of spit tobacco contains three to four times the nicotine of one cigarette.”

In recent years, tobacco companies have been developing even more varieties of tobacco products. In response to both declining cigarette sales and tougher smoke-free air laws around the country, tobacco companies are offering many new and addictive alternatives, often referred to as “harm reduction products,” alternatives that the tobacco industry portrays as potentially less harmful. They are discreet,



A nationwide speaker, Gruen VonBehrens, will be on a return tour of schools in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan from Feb. 28 to March 4 to speak with students about the realities of chewing tobacco.

flavorful and come in cute tin boxes with names like “citrus” and “spice,” but they are not harmless. The marketing of these products appeals to young people, addicting a new generation of youth to tobacco products.

Based on available and overwhelming evidence, the Michigan Department of Community Health Tobacco Program concludes that all tobacco products are harmful to

health and that the best health advice to those who use tobacco is to avoid and discontinue all tobacco products.

Help yourself or someone you know go tobacco-free in February. Quitting tobacco use is the best thing you can do to improve your health.

In recognition of Through With Chew Week, national speaker Gruen VonBehrens will be returning to the area to speak with students at schools

throughout the Upper Peninsula.

Mr. VonBehrens is an oral cancer survivor who has endured almost 35 surgeries to save his life as a result of

School moves to Odenaang

From “School Move,” pg. 1

“We’re excited to hear the tribe is working on the possibility of a new site to expand and improve the school,” said Su Palmer, J.K.L. Bahweting School superintendent. “We’re filled to capacity right now and the tribe knows we need more space. Due to land limitations, we are not able to expand, so this is very exciting.”

J.K.L. Bahweting School opened in 1994 as a tribal school fully funded by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. In 1995, the school became chartered by Northern Michigan University to become a public school academy funded by the state

oral cancer. Like too many teenagers, Gruen first tried spit tobacco at age 13 to “fit in.” By age 17, he was diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma, a common form of oral cancer. This Illinois native now travels on behalf of Oral Health America’s National Spit Tobacco Education Program and shares with his audiences the real life consequences of his own spit tobacco use. Gruen will be speaking with students at schools in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Manistique, Cooks, Munising, Marquette and Brimley during the week of Feb. 28-March 4. These presentations will give students a real-life look at the importance of being “Through with Chew.”

For more information, please contact the Sault Tribe Community Health Program at (906) 632-5210 or the Chippewa County Health Department at (906) 635-3636 or visit www.chippewahd.com.

If you are ready to quit, visit your local Sault Tribe Health Center, talk with your healthcare provider, or call the Michigan Tobacco Quit Line at 1 (800) QUIT-NOW.

For more information about Through With Chew Week, visit www.throughwithchew.com.

of Michigan and the Bureau of Indian Education through the Sault Tribe. It was also then renamed Bahweting Anishnabe Public School Academy. The school was officially named Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe PSA in honor of the late tribal leader in 1998.

The school is currently funded as a public school academy, chartered through Northern Michigan University and tribally controlled grants from the Bureau of Indian Education. “We need to start working together in partnership with each other,” said Cathy Abramson, board member. “This is a great move for all of us to come together and do what’s best for our kids.”

Abramson elected NIHB chair

From “Abramson,” Page 1

She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and was elected to the Sault Ste. Marie tribe’s board of directors in 1996 and has served on the board since, presently filling the office of secretary.

Abramson was recently appointed to Department of Health and Human Services Secretary’s Tribal Advisory Committee. She serves on the national Tribal Leader’s Diabetes Committee, the HHS Tribal Consultation Workgroup and the Agency for Children and Families Tribal/Federal Workgroup.

She has also served as an advisor to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Youth Council and as a liaison between the Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Board of Directors and the Head Start Policy

Council.

Abramson is actively involved with United Tribes of Michigan and the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes. She also serves on the tribe’s traditional living and foods programs planning committee and has served as an advisor for the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Youth Council.

“The greatest gift that the Creator has given me is my family,” she said. “I have been married for 32 years to Tony Abramson and we have three beautiful children: Lisa, Laura, and Tony Jr. We have six beautiful granddaughters and a beautiful grandson who are the absolute joys of my life.”

Abramson loves to hunt, fish and gather the indigenous foods of her area, and enjoys camping, hiking, traveling and family gatherings.

Through With Chew Week
February 20-26, 2011
Great American Spit Out
February 24, 2011

‘Twas the Day Before Valentines Day (A Dietitian Version)

’Twas the day before Valentines, and all through the house
Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse.
The cookies I’d eaten, left over from Christmas
Had led to a problem created by excess.

When I got on the scale there arose such a number!
The scale must be broken, I said with a thunder.
I’d remember the wonderful meals I’d prepared;
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rare,

The wine and the pastries, the bread and the cheese
And the way I’d never said, “No, thank you, please.”
Nothing would fit me, I felt so depressed.
I knew it was time to start a new quest.

I picked up the phone, to call a RD,
Knowing this path was just right for me.
I won’t feel guilty, I’ll try moderation,
Fad diets have failed and even starvation.

I’ll follow the plan, set up

solely for me,
More fruits and veggies are part of the key.
I’ll eat more fiber and exercise I’ll start,
And limit the fat that is bad for my heart.

Yes, I’ll call an RD to provide inspiration,
and learn new ways to avoid temptation.

Happy Valentines to all and a healthy one, too,
Remember to eat right and exercise for you.

By Sandra Frank, editing by Gail Sulander.

QUIT FOR A DAY OR QUIT FOR GOOD • QUIT FOR A DAY OR QUIT FOR GOOD

Environmental Department plans Earth Day fair

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON

When tribal Environmental Director Kathie Brosemer first toured the Fred L. Hatch Building on the corner of Portage Avenue and Greenough Street in Sault Ste. Marie., she said, "this is perfect." The building had a great layout, plenty of windows, grounds and a view of the river. She was going to put one of the tribe's first buildings to good use.

"Out back, the first floor is a mudroom that leads into a soil lab that leads into a water lab. The further in you go, the cleaner you get," said Brosemer. Coming in the front door, there is a friendly commons area that leads into a conference room or a galley kitchen. Off to the left is water resource technician Joe McKerchie's office. Up the stairs on the second floor are two offices for full-time staffers Brosemer and water quality specialist Crystal Bole. The third floor is a library, GIS lab, part-time soil technician Robin Clark's office, and hopefully, intern space.

There are windows galore. Outside, there's space for demonstration projects like rain barrels and composting, a greenhouse and gardens. There is even an apple tree that can become it's own organic gardening demonstration. And, if they need a live water sample, they can just run across the



Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton

The Fred L. Hatch Building at 206 Greenough is looking good these days as the tribe's environmental program moves in. The building has lots of room for offices, labs and a library. The property includes a nice yard for demonstration projects.

street to the St. Marys River. Even the building itself can be a demonstration project in energy efficiency and air sealing as they prep it for next winter.

The building came together through scavenging and grant monies. The seed technician is funded out of a U.S. Forest Service Great Lakes Restoration Initiative grant and the GIS technician will be funded under another GLRI grant. Brosemer applied for four summer interns under air quality issues. She is also hoping for a solid waste collection education position.

Brosemer said they haven't had too many visitors yet. She

hopes tribal members will come to think of the department as a resource. "It's a little tricky with only three-and-a-half people on board right now." But she encourages people to give them a call and head over if they are in.

The department is involved in a number of projects right now. They are working with the EPA on habitat improvement as a clean-up mitigation along the St. Marys. The site will be next to the Elks on Portage Avenue. Clark is networking with the EPA to provide appropriate native seeds and plants. She is also working on the black ash



Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton

Environmental Director Kathie Brosemer loves her new office that overlooks the St. Marys River. Anytime they need a live water sample they can just run across the road.

seed project to save the seeds if indeed the emerald ash borer devastates the species. Bole is working on a surface water grant concerning the Mission Creek area, of great local concern and historical value, and part of the waterway that flowed through the dumpsite the casino stands on. Since McKerchie is the tribe's "go-to guy" for drinking water, sewer or septic issues, he is routinely out in the field.

Brosemer wants to start working county by county to build a source reduction catalog. "It would go a long way toward reducing dumping," she said.

Young people interested in a career in environmental sciences or other sciences are welcome to volunteer. They don't have any paid student positions as yet, but Brosemer "writes one heck of a reference." She added that professionals with both western and traditional knowledge are in demand.

This spring, the department wants to hold an Earth Day fair at the Greenough Building. Since Earth Day falls on Good Friday (April 22), the fair would have to be the weekend before or after. Anyone who wants to get involved is welcome to call Brosemer at 632-5575.

Project aims to restore forests and knowledge

SUBMITTED BY NICK REO

Many of the forests in the Upper Peninsula are dependent on occasional low-intensity fires. Fires ignited by lightning strikes and by our own Anishinaabeg ancestors were an important part of the U.P. landscape before Europeans settled here. These fires helped shape our forests, helped maintain biodiversity and prevented high intensity fires from occurring that could seriously damage natural resources or injure people.

Occasional low-intensity fires were also beneficial because they improved habitat for desirable wildlife and established appropriate growing conditions for medicinal and food plants.

However, beginning around 1900, wildland fires were actively stifled throughout the United States. Post-1900 fire suppression has changed the composition of plant commu-

nities, fostered exotic species invasions and impacted wildlife habitat. Fire suppression has also led to an accumulation of flammable materials that can fuel catastrophic fires and make the use of prescribed burning difficult.

Today, many land managers recognize the importance of re-introducing fire into certain types of forests, grasslands and wetlands.

A few tribal and first nation communities in the region have continuously used fire as a land management tool, although most communities have stopped conducting burns or have recently re-instituted their practices.

Those who have continued their burning practices have retained communal knowledge about the use of wildland fire.

Other communities, like Sault Tribe, have not had control over enough land in recent

history to administer burns. In those communities, fire remains an extremely important part of our culture and we retain important traditional knowledge about fire. However, our knowledge about prescribed burning to meet land management objectives has been at least partially lost.

To address this issue, the Sault Tribe, U.S. Forest Service and the University of Michigan initiated a project that aims to revitalize traditional ecological knowledge about fire management. To meet this objective, the project will facilitate interactions between tribal and first nation communities where traditional fire management knowledge is active and vibrant and those where it has fallen out of use.

We are also involving tribal members in fire management planning and implementation in the Hiawatha National Forest

as a means of building tribal-federal relations and expanding the use of prescribed fire in the U.P. Repeated in-depth interviews with tribal members are being used to determine priority locations for future burns on National Forests. Field-based interviews, fieldtrips and workshops will be used to revitalize traditional fire management knowledge.

Beginning this winter, we are interested in speaking with tribal members who actively use the Hiawatha National Forest and want to help us meet our project objectives. Please contact Eric Clark, Robin Clark, Kirk Piehler, or me if you are interested in participating in an interview or helping the project in any way.

I am a member of the Sault Tribe. My mother's side of our family is originally from Mackinac Island and we have been in southeast Michigan for

the last couple of generations.

I recently began a post-doctoral research position at the University of Michigan. I initiated this project with partners from U of M, the Sault Tribe and the Forest Service this fall. If it proves useful to members and the Forest Service, I hope to make it an ongoing, multi-year initiative. Chi miigwech for your interest.

Nick Reo, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan, reon@umich.edu; (734) 763-8648

Robin Clark, Sault Tribe Environmental Department, rclark@saulttribe.net; (906) 632-5575

Eric Clark, Sault Tribe Inland Fish & Wildlife Department, eclark@saulttribe.net; (906) 635-6050

Kirk Piehler, Hiawatha National Forest, US Forest Service, kpiehler@fs.fed.us; (906) 789-3374 ext. 374

Tahquamenon Falls State Park offers free guided snowshoe and ski adventures during February

Tahquamenon Falls State Park offers guided snowshoe hikes and lantern-lit skiing on Saturdays during February. The park is on M-123, near Paradise in Chippewa County.

The hikes will take place at the Upper Falls at 3:30 p.m. on Feb. 5, 12, 19 and 26. Led by a park interpreter, these walks through Tahquamenon's

snow-covered woods will show participants how easy snowshoeing is.

"If you can walk, you can snowshoe," said interpreter Theresa Neal. "This fun, inexpensive sport can help keep you healthy through the cold winter months and you couldn't pick a more beautiful setting to give it a try."

Also at the Upper Falls, visitors may take in the winter scenery by lantern light with an evening ski or snowshoe walk along a one-mile forest trail between 5:30 and 8 p.m. on Feb. 6, 13, 20 and 27.

A limited number of snowshoes are available to borrow for both these free programs.

Semi-modern campsites and a new, modern lodge are available during the winter at the park. The campsites include electrical outlets, but no flush toilets; the lodge includes heat, electricity, a furnished kitchen, a bathroom and bedrooms. Reservations can be made by calling park headquarters at (906) 492-3415.

Recreation passports have

replaced motor vehicle permits for entry into Michigan state parks, recreation areas and state-administered boating access fee sites. Michigan residents can buy recreation passports (\$10 for motor vehicles; \$5 for motorcycles) by checking "YES" on their license plate renewal forms or at any state park or recreation area.

Changes coming in 2011 harvesting licenses

In response to feedback from the membership, the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (IFWD) is making several changes to its inland permitting process. Look for the 2011 application in the March newspaper and please pay particular attention as these changes will be detailed in the application. Beginning March 1, the application will also be available on www.saulttribe.com.

As most of you know, 2011

will mark the fourth year of the administration of the tribe's treaty rights under the 2007 Inland Consent Decree. Together, the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department and the Law Enforcement Department have learned many lessons about what works well and what doesn't. We continue to be committed to providing efficient, cost effective and convenient administration of hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering rights to the

membership.

Members will now contact Sault Tribe Law Enforcement for all licenses and permits. All issues pertaining to harvest reporting should be directed toward IFWD, which has relocated next to Law Enforcement in the judicial building at 2175 Shunk Rd. We hope that this will help streamline permitting and reporting for the membership. If you have questions regarding changes to the permitting

process, please contact Sault Tribe Law Enforcement, 635-6065. For questions regarding

harvest reporting, please contact the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department, 632-6132.

IFWD moves

The Inland Fish and Wildlife Department has moved to the George K. Nolan Building at 2175 Shunk Rd.

This move will make IFWD more accessible to the public. Furbearer, bear, and deer harvest can all be checked at this location.

IFWD encourages the membership to stop in and talk with IFWD staff about questions, comments and concerns with regard to the management of our fish, wildlife and forest resources.

While the physical location has moved, we can still be reached at the same phone number, (906) 632-6132.

Answers to questions about tribal harvest reports

By RUSTY AIKENS, IFWD

The Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (IFWD) would like to address more questions received regarding 2010 harvest reports.

There was a mistake made on the mailing list and not everyone received harvest reports this year. If you did not receive one, they can be found on the Internet at www.saulttribe.com under the download section in

conservation, or you can call the IFWD at (906) 632-6132 and we will mail one to you.

The turkey section of the reports erroneously has spring turkey twice and is missing fall turkey. If you did not hunt turkey, just mark 'no' for both. If you did, please designate one of them as 'fall.'

Another question we have been receiving is if members have to report if they did not

harvest anything, and the answer is 'yes.' If you were issued a permit of any kind you are required to report. We have been getting lots of valuable feedback from the comment section of the report and we encourage everyone to use that section to help us serve our members better.

As trapping season comes to a close for 2010, we wanted to provide a summary of Sault

Tribe's furbearer harvest registration requirements.

The registration requirements must be presented by the member who harvested them. Furbearer harvest may also be registered at a local Michigan Department of Natural Resources office.

Harvest registrations for bobcats, fishers and martens require the skulls and pelts for sealing and lower jaw samples taken

by IFWD. For otters, the pelts are required for sealing and no sample is taken. Incidental catches, such as wolves, lynx, and over-harvest of badgers, bobcats, fishers, martens and otters require entire carcasses and pelts which are taken as samples in their entirety by IFWD.

For questions, call the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department at (906) 632-6132.

Lawsuit filed to stop release of toxins at Wisconsin mine

SUBMITTED BY THE WISCONSIN RESOURCES PROTECTION COUNCIL

MADISON, Wisc.— The Wisconsin Resources Protection Council, the Center for Biological Diversity and Laura Gauger filed a Clean Water Act citizen suit Jan. 18 against Flambeau Mining Company over its partially reclaimed Flambeau Mine near Ladysmith, Wisc.

According to the suit, the mining company is violating federal law by discharging pollutants, including potentially toxic metals like copper, iron and zinc, into the Flambeau River and a tributary known as "Stream C" that flows across the company's property.

The Flambeau is a popular river for fishing and canoeing and provides habitat for a wide

variety of aquatic and wildlife species, including bald eagles and osprey. The Flambeau Mine operated near the river from 1993 to 1997. Since the close of mining operations, Flambeau Mining Company has struggled to address persistent groundwater- and surface-water-quality problems, most notably at a 32-acre industrial park that remains operational.

The mining company channels stormwater runoff from this industrial park into a settling basin that discharges into a tributary of the Flambeau River. Monitoring data from the mining company and the state show that copper levels in the discharge have greatly exceeded Wisconsin's toxicity standards. The stormwater detention basin once held highly toxic acid mine

drainage and runoff from the open-pit mine.

"The Clean Water Act requires that Flambeau Mining Company's pollution discharges be regulated by a permit that sets clear limits on the amount of pollutants and protects the water quality of Stream C and the Flambeau River," said Jamie Saul, an attorney for the citizen groups. "Without such a permit, Flambeau Mining Company is in violation of the Act."

"For too long, Flambeau Mining Company has ignored its obligation to protect the water quality of Stream C and the Flambeau River," said Laura Gauger, an individual plaintiff in the lawsuit. "This is yet another example of the company's history of broken promises to the people of Rusk

County and the Native American community."

"There are a number of large copper-mine proposals in this region, and the continuing pollution at this much smaller and short-term mine does not bode well for the larger strip-mine projects," said Marc Fink, attorney with the Center for Biological Diversity.

The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin, in Madison, under the Clean Water Act's "citizen suit" provision. Congress authorized citizens to directly enforce Clean Water Act requirements against alleged polluters in federal court.

Flambeau Mining Company is a subsidiary of Utah-based Kennecott Minerals Company, which is owned

by the international mining conglomerate Rio Tinto headquartered in Melbourne, Australia.

The Wisconsin Resources Protection Council is a statewide, nonprofit membership organization concerned with the environmental impacts of metallic mining on the state's precious water supplies, on the tourism and dairy industries, and upon the many Native American communities that are located near potential mine sites.

The Center for Biological Diversity is a national, non-profit membership organization that works through science, law and creative media to secure a future for all species, great or small, hovering on the brink of extinction.

BE PRACTICAL IN CHOOSING SEEDS FOR NEXT SPRING'S GARDEN

By LARRY DYER

As winter sets in the gardening catalogues start arriving in the mail. Between those catalogues and a few minutes searching the internet you can quickly have many, many options for next year's garden. This luxurious abundance can sometimes lead to overwhelmed confusion: how do I decide what seeds to order?

There are a few things to consider that will help you make your decisions. The place to start is deciding what you want to harvest from your garden. Many vegetables have different varieties for different uses. Do you want to can tomato sauce and salsa or do you want big slicing tomatoes? Do you want pie pumpkins or Jack-o-lanterns? It is good to experiment with new crops and varieties. Most things will taste better from your garden than your memory of them canned or frozen.

One of the first decisions for longer-season crops like toma-

atoes and peppers is whether you want to start your own seeds indoors or buy plants next spring. Starting seeds yourself will give you many more variety options but you have to be set up do it well. It helps to have a good south-facing window and you will have to give the plants extra hours of light during the short winter days. It also helps to have some sort of coldframe for hardening the plants off before putting them into your garden. I'll talk more next month about how to start seeds indoors.

Many crops can be started by directly seeding into your garden soil. You will still have to make a number of decisions when ordering seeds. Do you want to buy heirloom seeds or hybrid varieties? Heirloom seeds are open pollinated and the seeds you save from your garden should produce a similar crop next season. Hybrid seeds are a cross between two varieties and the seeds you save won't necessarily breed

true the next season. Don't confuse hybrid varieties with genetically modified, or GMO, ones. Genetic modification is an entirely different process for introducing new traits from a variety of sources into a crop. Organic certification standards don't allow for GMO seeds, and I don't believe there are any GMO vegetable varieties available for sale through catalogs.

In many cases, you may have to decide whether you want untreated seeds or seeds that are treated with fungicides or insecticides. The treatment provides some protection to the seeds but many people don't want those chemicals in their gardens. Increasingly there are organic seed treatments available. If you are concerned about growing organically, be sure to check if the treatment is certified by OMRI, the Organic Materials Research Institute. We also have increasing options to purchase organic seed that was grown by certified organic farmers.

Garden catalogs will offer

a variety of options for disease resistance. It will take some study, experience and conversations with experienced gardeners in your area to decide what diseases you should be most concerned about. But buying seeds with the inherent resistance to disease is one of the most important things you can do to protect your garden from diseases.

Before you actually buy your seeds take the time to make a plan of what and how much you will plant. It's easy to get excited surrounded by seed catalogs with the winter wind blowing outside, and it's great to dream and think big, but there's no point paying for seeds that you won't have the space to plant. Meanwhile, enjoy winter and think spring.

Larry Dyer is a Tribal Extension Educator with MSU Extension working with area tribes. Contact him at (231) 439-8982 or dyerlawr@msu.edu, Emmet County MSU Extension, Harbor Springs.

Talk gardening with Larry

Michigan State University Extension Educator Larry Dyer is hosting an informational series, "Talk gardening with Larry." This is a brown bag discussion series on the fourth Thursday of each month from 12 to 12:50 p.m. in the Sault Tribe Health Center auditorium. Each date will have a topic with handouts, but after a brief presentation the conversation can go to whatever people have on their minds and in their gardens.

Dates and topics

Feb. 24 – Deciding what seeds to order (bring your favorite catalogs)

March 24 – Starting your own seeds

April 28 – Backyard composting

May 26 – Planning for seed saving

June 23 – Weed management

July 28 – Insect and disease management

August 25 – Seed saving

Please sign responsibly: Elections are costly



DARWIN "JOE" MCCOY
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

Aanii!

Before I begin my report, I want to apologize to any tribal member who may have used our website to send in a question on our "contact us" page.

We were informed recently that email being sent in by this page were not making it to my office, so I was not able to respond to any of them. We have since corrected the problem, but email sent before Jan. 13 did not make it to my office. Again, I apologize for this error.

It has been corrected and we are now able to receive all email.

If at any time you need to contact me, you can always call my office at (800) 793-0660 or locally at 635-6050.

By the time this edition reaches you, we will be one month into 2011! I feel that this year will be a good one for our tribe. The opportunities we have to improve the tribe and expand into diverse industries is growing. The board and I are continually looking, researching and discussing what we can do to make improvements to our tribe and to build onto our foundation for the next seven generations.

We continually have many great things happening within our tribe, which the board and I saw again this month during our department and division quarterly reviews.

One area which I was very glad to see us progress with is our direction as an organization to recycle and become a more environmentally friendly business. Our recycling committee is doing some great work educating and putting together

programs that help staff reduce, reuse and recycle in a very effective way that is saving us money. In our next tribal paper, look for a more detailed article on their programs.

After losing the case in Circuit Court and to avoid at least \$1.2 million in likely additional legal costs that would have resulted from an appeal, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors has decided to settle a six-year legal battle in the so-called "7 + 2" lawsuit against a former tribal chairman and key employees.

The tribe did have an opportunity to appeal this case.

However, five of our tribal attorneys, including staff lawyers, examined the case and set the odds for us winning an appeal very low. If we were to appeal, in addition to the low odds, we would have had to put \$1.2 million in cash into an escrow account controlled by the court to cover fees and other costs associated with the appeal. This would have placed a considerable strain on our budgets with a slim chance of winning.

This case has been a very lengthy process and has taken a toll on many of us, our tribe, employees and members. The board of directors and I believe we took every reasonable action to be sure justice was done. With this case settled, we now have closure on this subject and can move forward with this chapter in our history behind us. A full story on the case, verdict, and other details can be found on the front page of this newspaper.

We recently received the results of two referendum issues that were sent to the membership. Unofficial results have come in that the membership has voted to move forward with equity purchase of energy development company Indian Energy LLC. In addition, membership voted against pursuing settlement of a land claim with respect to partners in the Romulus, Mich., metropolitan area as described in Resolution 2010-249.

As I said in our January edition, it is important for Sault Tribe members — particularly

those of voting age — to know the facts about any petition they are signing.

With regards to the two recent referendum petitions, we have heard accurate and inaccurate information about the two projects being distributed to tribal members. Should you ever have any questions on referendum petitions or any other issue, please do not hesitate to contact your local unit representative or my office.

I was honored this month to attend Governor Rick Snyder's State of the State speech and inaugural address. The board and I look forward to working with the new governor and the new state legislature on issues important to the tribe and state. We are planning to have face to face meetings with Governor Snyder and other newly elected officials in February.

As always, please contact my office toll free at (800) 793-0660 or locally at 635-6050 with any concerns.

Sincerely,
Darwin "Joe" McCoy
Tribal Chairman

Board elected to manage the tribe's resources



JOSEPH EITREM, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I

We lost the 7+2 litigation case in Circuit Court (Chippewa County) and all of the attorneys who have examined the case provided legal advice to the tribe that we would have little chance to win if we chose to appeal the court ruling. An appeal would make an already expensive legal case a financial catastrophe for the tribe.

While many of us are deeply disappointed in the outcome of this case, reluctantly I supported its settlement for a number of reasons:

— The tribal board decided to settle the case for \$295,000.

The settlement is a large sum of money, however, if we had elected to appeal and we lost our attorneys have advised that we would be likely to incur a financial liability for the tribe of at least \$1.2 million.

— At a time when our tribe is struggling financially, just as all Michigan governments and businesses, and with the limited resources at our disposal we simply cannot risk another \$1.2 million of tribal dollars on a roll of the dice.

— As disappointed as many of us are, we are elected to manage the resources of the

tribe. Being disappointed is a lot less expensive than the pursuit of an appeal that we were highly likely to lose and cost our tribe over \$1 million. We cannot afford to lose again, and our attorneys believe that we would have if we appealed.

— The tribal board had four days to respond to the court regarding the settlement offer from the defendants. There was no time to solicit input from the membership on this decision. There comes a time when politics must be discarded and we as board members must decide what is in the best interest of

the tribe in general. I for one was not willing to gamble away your money when our attorneys strongly advised us against continuing the appeal process.

Our tribe has suffered a lot of adversity since the events leading to this entire court case. Let us hope that we can move forward as a tribe now that this controversy has been concluded.

Sincerely,
Joe Eitrem, Unit I Director
home (906) 632-8567
cell (906) 440-5728
josepheitrem@yahoo.com

Busy with array of political, business issues



TOM MILLER, DIRECTOR,
UNIT IV

I hope this report finds everyone healthy and surviving our cold winter.

The board of directors has been busy with a vast array of business and political issues. The four main issues are the 7+2 vote by the board to settle, the Indian Energy investment, payment to Fred Paquin on his annual and the letter of intent on a Romulus land claims.

Of these four items, the only one I voted for was the Indian Energy investment. I did that in what I see is the tribe's attempt to diversify its revenue flow.

Gaming is working now, but may not be as workable or as profitable in the future.

All four are either in the referendum voting process, the letter of intent and Indian Energy, or having referendum petitions submitted on them, Fred Paquin settlement and 7+2 settlement. I will give you updates as I receive them.

Another item of concern is the recent escalation by the State of Michigan in the charging of tribally-licensed fishermen in a state court. This is a clear attack on our treaty rights and disregard of the Consent Decree. The board is instructing our attorneys to respond quickly and to halt this attempt by the state to infringe on our treaty rights.

The board now has the task of educating the newly elected politicians that are not even completely settled in the Washington, D.C. process. We also have the same task in Lansing.

There was such a turnover that it is imperative that they be brought up to speed on the needs of Indian Country as soon as possible. If you hear of board

members in Washington, D.C., or Lansing, it is a good bet that this is what they are doing.

The board is also working on salary increases for the tribal workers. We still have some work to do on the scales and as soon as that is done, we should be able to implement a salary increase.

The economic development effort in the New Boston area continues. The tribe is doing the required items that have to be done when we buy land. A sign, clearly defining the area, fencing, etc. The newspaper articles that have been circulated lately are not accurate in their facts on the actions of the tribe, we are meeting the letter of the requirements in land acquisition.

The JKL Fiduciary Board made a recommendation to the board that if a new school building is constructed, that it be done on land designated in the Odenaang housing area. The board in turn passed a resolution stating this was the direction they would take. A study of the feasibility of the area would have to be done as to where a school could be located.

The board and administration

continue to work on producing a budget that remains in the black. Now that the budget process is within the amount of revenue available, it is now time to seriously seek multiple revenue sources. This will allow us to offer more services while

Chase reports to Unit IV

Chi miigwech to all the volunteers (tribal employees, tribal youth groups Manistique and Escanaba and tribal elders) who donated their time to plan, set up and work at the children's Christmas parties this year.

The tribe approved \$2,000 for the Unit IV area, which was split between three parties in Marquette, Escanaba and Manistique. I'm not going to try and list the individual volunteers names because I might forget to mention someone's name and I don't want to leave anybody out. There will be pictures and an article submitted to the tribal newspaper. Also like to mention a "big thank you" to the Manistique casino and to Santa Claus and all of the little elves.

The Manistique Powwow Committee members have start-

being fiscally responsible.

I hope that everyone stays healthy and enjoys the remainder of the month and our winter weather.

If there are any questions, please contact me at 644-3334 or cell (906) 322-3827.

ed a sign up list for volunteers. We will be starting our planning meetings again soon. If you want, leave your name and telephone number with Viola at 341-6993 or call me at 341-6783.

On Jan. 11, some tribal board members voted to settle the lawsuit with Bernard Bouschor and the other parties in the 7+2 litigation. In doing so they agreed to pay \$295,000 towards the defendants legal fees and settle the lawsuit. There was a prior resolution adopted by the board of directors to recover the funds. In order to overturn an action previously approved by the board of directors a positive majority vote (seven of 13 members of the Board of Directors) would have to happen. This did not occur in the vote to settle the *See Chase, Page 24*

Tribal department savings commendable



KEITH MASSAWAY, DIRECTOR, UNIT III

The board is still finalizing many departments with end of the year reviews. One of the highlights is our Sault Tribe Police Department. We have 22 enforcement officers in the seven-county area. They are all cross-deputized with the county, tribal and federal jurisdictions. Our tribal police department has put special emphasis on understanding and diminishing domestic violence. Their procedures and actions have gained the attention of state and federal officials. Recently the department took the lead role in a domestic violence training film for national release. This honor

and recognition is very important to show other agencies that tribal police departments are working hard and hand-in-hand to better our society and protect us all.

The Purchasing Department has pursued saving the tribe dollars where they can. Restructuring our garbage pick up, recycling, high efficiency lighting, competitive bidding and reducing inventories all help the bottom line. They are always looking for ways to save money without sacrificing quality. That department has saved us well over \$1 million last year.

The tribe's Transportation Department worked on many projects in 2010. St. Ignace's Shores Casino entrances and some interior roads were completely rebuilt. The Moore's fishing access road was reconstructed and rebuilt so our fishermen have easy mooring and safe harbor for launching their boats. The department paved Chambers St. and paid for the engineering of the Carp River Bridge on Mackinac Trail. All of these projects help build our economy and keep people employed.

As this unit report comes out Feb. 4, I remind everyone who has a inland hunting and

fishing license to submit their annual catch reports. They were due Feb. 1, but if you have not completed yours, get it to the tribe immediately. If you have questions call your local tribal

police. You can reach the police department's main office by calling (906) 635-6050 and ask to be transferred to the police department.

Thank you again for all the

phone calls and the e-mails.

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

From "Chase," page 23

lawsuit. There was a vote of six in favor, four against, and two abstentions. So the requirements for a positive majority was not met. By saying that the resolution to settle the lawsuit passed is not so and the action violated the parliamentary meeting rules. The board members who voted in favor were Pat Rickley, Lana Causley, Keith Massaway, Catherine Hollowell, Cathy Abramson and Joe Eitrem. Those opposed were Joan Carr Anderson, DJ Malloy, myself and Tom Miller.

If you are interested in applying to sit on either the Inland Conservation Committee or the Great Lakes Conservation Committee, send in your letter of intent along with three letters of recommendation from Sault Tribe members to Tara Benoit, 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. Nine committee members will be selected at the first board meeting in March for each committee. So make

sure to get your information in prior to that date to apply for a seat on either committee. Don't forget to send in your 2010 inland harvest report, its due Feb. 1.

Romolous casino project — Jerry Campbell contacted the tribe and doesn't want to go any further with the proposed Romolous Casino development project because of other commitments. According to Tom Dorwin, the tribe's lead council, if either party (Jerry Campbell or Ted Gatzarous) doesn't go forward or backs out of the agreement (for any reason) then the current resolution passed by the tribe would be moot so that agreement with Jerry Campbell and Ted Gatzarous is no longer in effect. I did not support that resolution.

Will update you more in the next paper on the voting results of the two referendums that you received ballots on. We were not given the official results, prior to the paper

going out. I was emailed that the Indian Energy LLC passed and that the Romolous Casino failed.

The tribal board voted to designate a parcel of land on the Odenaang housing site to build a new Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting School. I didn't support it, because we were just handed the resolution a couple of hours prior to the meeting and did not discuss it at the workshop at all prior to adding it to the agenda. We did not have time to have a discussion on whether a feasibility study was done, the cost for water and sewer to the Odenaang site, or the cost, size, etc., to build a new school.

After talking to Tom Miller, he said the tribe would have to acquire a loan to pay up front to construct the school and then pay that bank loan back with the lease money paid to the tribe by the school.

Thank you. If you need to contact me, please call me at 341-6783. — Denise Chase

All the facts needed for intelligent decisions



JOAN (CARR) ANDERSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Tribal Members,
I would have liked to have known the results of the referendums. But at this time I would have been too late for my report. As you know, I was not in favor of the Romulus deal. However, I was in favor of Indian Energy LLC. This is one of our important needs for future investments, which will lead to jobs for our tribal members and an opportunity for higher education. As far as the referendum is concerned, I feel this is each and every member's individual right to challenge. It seems to me that we are approving items like this prior to having all the facts. In

order to make intelligent decisions you have to consider all the factors whether positive or negative.

Please remember, anyone who is interested in putting their name in for the conservation committees, get your applications in prior to March 1.

There are some new things happening in the Human Resources Department. Mr. Richard Rand is doing an exceptional job of addressing employee concerns and issues. He has an open door policy and solving important issues for our members. Great job, Richard.

Getting older does have its

benefits, you just need to find out what opportunities are available. For example, at age 50, go to your Northern Rewards and you can get free tokens on certain days and events, such as your birthday. Another example, at age 55, members are permitted two free tickets to certain entertainment shows provided by our tribe. Tickets are limited, so contact your unit representative or your unit chairperson — In Unit V contact Deloris LeVeque at 387-3770 for Munising area and Joe Grey at 249-3303 for the Marquette area.

At age 60, you become an "elder." This is the time when

you start to get checks/money in the mail. You also have the opportunity to take advantage of elder meal programs and social events. Please remember, if you're confused about programs and possible benefits call me at any time. If I don't have the answers I will send you in the right direction.

Remember, keep the email and phone calls coming. Try to attend meetings and, if you see me out and about, feel free to address your concerns in person: (906) 450-7299 or (906) 387-2802, jcanderson@saulttribe.net. Sincerely,

Joan Anderson

Board's decisions based on tribe's welfare



LANA CAUSLEY, DIRECTOR, UNIT II

A brand new year has arrived, I'm looking forward to it and hope everyone had a blessed holiday. This month tribal members have been requested to vote on two important decisions for our tribe. By this time, the referendum elections will be decided. I received many calls on both issues and explained my position with the facts given to me as a board member (we must weigh through politics and non facts as

well).

As stated, I did not support the Indian Energy project. Although I am very thankful the individuals came to hold a presentation, we simply cannot afford it. We have already sent \$850,000 to the project, as stated in the agreement, and as projected and cautioned to the board, we face a \$2.3 million deficit for 2011. We did, in fact, send the money pre-referendum, against my own protests, but a majority of the board supported it. We attempted a suspension but it failed to make it to the agenda by a vote, therefore, we moved forward. As always, I'm skeptical, and moving that amount of money causes me great concern.

If the membership denies the Indian Energy project, I have asked what will happen to the funds we have already sent. The response has been, "We will get an equity percentage, per the amount we fund to Indian Energy," which at this time is \$850,000, which equals approximately 5 percent. I'm trying to be in the middle with the project

as I believe in the company and its ethics and potential. Again, it's strictly our financial picture at this time. I have been around long enough to know we never have enough funding and securing membership services continues to concern me.

There have been a lot of NON facts on the payment the board recently authorized to the former chief of police. He was paid \$18,000, which was solely his SICK time accrued over his time of employment. The board approved paying this settlement amount versus the potential litigation amount of an estimated \$400,000. With the \$18,000 payment, the tribe has settled with this individual and we are waived from any and all further litigation. This has been another hurtful event that has happened within our tribe, but it's OVER and both can move on.

On Jan. 12, the board was informed that we would need to again discuss and vote on settling with the 7+2 litigants, a court date to accept or reject the offer was due the following

day. As you know, we lost the court case in Circuit Court and we were ordered to pay all the defendants' legal fees, estimated at \$1.2 million.

After discussion and a recommendation by our Legal Department as well as William Horton (attorney hired by the former administration and lead council from the start of the case) we were advised to settle with the defendants for \$295,000. We were further advised that if we continue on the path of appeal we would have to post a CASH BOND of the \$1.2 million. Please remember appealing would not have given us a new trial, only the avenue to begin the appeal on certain items of the case, which included more money. To date, we have spent \$1.4 million thus far and don't want to go through the turmoil and additional legal fees for an appeal that could take 19 more months! Okay, these are the facts, open, honest and explained to you as we have been explained to us board members. Many

have different thoughts on this (miigwech to those who took the time to call and not believe the misinformation on the internet) but after you have read the facts I hope that you understand what our tribe could have been potentially faced with if we did not settle.

All issues at this time are extremely hard decisions to make and please know I don't make them lightly, and never have.

All the hurtful, painful issues with our tribe need to be resolved so that we can truly move forward for our people. Old wounds are never good for individual people, let alone a whole nation. I WANT to move forward, WE need to move forward. I have heard from many of you on this and many want it to be over as well.

If you have any concerns or would like to meet with me, please email or call anytime: (906) 484-2954, lcausley@saulttribe.net.

Baamaapii,
Lana Causley

Diversification, representation & education



Photo Courtesy NIHB

Above (Left to right), Andy Joseph of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Cathy Abramson of Sault Tribe and Rep. Don Young of the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs.

CATHY ABRAMSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

And the results are in, 2598 to 2382! The people support Indian Energy! Thank you for taking time to vote!

We are now entering a new era and you have reaffirmed what you have been telling your leadership for some time now: We must have diversification! We must do our part to take care of our Mother Earth!

As tribes, we must try to help each other out to help our people. By supporting this endeavor, this is what we will be doing. For more information on Indian Energy, please check out the website at www.indianenergyllc.com.

What else has been increas-

ingly clear is that our tribe needs to look for ways of helping our own members establish and maintain their own businesses. At our last workshop with our Planning and Development Department, we discussed this. This is an area I intend to help develop (yes, help develop our Planning and Development Department!).

While our tribe is not in a position to provide loans, we can be supportive in advising our membership on assistance that may be available to them in the areas. For example, the Michigan Small Business and Technology Development Center (MI-SBTDC) network provides a full range of services for small businesses emerg-

ing and growing throughout Michigan – including new venture companies, existing businesses, expanding businesses, technology companies and innovators. For more information, please check out www.misbtdc.org/training. Also, please keep in touch with Jeff Holt of our Planning and Development Department. You may reach him at (906) 635-6050 or at jholt@saulttribe.net. He has helpful information to share with you.

Michigan has experienced several changes in leadership at the tribal and state levels due to recent elections. With the election of Rick Snyder (R), along with both houses of Michigan legislature becoming predominantly Republican, it is a step away from the Democratic governance that has been predominant for the past eight years. We are waiting to see the plan Governor Snyder has for us, especially to address the high rate of unemployment in the state.

While we are waiting, we have made plans to meet the new legislators and continue our good working relationships with those established legislators.

On Feb. 22 and 23, we will travel to Lansing to attend our United Tribes meeting and attend a legislative reception to meet our state leadership. This is an excellent opportunity for our tribes to come together and discuss our common issues and educate the legislators about who we are as sovereign

people. We need to see how we can work together to help our people in our communities.

Just recently while in Washington, D.C., I had the opportunity to meet with Rep. Don Young (R-AK), chair of the Natural Resources Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs, and Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID), who will now chair the House Subcommittee on Interior Appropriations. They are both strong supporters of tribes and understand the federal government's trust responsibility to our people. They will do everything they can to increase or retain adequate funding for tribes.

I also had a chance to meet with our new Congressman, Dan Benishek (R) of Michigan. We briefed him and his chief of staff about passage of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act and the need to continue to increase funding for Indian Health Services. They were informed that the Bemidji area (Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin) are the least funded and have the highest health care disparities in Indian Country. Congressman Benishek has joined Rep. Young on the House committee that oversees Indian Affairs.

It is important that we as tribal leaders keep a constant and continued dialogue with our state and federal legislators. With so many new leaders, it is very important to tell them our stories and educate them about

their trust responsibilities to our tribes. We must NEVER let up!

Another exciting bit of information that I would like to let you know is that the board just recently voted to designate some land at our Odenaang property so we can begin planning a new building to house our JK Lumsden Bahweting Anishinabeg School. We have met with officials at our school and all agree that the present school location does not provide opportunity for the expansion we want for our students. These are exciting times as there are so many possibilities as we move forward and properly plan our ideal school! I will keep you posted in this area.

On another note, there is a free program for high school students that is being sponsored and held at Northern Michigan University. It is titled the College Prep Medicine Wheel Academy for students in grades 10-12. Visit www.nmu.edu/nativeamericans. This program showcases a variety of health and science fields students might be interested in pursuing. There are 40 openings so make sure you enroll now!

I appreciate all the calls that I receive from our members both near and far! Please continue to call me at (906) 322-3823 or e-mail me at cabramson@saulttribe.net.

Also, I'm glad we can share all the snow with those who live in areas that don't usually get all this beautiful white fluff!

Identifying, working on tribe's major issues



DEBRA PINE, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Ahniin kina gwaya! Hello everyone! Hope all is well in this new year for you and your family. Our tribal board of directors are taking this as a new opportunity to start fresh and work at getting our tribe back on track for the new year.

I'm looking forward to rolling up my sleeves with the other board members and tackling some big issues facing our tribe. Our plan is to have a strategic session workshop, identify five major issues that the board agrees upon and methodically work toward resolving them. Even though each board member has their own cause, reality dictates that we need to work together toward building a workable consensus or nothing gets accomplished. I prefer leaving my ego at the door, make compromises and actually accom-

plish something during my term in office. I want to leave the tribe in a better place than when I got on board.

With that said, the following are the issues I would like to see resolved in this coming year:

- Carcierri fix
- Developing an education commission
- JKL school expansion
- Wage grid fix
- Language revitalization
- Settlement of the Charlotte Beach lands claim issue
- Gaming compact with State of Michigan

As long as we come together as a tribe and stand united as leaders, I see these items as being very solvable. Of course, my fellow board members may have other issues of equal importance. I have to respect that and decide as a group to identify the issues that we can effectively resolve.

Fortunately, some of the items are in the process of doing just that.

Carcieri v. Salazar is a 2009 U.S. Supreme Court decision that holds that the phrase "now under federal jurisdiction" refers only to tribes that were federally recognized when the Indian Reorganization Act became law in 1934, and the federal government cannot take land into trust for tribes recognized after 1934.

Work on the Carcierri decision resulted in a historical report we refer to as the "Cleland Report." The report

was researched and written by Professor Charles E. Cleland, Ph.D., titled, *Persistence and Self Reliance: The Historic Struggle of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians for Reorganization*. Cleland is an expert witness in the 1979 Fox Decision that reaffirmed our right to fish along with other important court cases. This report and a legal memorandum by our esteemed legal council, Bruce R. Greene, have been submitted on our behalf to the Department of Interior for consideration as to why we should not be considered "Carcieri conflicted" and that the nine pending applications with the Bureau of Indian Affairs should be taken into trust. I am hopeful that early this year we will receive good news and our status has been cleared.

Language revitalization is high on my list of priorities. Renee Shipman recently wrote an Administration for Native Americans grant, which we received! Congrats, Renee! I'm looking forward to participating in the immersion classes scheduled on Sugar Island. I would like to take my language skills to a conversational level. Ordering my kids around is about the extent of my abilities to date, plus a pretty good prayer or two in Anishinabemowin, and I would like to do better.

We are now in the process of cleaning up messes left by the last administration. At this time,

I would ask that the membership please be patient and give us time to work through these issues. I ask that if you have questions, please take the time and call your board representative. More times than not, the information on the internet is inaccurate and generally is just somebody's opinion. I prefer to rely on our tribal newspaper for information. The facts are checked for accuracy and the newspaper staff takes pride in making sure both sides of the story is presented. My concern is that past leadership has an ax to grind and will continue to hammer us with inflated stories and inaccuracies. Inciting the membership is not helpful at this juncture — I ask past leadership to "park it" and give us a break so that we can get this organization back on track for the benefit of our employees, membership and our children.

There are many decisions that we, as a board, have to make on your behalf and some of them are very distasteful but we make them with the facts in front of us. I will give you an example. There has not been one "evergreen" contract that we have won and have not had to pay out. When an employee with an "evergreen" contract leaves or is terminated, more times than not, it is to our tribe's benefit to settle with that person rather than waste our money fighting it in court.

Tribal members may not

like the people who hold or have held the nefarious "evergreen" contracts, so when the issue of paying out one comes up, the membership gets riled up — "Why should so-and-so go away with all that money?" Well, folks, this is an example of two things — leftover decisions made by the previous administration to implement bad contracts, and the best possible decision made on your behalf to get the best deal for the tribe and stay out of court. I much prefer the money get spent on membership services than wasted on paying lawyers fighting losing battles in court.

I hope all of that wasn't too confusing to follow. Please trust that we have a good combination of personalities on the board and I believe we have the ability to achieve success and sustained growth for our tribe.

I have one more thing. I want our tribe to experience "peace." How do I see this happening? There is a value in continuity — continuity brings stability. I believe as a tribal government our people need a period of stability in order to allow sustained growth to occur. With that growth, I believe peace is within reach. Lofty? Yes, but leaders need to see the forest for the trees.

Baamaapii kwaabmin
Debra-Ann Pine
(906) 440-7581
<http://web.me.com/debra.ann.pine/Site/Welcome.html>

Referendum vote: The people have spoken



CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

In the Jan. 27 referendum election, tribal voters upheld *Resolution 2010-226: 15 Percent Equity Purchase of Indian Energy LLC*. The people have spoken and I want to thank those with the faith, vision and hope for the future of our tribe who supported this initiative.

More than just a financial investment in our future, this moment represents a turning point in our tribal history as we take a step in a new direction. Although our problems have been years in the making, we can not give up hope or stand on the sidelines, bickering amongst ourselves while the world's new emerging economies pass us by.

Our financial investment in Indian Energy LLC represents a point on the horizon that we can all focus on and move towards as we align ourselves for a new era of opportunity.

With this future focus in mind, we can now turn our attention closer to home. Let's fix what needs fixing and move forward with investment in our people and the place we call home. With new clarity of where we need to go as a tribe, we can now carve out the

steps of how we are going to get there. It won't be easy but we've begun to assemble the tools necessary for achievement. Education and jobs are key, and will be the measure of our success.

To that end, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation recently announced a new SmartZone in Sault Ste Marie. SmartZones were established to foster collaborations between industry and universities aimed at the commercialization of research. Since the inception of the SmartZones program in 2002, more than 845 businesses have located or expanded in the zones, resulting in more than 16,359 jobs and \$1.1 billion in private investment. The Sault SmartZone is the second to be established in the UP. As a tribal nation, we are uniquely positioned to leverage our ability

to bring federal funding to this collaborative effort. As well, we can provide industry with the skilled workforce that will make this region a great place to do business. Lake Superior State University is the only public university in the state to offer undergraduate degrees in robotic engineering and environmental health, two career areas poised for growth. Let's eliminate the high school drop out rate and ensure our tribal kids pursue their education so they can compete in new emerging economies—right here at home.

This has been a very busy month with many, many phone calls and emails from Unit II constituents calling to discuss the referendum elections and other tribal affairs. It was great hearing from all of you and I appreciate your thoughts and concerns. A goodly amount of

effort was devoted to putting out brush fires of misinformation. Some took exception to my last unit report about black-birds as "irrelevant." But I humbly remind you that we are Anishinaabe:

Zoogipon agidakamig!
Gegaa-apii mii go aadizooke!
Aawechige noongom!
(Snow is on the ground! It's about time to tell a traditional story! Teach by telling a story today!)

Director Causley and I have discussed establishing unit meetings throughout the district as well as periodic newsletters. We'll announce the schedule in next month's unit report.

Wishing you safety, health, comfort and love!

Catherine Hollowell
(906) 484-6821

Unit2tribal@gmail.com

Charting a course: We need to be proactive



DJ MALLOY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

This year, with some of our divisive issues behind us, we need to chart a course to our future. For too long we have had to practice reactionary government, responding to issues as they arise. This is like driving in the fog or in a blinding snowstorm — hanging on to the wheel with white knuckles and looking for anything in our path that might require us to

veer left or right to avoid crashing. Anyone who has driven in these conditions knows that you cannot pay attention to the big picture and can miss your turn or get lost because of it.

Instead of being reactionary, we need to be proactive. First, we need to decide on a destination, study the map for roads that can take us there, choose the path with the fewest tolls and obstacles, and chart our course. There are always going to be obstacles in our path. However, we cannot allow those things to cancel the trip.

Having said this, and sticking with the analogy of "driving," I will go one-step further and say we must stop navigating through the rear view mirror! It is time to look through the windshield and get in gear! We all know where we have been, it is time for the leadership to show the members our vision of where we are going, then make every attempt to

chart the best course. We need to express our vision for our tribe and explain to our people what we think is important to be able to go forward from here.

We need to involve the members of this tribe who have experience in running successful businesses or who have valuable expertise to lend to our common goal. Think about this: Everything each of us has ever learned, we have learned from someone else. We are never so smart or so educated that we cannot learn something new, or benefit from the knowledge of others.

Some of the issues I would like to address this year are:

1. The hire of a CEO or tribal manager to oversee the day-to-day operations of the administrative departments and divisions. Since the referendum held in the spring of 2010 separating the chairman and CEO, nothing has been done to address the change mandated by

the membership. This change is important because it will insulate business from politics.

2. Restore of some of the basic services to elders. We need to stop charging elders for a ride to the doctor's office, subsidize eyeglasses and dentures, and look at ensuring the elders are better served than they have been in the last few years.

3. Separate the legislative and judicial branches. In other words, elect judges to serve in our courts and hand over the power to interpret our Constitution. This will provide for a clear separation in the board's power to make law, interpret the law and levy decisions based on that interpretation.

4. Change in the organizational chart. Right now we have a two-legged org chart and it is not what I would call the best structure for our tribe. There needs to be a better division of

oversight and management to allow for depth of insight into what is working and what is not. We are not doing the tribe or staff any favors by sticking with what we have in place. It is not the best, or most efficient, way to do business.

5. Employee rights and pay needs desperate attention. We are currently looking at a mechanism in which to provide a well deserved and long overdue raise for our labor force. What is being looked at right now is a 2.5 percent increase starting at the casino level. These folks are the people who keep our customers coming back and they have historically been at the bottom of the wage scale. I hope to have more on the progress of this effort next month.

I welcome and appreciate your ideas, comments and opinions. As always, you may contact me at (906) 440-9762 or by email at dmalloy@saulttribe.net.

Tribe to move JKL Bahweting to Odenaang



BERNARD BOUSCHOR,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Dear Tribal Member,
The good news is the tribe took a very important step forward by designating a portion of the Odenaang tribal housing site in the Sault Ste. Marie area as the future home of the Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting School Academy. The Sault Tribe and

JKL Fiduciary Committee had been looking for property adjacent to the school on Marquette Avenue for the expansion and replacement of the existing school.

The JKL Fiduciary committee and tribe had some success in the past three years in acquiring property but not enough land to even start the planning and design to build a new school. In addition, another significant issue identified was that some of the property that was purchased is considered wetlands and mediation would be necessary.

In discussion with members and staff of the Sault Tribe board, Bahweting School board, JKL Fiduciary Committee and Sault Tribe Housing, the Odenaang housing site has available acreage for a new school. The site issue being taken care of, we go to the next

phase, planning and design of the school.

The school project, I believe, brings excitement to Sault Tribe and surrounding community with the building of partnership in education with Sault Ste. Marie Public Schools, Lake Superior State University, Bay Mills Community College and local governments such as the City of Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County and Soo Township.

The Sault Tribe chairman and board of directors have as one of our primary goals education. JKL Bahweting School board has identified the need for a larger new school facility. The tribal board on designation of a site has eliminated the primary obstacle that has delayed the planning and design of a new school.

As a current tribal board member, a tribal member and

former tribal chairman, I had been involved in various lawsuits with the Sault Tribe since the election of 2004 in tribal or state courts. In January 2011, the final court case has finally been concluded.

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors filed a lawsuit in Chippewa County Circuit Court - Sault Tribe Plaintiff vs. Bouschor (defendants in the case were seven employees that were fired, Miller Canfield law firm and Bernard Bouschor, tribal chairman at the time) This case arose out of a charge by the tribe that I, as the former tribal chairman, acted beyond my scope of authority in firing seven employees and paying a severance as provided in their contract.

The trial was held in Circuit Court in October 2010, the jury finding for the defendants (Bouschor and four former

employees). The lawsuit ended with the Sault Tribe claim being dismissed, the tribe lost.

The final action that needed to be resolved was the Sault Tribe paying (settlement) to the defendant for legal fees since mediation in 2007. The recovery of legal fees are normal in court proceedings but it is up to the judge to ultimately decide in this case the parties negotiated the legal fees amount.

The so called settlement titled "Sault Tribe vs. Bouschor" (Defendants Bouschor and four former employees) of \$295,000 was paid by tribe to the five defendants to recover of some of their legal fees. In closing, the only winner in a lawsuit are the attorneys that are paid no matter what the outcome of the trial.

Unit I
Bernard Bouschor
Tribal Board

Sault Ste. Marie

Anishinaabemowin classes, Thursdays, 6-8 p.m., at the Niigaanagiizhik 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 (906) 635-6050 for more information.

Drumming, Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at the Niigaanagiizhik 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, Thursdays, 12-1 p.m., at 531 Ashmun Street.

No registration is necessary. Please bring your own 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, 6-8 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 meet 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 (906) 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 third Friday of each month at 11 a.m. at Zellar's Village Inn.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Anishinaabemowin classes, Tuesdays, 2-3:30 p.m.

Call Orien Corbiere at 635-6050 or the Newberry Tribal Health Center at 293-8181 for more information.

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 the 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 meeting for all tribal members, 6 p.m. at the tribal center on the second Thursday of each month.

For more information, call Joan Anderson at 387-2802.

Anishinaabemowin classes, Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m., at the tribal center.

For more information, call (906) 635-6050.

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 websites 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 every day.

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 632-5204, 632-0236 or 632-0220.

Sault Tribe arts and crafts exhibitions and sales are scheduled for second Thursdays-Saturdays until October, then it is weekly, 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 members of a Sault Tribe member's household.

For further information, call Rachel McKechnie at 632-0530 extension 53573.

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.