

Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

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Mshka'odin Giizis
Frozen Moon

Sault Tribe, Lansing, announce completed land purchase

LANSING, Mich. —The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the City of Lansing completed a critical step in their effort to win federal approval of a casino in downtown Lansing. On Nov. 1, the tribe completed the agreement to purchase city-owned land adjacent to the Lansing Center where the casino will be built.

Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment, Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero, and Bob Liggett — owner of Big Boy restaurants across Michigan and former owner of the very successful Lansing-based radio station WFMK — signed documents Nov. 1 completing the transfer of the land to the Tribe's ownership. Liggett is the main investor in the project and owns a majority of Lansing Future Development, LLC, the Sault Tribe's partner in the project.

The tribe will now apply to the federal government to take the land into trust, clearing the way for the construction of the \$245 million casino, which will be built in the heart of the city's entertainment district, adjacent to the Lansing Center. The 125,000-square-foot casino will create an estimated 1,500 permanent jobs at the property and more than 700 construction jobs.

"We wouldn't be to this point in the process if it wasn't for the team of professionals involved," Lansing Future Development's CEO Bill Martines said. "The city's department heads, the private professionals representing the city and the developer, and the Sault Tribe's staff, have countless hours invested. At the end of the day, this project will be successful because of the expertise and commitment from these individuals."

"This is a wonderful day for the members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians," Payment said. "We continue to move aggressively on this project, and we will file our land trust application as soon as

possible. We are grateful to have the city and people of Lansing as partners in this important endeavor. By exercising our sovereign government's legal right to develop a casino, we will be creating a project that will generate significant economic benefits for Sault Tribe members in addition to creating thousands of good jobs."

The tribe will file an application with the U.S. Department of the Interior to take the land into trust as tribal lands under a specific provision of the federal Land Claims Act that gives only the Sault Tribe the legal right to the process. The tribe intends to open the casino after receiving federal approval.

The tribe will use casino revenues to improve programs and services to members, including health care, education, housing, elder care, social services, and more. The City of Lansing will use its annual revenue payments from the facility to create the Lansing Promise, a program to fund four-year college scholarships for Lansing School District graduates.

The land transaction completed today includes a parcel adjacent to the Lansing Center at Michigan Avenue and Larch, which the tribe acquired for a total cost of \$280,000, plus \$9,000 in closing costs. The purchase price reflects the full fair market value of the land. The agreement between the city and Tribe is for the Tribe to close on the other two other parcels of land over time at a price already agreed to by all parties, assuming all approvals for the project are secured.

Plans for the casino include up to 3,000 slot machines and 48 table games, and assorted bars and restaurants in an urban modern-themed property. The project has been approved by the Lansing City Council, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors, and the Sault Tribe membership in a tribal referendum held earlier this year.



Photo courtesy of City of Lansing

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero, Sault Tribe Chair Aaron Payment and developer Bob Liggett following signing paperwork to transfer land from the city to the tribe for \$280,000 plus closing costs.

Action plan to combat drug abuse

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Just over a year ago the Sault Tribe Court team received a grant from the Department of Justice (DOJ) that covers a number of programs, including establishing and implementing a Tribal Action Plan (TAP) to combat substance abuse within tribal communities.

Sault Tribal Court Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry said the DOJ and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration are interested in the outcome of the tribe's strategic planning process and how it was developed because the tribe is the first in the nation to access the TAP program. Within the Tribal Law and Order Act passed last year there were mandates that federal agencies assist tribes with tribal action plans upon request, according to Fabry. She said that because our tribe had long-term plans to combat and prevent substance abuse, it was a good opportunity to seek the funding and develop a TAP.

With established and proven resources already available, such as tribal health, Drug Court and Traditional Medicine, the strategic plan will help the newly formed TAP advisory board determine gaps in client services. And, according to Fabry, allow the tribe to be first in line with a plan when federal agencies offer additional funding.

The TAP team began meeting with its technical assistance provider, Fox Valley Technical College, in September to begin the process of determining the vision and mission statements. An advisory board was established and made up of key stakeholders and community members, including staff from Behavioral Health, Tribal Court, Anishinaabek Community & Family Services, the Culture Department, Housing, Law Enforcement, local community members, unit directors and

the tribal chairman.

The TAP advisory board will determine ways of increasing coordination between tribal agencies and substance abuse related crimes, seek community input to help identify addiction issues and gaps in services; seek guidance and assistance from identified federal agencies in drafting the TAP plan; develop, write and implement a long-term TAP plan, and, as a committee, continue to meet and evaluate the plan.

Advisory Board member and Unit III Director Bridgett Sorenson said, "The Sault Tribe Board of Directors and all of our agencies are taking substance abuse very seriously. We are working on a plan for prevention and healing that will try to prevent any additional deaths in our communities. Please reach out and help if possible!"

Fabry said the court and those working on the project hope there will be funding available in the future that will allow for implementation of the project. "We wanted to be one of the first tribes to have a plan in hand and know what we need — be it a residential treatment facility, detox center, or more prevention

programs in local schools — to have something on paper to show what we would like to do to move forward."

She said the plan is comprehensive and she is excited to see what the tribe can do with it. "Some of the most intensive work that we do, which goes for anyone working for the court, is in drug court," Fabry said. "One of the things I see a need for is sober living. Many people go to treatment and end up coming back because they go home after treatment to the same environment. We need a support network such as transitional housing for people in recovery. That would be my hope."

ACFS Division Director Juanita Bye, said, "Substance Abuse in our community is a critical issue that needs to be addressed with a multi-disciplinary approach to include active participation from the board of directors, division directors, team members and most importantly community members. The chairman and BOD are supportive of the task force and have committed to ensure active participation at every level."

Wolf hunting bill on fast track

State Senator Tom Casperson's Senate Bill 1350, introduced Oct. 17, calls for the hunting as a tool for wolf management. Casperson met with tribal officials Nov. 7 in an effort to come to a meeting of minds on wolf management but was unable to find consensus.

At the heart of the matter is the bill's requirement that the wolf be designated a game animal. Casperson said that because the wolf was designated a game animal didn't mean that it would automatically be hunted. Instead, it would force the Natural

Resource Commission to become responsible for the species.

Both parties agreed that the MDNR is providing little real data on wolf predation and population, leaving others to rely on anecdotal evidence of wolf attacks on livestock and pets.

The tribes said real data must be gathered before such a big step was considered. Even the consideration is inappropriate in the face of the Inland Consent Decree, which calls for co-management and consultation within the treaty ceded area. *See Wolf Bill, pg. 4*

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Sault MidJim construction during December

During the month of December, the MidJim in Sault Ste. Marie will begin construction to replace two old gas tanks. MidJim will remain open for business during construction.

For approximately 10 days in early December, fuel will not be available at MidJim. During construction, the BP gas station at 3 Mile Rd. and I-75 Business Spur will offer tribal member discounts on gasoline and diesel. (MidJim will be open for all other necessities, including cigarette purchases.)

"Thank you in advance for your patience and patronage during this time," said MidJim manager Jamie MacDonald.

December cigarette and gas quota stoppage

Effective Dec. 1, cigarette and gasoline quotas will be unlimited for the month of December or until they run out.

On Jan. 1, 2013, cigarette and gasoline quotas will return to their normal amounts. Cigarettes limited to 10 cartons per month and gas maximum of 90 gallons per month.

Free flights for WWII vets to national memorial

Honor Flight Michigan has flown nearly 1,600 World War II veterans to see the the memorial dedicated to honor their service and sacrifices for our country.

World War II veterans who wish to take an all expenses paid trip to their memorial in Washington, D.C., can contact the following organizations in Michigan:

In Detroit and southeastern Michigan, call Jack and Faye Wiseley at (734) 426-8931. In the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, call Barb Vanrooy at (906) 280-1471.

To join, make a donation or gather more information, visit www.honorflightmichigan.com.

Dorothy Sam teaches at culture camp

Traditional healer Dorothy Sam is scheduled to teach at the Mary Murray Culture Camp on Sugar Island from Nov. 28 through Dec. 1. Her schedule follows:

Nov. 28, Mother Earth and me, 1-3:30 p.m. Open afterward for personal one-on-one sessions.

Nov. 29, medicine wheel, 1-3 p.m. Talking circle begins at 4 p.m.

Nov. 30, first moontime and oshkikwe (new woman) celebration, 5-7:30 p.m.

Dec. 1, importance of traditional crafts, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Please call the Traditional Medicine Program for any questions at 632-0220, 632-5268 or 632-0236.

Sault Tribe committee openings

The Sault Tribe Special Needs/Enrollment Committee has one vacant seat and the Sault Tribe Child Welfare Committee has one vacant seat.

Sault Tribe members interested in sitting on either of the committees should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from fellow tribal members to Tara Benoit, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie. Please contact Tara at (906) 635-6050 or tbenoit@saulttribe.net with any questions.

Transplant benefit



Left to right, Michelle Mulder will receive a kidney from her sister, Carrie Myotte, their family is working hard to pay for related costs.

A spaghetti dinner benefit is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m., Thursday, Nov. 29, at the Pickford Township Hall to help Michelle Mulder and Carrie Myotte to help cover expenses in preparation for, during and while recovering from a kidney transplant operation.

Michelle (nee Myotte) Mulder is married to Travis and they have a daughter, Lacey. Michelle has been taking dialysis treatments since Nov. 30, 2009. She has had to battle many illnesses along the way. In 1997, she was hospitalized and went through many steroid treatments and blood transfusions and, in 1998, she had a splenectomy. Doctors felt this would help with the eating of her blood cells. In 2005, TTP, a blood disorder, had her in the hospital for four months, she donated plasma and held a record. Called a "medical mystery," doctors were puzzled and she had to move to Marquette, Mich. In 2007, the TTP came back again and she spent another three months in

hospital. In 2009, end stage renal failure, she started dialysis.

Mulder needs a kidney and Carrie Myotte, Mulder's sister, is a donor match. Myotte has a fiancé, Jim, and three children, Riley 8, Noah 6 and Alex 2. Mulder and Myotte have been out to Madison, Wisc., for all necessary labs, appointments, etc. They are ready for the next step — surgery. Myotte will be off six to eight weeks after the surgery and Mulder has to stay in Wisconsin one month before and one month after.

To help offset expenses for these months, we are holding a spaghetti dinner benefit. Please come out and support the ladies on their kidney transplant journey. They thank you in advance.

Anyone who can't make the dinner but would like to donate can call the Detour Drummond Island Community Credit Union at (906) 493-5263 where an account for Mulder is established.

MSU Extension Educator

Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) seeks a qualified candidate to provide leadership and educational programming expertise concerning Disease Prevention and Management and Food Safety in alignment with the MSUE Health & Nutrition Institute (HNI).

Interested and qualified candidates should visit the MSU jobs page at www.jobs.msu.edu to apply for posting number 6974. Candidates are asked to submit an up-to-date resume/CV and a cover letter that includes the names and contact information of four professional references. Application deadline is Nov. 21, 2012.

MSU is an affirmative action opportunity employer. The university actively encourages applications, and/or nominations, of women, persons of color, veterans and persons with disabilities.

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

Get health care info

Visit www.healthcare.gov to find health insurance that's affordable and meets your medical needs.

You can also use this website to compare hospitals and other medical facilities, learn about preventive services to help you stay healthy and read about the Affordable Care Act.



The tribe's Advocacy Resource Center and the Diane Pepler Resource Center hosted a walk for domestic violence awareness Oct. 10. Turnout was fantastic with 135 people participating. Holding the sign were Shelby McCoy (left), 4, and her sister Grayce McCoy (right), 7.



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

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

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Win Awenen Nisitotung, in Anisnabemowin, means, "One who understands," and is pronounced "Win Oh-weh-nin Nis-toe-tuhng" See our full, online edition at www.saulttribe.com.

Subscriptions:

The regular rate is \$18 per year, \$11 for senior citizens and \$30 to Canada. Please call for other foreign

countries. Subscribe by sending your name and mailing address to the address below with your check or money order made out to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Advertising:

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Boulley selected as assistant executive director

Sault Tribe member Angeline Boulley has been named the tribe's assistant membership/internal services executive director. Her duties as Education Division director have been rolled into the new job. She now has direct supervision over Education staff and the directors of Elder, Cultural, Recreation and Anishinaabek Community and Family (ACFS) divisions. She also works on special projects as needed.

"I love it," she said. "It's fun plus I get a lot of satisfaction from being able to focus on programs providing service directly to members."

Boulley has served as the tribe's education director for the past six years. She was hired as the education director/assistant membership services director, but the second part of her position was never implemented. "I feel like this is a great opportunity to do what I was originally hired for," she said.

The purpose of her position is to help those programs under her supervision to work better together. "Each do a great outreach and service, but by improving communication and collaboration so we all know what helps and see what we can do to enhance them all and make them stronger," she



Angeline Boulley

said.

Boulley earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees at Central Michigan University in Mt. Pleasant, Mich. Her bachelor's is in psychology and management and her master's in public administration. She has served as education director for two other tribes in Michigan, the Pokagon Band and the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe, before coming home. "I've always felt so fortunate to spend my career working for the tribal community," she said. "I see similarities and differences in the tribes and it has helped make me a stronger administrator."

Boulley's roots go back to Sugar Island. Her parents are Henry and Donna Boulley. Her children are Sarah, Ethan and Chris Matson, ranging in age from 13 to 18.

One passion is serving the tribe, another is storytelling. Boulley has written a novel she would like to see published and has set her sites for that goal in 2013. She also loves travel — but only does essential travel for her position — as well as walking, writing and music.

But she isn't ready to abandon one passion for another. "I'll be here as long as I can contribute and a serve a purpose," she said.

Connolly named as tribe's chief financial officer

Former Sault Tribe Controller Bill Connolly has been named as the tribe's new chief financial officer (CFO). Connolly's controller duties have been rolled into the new position.

Connolly has served as the tribe's controller for the past 19 years, after coming on board in 1993 as assistant controller. When the CFO position opened, he was approached and accepted the CFO duties in addition to his own. The promotion makes sense, said Connolly, because it makes use of the controller's experience and understanding of the tribal organization's nuances.

Connolly's promotion means more work for Accounting staff, and he appreciates their efforts. "Accounting Dept. Staff have really stepped up to the plate taking on added duties while I have been gone quite a bit," he said. "Vic Matson and Jill Romano had

the duties and responsibilities of the position very organized which has made the transition a lot easier."

The tribe's Accounting Dept. personnel take a hands on approach, he commented. "We work closely with all the program managers, division and enterprise managers not just preparing financial statements but in many day-to-day functions as well."

As controller, Connolly had also taken over Facilities management. He oversees Accounting, Payroll and works closely with Budget Department.

Adding CFO duties included some extra duties the former CFO had assumed, namely, supervising internal services such as purchasing, MIS, insurance department and human resources along with the enterprises. When the membership and internal services executive director position is



Bill Connolly

filled, he can cease some of those extra duties.

"There's no down time here," he chuckled.

Connolly became familiar with his new duties quickly — "education by fire, you might

say," he said. Cost savings have been made through 2012 budget reviews and cuts, although there is more work to do. The 2013 budget is balanced, and that's the way the tribe will approach the budget from now on, Connolly said.

Connolly earned a history degree from Wayne State University and an accounting degree from Lake Superior State University. After obtaining his CPA, he worked in both private and public accounting, including Chippewa County government just prior to joining the tribe.

He likes accounting because it is structured, organized and touches a variety of areas, especially in the tribe. "The tribe is a whole world of experience — gaming, non-gaming, administration, governmental and member programs, business start up and evaluation," he said. "The county

was a great place to learn government accounting, but tribe gave me all the experience you could expect."

His new position gives him even more variety and he enjoys working with the managers and helping them as much as he can.

"I want to thank the chairman and the board of directors for their trust and confidence in giving me this opportunity to serve the Sault Tribe and its members in this greater capacity," Connolly added.

2012 NEWSPAPER DEADLINES

Deadline	Publication Date
Fridays 12 p.m.	
Nov. 30	Dec. 14

For more information, please call (906) 632-6398, and ask for Jennifer or Sherrie or email jdburton@saulttribe.net or slucas@saulttribe.net. See our newspaper online at www.saulttribe.com/newsroom.

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Goetz tasked to oversee elders' services

Cheri Goetz has been hired as the new Elder Services Division Director and will begin her new position Nov. 12.

The former Sault Tribe planning specialist has also served as Christmas Kewadin Casino manager.

Goetz is looking forward to her new position. Her goals are to meet elders, learn more about the services currently provided and research potential funding opportunities.

Program expansion will become even more important as the Sault Tribe strives to meet the needs of a growing elder popula-



Cheri Goetz

tion, she said.

Goetz graduated from Grand Valley State University with a degree in hospitality management.

In addition, she brings considerable experience in human resources management, fiscal oversight, strategic planning and resource development.

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- Check here if you agree your name and address can be deleted from the mailing list.
- Check here is you would like regular tribal news updates in between newspaper editions.

Mail to: Sault Tribe Communications Dept., 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 19783.

Tribe officially recognized for committment



Officials from the State of Michigan, Mackinack County, Mackinac Straits Health System and Sault Tribe gathered in St. Ignace at the joint Mackinac Straits Health System/Sault Tribe Health and Human Services facility on Oct. 26 for a recognition presentation.

Sault Tribe and the tribal health services were presented with a plaque in recognition of their roles in "improving the quality of healthcare for tribal and non-tribal members in the straits area community by partnering with Mackinac Straits Health System to build a state of

the art healthcare campus."

Construction on the new structure began in 2008 on 16 acres of land, just south of the Mackinac County Airport, donated by the tribe. In addition, the tribe provided a \$1 million gift to the capital campaign for the construction and annually donates a portion of the mandated 2 percent funding from the Kewadin Shores Casino to subsidize the Mackinac Straits Health System dialysis department. Today, the facility serves the St. Ignace mainstream and tribal communities in multiple capacities.

Photo by Rick Smith

After the presentation to the tribe from the Mackinac Straits Health System, tribal officials stand before the wall where the plaque commemorating the tribe's involvement in the development and operation of the facility will hang among others. Left to right, Sault Tribe St. Ignace Health Center Manager Cheryl LaPlaunt, Unit III Representative Bridgett Sorenson, Chairman Aaron Payment, Health Director Bonnie Culfa and Rural Health Manager Marlene Glaesmann.

United Way funding gets boost

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe United Way Workplace Coordinator Lisa Moran said she is hoping for 100 percent participation from Sault Tribe employees in the United Way Workplace Campaign now under way. Employees wishing to donate to the United Way are being asked to have their pledges in by Dec. 12 and can expect their payroll deductions to begin the first payroll in January.

Those who have their pledges in by Dec. 7 are eligible to be entered into a drawing for prizes, including two winners who will each receive a one-night stay for two at Kewadin Casino hotels. Other prizes include two winners for dinner for two at a Kewadin restaurant, two winners for show tickets for two from Kewadin Entertainment and four prizes

each of \$100 cash.

There will be a grand prize of \$500 for those who pledge \$50 or more.

Every year, the tribe's United Way committee donates their time to organize and sponsor fundraisers, including a recent pajama party movie night, the annual downtown sidewalk sale and soup and fry bread fundraisers.

Moran said all donations stay in the local community and that last year's employee donations and fundraisers totaled \$14,036, earning the tribe the Award of Excellence at the 2011-2012 United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula (UWEUP) awards breakfast.

"Even if someone donates a dollar a payday it all helps out," she said.

The tribe's payroll department sends a check to the United Way each payday for the amount of the employee contributions.

Some of the local agencies receiving UWEUP funding in 2011 were: Boy Scouts, \$3,187, Boys & Girls Club \$11,389, Diane Pepler Resource Center, \$15,050, Hospice, \$11,006, Meals on Wheels, \$10,535, Red Cross, \$3,635 and the Salvation Army, \$20,902. There are many more programs and organizations in

our community that are not listed here that the UWEUP was able to fund because of donations.

An employee's \$1 donation goes farther than one would think — \$1 each week provides 15 meals for a resident at the Diane Pepler Resource Center, five girls with year-long memberships in the Girl Scouts and one campership for Cub Scout camp for the Boy Scouts.

Completed pledge cards can be sent to any of the 11 committee members: Mindy Kavanaugh, Lisa Moran, Cheri Goetz, Ashley Macklin and Holly Haapala, all at Sault Tribe administration; Bridgett Sorenson, Lambert Center in St. Ignace, Tracey McCluskey at Kewadin Shores, Rose Paquin at the St. Ignace Health Center, Rachel McKechnie at Sault Kewadin Casino, Terri Romano at ACFS and Connie Watson at the Sault Health Center.

For more information call Lisa Moran at 635-6050, ext. 26702.

TRIBES OPPOSED TO WOLF HUNT

The Michigan Senate's Natural Resources, Environment and Great Lakes committee has passed the its passed to the Senate, which will come back from recess after Nov. 27.

The United Tribes of Michigan including Sault Tribe and numerous other individual tribes, have formally opposed a rec-

reational wolf hunt as biologically unnecessary, and contrary to Anishinaabeg spritual and cultural beliefs.

Casperson and the tribes will meet again with the NRC and the MDNR.

Call or write your representative and let them know how you feel.

Governor Snyder's Northern Michigan Office
1504 West Washington, Suite B,
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 228-2850

District 37 State Senator Howard Walker
P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI
48909-7536
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District 38 State Senator Tom Casperson
P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI
48909-7536
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District 108 Representative Edward McBroom
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District 109 Representative Steven Lindberg
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(517) 373-0498

Thanksgiving Pie Sale Nov. 21

Just in time to pick up delicious dessert to complete your Thanksgiving Dinner.

Date: Wednesday, Nov. 21

Time: 8:30 a.m. to Noon

Place: Sault Tribe Health Center Lobby

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BMIC WINTER 2013 EAST CAMPUS CLASSES

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AE 110 Reading Comprehension & Written Communication Skills I — Monday & Wednesday 10-11:50 a.m.

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CS112-2 Introduction to Computers — Tuesday & Thursday 12:30-2:20 p.m.

ED 101-2 Study Skills: The College Experience — Monday 12-1:50 p.m. (First 8 weeks only)

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REGISTRATION: MUST be completed at BMCC Main Campus or online at www.bmcc.edu

COST: Costs will vary per class. Members of any federally recognized tribe will qualify for the Board of Regents Scholarship which provides FREE Tuition.

Cost are typically: \$30 Registration Fee, Tuition, and \$10 per credit hour.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Please contact BMCC (906)248-3354. Information Provided By: Sault Tribe Higher Education Department.



Photo Courtesy Culture Dept.

Kids had a great time learning how to make smoked fish at the Mary Murry Culture Camp on Sugar Island. The annual camp, held this year Sept. 14 and 15, was facilitated by Abe Bouschor. Pictured are (Back row L-R) Hunter Captain, Riddick LaPine, Madison Weber, Anton LaPine, Andrew Benoit, William Gibson, Abe Bouschor, (front row L-R) Da'Jon Willis, Jocelyn Nystrom, Samantha Grossett, Allen LaPine and Sarah Weber.

Tribal health centers tobacco-free as of Jan. 1

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Are you ready to quit? If you are a Sault Tribe employee without insurance you can now access the services offered by the tribe's Nicotine Dependence Program. Kewadin Casino's restaurants recently went smoke free and the tribe's health centers are slated to go commercial tobacco-free beginning New Years Day.

The Nicotine Dependence Program has always been available to members of the Sault tribe, members of other federally recognized tribes and non-Native tribal employees and their dependents with insurance.

Community Health Educator Lauren Kross said that with the tribe's health centers going tobacco-free Jan. 1, they wanted to have the program available to all employees. That means full-and part-time Sault Tribe employees who are not tribal members and don't have health insurance can now access the program.

The program helps patients develop an individualized quit plan including counseling, support and access to tobacco cessation medications throughout the Sault Tribe's service area.

Health Education Supervisor Colleen Commons said that changing a behavior such as quitting tobacco can be very difficult however the support and services offered through the pro-

gram are there to assist patients through those difficult times. She said the tribe's board of directors requested that cessation services be available to all employees with or without insurance. "This isn't about taking a smokers rights away, it's really about where they are able to smoke," Commons said. "If they don't choose to quit that's their choice – we can still assist those who choose to continue to smoke during this change. Going through the day might be harder, they won't be able to just step outside the door and have a break."

Kross said light pole banners would soon be flying in the health center parking lots with the message "Tobacco Free Campus For A Healthy Community," highlighting a positive message for the health of patients, visitors and staff. Although the grounds will be commercial tobacco free, the use of traditional tobacco is not being discouraged. "This is a process that is really about changing the social norm – our goal is to offer them some resources and make them aware that the grounds will be commercial tobacco smoke free on Jan. 1," she said.

Commons said a survey would be going out soon to employees of the tribe's health centers in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace (which has already gone tobacco free), Manistique,

Munising, Newberry and Hessel as well as the casino employees. The data from the survey will help them plan for related wellness programs for employees.

Participation in the program increases success rates while trying to quit. Information from patient satisfaction surveys indicate that 89 percent of participants would recommend the program and that about 46 percent of those responding to the survey indicated they have quit. There has also been a trickle down effect with other members of patient households changing their tobacco use as a result.

In the last fiscal year, which just ended Sept. 30, there were 415 patients enrolled in the program with a total number of visits at 1,127 - the majority of patients were seen in the Sault and St. Ignace health centers.

In order to enroll in the program all patients must have been seen by a Sault Tribe medical provider within the past six months or have an appointment to see one prior to their first meeting with a tobacco treatment consultant. Medical providers write the prescriptions for program participants and review and approve the personalized quit plan and recommendations made by the Nicotine Dependence Program staff. Patients must follow up with program staff in order to continue receiving their medications.

"Quitting is a process – people sometimes quit 7 or 10 times and keep trying," Kross said. "This program is a resource and benefit to employees and for the whole Sault Tribe membership."

Tobacco (Sema) is a sacred medicine to the Anishinaabe people, but when tobacco is abused by smoking or chewing it causes serious illness, disease and death.

The number one cause of all preventable deaths in the U.S. is smoking, with Native Americans having the highest prevalence of non-traditional tobacco use among all major ethnic groups, according to the Healthy Sault Tribe website at: healthysaulttribe.com.

To enroll in the Nicotine Dependence Program, tell your Sault Tribe healthcare provider you are ready to quit and ask for a referral. If you already meet all eligibility requirements, call (906) 632-5210 or call your local Tribal Health Center. In addition to the Tribe's Sault Ste. Marie site, Nicotine Dependence Program services are also offered at the following locations: Manistique Tribal Health Center: (906) 341-8469, Munising Tribal Health Center: 387-4614 or (800) 236-4705, Hessel Tribal Health Center: 484-2727, St. Ignace Tribal Health Center: 643-8689 and the Newberry Tribal Health Center: 293-8181. The National Native Commercial

Tobacco Abuse Prevention Network also offers resources, success stories and statistics.

Go to www.KeepItSacred.org and become a member.

Funded by the CDC Community Transformation Grant initiative, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is working to implement evidence-based strategies to protect people from secondhand smoke, prevent and reduce tobacco use among youth and adults, and increase types of outdoor areas where commercial tobacco use is prohibited. Creating smoke-free and commercial tobacco-free environments can provide a strong health message to community members and youth by changing the social norms around commercial tobacco use.

For more information on the Sault Tribe Community Transformation Grant Project please visit www.healthyupcommunities.com.

ARC holds Zumbathon



Photo courtesy of Hali McKelvie

On Oct. 12, Allure Dance Company of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., hosted a charity Zumbathon in honor of the Advocacy Resource Center. Zumba instructor Sandy Sawyer and Allure Dance Company owner Ashley Corbiere held the event to help raise awareness of domestic violence. Everyone who attended either paid \$10 or \$5 depending upon age at the door to participate in the event. Allure Dance Company raised \$400, which was donated to the Advocacy Resource Center to contribute to their clients Christmas needs this holiday season.

Michigan-Shiga sister states' 40-year relationship

For over 40 years, Michigan has had a sister in Japan called "Shiga." The Michigan-Shiga Sister State Program was initiated to form everlasting bonds of friendship and unite the people of Michigan and Shiga in mutual understanding.

According to www.mishiga.org, a formal agreement between the state of Michigan in the United States and the Shiga Prefecture in Japan was signed in Lansing on Nov. 14, 1968.

The first Goodwill Mission to Michigan from Shiga took place in 1976. Michigan delegates visited Shiga the following year and annual visits commenced with the Shiga delegation coming on even-numbered years and Michigan delegates going on odd-numbered

years.

Later, sister city and friendship city agreements were established through relationships made during these goodwill mission visits. The Upper Peninsula cities of Marquette and Sault Ste. Marie have sister city relationships with Higashiomi, Japan, and Ryuko, Japan, respectively. In the lower peninsula of the state, 15 cities have similar arrangements with 15 counterpart communities in Japan.

The relationships pose programs and opportunities for people of all ages connecting Michigan and Shiga during every stage of life and everyone is invited to become participants. Learn more by visiting www.mishiga.org.

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Meetings on health care for rural vets returns

TELEHEALTH SERVICES FOR MILITARY VETERANS IN RURAL AREAS DISCUSSED AND DEMONSTRATED

By Rick Smith

Veterans of the U.S. military may be able to receive health care from major VA medical facilities without the necessity of traveling long distances. "Telehealth" technology, which is computer aided audio and visual communication, makes it possible for veterans to receive health care directly from staff at VA medical hubs through long-distance telehealth connections to satellite clinics in communities much closer to veterans. In special cases, such as veterans who need frequent monitoring, special equipment may enable them to receive care from doctors and nurses in their homes through regular telephone lines.

Further, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Indian Health Service (IHS) and American Indian tribes throughout the state of Michigan are working together to bring telehealth technology to Indian Country in an effort to increase convenient access to health care for veterans in rural areas.

The VA, IHS and tribal organizations met last year in Sault Ste. Marie to conduct a listening session with veterans in the region about circumstances hindering access to VA medical care in the Upper Peninsula. Another meeting in Sault Ste. Marie took place at the Tribal Health and Human Services Center on Oct. 9 with about 30 veterans attending this time, according to Sault Tribe member Mary Beth Skupien, director of the VA Office of Rural Health in Washington, D.C. The veterans had the ears of about 15 representatives from agencies concerned with issues surrounding delivery of health care to the region's veterans.

Finding adequate transporta-

tion and other arrangements to travel long distances to major VA health facilities had been one of the main difficulties most veterans in rural areas faced, but telehealth technology is a proven remedy to those problems.

Funding and other support from the VA Office of Rural Health enabled the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, Mich., to expand its state of the art telehealth network to six community clinics in rural areas, according to Brad Nelson, the medical center's public affairs officer.

The Iron Mountain facility implemented diagnostic telepathology in 1996 and, beginning in 2008, eventually expanded the use of telehealth technology to six satellite outpatient clinics covering 18 specialty areas ranging from cardiology to psychiatry to retinal imaging. In addition, telehealth clinical technicians are assigned to the clinics. The clinics, five in Michigan and one in Wisconsin, are in Hancock, Ironwood, Marquette, Menominee, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and Rhinelander, Wisc.

The telehealth coordinator for the Johnson VA Medical Center, Jeanne Johnson, said the telehealth network capability is well received by patients. "The feedback we have received from patients using telehealth technology has been extremely positive," she said. "They really like saving a lot of time and expense not having to travel hours for an appointment. As one patient noted, it was like he was right in the doctor's office receiving the same care without traveling the long distance."

The VA, IHS and tribal organizations continue to explore

details and examine issues surrounding American Indian veterans in rural areas and VA health care. They are likely to return next year with an open invitation again to all U.S. military veterans to take part.

The Johnson VA Medical Center is part of an organization known as Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 12 of the VA Great Lakes Health Care System, which includes VA medical centers in Chicago, Ill., North Chicago, Ill., Hines, Ill., Madison, Wisc., Milwaukee, Wisc., and Tomah, Wisc.

Veterans with questions may call the Johnson VA Medical Center at (906) 774-3300 or visit www.visn12.va.gov for more information. The VA covers the lower peninsula of Michigan through VISN 11, along with central Illinois, Indiana and north-west Ohio. Visit www.visn11.va.gov for further information.



Photo courtesy of the Johnson VA Medical Center

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Indian Health Service and American Indian tribal organizations in Michigan are working to bring telehealth technology to clinics in Indian Country. Pictured, Jeanne Johnson, telehealth coordinator at the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, Mich., prepares a patient for a telehealth appointment with Dr. Michael Ptacin, a cardiologist at the Milwaukee VA Medical Center in Wisconsin. The telehealth networks bring welcomed relief to U.S. military veterans in rural areas who live long distances from major VA medical facilities in their respective areas.

Walk to School Day comes to Pickford



Photo courtesy of Pickford Public Schools

Some of the Pickford students display the banner carried in the Walk to School Day event on Oct. 3. The walk promotes the health benefits of easy exercise and was a joint effort of the Coordinated School Health Team and the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians under a Community Transformation grant. Nearly 20 percent of the student body in the Pickford schools are listed with American Indian lineage.

By Rick Smith

Pickford Public Schools administrative assistant Janet Haske said over 325 students from Kindergarten to the eighth grade were joined by school's faculty, staff, parents and others in the local show of support for International Walk to School Day on Oct. 3.

The huge group walked a half-mile through the town from the entrance of Glen Gough Memorial Park to the consolidated school building on a foggy morning led by the bright, flashing lights of a patrol car driven by a deputy from the Chippewa County Sheriff's Department.

See "Pickford Walk," Pg. 12

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Paquin garners lifetime achievement award

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe elder Ron Paquin, a renowned figure in creating and teaching contemporary and traditional Anishinaabe arts and crafts, received the Minnie Jackson Lifetime Achievement Award from the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways in Mount Pleasant, Mich. The award came with a certificate framed in birch bark, a cash prize of \$1,000 and a special edition, embroidered Pendleton blanket bearing the logo of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Chippewa Indians. The presentation took place during a dinner celebration at the center on Oct. 5.

The award is one of the 2012 Indigenous Peoples Artistic Merit honors created to promote, support and perpetuate American Indian arts and serve as encouragement for preserving and continuing those arts. Charles Schwab and Company, Inc., sponsored the 2012 Millie Jackson Lifetime Achievement Award.

The award is named in honor of a late member of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe well known for her basketry and beadwork skills and teaching others in the craft. At the time of her death in 2011, she was the oldest living member of the Saginaw tribe and could speak Anishinaabemowin fluently.

Nominees for the Jackson award must have demonstrated a lifetime of perpetuating traditional Anishinaabe arts and crafts through practice and teaching for at least 30 years and be affiliated with an American Indian tribe.

"I am very humbled and honored to receive this award



Photo courtesy of Molly Paquin

Ron Paquin after receiving the Minnie Jackson Lifetime Achievement Award at the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe's Ziibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture and Lifeways in Mount Pleasant, Mich., on Oct. 5.

and appreciate very much that Ziibiwing and Charles Schwab recognize Native artists in this way," said Paquin. "I appreciate the support Ziibiwing has given me over the years buying my artwork for their museum exhibits as

well as for sale in their gift shop."

Paquin is a master at building birch bark canoes, basket weaving and other skills. According to his biography, he was a resident of St. Ignace, Mich., for over 55 years and moved to Sault Ste.

Marie, Mich., in 2001 and on to Cheboygan, Mich., in 2010. He is a self-taught artist who worked as an interpreter for the Museum of Ojibwa Culture in St. Ignace for over 15 years.

Building full-sized traditional Anishinaabe birch bark canoes are Paquin's specialty and he has constructed over 30 of the vessels. He also makes model canoes, black ash baskets, birch bark containers, antler carvings, knives, porcupine quill boxes, dream catchers, and jewelry and creates carvings from all kinds of antlers, often employing the symbol of his clan — the eagle. In keeping with the practices of ancient ancestors, Paquin uses all natural materials and gathers most of it himself. His materials include birch bark, cedar bark, red willow, diamond willow, sweet grass, basswood and spruce roots.

Paquin has garnered nine Master Artist grants from Michigan State University — six for building birch bark canoes, one for weaving black ash baskets and two for constructing birch bark containers. Further, he received an Art Serve Michigan grant to teach birch bark canoe construction to tribal adults and youngsters and served as an artist in residence under several other grants and programs. The Sault Area Arts Council bestowed Best of Craft awards to Paquin in 2002 and 2009 and the Ziibiwing Center commissioned him to create over 70 pieces.

He made cedar and birch bark lodges for the Tri-Cities Historical Museum in Grand Haven, Mich., the Allegan County Children's Museum and for the Soo Locks Festival com-

memorating 150-years of operation.

He is featured in many annual and special events in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula demonstrating canoe construction and especially enjoys regularly teaching a variety of traditional art forms to students at the JKL Bahweting Anishinaabe Public School Academy in Sault Ste. Marie and the Sault Tribe's culture camp on Sugar Island.

In addition to picking up a 2003 Michigan Heritage Award, Paquin participated in several Great Lakes folk festivals in East Lansing, Mich. He was awarded the First People's Fund Community Spirit Award in 2006 for his work in passing on the tradition of building birch bark canoes and received a Cultural Capital Fellowship from First People's Fund in 2009 and recently published a DVD with an accompanying booklet detailing his canoe construction techniques. He also received a 2010 Longhouse Cultural Society grant award for building canoes and more recently received the 2011-12 Longhouse National Native Master Artist Initiative grant.

He co-authored *Not First in Nobody's Heart — the Life Story of a Contemporary Chippewa*, an autobiography.

Paquin continues teaching at sold-out workshops every year throughout Michigan and he believes passing on his skills and traditional art forms is important. His works are available directly through him, art shows, various gift shops and galleries and he accepts wholesale inquiries.

For information about his workshops or for any questions, call (231) 268-3344.

Families have fun at Kinross Recreation Center

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Kinross Recreation Center at 43 Woodlake Road in Kinross, Mich., has a long-standing relationship with the Sault Tribe.

The center offers an after-school program for kids from 4 to 6 p.m. weekdays and a weight room, which is open from 12 to 9 p.m. weekdays. Both are funded by Sault Tribe 2 percent funds, which are based on 2 percent of slot revenue generated from the tribe's five casinos. The tribe's board of directors disburses the payments to U.P. communities and organizations twice annually.

The center rents meeting rooms for \$10 an hour and offers a free computer lab with Internet access, basketball court, a resale shop and a licensed kitchen for community events.

According to Recreation Director DeeDee Frasure, they get from 1,600 to over 3,000 people a month through their doors. Of the youth using the center, she estimates that about 65 percent are Native American from Sault Tribe and Bay Mills Indian Community.

Sault Tribe also makes its presence known on the former military base through the Sault Tribe Housing Authority, which

has 94 low-income, 12 lease-to-purchase and three mutual-help housing units in Kincheloe. Additionally, tribally owned Demawating Development has 111 rental units, available to the public.

In addition to their weekly schedule of offerings, the center is also available on weekends for community activities such as the Sault Tribe Veteran's Powwow held on Nov. 10, sled dog races, craft shows, community garage sales, visits from Santa and the Easter Bunny and kids fishing day, which is also sponsored by Sault Tribe 2 percent funds.

The center is open Monday to Friday from noon to 9 p.m.

Local organizations such as Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Decisions to Actions use the meeting rooms on a regular basis. The center provides tables and chairs for meetings and activities.

The tribe hosts meetings in the basketball court. Kinross Head Start kids are bussed over daily to use the court for gym activities. Chippewa County Credit Union will be using the center's kitchen to prepare chili for the annual chili cook-off in November and to bake pies around Thanksgiving for Hospice

and area elders. Senior dinners are hosted, local mom's shop for bargains at the resale shop and youth and young adults face off in exciting basketball games.

Although the center is a little rough around the edges, it is a much needed and appreciated resource to area residents. The building housing the recreation center was built in 1960 as an elementary school for the former Kincheloe Air Force Base. The center experiences shortfalls in its annual budget, its computers are more than nine years old and the playground equipment is ancient. There is no cable but there is an Xbox and Playstation hooked up to the TV. But, the Anishinaabe drums sound amazing on the polished wood floors and the local kids attending the Friday evening community dances have a fun, safe place to mingle. And, thanks to local DJ Gabriel Castaneda, who donates his "Simply Unforgettable DJ Services," they also have great music.

The center is funded by the Kinross Charter Township. Their mailing address is 4884 W. Curtis St., Kincheloe, MI 49788. DeeDee Frasure can be contacted by phone or fax at (906) 495-5350.

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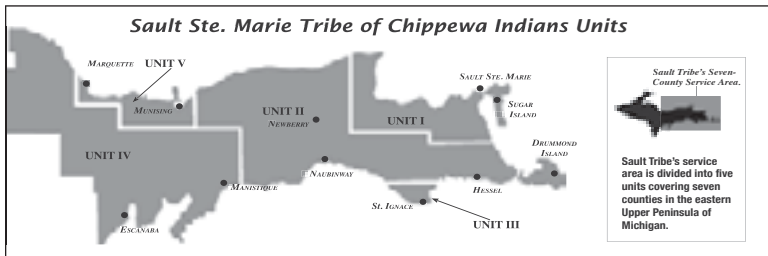
Resident tribal members entitled to tax benefits; registration required

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 in 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 Web site 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 Candace Blocher at 632-6281 or toll free, (866) 632-62811, to verify your card is on file. Once registered, members are then required to fill out a certain tax forms and submit it to the state or tribe's tax office.

It is the member's responsibility 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 its provisions.

Kewadin earns three local honors

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Readers of Sault Ste. Marie's daily newspaper, *The Evening News*, named Kewadin Casinos "2012 Best of Chippewa/Luce/Mackinac Counties" in three categories. Signatures Lounge was named best lounge, DreamMakers Theater was voted best entertainment venue and DreamCatchers Restaurant was recognized for best seafood.



CONGRATULATIONS — Kewadin Manistique dealer Wanda Rogers is team member of the month! Rogers has worked at Kewadin Manistique since April 1995.



WELL DONE — Linda Widdis (right), is the Christmas team member of the month! Widdis is a gift shop cashier and has worked for the casino since 2005.



GOOD JOB — Guest service agent Cheryl Shaw has been named team member of the month at Kewadin Sault! She has worked with Kewadin since 1993. "Talking to our guests and providing good customer service is the most rewarding part of my job," she said.

Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians NPS Grant 2012 Traditional Skills Survey



1. **Name:** _____
Address: _____
2. **Contact:** phone _____ cell _____
email _____ fax _____
3. **Tribal Affiliation:** _____
4. **Do you possess traditional knowledge of the following topics?** YES NO
5. **What is your traditional knowledge or skill? Check any/all that apply**
 - Language - Ojibwe/Odawa/Potawatomi
 - Nature - harvesting/medicine
 - Life Skills - hunting/fishing/trapping
 - Powwow - regalia/dancing/ceremony
 - History - storytelling/genealogy
 - Food - gardening/cooking
 - Craftsman - leatherwork/wood/beadwork
 - Native Collection - artifacts/books
6. **How many years have you been practicing your skill? Are you still active? Please explain your knowledge and/or skill in a nutshell.**

7. **Have you mentored others or have provided consulting on your skills?** YES NO
8. **Are you willing to share/mentor others with your knowledge or skill?** YES NO
9. **Are you willing to share this information in a tribal resource directory?** YES NO
10. **Please submit survey to:**

Josh Homminga, Culture Division
523 Ashmun Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
Phone: (906) 635-6050, ext. 26053
Fax: (906) 635-8644 Email: jhomminga@saulttribe.net

Miigwetch for your participation!

Completed surveys will be entered into a Jan. 1, 2013, drawing for a Black Ash Basket!!

Complete Survey and Mail it in!

Native Max Magazine premieres on the web

BY RICK SMITH

Defying the accepted norms of established fashion magazines, Kelly Holmes decided it was high time media coverage on the latest cultural trends got a dose of reality when she launched the online Native Max Magazine last month. She envisions a fashion magazine that accurately reflects American Indian culture and people of all ages, sizes and interests in style, art, entertainment and health. She deplores the use of culturally significant items, such as American Indian war bonnets, as accessories to clothing ensembles.

In addition, the magazine provides exciting opportunities for American Indians with needed talents and, possibly, anyone else depending on what one offers.

Holmes, 21, grew up on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation in South Dakota and the state's capital, Pierre, where she became acquainted with fashion magazines. One of the things Holmes found strange about the magazines is that all of the models in the photographs were of a certain age and physique, lacking any realistic reflection on the whole of humanity.

At 16, Holmes moved to Colorado with her mother who had been accepted into the University of Colorado. She found the transition difficult, especially being in her high school years, going from a sparsely populated, rural Indian reservation to the hustle and bustle of a big city, culture shock and no friends.



Kelly Holmes, founder of Native Max Magazine.

She did, however, find modeling opportunities with Native photographers and found she really enjoyed the work. She found it exciting and tried to get more involved in the business. While she continued modeling, she frequently met with discouragement, but she plugged along and gained experience with fashion design, hair make up, hosting fashion shows, shadowing staff at different magazines along with training in business seminars and classes.

Most folks in the industry scoffed at her idea of launching a magazine that would counter cultural exploitation and incorporate American Indian talent, but not photographer Derek Nez. "You can do this," he told her. Today, Nez is a photographer for the magazine as well as the vice president.

The magazine can be found at www.native-max.com. An introduction on the site indicates the magazine incorporates high and



Cover image of a recent edition of the online Native Max Magazine.

urban fashion, beauty, art, entertainment, news, reality features and fitness. Further, it showcases the talent of Indian Country by providing a platform to display those talents.

"I want to give them their chance to show their stuff in a magazine," said Holmes.

At first glance, the target audience for the magazine seems to

be younger adults, but Holms said the magazine management wants the magazine to interest American Indians of all ages.

The magazine is eager to hear from qualified individuals interested in positions with the magazine in advertising, art direction assistance, editorial assistance, blogging, contributing items, copy editing, copy



Derek Nez, photographer and vice president at Native Max Magazine.

researching and proofreading, graphics design, hair styling, journalism, makeup art, model and talent scouting, photo editing, regional photography, sales, clothing design, video production, wardrobe, set styling along with website design and maintenance. Prospective hires don't have to live in the Denver area, where the magazine is based, as long as they live in the U.S. and Canada. Anyone interested in any of those positions contact the magazine at careers@native-max.com.

Currently, the magazine offers internships, which include people who are not enrolled in a school. Anyone interested in pursuing an internship should leave a message at internship@native-max.com.

The magazine staff also wants to hear from American Indian artists, chefs, businesses and entrepreneurs, drum groups, musicians and other artists of all kinds as well as promotions and events to be featured in the magazine.

Members participate in MSU business institute

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe members Kayla Aldapa and Ashley Archer attended the Michigan State University Native American Business Institute (NABI) on the university campus from July 21 to July 27. Along with Aldapa and Archer were 20 other students representing the Bay Mills Indian Community, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi and 10 other tribes from Arizona, Indiana, Minnesota, North Carolina and Washington.

"I had a great and memorable experience at NABI," said Aldapa. "It was so much fun. My favorite part was getting to meet so many people from all over the country, I still talk to some of my friends I met there. We got to have a lot of fun but we learned a lot and I walked away with a better understanding of business and the Native American side in it. I would definitely recommend going to this because you get to go to college for a week, which gives you an idea how college life would be, also you get to meet so many people and learn about their



Photo courtesy of Kevin Leonard

Left to right, Sault Tribe members Ashley Archer and Kayla Aldapa attended the 2012 Michigan State University Native American Business Institute program from July 21 to July 27 on the MSU campus.

The institute is sponsored by the Multicultural Business Program in the Eli Broad College of Business and coordinated by Sault Tribe member Kevin Leonard.

The free program helps stu-

dents to learn about resumé writing, presentation skills, networking, teamwork and other business expertise that can translate into everyday use.

The students attended workshops and presentations conducted by MSU faculty and

staff on various academic and career opportunities in the business world. Those who gave presentations included representatives from Ford, Domino's Pizza, Enterprise Rent-A-Car and Target along with tribal representatives and tribally affiliated business owners such as Andrea Rush, CEO of Rush Trucking and chairwoman of the board of Dakkota Integrated Systems, LLC; Dwight "Bucko" Teeple of

the Bay Mills Indian Community; Bobby Hart, CEO and founder of Powwow Jamz, LLC; Michaelina Magnuson of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians; Aaron Payment, chairman of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians; and Allard Teeple Jr. of the Bay Mills Indian Community.

In addition, the students enjoyed swimming, pottery painting, laser tag, bowling, movie nights and other social activities.

Artist in residence program taking applications

The Porcupine Mountains Artist-in-Residence Program is taking applications for the 2013 spring, summer and fall and 2014 winter residencies. The Artist-in-Residence Program is open to artists of all forms whose work can be influenced by the unique northern wilderness setting of Porcupine Mountains Wilderness

State Park.

The Artist-in-Residence Program offers writers, composers and all visual and performing artists an opportunity to experience the natural beauty of the Porkies and to express it through their art form. Each year a number of artists will be selected for residencies lasting a minimum of

two weeks.

Application materials for the Porcupine Mountains Artist-in-Residence Program can be found at the Friends of the Porkies Web page at www.porkies.org/artist-in-residence.

Deadline April 1, 2013. Artists will be notified on or before April 26, 2013.



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Elder Advisory Committee briefs

The last meeting for 2012 was held in Newberry on Oct. 22. In attendance was Sault Tribe Chairman Aaron Payment and Unit I board member Dennis McKelvie. We would like to offer our best wishes to outgoing Chairman Robert Menard for his dedication and leadership during his term as Chairman.

Elections for officers were held with the following results:

Chairman: Joseph Gray - Unit V

Vice Chairman: Phillip Payment - Unit II

Secretary: Ernest Demmon - Unit IV

The first meeting of the Elder Advisory Committee for 2013 will be in March, weather permitting.



All about the Elder Services Division

MISSION STATEMENT: *The mission of the Elder Service Division is to “provide high quality in-home access and community based services for tribal elders and their spouses to assure maximum health and independence.”*

On the news front we want to introduce to you our new director, Cheri Goetz, who will begin her position full time Nov. 12. The staff and elders offer sincere best wishes to our former director, Sheryl Hammock, in her new career.

The Elder Service Division provides meals, transportation and home health assistance to qualified Sault Tribe elders 60 years of age or older in the seven-county service area. Meal sites are at centers in Sault Ste. Marie, Hessel, St. Ignace and Manistique. Home delivered meals are offered to homebound elders in Sault Ste. Marie, Hessel and St. Ignace. To qualify for home delivered meals, please call Mark Willis, RN, at 635-4971.

Elder Services provides in-home services such as personal care, which provides in-home assistance with activities of daily living (ADL) for individuals, including assistance with bathing, dressing, grooming, toileting, transferring, eating and ambulating. We offer respite care, which provides companionship, supervision and assistance with ADL for mentally or physically disabled and frail elders to allow their caregiver to receive a needed break from their duties.

We also offer homemaking, which provides light household tasks to maintain a safe and clean living environment for our elders with functional limitations. This program is provided for Sault Tribe members and their spouses, age 60 years and older living in the seven-county service area with functional limitations. Priorities will be to those with disabilities, limited mobility and other related health concerns.

Elders' transportation services are for non-emergency medical transportation and medicine delivery. Provision of transportation to assist elders who, for a

variety of factors, have difficulty using conventional means of transportation to reach medical healthcare services or require such assistance for reasons of personal security or protection. Transportation takes you to Marquette General Hospital, Iron Mountain VA Hospital, Munson Medical Centers, Northern Michigan Regional Hospital, University of Michigan Medical Center, War Memorial Hospital and many medical appointments in and out of the area. To make an appointment or request a fee schedule call toll free (888) 711-7356 or 635-4971 and ask for transportation.

The Elder Health Sufficiency Fund is a service to our elders provided by the tribal board of directors who have set aside money for the Elderly Self-Sufficiency Fund. The services covered under the fund must be received at Sault Tribe health facilities. Covered services include dental, optical and durable medical equipment as listed under the most current elder health fund policy.

Dental services in this program include new arch replacements, denture relines, denture repairs, and crowns/caps and guards. These services are provided at the Sault Tribe health clinics in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace and Manistique.

Optical services are provided in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Munising, and Manistique tribal centers.

Durable medical equipment includes any medical equipment that has been determined necessary for quality of life by the primary health care provider and is listed under the elder health fund policy.

All services are subject to rules and regulations set forth in the current Sault Tribe elder health fund policy. If you have any questions, please call Sharon Barnett at 635-4971.

Tribal elder retires from Child Welfare Committee



From left, Faith McGruther is presented a beautiful blueberry basket made of birch bark and a plaque by Unit I Director Dennis McKelvie, as Unit I Director Cathy Abramson, ACFS Director Juanita Bye (standing) and health director administrative assistant Diane Moore look on. ACFS threw a well attended luncheon for McGruther this August at her last official meeting.

PHOTO/STORY BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON

Tribal elder Faith McGruther, 75, stepped down this September as the chairperson of the Child Welfare Committee. She is leaving the committee altogether after 30 years of service, half of that at its head.

“I got involved because I care about the best interest of the children,” she said. “There were times I almost quit but time just flew by and it’s hard to believe it’s been over 30 years.”

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services hosted a surprise party for her at her last official meeting. “My party was marvelous,” said McGruther. “I was so surprised, I couldn’t believe it. I was thrilled to pieces they would go through all that for me and at all the people who came to visit.”

McGruther also retired as the head of the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority in 2003. She still likes to remain active as an elder. She’s been working part-time at Child Advocacy for about five years. “It gets me up in the morning,” she laughed.

McGruther was one of the tribe’s first employees, starting out as recording secretary for the board of directors. Practically everyone was crammed into the Greenough building at that time. When the committee first started up they held it sitting on the floor. McGruther recalls the committee began before the Indian Child Welfare law was enacted in 1978, so they would be ready to control the future of the tribe’s children.

The Child Welfare Committee work was difficult “right from the

beginning.” The first case they handled was so horrendous it made her feel sick and she almost quit right then and there. That night, she had to ask herself if she could do it. She decided she could.

“I thought long and hard,” she said. “Somebody had to do it.”

She said that cases haven’t changed much since the beginning. They revolve around physical and sexual abuse and drug use. In the beginning, the committee dealt with Chippewa County and later expanded to cover the entire seven-county service area. They developed adoption policies and procedures, law, and priority of placement for the tribes.

“One of the things people don’t realize is that a person can love their children but still abuse them. A child needs someone who will care for and nurture them,” she said. “It’s sad to see a parent who abuses their children but still loves them and wants them back — but they can’t.”

“They can’t see, can’t recognize, what they are doing to their children. That’s the hardest part,” she said. “There have been times that it’s been hard to sleep.”

Before the committee can do anything, the tribe has to formally intervene. Only then can further steps be taken. In the case of termination, it can’t happen until after the family has run the gamut of services, at least a year. Only in cases of extreme abuse can the committee take the child immediately.

When termination does happen, the committee works to keep

siblings together.

The committee is careful not to be swayed by anything but the best interest of the children, McGruther said. That is why they don’t meet with the families involved. That would affect their judgment about the children’s best interest and they don’t want to be swayed, even subconsciously.

Committee member Sharon Brunner has been appointed as the new chairperson. “Sharon will do an excellent job,” McGruther said. “She has a strong legal sense; she is organized and intelligent.”

McGruther said she’d miss out on the outcome of some cases she has been following, but other than that she won’t miss the committee. “I’ve heard so much I don’t need to hear any more,” she said.

McGruther acknowledges the committee seats are hard to fill. Hearing the bad things, having to make decisions about friends or their relatives, or your own relatives, is very difficult. McGruther said she was fortunate in that sense because her family was very small; her mother was an only child.

McGruther thinks a good committee member would be compassionate, be able to maintain confidentiality, have a sense of responsibility to attend all the meetings, and would be dedicated to the safety and the best interests of the children. A sense of humor is important, too, she added. “There are times if you don’t laugh you get very distressed.”

Easy, delicious bean kale soup

INGREDIENTS

1 tbs olive or canola oil
8 large garlic cloves, crushed or minced
1 medium yellow onion, chopped
4 cups chopped raw kale
4 cups low-fat, low-sodium chicken or vegetable broth
2 (15 ounce) cans cannellini or navy beans, undrained

4 plum tomatoes, chopped
2 tsp dried Italian herb seasoning
Salt and pepper to taste
1 cup chopped parsley

DIRECTIONS

In a large pot, heat olive oil. Add garlic and onion; saute until soft. Add kale and saute, stirring, until wilted. Add three

cups of broth, two cups of beans, and all of the tomato, herbs, salt and pepper. Simmer five minutes.

In a blender or food processor, mix the remaining beans and broth until smooth. Stir into soup to thicken. Simmer 15 minutes.

Ladle into bowls; sprinkle with chopped parsley.

Presidential proclamation on National Native American Heritage Month 2012

As the first people to live on the land we all cherish, American Indians and Alaska Natives have profoundly shaped our country's character and our cultural heritage. Today, Native Americans are leaders in every aspect of our society — from the classroom, to the boardroom, to the battlefield. This month, we celebrate and honor the many ways American Indians and Alaska Natives have enriched our Nation, and we renew our commitment to respecting each tribe's identity while ensuring equal opportunity to pursue the American dream.

In paying tribute to Native American achievements, we must also acknowledge the parts of our shared history that have been marred by violence and tragic mistreatment. For centuries, Native Americans faced cruelty, injustice, and broken promises. As we work together to forge a brighter future, we cannot shy away from the difficult aspects of our past. That is why, in 2009, I signed a bipartisan resolution that finally recognized the sad and painful chapters in our shared history. My Administration remains dedicated to writing a new chapter in that history by strengthening our government-to-government relationship with tribal nations while enhancing tribal sovereignty and tribal self-determination.

Because we know that the best ideas for tribal nations come from within, my Administration has continued to engage tribal leaders in developing an agenda that respects their expertise on matters affecting American Indians and Alaska Natives. In collaboration with tribal nations, we are making critical investments to improve health and education services, create jobs, and strengthen tribal economies. In July, I was proud to sign the Helping Expedite and Advance Responsible Tribal Homeownership (HEARTH) Act into law, which will enhance tribal control over the leasing of Indian lands. Last December, I signed an Executive Order to expand educational opportunities for Native American students. It aims to preserve Native languages, cultures, and histories while offering a competitive

education that prepares young people to succeed in college and careers. And under the Tribal Law and Order Act and the Safe Indian Communities initiative, we are continuing to work with tribes to build safer communities. My Administration also supports the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Many longstanding Native American legal claims against the United States have been resolved, which will help accelerate the restoration of trust in our relationships with tribal nations. The settlements that came out of these claims — including the historic Cobell and Keepseagle settlements, as well as more than 50 settlements in cases alleging Federal mismanagement of tribal trust funds and resources -- will put an end to decades of litigation and help drive economic development in tribal communities in the years to come.

In partnership with tribal nations, my Administration has addressed injustices and built new avenues of opportunity for American Indians and Alaska Natives. As we celebrate National Native American Heritage Month, let us move forward in the spirit of mutual understanding and mutual trust, confident that our challenges can be met and that our shared future is bright.

Now, therefore, I, Barack Obama, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim November 2012 as National Native American Heritage Month. I call upon all Americans to commemorate this month with appropriate programs and activities, and to celebrate Nov. 23, 2012, as Native American Heritage Day.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this first day of November, in the year of our Lord two thousand twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-seventh.

Barack Obama

Some U.S. Census facts and figures for Native American Heritage Month

The first American Indian Day was celebrated in May 1916 in New York. Red Fox James, a Blackfoot Indian, rode horseback from state to state, getting endorsements from 24 state governments, to have a day to honor American Indians. In 1990, President George H.W. Bush signed a joint congressional resolution designating November 1990 as "National American Indian Heritage Month." Similar proclamations have been issued every year since 1994.

These U.S. Census statistics for American Indians and Alaska Natives are from the 2011 American Community Survey (www.census.gov/acs/www/) unless otherwise cited.

5.1 million — As of the 2011 American Community Survey, the nation's population of American Indians and Alaska Natives, including those of more than one race. They made up 1.6 percent of the total population. Of this total, about half were American Indian and Alaska Native only, and about half were American Indian and Alaska Native in combination with one or more other races.

8.6 million — The projected population of American Indians and Alaska Natives on July 1, 2050. They would comprise 2 percent of the total population. (Population projections, www.census.gov/population/www/projections/summarytables)

1.1 million — Increase in the nation's American Indian and Alaska Native population between the 2000

and 2010 Census. The population of this group increased by 26.7 percent during this period compared with the overall population growth of 9.7 percent. (Census 2000 Brief: Overview of Race and Hispanic Origin www.census.gov/prod/2001pubs/c2kbr01-1.pdf)

689,320 — The American Indian and Alaska Native population in California as of the 2011 American Community Survey. California was followed by Oklahoma (502,934) and Arizona (346,380).

14 — Number of states with more than 100,000 American Indian and Alaska Native residents as of the 2011 American Community Survey: California, Oklahoma, Arizona, Texas, New Mexico, Washington, North Carolina, New York, Florida, Michigan, Alaska, Colorado, Oregon and Minnesota.

19.7 percent — The proportion of Alaska's population identified as American Indian and Alaska Native as of the 2011 American Community Survey, the highest rate for this race group of any state. Alaska was followed by Oklahoma (13.3 percent), South Dakota (10.4 percent), and New Mexico (10.4 percent).

31.3 — Median age for those who are American Indian and Alaska Native, and no other race. This compares with a median age of 37.3 for the U.S. population as a whole.

324 — Number of federally recognized American Indian reservations in 2010.

TOURNAMENTS

BLACKJACK BONANZA

Selected Sundays

Kewadin Manistique & Christmas
Top 50 players will be invited back for a
\$2,500 Grand Prize Tournament!

POKER MANIA

Weekly Texas Hold'em Poker

Every Sunday - 4 p.m.
Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie

Every Wednesday - 6 p.m.
Kewadin St. Ignace

Weekly winners will be invited back at the end of each month to play in Poker Mania!

WEEKLY SLOTS OF FUN

January - December 2012

Every Monday - Christmas & Hessel

Every Tuesday - Manistique

\$500 in weekly prizes at each site. Grand prize payout in December at each site.

CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY IN CHRISTMAS!

December 8, 2012 from 4-10 p.m.
Christmas Customer Appreciation!

FOOTBALL IN THE BARS!

All Kewadin Sites
Sundays and Mondays
Beer Specials and Wings* plus Draws!
Come watch the games!

*Please check each location

KEWADIN KLASIFIEDS



\$30,000
BUCK AND DOUGH

All Kewadin Sites
November 24, 2012
Random Draws every 20 minutes
from 5 p.m. - 10 p.m.

UWE Wrestling
Superstar
Showdown
Saturday, November 24
at 7:00 p.m.
Sault Ste. Marie,
Michigan



Brenda Lee
Friday, December 14
at 7:00 p.m.
Sault Ste. Marie,
Michigan

SALUTE TO OUR VETERANS

All Kewadin Sites

November 11, 2012

Service men & women receive \$10 in
Kewadin Credits.

DEER ROUND-UP

Kewadin St. Ignace, Manistique,
Hessel & Christmas

Now through December 1, 2012

Hunters who show their hunting license will
receive Buck-A-Bear (12-oz. domestic can).

Enter your buck into the largest buck on the
buck pole for cash!

Hunters with a valid hunting license can earn
15 base points in one gaming day & receive
\$5 in Kewadin E-credits.

Event night for prizes December 1, 2012

Earn entries by registering your buck, earning
100 base points, or one hour of table play.

HUNTERS' NOVEMBER SPECIAL

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Book 5 nights in our newly renovated
cabin, get ONE NIGHT FREE!

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FANTASTIC FRIDAY SOCIAL

All Kewadin Sites 4 p.m.-10 p.m.

• Random draws on slots & tables
Earn Double & Triple Points • Top 3 each Friday
• Plus one entry each Friday for the
Grand Prize Draw!

12.12.12 CASH PARTY

All Kewadin Sites
December 12, 2012

Random draws for cash from
6:12 p.m.-10:12 p.m.

300 WINNERS IN ALL!

\$30,000 IN CASH between all 5 sites!

The evolution of the U.P. Pond House Ponies

BY TANJA ACKERS-RICHARD

Being a born and bred nature lover, Ishpeming native William Richards is happy in the woods and around nature. It was only natural that Bill, a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, would try to find a hobby that surrounds him with both. As soon as he saw Michigan's north woods from the back of a horse he was hooked.

A Yooper, a former Marine, a jack of all trades, a large storage facility owner and the building equipment mechanic at Marquette's Post Office led Bill to have the talents needed to form a business around his interest. He and I — wife, Tonja Ackers-Richards — formed Pond House Ponies on our 33-acre hobby farm aptly named for the pond facing the house and horse barn.

Bill credits his dad, Sam. "Dad taught me to work hard and fix just about everything," Richards said.

The horses were regularly put to work in Sam's childhood as both transportation and work partners in the farm fields. Horses were a way of life. Sam and his



Sault Tribe member William Richards with two of his Fjord draft horses, providing families with wholesome sledding entertainment.

Native American wife, Betty, had seven children together. In Bill's childhood, often the family work was done after the regular job, at night, and frugally with what was on hand building camps, repairing trucks and such.

Today, Sam's farm skills and Bill's Norwegian horse team have worked to earn their hay by plowing and dragging what is now called "Sam's Field" on Pond

House Farm. They planted Range Master grass seed to provide pasture with legumes and grasses good for the horses and for wildlife. The children picked rocks and sticks for what seemed like an entire summer.

Riding on horseback gave Bill some physical challenge as he aged. Looking toward the future he decided to begin to work the horses more "from behind"



Nick and Ike are descendants of Scandanavian stock, and perfectly suited to Michigan's U.P.

around the farm, pulling logs, dragging field cultivators, and the horses favorite job "mowing" the lawn using moveable fencing. Taking some classes given by Steve and Nate Bowers at a local veterinarian's farm also helped Bill work up to training a team to pull an eight-person carriage and a nice wooden sleigh.

Pond House Ponies evolved into a business teaching people just about everything about keeping and using horses for work and play. Bill's Fjord draft horses, led by Nick and Ike are evolved from

Scandinavian stock perfectly suited with big fuzzy fur coats and manes for Michigan's long deep winters. Nick was also the featured cover pony on the recent issue of the wonderful Upper Peninsula publication, *Pet Set Horse Source*.

Pond House Ponies also includes the wonderful riding horse Tekla, as well as Nick and Ike's mom, beautiful Fjord mare, Caspian, and her filly, Chamois.

Last winter, Nick and Ike, along with Bill, provided families and couples with wholesome sledding entertainment at Heritage Hills Farm, and this year he intends to continue to give sleigh rides on and off site at Pond House Farm. New paths have been cut through the farms mixed forest and the snow is already falling.

Information on the carriage and sleigh rides can be seen on PondHousePonies.com, Facebook and Bill's up and coming website, Sleighman.com. Bring your woolies and Bill will light the camp fire. Fun is just guaranteed when you mix deep white snow, horses and friends.

Cecchini in medical residency at Yale University

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

As a fourth-year medical student Micheal Cecchini spent a month last year doing a fellowship at the tribal health center in Sault Ste. Marie and described it as a "life changing event." Now a medical doctor, Cecchini is in his first year of a three-year medical residency at Yale University.

Cecchini graduated from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in May and also holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz, in molecular, cellular and developmental biology.

Although he grew up in Northern California, Cecchini has extended family in the Sault area and said he visited four years ago to help his cousin, Rachael

Mandelstam, with a health fair she organized. He said his return to the area last year allowed him an opportunity to view health care from a completely different perspective. "It was a unique and fulfilling experience," he said. "I learned a lot about myself and where I came from."

During his fellowship at the tribe's health center, he spent time with traditional healer Harlan Downwind on Sugar Island during a fast being held at the tribe's Culture Camp. He also participated in a sweat lodge and received his Native name.

"I saw Harlan as a patient four years ago and got to watch him as a practitioner last year. I believe that traditional medicine and western medicine being able to

compliment each other and work together in the best interest of the patient is very important," he said. "I held that belief before I went to medical school and I still believe that. I think it's important to work with a patient's values to give them complete care from every angle."

Cecchini's mother, Sault Tribe member Kathleen Mullen Cecchini, is a nurse. She said he told her how wonderful the people and patients were to him during his time at the health center and that he felt overwhelming welcomed, trusted and able to be of service.

Cecchini said that Sault Tribe Health Center Clinic Manager Tony Abramson was very helpful in setting up his fellowship.

During his time at the health center he worked with a practitioner who generally saw about 20 patients a day. He also spent a few afternoons working at the War Memorial Community Care Clinic attending to patients with urgent health care needs. He treated patients for many different ailments, but some of the more commonly seen health concerns included diabetes, smoking, alcoholism and mental health issues, he said.

"That month I was there was probably one of the best experiences I've had in medical school," he said.

As an undergrad student, Cecchini received financial help from the tribe's Self Sufficiency

From "Pickford walk," Pg. 6

Community leaders, parents and schools work together in support of the event to promote health and safety among young people. The program encourages students to safely practice walking and biking to school as part of a daily routine to maintain good health.

Haske noted that, after the walk, students enjoyed a nutritious, hot breakfast prepared by the school food service staff.

"The event was orchestrated by the Coordinated School Health Team working in cooperation with the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the Community Transformation Grant to promote a healthy lifestyle for not only our students, but also our staff and community members," said Haske.

The grant comes from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through Sault Tribe Community Health, which provides funding to nine school districts in the eastern Upper Peninsula, including the Pickford Public Schools. The grants help the school districts to increase opportunities for physical activity

Fund. Health care runs in the Cecchini family — his father, Gary Cecchini, is a biochemist and his sister, Francesca Cecchini, graduated in May with a bachelor's degree in nursing from San Jose State University. She also received academic support from the tribe for her good grades and graduated with honors.

Cecchini said that participating in a fellowship exposes students to a different view of rural medicine. The experience, he said, is unlike any that medical students would have with a typical medical education or rotations. "You get to see different models of care, belief and cultural systems," he said.

for students, families and staff. In addition, schools are asked to compete an assessment and action plan to improve physical activity and healthful eating.

The coordinated school health teams, according to Haske, have the role of overseeing the development of policies and recommendations for changes to increase opportunities for students to make healthful choices. Team representatives include those in positions to influence eight key components of an overall healthful and safe environment: health education, physical education, health services, family and community, counseling, psychological and social services, nutrition services, environment and health promotion among staff.

According to Haske, the 82 American Indian students enrolled in Pickford Public Schools account for 19 percent of the total population.



Left to right, DeMawating Development Rental Manager Theresa Germain with third quarter pay-on-time incentive winner Jaime Tibbs, who won a digital camera.

www.freerice.org

From Early Head Start parent to project manager

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sheryl Hammock, formerly the Sault Tribe Elder Division director, accepted a position as an early childhood specialist project manager I with a firm called Family Health International 360 (FHI360). Based out of Washington, D.C., FHI360 won a federal contract from the Office of Head Start to provide training and technical assistance.

Hammock will be working with American Indian and

Alaskan Native Head Start and Early Head Start programs in eight states: North Carolina, South Carolina, Wisconsin, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, New York and Minnesota by request, but will be covering Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota on a regular basis.

She works with two other people — Carol Mills based in Massachusetts and Steven Russell in Maine — as part of a training team and stays in contact with

them by phone and Internet. She will be traveling to Wisconsin soon with the rest of her team to help train five new Head Start directors from different tribes in the area.

“If they need specific training in early childhood, they put in a request and I go do the training,” Hammock said.

Hammock works from her home office putting in eight-hour days and takes her hour-long lunch breaks at the Elder Center, filling in at her former directors position until a replacement is hired and trained.

Hammock became involved with Head Start in 2000 as the parent of a young daughter enrolled in the Sault Tribe program. She earned an associates degree in early childhood education in 2001 and went to work for the Sault Tribe program as a Head Start teacher. During that time, she went back to school and earned her Bachelor’s degree



in early childhood development and almost three years later she took the position of Head Start and Early Head Start health coordinator. While maintaining her position as health coordinator, she also became the Early Head Start supervisor. Hammock has a total of 12 years with the Sault Tribe Head Start Program, from parent to administrator.

Two years ago, in September 2010, she left Head Start and

assumed her new duties as the director of the Sault Tribe Elder Division. That same year she earned a Master’s degree from Lake Superior State University in curriculum and instruction.

Hammock said she has been in her current position for about 30 days and has been spending a lot of time traveling for professional development, including a train the trainer’s class and staff training events.

She received the Parent Volunteer of the Year Award from Head Start in 2000 when her daughter was attending and again this year as the foster parent of an 18-month-old baby.

“I left Head Start and Early Head Start two years ago when I went over to the Elder Division,” she said. “The Head Start programs were working on getting contracts and I ended up moving into one of those positions; back to the kids. Apparently that’s where I’m supposed to be.”

Skupien new director and CEO of Battlecreek VA Health Care System

When Mary Beth Skupien started her Indian Health Service career in Kincheloe doing rotations as a nursing student, did she ever imagine she’d be working in the nation’s capitol rubbing elbows with the nations leaders? No, she only thought of the service she could offer. As director of the Veteran’s Health Administration Office of Rural Health 30 years later, Skupien has been able to help a lot of people through IHS and VHA, but it has come at a price — working at the frantic D.C. pace and being far from family.



Health Support before moving to the VHA.

As director of the Office of Rural Health, Skupien led, managed and directed the planning, development and implementation of the Office of Rural Health to address the health care needs of veterans in rural areas. She has also served as the primary point of contact between VHA and congressional offices and committees, as well as other federal agencies and government health care providers such as Department of Health and Human Services.

When the opportunity came to move closer to home and take on a new challenge in the field, she took it. Skupien will become the medical center director and CEO for the Battlecreek VA Health Care Delivery System in southeast Michigan serving almost 200,000 veterans. The system has a 190-bed hospital, a 100-bed nursing home and outpatient clinics in Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon and Benton Harbor. In recent times, VHA has moved from a central facility model to an outpatient model to reach the veterans where they live in rural areas.

Skupien sees her new position as an exciting challenge. “I’m thrilled,” said the Sault Tribe member. “I thrive when I can see the veterans, help them and improve their services. Coming back home to try to meet the needs of veterans is really where my heart is.”

Graduating from Lake Superior State University in 1978, Skupien earned her master’s degree from the University of Michigan and her doctorate in public health from John Hopkins University. She also served as Sault Tribe’s health director during a five-year detail. Skupien rose in IHS ranks to deputy director for the Office of Public

She loved the national role, she said, but now it’s time to go closer to home. It has always been her goal to serve in the best way possible, she said. Her father and his brothers were World War II veterans who fought in Normandy so this is her way to give back — every day she recognizes that veterans have given so much.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs, retired U.S. Army General Eric K. Shinseki, is “a four-star general who is a model of service to veterans,” said Skupien, and it has been her privilege to serve under him. “His mission is to make life better for our veterans,” she added.

Skupien wants to enroll the many veterans who don’t know they are eligible for services. And for the veterans coming home right now, accessing services are of the utmost importance. Veterans coming home right now have many serious issues with mental and physical health, said Skupien. One in four will have a serious mental health issue, such as PTSD or depression as well as physical damage such as multiple amputations or brain damage.

Skupien plans to network with not only the tribes in southeast Michigan but reach out to all the tribes in the state and make stronger ties with Native veterans.

Will she miss D.C.? Yes and no. She loves serving under Secretary Shinseki and, she said, the leadership and staff are awesome. “People in the VA know — they get it — that’s why they work so hard,” Skupien said.

But now she is ready for quietness and balance and to be closer to her two grandchildren in the Grand Rapids area.

She said, “The job is nice but the service to veterans is what it’s all about.”

Fall fun at the USDA site



Marlene Porcaro, nutrition educator for the Sault Tribe USDA Food Program, helps Ava Shreve pick out some tasty decorations for her caramel apples.



Ava and her brother, Finley, work on decorating their own caramel apples on Oct. 20. Photos by Rick Smith



Heather Nalett (left) bathes a golden delicious apple in caramel as Memphis Meyer pauses a moment from building a treat to watch.



Caleb Porcaro (left) and Gary Johnson enjoy a break from painting pumpkins on Oct. 13.

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MAKING TRADITIONAL BLACK ASH BASKETS



Roger Azevedo finds a black ash tree on Sugar Island. A straight tree without knobs and bends is needed for straight basket strips.



The annual rings are lighter on the outside than on the inside. Each of these annual rings will be stripped out.



The bark must be shaved off before the tree is pounded. Bark is looser in the spring, but a tree can be processed year round.



Each strip is pounded starting on the end of the log and working toward the middle, then pounded again.



Strips off the log are cut first as part of processing.



The beginning of a strip is at the end of the log.



The strip becomes loose as it is pounded.



Strips being dyed before basket making.



Thick strips are pulled apart to make slimmer strips. Various thicknesses of strips are used for different parts of the basket.



Once you have a strip you want to use, you must shave it along the grain until it is smooth.



Each basket starts with a chosen number of uniform strips.



Thicker, wider strips are used as the staves and thinner, slimmer strips are weaved through them, one row at a time.



Baskets at various stages of completion along with friendly chit chat.



Everyone in the October eight-session class finished at least one basket. Some people had time to make lids and stands. Participants ranged from beginners to more competent basket makers. Instructors Bernadette and Roger Azevedo (front, right) began to learn the skill in the late 70s from an elder in Canada and have become experts and teachers in their own right. They live on Sugar Island.



Each row of strips is interwoven on the staves as the basket is shaped.



A beautiful little basket and lid.



Josh Homminga's baskets. Homminga hopes to preserve the skill and pass it on to others.



Above, Janey Homminga laces on a rim while Rose Braybant, right, adds sweetgrass to the top of her basket. Both made very nice baskets.



Instructor Bernadette Azevedo sets a stand on the bottom of a basket to be lashed on with thin a strip of black ash. The entire basket is nothing but black ash.

JKL School holds first family Halloween party

JKL School held its first family Halloween party on Oct. 30. Well over 400 people attended in Halloween costumes for the event, which offered dinner, spooky storytelling by Mary and Jim Couling, edible arts and crafts as well as trick-or-treating.



Left to right, ladies of the 80s — Fifth grade teachers and paraprofessionals Leslye Atkins, Sara Stec, Susan Solomon, Sue Pavlat, Melissa Ross and Jaci Clerc showed they could still rock the 80s even in 2012.



Xavey Parlier pretends to pluck his sister Shayla's eye from her socket using his edible eyeball that he made at the event.



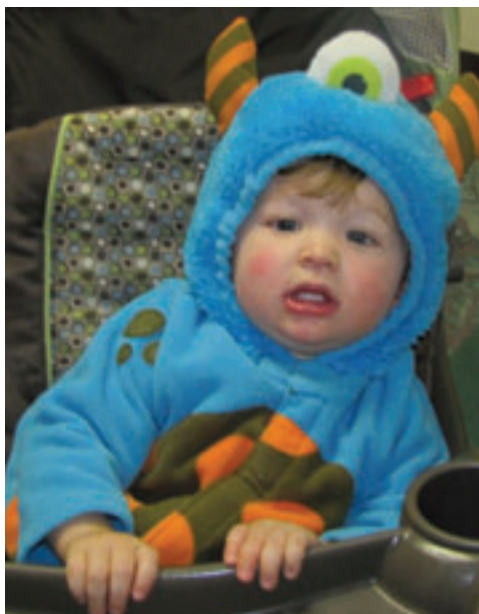
Costume contest winners Ari Stevens, cowboy, and Brianna Jones, Medusa, won \$25 to the winter book fair.



Max (The Joker) and Troy Boyer (gangster) made a great duo.



Allie-Jae Carle the fairy princess flew in to enjoy some Halloween fun.



George Solomon joined in as a baby monster



Skeleton friends Emily Nichols and Bailey Leask were joined by the arm bones.



Princess Alexandria of the Royal House of Brown is ready to begin her royal duties.



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Sault Tribe member teaches Indian law at KU

ELIZABETH KRONK REAPPOINTED TO FOUR-YEAR TERM AS SAULT TRIBE APPELLATE COURT JUDGE

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Elizabeth Ann Kronk is an associate professor of law and director of the Tribal Law and Government Center at the University of Kansas (KU). She is also a Sault Tribe Appellate Court Judge and a Sault Tribe member. Kronk was the tribe's chief appellate court judge from the spring of 2008 until February of this year when her term expired and has since been reappointed to another four-year term. She accepted her current position at KU this past June overseeing the university's Indian Law Program.

She also directs and supervises students working for credit hours at the Tribal Judicial Support Clinic. Clinical students provide support for the four federally recognized tribes in Kansas and any other tribal court seeking their assistance by drafting memoranda, developing tribal codes and whatever other legal work is requested – with the tribes as their clients.

Kronk enjoys teaching Indian Law and said that many of her students refer to Indian law as complex. "There are always interesting concepts that are new to students. Recently, we were looking at two cases that, taken together, hold for the proposition that the U.S. Constitution does not apply in Indian Country.



This is because tribes predate the formation of the federal government. So when you say to a law student that the U.S. Constitution doesn't apply in Indian Country, their eyes go wide and it's hard for them to understand that."

She said that if you ask a lawyer who isn't familiar with Indian law if the U.S. Constitution applies throughout the U.S., they would say yes. "Unless you have taken Indian law or grew up in Indian Country those are aspects of the law that you wouldn't necessarily know. That is not something that I think is unique to law students," she said.

The protections of the U.S. Constitution do apply in Indian Country, Kronk said, through the Indian Civil Rights Act and

some tribes, such as the Sault Tribe, make reference to the U.S. Constitution within their own constitutions.

As an appellate court judge for the Sault Tribe, Kronk travels to Sault Ste. Marie two to four times a year to hear oral arguments and help decide appeals cases. "Working for the Sault Tribal Court has been a dream come true because it's a perfect opportunity to use my skills to help and serve the tribe," she said. "Being Native American, I have a strong interest in both federal Indian law and in tribal law."

As a student in law school she became interested in environmental law and how it pertains to Indian tribes. "I write extensively in that field and have two books coming out in 2013," she said. "One is a case book on Native American natural resource development (of which she is one of three authors) and I also wrote and edited a book on the impacts of climate change on indigenous populations around the world and worked with a co-editor on that one."

Kronk's book on climate change will be launched domestically at the 17th annual Tribal Law & Government Conference being held March 1 at the KU School of Law. She said the focus of this year's conference is

climate change and its impact on indigenous peoples.

Kronk and her family have ties to the U.P. Her mother, Jenny Kronk, resides in Paradise and is the president of the Lake Superior State University Board of Trustees. Until her recent retirement, Jenny Kronk was a tribal court judge for the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians. Her father, Tom Kronk, was also a lawyer. "I think one of the reasons I was interested in becoming a lawyer and a tribal court judge is because I had positive role models in both of my parents," she said.

Kronk said she is blessed to be able to work for the tribe as an appellate court judge and also for Indian Country in her role as a law professor. "I look at it as a tremendous opportunity to assist others and also as a great responsibility — because as a lawyer many times you are dealing with people who are in very difficult situations. I think it is incumbent upon us to be sensitive to that and also to do the best that we can for them."

Having a Juris Doctorate degree opens up doors to a variety of professions, Kronk said. In addition to traditional legal positions and other opportunities such as policymaking, many influential politicians are lawyers, such as President Obama

and Gov. Romney. "I would love to talk to students who think they may be interested in law school," she said. "One thing I would encourage them to do is look into a program called the Pre-Law Summer Institute hosted each summer by the University of New Mexico. It is an eight-week intensive course that gives students an introduction to the first year of law school."

"As a whole," she said, "lawyers are in an amazing position to help people."

Prior to Kronk's arrival at KU, she served on the law faculties at Texas Tech University and the University of Montana. In 2010, she was selected to serve as an Environmental Justice Young Fellow through the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and U.S.-China Partnership for Environmental Law at Vermont Law School. Kronk also practiced environmental, Indian, and energy law as an associate in the Washington, D.C., offices of Latham & Watkins LLP and Troutman Sanders LLP. Additionally, she served as chair of the Federal Bar Association Indian Law Section and was elected to the Association's national board of directors in 2011. She received her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School and has a B.S. from Cornell University.

High school senior stays busy with school, friends and family

BY SARAH DECKER

"Kayla will always be remembered for her spunky attitude and friendly personality," said Algebra II teacher Brooke Shaffer.

Kayla Aldapa is the daughter of Brenda and Tom Aldapa and the younger sister of 2010 Webberville graduate Amanda.

Aldapa has participated in many school clubs and organizations such as National Honor Society, FFA, Spanish Club, ROOTS, Journalism, and Student Council. She has also participated in volleyball in the past and is currently an assistant captain on the varsity cheer team.

"I have seen Kayla improve



immensely over the past three years," said Varsity Cheer Coach Janet Wilson. "Not only has

Kayla gained more skills but she has really gotten more confident in her ability to be a leader."

In her spare time Aldapa enjoys hanging out with her best friends, Sarah Decker and Owen Judd. When she isn't with them, she can be found hanging out with her family, practicing cheers or studying.

"I've been good friends with Kayla for two years but we have known each other since pre-school," said fellow senior and best friend Owen Judd. "I will miss going to Bdubs with her all the time and her friendly smile the most. If I had to pick one word to describe Kayla it would be legit, because she is an awe-

some friend and an all-around great person."

In the fall, Aldapa hopes to attend either Central Michigan University for Social Work or Ferris State University for dentistry. She is already accepted to Central and waiting to hear back from Ferris.

"I am just really excited to graduate because I can't wait to be in college and doing things for myself," she said about graduating. "I will miss seeing my classmates every day, I have really enjoyed how close most of us have become, but I know it's time for us to move on."

Aldapa would like to thank her family for always pushing

her to do her best, and supporting her no matter what. She would also like to thank all of her teachers and friends for helping her whenever she needed it.

Aldapa advises underclassman to, "Take school seriously but have fun and make the most out of it, because it really does go by fast."

Aldapa is the daughter of Tom and Brenda (nee Maleport) Aldapa and the granddaughter of Rosetta and the late Cecil Maleport of Sault Ste. Marie and Ruben and Donna Aldapa of Monterey, Calif.

Reprinted with permission of Webberville High School's Spartan Advocate.

Birth....

MACE KAVANAUGH

Mark and Mindy (nee Killips) Kavanaugh of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., are proud to announce the birth of their son, Mace Patrick.

Mace was born at War Memorial Hospital on July 14 weighing 7 pounds 3 ounces and measuring 19 inches in length. Mace joins his 3-year-old brother, Mackinley Christopher, at home.

Proud grandparents are Harry and Jonelle Killips Jr. and Ken and Dorothy Kavanaugh. Great grandparents include Annette Killips, Dorothy Gervais, both of the Sault, and Kenneth Kavanaugh, of Ossineke, Mich.



BROOKLYNNE MURIEL-MARIE KING

Melissa Evans and Frank King welcomed their new baby girl, Brooklynnne Muriel-Marie King,

on July 10, 2012, at 5:17 p.m. She weighed 8 pounds 15 ounces and was 21 inches in length. Her big brother is Connor King. She is the namesake of her late great grandma Muriel Marie Lane and her grandma Muriel Evans, both of the Sault. Other proud grandparents are Frank and Jackie King of the Sault and great-grandpa Ron Lane of the Sault.

SOPHIE LEEANN HUBBARD Alexandra Perry and Chris Hubbard of Kincheloe, Mich.,



are the parents of a daughter, Sophie LeeAnn Hubbard, born Oct. 19, 2012, at War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie. She weighed 9 pounds, 12 ounces and measured 21.5 inches in length.

Grandparents are Fred and Lisa Perry of Kincheloe and Tony and Cami Hubbard of Sault Ste. Marie.

Great-grandparents are Carol and the late John Kellis of Sault Ste. Marie, the late Bobbi Schmidt of Pickford, Bonnie and Pat Perry of Kingman, Ariz., Cindy and Bill McKee of Sault Ste. Marie; the late Betty McKee of Dafter and Kathleen and the late Jim Hubbard of Sault Ste. Marie.



Thank you for making benefit successful

We wish to extend a very special thank you to everyone who made our benefit such a big success. From family, great friends, co-workers and special people we haven't even met — there are just too many to list for fear of forgetting someone.

Thank you for all your great donations, many hours of hard work and miles traveled to share this special event with us. There just doesn't seem to be the right words to express our appreciation to all of you. We hope this will help:

At a time in our life when we feel our world is falling apart.

And everything is breaking, especially our hearts.

When it seems as if there is no way out.

Special friends, family and prayer is what it is all about.

Special friends and family

make the world go around.

Special friends and family bring you up when you're down.

Cards, letters and well wishes all.

So many even took time to call.

Hugs, prayers, and how are you?

Are the special things that get you through.

Many special people make up our small towns.

And just being a part of it makes us so proud.

A very special thanks to all of you.

Because that is sure what all of you do!

The generosity and out pouring of love we received is amazing and will never be forgotten. We thank all of you with all of our hearts!

— Steve and Lynn Fierek

In memory of
Michael A. McClusky
Nov. 16, 1956 — July 14, 2001



I'm sending a dove to heaven
with a parcel on its wing.

Be careful when you open it,
it's full of beautiful things.

Inside are a million kisses
wrapped up in a million hugs
to say how much I miss you,
and to send you all my love.

I hold you close within my
heart,

And there you will remain
Until we meet again.

Sadly missed and loved by
mother, brothers and sisters.

DONALD H. WACHTER

Donald H. Wachter, 85, of
Naubinway, died Oct. 23, 2012,
at his residence surrounded by his
loving family.

Born April 6, 1927, in
Naubinway, son of the late
William and Ellaree (nee
Davenport) Wachter, Don was
a 1945 graduate of Engadine
High School. He served in the
United States Navy as a medic
during World War II until his
honorable discharge on Dec.
23, 1946. In 1951, Don gradu-
ated from Northern Michigan
University in Marquette with
a dual degree in chemistry and
biology and received his Master's
degree in administration from
the University of Michigan in
1952. Don started his educational
career at LaSalle High School
where he served as a teacher and
later as an administrator. In 1962,
he moved to Gwinn where he
continued as an administrator for
the Gwinn School System for 20
years, retiring in 1982. Following
his retirement, he moved back to
Naubinway where he was a com-
mercial fisherman, an employ-
ment that he spent as a youth and
during his adult summer months.

Don was a member of St.
Stephens Catholic Church, the
American Legion Post 290,
the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians, the Kiwanis
Club in St. Ignace formerly
serving as president, the Lions
Club in Gwinn and the Knights
of Columbus Council 7472 in
Naubinway.

Don was an avid outdoors-
man enjoying his seasonal camp
in Gwinn and spending time
with family and friends. He also
enjoyed woodworking, carving
replicas of Naubinway area fish-
ing boats and building furniture.
Don was a gifted man who could
run a school, build a house, repair
an engine and run a commercial
fishing boat.

In addition to his parents, Don
is preceded in death by his broth-

er Robert "Cy" Wachter.

Survivors include his loving
wife, the former Lois Vallier of
Naubinway, whom he married
June 2, 1951, in Naubinway; chil-
dren Deborah (Gordon) Boucha
of Gaines, Susan (Marshall)
Walker of Traer, Iowa, and James
(Sandra) Wachter of Gladstone;
eight grandchildren, seven
great-grandchildren with one
great-grandchild to be expected;
siblings, Richard (Betty) of
Cheboygan, Carroll "Geno"
(Sandy) of Marquette, Gary of
Sault Ste. Marie and Winifred
(Bob) Wertz of Sault Ste. Marie;
sister-in-law, Genevieve Wachter
of Naubinway; and several nieces
and nephews.

Visitation was held at St.
Stephens Catholic Church in
Naubinway Oct. 26 followed by a
Mass of Christian Burial Oct. 27
at the church with Fr. Frank Ricca
officiating. Rite of Committal
with military rites took place at
the Naubinway Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to
the family, which will be distrib-
uted to various organizations at a
later date.

Condolences may be expressed
at www.beaulieufuneralhome.com.

Beaulieu Funeral Home in
Newberry assisted the family.

GEORGE A. BODWIN JR.



George A. Bodwin Jr. of
Cadillac passed away unexpect-
edly Oct. 19, 2012. He was 58.

He was born Sept. 26, 1954,
in St. Ignace to George and Doris
Almeda Cowell Bodwin and grew
up on Mackinac Island.

He married Kathryn Palmer in
March 1975.

He worked for the City of
Mackinac Island Department of
Public Works for 15 years and
was a fireman on the Island for
many years. In 1990, he moved
to Cadillac and worked for the
Wexford County Department
of Public Works for more than
21 years and was happy to have
recently taken a job with Pearson
Drilling Company of Lake City.

Mr. Bodwin was a member
of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of
Chippewa Indians.

Known to many as "Bode," he
loved fishing with his brothers-
in-law and spending time with his
best friends, Roger and Keiren
"Guppie" Borgeson at their cabin
on the Betsie River.

He is survived by his wife,
Kathryn; two daughters and their
families, Rebecca and Doug
Bigger of Gwinn and Kate Smith
of New York City and her son,
Benjamin Bodwin of Lansing;
eight grandchildren, DJ, Matt,
Max, Daniel, Ryan and Kyra
Bigger and Jaelyn and Jackson
Bodwin; parents, George and
Almeda Bodwin of Manton;
four sisters and their families,
Jacklin and Dennis Bradley of
Mackinac Island, Bonnie and Jim
Baker of Corunna, Martha and
Darwin Hughey of St. Ignace,
Midge and Kevin Ginter of Grand
Rapids; his father-in-law, Joseph
Palmer; two brothers-in-law

and their families, Michael and
Carole Palmer and David and
Chris Palmer; two sisters-in-law
and their families, Patricia and
Ken Modzeleski and Karilyn
and Norm Wiersma, all of Grand
Rapids; many nieces and neph-
ews; and friends Roger and
Guppie Borgeson of Kalamazoo.

A memorial gathering was
held Saturday, Oct. 27 at the Carl
T. Johnson Hunting and Fishing
Center in Cadillac. In lieu of
flowers, friends are asked to visit
gbodwinjr.wordpress.com to
share wishes and thoughts with
the family.

Arrangements were made by
the Peterson Funeral Home in
Cadillac.

HEIDI KERRIDGE

Heidi Marie Kerridge, 29,
of Newberry, Mich., died
suddenly Oct. 7, 2012, in
Newberry.

Born Feb.
5, 1983 in
Manistique,
Mich., daugh-
ter of Rick
Kerridge and
Kelly Jones, Heidi was a 2001

graduate of Engadine High
School. In her younger years, she
enjoyed bird hunting with her
father. Heidi was always there
to lend a helping hand whenever
needed, loved being around fam-
ily and friends and was especially
an angel when it came to kids.

Heidi is preceded in death by
her grandfather, Cecil Kerridge,
on May 17, 2008.

Survivors include her par-
ents Rick (Peggy) Kerridge of
Newberry, Kelly Jones and Danny
Bowman both of Sarasota, Fla.;
sibling,s Wendy (Rob Osterhout)
Kerridge of Newberry, Casey
Davis and Chelsea Bowman both
of Sarasota, Michael (Nicole)
Marcus of Sheboygan, Wis.,
and Chad (Anna) Marcus of
Newberry; nieces Alanah, Jayla
and Baylie and nephew, David;
grandparents, Ethel Kerridge
of Garnet, Carol Druckenmiller
of Curtis, Ron (Frances) Jones
of Rexton and Barb Edgar of
Newberry; several aunts, uncles
and cousins.

Visitation was held at the
Beaulieu Funeral Home in
Newberry Oct. 12 followed by
graveside services at Maplewood
Cemetery in Rexton.

Memorials may be directed to
the family in her memory.

Condolences may be expressed
at www.beaulieufuneralhome.com. Beaulieu Funeral Home in
Newberry assisted the family.

GERALD CORBIERE II

Gerald Dwayne Corbiere II
(Jerry) passed away unexpectedly
at his home in Buckeye, Ariz., on
Oct. 1, 2012.

He is survived by his loving
son, Gerald Dwayne Corbiere
III (Dwayne); his parents, Joan
and Gerald Dwayne Corbiere
I (Wayne); his sisters, Ann
Marie Corbiere-Scott (Geoff)
and Teresa Corbiere-Buechler
(Tim); nieces, Miranda Scott and
Sienna Buechler and nephew
Seth Buechler; and his loyal and
constant companions, Puppy and
Unique. Jerry leaves behind his
very large and loving Corbiere-
King family, grandmother Anna
King, many aunts, uncles and
countless cousins.

He is preceded in death by his
paternal grandparents, Jeanette
and Theodore Corbiere and
maternal grandfather Albert King.

Jerry was an innovative and
hardworking individual who
worked in the building trades
and mechanical fields. Jerry was
a natural born leader. He was a
member of the Sault Ste. Marie
Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Jerry shared his generous
heart, beautiful spirit and many
talents with his family, friends
and community. Our world shines
a little less bright without his
amazing smile.

A memorial gathering was held
in Buckeye on Oct. 6. A funeral
mass and services were held
at Sault Tribe Niigaanagizhik
Ceremonial Building Oct. 13,
2012.

JOHN RICHARD ALLEN

John Richard Allen of
Orlando, Fla., passed away, Sept.
27, 2012, after
an extended
illness.

John retired
from the
United States
Navy after
20 years of
dedicated ser-
vice. He will
be interred at Arlington National
Cemetery with military honors at
a later date.

He leaves to cherish his mem-
ory his beloved wife, Teresa; his
former wife, Jackie, of Bay City
Mich., his son, John of Bay City;
his son, Leland, and wife, Julia,
of Virginia Beach, Va.; his moth-
er, Delores Thorne Blanchard,
and his sister, Patricia Faella
Allen, of Norfolk, Va.; brothers,
Michael of Williamsburg, Va.;
Christopher, and his wife, Nancy,
of Noblesville, Ind.; and three
grandsons, John Michael and
Steven of Bay City, and Harrison
of Virginia Beach. He also
left behind many relatives and
friends.

John maintained his dignity
and sense of humor until the end
of his earthly journey.

Thanks for sharing with us,
your family, those last precious
moments of memories, songs and
laughter and love — till we meet
again, John, anchors aweigh.

From John's mother, Dolores
Blanchard — I would like to
share the last two incredible days
we spent with John.

When we got the word that
"his time" was near, my son,
Chris, flew from Indiana to
Orlando; I flew from Norfolk to
Orlando; and my son, Mike, and
daughter, Trish, drove 10 hours
straight from Norfolk to Orlando
and we all arrived at the hospital
within 10 minutes of one another.
We felt God had a hand in this so
we could all be together before
John passed.

When we were able to see
John, he was alert and was over-
joyed to see his whole family was
there all at the same time. He said
it was too bad that we couldn't
have done this sooner — he
shared jokes with his brothers,
had us all laughing; he even sang
some of the "old" Beatles songs
with his brothers like they used to
do.

John only spent one day in the
hospital before he was transferred
to hospice and there we were able
to spend another day with him.
The second day, he was also alert

and not without his wonderful
sense of humor.

Because he was in quarantine,
we had to wear gowns and gloves
and he asked why we were wear-
ing, as he put it, "those things,"
said it made us look like a bunch
of clowns.

When it looked as though he
was leaving us, he wife said it
was ok to go — asked if he saw
his grandmother who had already
passed and he said yes, so she
told him then, "Go — grandma is
waiting for you." And he said no,
he wasn't ready yet. When his
wife asked if there was anything
she could get for him he said yes,
"a good stiff drink," jokingly!

That was the last verbal con-
tact we had with John. The nurse
gave him a shot of morphine and
six days later John slipped away.
John succumbed to sepsis — it
took his life, but it didn't take his
spirit. He endured 18 months of
amputation pain and never com-
plained once. His strong faith in
God sustained him.

In loving memory of our mom,
gram and great gram,
June L. Jordan

Dec. 1, 1929 — Sept. 27, 2011

Although we
know you're
with us every
day

Our happy
times will
never be the
same.

We miss
hearing the
sound of your voice,

Not being there when we walk
through the door,

All of our memories make us
want you back more

Then our tears begin to pour.

And when they stop we hope
and pray you'll know:

"It broke our hearts to lose you
You didn't go alone. For part of
us went with you the day God
called you home."

Happiness and peace is all we
wanted for you.

Oh how happy you must be in
heaven

With garage sales 24/7.

We love and miss you so
much!

ACTIVIST, ACTOR AND AUTHOR RUSSELL MEANS DIES AT 72

Oglala Sioux member Russell
Means, a long time activist for
American Indian rights and a
former prominent member of the
American Indian Movement, died
at his ranch in South Dakota of
inoperable throat cancer at age
72.

Born on the Pine Ridge
Reservation in South Dakota,
Means grew up in what he
described in his autobiography
as harsh family conditions in
California's San Francisco Bay
area and graduated from San
Leandro High School in 1958. He
participated in the occupation of
Alcatraz Island in 1964 with his
father. In his 20s, he encountered
the American Indian Movement
in Minneapolis, Minn., and found
a sense of purpose with the orga-
nization. He was appointed the
organization's first national direc-
tor in 1970.

He appeared in several
Hollywood movies and television
features from 1992 to 2004 and
wrote an autobiography in 1995.



ITCM administers Access to Recovery grant

PROGRAM REIMBURSES FOR TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SUPPORT SERVICES USING ELECTRONIC VOUCHER SYSTEM

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Access to Recovery (ATR) program is a nationwide initiative funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that was designed to expand capacity, support client choice and increase the array of services available for persons seeking help with recovery from addictions.

The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan (ITCM) received more than \$13 million dollars to fund the ATR grant in September of 2010 and is now at the beginning of year three of the four-year grant. The programs target is to serve 8,752 participants by the end of the fourth year. In a previous funding cycle from 2007-2010, the project served over 5,000 participants. Based on a comprehensive follow-up study with 80 percent of ATR participants; the project has produced very positive client outcomes including reductions in alcohol and other drug use, criminal justice involvement and homelessness.

The ATR grant, called the Anishnaabek Healing Circle Access to Recovery program, is available to adults and youth ages 12 and up who are enrolled members of Michigan's 12 federally recognized tribes, members of other tribes and non-Native family members and descendants living within the service areas of the 12 tribes and the Detroit



American Indian Health and Family Services Urban Indian Center.

To enter the ATR program, a person must contact their tribal behavioral health program, the Access and Care Coordination Center for ATR. The client will be screened for eligibility, assessed and placed at the appropriate level of care. The tribal Access Centers are responsible for requesting vouchers for client services and providing all care coordination. Once the person enters ATR a unique client number is generated, which follows the person throughout their treatment and allows care coordinators to manage services by multiple providers.

The ATR program uses an electronic voucher management system – with the 12-collaborating Michigan tribes, the Detroit area American Indian Health and Family Services, and other approved clinical treatment and recovery support providers submitting electronic billing

transactions to the ITCM for pre-approved services they provide to clients. It's different from most grants in that the tribes are not the grant sub-recipients; they are vendors who receive reimbursement in the fee for service program. Associate Director of the ATR, Terri Tavenner, said they are working towards sustainability for the program and have been successful at helping tribes build their capacity to bill for services.

As part of the ATR intake and assessment process a readiness screen is performed to gauge the extent that the clients are ready to make a change toward healing and recovery. The outcome of the clinical, recovery support and readiness to change assessments determine the types of services the client is eligible for. The ATR has a comprehensive list of treatment and recovery support providers that ATR participants can be referred to at no charge to the client. Tavenner said typically a client completes residential or outpatient treatment and moves on to a less intensive level of care designed to support the person's recovery.

Tavenner said for ITCM to keep their funding for the program they must maintain an 80 percent follow up rate with clients six months after they register for ATR services. She said outcomes for clients enrolled in the program have been very successful, but over the past year

enrollment has been down.

ATR provides tribal communities with the opportunity to provide a comprehensive array of services at the local level and also through referral to services not offered by the tribe. Many tribes involved in the program offer an expanded array of services including traditional healing and other culturally based services that support the clients recovery and healing from addictions, such as supporting stable housing, educational and employment development, healing from trauma, healthy eating habits and exercise. While the services are comprehensive they are not always adequate for the level of need in the community.

Tavenner said the Sault Tribe is great at case managing, stretching dollars and making sure their clients receive complete services. Sault Tribe Behavioral Health Clinical Supervisor Julie Barber said that in the past two years the Sault Tribe has enrolled about 325 clients in the ATR program but is struggling to meet the increasing needs of their clients in a timely manner because of staffing vacancies and budget shortfalls.

Barber said she believes the ATR program has been very successful in helping clients to overcome barriers to accessing treatment and recovery support services.

Tavenner said the Behavioral Health programs that have access

to the ATR funds they bill for each month have more successful programs and services. "Some of the tribal programs don't have access to the funds they generate. Once a month checks are sent out to tribal accounting offices, reimbursing the tribe for services provided to ATR clients. Depending on each tribe's priorities, their behavioral health program has access to either part or all of those funds," she said. "If a behavioral health program wants to set up additional services and activities they can find that hard to accomplish if they don't have access to the ATR revenue. The tribes whose Behavioral Health programs can access the tribal ATR revenue have been very successful in their recovery support and educational efforts. The tribes that don't have access to ATR revenue find it's a challenge to expand their services. The whole idea of ATR is to expand and enhance the array of services that are already there – it is not intended to be the end all and be all," she said. "Our mission is to help ATR succeed in collaboration with the Michigan tribal communities."

For more information about the Anishnaabek Healing Circle call (888) 945-7332, or contact Sault Tribe Behavioral Health by calling (906) 635-6075 or (800) 635-9105. See Anishnaabek Healing Circle webpage at www.atrhealingcircle.com.

National Native Network releases Sacred Tobacco PSA

SAULT STE. MARIE — The National Native Network recently joined with actress Carla Rae of Imprint and PBS' Network American Experience *WE SHALL REMAIN: Trail of Tears* fame, to release *Keeping Tobacco Sacred*, a public service announcement (PSA) to focus on the importance of sacred tobacco use in Native culture as opposed to the dangers of commercial tobacco use.

This PSA video was funded by the National Native Network through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control's Office on Smoking and Health. As part of the planning process, the group enlisted the aid of Rae's longtime friends, award winning director, producer, cinematographer and editor, John Foutz and formidable native actor/spokesperson John E. Scott-Richardson, a

voice for the North Carolina Tribal Tobacco Awareness programs.

"We combined our talents to create a PSA for the National Native Network and its Keep it Sacred message, which focuses directly on our cultural strengths as 'observant people' to help our current generations make informed choices about commercial vs. traditional tobacco use," Rae said. "It is our hope that this PSA brings a clear voice and awareness to this cause that deeply affects our culture."

The Keeping Tobacco Sacred PSA may be downloaded from the group's website for educational purposes.

Companies thrive on the fact that Native Americans purchase their products to use for ceremony and prayer and they lead tribal leaders to think casinos will lose

business if they are smoke-free. However, studies show that when individuals inhale cigarette smoke, either directly or second-hand, they are inhaling more than 7,000 chemicals, many that are hazardous and known to cause cancer.

The National Native Network has said many Native Americans believe that as long as they are using commercial tobacco in a sacred way, it is rendered harmless. However, simply calling commercial tobacco by a sacred name does not remove the harmful effects of causing cancer, heart disease, asthma, and intensifying diabetes complications. The average rate of commercial tobacco use in Native American communities is about 32 percent, with some tribes having as high as 70 percent of their people addicted to commercial tobacco.

The group points to the fact that commercial tobacco used in any form is toxic and killing Native people.

"It is time to take back our sacred cultural ways from big commercial tobacco companies and refuse their tactics they have used for years to cause harm to Native Americans and Alaska Natives. We do not need their partnership to be viable and strong in pursuit of our heritage and culture," said Kim Alford of the National Native Network. "While the tobacco companies line their pockets with revenues, our people — our elders, mothers, fathers, aunties, uncles — are dying from abuse and exposure to their products. Our youth are becoming the next generation to continue this path and partnership with big tobacco companies, as they see that this

is the way things are done in our communities."

Alford said her hope is others will take this message toward the pursuit of bringing back the responsibility and harvesting of natural and sacred tobacco within each tribal culture to use for ceremony and prayer, and by removing exposure to second-hand smoke in our enterprises.

"On behalf of the National Native Network, we thank Carla Rae and her colleagues not only for their time and expertise in making this production, but for their passion and enthusiasm in reaching out to Native Americans nationwide in our message of keeping tobacco sacred," she said.

For more information about the PSA or to become a member of the site, visit online at www.keepitsacred.org.

ITC to promote breastfeeding in Michigan tribal communities

Residents of Michigan's 12 federally recognized tribes and the American Indian Health and Family Services Organization will benefit from a one-year grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Community Transformation Grants (CTG) Program.

The grant was awarded to the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan in June 2012.

The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan's 2009-2010 REACH Risk Factor Survey showed that Native American adult obesity rates were 43.4 percent compared to all adults in Michigan at 27.7

percent. Native Americans therefore have significantly greater risks for lifelong illnesses such as heart disease and diabetes.

According to the Archives of Pediatric and Adolescent Medicine (2009), one in five American 4-year-olds of any race are obese, while rates for American Indian children are 50 percent higher. In order to address this issue, multiple risk factors need to be addressed, including helping tribal community members and employees to eat more nutritiously, to be more physically active, and to take other preventative measures which reduce the

risk of chronic disease.

"We are very pleased to have received this funding in order to increase culturally appropriate practices which support breastfeeding in Michigan tribal communities and workplaces," said Cathy Edgerly, program manager, Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan. "Breast milk is the very first traditional food and breastfed babies not only have decreased risk of infant mortality, respiratory infections, obesity and Type 1 and 2 Diabetes, but their mothers are also healthier, which results in lower health care costs and reduced employee absentee-

ism. Native American women who choose to breast-feed should not be limited because they must work outside the home. Tribal communities and workplaces can support this healthy choice by offering tailored workplace breastfeeding programs and policies."

Acting Director of the CDC's Division of Community Health Dr. Rebecca Bunnell said, "Together we can change the way people look at health, providing them with affordable and easy-to-grasp tools and information that can empower them to make healthier choices; choices that

have the potential to transform the entire nation."

According to Bunnell, nearly half of U.S. adults have at least one chronic illness, and three of every four dollars spent on healthcare is connected to chronic diseases. "By encouraging preventative measures that can reduce the risk of chronic illness, we reduce the costs—direct and indirect—of poor health on everyone," she said.

To improve the health, and ultimately the well-being of its unique statewide tribal community, the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan
See "Breastfeeding" page 20

ATTENTION COLLEGE STUDENTS: Grade reports for the Self-Sufficiency Incentive Awards are DUE

College students who are interested in the self-sufficiency incentive awards program must submit their FALL semester grade report between Dec. 1, 2012 and Jan. 31, 2013. The incentive awards program only pays for classes passed with a C or better and does not pay for repeat courses.

In order to be eligible for the program, students must submit completed annual application

packets, available online at www.saulttribe.com (education is listed under membership services, and is in the download folder). The application packet includes a checklist/timeline for submitting paperwork, a 2012/2013 higher education application, a W-9 form, and a reminder to submit a copy of the student's Sault Tribe membership card. We cannot accept expired tribal cards and we do not keep

tribal cards on file.

The grade report must have the student's first and last name, state "fall 2012" as the current term, list the name of the college, state each course and its credit hours and the final grade received per course. The report must be printed directly from the college website or printed by the college. Unofficial transcripts work best. Please scan the report and email it to bmacarthur@

saulttribe.net or fax it to (906) 635-7785. We cannot accept grade reports that have been copied and pasted into Word or onto an email. It must be in its original format.

Due to the high volume of applicants, please keep a copy of your fax confirmation sheet or a copy of the email. We can not accept any late reports so it is imperative that all of your required paperwork is submitted

prior to January 31, 2013.

This program is for the current 2012 Fall semester only. We cannot pay for winter, spring, summer or back-date for previous fall semesters.

Please feel free to contact Brandi MacArthur, administrative assistant, Sault Tribe Higher Education, if you have any questions: bmacarthur@saulttribe.net or (906) 635-7784.

Protect against carbon monoxide poisoning: know warning signs

With the recent power outages in Michigan, as well as the winter months approaching, now is the ideal time to make sure that our homes are protected from carbon monoxide. Carbon monoxide poisoning is completely preventable.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless, and tasteless gas that kills more than 500 Americans each year and up to 50 a year in Michigan, according to the Michigan Department of Community Health. It is produced by all forms of combustion. Warning signs include headache, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, drowsiness and confusion. If you suspect you have been exposed to carbon monoxide, immediately evacuate the area of contamination and seek medical attention.

Never use generators, grills, camp stoves, or other gasoline

or charcoal-burning devices inside your home, basement, garage or near a window because these appliances give off carbon monoxide. Running a car in an enclosed garage can create lethal levels of carbon monoxide in minutes.

Michigan's carbon monoxide poisoning tracking system counted 26 unintentional deaths and 986 non-fatal unintentional carbon monoxide poisonings in Michigan in 2010 alone, according to MDCH. More than 60 percent occurred during the winter months and happened most frequently at home.

A carbon monoxide alarm costs about as much as a smoke detector and it's well worth the cost. For more information about carbon monoxide poisoning and poisoning prevention, visit michigan.gov/carbonmonoxide.

This Indian Country: American Indian Activists and the Place They Made

FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Frederick Hoxie starts each of his courses asking students to list three American Indians, and their answers are almost always the same: Crazy Horse, Sitting Bull and Geronimo.

All defeated warrior chiefs, all in the distant past.

And all in keeping with Americans' historic tendency to see Indians mostly as "brave, exotic and dead," says Hoxie, a Swanlund professor of history, law and American Indian studies at the University of Illinois.

There's a different list that Hoxie wants us to know about, filled with American Indian lawyers, lobbyists, writers, politicians and activists. Through their stories, Hoxie aims in a new book to tell how American Indians over two centuries persisted in claiming their rights in a country that once thought them irrelevant.

The history he tells in *This Indian Country: American Indian Activists and the Place They Made*, is one where Indians are not just victims and in the past, but "fellow participants in the American story," up to the present.

Through their efforts, American Indians are now accepted as part of society in the U.S. and with rights to self-government and to their cultural tra-

ditions, Hoxie said. That's something the nation's founders never envisioned, and a contentious subject until later in the 20th century. It is also a distinct American Indian achievement, he said.

"There are so many stories of American Indians who were inventive, were creative, who didn't surrender, but who did something other than die on a battlefield," Hoxie said. Their fights instead were in legislatures and courtrooms, and in the court of public opinion.

Hoxie knew about them from his years of teaching and research, but didn't realize how fully they connected until doing research for *This Indian Country*, being published later this month as part of the Penguin History of American Life Series.

He found "networks of connection" through which ideas, strategies and an insistence on American Indian rights were passed from generation to generation.

Among Hoxie's subjects is James McDonald, a Choctaw who was the first American Indian lawyer.

Hoxie's history of activism culminates in a moment at the end of the 20th century when American Indians have been accepted as "a permanent part of the American scene," Hoxie said, even if many problems remain.



FUTURE ENGINEERS — Pam Metivier's Gifted and Talented Department at JKL Bahweting Anishnabe PSA held a parent and community dinner Sept. 27. Everyone enjoyed a meal before middle school math and science teacher Alison Innerebner made a presentation about the benefits of the middle school. After dinner, parents and children worked on engineering and building the tallest tower they could with 50 straight drinking straws and masking tape.

Department of Justice announces policy on tribal members use of eagle feathers

FROM THE DOJ

The Department of Justice (DOJ) announced Oct. 12 a policy addressing the ability of members of federally recognized Indian tribes to possess or use eagle feathers, an issue of great cultural significance to many tribes and their members. Attorney General Eric Holder signed the new policy after extensive department consultation with tribal leaders and tribal groups, according to a release. The policy covers all federally protected birds, bird feathers and bird parts.

"I am pleased with this outcome," said Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment. "I have followed our customary way of handling our Migizii megwan (Eagle feathers) for sometime so it is heartening to know that our traditional practice is now honored by the United States government."

Federal wildlife laws such as the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act generally criminalize the killing of eagles and other migratory birds and the possession or commercialization of the feathers and other parts of such birds. These important laws are enforced by the Department of Justice and the Department of the Interior and help ensure that eagle and other bird populations remain healthy and sustainable.

At the same time, the DOJ recognizes that eagles play a unique and important role in the religious and cultural life of many Indian tribes, according to a release.

The department is issuing this policy to address the concerns of tribal members who are unsure of how they may be affected by federal wildlife law enforcement efforts, and because of a concern that this uncertainty may hinder or inhibit tribal religious and cultural practices, according to a release.

The policy provides that, consistent with the DOJ's traditional exercise of its discretion, a member of a federally recognized tribe engaged only in the following types of conduct will not be subject to prosecution:

- Possessing, using, wearing or carrying federally protected birds, bird feathers or other bird parts (federally protected bird parts);

- Traveling domestically with federally protected bird parts or, if tribal members obtain and comply with necessary permits, traveling internationally with such items;

- Picking up naturally molted or fallen feathers found in the wild, without molesting or disturbing federally protected birds or their nests;

- Giving or loaning federally protected bird parts to other

members of federally recognized tribes, without compensation of any kind;

- Exchanging federally protected bird parts for federally protected bird parts with other members of federally recognized tribes, without compensation of any kind;

- Providing the feathers or other parts of federally protected birds to craftspersons who are members of federally recognized tribes to be fashioned into objects for eventual use in tribal religious or cultural activities.

The DOJ will continue to prosecute tribal members and non-members alike for violating federal laws that prohibit the killing of eagles and other migratory birds or the buying or selling of the feathers or other parts of such birds.

The policy expands upon longstanding DOJ practice and Department of the Interior policy. According to a release, it was developed in close coordination with the Department of the Interior. The DOJ's Environment and Natural Resources Division and United States Attorneys' Offices work closely with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs on enforcement of federal laws protecting birds.

The view the policy, see: www.justice.gov/tribal.

Cultural Department holds acknowledgement feast, community meetings to be announced

BY CHERYL BERNIER

On Sept. 27, an acknowledgement feast was held at the elder's center. The event showed our appreciation for the language learners and mentors for their participation in our second year of the ANA Baawting Anishinaabemowin Immersion Camp project.

The feast was well received, as we had 52 attend the event, including participants, mentors and guests. We had a feast, the Baawting Singers performed, a presentation was made to acknowledge our participants and mentors and a giveaway was held.

We presented 17 certificates to participants for their acceptable level of participation. For the event, we set up a display area showcasing each camp with photos and the various language phrases used. Participants brought in their crafts they made at the camps to display for the event. It was a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge the participants and mentors for their efforts in this language revitalization project.

We will be applying for another language grant through the Administration for Native Americans. Community input is very important for the grant application process. We encourage you to bring your ideas and suggestions to the upcoming community meetings to be announced. You can also send them to Cecil Pavlat at cpavlat@saulttribe.net or mail them to 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.



The language immersion program held an acknowledgement feast for the learners and mentors Sept. 27 at the tribe's elder's center.



Gwiizhens, a young learner. A number of families attend immersion camps.



From left, Mick Freshette receives a certificate from Cecil Pvlat and Theresa Lewis.



Photo by Rick Smith

FARM FEST — From left, Natasha Therrien and her son, Morgan, hold a turtle shell rattle as Danielle Hull looks on at the Tapawingo Farms Fall Festival in Sault Ste. Marie on Oct. 20. The Therrien family make and sell a variety crafts of American Indian design and Hull specializes in woodburning specialties. The ladies worked a vending stand together at the festival. The Therriens are citizens of the Sagamok Anishnawbek Ojibwe of Massey, Ont., but reside in Sault, Mich. The youngster attends first grade in Ms. Downing's class at the JKL Bahweting Anishinabe Public School Academy. The festival, free and open to the public, featured antique tractor displays, vending kiosks, hay rides, petting zoos and other attractions. Jessie Beckett, founder of the non-profit Tapawingo Farms with the primary goal of helping disadvantaged children, said she is awestruck and humbled by the turn out for the festival. She indicated almost 1,000 people visited during the festival and is very grateful to all participants, especially the volunteers, some of whom were Sault Tribe members, who helped make the event such a success. Earlier this year, the farm hosted a field trip for the Chi Mukwa summer recreation program for youngsters and the farm received guests from the third and fourth grades of Ms. Knight at JKL Bahweting Public School Academy for an educational excursion on Oct. 26.



Photos by Betty Majestic

CEMETERY CLEAN UP — This August, the annual fall clean up of Indian Point Cemetery was carried out by Manistique area elders Lee and Yvonne McCarthy, Larry Godfrey, Ernie and Pam Demmon, Bill and Connie Hardmick, Jack Majestic and Ron Nelson, with help from two Manistique Casino maintenance men, Mike Schuetter and Bernard Roback (missing from photo, Gerald Peters). The Manistique casino provided food and one of the maintenance men cooked brats while Denise Chase and Viola Neadow brought pop and water.



Aaron A. Payment, MPA
Tribal Chairperson
“Representing All Members Everywhere”

COST OF IMPLEMENTING A NEW CONSTITUTION? **NEGLIGIBLE!**

LAND IN TRUST REQUESTS MOVING

Shortly after I was elected this time around, my administration reported the costs of our languishing ‘land in trust requests’ that were costing us approximately \$330,000 a year in taxes (we pay taxes on such property until trust status is achieved) and for both environmental assessments and land title work (which are only good for 6 months). The total annual cost approaches 1/2 million a year. During my first administration, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Secretary of Interior put a hold on all land in trust requests given a Supreme Court case and national politics. Nonetheless, with the case now resolved and the hold lifted, our requests have not moved forward for the last few years.

Since returning as your Chair, I asked the Tribal Board for authorization to travel to try to resolve our land in trust requests. A few Board Members wanted to litigate but I believe diplomacy deserves an opportunity first. However, two of our long standing trust requests have been granted trust status and land put into trust and two more were given the green light on October 30, 2012. I am proud to say one of these properties is our Tribal Administration building in Sault Ste. Marie. The savings in taxes alone for properties that have been placed into trust, exceeds my annual salary. This cooperative approach will undoubtedly be more successful than threatening to sue as we have other trust land request pending which will ultimately save approximately \$500,000 a year. With our Lansing project on the horizon, we need the BIA and Secretary of Interior’s cooperation, not their ire.

LANSING CASINO LAND ACQUIRED!

As Members realize, I introduced the petition to hold a referendum on the Lansing project. I had two main reasons to do so. First, I was concerned

that ‘due diligence’ was not done on the developers; equity shares not assigned based on what each brought to the deal; a market study was not done; and land acquisition incomplete. Secondly, I was also concerned that NO revenue allocation plan was established to ensure a *Sault Tribe Promise* along with the *Lansing Promise*. Though I had misgivings about the deal, it was approved by a majority of voters which obligated 15% of the projected net revenue for Elder and Education services.

As your Chairperson, it is my job to support what the Members voted in place. This, however, does not mean that we move forward with our eyes shut. To the contrary, we’ll move affirmatively to make sure the deal is one in which we ALL benefit; not at all like the exploitative relationship Greentown Casino represented. I am pleased to report that though I remain cautious, I do believe our Lansing project is now viable with a projected net revenue of over \$40,000,000 annually to start. I and other Board members will remain diligent in making sure we are never exploited again and that the Lansing project and any other casino developments away from the service area fol-

lowing a stringent path of due diligence.

BALANCED BUDGET

If you believe some of the hype in a few board articles last month, you’d believe the sky is falling. Though I have to admit, the projected budget when I returned did include a deficit spending plan of nearly \$7 million. Let me be clear, however, this is not a budget I prepared. WE also face a \$2.99 million dollar cost overrun for the Board’s decision to switch team member (employee) health insurance based on false information presented to the Board. Also, with the gift that keeps on giving, the Board of Directors negotiated a \$2.77 million payment to the Greeks and former secured creditors. Note that all of these additional costs were projected or incurred in my absence as Chair. Also, note that while some Board Members have bragged in their Unit reports to balancing the budget in my absence as Chair, a \$5 million loan proves otherwise.

Nonetheless, we are moving forward in a positive direction. This means balancing the budget. I led a series of sessions to go through the budget and review recommended sav-

ings from division directors and program managers. I want to offer my appreciation to the team members for their cooperation and ideas and to the Board for their involvement. I am happy to report that we balanced the budget without cutting jobs or services. The Greek \$2.77 million liability still looms but I am confident we can absorb these expenses through refinancing.

ELDER \$ INCREASE?

One item the Board has not addressed is the \$1.3 million overpayment we are budgeted to pay our executive staff and a select few lower paid team members. If the wage and salary market study is accurate, we could set these salaries at the maximum and save \$1.3 million. If we hold harmless those under \$25,000 we will still save over \$1 million. Thus, I will be introducing legislation to put these savings toward increasing our annual Elder dividend by at least \$100.

2% CONFLICT

Next month, I will detail a 2% expense that had a direct benefit back to a Tribal Board Member which appears to violate the Tribal Constitution.

Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Constitution Implementation * Projected Expenditures* (Prepared by Anderson Tackman, CPA's) 10/10/2008														
Description	Location	Assumptions	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L
			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
7 Generation Fund - 2 years after enactment of Constitution	Art. VII, Sec. 6a	2% of profit from enterprises put into permanent interest bearing fund at the beginning of year 2			542,563	830,121	1,128,064	2,015,202						
Dept of Treasury - new dept	Art. VII, Sec. 1a	2 employees, wage, fringe, space, etc.	151,750	154,795	157,841	161,028	164,259	167,544						
Dept of Labor - new dept	Art. VII, Sec. 1a	1 employee, wage, fringe, space, etc.	75,875	77,393	78,940	80,519	82,129	83,772						
Dept of Compliance - new dept	Art. VII, Sec. 1a	2 employees, wage, fringe, space, etc.	154,170	157,252	160,340	163,606	166,870	170,210						
Dept of Records - new dept	Art. VII, Sec. 1a	3 employees & costs, over and above current functions	199,109	203,091	207,153	211,296	215,522	219,832						
Sergeant of Arms	Art. VII, Sec. 6f	12 sessions @ \$500 each & fringe, other costs	7,425	7,727	7,881	8,029	8,200	8,384						
Judicial Commission	Art. VI, Sec. 8	5 members @ \$5,000 each & fringe, other costs	45,600	46,512	47,442	48,391	49,359	50,346	45,600	46,512	47,442	48,391	49,359	50,346
Pardon Panel	Art. II, Sec. 2	2 tribal members to be compensated	5,000	5,100	5,202	5,205	5,412	5,520						
Trial Court Clerk	Art. VI, Sec. 1	Additional position with wage, fringe, etc.	39,240	40,025	40,825	41,642	42,475	43,324	39,240	40,025	40,825	41,642	42,475	43,324
Elections	Art. VII, Sec. 1b	Costs to elect 2 at large members & next general election	109,700				116,346							
At large #1	Art. VII, Sec. 1b	Director salary, fringe and other costs	105,332	107,439	109,588	111,780	114,016	116,296	105,332	107,439	109,588	111,780	114,016	116,296
At large #2	Art. VII, Sec. 1b	Director salary, fringe and other costs	105,332	107,439	109,588	111,780	114,016	116,296	105,332	107,439	109,588	111,780	114,016	116,296
At large #3	Art. VII, Sec. 1b	Director salary, fringe and other costs	105,332	107,439	109,588	111,780	114,016	116,296	105,332	107,439	109,588	111,780	114,016	116,296
Total			1,104,075	1,014,203	1,577,049	1,886,299	2,321,580	3,113,008	400,836	406,964	417,031	426,373	433,880	442,660
A	Total with Unnecessary Positions Included								1,104,075	1,014,203	1,577,049	1,885,268	2,321,580	3,113,008
B	Difference								703,239	605,349	1,160,018	1,459,925	1,887,710	2,670,450
C	Without New At Large Board Members								84,840	85,637	86,267	86,922	87,604	88,310
D	With New At Large Board Members but Redistribute current Board pay from divided by 12 to divided by 15 is \$23,000 each.								84,840	85,637	86,267	86,922	87,604	88,310

The above spreadsheet was prepared for the Tribal Board after I left office in 2008. It shows the projected cost of implementation and relevant section of the draft new constitution where these costs originate.

Columns A thru F include a series of unnecessary positions which are typically not embodied in a constitution. Armed with a graduate degree in public administration and over ten

years of tribal administrative experience, it is my professional opinion that it is not appropriate to include such positions in the new constitution. Thus, if we take these out, we reduce the projected costs significantly. The costs of holding elections to fill new ‘at large’ board positions is eliminated if we simply adopt an implementation plan to fill these positions during the next election (June 2014). Like our founders in 1972, my preference is to

include them as those who drafted our first Constitution intended to include at large representation. In fact, our first Chairperson before recognition Fred Hatch and our first Chair after recognition - Joseph K. Lumsden intended at large representation for the Cheboygan (Unit 6) and Pontiac areas. Costs for new representatives should not be used as an excuse, as a redistribution of expenses can easily cover any additional costs.

If we eliminate unnecessary costs in columns G thru L and the ‘Pardon Panel’ the cost of implementation reduces to a mere \$84,840! I just led \$3.5 million in savings; another \$84,840 will be easy. These costs can easily be absorbed into the Tribal budget without adversely affecting jobs or services.

At this point, there are no good reasons to wait, ONLY EXCUSES!

You have given me much to be grateful for.

Chi McGwitch, Negee!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Office: 906-635-6050
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Also, check out the ‘Sault Tribe Guide’ on Facebook.

Helping our veterans to access health, education



CATHY ABRAMSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Soon we will be celebrating at our Honor Our Veterans Powwow that will be held at Kinross Recreational Center! This past month, our board of directors passed a resolution to set up two scholarships to honor our veterans. One will be awarded to an honorably discharged veteran of the U.S. armed forces and another will be for the immediately family members of an honorably discharged

veteran of the U.S. armed forces. Please contact our Education Department to find out more information.

A big chi megwech to directors McKelvie, Malloy and McLeod for attending our Michigan Veterans Affairs meeting our tribe helped to sponsor in October. Dr. Mary Beth Skupien, from the VA headquarters in D.C. was there along with all the VA staff serving in Michigan.

I found the listening session very informative. We heard a lot of the frustrations our veterans go through when applying for services and assistance. What I learned is that the VA has improved in leaps in bounds for our newer veterans, while those veterans who have served in Vietnam and before are still frustrated with a confusing and slow moving VA system. Some have even stopped trying. Dr. Skupien encouraged those to come back and try again because of the vast improvements in the VA system. Because Director McKelvie has so much passion for our veterans and their rights, we are making

sure that he gets more involved in our VA conference calls and meetings.

Congratulations to Director Deb Pine who was appointed, by our tribal board, to our Head Start and Early Head Start Program Advisory Committee. She is perfect for the job as she is an active advocate for our tribal youth and the development of our Anishinaabe language. I now serve as the board of directors' liaison to the Head Start Policy Council and have done so for over 15 years. Head Start is one of my favorite programs and I would love to pass the torch on to Director Pine as I believe she would take good care of our children and their families and have their best interest in mind.

I just recently attended the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST) meeting in Oneida, Wisc. It was an excellent meeting. At this meeting, we passed bylaws for a newly developed regional health board. This has been about 10-15 years in the making, so this

was a historical event! Our area (the Bemidji area, made up of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa) was the only area that did not have a regional health board. Our area is also the lowest funded and has the highest health care disparities. Soooooo, with this newly formed board with representation from each state's tribes, we hope this will help us speak stronger by having a united voice. Chairperson Payment, Director McLeod, our Legislative Director Mike McCoy and our Health Director Bonnie Culfa attended this meeting. We had a great team!

I hope that our chairperson gets more involved at the national and state levels. This is where he SHINES! I know that Director McLeod agrees with me! I am very proud of him for that! Director McLeod is no slouch either. She is such an eloquent speaker and spoke for our waters. Our tribe needs to continue to put our people in positions that will help our tribe. I see Jennifer as being one of them.

No one person can do it alone. Relationship building is so important to get things done. That's why it's important for us to go to where a lot of these decision makers are. When we meet face to face with them, they get to know us and get to know our stories and issues. We are not just another document in the piles of papers on their desk! It makes us more real and they, in turn, actually deal with us.

We also had the opportunity to meet with Kevin Washburn, the newly appointed assistant secretary of the Interior. He informed us all how putting land into trust is not an easy process, as they also have to work with the counties, etc. We hope that he will be supportive in our efforts to put our Lansing property into trust. His words did give us encouragement, though!

I look forward to hearing from you and if you have any questions or comments, please contact me at cabramson@saulttribe.net or call me on my cell phone, (906) 322-3823.

Head Start and child care unsafe next to casino



DEBORA PINE, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Ahniin kina gwaya. This is the time of the "Freezing Moon" when we do our "jiibii'aa kwewin" spirit feast for our relatives who have passed on. We recently held ours at the Niiganigishik Building. I was late due to a parent matter with my boy; however, I was able to get there in time to help with the clean up.

Recently, I was graded on my "vision" for the tribe. We had training with James Mills over Robert's Rules of Order and the question came up. Our table had

to grade each other on our abilities and vision for the tribe. Mine came back and I was surprised. I have a strong vision, however, I believe the vision gets lost in the day-to-day activities.

These excerpts are taken from the May and June 2010 issue of the tribal paper. "My priorities are focused around the well being of the people of our tribe first. Finding new opportunities for our children, elders, education and healthcare are vital.

"I am well aware and respect the magnitude of the decisions that board members are required to make and understand complex relationships shared with other tribal, state, federal and local governments.

My main goal as a tribal board member will be to restore the tribe as a stable financial entity that will be sustainable . . ."

I was recently asked by a this question by a tribal member, "May I ask you, what have you personally done to restore the tribe as a stable financial entity?" I was glad to answer that I voted "NO" on a deficit spending plan. I was in the minority but I was happy with my

vote, not happy with it passing. Later that month, the board, chair and staff sat down to glean the budget back to a balanced budget.

For our children, there is a Head Start program butted up against our casino building. People who visit the hotel can look right down into our playground at our children. There are reports that hotel guests were standing in the windows with no clothing on. This is NOT ACCEPTABLE and NOT SAFE!

I propose we move the Head Start childcare facility in with the JKL School and designate that area as a business zone to expand or redesign our casino/hotel complex.

For the elders, we are moving ahead with the Lansing project in order to provide a much larger per cap check to supplement their Social Security. We have recently closed on the land and will be petitioning to put it into trust. I and the whole board were recently served papers by the state of Michigan as a preemptive attack to stop our efforts. It is somewhat disconcerting to be sued by your own state but we will prevail. Our

federal lands claim settlement contains the word "shall," and they "shall" take land into trust for us.

EDUCATION — I've been working with the JKL externals committee to keep the environment safe for our kids. Recently, they were diagnosed with a very bad mold issue in the playground that the tribe needs to address this spring. We laid nine inches of sand to get us through the winter and that will work for now.

I was recently appointed to the advisory board for Head Start. It's a group of board members who work with staff to make sure we comply with federal regulations. It's easier to have a smaller number of board members stay abreast of what is going on than to have the whole board try and absorb all the information.

HOUSING — I sit on the Board of Commissioners for Housing. Our current project will be multi-unit elder complex in the St. Ignace area. We will be using low income tax credits (LITC) to fund this project. I attended a Travois conference in Arizona and was able to meet many different tribes already on their third and

fourth LITC projects, to much success. Our tribe was scheduled to do this years ago, but then the recession hit and we were only being offered 35 cents on the dollar versus today, the offering is 75 to 85 cents on the dollar for tax credits.

HEALTH CARE — When we were gleaning the budget to create balance, the topic came up of IHS being on its own with its own board of commissioners. I presented this to the board members and the chairman said it was an excellent idea. Housing is currently separate from the tribe and so is the JKL School. Both have been successful without the influence or destructiveness of tribal politics. Before the election, I brought the idea up to the Health people who were working on the wage study for IHS. They thought it was a good idea but did not believe the tribe would be willing to relinquish control. I cited examples of it already working for us and they were agreeable but so far, nobody has ran with the idea. Separate and successful is the idea.

Making our needs known on a national level



JENNIFER MCLEOD, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Aanii Anishnaabeg, I wish to say miigwech (thank you) to those of you who phoned, emailed or visited with me last month. Without exception, your

words to me have been, "follow your heart." Thank you all for your wisdom, and please know that I have followed your advice.

At a recent elders' meeting, I saw clearly that my heart lies in tribal sovereignty, healthcare, education, our children and our elders. I will always participate in the expected board duties (budgets, legislation, etc), but I have discovered (with your help) that I can be more effective if I do indeed follow my heart.

In the areas of tribal sovereignty and healthcare, I traveled (at my own expense) to Green Bay, Wisc., for a meeting of the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes (MAST). I witnessed an historic event, the creation of the Midwest Regional Health Board! The Indian Health Service region

known as "Bemidji," covers Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Iowa. This Bemidji Region is the only area that did not have a regional health board, but it does NOW! The Bemidji area has the lowest funding per person and the highest health care disparities. It is hoped that, with this new regional health board, we will have a stronger voice as we advocate for our people's health care needs.

This was my first MAST meeting, and as those who know me would expect, I was not shy. I spoke for the need to include our traditional medicines and practitioners in the fight against prescription drug abuse in Indian Country. When it was suggested that the federal government was "looking at the science" (of tra-

ditional medicines), I politely pointed out that as a sovereign nation, we were not so much asking for their approval of our traditional ways; we understand what works for our people, and while I appreciate their point of view, we reserve the right to serve our people in the manner that we choose. I simply wanted their assistance with the insurance companies to allow for "third-party" billing. It was received well by the members of MAST, and respectfully by the federal government representative. I understand that there are "alternative" treatments approved by insurance companies, and I wanted OUR ways to be acceptable as well (a simple concept... but probably not a simple solution).

Kevin Washburn, the newly

appointed assistant secretary of the Interior was also a presenter at MAST. Our group discussion covered issues such as putting land into trust, bringing back Native languages, substance abuse, and the importance of funding the Special Diabetes Program for Indians. We expressed concern over sequestration (across the board budget cuts to all federal programs). I also addressed Mr. Washburn not only as an elected official of our tribe, but as an Anishnaabekwe (Anishnaabe woman) and my responsibility to speak for the water. I spoke for our Great Lakes, and how our prophecies said that one day, water would become more precious than anything. I told him how

See "McLeod Report," page 27

What everyone wanted to know about Greektown

.... AND WAS NOT TOLD



DENNIS MCKELVIE, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

This is what Greektown cost us as I know to be true today and, with other costs that may come from the lawsuit, it will be over \$2 million more.

SEE TABLE 1

There have been questions about the Land Claims money that has been paid out to the elders. From 1998 thru 2012 a total of \$48,403,683 has been paid to the elders. Below is a chart that will show total payments by year.

SEE TABLE 2

With \$19.9 million in Land Claims, the fund has paid out over \$48 million and it will continue paying for years to come. It may not be much but it is still something. Keep in mind, as the

tribal elder population grows the check amounts will get lower. This could change if we get a new source of money to add to the Land Claims fund.

I would like tribal members

to think about the tribe opening a credit union when all of the Land Claims money is back in a bank account with a low interest rate. By opening our own credit union we could offer car loans,

home loans, building loans, etc. We could have our casinos bank there as well. Any interest monies earned could go back into the Land Claims for future payments to our growing elder population.

Table 1: Greektown Cost to Tribe

Total directly contributed to Greektown from tribal resources.....	\$150,683,257
Net received less payouts to the Greeks (\$77,163,499) and other mins.....	74,142,353

Net upside down.....	\$ 76,540,904

Interest on money borrowed for Greektown (pd up north).....	\$ 24,995,467
Legal Expenses - Bankruptcy.....	797,261
Op expenses (\$10.1 million) less mgmt. fee received (\$9.7 million).....	425,810

Total all inclusive dollar cost to the Tribe	\$102,759,442

Table 2: Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Analysis of Land Claims Fund Revenues and Distributions to Elders Calendar Year Basis - 1998 Through September 2012

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Revenues:																
Interest - Tribal & Guarantee	600,000	1,050,000		2,250,000	1,425,000	2,200,000	1,725,000	1,200,000	1,200,000	2,240,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,400,000	1,800,000	21,090,000
Interest & Dividends Other	770,073	1,073,748	1,885,761	3,114,348	414,270	367,712	889,569	965,749	968,318	861,391	517,796	22,248	49,813	53,182	33,141	11,987,119
Gains (Losses) on Investments - Realized	1,777,866	526,344	227,666		(157,186)	(114,942)	25,946	(113,720)	(515,153)	259,572	(916,159)	(1,000)	(6,783)	10,894		1,003,345
Transfers In	1,733,400					982,496	2,268,078	1,005,060	1,735,299	2,513,120	2,635,766	-	1,450,000			14,323,219
Total Revenues	4,881,339	2,650,092	2,113,427	5,364,348	1,682,084	3,435,266	4,908,593	3,057,089	3,388,464	5,874,083	4,637,403	2,421,248	3,893,030	2,464,076	1,833,141	48,403,683
Expenditures:																
Distributions to Elders	1,733,400	2,468,419	2,653,943	2,844,471	3,099,891	3,393,633	4,056,473	4,133,811	4,700,170	4,957,562	5,332,800	2,214,520	2,403,609	2,387,811	2,377,050	48,757,563
Excess of Revenue over (under) Expenditures	3,147,939	181,673	(540,516)	2,519,877	(1,417,807)	41,633	852,120	(1,076,722)	(1,311,706)	916,521	(695,397)	206,728	1,489,421	76,265	(543,909)	(353,880)
Payment amounts:																
Taxable						993.00	706.00	389.00	630.00	838.00	860.00					
Non-taxable	900.00	1,232.78	1,263.79	1,280.14	1,339.00	307.00	894.00	1,211.00	970.00	762.00	740.00	630.00	649.00	614.00	575.00	
Total	900.00	1,232.78	1,263.79	1,280.14	1,339.00	1,300.00	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,600.00	1,600.00	630.00	649.00	614.00	575.00	

Except for 1998, payments are based upon prior year's activity. Did not start splitting out taxable and non-taxable until 2003.

Generations to come affected by what we do now



CATHERINE HOLLOWELL, DIRECTOR, UNIT II

My intention in this unit report was to update you on the upcoming "Review of the Constitution" scheduled for Nov. 8, 9 and 10. I support constitutional reform and I'm looking forward to finally getting down to the serious and substantive work at hand. I've spent the last month listening and gathering input from our tribal citizens and attempting

to get the review documents into their hands so they can evaluate the implications before us.

I've conducted my own personal research starting with the selected papers of Felix S. Cohen, and working through the occasional papers generated by Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government's American Indian Development Project, and University of Arizona's Native Nations Institute, to name a few.

Since 2008, I've taken the time to study and read everything published by other tribal nations who have exercised their self-determined right to create their own constitution.

I've reviewed our own tribal documents, from the original resolution calling for a constitution convention, to the subsequent tribal actions that bring us to the current "review."

I've done this study in order to be as best prepared as I can, to

humbly carry out the responsibilities you have entrusted to me.

And so it was with much frustration that, on the eve of the "review" I read over the weekend, these public comments from our chairman:

"Our tribal founders, ancestors, forefathers and mothers or Nokomis - Mishomis would be ashamed that our current board has languished over this project. They would look for leadership to see who is leading our path forward and who is merely making excuses.

"Personally, I find it immoral for any elected board member to sit on this document. We spent over \$400,000 and nearly 7 years and have nothing to show for it!

"There are six board members up for re-election in about a year and half. Watch the score board and let's send those packing if they work against a new constitution!"

These words smack of intimidation. For the chairman to call on the names of our dead ancestors and loved ones, in order to strong arm a preferred outcome to the constitutional review process, is beyond disrespectful on so many levels.

Rather than fostering a healthy and vigorous dialog on each of the provisional amendments within the document, he has chosen to portray board members who take seriously their duties as "immoral" or "against the constitution" and calls into question the integrity of the board.

I call upon our chairman to stop with this type of rhetoric that poisons the process, undermines governance and dishonors our loved ones. I doubt that any of our ancestors would condone our chairman's penchant for raw, bully tactic politics.

And, with all due respect for the amount of money expended,

that in and of itself is not reason enough to move forward on a document that we will have to abide with for generations to come. A poorly written constitution can bring ill tidings to an Indian community and generations of horrific problems to the people and the governing bodies of our tribal nation. If the constitution is worth doing (and I believe it is), then it is worth doing right. And no amount of pre-emptive brow beating is going to force me to rubber stamp such a profoundly important foundation document, without the due diligence it deserves.

I can promise you this: I will remain committed to constitutional reform until the project is ready to be voted upon — however much time that entails. I promise not to rubber stamp anything that is not ready for your ultimate consideration.

Chi Miigwech.

Past, present board travel available to membership



DARCY MORROW, DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

During the month of October, I spent 167 hours combined on the road and attending meetings. This

time does not include constituent phone calls, emails, or reading material. I believe as board members we need to be transparent with our membership.

During the board meeting held on Oct.16 at the St. Ignace casino, Director Causley introduced a resolution stating:

Board of directors travel - BE IT RESOLVED, that the board of directors office, will compile a complete detailed list of all current board members travel for any past expenses including any funds released due to travel for the chairman and the board, and shall be released to the tribal chairman, board of directors and any tribal member upon request. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that

all future travel information will be made available to the membership upon request.

The problem with this resolution was that she only wanted to look at current board members. I was able to amend her resolution to include all past and current chairman and board members and all team members' travel. This was approved by a majority of our board. Some board members talk about being open to the membership but why would we want to only look at the current board why not look at everybody that is traveling on tribal dollars. The membership will be able to view this document by making an appointment at the administration office on Ashmun Street in the

Sault. Director Chase and I have informed the chairman that we need to get our tribal paper out to the membership in a timelier manner. It takes almost a month for members in the outlying areas to get their papers. By the time you get your paper an event you might have wanted to participate in has already gone by. This is frustrating for us and the membership.

Unit 4 Christmas party dates are as follows:

— Escanaba, Willow Creek Building, Dec. 8 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

— Manistique, Manistique Tribal Center, Dec. 15 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

— Marquette, NMU bookstore, Dec. 16 from 1 to 3 p.m. Thank you, Darcy Morrow Cell: (906) 203-6699 Email: DMorrow@saulttribe.net P.O. Box 441 Manistique, MI 49854

Email jdburton@saulttribe.net to be added to our email news list.

Malloy offers critique of proposed constitution



**DJ MALLOY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I**

By the time you receive this paper, there will have been constitutional review meetings held in Sault Ste. Marie from Nov. 9 through 12. The purpose is to review recommendations and take remarks regarding the constitution, in its entirety, which was proposed in 2007. Last month, I worked with Jennifer Dale-Burton, the editor of this newspaper, to have the whole document reprinted to allow you an opportunity to have a second look at it. Having done that, I feel better about providing my opinion and input on the document.

To follow are specifics that worry me about the new constitution. These are the things I believe can and should be amended in the proposed document:

Article II; Sec 2 – Pardon Panel – I do not believe that there should be a wide open ability to pardon people. While I am sure this was written with the best of intents and purposes, some things are unpardonable. And this document is meant to be the law of the land from here forward. The pardon panel is an issue for me for several reasons. What if we have a group of

people who are willing to provide pardons for a fee. It doesn't say anything about that in the law. What if they pardon family or friends for political gain or advantage? There is room for corruption in the way it is written. And again, some things should not be pardoned.

Article III – Territory and Jurisdiction – As proposed, the document claims all of the air (including airspace), land and waters of the 1836 ceded territory, including subsurface and surface waters, minerals, natural resources. First of all, there are other tribes residing within these boundaries. Second, how are we going to patrol and enforce laws in this identified territory, not to mention airspace? And keep in mind that the assertion of jurisdiction means that you not only have laws to cover the area, but also the demonstrated ability to enforce those laws. It doesn't make sense to me. Perhaps if the territory was tribal owned lands and any citizens exercising their rights within the ceded territory, but airspace and mineral rights within the ceded territory of 1836 seems a bit farfetched.

Article IV – Membership – I love the fact that the mandate of being a U.S. citizen has been removed. But I wish they would have also removed the restriction on dual membership. What is wrong with belonging to more than one tribe if your ancestry is such that it qualifies you for both? If you are a member of two tribes, what is the harm to our citizenry? Is it the services issue? If so, why not allow the dual citizenship and identify a coordination of benefits instead of making one deny a portion of their identity?

Article VI – Judicial Branch

– I am of the opinion that ALL/EVERY judge(s) should be attorneys! They would have to hold a license through the Bar Association and if they commit an act that is in conflict with the laws and ethics of that Bar Association, they do more than lose the job or an election, they lose their ability to practice law all together and ergo their livelihood.

Article VII – Legislative Branch – I don't think it's fair to make people vote in an at-large unit if they are from or have ties to the original five voting districts. People should be able to choose what district they vote in if they reside outside the service area. This article also allows for a felon to run for office if pardoned by the courts just three years after the conviction, I don't like that. It also mandates a total of 120 days to pass legislation not related to budget modifications. I believe that a time restriction and period of review is prudent, but four months is too long to have effective government, programs and services. And the power of executive veto concerns me, think of the "what ifs." As far as redistricting, it leaves it to the Election Commission, which I will get to when I address Article XI.

Article VIII – Executive Branch – The prosecutor and ogemaa can be a pardoned felon as it is now written. And, again, I have issues with the power of veto in so much as it is wide open.

Article X – Newspaper – Although this article states that there will be an independent newspaper separate from political branches, it goes on to say that a "Newspaper Board" will be established with non-elected

officials SELECTED by the highest ELECTED official of each branch! What's independent about that? This board will make and enforce the rules it sets, and it will be able to appoint and remove a chief editor. This is so NOT independent and the members deserve an independent newspaper!

Article XI – Elections – Well, I may be off the wall here because I would prefer to have independent elections as opposed to an Election Commission appointed by elected officials. I take no issue with the current Election Committee. However, one must think of all the scenarios that would be allowed to play out under the worst of circumstances and look at what value there is in the laws that govern.

Article VII – Legislative – Section 5 (e) The set asides of 7 percent, while done with the best intent for tribal financial well being, have no place in a constitution. This is a policy and procedure issue and should not be placed within a "law of the land" document.

Article XIII – Referendum and Initiative – and **Article XIV Amendments** – The only problem I have with either of these is that it should read 10 percent of the number of voters who participated in the previous election as opposed to 10 percent of the eligible voters. The referendum piece also fails to address actions of the legislative branch while waiting for the outcome of the referendum. I can think of two recent referendums that were of no consequence because the action was taken and was irreversible no matter the outcome of the referendum. Money was paid out even though the voters denied payments. Once paid, the

money was not returned and no effort was made by the chairman at that time to secure those funds pending the outcome of the referendum.

So, there you have my concerns on the proposed constitution as it currently reads. It required more than just reading it. I had to think of different scenarios on the good and bad sides of each in order to see if it worked and if it had the ability to be abused or misinterpreted. It's not hard to read, but the possibilities are mind boggling! I wanted people to form their own opinions first without reading my concerns and being possibly influenced by what I wrote. I could be off target or missed something very important.

There are several items placed in the proposed document that are typically not "constitutional" items. Instead they are policies, procedures and administrative items and need to be culled from the draft.

If we can't get through all of the little items quickly, I believe in putting forward the separation of powers, the right of referendum and initiative and removing the BIA from our law making process. I would prefer to make sure those concerns I have outlined are addressed in each case, and having said that, I would have no problem putting these things out to a vote of the people as soon as possible. That would offer an opportunity to empower the membership, provide checks and balances, and make us independent from the BIA.

As always, you can reach me at dmalloy@saulttribe.net or (906) 440-9762.

Respectfully submitted,
DJ Malloy, Unit I Representative

Sorenson reports board activities for October



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

The board met with all membership and internal services' departments from Oct. 3 through Oct. 5 and again on Oct. 8 to find ways to balance the \$3.5 million deficit for the 2013 budget. The savings were found in areas with vacant positions that were not going to be filled, training and travel budgets were downsized and the majority of savings was in the health budget. For many years we have budgeted for tribal support dollars to fund services at the health clinics but every year we are collecting more and more money from third party billing. The great news is currently the health center is operating with-

out any support from the tribe. The health centers are operating on Indian Health Service dollars, grants and revenue from third party billing. I would like to thank the Health Division for doing a great job becoming self-sufficient. I would also like to thank all the other divisions and program managers for finding ways to save the tribe money when everyone has their list of needs and wants. The best news of all is that we did not have to cut any jobs or services.

During the budget review, we discussed hiring an efficiency expert from an outside agency to come into the organization and find out where we can make efficiencies. There will be a resolution brought forward at the next meeting to hire that person or agency.

On Oct. 15, Eddy Edwards (tribal councilman and chairman of the Great Lakes Housing Commission for the Keweenaw Bay Tribe) came to talk with the Sault Tribe Housing Commission about economic development. He began by saying, "Many times we create a dependence or handout instead of a hand up or self-sufficiency with our members." We can't just provide them with services but need to create

opportunities and give them tools to want to succeed on their own. Eddy has worked with his tribe to create many businesses under their housing authority such as a building supply company, car wash, laundry mat, plumbing and heating company, a financial institution and gas station. This has created employment opportunities and afforded revenue for housing opportunities. They are able to provide a revolving loan fund for home improvement or business loans. They created an IDA program for members to be able to fund education expenses, vehicle purchases, braces, home ownership and business start up. Currently I believe the tribe is only providing the IDA for home ownership. He gave us many great ideas. I hope he will come back to talk to the whole board about their tribe's accomplishments and to help our housing authority develop business opportunities for us.

On Oct. 24 and Oct. 27, I sat in on the prosecutor interviews. It is unfortunate that we have such a limited number of applicants for our professional positions. We need to encourage more of our people to pursue degrees in these areas by providing incentives such as loan repayment or better

scholarship opportunities.

On Oct. 24, I attended a wild game feast for the Unit III elders, it was put on by the YEA kids and their leaders, Sue St. Onge, Francie Wyers and Connie Watson. They had a good turn out and the food was great.

On Oct. 25 and 26, I attended another training on the tribal action plan. There was a community input session on the evening of the 25th and focus groups with tribal court, ACFS and the youth. We are going to be moving forward with putting together a survey for all our members.

On the afternoon of Oct. 26, Mackinac Straits Hospital presented an award to the tribe for our partnership with the hospital. Frank Foster and Pat Shannon were also present when CEO Rod Nelson presented Chairman Payment with the award.

On Oct. 27, I attended the Rickey family's ghost feast. The Grandmother Moon Singers and the Little Thunder Drum group were present for the celebration. There was a great turn out and an abundance of great food.

On Oct. 31, we had Tribal Gaming Commission roles and responsibilities training.

On Nov. 1, I rode with Denise Chase and Darcy Morrow to

Lansing to be a part of the official signing of the purchase of the parcel that will hold our boutique casino. We will immediately proceed to apply for trust on this land.

I would like to take this time to thank all of our employees for bringing us to where we are today. Without your hard work and dedication, our members wouldn't have so many services or programs to count on. The hardest part of this new position is not seeing all my co-workers at the Shores casino. I miss you all and want you to hold your heads up high because you guys are a great bunch of people.

For questions or concerns, email me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, call me at my office 643-2123 (Fridays 9 a.m.-11 a.m.), or cell 430-0536.

Remember that Unit III meetings are on the fourth Monday of the month at 6 p.m. at the McCann School.

Moving?

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Causley discusses local, national tribal issues



LANA CAUSLEY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT II

COST SAVINGS

In my last unit report, I explained that the 2013 schedule B budget was approved on the condition that we would meet directly and identify cost savings in the amount of \$3.5 million. The following meetings set up, started with the administration along with all program directors and managers meeting and making recommendations or providing options in each line item within their department's budget. As explained to the board it was made clear that all recommendations and options would not affect direct services or employment positions.

In the second step, the chairman and the board met with each division director or program manager and discussed how the savings would effect the department. After days of this process we modified our 2013 governmental budget without reducing funding for direct services or eliminating any employment positions.

I was a little concerned after seeing the savings in departments' budgets that could be cut without affecting services. In the Health budget, there was an estimated savings of over \$3 million identified with no plan to use the funding amount. I understand that all budgets have some padding, but vacant positions, travel, and amounts requested when the funding had no intention on being utilized is an extremely cumbersome way to project a budget, because after identifying savings it looks as though we cut and that is not the case. We only reduced amounts recommended by the managers of the programs. As a leader attempting to balance a budget and identify funding needed for services, it's hard when some additional funding is requested when there is no intention to use it. Especially when other departments, such as our Cultural Department, is operating at bare bones and has identified in detail additional money for program needs.

I will be requesting that we steer toward unit based budgets, which means we will have the real numbers of members served based on the amounts requested. For example, if a program asked for \$120,000, the amounts would be broken down on how much of this goes to administration and how much goes to direct service. With our budget constraints, it's going to take a measure like this to keep our most utilized services available. We need to change the way we project budgets and I will continue to request this.

NATIONAL ISSUES

This past month I attended tribal rights, sovereignty and economic development conferences in Las Vegas, Nev. The conference was one of the most informative that I have attended (although I didn't like Nevada). The main focus of the conference was to review the current and significant issues facing Indian country and our sovereignty.

One main item discussed was the class action lawsuit our tribe is a party to and has retained council to assist. Lloyd Miller from Sonosky, Chambers reviewed and educated tribes with the Rajah case. This is the lawsuit against the federal government for undercalculating the totals paid out to tribes for the contract support costs we incur as self-governance tribes. The federal government has responsibility to pay these costs and continuously over the years we have not been paid the full amount. Each year, Congress has had money in the budget appropriated to fund the self-governance tribes' contract support costs, but used the money elsewhere.

The statute states that the government will pay up front, in full, our contract support costs, which includes departments such as Law Enforcement and Indian Health Services. We are a party to this lawsuit and I have written about it in past reports. This lawsuit could be so beneficial to our tribe and others — billions of dollars are owed and to make the federal government accountable will secure money needed for the future. I'm very relieved we are part of this lawsuit and will update as we move forward.

Other updates discussed on the national level were the sequestration and the Bush era tax cut. Tribes cannot sustain the needs we have now and the funding cuts discussed would hurt our programs even more. Our leadership needs to be proactive about the trust responsibility that is owed to us and also be mindful that, if the sequestration happens, we need to be fully prepared. Our administration is aware of this and our leadership should be doing its part to demand protection of our programs.

Two other major issues left unresolved is the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act and tribal economic development bonds. Both items will be at the forefront after the congressional recess. Our department has been very active in being a voice for this program and it's one that is very successful within our tribe. We spoke about IRS rules, development bonds, tribal, state tax sharing bonds, union in the workplace, self-governance rules, energy activities, NLRB activities and sovereign activities that will enhance our tribal families.

ONLINE GAMING

One last item I will highlight and demands our full attention and action plan is "online gaming." Online gaming is a sovereign right that we hold as a federally recognized tribe. The market is untapped at this point and it is estimated hundreds of millions of dollars could be made. This part of the conference was the most important to me as we heard about other tribes' plans to move forward now before the market becomes satu-



Kids show off their mandalas at this year's Hessel Fall Feast.

rated. Director Pine has taken the lead in keeping this in the forefront with our gaming executives and all information will be passed on to assist with our plans moving forward. We need to act now before states make certain online gaming activities legal. It's an untapped revenue source that our tribe needs to be the experts on.

I highlighted the issues and activities here and all information is provided to the entire board for review. I will be requesting action plans from the departments on other items with information being provided to them as well.

TRIBAL ORGANIZATION

As I write this report, and have stated in the past, it's always exciting to come back home bringing thoughts, plans and updates to our tribe but the difficult part is keeping focus and looking and moving toward the real future. We still have positions that have no directors, such as human resources, executive director and a CEO. The chairman has a responsibility that is huge, working toward all goals from the board and the day-to-day oversight of all governmental staff that it leaves our businesses open to being on the back burner. This is not a criticism; it's a fact. There is so much we can be doing and again, it's difficult to keep everyone focused on the real future we need as a tribal nation. We are here putting out fires, rearranging offices, robbing Peter to pay Paul, whining who needs more authority, bringing up old wounds and all while the real issues within our tribal nation are ignored or left to a later date. In all, I'm glad I attended and will educate and update my fellow board members on the needs that had been discussed and can work together toward.

LANSING CASINO PROJECT

I would like to inform you of some board actions. After much discussion, I introduced a resolution to make board of directors' travel open to the membership upon request. We speak about leadership and our role within the tribe; it's imperative you feel that the information can be provided when asked.

We passed a resolution to purchase land for the Lansing casino. It's an ongoing plan, and I'm still skeptical, but firming up the plans is at the forefront, and the plan is tighter than it once was. The land transaction completed included a parcel adjacent to the Lansing center at Michigan Avenue and Larch. The tribe acquired the

land for \$280,000 plus \$9,000 in closing costs. The purchase price includes the full market value of the land. We have an agreement with the city to close on the other two parcels over time, assuming all approvals for the project are secured.

LONG-TERM 2 PERCENT

In our unit, we have requested discussions on long-term 2 percent agreements with no action being taken at this point. I will keep it on the agenda until it is resolved. At the beginning of this report, I wrote about padding budgets and real plans to secure services in our unit. Director Hollowell and I have met with both the health director and chairman on plans to regain past clinical health services offered in our unit, namely, DeTour and Drummond. These were cut in 2008. We are still waiting for information and we will keep the issue on the agenda.

FIGHTING DRUG ABUSE

In my last few reports, I wrote about our immediate need to address the drug issues in our communities. This past month, I and Director Sorenson, along with the court and a few other departments, met to discuss and create a "tribal action plan" to address the needs and move the entire tribe toward the needs and goals to assist our communities. First I want to thank the departments that attended and I'm grateful for the commitment, but the meeting was not well attended and we discussed the gaps we have to overcome and the participants' concern moving forward at this point. This plan will not work without full participation and commitment by our entire tribe. In attendance was Center for Court Innovation's Senior Associate Sarah Reckless. The session was held to discuss the statistics we face for evaluation and implementation (we didn't have them), create an advisory board (all departments were not there to be represented) and create a tribal action plan for our individual communities (because all units have individual needs, for example, Unit II has rural access to services issues) and a presentation on community assessment projects that have worked for other tribes.

We discussed community assessment surveys and what will happen once developed to make sure it's not just to collect data, talk and do nothing with it. Other items we discussed were to identify and prioritize challenges, engage community members, build support for

future projects and collect baseline data.

In closing on this update, the above details the scale of participation we need. I suggested that the board members go to their elder groups and youth groups to identify the needs per unit — this will put the issue on the forefront and create awareness from the board to their individual units. There is so much work to be done on this cause and I had immediately contacted the chairman in order to ensure his support and assistance on making sure all departments had a seat at the table and the need for this plan to NOT fizzle out and become a committee with no real plan. Our next meeting is on Nov. 6 and I expect a better attendance. I will be discussing with the entire board the thoughts on each session and with the meetings and calls I have from our respective unit. I will be at the table to ensure our community's role, involvement and needs.

Again, thank you to all departments that did attend.

CONSTITUTION UPDATE

One last update is the implementation of the review group to look over our draft constitution. As you all know when we started this, years ago, I have always been in support of the process. When we first started the project, the board was directed not to get involved in the draft and this was detailed in the "constitutional convention plan document." You can review a copy by contacting Joanne Carr.

Moving forward, I agree that it should be reviewed again but the original committee that volunteered countless hours needs to be part of the process, many items were viewed problematic and to be factual, we didn't have the funding to implement certain changes. I have continuously requested that we do amendments and plan financially for each so we acquire the much needed changes to our current constitution (we did it with board members prohibited from working for tribe when elected in office) so we can do it for all items we need immediate correction on.

Please read the draft in the last tribal paper and call me with your comment. We have discussed this at many unit, elder, youth and coffee sit down meetings, so I'm very vested in the process. I represent Unit II and some items within the current draft have been brought to my attention with no real avenue for us to make changes at this point. I'm looking forward to seeing the plan moving forward to have input and please read the document and be vocal about your comments and concerns to all your reps, committee members and elder groups.

HESEL FALL FEAST

Lastly, in Hessel we held our annual fall feast and pipe gathering this past weekend. The turn out was so amazing — community, family, youth and elders came and visited for the day. Chi miigwech to our community drum, Muukwa Giizek, I'm so proud and thankful for you guys, we all are. Thank you to our committee and visitors who helped keep our culture thriving and keeps us going.

Baamapii,

Lana Causley, (906) 484-2954, cell (906) 322-3818, lcausley@saulttribe.net and Facebook.

Departmental staff learn how to do home energy audits

By **BRENDA AUSTIN**

Sault Tribe Environmental Department and Sault Tribe Housing are partnering to offer a new service within the tribe — home energy audits. Under a grant from the Department of Energy, 10 tribal employees from six departments within the tribe are participating in training provided by Building Science Academy, a Michigan based training school specializing in training energy auditors for energy, weatherization and performance standards.

The Sault Tribe energy audit team will be able to use the latest building science technology to locate and help resolve heating, cooling, base load and air leakage problems in homes on the tribe's reservation sites. During the certification process, these employees are learning how the house works as a system and why some homes need modifications to make them more energy-efficient, safe and comfortable.



Photo by Brenda Austin

Tribal staff take training to conduct home energy audits. Seated, left to right, John Miller and Arlon Goforth of the Housing Authority. Standing, left to right, Kathie Brosemer and Joe McKerchie, Environmental Department; Cris Rowley, Building Science Academy; Gary Knutsen, Kewadin Casino and Ryan Nolan of the Health Department.

their training include: building envelope, thermal and pressure boundaries, air sealing, blower door technology and testing, combustion safety and energy conservation strategies.

After passing their written and field exams in December the team will receive a certificate of completion and the Building Performance Institute national certification.

Sault Tribe Planning and

Development Specialist Jeff Holt and Environmental Program Manager Kathie Brosmer agree the energy audit services could be used beyond tribal housing to include governmental buildings, tribal health centers and casinos.

Brosmer said, in the past, the Housing Department had to contract with outside agencies for energy audits, including the Intertribal Council of Michigan. The training, Brosmer said, will allow energy audits to be performed in-house. The group is also learning how to interpret infrared camera imagery and under a separate DOE grant Brosmer will be ordering four high tech infrared cameras, two blower motor door systems and manometers, which are devices used to measure pressure.

Brosmer said she is happy about having this new capability. "When you air seal and condition a home and properly insulate it — and do it scientifically — it changes everything about that

home and improves inner air quality," she said.

"I think it would be exciting to see the tribe have a company it owns and operates that could go out into the community and provide these services. There is potential for that," she added.

Holt said there might be room for expansion of the program in the future to include any tribal member in the service area who would like an energy audit of their home or business.

Under another grant from the DOE, the tribe is finishing up its energy retrofit and energy audits project that was used to replace light bulbs in 29 governmental buildings. The last of those grant dollars are being used to install exterior lighting for Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center and a few other tribal buildings.

"We have been told by the DOE that they look to the Sault Tribe for leadership on different programs," Holt said. "We like to think we are leaders in Indian Country."

From "McLeod Report," pg 23 invasive species have nearly collapsed Lake Huron, and the pictures I saw of fish with two mouths, and the green slime that covers the lake bottom and fowls out our fishermen's nets. I spoke of the dead birds lining the shores of Lake Michigan after eating round gobies, an invasive fish that were infected with botulism. I asked Mr. Washburn to "sound the alarm," because if nothing is done, we are all in danger.

At MAST, I learned how important it is for us to communicate our needs at local and national levels. I plan to help "tell our stories" to legislators in any way that I can, up to and including walking the Hill in Washington, D.C. I am reminded of my ancestors who traveled to D.C. to speak for our people, and I am honored to follow in their footsteps.

In the area of education, I continue to serve as the chairperson of the Bahweting Fiduciary Committee. At our next meeting, we will have a presentation from the eighth grade class regarding their class trip and will discuss expansion plans for the school. We will also receive an update on how the school is addressing the academic needs of its students. I miss being a teacher, and having a daily impact on our children's education, and it is such a good feeling to still be involved with schools and students! I do not regret my decision to serve on our

tribes' board of directors, I just miss the kids!

In December, I will be hosting a FREE event for children. I plan to show the movie, "Polar Express," and kids are invited to attend wearing their pajamas! There will be a conductor punching tickets, hot chocolate and cookies served by dancers (like in the movie), train whistling and at the end, none other than Santa himself, handing out silver bells, so that all children will believe!

After spending time reflecting on the "matters of my heart" and narrowing my focus, I see that this past month has been productive and good. I attended the Drug Court Committee, Inland fishing, board workshops, as well as regular and special board of directors' meetings. I spent many days in "financial and budget" sessions, and I know that we are making headway. It has been a difficult time for our board of directors as we struggled with budgets, the needs of our tribe and a myriad of issues that have led to tough decisions and friction among our people. But, I continue to feel blessed by our members and am grateful for all the opportunities that I have been given to serve.

By the time my next unit report is due, we will know who the next president of the United States is. I will have more information available regarding the Affordable Health Care Act and how it affects Native people, and hopefully there

will be good news that sequestration is no longer a threat to federal programs. I have high hopes for the future!

Please continue to contact me with your thoughts and concerns.

You are the reason that I am here. You can reach me through my personal phone, email, Facebook or Twitter. I appreciate those of you who have contacted me and I encourage others to reach out to

me as well. Miiigwech to all. Bamapii, Jen, (906) 440-9151 Jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

Members have hunting success

Nathan LaCost says hello archery hunting from the San Carlos Apache Reservation in the mountains of Arizona with a turkey for the freezer.



Adam Mullins, 14, of St. Ignace, took a 250-pound bear opening day in the Trout Lake area. His brother Lewie assisted him with his first bear hunt. A freshman at LaSalle High School, he is the son of Mark and Mary Mullins of St. Ignace.

2013 Black Lake Sturgeon Lottery Application

The Inland Fish and Wildlife Department will conduct a lottery on December 17, 2012 to determine who will have the opportunity to harvest a sturgeon in Black Lake in 2013. **Application are due by 5:00 PM Friday December 14.** Please fill out the following application and return to Sault Tribe Law Enforcement at: **PO Box 1829, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.**

First Name Middle Name Last Name

Address City State Zipcode

File Number (Red # on Tribal ID) Phone Number

STS # Date of Birth Sex email address



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UWE WRESTLING SUPERSTAR SHOWDOWN

Q & A with Select UWE
Superstars - Grand Ballroom
Friday, November 23
at 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 24
at 7:00 p.m.

NOVEMBER

Theory of a Deadman

12th | 7 p.m. | Monday | \$28.50 | On Sale Now

Q & A with Select UWE Wrestling Superstars

Kewadin's Grand Ballroom

23rd | 6 p.m. | Friday | \$20.00 | On Sale Now

UWE Wrestling Superstar Showdown

24th | 7 p.m. | Saturday

\$25.00, \$32.00, \$42.50 | On Sale Now

DECEMBER

Brenda Lee's Christmas Show

14th | 7 p.m. | Friday | \$28.50 | On Sale Now

