

Win Awenen Nisitotung



Bnakwa Giizis • Falling Leaves Moon

Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

October 18 • Vol. 34 No. 10

Sault Tribe members: Take a survey and win up to \$2,500

SAULT STE. MARIE — This month, Sault Tribe, together with Lake Superior State University's Community Research Center, is

conducting a census of Sault Tribe members. The first census since 2002, it will be used to understand the Sault Tribe community's current needs.

A census is much more than a head count. The information you provide will help the tribe to better distribute funds for needed programs and services, and will aid the tribe in justifying requests for funding in the future. American Indians are typically undercounted in the U.S. Census so the tribe's own census will be more accurate when requesting funding. So, it is vital to the tribe that you participate in the survey.

All individual information is strictly confidential. Only summary data will be published.

When you receive your survey in the mail, complete it and return it in the enclosed, postage-paid envelope by Oct. 25. If you return the completed survey by this date,

your household will automatically be entered into a drawing for one of five cash prizes of \$2,500, \$1,000, \$750, \$500 and \$250.

Return your completed survey by Oct. 25 and your household will automatically be entered into a drawing for one of five cash prizes of \$2,500, \$1,000, \$750, \$500 and \$250. Winners will be drawn in November!

The drawing will take place in November using names from the return envelopes. Names will not be linked in any way to census survey information and will only be used to contact and pay winning entries.

The survey was developed in partnership with LSSU, whose role is to independently collect and tabulate all completed census forms. All return envelopes will be destroyed after the drawing and answers will never be linked with anything that could identify individual households.

The survey should take no more than 15 minutes to complete and may even take less time, depending on family size. At no time will you be asked for your name and we will not be tracking individual answers to the questions.

As soon as you receive your survey, please complete and get it back in the mail.

Nearly \$1M in new grants to aid policing, courts, victim services

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe recently received nearly \$1 million in new grant funding which will be applied to curbing substance abuse as well as enhancing justice programs and services for victims of sexual assault. Sault Tribe Law Enforcement received \$118,372, the Advocacy Resource Center received \$281,762 and the Tribal Court received \$553,314. The grants total \$953,448.

Most of the funding is part of 192 grants to 110 American Indian tribes and tribal organizations providing more than \$90 million from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), according to an official release.

The Law Enforcement funding comes from a two-year Adam Walsh Act implementation grant intended to facilitate implementation of the tribe's previously established Sex Offender Registry and Notification Act (SORNA) code. The project will include a position for a project assistant and its aim is to ensure all employees and residents in the Sault Tribe jurisdiction are complying with registration requirements and to ensure all codes, policies and procedures comply with federal and tribal laws. Further, the funding will enhance community educa-

tion and resources to access sex offender registry information started with a 2011 grant.

The Tribal Court received \$74,958 from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for Comprehensive Tribal Justice Systems Strategic Planning and \$403,398 from the BJA Justice Systems and Alcohol and Substance Abuse Program, or a total of \$478,356, according to Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry. The grants will further develop and enhance the operations of the tribe's justice system over the next three years and allow the court to retain the specialty court coordinator position currently held by Pat McKelvie. "This position is integral to the Tribal Court's function, and coordinates the court's 'specialty' programming – Gwiaik Miicon Drug Court, Domestic Violence Court and Family Preservation Court," said Fabry. "These programs change tribal members' lives."

Together, the grants will also fund a new position in the Tribal Court for a tribal justice planning specialist who will serve as the project manager for the development of the tribal action plan — the tribe's strategic plan to combat substance abuse — over the first 18 months, followed by another 18 months of working on strategic planning for the entire justice system.

The planning specialist will be responsible for spearheading efforts to coordinate justice planning and identifying gaps in services, Fabry noted. The position will also lead planning on tribal justice system endeavors including potential enhanced Tribal Court jurisdiction through the Tribal Law and Order Act and Violence Against Women Act, planning for an adult detention facility and enhanced judicial building security.

"In an era of sequestration, government shut-downs and reduced budgets, our justice system is even more reliant upon federal grant funding. So we are thrilled to have received the funding again this year to allow us to not only continue our specialty court programs, but also continue our work on the tribal action plan and enhance our justice services to the membership," said Fabry.

Grant funding from the DOJ Office on Violence Against Women was awarded to the Advocacy Resource Center to continue provision of services to survivors of sexual assault or sexual abuse through September of 2016. According to Jami Moran, ARC manager, survivors seeking these services will be assigned to clinical social worker, Lara Cook-Paquin, a limited licensed masters social worker and a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of

Chippewa Indians.

Since these particular services were initiated during May 2011, a total of 295 survivors and their children have received assistance for a total of 2,303 individual counseling sessions.

"These expedited support services will continue to be offered at both the Sault Tribe Behavioral Health Program and at the Advocacy Resource Center via either an urgent care appointment or within three days of initial contact to ensure access to supportive services are readily available," Moran noted. "The length of services are solely dependent upon the healing process of each individual survivor and traditional learning opportunities are offered to each survivor to participate in if they choose."

Moran added that the grant also allows for training and educational opportunities for members of our community to increase awareness of the dynamics and impact of sexual assault and sexual abuse on our Anishnaabe families.

Those who have experienced sexual assault or sexual abuse and are interested in these services may call (906) 635-6075 or 632-180.

According to a plan that was part of the application for the DOJ grant, substance abuse is currently seen as one of the biggest threats to the tribe's well being. In the last five years, over 68 percent of all crimes in Tribal Court involved substance abuse of some kind. Of the 121 families whose children were removed between 2011 and 2012 because of abuse or neglect, 101 of the families had parents who abused alcohol, drugs or both.

Further, tribal elders indicate young people are turning to drugs and alcohol over tradition and culture, leaving few to whom the traditional and healthful Anishnaabe way of living can be passed.

The grants will allow the tribe to muster resources for families battling addiction as well as to identify gaps in services and examine how to make available programs more effective in the future.

Staffing for the projects will come from current in-house staff, creating streamlined communication and coordination, under the supervision of the chief judge. In addition, an advisory board consisting of the chief judge, court administrator, chief of police, victims' services and behavioral health management, the tribe's executive director, the court accountant and the tribal prosecutor shall meet at least quarterly to review progress on goals, ensure compliance with the grants and help with sustainability.

Federal shutdown effects tribes

A special message from our ogema

BY AARON PAYMENT, TRIBAL CHAIRPERSON

At press time, the federal government has been shut down since Oct. 1. The shutdown affects everyone to some degree, with greater and more far reaching impacts as the shutdown goes on.

A federal shutdown has devastating short-term and long-term

effects on the tribes. In 1995, the impact of the 21-day shutdown across the nation was to delay federal checks, impose furlough workdays for federal employees and closed down federal tourism and National Park services. That shutdown cost a whopping \$1.4 billion.

The present shutdown is costing the tribe roughly \$107,000 per day. At this point, we are unsure if we will be reimbursed for these funds.

The tribe's executive management is drafting up several scenarios to present to the tribal board of directors to triage our funding with the goal of minimizing the impact on essential services and on essential positions, in that order.

In most cases, Sault Tribe already subsidizes a large portion of the federal government's treaty obligations for 'health, education and social welfare.' One hundred percent of the Sault Tribe's net gaming revenues are already pledged to pick up the federal government's annual shortfall.

For some programs, we will be able to rely on tribal support or casino dollars for a brief period. However, for those programs not subsidized by tribal support funds, we will have to consider furloughs. It all depends on how long the federal government shutdown continues. At some point, the tribe may need to reduce operations.

Government shut downs are not regular occurrences, so it is hard to predict the outcome. In the past, once it came back online, the federal government made whole the programs that were defunded. However, given the current climate in a Tea Party driven Congress, I am not confident that the federal funds we lose during a shutdown will be recoverable.

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Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Tribal Staff in your Community are ready to **HELP** you **Sign Up** for Health Insurance Coverage

Sault Ste. Marie

Health Division Staff 906-632-5200
 Carol Pages-Montie Lane Barber
 Tom Sauro Jodie Hوجلund

ACFS Staff 906-632-5250
 Megan Smith

Hessel Tribal Community Health Center

906-484-2727
 Teresa Jedele

St. Ignace Tribal Health & Human Service Center

906-643-8689
 Sissi Ouellette Heather Lester

Newberry Tribal Community Health Center

906-293-8181
 Lois Bryant Shirley Kowalke

Manistique Tribal Health Center

906-341-8469
 Jennifer Sitkoski Kellie Lakosky

Munising Tribal Health Center

906-387-4721
 Chris Marinoff Nancy Beauchaine

Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center

906-786-2636
 Diane Williams Tara Duchene



Other things to help you get ready ~

1. If you have a computer, sign up for emails.
2. Gather household information, like last tax return.
3. Decide on how much you can spend for health insurance.
4. Ask for help, if needed, about how health insurance works. Call us.
5. Bring your Social Security card.

More information is available on www.healthcare.gov
 Applications will become available in October 2013

Clip & Save 



HELP YOUR TRIBE.



ENROLLING IN MEDICAID EXPANSION OR HEALTH INSURANCE EXCHANGE PLAN MEANS MORE RESOURCES FOR EVERYONE.

Go to your tribal or IHS clinic and ask if you are eligible. Bring your Social Security card.

Contact Contract Health Services for more information.
 Carol Pages-Montie at (906) 632-5220.

Community announcements

Unit I fundraiser

Holiday raffle tickets, first prize: \$300, second prize: \$200, third prize: \$100. Tickets only \$1 and may be purchased at the Nikomis/Mishomis Building at 2076 Shunk in Sault Ste. Marie, Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Drawing set for Dec. 10, 2013, 12:30 p.m. at the Sault Kewadin Casino at the holiday dinner for Unit I, II and III elders.

Proceeds to benefit Unit I elders activities fund. Need to be present to win.

License STR—024-13

AmeriCorps project seeks consultant

Sault Tribe was recently awarded a one-year AmeriCorps tribal planning grant. The purpose is to identify issues and propose solutions to help tribal youth and young adults ages 14-24, across the seven-county service area who are disconnected from school, work or both. We seek to contract for services for a plan-

ning consultant (estimated 1,000 hours) and an evaluation consultant (estimated 140 hours).

For more information about this grant-funded project or to request a copy of the request for qualifications (RFQ) for either consultant opportunity, please contact Angeline Bouley, assistant executive director for Membership Services, at (906) 632-6697 or online via email at abouley@saulttribe.net.

Deadline for submitting qualifications for consideration is Friday, Oct. 25, 2013, at 5 p.m. (EST).

ARC annual 50/50 Christmas raffle

One \$10 ticket could win up to \$5,000, only 1,000 tickets will be sold. Proceeds to benefit operations of the Advocacy Resource Center. Buy tickets through ARC staff at 632-1808.

First prize: 50 percent of the proceeds, up to \$5,000. Second prize: Kindle Fire HD 8.9 16 GB

Third prize: \$50 MidJim certificate.

Drawing takes place on Friday, Dec. 13, 2013, 12 p.m., at Northern Rewards in the Sault Kewadin casino. You do not need to be present to win and payroll deduction may be used to pay for tickets.

License STR—023-13

Committee vacancies

The following Sault Tribe committees have vacancies. Interested members should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from Sault Tribe members to Tara Benoit, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie. Please email tbenoit@saulttribe.net with any questions.

Vacancies exist on the Child Welfare Committee, three seats; Great Lakes Conservation Committee, one seat for a small boat captain; Health Board, two seats; Anishinaabe Cultural Committee, two seats for men; and the Election Committee has six seats open.

Board resolutions summary for Sept. 3

BY RICK SMITH

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened a regular meeting on Sept. 3 at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center. All board members were present with the exception of Cathy Abramson, excused as she was attending a meeting of the National Indian Health Board.

A residential trust land lease was approved for a parcel of property on the tribal reservation in Sault Ste. Marie.

The board approved the establishment of a fiscal year 2013 budget for home improvement with other revenue of \$2,200. The budget has no effect on tribal support.

Authorization was granted to Chairman Aaron Payment, or his designee, to enter into a contract between Norris Contracting and the tribe with an expenditure of up to \$237,188.97 from the Transportation Construction Fund. The contract does not require tribal funding and is for road construction west of the casino in Sault Ste. Marie from Seymour Street to 10th Street. Once completed, the construction should not only improve the mobility and safety of people in the general area of the roadwork, but should lower traffic volume on Shunk Road and a portion of Marquette Avenue, improving the safety for residents in those areas as well.

Another resolution was approved for an agreement with

Norris Contracting for the reconstruction of entrances to three properties, including the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center and the Enrollment Department building. The authorization allows for an expenditure of up to \$98,861.50 from the Transportation Maintenance Fund.

Sault Tribe Accounting was authorized to record a 2008 construction advance of \$10,000,000 as an uncollectible debt.

According to the resolution information sheet, the source of the \$10,000,000 was a loan from the Land Claims Fund to the General Fund and, while no reduction in the principal was made on the loan, interest is paid to the Land Claims Fund each month. Accounting records will reflect a financial loss, but does not affect current tribal cash flow.

The board amended an earlier resolution to allow continued funding for certain health, education and law enforcement operations.

A series of budget modifications was approved. The first authorized a carry over \$150,000 to the Indian Reservation Roads Maintenance fund from BIA revenue. The funding will support the aforementioned street reconstruction projects by Norris Contracting in addition to planning for winter maintenance costs.

An increase in funding of

\$23,744.29 from the Centers for Disease Control to the Sault Tribe Strategic Alliance for Health was approved.

A pair of budget modifications was authorized for mental health services to bring grant funding in line with the actual grant amount. Total amount of modifications came to \$3,507.86.

A grant modification adding \$10,000 was approved for employee health projects at the Sault Tribal Health Center, Manistique Tribal Health Center and casino.

Proceeds of \$2,200 from a sale of an asset with restrictions from the funding source on the use of the funds was authorized for use, in addition to Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act funding, to provide home rehabilitation or replacement for one family eligible for the Home Improvement Program.

Budget modifications totaling \$41,449.65 were approved in support of improving the tribe's foster care services. No tribal support required.

The board resolved that the tribe's Gaming Authority will schedule meetings twice a month with the casino chief operating officer for purposes of oversight, review and implementation of consultant recommendations.

See page 26 for the Sault Tribe Board of Directors Sept. 24 resolutions summary.

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

Win Awenen Nisitotung, in Anisinaabemowin, 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

Consultant sought for Wequayoc Cemetery planning

Sault Tribe was recently awarded a one-year federal grant from the Administration for Native Americans for the Wequayoc Cemetery planning project. The purpose is to develop a community plan for Wequayoc Cemetery, along with Wequayoc Cemetery policies and procedures and a tribal cemetery ordinance.

We seek to contract for services for a planning consultant (estimated 1,040 hours). For this project, the ideal candidate will have experience coordinating community-based planning processes and significant knowledge of the tribal community members who have family connections to Wequayoc Cemetery, which is in Mackinac County, Mich.

For more information about this grant-funded project or to request a copy of the request for qualifications (RFQ), please contact Angeline Bouley, assistant executive director for Membership Services, at (906) 632-6697 or via email at abouley@saulttribe.net.

Deadline for submitting qualifications for consideration is Thursday, Oct. 31, 2013, at 5 p.m. (EST).

Historic opportunity to access health care

FROM TRIBALHEALTHCARE.ORG

The health insurance marketplaces opened for enrollment on Oct. 1 under the Affordable Care Act. The event marks an historic opportunity for all Americans, including American Indians, to access affordable health care.

More than 32 million individuals in the United States, who would not otherwise have health insurance, will now have access to health coverage. The Affordable Care Act also offers specific and unique benefits for tribal members as the law permanently reauthorizes the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, which is the authority over the Indian Health Service.

BENEFITS FOR AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES

Members of federally-recognized tribes earning less than \$34,470 for an individual and \$70,650 for a family of four will not pay out-of-pocket costs, like co-pays, for services covered by their marketplace insurance health plan.

Special monthly enrollment — members of federally recognized tribes can change

their enrollment status in any plan through the marketplace once a month.

All American Indians eligible for IHS services are exempt from the federal requirement to maintain minimum insurance coverage.

Insurance will pay for services — not Contract Health Services. Therefore, meaning more available Contract Health Services funds to help tribal members with care.

ENROLL TODAY!

Despite the federal government shutdown, all state-based, state partnership and federally facilitated marketplaces are operating and ready to enroll consumers.

Obtaining coverage is easy, convenient and streamlined. There are several ways to enroll in the marketplace: online, by phone, mail or in person.

Visit www.healthcare.gov to search and compare insurance plans using an online application.

Health coverage in the marketplaces will begin on Jan. 1, 2014.

DreamMakers Theater box office hours change

Please be advised of the following changes for the box office: Sunday and Monday closed; Tuesday - Saturday open from 9 a.m.- 6 p.m.

On show days that fall on a

Sunday or Monday, the box office will be open 1-8 p.m. On show days Tuesday - Saturday, the box office will close one hour after the show starts.

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

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

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

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

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:

Display: \$8.50 per column inch with many discounts available.

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New guidelines for USDA food program

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The tribe's USDA Food Distribution Program is now easier for low-income families to qualify for. There have been some long-awaited changes made, including new income guidelines, a shelter allowance of \$400 and if you are disabled or an elder over 60 with out of pocket medical expenses over \$35, you can now use those expenses as a deduction.

Program Manager Tony Nertoli said the resource limit, which was \$1,700 for a family and \$2,500 for elders, is now out the window. Although resource income is no longer counted, Nertoli said that change wouldn't affect many people applying for the Food Distribution Program.

USDA Certification Supervisor Carmen Wagner and Certification Workers Marcie Smith and Michelle Nalett went through all the old applications in their files and found 97 families that were previously just over the income guidelines when they applied. New applications have been sent to those families asking them to

THE NEW INCOME GUIDELINES ARE — For a family of one, monthly income cannot exceed \$1,110; for a family of two, \$1,445; a family of three is allowed \$1,780 and a four-person family - \$2,126. For larger families, add \$335 for each household member.

If you are currently on the SNAP (food stamp) program you are not eligible to apply. When applying you will need to bring with you verification of your current income and receipts for housing cost (rent or mortgage payment) and utilities that you pay. If you are disabled or 60 years or older, out of pocket medical expenses can now be deducted but receipts are required.

If you need assistance or have questions, call (906) 635-6076, or toll free at (888) 448-8732.

reapply under the new guidelines. "The applications we sent out could cover possibly 225 additional tribal members," Nertoli said. "A lot of our elders were previously just over the income limits with their retirement income. I would encourage them to also come in and apply."

With the programs fresh fruit and produce, tribal families have a choice of over 111 items of food. Nertoli said based on a healthy living index – the tribe's USDA Food Distribution Program is a healthier program at about 85 percent while the state's SNAP program is at about 50 percent. "Everything that we offer is 'Buy

America.' If we don't offer something it's simply because it's out of season," he said. "The fresh produce is bought through the Department of Defense because they purchase for the military and get discounts. Other foods like meat, canned vegetables and cereals are purchased through the

Agricultural Marketing Service – a division within the Department of Agriculture."

Nertoli has been a driving force within the Food Distribution Program for years, trying to bring equality to the guidelines regulating both the USDA Tribal Food Distribution Program and the SNAP program. "We are now authorized similar language for the Food and Nutrition Service in federal regulations as the SNAP Program. They are giving our food program very similar guidelines and we are starting to be equal to the SNAP Program in terms of those guidelines," he said. "There is a real issue of poverty and people needing food. The idea of the program is to help our tribal membership — we see

everything here, we have tribal members who are really struggling. This is a new opportunity for us to get more people qualified for the program."

As part of that effort, Nertoli said staff will be traveling to Manistique and Munising in November to take applications from qualified casino staff and tribal members. Those who are eligible for the program can receive food the same day they are approved. Everything that is available through the warehouse in the Sault is also available on the programs refrigerated truck.

The Sault Tribe USDA Food Distribution Program serves tribal members in 15 counties and is currently providing food to about 815 people a month.

SAULT TRIBE COMMUNITY FLU CLINICS FOR 2013 FLU SEASON

Sault Tribe members & federally recognized tribe's members (COST = FREE)

Non-native employees with or without insurance: co-pay up to \$10 (COST = \$10)

Non-native spouses: \$10 co-pay (COST = \$10)



MUNISING AREA

Thurs., Oct. 24 Munising Tribal Health Center 9 – 12

NEWBERRY AREA

Mon., Oct. 21 Newberry Tribal Health Center 7:30 – 5
Wed., Nov. 13 Newberry Tribal Health Center 1 – 4
Thurs., Dec. 5 Newberry Tribal Health Center 1 – 4

SAULT AREA

Wed., Oct. 23 Sault Kewadin CASINO** 8:30 – 4
Tues., Oct. 29 Sault Tribal Health Center* 8:30 – 4
Thurs., Nov. 7 Sault Tribe Health Center* 10 – 2

ST. IGNACE AREA

Tue., Oct. 22 St. Ignace CASINO** 9 – 4

MANISTIQUE AREA

Friday, October 18 Manistique Tribal Health Center 1 – 3

HESSEL AREA

All clinics completed

* Auditorium ** Employees only

TO BE ANNOUNCED: ESCANABA • MARQUETTE

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CLINICS:

Escanaba Health Center at786-2636
Hessel Tribal Health Center at484-2727
Manistique Tribal Health Center at341-8469
Munising Tribal Health Center at387-4614
Newberry Tribal Health Center at293-8181
Sault Community Health Program at632-5210
St. Ignace Tribal Health & Human Services at643-8689

— CLIP & SAVE —



John Causley Sr. Memorial Golf Tournament organizers would like to say "miigwech" to all the participants for making this year's tournament another memorable occasion. Winners this year were, Championship Flight first place, Dave Causley and David Landreville. Miigwech to Kewadin Casinos, Chairperson Aaron Payment, Director Catherine Hollowell and all our local businesses that helped make it a great event for our families.

Japanese sister city delegation visits

BY RICK SMITH

As part of an ongoing exchange between the Sault Ste. Marie Area Middle School and a Ryuo-cho, Japan, middle school, a delegation of 20 Japanese students escorted by some of their school's officials recently visited points of interest around Sault Ste. Marie and Mackinac Island during a visit from Sept. 29 to Oct. 5. The students were guests of host families in the Sault during the visit.

Dave Giles, a long-time member of the Sault Tribe Purchasing Department staff, and his wife,

Stephanie, are members of the Sault chapter of People to People International, the organization that facilitates the exchanges.

Mr. Giles said the American and Japanese schools alternate in sending a visiting delegation on an annual basis. The exchange program is supported by the Sault area school district, City of Sault Ste. Marie, Lake Superior State University, Rotary Club and local businesses.

"The Sault Tribe is a valued contributor," said Giles, "as it has provided an interesting perspective into its history, culture and

people that most Japanese do not receive. We are always delighted and honored that Chairperson Aaron Payment has expressed an interest in any visitors from Japan and takes time from his busy schedule to attend and participate in the greeting ceremony."

Giles added that Kewadin Casinos has been generous in providing transportation for the delegations during their visits and providing small gifts for the individual visitors.

Next year, a delegation from Sault Ste. Marie will be bound for Rhuo-cho, Japan.



Photo by Rick Smith

As part of an ongoing exchange between the Sault Ste. Marie Area Middle School and a Ryuo-cho, Japan, middle school, a delegation of 20 Japanese students escorted by some of their school's officials recently visited points of interest around Sault Ste. Marie and Mackinac Island during a visit from Sept. 29 to Oct. 5.

Navajo takes historic U.S. State Department post

By RICK SMITH

A member of the Navajo Nation from Window Rock, Ariz., recently resigned from his seat as a Democratic representative in the Arizona state senate to accept an appointment to a recently created, historic position as the first senior advisor and liaison for Native American Affairs at the United States Department of State.

In his new post, Jack Jackson Jr. will work as an intermediary between the Obama administration and American Indian govern-

ments. A need for the position was seen in issues involving Indian Country environmental and cross-boundary issues. One glaring example is the Keystone pipeline project in which a misunderstanding created a rift between the U.S. government and about 10 American Indian tribes.

The State Department is an executive agency of the federal government, which is responsible for nation's international relations. Among its responsibilities, the department protects and helps

U.S. citizens abroad, coordinates international activities of other governmental agencies as well as official international visits and diplomatic efforts, informing the public on the status of foreign relations and other duties. Its stated mission is to "Advance freedom for the benefit of the American people and the international community by helping to build and sustain a more democratic, secure and prosperous world composed of well-governed states that respond to the needs of

their people, reduce widespread poverty and act responsibly within the international system."

According to information from the Arizona State Legislature, Jackson is also a senior strategist in the Blue Stone Strategy group, a national American Indian consulting firm that helps tribes to foster and strengthen sovereignty, self-determination and self-sufficiency by developing profitable tribal businesses, productive governmental systems and effective leadership.

Jackson acquired a juris doctorate degree from Syracuse University School of Law in 1989 and worked for 12 years in Washington, D.C., representing tribal governments and organizations. He began his political career in 2003 in the Arizona House of Representatives as a Democrat and served on several committees. He served with numerous other organizations affiliated with advancing Indian Country.

Letters to the editor from the tribe's membership

Fundraiser thanks

Dear Editor,

Anne Causley and her family would like to thank everyone who attended, donated or helped in any way to make the Aug. 20 fundraiser a success.

We sincerely appreciate all of the time and effort everyone put into this event.

Thank you,
Sharon Hovie

Livestream support

Dear Editor,

I feel unit reports in the newspaper are misrepresenting the opportunity of Livestream broadcast we finally have available.

The board of directors also decided TOSSABCS2 couldn't cover the Aug. 6 board workshop. Sault Tribe Entertainment was to film the workshop and post to Saulttribe.com, not in Govt. or Newsroom, a respectable dept. manager shared it was not taped.

Staff videos from years ago were poor quality and stored in someone's garage. Tom Biron has volunteered to provide quality, clarity, consistency, professional, punctual, unbiased, transparent political coverage. Originals are archived for the tribe. Facebook group members and one board representative have donated to Livestream coverage. Our chair-

person shares his salary with youth, elders, the needy and some costs of Livestream.

It is a free and open forum for everyone. Current donors share in fundraising throughout the tribal community and help many good causes. The broadcast service remains free and viable. Because of donations, a better camera and sound equipment have improved broadcasting quality. TOSSABCS2 is only available because of very honest people. Tribal ethics and rules are based in the seven teachings. Gwekwaadziwin (Honesty) is one.

The board of directors works for the members. With lingering corruption within tribe, we demand they work transparently. People asking for it in meetings, dealings, decisions have nothing to hide.

Unit II reps Causley and Hallowell offered to donate a little for Livestream.

Gone are biased communications during terms of three former chairmen. Many share goal of tribal transformation, back to an understanding and ethics our ancestors carried and to archive discussion, decision making and voting for future generations. They will see us for who we were. Much is still being hidden,

neglected, so many are opposed to this transparent way of informing all members. We all work together with mutual respect. Many in our circle are strong, unselfish and honorable. There is nothing hateful, hidden, corrupt and unfair about this process. This very thing Bridgett Sorenson and most of the board of directors cannot find themselves being a part of or giving so wonderful a

blessing. Why?

Tribal members, please encourage unit reps. to stand up and fly right for and with all of us. You are missing much if you are not regularly watching your representatives, active or inactive. We are blessed to remotely have our eyes and ears in U.P. bi-monthly meetings.

Chi miigwech,
Tribal kwe Debrah Long

Thanks, volunteers!

Dear editor,

On behalf of the 2013 Munising Sault Tribe annual Powwow and Fall Gathering Committee — Angela Satterlee, Sue Galisick, Erica Segerstrom, Rita Gilyptis and Tom Derwin — we would like to thank all the volunteers and businesses who donated their time and services in

— See "Letters" page 6



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Historic flooding damages Sugar Island

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

September 9, 2013 is a date residents on the north end of Sugar Island will remember for many years to come. Roads, driveways and culverts were washed out and homes were damaged due to a strong storm system that moved through the area overnight dumping between 4 and 6 inches of rain in a four-hour time span. The storm also set a new rainfall record for Sept. 9 in Sault Ste. Marie with 2.56 inches recorded at Sanderson Field.

The morning after the storm about 15 people were stranded in their homes temporarily due to road damage and two people sustained injuries – one woman with her one-year old granddaughter in the back seat of her truck was heading to the ferry before sunrise to get to work and drove into an unseen sinkhole where a road was washed out. She broke seven ribs, an ankle and her hand, while another person coming to her rescue hit a large pothole and bounced her head off the steering wheel. The infant girl was protected by her car seat and didn't sustain any injuries.

Sugar Island volunteer Fire Chief and EMT, Dave Pine saw the damage for the first time two



Sugar Island Fire Chief Dave Pine

days after the storm had rolled through and said the devastation was unbelievable. He attributes the once-in-a-lifetime damage to the amount of rain the island had already received prior to the storm and says the ground was already saturated. "The ground just couldn't hold any more water," he said. "So when the rain came down at the rate it did, it washed out areas that were already stressed and full of water to begin with. Beaver ponds had backed up and I know of a few places that local officials figured a few dams had let loose and contributed to some of the extra water in those areas." Pine is also a fisheries technician for Sault Tribe Fisheries and gathers biological data on whitefish and lake trout throughout the northern Great Lakes.

Pine said the Chippewa County Road Commission (CCRC) identified 26 roads and culverts that were impacted in Monday night's storm within about an 8-square mile radius. The impassable and closed roads included one of the main arteries — E. 1 1/2 Mile Road from S. Westshore to S. Brassier — along with N. Westshore from Seppie to Brassier; Hay Point from Town Hall East; Bailey's from Three Mile East, E. Shore from Brassier and Three Mile between Townhall and Brassier. Also, just below the Hilltop Bar rushing waters swept the road base away, collapsing the paved surface and

leaving a lengthy stretch of sand and debris at the bottom of the hill - making it impassable to all but foot traffic. "All the roads are open at this time, but some are still one lane. Road crews are working as fast as they can to get everything back up and running," he said. "The last meeting we had with the Road Commission they were anticipating having all temporary repairs finished within two months, depending on weather. I have to give the guys from the Road Commission credit, they pulled all their resources and brought them to the island. I can't say enough about them."

The chairman of the Chippewa County Board of Commissioners declared a local state of emergency following the storm in order to utilize emergency operation plans and local resources to their fullest.

Linda Grossett lives on Seppie Road on the islands north end off of E. 1 1/2 Mile Road and said she wasn't able to take her normal route out to the ferry and ended up going about ten minutes out of her way due to road conditions. Her neighbors had a creek in their yard wash out and the husband ended up stranded on the wrong side of the creek. Grossett and her husband helped the stranded man put a plank across the creek so he could get home to his wife and children. "I slept through the whole thing!" she said. "I have lived on the island my entire life and in 46 years I've never seen the roads like this – ever. The road crews were hauling gravel trucks across the ferry all that day and until about 9 p.m. You get used to waiting for the ferry but I'd never seen it this bad," she said.

The woman whose truck was pulled into the sinkhole is Grossett's cousin Sandy St. Onge. "The water in the hole where the road used to be pulled her big four-wheel drive truck right in. She said it was like hitting a brick wall. There was nothing left of the road there," Grossett said.

Pine said CCRC is funding the road repairs right now but



Photo by Stephanie Roy

Pine said the Chippewa County Road Commission identified 26 roads and culverts that were impacted in the storm within about an 8-square mile radius.

that Chippewa County is working to get some emergency funds through FEMA. "The county has also requested a governor's emergency declaration to get additional funding to match the money the CCRC is spending on the repairs. The Commission is eating up their winter budget, right now is when they would normally be getting ready for winter. They haven't bought their road salt yet for this winter."

Pine said anyone who sustained storm related damage, including losing time from work due to impassable roadways, is being requested to report damages to Sugar Island Township Clerk Lynda Garlitz at: sugarislandtownshipclerk.wildblue.net. The county has to meet thresholds for FEMA funding and the governor's declaration and needs residents to report any damage they sustained as a result of the storm. "A lot of our snowbirds had already headed south and may not know if they have damage. If you are a resident and have a neighbor that has left for the winter, let them know if you

suspect they may have sustained damage. A lot of people also lost boats and docks," Pine said.

Residents might still see soft spots appear on roadways according to Pine, especially with the heavy truck traffic. "The county is concerned there may be patches of pavement that are being suspended over caverns that they haven't found yet where the soil has been washed away from under the roadways. There could be additional problems in the future that road crews are not yet aware of. Everything right now is all temporary, if we were to get another two or three inches of rain all the work that has been done up to this point would be washed out again. Nothing has been compacted or set, they don't have the rocks down or the grass to prevent more erosion. It's a temporary fix, once the DEQ comes through and sizes the culverts they may have to replace some of them. This will be an ongoing project for quite a while. The CCRC put off a lot of their planned paving jobs to stop and do this work."

ELECTIONS 2014

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Contact
Charles Forgrave at
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Thank You.

Letters to the editor

From "Letters" page 5

making the 2013 powwow a great success!

Miigwech

Thanks, Kewadin Shores!

Dear Editor,

The children of Nona Fraleigh wish to thank the many folks involved with the Kewadin Casino in St. Ignace. Our mom, who passed away on Sept. 13, 2013, was a frequent guest at the casino and we wish to thank to the floor crew, Northern Rewards desk help, cage workers, bar tenders and servers, guest services, hotel workers, restaurant attendants, valet service and, in general, anyone who went out of their way to make her visits (and there were many) an enjoyable experience, and lest we forget the bus drivers Mike Wilkins and Anthony who always made her feel so special, your kindness to our mom is heartfelt.

Sincerely,

Linda Livermore and siblings

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Ojibwe youth takes on education reform

BY JAMIE KEITH

Guadalupe Thornhill, an Ojibwe youth from Saint Paul, Minn., hears many stereotypes about youth like her. These stereotypes tell her that Native youth drop out of school, do drugs, live only on reservations, and get rich from casino pay-offs.

“Not every Native American thinks about things in a certain way — look at me,” she said. “I’m a Native American and I’m not living on a reservation or getting money from a casino.”

Guadalupe, who goes by Lupe among family and friends, is hardly alone. According to data from the US Census Bureau released this year, more than seven in 10 Native Americans live in urban areas and 27 percent of all Natives nationwide live in poverty.

Another prominent stereotype about urban Native Americans is that they retain little connection to their cultures. Lupe, however, is an avid seamstress and has just finished designing and sewing her own powwow regalia. She actively participates in powwows in the cities and has been fancy shawl dancing since she was five years old.

“I’m an elderly teenager,” she joked about her many years of powwow experience.

Lupe said that powwows aren’t just about dancing — they are also a place where the community can bond and often feature booths with information about modern Native life and culture.

“Powwows bring everybody together — it’s a really happy time,” she said. “I think even by just observing a powwow, you can learn so much.”

But, from Lupe’s experience, not everyone takes the opportunity to learn more about Native cultures at powwows.

“I was at a powwow on a college campus and a bunch of college kids asked me why I wasn’t wearing feathers, she said. “I said, ‘Well, you have to get the feathers or earn them — it’s not just something you automatically have.’ They said, ‘Oh, you must not be a full Native American, then.’”

“A lot of the stereotypes that people have about other cultures come from the media,” she said. “I’ve noticed that a lot lately with Native Americans and old Westerns.”

She said that these same stereotypes are often perpetuated in our education system, which presents a Eurocentric view of history.

“[In our textbooks], there is a lot about Europeans, but I feel like people don’t really get in-depth about Native Americans. It’s just, ‘Oh, it was the Native American’s land,’ and that’s the main thing they focus on,” she said. “They don’t focus on how we had to migrate and hunt and the culture.”

In the media, everything Lupe hears about her cultural and ethnic identity is negative.

“People focus on the bad things way more than they focus on the good things,” she said. “And that’s where bullying comes in, because everybody focuses



Lupe Thornhill in Saint Paul, Minn.

on the bad stuff, so all they know about are the bad things.”

The culture of bullying in schools is something that Lupe hopes to take action on this year through her involvement with the Minnesota Youth Council (MYC). Founded in 2005, the MYC is a group of 72 youth and adults from each of the eight congressional districts across the state. The group creates spaces for youth voice and innovation in the arenas of policy, education, philanthropy, and community action through special events. As part of her work on the education committee, in partnership with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE), Lupe hopes to combat many of the social factors that cause the bullying and harassment she has observed and experienced in school.

“I feel like kids are more aggressive about bullying, especially about race and sexual identity,” she said. “I got bullied a lot because my brother is gay. I got bullied a lot because my name is Guadalupe and people would think I’m Hispanic, so they would say, ‘You should go back to Mexico.’”

Lupe thinks too much emphasis is put on what adults should do about bullying instead of recognizing that youth have the power to change the climate of harassment, too. During the MYC’s orientation retreat in mid-September, she had a chance to meet with other youth on her committee to exchange ideas and plans.

“We talked about how not only adults can help other kids, but kids can help other kids,” she said.

Based on this discussion, the group is exploring the possibility of developing peer mediation or mentorship programs in schools.

Although adults are often expected to be the catalysts in shifts in school culture, it is increasingly clear that this isn’t the only avenue for change.

“Bullying isn’t going to go away forever, but we can try,” said Lupe. “Not only the adults are doing something, but the kids are doing something, too.”

This item originally appeared in the Twin Cities Daily Planet on Oct. 4, reprinted here with permission.



Photos from JKL School Above are survivors (L-R) Dylan Malmberg, Makenna Reno, Kailtyn Steele. At right are survivors, (L-R) Pyper Nolan, Patrick Stevens, Kijhay McKeever.



SURVIVORS —

Students in the JKL Bahweting Middle School Ezhichigeying class were given five class periods to build a woodland survival shelter to show they could stay warm and dry if they were ever lost in the woods and needed to stay overnight. Over a gallon of water was poured over each shelter to determine how wet the students would get and if they would survive the night. Both groups remained dry and survived the challenge.

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Remembering 9/11 and honoring our veterans

BY TRISTAN COVEYOU

The drum announces itself with a few grasping thuds. Bud Biron's voice opens followed by the echo of fellow Bahweting Singers. In the seconds between beats, like a chandelier floating through space, jingle dress dancer Gizheday Matrious frees the air in clockwise movements.

This was the scene on Sept. 11, 2013, when veterans, elders, youth and supporters gathered to honor victims of 9/11. At dusk, the group circled around the marble veteran's monument facing the Niiganagishik Ceremonial Building in order to listen to veteran's voices and to stand alongside Bahweting Singers.

The unique event, humbly named "honoring event," not only commemorated victims of 9/11, but all victims of war, veterans and warriors alike. "The beauty in it is we all gathered for healing and we all left full," co-organizer Justin Miller said.

Miller, an AmeriCorps VISTA working with the Sault Tribe Elders Division, co-organized the event alongside Colleen St. Onge of the Sault Tribe Culture Department. "Everything just came together, like it was meant to be," said St. Onge.

The event brought together about 30 people, veterans, elders, youth and supporters into a sharing circle, a drum ceremony and

healing dance followed by a potluck feast.

The event began with Miller explaining the reasons they created the event, "In part, AmeriCorps asks that VISTAs create an event to honor 9/11. However, Colleen and I agreed it should represent more than that." And it did.

Miller shared opening words commemorating the event known as 9/11. His focus broadened to call his generation to the importance of regaining the traditional sense of a warrior; "We're the ones faced with a new war, a war on selfishness, greed and egotism. In that, our greatest ally will be learning to live with love, unity, faith and respect."

Honored speaker and Army veteran, Mick Frechette, served during the period between the Korean and Vietnam wars. Frechette spoke on the need for people to stand together and never forget, "Freedom is never free."

Following Frechette, Vietnam veteran Ed Cook passionately spoke about the lack of respect Vietnam veterans received and how this drove him to shape the veterans monument so that generations to come can remember.

Cook told the audience, "Not a day has went by since then that I don't wear these colors," he pointed to the yellow, red and



Justin Miller, an AmeriCorps VISTA working with the Sault Tribe Elders Division, co-organized the honoring event alongside Colleen St. Onge of the Sault Tribe Culture Department.

green stripes pinned to his vest. The same colors dedicated to Vietnam and embalmed across the face of the veteran's monument.

His rousing words gave rise to Don Rose, an 89-year-old WWII veteran, "After we came back from the war, soldiers were given the works, the young people who served in Vietnam were told to hide their uniform." The crowd felt the emotional stir in the 89-

year-old warrior's voice.

In the moment of silence that separated Rose's voice and people's thoughts, the drum started beating. Bahweting sang and people held their heads high. The energy of the drum transferred into all people and like a beam into space the voices echoed across the grass, trees, wind and sky overhead.

Soon after, the drum beats

stopped, Biron announces in an exited voice, "Angel wing!" pointing to the sky. To the amazement of onlookers, two grand eagle wings etched in sunlight and clouds extended from the western sun and stretched out across Bahweting. "They look like they are ready to fly away," one onlooker said.

The event finished with a potluck feast made possible by donations from Kewadin Casino, Connie Watson and the Traditional Foods Program, staff of elders services and all the individuals who brought dishes to pass.

The organizers extend a special thanks to the people who made this event possible: All people who showed support, elders, veterans and youth, women and men folk of Bahweting Singers for drumming and healing song, jingle dress dancer Gizheday Matrious, speaker Melvin "Mick" Frechette and all the speakers who chose to share their voice, Ed Cook, Bud Biron, Don Rose, Les Ailing, Kewadin Casino, Joe and Becky Parish, Connie Watson and the Traditional Food Grant, all the people who shared a dish to pass, elder Bev and Frank Marble, Joe Medicine and Colleen St. Onge, Gchi Zhemnado, the four winds and all relations for bringing us together.

100,000 tokens scrapped

SAULT STE. MARIE — Kewadin Casinos shredded 101,101 casino tokens earlier this month. Secure Metal Destruction of Las Vegas, Nev., completed the process. Once the \$5 and \$1 tokens are destroyed, the metal can be recycled.

"With all slot machines in the industry going to ticket in, ticket out (TITO), we don't have the need for as many tokens," said Kent Arley, cage director for all five casinos. The casino had this process done five times in the past seven years and anticipates

having to do this process more frequently as the number of TITO machines in all of Kewadin's five casinos increases. Secure Metal Destruction is a licensed organization that specializes in token destruction. They travel across the United States performing these services for casinos.

Kewadin Casinos has 2,265 slot machines. In Sault Ste. Marie casino, 91 percent of the slot machines are TITO, St. Ignace 83 percent, Manistique 59 percent, Christmas 58 percent, and Hessel 40 percent.



Casino tokens on the conveyor belt heading for the shredder.

Kewadin Casinos team members of the month



Congratulations to Ed Thorne, Kewadin Sault's Team Member of the Month. Ed has worked with Kewadin since 1988 in the Group Tour Sales Department. He was born and raised in the Sault and lives with his two dogs and partner, Mike. Ed says the most rewarding part of his job is knowing that he is a part of a team helping people. "I'm only one part of a great team we have," said Ed. "It's because of them and what I have learned that I attribute to being given this award. I feel very fortunate." He was surprised and very humbled when it was announced he won. Way to go, Ed!



Congratulations to casino porter, Melinda Moore, our Kewadin Manistique Team Member of the Month! Melinda has worked with Kewadin since 1995. She and her husband, James, live in Manistique. She says she's very thankful for being chosen to receive this award. Asked what the most rewarding part of her job is, she says helping customers and seeing our "regulars" come in and play every day. Thanks for being part of our team, Melinda!



Congratulations to Karen Steiner, cook/server at the Horseshoe Bay Restaurant at Kewadin Shores in St. Ignace and the Team Member of the Month! Karen started working with Kewadin in 2001. "It's nice to be recognized for your hard work," she said. Karen lives in St. Ignace with her husband, Wayne, and they have two children.

Paquin builds lodge at area logging museum

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe elder Ron Paquin has completed construction of the first of two learning lodges along the Tahquamenon Scenic Byway on the grounds of the Tahquamenon Logging Museum in Newberry. Also known as the Tahquamenon Heritage Route, the Byway is a picturesque 63-mile stretch of Highway M-123 that extends from the town of Eckerman to the Village of Newberry.

Plans are underway for the second lodge to be built at the Tahquamenon Rivermouth Campground the spring of 2014.

The lodges are a part of a much bigger picture – community development through tourism. According to VP of Kewadin Casino Hotel Operations Carol Eavou, who sits on the Great Waters Initiative Board, grant funding from a number of different sources is being used to build



Sault Tribe elder Ron Paquin has completed construction of the first of two learning lodges along the Tahquamenon Scenic Byway on the grounds of the Tahquamenon Logging Museum in Newberry.

social media content and create a brand for the EUP. A brand is an advertising tool used to make a promise – in this case our area’s

natural beauty, cultural heritage and history of the area and it’s Native peoples. A brand identifies and authenticates a product or

service and delivers a pledge of satisfaction and quality.

The lodges are helping to “brand” the 123 corridor and give tourists an additional reason to visit the area – “anchoring” both the east and west ends of the Heritage Route.

Gathering the cedar bark and maple saplings for the lodge himself, with some help from his son Christopher, Paquin said he built the lodge using traditional methods and materials – and lashed everything together using rawhide. The lodge stands 6.5 feet tall, 16-feet long and 12-feet wide. This spring a walkway will be designed going from the parking lot at the logging museum to the lodge; there will also be interpretive panels displaying information about native plants and their uses as well as historical information and a small garden area. Eavou said, “This project will help people understand what our

lodges were like, what they were built of and show them our connection to the land and how we used resources. I like this project because it raises awareness about tribal culture and history and gives us an opportunity to tell our story. It also makes sense for us to support an initiative like this because we need tourism for our gaming industry.”

Eavou said a hide door will eventually be placed over the lodge’s entrance and a handmade mat placed inside.

Paquin said he is also proud of the fact that he recently built his 40th birch bark canoe. He was hired by the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Pottawatomi Indians on the Pine Creek Reservation to build the canoe, which they plan to use for ricing.

Gravelle debuts novel, *Lessons Learned*

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member Stephanie Gravelle had a story in her head and sat down and wrote a short novel for middle and high school students in one day. *Lessons Learned* debuted Oct. 1 on Amazon and Barnes and Nobel and is intended for youth in grades 6-9.

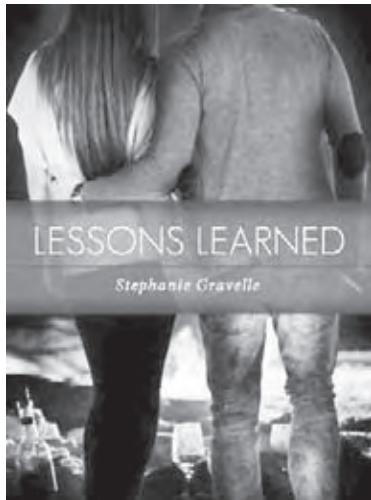
Gravelle says the book is a thriller with a message, but for those who don’t like sitting still long enough to read a full-length novel, she says no problem – the book has seven chapters and is 40 pages long.

The main character is Emma Dawson, who along with the other four characters, get into some sticky situations. Gravelle said the story’s theme is underage drinking and the consequences that can come with it. “It shows



the kids, instead of telling them, that underage drinking is bad,” she said.

She has another fiction novel in the works that is based on a true story. Titled *Saving Grace – the Untold Story*, this work will feature the story of her one-year old adopted sister, Grace.



Lessons Learned is published by Tate Publishing Co. out of Oklahoma and is available as an e-book for \$6.99. It is also available in print for \$7.99. “I don’t want kids to be discouraged that the book is about underage drinking because it’s a great story,”

she said. “It’s not meant to be a lecture about what’s wrong and what’s right – it has a great message to share.” From the time she wrote it until it was published, she said the entire process took her about six months.

Gravelle, 21, graduated from Escanaba High School in 2011 and is currently in her second year at Bay de Noc Community College. Her parents are Merrill and Brigitte Gravelle.

For more information, or to order the book directly from Gravelle, visit her website at: <http://stephaniegravelle.tateauthor.com>.



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Kewadin Manistique flowers above the competition

BY MICHELLE BOUSCHOR

Driving into the Manistique casino, you will be greeted with lush trees, beautiful flowers and colorful foliage neatly groomed and landscaped. It’s a project started three years ago and continues to blossom with the help of every employee of the facility.

Kirk Vincent, maintenance manager, and his staff, Bernie Robach, Mike Schuetter and Beau Rochefort, are the main drivers behind the landscaping, “But believe me,” said Kirk, “it could not look this good without everyone’s help. Almost every single person in the casino has helped pull weeds, plant or something.”

The comments from customers and team members alike are more than positive. “We receive lots of comments – ‘nice landscaping’ and ‘keep up the good work’ from so many people,” he said. People even come by regularly to talk about it.

All of the flowers and landscaping tools were ordered by Fresh From the Farm in Manistique. “Bernie really took the lead to work with the folks at Fresh From the Farm and picked out the plants that would work best for our area along with the



Lush landscaping gives Kewadin Manistique a glamorous ambience.

best placement,” explained Kirk.

Each year, the group adds a little bit more to the landscape. This year, forest hedging and sidewalk planters along with friendly bear statues and a water feature were added. Next year, the team is hoping to change the annuals along the sidewalks with a more sturdy plant.

“We could not do it without the help of everyone. It takes the whole crew and a lot of teamwork to make it look as good as it does,” Kirk said.

The maintenance team works on many other projects as well. Coming tasks include repaving the parking lot, carpeting and painting in the casino, replacement of the north set of red doors, addition of electric car charge stations and additional spots added to the RV parking area. They’re a busy team.

To see some of their more colorful work, stop in while driving on US-2, if not for the exciting gaming and delicious food, then for the landscaping.

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Neil Dake helps set Guinness World record

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member Neil Dake decorated his truck and drove 1,500-miles from his home in Newberry in Michigan's U.P. with his dogs, Blue and Duffy, to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway to take part in a new Guinness World Record for the largest parade of trucks.

The event happened Aug. 3, with a total of 568 trucks representing 39 different states, although only 386 met the Guinness standards. The previous world record set in Canada of 275 trucks was easily topped.

To officially qualify for the Guinness World Records record, the pickup trucks had to travel a minimum of two miles around the track with no more than 10

feet (or two car lengths) distance between them. The official Adjudicator sent by Guinness World Records to preside over the event, declared the new record had been set just before 4 p.m. after spending several hours on the track measuring

lengths and recording speed.

The line-up for the parade began that morning before 4 a.m.

In addition to the pickup truck parade, the day's events also included a parade of about 300 restored antique tractors.

Dake is a lifelong fan of the Speedway and a frequent visitor to the racetrack for the past 20 years. He decorated his truck for the event with a sign that read, "Welcome from the heart of the snowmobile capital of the world."

He also flew American and Sault Tribe flags and had various stickers representing U.P. businesses.

The proceedings were recently aired on RFD-TV. RURAL RADIO on SiriusXM hosted the record-breaking event.

Employee snapshot: Meet Melissa Killips

Name: Melissa Killips
Department: Administration
Position: Receptionist
Years at tribe: 19

I have worked for the Tribe since 1993. I started at Vegas Kewadin



in the Bar Beverage Department as a server and was promoted to supervisor. I left in 2010 and started at the administration building in March of 2011.

My job duties include answering the phone and transferring calls to the appropriate department, opening the door, making copies, posting mail, logging mail and the all other job duties as assigned. Right

now we are helping to make buttons for the chairpersons office. One of the fun things I get to do is decorate the reception area. One thing about this job is that it can go from quiet to chaotic in matter of minutes. I enjoy working here. I get to meet and talk to some interesting people.

I graduated from Lake State in 1987 with a BS degree in

business administration. I moved to the Sault permanently in 1991. I married Fred Killips in 1995. We have one son, Hunter, who is a junior at Sault High. We also have two cats we adopted from the animal shelter, Oscar and Lily.

When I am home I enjoy reading, watching television, going for walks and baking.

Tribal community members walk on

KATHLEEN M. BOYNTON

Kathy Boynton departed this life for eternal life on Sept. 30, 2013, while in the kind gentle care of Hospice following a two-year unwavering valiant stand against leiomyosarcoma.

Kathy was the proud awesome mother of Jeremy, 16 and Gabriel, 14 and the loving confidant of Al Pozdol. She is survived by her parents, Bob and Mollie Boynton of Saint Ignace, and sisters, Cyndi Russ of Ferndale and Julie Roddy of Clawson.

As a 1979 graduate of La Salle High School in Saint Ignace, Kathy completed the registered nursing program at Lake Superior State University and later earned a BSN from Ferris State. Kathy was a fierce defender of her Christian faith and will always be remembered for her generous heart of gold. She was a grateful member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians who provided steady comforting assistance and was admired as a most gifted compassionate nurse, mentor, advocate, teacher, coach, cook, seamstress, inventor and sea glass jewelry designer. Her infectious laughter, free spirit and high energy continue to motivate. Kathy was a champion of animal rescue and adoption.

Memorial contributions may be made to Mackinac Animal Aid Association, P.O. Box 71, St. Ignace, MI 49781. A prayerful gathering in celebration of Kathy's life will be held at a later date.

MITCHELL R. DONER

Mitchell "Mickey" R. Doner, 70, went to be with his Lord, Jesus, Aug. 12, 2013, at Ritters Adult Foster Care in Traverse City after an extended illness. Mickey was born Dec. 31, 1942, in Cheboygan, the fourth child of Alfred and Beatrice Doner. Mickey grew up and lived most of his life in Mackinaw City, graduating with the class of 1961. He took great pleasure in

telling the stories of his youthful escapades with his many Mackinaw friends. He was a kind-hearted, generous man who loved animals and the outdoors. He found honor in his Indian heritage.

He served his country in Vietnam in the Army, operating a landing craft delivering supplies to the troops on shore. Mickey worked on the ferries as a diesel mechanic in the straits area, retiring from Arnold Transit in 2005 after many years of service.

In 2005 Mickey moved to Lake Ann to be close to family.

He was preceded in death by his parents; stepfather, Stephen Cosens; sister, Vonda Beattie; and brother, Stevie.

He is survived by brothers, Alfred (Carol) Doner, of Wasilla, Alaska, and Randall (Martha) Cosens, of Lake Ann; brother-in-law, Bill Beattie, of Allendale; stepsisters, Veronica Alexander, of Bonita Springs, Fla., and Rochelle (Fred) Zapfe, of Cheboygan; and many nieces and nephews whom he delighted in at every opportunity.

A memorial service took place at Mackinaw City Bible Church on Sept 14, 2013, with interment at Lake View Cemetery following the service.

Gifts of remembrance can be directed to Mickey's favorite mission, Map International through www.map.org or by calling C.G. at (912) 280-6633.

GLORIA J. FELLER

Gloria J. Feller, 72, of Hessel, passed away unexpectedly on Sept. 30, 2013, at her home. She was born on March 21, 1941, to James Martin and Charlotte (nee Cadreau) Bazinaw in Sault Ste. Marie. She grew up on Mackinac Island, where she attended the Thomas W. Ferry School.

She lived in Cheboygan and St. Ignace for the past 30 years.

Mrs. Feller worked at Grand Hotel for 30 years and was known to many there as "the salad bar lady." She also worked at Kewadin Shores Casino for six years.

She was an elder with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Mrs. Feller is survived by

her two sons and their families, Alex and Christina, and Kenneth and Becky Cassibo, all of Hessel; a sister and her family, Barbara and Richard Curtis of Port Huron; a brother-in-law, Phillip Schmidt of Hessel; her grandchildren, Barbara Ann, Kenneth, Jessica, Alan, Harley, Alicia, Cheyanne, and Brooke; her great-grandchildren, Angelina, Nicholas, McAyla, William, Tyler, Aireana, Blake, Christopher, and Kenneth III, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Roger; a sister, Phyllis Schmidt; and two brothers, Randy and Wally Bazinaw.

Dodson Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements.

NONA J. FRALEIGH

Former Curtis resident, Nona J. Fraleigh, 86, slipped from the bonds of this world under blue and sunny skies on Sept. 13, 2013, at her residence in St. Ignace under the careful watch of her daughters and daughter-in-law.

Born June 19, 1927, in St. Ignace, daughter of the late Elmer and Daisy (nee McDermott) Goldwood, Nona's parents were divorced in 1934 and she was lovingly raised by her step-father, Harold Cornell.

On March 23, 1968, Nona married Sam Fraleigh in Newberry and she enjoyed berry picking, growing flowers, stamp and coin collecting, antiques, mushroom picking, riding in the woods and nature in general.

Her talent shined in her oil painting and, in the early 1970s, she and Sam opened a ceramic shop in Newberry under the name SaNa Ceramics teaching the craft to many local ladies with an eye for color and detail which were one of a kind treasures to many.

In the early 1980's, she and Sam moved to the Curtis area enjoying many years at the lake house entertaining family and friends. Following Sam's retire-

ment, they wintered in Texas and later purchasing a home in Pine Island, Fla. While in Florida, she discovered the talent and art of oil painting and took classes enhancing her talent and, as an accomplished artist, gifted many of her works to family, friends and for sale at the annual art fair in Pine Island.

Following Sam's death on Oct. 18, 2010, Nona moved with her collection of arts and crafts to St. Ignace and became reacquainted with many old friends and made many new ones. She enjoyed casino gaming at the Kewadin Casino, Unit II tribal elder meals, euchre and cribbage at the Moose lodge.

Nona was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, a lifetime member of the VFW Post 8372 ladies auxiliary in Engadine, FOE 3701 of Newberry and the American Legion Post 74 ladies auxiliary in Newberry.

In addition to her parents, step-father and husband, Nona is preceded in death by her sister, Darlene Barnes.

Survivors include her children, Linda (David) Livermore of Garnet, Cheryl Young of Las Vegas, Nev., Diana (Ray) Davis of Engadine, David H. Beaudoin of Newberry, Ronald (Sharon) Beaudoin of McMillan, Lana Thompson (Dennis Danielson) of Moran and Teri (Roger) Sherbrook of Germfask; grandchildren, Sheila Fosdick, Scott, David and Andrew Livermore, John and Mike Smithson, Nona Sanders, Lindy Rushford, Brandon Klusmeyer, Angela Schultz, Timothy Maki and 22 great-grandchildren.

A celebration honoring Nona took place on Sept. 22 at the VFW post in St. Ignace. A memorial service celebrating the life of Nona J. Fraleigh took place at the funeral home with Pastor Tim Miller of the Rexton Mennonite Church officiating. Interment is at Forest Home Cemetery in Newberry.

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.



BECKY KINNEY

Becky Kinney of Munising, Mich., passed away on Sept. 9, 2013, in Marquette Mich. She was born on May 4, 1988, in Munising and was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Becky was preceded in death by her grandparents, Walter (Elizabeth) Kinney, Beatrice (Mike) Bucthacakis and Nelson Farrish; uncles, Kenneth Kinney, Howard McKelvie and Bill Johndrow; and cousins, Lucas Kinney and Rodney Fish.

Becky is survived by her father and mother, Phillip and Cindy Kinney of Munising; brother, Phillip (Jody) Kinney — Vanessa and Chance; sister, Melissa Kinney (Brian Thompson) — Teyton and Taylor; uncles, Mike (Sue) Kinney — Debbie, Dooder (Julie) Kinney — Kenneth, Harold Jr., Kyle, Fred Farrish — Krissy, Fred Jr., Cynthia, R.G., and Paul, Richard Farrish, Albert Farrish — Jason, Sabrina, Brian and Jennifer; and aunts, Linda McKelvie — David, Connie, Elmer, Emily (Larry) Reiser, Jamie and Evelyn Johndrow — Todd, Tad, Aaron, and Jody.

It is a tragic loss to all who knew Becky to see her journey end before it truly began. She was the best daughter, sister, niece and friend anyone could ever have. She spent her life caring for others both in her personal life with friends and family then, fittingly, as a nurse's aide. She loved spending time hiking outdoors and swimming in Lake Superior. But most of all she enjoyed watching movies, playing Xbox and computer games with family and friends. Becky was very excited about her new truck and boat. She loved her two cats, Tiki and Peanut. Becky always had a smile on her face and laughter in her voice and she will always be remembered, loved and missed by all who knew her.

Visitations took place at the C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and services were conducted at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church by Brother John Hascall. Burial is at — See "Walking On" page 11

2013 Elders Scholarship Program announced

Applications are solicited for two, one-time \$500 scholarships from the Sault Tribe elders for qualified freshmen enrolled in public colleges, universities or trade schools. Deadline for applications is Nov. 8, 2013.

All applicants must be registered Sault Tribe members who have successfully completed and passed all five General Education Development (GED) equivalency tests with a minimum score of 40 and an average score of 45 and must possess

a GED certificate or graduated from an accredited high school with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.50.

Applicants must be accepted or enrolled in any two or four-year college, university or trade school in any field of study as a full-time student.

Applicants must submit letters of application that include:

- Name, address, telephone number, proof of tribal enrollment and social security number;

- Transcript from the applicant's high school verifying the cumulative grade point average or proof of achieving GED requirements stated above;

- Letter from the college, university or trade school, showing acceptance for the 2013-2014 school year;

- Academic major or course of study to be pursued;

- Essay of 300-500 words describing how you feel a college education will benefit you, your career objective and why

this scholarship will help you achieve your goal.

All of the above listed requirements must be packaged and received no later than Nov. 8, 2013, by the program coordinator, Philip Payment, 2076 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

If you have any question please contact Philip Payment at (906) 484-3775.

Please note: Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

Mother— Daughter craft show

A mother and daughter craft sale is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2410 West 7th Avenue in the Sault, behind Quaker State Oil Change. All items are hand-crafted.

For more information, call Sharon at 632-8368.

TRIBAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS WALK ON —

From "Walking On" page 10
Willwalk Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to a charity of your choice.

BRUCE KIZIOR

Bruce Kizior, born on Dec. 26, 1935, passed away on Aug. 1, 2013, at the Veterans Hospital in Oakbrook, Ill.

He is survived by his daughter, Nancy Kizior, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and his sister, Geraldine Murray, of Oakbrook. Bruce loved his daughter and was very dedicated in helping with her care.

Bruce was in the Army and served in Sault Ste. Marie when there was an Army base in the west end. He was honorably discharged from the Army and was awarded a good conduct medal and marksmanship medals.

He is survived by sisters-in-law, Mary Shipp, Margaret Scott and Princess Pine, as well as Keeta Allard of Concord, N.C.; brothers-in-law, Norman and Peter Pine of Sault, Mich.; many nephews and nieces.

He also loved visiting his favorite brother-in-law, Terry Moran, during visits to Sault Ste. Marie.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Sophie Pine-Kizior, in 1984; parents, Stanley and Estelle Kizior, of Chicago, Ill.; parents-in-law, Alex and Nancy Pine; sister-in-law, Lavina Brown; brothers-in-law, Alex, James, Robert and Albert Pine of the Sault.

Visitation and services took place at St. Isaac Jogues with Brother John Hascall officiating. Burial place is at Mission Hill Cemetery.

Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home and Cremation Center assisted with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbailynewhouse.com.

TONY LADUKE

Tony LaDuke, 52, of St. Ignace, died on Sept. 8, 2013, at his home. He was born on May 13, 1961, in St. Ignace to Oliver and Gertrude (nee St. Onge) LaDuke.

He graduated from LaSalle High School in 1979 and was employed by Tim Huskey Construction for several years. He also was a bartender at the Tipi Lounge and worked in maintenance at the St. Ignace Post Office.



Mr. LaDuke won 23 Michigan championship arm wrestling contests.

He is survived by his wife, Pamela, whom he married in 2006; two daughters, Racheal LaDuke of St. Ignace and Sara LaDuke of Petoskey; two sisters and their families, Debbie and A.J. Baker of Evergreen Shores and Dorie LaDuke of St. Ignace; and his wife's parents, Leroy and Bonnie Earl of Sault Ste. Marie.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

No services are planned. Mr. LaDuke's ashes will be buried in Gros Cap Cemetery at a later date, which will be announced.

Dodson Funeral Home of St. Ignace assisted the family with arrangements.

CHARLES A. LEWIS

Charles Albert Lewis, the son of the late Elmer George and Edith Ethal Matteson

Lewis, was born on Jan. 17, 1937, in Pontiac, Mich., and died on July 20 at his residence in Dexter, Mo., at the age of 76 years, six months and three days.

He was of the Catholic faith and served in the U. S. Army during the Korean War. He was a tool and die maker by profession at Purolator Products in Dexter for 18 years and the Chrysler Plant in Fenton, Mo., for five years until he retired in January of 2000. He enjoyed spending time with his family, being outdoors, camping and fishing.

On Oct. 18, 1980, he was married to Linda June Kidd in Dexter, she survives. Also surviving are four children, Dolores Barriner of Dixon, Mo., Jeff Louis and wife, Ruth, of Poplar Bluff, Mo., Ann Quigley of Poplar Bluff, Lisa Lewis Wren and her husband, Shannon, of Greenville, Mo.; sister, May Machin of Mount Pleasant, Mich.; brothers-in-law, Donald Kidd and wife, Esther, Ronald Kidd and wife, Cindy; sister-in-law, Jane Meeks and husband, Donnie; 16 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; and many friends and other relatives.

He was preceded in death by his parents; father-in-law and mother-in-law Donald and Ruth Kidd; brother, George Arthur "Tony" Lewis; sister, Beverly Ann (nee Lewis) Davis; stepsons, Dale and Andy Pullum; and son-in-law, Dennis Barriner.



Friends called on July 25 at the Watkins and Sons Funeral Home in Dexter. Services took place on July 26 at the Watkins and Sons Chapel in Dexter with the Rev. Kenneth Biggs officiating.

Interment was at the Missouri Veteran's Cemetery in Bloomfield with full military honors.

JOSEPH MCCRORY

Joseph McCrory, 53, of Evart, formerly of St. Ignace, died on Sept. 19, 2013, at Spectrum Hospital in Reed City. He was born on April 22, 1960, to Vernon and Patricia (nee LaDuke) McCrory, in St. Ignace.

Mr. McCrory was a resident of Whispering Pines Adult Foster Care Home in Evart. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

He is survived by a sister and her family, Joann Rutledge, of St. Ignace, nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Vernon McCrory, and a sister, Penny King.

No services are planned. Burial will be in St. Ignace Cemetery in St. Ignace, on the McCrory lot with his family.

Dodson Funeral Home of St. Ignace assisted the family with arrangements.

SUSAN L. PERRY

Susan Lynn Perry, age 61, of Marquette, entered eternal life Friday morning, Sept. 27, 2013, shortly after admittance to Marquette General Hospital.

Born August 17, 1952, in Marquette, a daughter of William J. and Pearl (Paquette) Perry, Susan was a long time area resident, except for 18 years when she resided in Alpena. A homemaker for most of her life, Susan was employed for a time as a bartender at various establishments, including the Wooden Nickel. She was a very caring person, putting others first and always willing to help anyone in need. At different times, she also served as a caregiver to the elderly. She enjoyed gardening, playing cards, and going to the casino. She was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Susan is survived by her partner, John Daugherty, Sr of Marquette; children, Chad (Kim) Stark of Alpena, Amy (fiancee, Chad) Stark and Amanda (Mark) Martin both of Marquette; her grandchildren, Michael, Asheli,

Joey, Kierstin, Cole and Kaiden; her mother, Pearl Perry of Marquette; her sisters, Sandy Bellmore, Becky (Bryan) Reynolds, Kitty Meyers, and Wendy (George) LaFave all of Marquette; brothers, Bill (Kathy) Perry of Shingleton, Monte (Sue) Perry, Sr., of Ishpeming, Ed Perry and Ted (Phyllis) Perry both of Marquette; numerous nieces and nephews; and her feline companion, Sammy.

Susan was preceded in death by her father, William J. Perry; a son, Michael David Stark, Jr in 1972; a brother, Joseph Perry, Sr; and brothers-in-law, Richard Bellmore and Mike Meyers.

A celebration honoring Susan's life was held Sept. 30, at the American Legion in Marquette. The Fassbender Funeral Home served the family, where condolences may be expressed online at fassbenderfuneralhome.com

URSALA SMITH

Ursula M. Smith, 80, of St. Ignace, passed away Sept. 19, 2013, at McLaren Northern Michigan hospital in Petoskey. She was born June 25, 1933, to Charles and Frances (nee Closs) Leveille in St. Ignace.

She married Joel Smith

June 27, 1953, at St. Ignace Loyola Church. She worked at Winkelman's store in St. Ignace for more than 25 years. She was an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, a member of St. Ignace Loyola Catholic Church, and a volunteer at the St. Ignace Food Pantry.

She is survived by her children and their families, Frances Colegrove of Comstock Park, Jolene and Steve Bird of Moran, Michelle and Curtis Hetherington of St. Ignace, and Robert and Ruth Smith of Racine, Wis.; her brother and his family, Larry and Ara Leveille of St. Ignace; her sisters and their families, Barbara Baren of Tawas, Betty and Paul Vigneaux of Rudyard, and Sharon Brown of South Carolina; a sister-in-law, Nell Leveille of Georgia; 15 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband; a son, Charles; a brother, Gerald Leveille, a son-in-law, William Colegrove, and a brother-in-law, Charles Baren.

Mass of Christian burial was Sept. 21 at St. Ignace Loyola Catholic Church with Father Joel Almendras and Deacon Tom McClelland officiating. Interment was at Gros Cap Cemetery next to her husband and her son.



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Payment family reunion held at Sherman Park

BY DEE HALL

Descendants of Russell and Pearl Agnes (Leask) Payment recently met at Sherman Park. Russ and Pearl had 10 children; three died in early childhood; Patsy, Doreen and Donald and Glenn Oliver Payment died in 1959 from drowning. Glenn never married. The family of Leo Payment (Elizabeth Bottrell) of the Sault are shown in blue-grey T-shirts (Leo remarried Telma Bohrer she and her family was not present); the family of Marna Marie (Clayton) McGahey (Sault) are in yellow shirts; the family of Russell Jr. Payment (Camille Calijuri) (Sault) are in red; the family of Delores Payment, (Charles) Hall (formerly of Muskegon, Michigan now residing in Banquo, Huntington County, Ind.) are in green; and the family of Gary Lyle Payment (Lois O'Brien) of Minnesota are in tied-dye shirts.

Russell and Pearl owned and operated Payment's Grocery on Ashmun Street. They bought the store around 1945 or '46; at the time, it was a fish market. Russ made daily trips with his children to St. Ignace to pick up fresh fish and on Fridays he smoked fresh chubs. The smoked fish was sold hot out of the oven until the state said it had to be refrigerated. This dropped the sales in the smoke fish business and soon a grocery store remained. Russ Payment had to make a decision in the 1960s to sell the store as his wife Pearl was going blind from sugar diabetes. When they took the store away from Pearl, they took away her life — she loved dealing with the public.

Another highpoint of their lives were Russell Jr.'s and Gary's basketball games, football games and even baseball games. Leo and daughter Marna would run the store so the parents could go to the games. They were avid supporters, as well as partici-

pants, in sport activities. They were active within St. Joseph's Church and School. Delores Hall recalls at the age of 8 making ice cream cones on Saturday at 5 cents a dip. She said their biggest sellers were 25-cent cones. "Yup, you are right—five dips."

Russ Sr. was not afraid to try anything. He was talked into buying a large deep fryer about 8 to 10 feet tall, to make potato chips. The family recalls eating all of their mistakes, and there were a lot of them. Besides the fryer, the company also furnished bags; our guess, this did not last long.

Thomas Payment told us he bought Russ's and Pearl's hamburger grinder and he uses it yet today to grind up his venison meat.

No family member was ever turned away from the home; the Payments recall many, many large meals that Pearl would prepare for out-of-towner relatives. If you knew Russ Payment

and his brothers, he came from a large family of about 13; they were known for telling the most jokes. We believe they even made them up right on the spot.

Their biggest pride and joy was their dog Mickey. Mickey used to chase police cars and dad would get so embarrassed because the police would arrest the dog, but by the time they got to the police station, Mickey was ready for them to open the door and out he ran. This made Russ so mad that he gave him away to a farmer who had some 400 acres, but the next day Mickey returned home. So dad brought him to a home in St. Ignace and they next day he ran away from there. It took Mickey four years but he returned to their Ashmun Street home. Russ was on his way to work at the Soo Locks and yelled at Pearl, "Guess who's home — Mickey!" Mickey ran into the bedroom of Russ and Gary and woke them up then ran and woke up

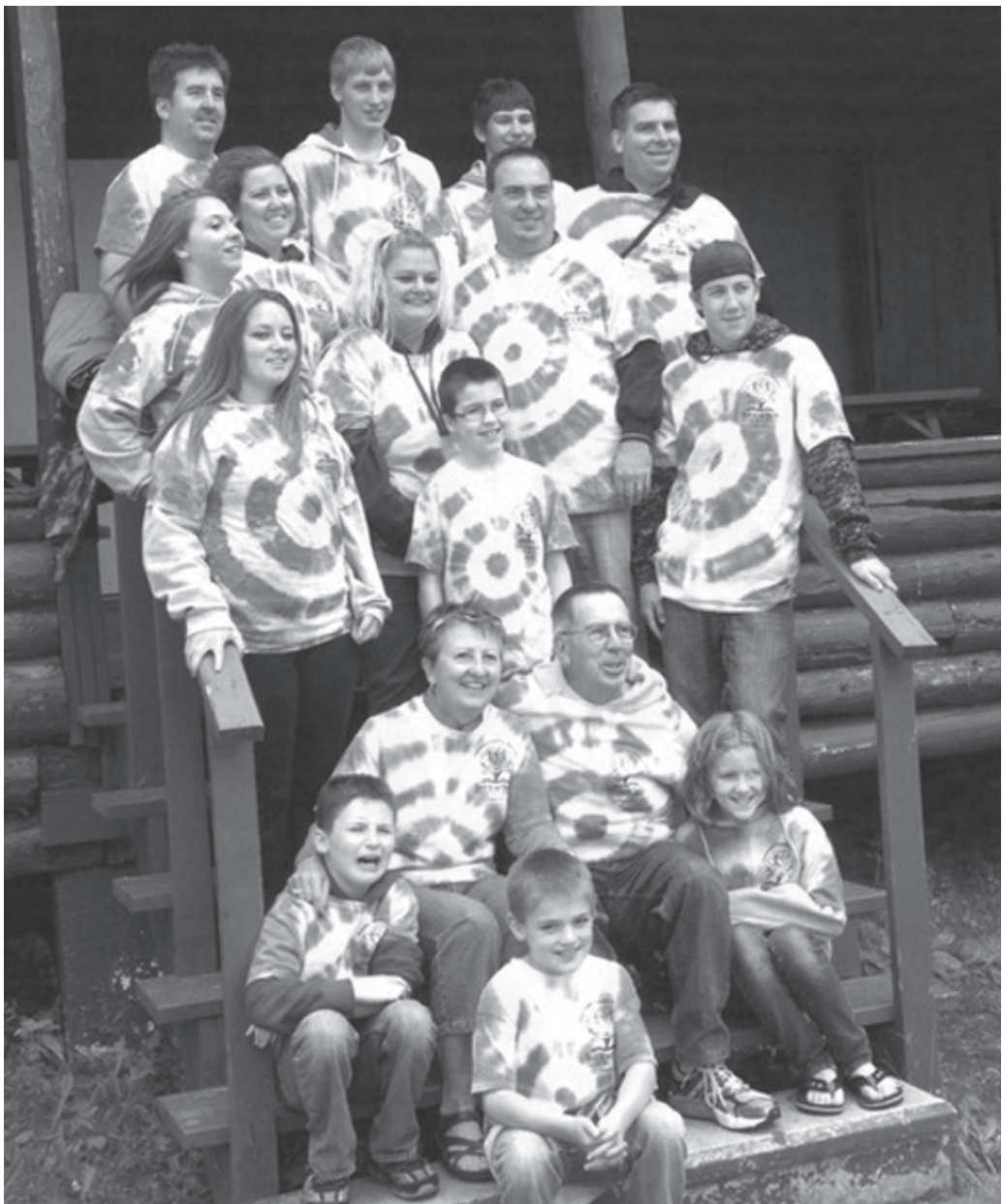
Delores. After that, Russ did not have the heart to give him away. Mickey remained with us until his death. He never did chase any more police cars; instead, he would chase motorcycles.

The family holds many good memories of their parents as well as cousins and friends. They love to tell the stories.

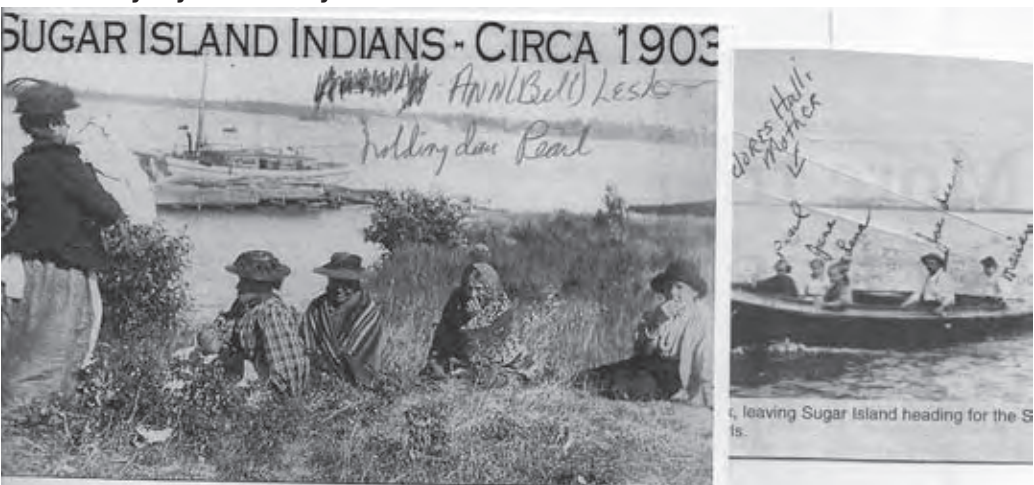
I would like to thank the many great cooks our descendants shared with us, the food filled the room. Clayton McGahey and his boys cooked the meat while the ladies prepared the rest of the meals. Everyone brought a dish to pass. Pearl and Russ leave behind besides four of their children — Marna, Russell Jr., Delores and Gary — but also 35 grandchildren, some 30 great-grandchildren and about 20 great-great grandchildren. Russell Charles Payment is the son of Frank and Zoie (Lessard) Payment and Pearl Agnes is the daughter of Joseph and Ann (Bell) Leask.



Above - Payment 2013 reunion



Above - Gary Payment's family



Submitted by Dee Hall
Above, Earl Payment's parents. Ann Bell Leask died about two years after this picture was taken; she was in her thirties. Pearl grew up speaking only Indian and learned the Indian way of life, from cooking to entertainment and working the fields. My father taught her to speak English in her teen years. You can also see her neighbors in the picture, they would go with Gramma Bell to see Joe Leask off to work or pick him up. He worked as a dredgeman. So we see why Pearl and Russ left so many great cooks, it's in their blood.

Walk for Recovery 2013

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The annual Walk for Recovery was held Sept. 26 to show support for individuals and families who are in recovery and to help make the community aware of the positive effects recovery can have.

The walk began at St. Isaac Jogues Church on Marquette

Ave., wound through the reservation and ended up at Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center where an indoor picnic was set up. Kids were invited to participate in crafts and face painting and speakers addressed the crowd of over 300 people who participated in the walk. The first 196 walkers who registered early

enough received t-shirts, which were gone by ten minutes after the registration process, which began at 4 p.m.

The Walk for Recovery was sponsored by the Sault Tribe, SAMHSA, Access to Recovery, Tribal Court, Sault Tribe Behavioral Health and people in and supportive of recovery.



Walkers enjoying a beautiful fall day and supporting a good cause.



Harold McLeod holding the National Recovery Month sign during the walk from St. Isaac Jogues Church through the reservation to Big Bear.



Bernard "Bunsie" Germain and Aaron Payment walk in support of recovery.



Malik McLeod, 10

Photos by Brenda Austin



Above: Tishella Forgrave (center) walking with a few of her friends. Below: Dee Perault, her son Steve Perault and his son Waylon Pierre, 7.



Duck mom! This young man got a ride from his mom for a short distance when his legs got tired.



Above: Anna Richmond and daughter Mackenzie Gregonus, 4. Below: Families Against Narcotics had an informational booth inside Big Bear.



Walk and Rock Against Bullying rally debuts

Story and photos by Rick Smith



Sault Tribe member Robyn Smith with Ted and Krystal Talentino (L-R) on the scene of the rally on the grounds of city hall after the completion of the mile-long walk by a large crowd of participants through Sault Ste. Marie.



Rock bands entertained everyone with tasty tunes into the evening. London Gentlemen, above, led other performances by Tantrym Time, Ramwagon, Infathom and Chump Change.

Somebody once observed, "Mankind has become a technological giant, but remains a moral pygmy." Nowhere is that assertion more evident than the instantaneous world of "social media" brought by marvels in personal electronics. Ages-old anti-social bullying found new, more intense and far reaching capabilities in intensity with social media.

As mouting news reports from across the country indicate, young people subjected to bullying these days can be disparaged by not just one person or a small group during certain times of the day, but can suffer antagonistic bombardment by many around the clock, sometimes culminating in convincing youngsters that life isn't worth living.

The situation is a dark spot feeding off the brilliance of technology.

And over the last few months in Sault Ste. Marie, Robyn Smith and her friends, Ted and Krystal Talentino, exemplified the adage, "Better to light a candle than curse the dark." They recently planned, coordinated and launched the inaugural Walk and Rock Against Bullying rally on Sept. 14 based at city hall. "I wanted to do something about bringing awareness for a long time now," said Smith. "I have been seeing story after story about kids taking their own lives due to bullying and I wanted to do something about it."

Smith said she discussed her feelings with the Talentinos about the apparent explosion of bullying in its new, more intimidating online form and, after seeing the 2011 documentary, *Bully*, decided it was time to team-up and take the issue to the streets. "We created Walk and Rock Against Bullying," Smith noted. "We both have kids and we want to make a change for our kids and all kids."

Over the next three months, the trio worked extremely hard in planning and developing the rally. Starting with guidance

from city hall, they began their quest. "Three people running around trying to get everything all set for our big day," said Smith. "We were determined to make this event huge and, with the help of Sault Tribe, National Office Products, Satisfied Frog, Grooves Music, All-Star Graphics and other donations from the community, we were able to make it happen."

The walk portion of the rally stepped off at 10 a.m. from city hall bound to course a loop west of the town's main traffic artery, Ashmun Street, southerly adjacent to Lake Superior State University, back east toward downtown, then north on Ashmun to return to city hall. "I ran up when we were leaving for the walk and I looked back and saw so many people," said Smith. "It instantly brought tears to my eyes. I was unaware of how many people there were at that point, but I do know people were joining us off the streets."

After the walk, folks were able to enjoy complimentary live rock and roll music, picnic fare, a bounce house and face painting for the youngsters, information stations by organizations involved in helping people, other features and socializing.

This is just the trio's first lit candle of more to come, according to Smith. "We are going to start a foundation here in the Sault for anti-bullying and team up with others, which is still in the works." She said the Walk and Rock rally will be an annual event but they have ideas for other events to take place throughout the year to raise more awareness on bullying. "There is more to come from us, but our big event every year will be the Walk and Rock Against Bullying at city hall."

Those interested in joining forces with them for events to come should contact them via email at walkrockagainstbullying@gmail.com.

Language preservation grant comes to an end, classes to continue in tribal communities

The Sault Tribe Language Department just completed a three-year language preservation grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA).

The grant was used to teach the Ojibwe language through a process of 12 immersion camps, which were held at the Mary Murray Culture Camp on Sugar Island. As part of their learning, seasonal themes and crafts were incorporated into each camp.

Cecil Pavlat is the tribe's Cultural Preservation Specialist and he also oversaw the ANA grant. He said, "Unfortunately, our effort to apply for another ANA grant that would have allowed the continued progression of language acquisition was not funded. Because of recent economic conditions and dwindling funding, we will be unable to continue that particular part of our effort to preserve our Ojibwe language. However, we will be continuing our efforts at the previous level and offering language classes at the different Sault Tribe community centers."

A grant-ending feast was held at the Niigaanagizhik Building Sept. 19 where the efforts of those committed to the program were recognized. "The acknowledgement feast allowed us to honor the efforts of the many that assisted us in our success," said Pavlat. Graduation certificates were awarded to 16 Sault Tribe members and they were gifted with an embroidered jacket and other language resources. "Although we had many hurdles, we were able to meet the objectives as outlined in the grant," Pavlat said.

Those within the Language Department who worked on the grant are the late Orien Corbiere, Leonard Kimewon, Theresa Lewis, Phyllis Kimewon and Grant Manager Cheryl Bernier.

Language mentor Doreen Peltier helped camp participants in any way she could with language learning. "I can't imagine a world without this language," she said. "It's as simple as that. The people at the language camps, myself and other Natives – our language is our soul – we need to learn this language and keep it for the unborn and as a part of our culture."

Jerry Blanchard, a learner for the past three years, said the great value of the program was participants had the opportunity to expand themselves and learn the customs, traditions and language while building the language up for the entire group.

Seventy-two language learners participated throughout the three-year grant process and Pavlat said that from those people using the language at home and talking to their children and grandchildren in the language, it has rippled out and affected about 150 people within our community.

Susan Askwith was one of the graduates and has been studying the Ojibwe language through the Sault Tribe for the past four years. She has been studying the language over the past 10 years, often she said with large gaps in time between efforts. She said what really kept her going through the immersion classes were the teachers and friendships she developed. "I am hoping to meet other people who are studying the language so I will have someone to talk to," she said. "One of the biggest challenges is that there is no one to talk to. There are no radio stations, newspapers or TV shows, magazines or books. There are a few study books and some children's stories. One of the glories of having a program like this is you can meet with other people and learn and have someone to talk to that you might see on the street."



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Graduation certificates were awarded to 16 Sault Tribe members and they were gifted with an embroidered jacket and other language resources. Program graduate Susan Askwith (front center), said, "One of the glories of having a program like this is you can meet with other people and learn and have someone to talk to that you might see on the street."

Story and photos by Brenda Austin

Munising and Newberry powwows held



Above, a young dancer at the Munising powwow. Below, a Newberry boy shows off his turtle shell pouch.



Above, right, Munising's arena director Glen Bresset Jr. Below, left, women's fancy dancer and, far right, a traditional dancer at the Munising powwow.




Above, head dancers, Tina and Marty Reinhardt, at the Munising powwow. Below, one of the invited drums at the Munising powwow.



Munising photos by Angela Satterlee, Newberry photos by Ed Furton



Above, Newberry elders conducted a bake sale. Below, women's fancy dancers and (bottom) men's grass dancer at the Newberry powwow.





AVON
Foundation
for Women

BREAST HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAM

Women's Health Fair


Breast Cancer Awareness Month



Tuesday October 29th
Sault Tribal Health Center Auditorium
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Health Topics
Breast & Cervical Health • Stress
Blood Sugar • Diet & Exercise
Cholesterol & Heart Disease • And More
Prize drawings

Please call if you have questions 632-5237



Casino patrons win two cars in a single day

Lady Luck smiled on two Upper Peninsula men who won brand new cars on Aug. 26 at two different Kewadin casinos.

Bernard Leckson, Garden, Mich., won a brand new Chrysler while playing at Kewadin Manistique after playing for just a short time. "I'm a lucky, lucky man," said Leckson while accepting the keys to his brand new car.

Later on in the same day,

LeRoy Stefanich from Gould City won a brand new Dodge Challenger from Kewadin Shores in St. Ignace. Both men were participating in the casino's Keys and Credits promotion.

Leckson enjoys going to the casino but didn't want to go on the day he won the car. "My sister made me go," he said, and he's glad she did. "Beautiful does happen."

The second winner says he enjoys both the St. Ignace and Manistique casinos and was in Manistique when Bernard won the car earlier that day. "After we saw Bernard win, my wife actually suggested we head to St. Ignace to participate in the Keys and Credits draws," he said. "We were in St. Ignace about 20 minutes before my name was drawn." LeRoy's wife told him

to just "pick the winning key already." Sure enough, he picked the winning key. The couple was astounded. "We had just decided to downsize to one vehicle and are extremely happy that now we will have two!" Their only concern was who was going to drive their new Challenger home.

The Keys and Credits promotions take place every Monday at the Kewadin casinos in St.

Ignace, Manistique, Christmas and Hessel. Customers must register each week at the Northern Rewards Club and simply earn at least 25 base points to qualify. Random drawings take place from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. for \$75 in Kewadin credits and car keys that could start a brand new car.

Kewadin Casino Hessel is three miles from the beautiful Les Cheneaux Islands on Lake Huron.

Kewadin Travel doesn't cage their creativity

BY MICHELLE BOUSCHOR, KEWADIN PUBLIC RELATIONS

If you're ever near the convention sales office, follow the sounds of laughter, silliness and fun down the hall to the second door on the left and meet the girls of Kewadin Travel (KT).

Annette Sheber, Kewadin employee since 2009, and Jamie Parr, Kewadin employee since 2011, are the two of the staff members of this inspiring department. Together with six motorcoach drivers, they promote, organize, and sell the KT motorcoach business and they have a great time doing it.

What is Kewadin Travel, you ask? Well, KT is a part of the casino that uses Kewadin Casino motorcoaches to bring customers from across the state to the casino and area attractions. The motorcoach tours are planned, organized, booked and handled by Annette and Jamie. The department has six drivers, Joe Asselin, Walt Dansingburg, Steve Morris, Joe Przedwojewski, Ted Cearlock and Lucjan Lipnicki. And, Robert Henderson and his team from Motorpool keep the fleet of five motorcoaches on the road.

KT is having a great year with revenues exceeding last year's by nearly \$75,000. The gaming numbers from the passengers on the KT tours surpasses last year's by \$22,500 for the first half of 2013. The group is offering a new "Kewadin Country Tour" which is proving to be a hit with customers. The tours incorporate area stops at Tahquamenon Falls, the Soo Locks, area lighthouses, Mackinac Island and other attractions that can only be found in Kewadin Country.

A big reason for the increase and new tours for KT is the staff. It is well documented that in the business world, happy employees equal happy customers, and that's not just good for business, it's good for personal wellbeing, too. (Honestly, just Google it!) I'd say KT hit the nail right on the head.

"We have fun at work," said Jamie. "If there is a task neither of us wants to do, we play 'rock-paper-scissors' and fight for it! If the customers are happy, and you're happy, your day will be fun. And that's what we do."

Annette added, "Really, it's my responsibility to make the most of my day. It's a choice I make when I come to work. If I feel like I'm having a bad day, I try new things and literally 'shake it off.'"

The girls feed off of each other — which happens with most attitudes. Laughter, sadness, anger, unhappiness are contagious too. They're on the same page, trust each other and believe something good will happen.

"Both of the girls jump right into a project and work hard for KT and the other departments they work with — that's the type of people they are," said Carol Eavou, their supervisor.

But what if you're not a self-motivator, like Jamie and Annette, and really want to see a change in your office setting? Or, don't think a "happy" attitude will improve your work area? Not an excuse, said Annette and Jamie. Both Annette and Jamie are open to change, work as a team and take it upon themselves to make their work environment better.

"Everyone can have the same attitude as us, and have fun at work. It's something inside that everyone has. It's a choice — we choose to come to work happy and that rubs off on the people around us," said Annette. It's important to find a fit for you in your job and find the positive in the job you have, she explained.

Jamie feels that happiness is contagious. "People come into our office to see what is going on because they hear us laughing and we're just doing our job but having fun while doing it."

"At the end of the day, we all have to do things that we don't like to do, but it's how we handle it that makes a difference. It's all about how you take on life," said Annette. "It also helps to have a positive mantra to say to yourself 'I choose to be happy today.'"

No matter how good your day is going or how happy a person you are, some days are just plain bad. What then? What happens when your day goes from fabulous to disastrous? "Well, you listen, take care of your customers and take the time to brush it off, literally, brush off your shoulders, take a walk and try again," said Annette.

Much of what Jamie and Annette experience is because their manager has an open mind to variety and allowed them to change their routine, as long as the same outcome is achieved. "Our manager is open to our thoughts, uses our ideas and lets us go with some of our crazy concepts that may work and may not," said Jamie. "Either way, it makes you feel important and valued."

At the end of the day, the Kewadin Travel team is an outstanding example of how a little happiness, a positive attitude and a good choice can make you have a better, positive more productive work environment. "You have to let go of past expectations and be appreciative of what you have," said Annette. "Quit focusing on what was and focus on what could be."

Creativity is not caged in Kewadin Travel.



Above, left to right, Kewadin Travel staff Steve Morris, motorcoach driver; Jami Parr and Annette Sheber, operation sales managers; and Joe Przedwojewski, motorcoach driver, are four of the six members of the Kewadin Travel team. Together they work to sell, promote, organize (and drive) the casino's motorcoach business and have a great time doing it. Missing from the picture are motorcoach drivers Joe Asselin, Walt Dansingburg, Ted Cearlock and Louie Lipnicki.



Above, left to right, motorcoach drivers Joe Asselin and Walt Dansingburg stand by one of their motorcoaches which, at the time of the photo, was gearing up for a trip to Detroit to pick up casino patrons. Missing from the picture are motorcoach drivers Steve Morris, Joe Przedwojewski, Ted Cearlock and Louie Lipnicki and operation sales managers Jami Parr and Annette Sheber.

How health care reform can help you and your family

The historic health reform law known as the Affordable Care Act moves our nation toward a health care system that covers many more people. The benefits and protections the new law provides are critical to promoting health equity among communities of color. As the law moves toward eliminating disparities, many American Indians and Alaska Natives stand to gain from its health reform provisions.

The new health reform law will significantly expand access to affordable health coverage, which is especially important for all members of federally recognized tribes. Nationwide, over 29 percent of Native Americans were found to be uninsured. Depending on where members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians live, recent data has shown that as many as 50-60 percent are uninsured. Even though Sault Tribe members are able to access the tribe's health care delivery system across the Upper Peninsula at no cost, there are many services not available due to a lack of or a reduction in federal Indian Health Service fund-

ing. According to Families USA's Minority Health Initiatives (Sept, 2012), health reform will expand coverage to American Indians for health care services by doing the following:

Expanding Medicaid — Under the new law, Medicaid coverage will be expanded to cover children and adults with incomes up to 133 percent of the federal poverty level — roughly \$15,856 for an individual and, for a family of three, \$26,951. Over 277,800 non-elderly American Indians and Alaska Natives across the nation will be newly eligible for Medicaid. This Medicaid expansion, which will go into effect in 2014, will provide coverage to many tribal members who would otherwise go without quality, affordable health coverage, particularly adults without dependent children.

Creating new marketplaces — for individuals who do not qualify for Medicaid, the new law will expand coverage through the creation of state health exchanges. Beginning in October of 2013, these exchanges will allow individuals to shop for insurance and

easily compare prices and benefits. To ensure that health insurance is affordable, the law will provide refundable tax credits to offset a portion of the cost of health insurance premiums.

These historic coverage expansions should have a significant impact on American Indians and Alaska Natives with low or moderate incomes. In addition, the new law offers critical protections to all individuals by eliminating discrimination due to pre-existing health conditions. According to a recent report by Families USA, more than one quarter of Native Americans (25.9 percent) have a condition (such as cancer or obesity) that, without health reform, could lead to a denial of

coverage.

Through the expansion of the state Medicaid program or through state health exchanges, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indian's Health Division staff are now prepared to assist members to sign up for health insurance coverage. Even though members of federally recognized tribes are exempt from participating in the health care law, more insured members means more resources would become available to provide health care services. This also means that more services could become available at the tribal health centers and, if needed, for specialty care outside of the tribal health care delivery system. More

insured members will allow the tribe to improve all health care services but, most important of all, would help to ensure that all Native American families are able to live healthy and productive lives.

Members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and other federally recognized tribes are encouraged to call the tribal health center nearest to you or check out the tribe's website at www.saulttribe.com for more information or assistance. In Sault Ste. Marie, call the tribal health center at 632-5200; in Hessel, call 484-2727; St. Ignace, 643-8689; Newberry, 293-8181; Manistique, 341-8469; Munising, 387-4721; Escanaba, 786-2636.

Sweetgrass Farm helps promotion of good health in Sault Ste. Marie area

BY JUSTIN MILLER

Heaping piles of vegetables free to all — carrots, squash, green beans and beets — stacked atop drooping tables in front of Sault Tribe Health Center. If you were lucky enough to grab a handful of these goodies during the week of Sept. 17 before it all disappeared, you may have wondered, where did all this produce come from? From just down Shunk Road at Sweetgrass Farm where on any given day one will find its caretaker out weeding, fencing off apple trees or harvesting from a bountiful garden, Nancy Griffin, a proud Sault Tribe member who simply felt like giving.

"The story is more about my family than me," said Griffin. Griffin is one of eight children born to Helen Barbara Madigan. "[Sweetgrass Farm] is a family home, a peaceful place. We can't

eat all that food, so why not give it away."

This season marks the second year Sweetgrass Farm donated produce to the community. Connie Watson of the Traditional Foods Grant welcomed this year's produce and capitalized by rounding up volunteers to help pick. The volunteers included Marlene Porcaro, USDA nutrition aide; Sharon Porcaro, Shiloh Willet and Justin Miller, AmeriCorps VISTA Elders Services.

Some produce went into Elders Services meals, the rest simply a gift to all. Mainly, the hope for giving produce away is to inspire healthful eating and cooking options while trying to invest individuals in the community by participating in local growing and harvests.

Watson currently manages a Traditional Food Grant called Returning to Our Original

Traditions (ROOT). "The grant's goal is to use local and traditional foods, in addition to exercise and social support to reduce obesity and diabetes," said Watson.

ROOT currently organizes nine community gardens across the tribe's service-area while holding a variety of workshops on subjects ranging from cooking, canning and food preservation methods. The future looks to support more of these efforts.

The program currently sponsors about 40 cooking and preservation classes a year. Recent workshops were scheduled for Hessel on Oct. 10, Munising on Oct. 17 and in Sault Ste. Marie on Oct. 18 and 25.

For more information on projects concerning these workshops, local gardening, food systems, ROOT, or to find out how you can get involved, call Connie Watson at (906) 632-5211.

Optical services now available to all veterans in the Manistique area



Krysta Hinman OD, chief optometrist at Sault Tribal Health and Human Services; Bonnie Culf RN MSN, health director, Sault Tribal Health and Human Services; Mike Johnson, veteran, Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Health Board member; Marlene Glaesmann RN MPA, Rural Health Program manager, Sault Tribal Health and Human Services; Michael Klarich, non-Native veteran; Shelly Baker OD, staff optometrist, Manistique Tribal Health Center; Jen Sitkoski, data entry clerk, Manistique Tribal Health Center.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Tribal health and human services are pleased to announce the availability of optical services to non-Native veterans in the Manistique area.

Veterans enrolled in VA health care and in need of optical services will now have the choice to receive non-VA care in the Manistique area including the Manistique Tribal Health Center in lieu of traveling to the VA medical center in Iron Mountain. This should prove to be beneficial in access to care for those non-Native veterans who previously traveled many hours, often in poor winter weather conditions, to receive treatment.

Veterans will need a referral from their VA provider, receiving a letter and Form 7079 from the VA stating what is authorized to be done. A release of information form will also be included so that the Manistique Tribal Health Center can request medical

records that are pertinent to the patient's eye care and treatment. Afterwards, appointments can be made by calling the Manistique Optical Department at (906) 341-9501. Appointments are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m.

All of this has been made possible by a dedicated group of individuals from both the VA and tribe's health services who never gave up. A special thank you goes out to the following individuals: Bonnie Culf, director of Sault Tribal health services; Marlene Glaesmann, Rural Health Program manager; Krysta Hinman, chief optometrist; Shelly Baker, staff optometrist; Jen Sitkoski, data entry clerk; Mike Johnson, veteran, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Health Board member; and Larry Heers, health system specialist of the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center.



Photos by Justin Miller

Nancy Griffin, Sweetgrass Farm caretaker, and her Pouchie on tractor duty at her family farm.



Shiloh Willet, Marlene Porcaro and Sharon Porcaro on harvest duty at the family farm.

Concerns over well water? Free testing in Kinross/Kincheloe areas

BY BROOKE HUNT
LSSU STUDENT

We are lucky to live right next to one of the largest freshwater systems in the world. We not only use the Great Lakes as a source of recreation and transportation, but it also supplies the water we drink every day.

I am conducting a water quality study of well water in the Kinross and Kincheloe area and would be happy to test residents' well water free of charge. As a student at Lake Superior State University, I have always been interested in giving back to the community where I'm receiv-

ing my education. Now that I am starting my senior research project, I find myself interested in focusing on something we are all concerned about — water, plain and simple.

Another of my interests is how drilling for natural gas will affect the water quality. How would anyone know if a natural gas company has affected the water, if no one checked first? Methane gas isn't as closely monitored as lead or E. coli, yet it can be just as dangerous. Since this issue wasn't such a problem in the past, many residential water wells have not been tested. However,

with more information, better decisions can be made about the future.

The focus of my study will be volatile organic compounds (VOCs), which have been known to cause cancer and genetic mutations. I will be offering free testing for VOCs as well as heavy metals. If you live in the Kinross or Kincheloe areas and are interested in participating in my free study or know of anyone who might be interested, please email me at bhunt@lssu.edu by Oct. 31. I will be sampling until the first week of December and results will be open to any participants.

Lamprey reducing lake whitefish population

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

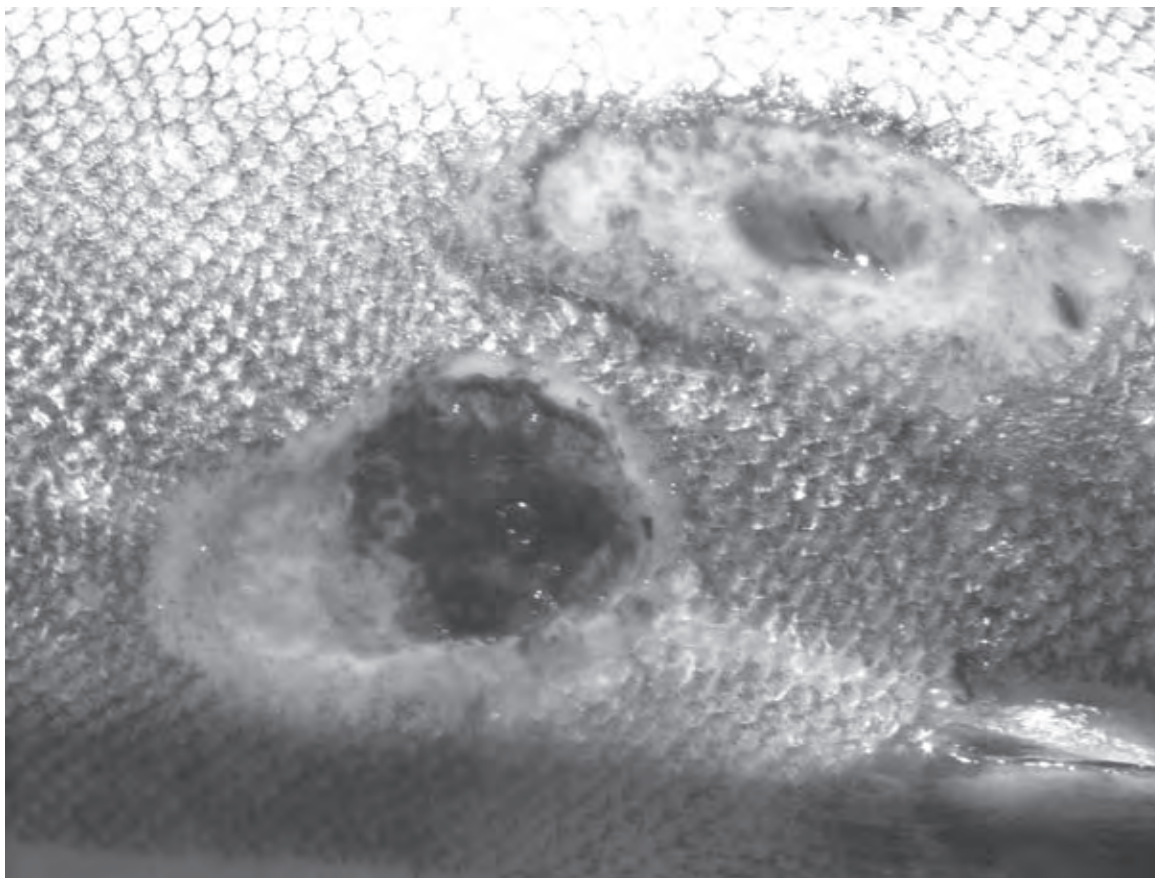
Sea lamprey are changing their diets and having an impact on fisheries in the Great Lakes – most notably Lake Huron. Or as biologists from the Inter-tribal Fisheries Program (ITFAP) would say – they are seeing a shift in sea lamprey predation from lake trout to whitefish – and as a consequence there are fewer whitefish to be caught.

Lake trout is a preferred food for the lamprey - it's a big target, has thin scales and lots of oils. ITFAP Director Tom Gorenflo and Fisheries Assessment Biologist Mark Ebener say that sea lamprey have shifted their predation as a consequence of a rapidly changing ecosystem along with effort to rehabilitate lake trout – a native species in the Great Lakes. “The goals of all of the agencies is to restore the Great Lakes to something like they were – with abundant populations of natural reproducing fish that are native to the Great Lakes basin,” Ebener said. “Governments have improved water quality, removed barriers from tributaries, improved fish habitat, and stocked fish - and ironically in that process agencies have created a fish community in the Great Lakes basin that benefit sea lamprey.

“By restoring habitat and native fish communities that are good for sea lamprey, agencies have made it much more difficult to control sea lamprey. In several areas, current fish communities have lots of big fish and sea lampreys love big fish. Clean tributaries are beneficial for larval sea lamprey, as they need lots of clean running water, a hard substrate to spawn on, and soft sediment for larvae to live in – all high quality, and desirable conditions,” he said.

Agreeing with Ebener, Gorenflo said, “Sea lamprey continue to have a great impact on Great Lakes fish communities and the tribal fishery and in recent years specifically on whitefish in northern lake Huron. The sea lamprey control program is like running on a treadmill, it's working hard but not making consistent progress, despite a large budget (over \$20 million annually) and chemicals that have been put in the lakes. We need to keep the control program going, the U.S. federal government and Canada need to maintain adequate funding levels,” he said.

One of the primary ways of evaluating the effectiveness of lamprey control is to monitor their impact on lake trout, which the biologists measure through wounds on the trout. The Great Lakes Fisheries Commission, which has oversight of the sea lamprey control program, also samples the bottoms of streams including the St. Marys River, to get estimates of larval lamprey and where hot spots may be. Gorenflo said, “We take fish samples throughout the year to evaluate the status of fish populations in the treaty waters. Sometimes we go on the boats for the samples or we can meet the fishermen on shore and weigh and measure the fish. We also take scale samples so we can age



Close up of sea lamprey wounds (*Petromyzon marinus*) on a Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*), St. Mary's River — North Channel, Garden River First Nation.

the fish and determine a mortality rate. In that process if we see a lamprey wound on a fish it gets recorded.”

Ebener said he just finished the process of estimating whitefish abundance in northern Lake Huron. “In the model used for developing whitefish quotas we estimate sea lamprey predation and include it in the model. We estimate the size of the whitefish population, and then project what can be safely harvested from that population. This is a process we must conduct annually under the terms of the 2000 Consent Decree,” he said.

However, he realized a change needed to be made in the way he was estimating sea lamprey induced mortality. “It appears at this time that I was overestimating it,” he said. “Using the old methodology for estimating sea lamprey induced mortality, the whitefish quota for northern Lake Huron for 2014 would have been only 2,500 pounds. When I changed the way I estimate sea lamprey induced mortality, it reduced mortality on the largest fish from about 75 percent down to about 30 percent. As a consequence, the quota for 2014 will likely increase dramatically.

Sea lampreys prefer to attack the larger whitefish and there is a lot of evidence, according to Ebener, that whitefish don't survive an attack very well. Northern Lake Huron doesn't have a lot of surface area, so there is a large concentration of lampreys in a very small area.

“The estimate of sea lamprey predation on whitefish has a major impact on the whitefish quota. Basically, sea lampreys get their share of the quota first - they get it regardless of whether tribal fishermen fish or not – and tribal fishers get what's left after lamprey predation,” he said.

The Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority, or CORA, sets the harvest limits for whitefish for the tribal fisheries in zones where there is no State commercial fishing. Northern Lake Huron is a tribal com-

mercial zone under the consent decree and whitefish in that area are managed by CORA.

So why have lamprey gone from attacking mostly lake trout in Northern Lake Huron to attacking whitefish? According to the biologists, one reason for this switch in prey is that lake trout and sea lamprey do not overlap during the year as often as in previous years. And that has happened because back in the 80s, Great Lakes biologists realized that lake trout in the Finger Lakes of upstate New York seemed to coexist with lamprey more effectively. So they began stocking Lake Ontario with the Seneca strain of lake trout from the Finger Lakes to diversify the fish stock, and discovered when they started doing surveys that they weren't catching Seneca strain trout as small fish. Ebener said that what has happened is the Seneca strain of lake trout don't overlap and occupy the same space as sea lamprey when they are small and because of that, the lamprey began to target other species such as whitefish and herring.

Another reason for the switch from lake trout to other species is the high numbers of sea lamprey in northern Lake Huron. Even

after more than 50 years of trying to control the sea lamprey populations, Ebener said, “there are still more lampreys in northern Lake Huron than there are in all the other five Great Lakes combined.

We stock equal numbers of Marquette strain, Lake Superior strain and Seneca strain lake trout in the Drummond Island Refuge in northern Lake Huron and go back in the fall to survey lake trout populations and it's almost all Seneca strain fish. Most of the Marquette and Lake Superior strains have been killed by sea lamprey by the time they are old enough to spawn.”

Ebener believes the best thing the agencies can do to control the lamprey problem is to focus their chemical control efforts on the larger tributaries, rather than the small streams. “Nearly all of the lamprey that are in the Great Lakes are ones that were not killed during chemical treatments of the streams,” he said. “There are enough larvae left over after the treatments in these bigger tributaries to produce an estimated 150,000 adult lamprey in Lake Huron, which in turn kill millions of pounds of fish.”

Gorenflo said he is concerned that since lamprey control has been ongoing for half a century,

some biologists have become desensitized to its importance. “We disagree once in a while with other biologists that often have a more purist view, such as their belief that the Great Lakes and its tributaries should be totally reconnected by removing dams and barriers. While this view is correct under normal circumstances, the Great Lakes have been invaded by so many non-native species, including sea lamprey, that removing dams and barriers in streams would open up hundreds of miles of spawning habitat for lampreys and other invasive species.

Ebener said, “We spend lots of money now to control sea lamprey and those programs are only semi-effective. Can you imagine what would happen if all of a sudden there were 20 more tributaries available for them to spawn? Control efforts would be a lot less cost effective and the impact on fish that are important to the tribal fishery would be much greater, if not uncontrollable.”

Gorenflo explained that the best example of the barrier removal problem is the increase in sea lamprey in northern Lake Michigan resulting from the “holes” in the Manistique River dam. Sea lamprey have been able to bypass this dam and gain access to hundreds of miles of spawning habitat in the Manistique River system. The river is putting out thousands of lamprey every year that are now going into Lake Michigan. Gorenflo noted that the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and the Corps of Engineers have begun work to build a structure to prevent sea lamprey from entering the Manistique River by 2014.

There are some biologists, according to Ebener, who believe that through time sea lamprey will become a regular part of the Great Lakes fish communities and become benign. “We haven't seen that yet,” he said.

Gorenflo added, “Sea lamprey remain a primary source of mortality on fish species that are important to the tribal fishery, and as such, they are a major competitor with tribal fishers. If sea lamprey control efforts were to stop tomorrow, we believe our fishery would be rendered insignificant in a few short years.”

MSU Extension plans for future of agriculture Nov. 4-5

Michigan State University continues its mission to develop innovative, fresh new approaches toward growing Michigan's food, agriculture and natural resource industries.

Respecting the environment, training young people for success, keeping Michigan healthy and helping communities thrive are just some of the ways MSU plays a critical role in the fabric of your busy life.

Leaders from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources (CANR), MSU Extension and AgBioResearch

are touring the state to get input from Michigan residents as they plan for the future of agriculture and natural resources at Michigan State University.

They want to hear from you. Join us to share your thoughts about how the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, MSU Extension and AgBioResearch can continue to move Michigan forward through research, education and outreach.

This is your opportunity to hear from and talk to Fred Poston, dean of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at MSU;

Doug Buhler, director of MSU AgBioResearch; Tom Coon, director of MSU Extension; and Kelly Millenbah, associate dean for academic and student affairs for the CANR.

Nov. 4, 4-6 p.m.: Ramada Inn - Peninsula East Room, 412 W. Washington Street in Marquette.

Nov. 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Anchor Room, LSSU Cislser Center, 650 W. Easterday Avenue in Sault Ste. Marie.

Light refreshments will be served. Registration is requested but not required. To register, visit <http://events.anr.msu.edu/WhatsNowWhatsNext>.

Sault Tribe's mentoring program for young hunters

Last year, the tribe's Inland Conservation Committee developed a youth mentoring program so that children aged 9 and under could obtain a license to be mentored in the field by a hunter 21 or older, who would use a mentoring license. The tribal board approved the program last January.

As part of our Anishinaabeg culture, we pass our traditional knowledge and beliefs along to our youth teaching by way of

example. The Youth Mentoring Program allows tribal families to pass on hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering knowledge in the legal framework of the Sault Tribe Conservation Code. The greatest goal of the program is to assist members in teaching our youth the importance of protecting and respecting our natural resources.

Parents may decide when a child aged 9 or under is ready for the responsibility of hunting,

trapping, fishing or gathering and take part in the program. A mentor aged 21 and over is chosen who, if not the parent, must sign a form along with the child's parent or legal guardian acknowledging the responsibilities of participating in the program. Each youth will receive a license, tag for each harvest opportunity that they will pursue and a harvest report.

The youth license is a pack-

age deal for those aged 9 and under. It allows youth to hunt small game, turkey and deer, trap furbearers, fish all species and gather under Sault Tribe regulations.

Mentors must be 21 or older and possess licenses for the activities in which they wish to mentor. The main goal of the program is to pass on our Anishinaabek culture to our youth. Teachings on the spiritual aspects of hunt-

ing, fishing, trapping and gathering are welcome. Mentors and youth may review the attached lesson, *Giving in Return for What We Receive* shared by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe Cultural Division. Mentors are encouraged to teach the youth to always respect the land, animals, plants and other beings while hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering.

Contact Sault Tribe Law Enforcement at 635-6065.

REVIEW: All about Sault Tribe licenses — Inland hunting and fishing, Great Lakes subsistence and gill netting, and Great Lakes commercial fishing

FROM STLE

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) is the entity that issues all treaty-regulated hunting and fishing licenses. The time for renewal of Great Lakes fishing licenses is upon us and the Inland Hunting and Fishing licenses will require renewal in the near future. Please see the applicable section below to find out more about what is required to obtain any of these licenses, including which set of rules regulates which type of license.

Regardless of the type of license you are requesting, there are several requirements that apply across the board: members must provide a current copy of their tribal card (cannot be expired); all fees must be paid by check or money order only (STLE does not accept cash, credit, or debit); reporting requirements must be met; and an application is required for each licensing season.

All requirements are published on each licensing application for convenience.

STLE strongly encourages members to contact STLE prior

to arriving or mailing your application if you have any questions regarding any of the required documents for processing your licensing application. STLE can be reached at (906) 635-6065, and Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (IFWD) at (906) 632-6132 specifically for Inland licensing harvest report questions.

Great Lakes Subsistence/Gill Net Licenses (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31): Chapter 20 of tribal law/code regulates these licenses. All subsistence and gill net fishing licenses expire Dec. 31 each year. STLE begins issuing the upcoming year's licenses in mid-December. Great Lakes Subsistence licenses are free of charge; however, if you are applying for a gill net license in addition to the subsistence, and you are between the ages of 17 and 54, please be sure you have a \$20 check or money order.

Tribal members are not required to have a subsistence license to fish on the Great Lakes; you can fish with just your tribal enrollment card (cannot be expired) as long as you follow state rules and regulations.

By applying for and accepting the Great Lakes subsistence and gill net licenses, you are agreeing to comply with the mandated monthly catch report submission, due by the 10th of each month.

This report is required whether you go fishing, and whether you catch anything. If you do not go fishing, just write "did not fish" on the report. If you did not catch anything, just write "no catch." Each license issued has a specific ST number assigned; this number typically stays with members throughout their lifetime, and should be included on the monthly catch report every time so STLE can ensure proper submittal credit is given.

If you do not have access to your license/ST number at the time of report completion, please just put your birthdate.

When you obtain one or both of these licenses, if at any point through the year you know you will not be engaging in fishing activity for longer than a few months, you can turn in your license(s) with a current catch report and request that we inactivate you in the licensing and reporting system. This eliminates having to submit a monthly catch

report. Once you decide you want to fish again, all you have to do is contact our office and your license will be returned to you and activated once again in the system.

Great Lakes Commercial Fishing Licenses (Jan. 1 – Dec. 31): Chapter 20 of tribal law/code regulates these licenses. All commercial fishermen are required to contact Kasey Povey at STLE to schedule an appointment when applying for this license. Because there are more steps involved in processing these particular licenses, the appointment requirement is strictly enforced. It is recommended that you call to confirm your appointment prior to arriving as well. Povey needs the time to ensure that once you arrive at STLE, she can process you through quickly. Various fees apply, depending on the type you are requesting. When calling Povey for an appointment, please indicate what type of license you are requesting and she will let you know what the cost is. Again, you must pay in the form of a check or money order only.

Inland Hunting and Fishing Licenses (April 1 – March 31): Chapter 21 of tribal law/code regulates these licenses. All members between the ages of 17 and 59 must pay a \$15 fee in the form of a check or money order. All tribal members born after 1960 who are new applicants must provide a proof of hunter safety in order to obtain the hunting portion of the license, but are able to obtain just the fishing and gathering portion without hunter safety.

This license has an annual Harvest Report requirement that is due by February 1 each year with any catch or kill up to that date. This report is also required whether you go hunting or fishing and whether you catch or kill anything while hunting or fishing. We cannot process any current year applications without your harvest report for the prior year. Harvest reports are available online, at STLE, or by contacting the IFWD. If you submit your harvest report online, you will need to contact IFWD to verify they have received it. STLE issues the licenses, IFWD receives harvest reports and provides STLE with the verification that members did submit one.



Henry James Grondin and his 2013 bear. Watch for more Grondin fare next month — and send in your hall of fame photos too!

Environmental Youth Corps seeks teens

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

If you are a high school student in grades 9-12 who likes to engage in outdoor activities, participate in mock debates and travel, then you should consider joining the Sault Tribe Environmental Youth Corps.

The group plans on meeting each Wednesday after school in the Sault High Native American room, all students are invited to attend — you do not have to be a tribal member to join. Students will participate in activities such as tree planting, movie nights and invasive species clean up. The group may also participate in community cleanups in Sault area parks and possibly plant

and care for a garden.

In addition to helping the environment, students will gain volunteering experience, hone their leadership and communication skills and learn about conservation, natural resources, habitats and pollution while being treated to free food — including pizza and popcorn.

Brownfield coordinator A.J. Mclarahmore and public involvement/records clerk Amanda Peters are heading the group. Campus tours to MSU, LSSU, CMU and the U-M are in the works and local field trips are being planned. These events will be funded through efforts such as bake and craft sales.

Guest speakers are being recruited to address the group and a mock trial based on environmental concerns is being planned. Youth who attend most of the meetings will be eligible to go on the trips and will also receive letters of recommendation for college or their resumes. Participation in the group could also lead to an internship with the tribe's Environmental Department.

Interested students can sign up in the High School's office or by calling the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575 or by emailing: enviro@saulttribe.net.

Enforceent is working on scheduling a hunter's safety class for the western end of tribe's service area in the near future. More information will be provided once it is confirmed.

If you have any questions, please call the aforementioned phone number.

Thank you.

Sault hunter safety class set for Oct. 23-24

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement sponsors a hunter's safety class in Sault Ste. Marie on Oct. 23-24, from 4:30 - 9:30 p.m., at the old American Cafe quarters at 531 Ashmun Street. Parents or guardians must call Sault Tribe Law Enforcement at 635-6065 to make reservations.

Youngsters 10 years of age

and older may attend the class. Those who will be 10 years old by Dec. 31, 2013, may attend with a parent or guardian present. Youth are required to bring a number 2 pencil and dinner for both days. Only 20 spots available and registration is first come, first served.

Please note Sault Tribe Law

Nashville wellness coach advocates holistic living

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Alicia Kathleen Gervais is a young, traveling entrepreneur who playfully takes her work with her wherever she goes. She is a holistic wellness coach utilizing her training in breathwork, life coaching, hula-hoop dance education, circle facilitation and healing flower essences.

Graduating from Sault Area High School in 2006, Gervais attended LSSU for a short time before transferring to NMU. Then, in 2011 she moved to Nashville, Tenn.

She has spent the last year and a half taking holistic trainings and said it wasn't until August that she began putting all her training and skills together to offer these services to the public.

"I love to share these tools with whoever is open to receive them because they have helped me tremendously," she said. "The funny thing is that my passion for hula-hoop dancing has led to all of this. It's like a cosmic joke that a plastic circle has opened up this beautiful world of infinite potential. What an amazing confirmation to be able to make doing what you love a priority," said Gervais.

Four years ago she became mesmerized after watching a hula-hoop dance performer. Since then she made it her mission to master this beautiful movement art form. She said she became obsessed with it and was hula-hooping every day.

"Dancing is the best, it's one of my favorite things to do, where I feel most alive. The hula hoop is a lovely prop to incorporate



Photo by Brenda Austin

Sault Tribe member Alicia Gervais is a wellness coach certified in a number of trainings and skills she offers to others.

into my dance."

After a while people began approaching her, asking her if she taught classes. Gervais said that since the demand was evident, she made herself available to offer hula-hoop dance instruction.

Gervais is a certified holistic life coach through Radiant Health Institute and said that typically people seek out life coaching because they are ready to make a change in their lives.

"Life coaching is an incredible process that can ignite personal transformation through forming a powerful alliance between coach and client. It's a profession that is different than counseling or therapy because it focuses on the pres-

ent moment rather than the past.

I focus on where you are now and where you want to be. Life coaching is a designed alliance that continually gives the power back to the client. My job is to ask poignant questions and help clients discover their personal best and offer support through the transformation process," she said.

Gervais is also a trained breathworker through Clarity Breathwork in California and the Nashville School of Breathwork. The style of breathing that she facilitates is ancient, connected, circular breathing. It has been used in cultures around the world for thousands of years to heal and attain higher states of conscious-

ness. It is practiced for one hour, lying down with eyes closed, breathing in and out through the mouth. The breath is circular meaning that there is no pause between the inhale and exhale.

"It is important to remember that our organs run completely on oxygen. When we breathe better, our whole life is better," she said. "Breathing this way for an hour floods the body with fresh new oxygen and makes us feel more alive, people even look younger afterward! It is an incredible detox. Seventy percent of the toxins in our body exit through the breath - that's more than sweat, mucous, and elimination combined. Not only is it a physical detox, but also emotionally, spiritually, and mentally cleansing as well. People tend to feel a deep sense of clarity, unity, and peace as a result of breathing in this way," said Gervais.

Utilizing her circle facilitator training by bringing people together in groups, she said, "There is a profound healing that happens when people come together in circle to hear each other and be heard. I like to bring people together in circle to share, connect, and hear one another's stories, observing the common thread that runs through us all. I ask stirring questions that get people thinking in new ways. I also encourage forgiveness practices, movement and dance. Finally, I gently guide the group through an hour of circular, connected breathing."

She is also a student of Dr. Brent Davis, a holistic doctor, herbalist, and creator of

FlorAlive's healing flower essences in Nashville (www.FlorAlive.com). She attended Dr. Davis' first ever Flower Essence Training in August where she was taught how to practice applied kinesiology and muscle testing. These methods are used to test clients for which healing flowers their body wants.

"The healing flower frequencies are here to transmute negative, limiting, subconscious beliefs into positive ones. It's a huge consciousness shifter. The healing flowers come from all over the world, some even native to Michigan, like Jack in the Pulpit. Their healing properties are extracted into pure spring water and preserved with a small amount of alcohol. They come in a vile and you simply drop them in your water to drink throughout the day over the course of two weeks to a month," Gervais said.

Above all else, she said she is glad to weave her skills together in a way that honors her Anishinaabe roots by bringing people together in a sacred circle. She finds herself blessed to be doing what she loves while feeding her travelling spirit.

"I am deeply grateful for the many teachers in my life who offer their wise counsel, my supportive family and friends — *chi miigwech!*" she said.

Gervais intends to offer classes the next time she comes home for a visit to the Sault.

To learn more, visit her website at <http://theholisticvisionary.com> or send email to her at aliciagervais@gmail.com.

2013 "Let's Get Moving" winners announced

BY HEATHER HEMMING

Team Manistique and Team Nahma took first place in the 2013 U.P. Let's Get Moving Community Challenge. The annual challenge encourages community members to be more physically active and to focus on healthful living.

The Sault Tribe Strategic Alliance for Health Project spon-

sored the Manistique, Munising, St. Ignace and Sault Ste. Marie communities, while the Sault Tribe Community Transformation Grant Project sponsored Nahma, Newberry, Cedarville, Marquette and Kinross for the challenge this year.

From June 1 through July 26, community members earned wellness points for their communities

by logging physical activity (minutes, miles or pedometer steps) and consuming servings of fruits, vegetables and water. Wellness points were also earned for days of staying tobacco-free and for shopping at the local farmers' markets for fresh produce. Participants received weekly email updates of team standings, community events and activities

and helpful wellness tips for the duration of the challenge.

Team Manistique averaged a total of 435.13 wellness points per participant and Team Nahma averaged a total of 364.32 wellness points per participant. Wellness points, physical activity, servings of fruits and vegetables, servings of water, tobacco use and shopping at the local farmers' market were calculated as average per participant for each community. For 56 days, a total of 391 active participants from the nine communities logged an average (per participant) of 692 miles, 13,494 minutes of physical activity, 307,205 pedometer steps, 1,070 servings of fruits and vegetables, 1,486 servings of water, 226 tobacco-free, and 15.23 shopped at the local farm-

ers' market.

Communities meeting the participant requirements for the challenge will receive \$2,000 in funding that must be used to enhance local physical activity or healthful eating opportunities. The funding must be used for sustainable changes in the environment, such as the purchase of bicycles and helmets for free bike use programs, community gardens, enhancements to farmers' markets, fitness equipment for walking paths, bike route signs or infrastructure improvements for biking and walking paths.

Communities interested in participating in the annual Let's Get Moving Community Challenge should watch for challenge updates and announcements at www.UP4health.org.

Tribe observes Diabetes Day with traditional emphasis



Photo by Rick Smith

Staff from a few Sault Tribe programs hosted Diabetes Day: The Traditional Way in the auditorium of the clinic in Sault Ste. Marie on Sept. 20. The event featured information and presentations regarding traditional medicine, nutrition, diabetes management and traditional foods preparation. Attendees were treated to snacks, demonstrations, prize drawings and blood glucose screening. Putting on the event were, from left, Harland Downwind, presenter; Julie Trestail, registered dietician; Tony Abramson Jr., traditional practitioner assistant; Peggy Hemmenway, presenter; Bridget Beatty, diabetes case manager; Stacy Storey, registered dietician; Mary Bunker, registered dietician; Sarah Willey, Diabetes Program manager; Kristy Hill, registered dietician; and Connie Watson, health educator for the Traditional Foods Program, who gave presentations on food preparation.

SERVICE ORIENTATION IS A GOOD THING!

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

Ahneen, Boozo, Negee:

I make no apologies for my service orientation as a Tribal leader. In fact, I am proud of it. When I started college back in 1983, I first studied to be a social worker. I did so because I recognize the value of helpers who provided me with opportunities. Programs like Head Start, Indian Education, Johnson O'Malley, Upward Bound, Food Stamps, USDA Commods, welfare, and the good charity of churches and organizations like the Salvation Army; all helped shape who I am. This is also why I give back.

All Americans benefit from such programs and governmental services like roads, infrastructure and other safety net programs. In the 1960's, this community spirit permeated the Kennedy & Johnson administrations with the culmination of the *Great Society* programs and the establishment of Medicare were enacted to equalize the disparities for those who did not share in the American Dream. Today, these safety net programs are not only under attack, so is the very fabric of America's governmental stability. Additionally, those programs with an American Indian focus are not charity,



Sitting in former Attorney General Bobby Kennedy's Office while visiting the U.S.

welfare, or reparations; they are pre-paid treaty rights we paid for with the blood, sweat and tears of our ancestors - and millions of acres of land that were ceded.

Sadly, this same change in orientation seems to have made it's way into our Tribal government with nearly half of our Board Members insisting that we deal with the "chronic users" on the dole and "live within their means!" The interesting thing with this perspective is that the Tribal Board sets the eligibility. If the most disadvantage of our people meet eligibility, then how can they be relegated to abusers or deadbeats on welfare? This new orientation

is just hateful. I cannot image this is what our founders intended. Whether you believe our *Anishinabe Biimaadziwin* teachings or you follow the *Good Samaritan* teachings and charity and love teachings of *Christ*, I am proud to say I believe all of the above and that I will fight to protect our safety net programs.

MY EFFORTS TO PROTECT OUR TRIBE

Here are just some of the highlights of my most recent trip to DC and efforts to protect our Tribe from sequester and now a government shut down which has cut off all Federal funding.

Justice, they asked if I would record a training video on cooperation between Tribes and the U.S. DOJ. Again, I was honored to do so.

I also did a national interview at the American Dental Association Headquarters on the impacts of sequestration on Tribal health programs.

9/14 - Met with Members (see picture below) just outside of DC at Member Stacy Bohlen's house.



Stacy is the Executive Director of the National Indian Health Board. Cathy Abramson is the Chairperson of this body. Thank you to Stacy for being a wonderful host and great chili maker!

9/15 - Drafted legislative impact letters and position papers for Members to send to Congress. Please visit the Tribal website to download a letter to sign and mail.

9/16 - Cathy Abramson, Angeline Bouley, Assistant Executive Director and I met with our line Officer for Head Start WJ Strickland and the National Head Start director to see what other tribes have done to survive sequester. **I am embarrassed that we are one of only a few casino tribes who did not find fund-**

ing to fully operate. The National Director and our line officer noted that Anne Suggitt, our Head Start director is one of the best in the country! Sadly, our Board furloughed Anne and others staff for one month without pay.

Attended with Cathy Abramson as the NIHB Chair, a strategy session at the NIHB headquarters in DC. I am extremely impressed with their team!

9/17 & 18 - Represent Tribes across the country on the Health and Human Services Secretary Advisory Council. I was proud to speak to upholding the treaty obligations for "health, education, and social welfare" and how sequestration feels like an abrogation of our treaty rights. I also got to share an NIHB analysis which shows that Indian Health Service funding should be exempt from sequestration.

9/23 - Visited by Patrick Miles, U.S. Attorney for the Western District. Our team and I discussed cooperative efforts and the need to stop sequestration. Met Hannah Bobee, who was recently hired to work in the U.S. Attorney's office.

9/30 - Invited by a National Radio program (*Native America Calling*) to be a guest speaker on the impact of sequestration on Indian Tribes.

9/30 - Dialed in to the Whitehouse session to explain the protocols for the U.S. Government shut-down. The impact on Indian programs is devastating.

10/14 - Participated in a National IHS Update with the Director of

9/11 - Attended the National Congress of American Indians Impact Session at the Capitol and urged U.S. Senators & Reps. To exempt tribes from sequester due to treaty obligations. Urged other Tribal Leaders to get actively engaged and shared our booklet as a template.

9/12 - Attended a fundraiser for Congressman Mike Simpson (R) who pledged to try to protect our funding. After the Government Shut down, he sponsored legislation to fund Tribal programs despite the shut down.



Congresswoman Betty McCollum, Co-Chair of the Native American Caucus picture with Retired Congressman Dale Kildee.

Meeting with legislative staff from Congressman Dave Camp's Office (R) to share the impact of sequestration on our programs.

Met with Legislative Director and Counsel for U.S. Senator and Chairwoman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee Maria Cantwell regarding sequestration and a Congressional Budget Office memo possibly avoiding sequestration for FY2014.

9/13 - Was asked by NCAI to attend a meeting at the Office of Management and Budget with 5 other Tribal leaders to advocate for our funding. I was honored to participate.

U.S. Department of Justice visit to present our Tribal Flag for their hall of tribal flags. Met Tribal Member Nichole Hannah who works at DOJ and holds a law degree and is in the dissertation phase for her doctorate. Nichole is Lisa Dietz's daughter. Proud of you Nichole!

While at the U.S. Department of

IHS.

In addition to these efforts, we are working to identify a funding triage approach to operate until the government re-opens. Hopefully, we will be reimbursed. I also hope this information was helpful. Stay tuned and please call your Member of Congress to request they uphold our treaty obligations.

Chi McGwitch, Negee,

Celebrating a Sault Tribe Hero: Robin Smith



For her work to bring attention to the need to end bullying. Last month, Robin coordinated a hugely successful Walk & Rock event to raise funds and awareness! Above I show my support by donated \$1,000 toward this cause. To find out more, please call my office 906-635-6050.

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

Congresswoman BETTY MCCOLLUM
Fourth Congressional District
Inverness, (970) 225-6001

September 27, 2013

Aaron Payment
Chairman
Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians
523 Ashmun Street
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Dear Chairmen Payment,

Thank you for coming to the September 19th briefing on sequestration's impact throughout Indian Country. It is so important for Members and our staff to hear the message you have powerfully spoken about during your visits to the Hill. Funding for tribal nations isn't about handouts or special treatment; it's a trust thing!

The federal government must do more to honor our trust and treaty obligations, and Congress has a responsibility to repeal and replace the sequestration cuts that undermine those commitments. Thank you again for sharing your experiences and building awareness, and please let me know how my office or the Native American Caucus can help amplify the voices of our nation's tribal leaders.

Sincerely,

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

Catching up and counting our many blessings



**JOAN (CARR) ANDERSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT V**

This month, my article will be short. Jennifer McLeod and I sent our article in last month, but for some reason they did not get printed in our tribal paper. Jennifer Dale-Burton did put our articles on the tribal website, so thank you, Jen. I am still resubmitting my August article because some of our members do not have computers and asked me to.

I also would like to give some thanks to Marlene and Bonnie for the work they have done on finding a space in Marquette for our members to pick up medical supplies, etc. They also implemented opening the third floor at the Lincoln School. Another BIG THANK YOU goes out to all who were involved in making our Munising on the Bay Powwow a great success. The most amazing

thing happened that day when an eagle flew over our powwow setting. What a great spiritual sign.

This month, do not forget to get your flu shots.

Sincerely,
Joan Carr Anderson
Unit V Director
September 2013 Joan Carr Anderson

Here it is August and how the summer flew by. Some of our members are getting their children ready to go back to school. This brings to mind that we should all try to get the best education out there for our children. As tribal members, we give a lot of encouragement to keep them in school and keep them involved with the MIEA program as this keeps them motivated. Also, have them work toward the scholarship awards.

We have five awards for the year 2013 and 2014 in Unit V. I would like to congratulate them at this time. The John Carr award went to Katy Matson of Munising. The Don Corp award went to Rebecca Ross and the Victor Matson award went to Cody Jodoin. We also had a new scholarship award this year in honor of Dolores LeVeque, who is one of our elders who has done a lot for our tribe. Delores is a very cultural person. She was one of the people who went down to the Sault in the beginning when they would all car pool. The \$1,000 scholarship in her honor was awarded to David Ducet.

This is a one-time award, next year someone else will be chosen. Then we had the Noah Leask awards, one of which was awarded to our own Dorothy Karr, who is majoring in radiology. (Good job, Dorothy.) We are very proud of all who received any of these awards.

So moving on, as directors we all have busy schedules, but it seems some members do not see the good we do. I would like to say, "We are a lucky tribe." We have resources coming in, we have meals for elders, housing, entertainment, insurance, health facilities, jobs, food commodities, we have helped people fix and buy homes. I could go on and on, but to some enough is never enough. You know and I know the MIGHTY DOLLAR only stretches so far. Can't we be thankful for what we have? For myself, I think we do the best we can under this new sequestration we are going through. I hope and I know we are trying our best. Last month, we had an efficiency group come in and do an audit to show us where we could make adjustments in various departments and, hopefully, find more resources for our tribe.

Also, I am anxious to see the results of the employees' surveys as I know they have some great ideas. I want to thank all who took time to fill one out. This is a great start. And, we should all be held accountable for our jobs.

As a board member, I think we have good people. We all have different opinions but that is okay. It is just like writing unit reports, I feel if I write one, fine, some months they are long and some months they are short but that is me. Maybe I did not get one in on time, so I will catch up in the next month. This is where I wish there were two reps in my unit, although Denise and Darcy do a great job helping. I also know sometimes there are not enough hours in a day between traveling, meetings, extra committees, checking out facilities, phone calls and email, but I do love my job and I know that I am trying my best for our members. When I was elected for this job, I said, "I will try my best." I did not make promises and commit to give "X" amounts of my paycheck to certain entities. As a director, I donate to certain organizations, members, events that go on, funerals, etc., and I feel great about being able to do this.

I do not have to let everyone out there know how much or to whom. I do not need the pat on the back, they all know as do I.

Here are a few accomplishments in Unit V:

1. At the old tribal center, some of the trees were cut and some landscaping done hoping we will have a culture center like Sugar Island's. We could also host powwows there.
2. Munising tribal center has

been put into trust; this is a big tax savings for the tribe.

3. I have worked on the third floor of the tribal center. This will be finalized at the end of September and will be up and running soon.

4. I have also been working on getting a medical office in Marquette, just waiting for the go.

5. We also got money for Marquette to have a gathering or powwow.

6. We have done surveys for the employees and are tallying the results. Just a few things have been done

Reminders: Powwows in Newberry, Sept. 7 and Munising Sept. 14. The Munising board meeting was moved from Sept. 17 to Sept. 24. Munising September elders meetings were Sept. 9 and 16. In Marquette on Sept 5, we will have a guest, Bill Matson from Indian Energy. Munising had him on Aug. 19 and he is very informative, and, yes, I did vote for this, but also I am going to stay positive in this business

So, keep the emails and phone calls coming, I will try my best to answer you.

Sincerely,
Joan Carr Anderson
Unit V

P.S. I also enjoyed all the director's reports and congrats to Darcy and Denise on your Escanaba health office opening.

Waiting out the federal government's inaction



**KEITH MASSAWAY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT III**

As of the writing of this unit report, the federal government is still shut down and many unknowns are still to unfold. So, as you read this report, please keep in mind the context in which it was written.

The federal government's stalemate on passing a budget is going to greatly affect our tribal services. First of all, over 80 percent of our tribal government operations dollars come in one fashion or another from the federal government. That means out of an approximate \$94 million tribal government budget, \$76 million is from the feds. Our contribution from all tribal dollars to the tribal government budget is approximately 18 million. The banks have capped the amount the casinos can transfer to the budget to 17 million and another million comes from profits off our other enterprises, Midjims, Northern Hospitality, rental properties and

other services.

So the tribal boards hands are tied at accessing additional revenue from the casinos if they had it, which they don't. So we wait. The federal government's budget for discretionary funding last year (2013) was \$1.058 trillion. The budget for 2014 must be at or below \$.967 trillion or sequestration kicks in automatically. The federal legislators are currently trying to pass a continuing resolution for funding at last years 1.058 trillion dollars. This will open the government back up but will then trigger the Office of Management and Budget to start the automatic sequestration of approximately 9 percent cuts across the board. The only area that gets to see less of a cut is Medicare which, by law, can only be cut by 2 percent in any given year. That 2 percent doesn't sound like much but it will devastate hospitals and clinics that rely on patients that use Medicare as a funding source.

Now timing raises its ugly head. The federal government runs on a budget that begins Oct. 1 and runs to Sept. 30. Since they could not pass a budget by Oct. 1, the government shut down. If a budget is a passed and it is over the \$.967 trillion, then sequestration kicks in. If it is under the \$.967 then what areas get cut? If a continuing resolution is in place, then sequestration happens but the cuts don't show up until 15 days after the federal legislators end their session of Congress and that is late December. So if the cuts show up middle of

January, the federal government has been sending out checks that exceed the amounts they should have been giving out for over three months. That means that the next nine months will see more

than the 9 percent cut in funding. It will see a greater reduction due to the fact that too much money had already been sent out in the first quarter.

So, if that scenario happens,

we would be looking at an 11 percent cut in services for the rest of the year. That would precipitate a large scale back in services. One last piece of this perfect storm is *See "Massaway," page 23*

The enormity of board duties



**DEBRA PINE, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I**

"May I ask what you would like to be educated on? What specifically can the board educate the membership on? I'll be happy to help. Our tribe is a very complex, multi dimensional organization.

"Even elected people get schooled about various aspects the average tribal member may not have taken into consideration. Most of us who do seek board seats are just that, average tribal members who want better for our people. Nobody comes to the table completely prepared for the enormity of the job." — Debra-Ann Pine

This was taken from a conversation I was part of on Facebook.

I like the last part because it so the truthful and if they proclaim otherwise, they are lying.

Just when we get past one financial crisis, we are faced with a newer and even more challenging financial crisis: sequestration.

I'm certain all my fellow board members are using their reports to talk to you about what impact sequestration could potentially have on us as a tribe. I'm certain it's either on the news or affecting your life. Whether you are unable to go to national parks or a furloughed worker, sequester is affecting a good portion of the American public.

Unfortunately, Indian tribes are at the mercy of the government due to our federal funding. We are on the discretionary side of spending versus mandatory. Discretionary spending refers to the portion of federal spending decided upon by Congress each through appropriations bills. This is different from mandatory spending. Mandatory spending refers to spending required by law and it's not subject to annual limits — Social Security is an example.

Approximately 66 percent of the budget is mandatory spending and rising while, at the same time,

discretionary is getting squeezed causing programs we rely on as a tribe to be cut.

Our job as leaders is to find a way through while maintaining current programs. Easier said than done.

Currently, executive staff, division directors and the chairman were directed by the board to come up with various scenarios. Reductions based on 2, 5 and 10 percent with a 5 percent reduction in tribal support. This has been daunting and I want to thank staff for their efforts. Our goal is to try and hit a moving target: whatever budget Congress decides when they decide, it's all a guessing game.

I don't have much faith in Congress to do right by the tribes. Last year, our funding awards were hit with a 5 percent reduction. Why should we think this year will be any different, especially when we have federal leaders sticking to party lines and not working together in order to prove a point at the expense of the American people.

In closing, please understand, the board, executives and chairman are working diligently to meet this coming challenge.

Debra-Ann Pine
(906) 440-1334

Dealing with the feds and constitution reform



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

Our most pressing issue right now is our governmental budgets. Congress is not the only government entity that has a budgetary deadline. We have one, too. We are operating with uncertainty as to how much funding is going to be awarded by IHS, BIA, DOJ, BIE, etc. And, unlike Congress, we don't get to raise taxes, print more money or borrow ourselves out of the hole.

We have passed two continuing resolutions (CRs) since August in order to keep functioning. But that is a dangerous approach since we'll have fewer months in the year to absorb whatever the budget cuts Congress eventually decides on. As I write this report, Congress is in the second week of a government shutdown. These "mini CRs" that Congress keeps

funding decreases the incentive for Congress to pass the entire federal budget. It leaves us more vulnerable to a long protracted standoff.

Contrary to what you may have heard elsewhere, we asked our departments to prepare preliminary budgets based on "worse-case scenarios" of 5, 10 and 14 percent funding cuts. This is part of the budget formulation process—so we can put together a plan to reallocate tribal support dollars (the only money we have real control over how it gets spent). We are doing this in order to NOT disrupt services. The budget formulation process takes time and we are running out of that. Two critical workshops were cancelled in the final weeks of September. That is unacceptable. At this juncture, it is time for the administration to present their budget recommendations, so we can move forward.

It's important to remember that the federal funds that we rely on, are NOT entitlement programs (though Congress administers them as such). They are prepaid treaty obligations. They should be exempt from the budgetary process. We are a self-governance tribe and we contract with the federal government to provide the programs and services they are obligated to. But unlike other government contractors, the "contracts" are consistently underfunded. This requires us to subsidize

treaty obligated funds with our own tribal support dollars (revenue from casinos and enterprises). We currently draw profits (corporate tax) at \$17 million. We have remained diligent and aggressive in paying down debt. In 3.5 years, the debt will be retired. That will make available an additional \$8 million a year in tribal support.

I will not support refinancing the debt over a longer term. It's imperative that we live within our means and get ourselves free from long lingering debt. I want to let you know that I reduced my stipend a long time ago (10 percent). And I will reduce it some more if necessary. Lead by example. The chairman has informed the members that he has not cut his wages (Twice the chairman/Half the pay). He has concluded that he would rather donate half his pay where he sees fit. A little misleading in my opinion, but I know the beneficiaries of his generosity are grateful. Board members who have cut their pay assist the general fund.

THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION

The following is my consistent position on the Constitution. And for the record: I have voted in support of moving the constitution forward every step of the way.

In 2008, the Constitutional Convention Committee presented to the tribal government a draft constitution with a request to

accept no further changes. No action was taken regarding the draft until the board of directors meeting held on Sugar Island in September 2012. At this meeting, the Elders Advisory Committee requested that the board of directors adopt the drafted document "as written" and send it to the Department of Interior for a Secretarial Election.

Instead, the board passed a motion to formally review the draft document via an "Ad Hoc Implementation Review Committee" comprised of individuals from the original Constitutional Convention, Elder Advisory Committee delegates and the tribal governing board. The committee was tasked with reviewing the proposed draft constitution, to make remarks and recommendations for revision. The review process concluded on Saturday, March 6. I stated my position in my April Unit Report, "Please let's honor and show respect for all the heart, soul, time and resource invested in this effort and vote this document 'as written' up or down. I don't want to see it be used as a political football any longer. It's time for us to act as the legislators we were elected to be."

In April, the chairman switched gears and started talking about a "series of amendments." It's hard not to look at this as a "bait and

switch" tactic. If you don't support the draft constitution, get it off the table once and for all. The document was proving more useful as a political billy-club (just read the chairman's last six unit reports). Well, that finally happened at the Oct. 1 board meeting. I and Director Causley voted to send it out to a "vote by the people." The remainder of the board (including the chairman) voted 'no.' Majority rules in a democracy. So be it. Although I agreed with the rest of the board that the document was too flawed to enact, I felt strongly that after so many years of investment, it should be the people who had the ultimate decision to decide. It's over now and contrary to what the chairman says, I am still committed to constitutional reform. As soon as this budgetary crisis is over, we can get down to passing a "series of amendments" as the chairman has proposed.

We will have a dedication ceremony of the Wequayoc Cemetery on Sat., Oct 19, at noon. Flyers and invitations are going out now. I am so grateful that we have this sacred land in our care. Let me just conclude by saying, we are a strong people. We will survive the turmoil.

Please continue to call me with your questions, concerns and input.

In love and service, Miigwech.

Dealing with dilemmas in Washington, D.C.



**CATHY ABRAMSON, DIRECTOR,
UNIT I**

It was great to see such a great turnout of our tribal members and their families at our first ever gathering in Maryland/D.C. Chi megwetch Stacy Bohlen for hosting this fine event! It was good to find out that we have members who work for the Environmental Protection Agency, National

Institutes of Health and Indian Country Today newspaper. I look forward to meeting you all again on a regular basis!

With everything that is happening in D.C., ALL our federal funding is obviously being affected which in turn affects the direct services you receive whether it be in health, USDA, housing, and social services to name a few.

Division and program directors were asked to plan their budgets at 2 percent, 5 percent, 10 percent and 14 percent decreases. I want to take this time to thank our staff for all the many extra hours they are putting in to plan their budgets per the direction of the chairperson and the board. As I write this report, our division and program directors and top administrators are working toward reducing budgets, which in turn will reduce services or eliminate services. The tribal board of directors will then vote to approve the budget plan.

Because I have been work-

ing at a national level in the area of health, I will give you a brief update of what is and what could

happen during this tumultuous time. In 2013, Indian Health Service received a \$220 mil-

lion cut, which devastated tribes across Indian Country. Many are

See "Abramson," page 24

Budgeting and funding work



**DENISE CHASE, DIRECTOR,
UNIT IV**

The board of directors recently held a special meeting and passed a continuing funding authority resolution for fiscal year 2014 schedule B budgets.

The board of directors and staff are still in the process of reviewing budgets for 2014 and wanted to ensure that services are not left unfunded for a period between expiration of the fiscal year 2013 budgets and approval of the fiscal year 2014 budgets.

After a lengthy workshop and board discussion the recommendation came forward from Chairman Aaron Payment, our executive director and chief financial officer, to approve the continuing resolution until Oct. 31. This gives the chairperson and executive team a one-month time frame to come back to the board with a plan and budget projections on how sequestration will

impact government programs and services.

I absolutely supported this continuing resolution. Attached to the resolution was a list of 75 cost centers and programs which included health facilities (Manistique, St. Ignace, Munising and Sault Ste. Marie), Contract Health, ACFS (LIHEAP), Child Care, elders meal programs (Hessel, St. Ignace, Manistique); there were too many to list here. If this didn't pass, it would have had a negative impact on the 75 programs and services listed within the 2014 schedule B budgets.

LIHEAP ASSISTANCE

The Anishnabek Community and Family Service (ACFS) Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) will open up this year on Nov. 1.

To find out more information about the program guidelines or to receive an application call or stop into your local tribal office and talk to a direct services worker.

ACFS-Sault Ste. Marie: 632-5250 or (800) 726-0093

ACFS-Manistique: Viola Neadow, 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137, 5698W Highway US 2 Manistique, Willow Creek Professional Bldg-Escanaba (across from St. Francis Hospital), Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

2 PERCENT FALL DISTRIBUTION CYCLE

As of this unit report being submitted, we have still not

reviewed any 2 percent applications for the fall distribution cycle and we have not received the final dollar amount available this cycle. Two percent applications were accepted throughout the Unit IV area. But, unfortunately, there is not enough funding available to approve all projects.

Under the current agreement with the state of Michigan for gaming revenue sharing, 2 percent of the tribes gaming revenue is set aside and made available to local units of government as determined by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Projects are awarded funding based on a number of factors; including the availability of funds at the end of each cycle, the project merit and the potential benefit to tribal as well as Governmental Communities. There may be other factors considered as well as project sustainability. I will update you further in my next unit report the total amount that will be available to distribute.

At the Munising board meeting, the tribal board was notified by staff that effective Oct. 1, the cigarette quota will increase from 10 cartons to 15 cartons per month and gas quotas will be increased from 75 gallons to 125 gallons a month. This will continue through the end of the year or until the quantity is met.

Please feel free to contact me any time.

(906) 322-3819

Dchase@saulttribe.net

Denise Chase, Vice chair

FROM "MASSAWAY," PAGE 22—

the Affordable Care Act, Obama Care. That goes into effect Jan. 1. We anticipate in our projections that it will increase the costs in our tribe by hundreds of thousands and maybe millions when fully realized. No one truly knows what will happen. They cannot explain or predict how it will affect our country. There are pundits who believe it will destroy the USA and advocates who believe it is the only way to get much needed health care to everyone. I have no position on this item. I only want to know how we can be prepared to help our people understand it and how the tribe will be affected by its

implementation. The sad part is that everyone is pretty much guessing on how it will go. I hope by the time you read this that our federal government has passed a real budget, not a continuing resolution, and it has held the tribes harmless in its cuts.

This is a very difficult time and I hope we can all get on solid footing soon. Thank you for all your e-mails and phone calls. My phone has been out of service for a couple of weeks so I apologize if I may have missed a call.

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

Playing games creates unnecessary roadblocks



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

It is no surprise that the tribe has been struggling with budget forecasts for 2014 with the constant threat of sequestration. Last year sequestration was 5.1 percent and as I write this report we still have no guarantee of what this year will be. The board was hesitant to pass the 2014 budgets until we had a better idea from the federal government so we passed a continuing resolution on Aug. 20 in Marquette to continue spending in line with last year's budget.

The chairman had set up a workshop to discuss the constitution for Sept. 5 from 10 to 6 p.m. and budgets for Sept. 6. I sent an email to him and the board asking to please consider meeting on the budgets instead as I felt that we needed to be proactive instead of reactive prior to the continuing resolution expiring. Some of the other board members agreed via emails and, when we came together on Sept. 5, a few of us brought it up that we really needed to meet on budgets. The chairman was less than happy and we said we would like to have opinions from each board member. Two of the board members were not able to attend on Friday, with one being the treasurer, so it made sense to discuss the budget while he was in attendance.

The chairman picked up his phone and made a call to cancel his trip to D.C. and said he was getting off all his appointed committees because we wanted to discuss the budgets. He claimed the Budget Department, which is under his direct supervision, was not prepared. Some

of us had already asked Budgets if they were ready and they said they were.

Needless to say, it was a battle and he agreed that we would go to lunch and meet with Budgets at 1 p.m. Since we had no clear number of sequestration and threats of 14 percent cuts, some of us thought we should at least prepare for that. There was lengthy discussion on options, and we agreed to have the divisions prepare budgets for 5 percent, 10 percent and 14 percent cuts. It is a tremendous amount of work for them, but we really need a picture of the effect on our programs, services and jobs for these potential cuts. We wanted the numbers and a narrative with plans. So, as I write this on Oct. 5, I have yet to see a budget or narrative on any area except a total dollar amount. Please tell me why the board is not getting the information. It sounds very ridiculous, but unless the board stands up and demands that we need to be kept informed, we will be making huge mistakes.

I am so frustrated — there is not a board member who wants to see any cuts to services, programs or jobs. We do need to hear and see from the divisions their plan in case we suffer with those cuts so, as the governing body of Sault Tribe, we can do what is best for the tribe. There have been cost saving options such as furloughs, no health profession cost of living allowances, the over the max continues to be thrown around. One of the problems I have with the team members who are being paid over the maximum that their position is supposed to allow is that many of these people are over the max because they received yearly raises approved by the board.

We have taken many things from our front line workers over the years and now we are going to slap you again and take your board approved raises from you? Somebody better come up with a better plan.

We were again supposed to meet on the budgets on Sept. 16 and 17 and the chairman was in D.C. and said the workshops were canceled because the staff was not ready to present them. Well, the divisions had to turn

them in on Friday, Sept. 12, at 8 a.m. so that the executive team could review them on Friday and Monday and meet with the board on Tuesday and Wednesday. We have not seen any of the cuts or narratives. We were left with the Sept. 30 workshop and special meeting to deal with the continuing resolution. Another waste of time as the Budget Department sat with a prepared power point that we never saw. So at 5 p.m. during the special meeting, the continuing resolution until Oct. 31 was passed with Director Massaway and I voting "no." I can only speak on my behalf that my reason for voting "no" was because we did not see the division cuts or narratives. If we continue to operate on last year's numbers and we are sequestered 5 percent (\$1.8 million), 10 percent (\$3.6 million), or 14 percent (\$5.7 million) or more we will be 30 days of spending and have to make bigger cuts later. The chairman believes we may only be sequestered 2 percent (\$739,000).

The problem is, God forbid if we meet while the chairman spent 10 days in D.C. trying to convince the feds that tribes should not be sequestered. We needed him to be there, but why is the board not allowed to meet without him?

Since the board chose to meet on Sept. 5 on the budgets, we received a memo on Sept. 6, with notice of five special meetings on Sept. 20, 21, 23, 25 and 28. We were to meet from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the constitution review and vote on constitutional amendments. Attached read the following: a second action item is the deduction of pro-rated amount of board pay for missing duly called meetings of the BOD, Special Meetings, Gaming Authority, Gaming Commission, Government Financial Reviews, Enterprise Financial Reviews, and duly called Budget Hearings (called as special meetings of either the Tribal Board of Directors or Gaming Authority). The deduct amount shall be \$500 per non-excused absences. Excused shall be limited to those where advanced notice is provided to all board members and only for immediate family medical (with

doctor's verification), bereavement, jury duty or court subpoena or summons or official tribal business. Personally, I do not have an attendance problem, this is my full-time job.

On Sept. 13, we received an updated memo with Sept. 23 and 25 no longer on there with no explanation. So came Sept. 20 at 10:11am or so the meeting was called to order. The chairman was not present and nobody in the room had heard from him. Director McKelvie motioned to adjourn the meeting and I seconded it and all agreed but one. First of all, the chairman called the meeting, was MIA, and we had no action items. A few minutes after we adjourned the chairman texted the executive secretary and said he was 20 minutes out in a torrential rain storm. On our way out at 11:10 a.m. the chairman arrived. Prior to leaving, there were board members who said they could not make the Saturday meeting, me being one of them as I was going to an elder's funeral in my unit. I watched the Livestream prior to the funeral and after and all it was, was a big fight with a decision to put the original draft constitution on the board agenda to vote on and talk about amendments. There was supposed to be another constitution review day on Saturday, Sept. 28, that was canceled by the chairman via an email on Sept. 25.

About half of the board did meet on Friday, Sept. 27 on the casino team member surveys and reviewed Hessel and Christmas surveys. I would like to see us meet one day a week until we get through them with an action plan.

On Oct. 1, we had our workshop and meeting in the Sault. Our agenda, as always, reads, call to order, invocation (prayer, smudging, presentation of grandfathers), roll call, etc. We have only smudged during the first few meeting since I have been elected and were then presented the seven grandfathers. This meeting the prayer was skipped over before I mentioned it. Many times we do not do a Native prayer. I am in fear that we are only a sovereign nation as long as we have our language and culture and that the U.S. government would love to take that away from us. Our elder Unit V director did read the Native 10 commandments, which was very fitting. Along came the vote on the proposed original draft of the constitution. I raised my hand to say that one year ago, when we discussed this document, that we were told by the chairman that we were denying our people the right to vote by not sending this document to the BIA for a secretarial election. I said I would not agree with sending this document out for a vote because I believe it is detrimental to the tribe. So, I then asked why a year later we were being told by the chairman that he could not support it in its original form.

What changed? What would have happened if we would have sent it out and the people approved it? They would have had the right to vote on it but upon approval, the tribe would have been devastated. A tribal member in the audience spoke and said he believed the proposed constitution is a form of white government. I have to say he made a good point. I understand that our ancestors chose leaders to travel and speak on behalf of them and their interests. Where do we find that in the three branches of the U.S. government? Why would a tribe want to emulate the government of the white man? Could this be another way of losing our sovereignty? We need to function as a TRIBE. I have never seen such a big divide with our people, members leaving the tribe, bullying, etc.

To sum things up, I am sick of the game play. We get threatened if we do not want to change a meeting so the chairman can go out of town or he will resign from his committee appointments. Can you imagine if we shut down the Midjims or casino because the manager could not be there? We cannot meet with Budgets when we want, our new government financial calendar states that it is an administrative meeting only and there will be no questions or answers allowed.

I would like to thank all of the division directors and executive team for all the hard work preparing your budgets with the least amount of impact to the tribe. You are the experts in your area and you know where the greatest areas of impact on the membership lie.

The St. Ignace board of directors meeting has been changed to Oct. 22 at the casino event center.

On Oct. 19 at noon there will be a dedication at the Wequayoc Cemetery with a plaque purchased by Director Hollowell.

Anyone with children who need help with sports, driver's training, band equipment, etc., please apply for a youth sponsorship by calling the Big Bear at (906) 635-RINK for more information.

So many elders have passed on in my unit, please take time for family and friends and remember what is truly important in life. Life is too short for negativity!

For concerns please call me at 430-0536, my office at 643-2123, email me bsorenson@saulttribe.net or bridgett91@yahoo.com.

FROM "ABRAMSON," PAGE 23 —

furloughing employees, reducing service hours and even canceling some programs altogether. IHS is funded at on only 56 percent of total need, so any small cut makes the biggest difference for all tribes.

For FY 2014, Congress must pass a budget within a budget cap of \$967 billion if automatic sequestration cuts are to be avoided. Right now, the House and Senate budgets are \$91 billion apart, so compromise is a long way off. Currently, Congress has failed to pass a continuing resolution to keep the government operating and the federal government is shutdown. As early as the week of Oct. 7,

the House may consider a bill to fund the IHS, BIA and the BIE. This is unlikely to be taken up by the Senate and President Obama has threatened to veto it.

We have worked extremely hard in D.C. by testifying before the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in April. We continue to do so.

Because the Budget Control Act has a different mechanism for issuing sequestration orders for FY 2014, it is likely that IHS will be held to a 2 percent sequestration limit. BUT, the Office of Management and Budget will be the final arbiter. With all this being said, this

obviously affects the health funding of our tribe, which in turn will affect our services.

I wish that I could reassure you that everything will be okay, but I can't. No one knows what is going to happen at this time. Hopefully, by the time you get this, the government will be reopened, our tribe will receive our funding appropriations and we will move forward. We just don't know. Take care and keep our tribe in your prayers.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at cabramson@saulttribe.net or (906) 322-3823. As always, I look forward to hearing from you!

**UPDATE
YOUR
ADDRESS!
1-800-251-6597**

Protecting women, gatherings for ghost suppers



JENNIFER MCLEOD, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

September 2013 report, printed at this time due to previous accidental omission in an earlier publication of Win Awenen Nisitotung.

It has been said that "A nation is not conquered until the hearts of its women are on the ground. Then it is finished, no matter how brave its warriors or how strong its weapons."

On March 7, 2013, President Barack Obama signed into law an important Act that helps tribes protect the hearts of its women; a law that grants tribes authority over non-Indian domestic violence perpetrators — it is the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 (VAWA).

For the first time, tribal nations will be able to arrest and prosecute non-natives involved in intimate relationships with native women, and who assault these victims on tribal lands. But, as

I have learned, it is not nearly as simple as it would seem. There is concern that tribal courts will not administer justice impartially, and that non-Indian defendants will not be given the same level of protections that would be received in state and federal courts. I was also not surprised to learn that there is HUGE opposition to tribes having this authority, and that tribes will see their actions challenged by organized groups who believe that the entire Act is "unconstitutional."

All tribes will be able to implement this law in 2014. However, there is an opportunity for tribes to take part in a pilot project that puts tribes on a fast track, and "readies" tribal courts to ensure that there is the greatest chance for success in the challenges that will come, and that non-Indian abusers are held accountable. The program is called Intertribal Technical- Assistance Working Group on Special Domestic Violence Criminal Jurisdiction.

Our tribe is participating in this pilot, and on Aug. 20 and 21, our tribe's prosecuting attorney and I attended the first meeting of this group, it was phenomenal! I was so proud of our tribe, and how close we already are to being prepared.

More than 36 tribes are participating in the project. We shared challenges, solutions and strategies to ensure everyone's success in implementing this law. I am grateful that our board of directors asked me to represent our tribe

there. I am dedicated to protecting our people, and our way of life. I am a strong advocate for ensuring our tribe's sovereignty is not diminished and will work hard to help us do what needs to be done to empower our courts with the proper laws, codes and authority.

This historic first meeting of the pilot group was incredibly powerful and intense. While there, I met a woman, Juana Majel, who was particularly knowledgeable and a primary speaker to the group. She is the traditional councilwoman of the Pauma Band of Mission Indians. I later learned she was vital in the struggle to get this law passed! The following are her words: "Today the drum of justice beats loud in Indian country in celebration of the reauthorization of VAWA, and we stand in unity with all of our partners and leaders who were unrelenting in support of protections for all women, including native women. For an unimaginable length of time, those who have terrorized our women in our most sacred places, in relationships, in our homes, and on our land, have gone unprosecuted. Now that time has come to an end, and justice and security will flourish . . ."

Right on, Juana, right on!

October 2013 report.
Aanii Anishinaabek!

It is good to have the chance to speak to you again. Many of you

contacted me last month, asking about my missing newspaper article. Although my article was written, and turned in early, it seems to have created some confusion and was not published.

However, all is well now, and you will find last month's (as well as this month's) article published in this issue. Miigwech to all of you who were concerned!

This time of year brings back many memories for me, Halloween, small game and bow hunting, deer camps and ghost suppers. It is a wonderful time of togetherness as we prepare for the coming winter. I have been asked by tribal members to share cultural information in my articles and this month I wish to share a little bit about ghost suppers.

The tradition of ghost suppers (aka giibi feasts) has been with our people for many hundreds of years. It is far more than a simple "harvest feast," it is a way of honoring our ancestors.

Beginning around Halloween, and into the month of November, Anishnaabe people throughout the Great Lakes area hold ghost suppers and there are many differing ways of having them. Sometimes they are held in people's homes, sometimes they are held in big community centers. It is a commonly held Anishnaabe belief that our ancestors come back to visit us at this time of year and so we remember and honor them with a feast.

No matter the location (home

or community center), traditional foods such as venison, wild rice, corn and berries are prepared and individual families prepare special dishes that perhaps were a favorite of a deceased loved one. But ghost suppers are not just for remembering and respecting our ancestors, they are also a celebration and commemoration of what we are thankful for. A ghost supper is a wonderful way to keep our traditions alive and bring people together!

I have visited ghost suppers held in people's homes. Sometimes there were many to go to on the same night and so I just ate a little bit at each one. Inside, there was a table set with food prepared and served by family members. Sometimes a place setting would sit unused (to honor the ancestors), sometimes not. At each home, we were encouraged to eat and eat and eat! Eating was a way to help "feed the ancestors." Each visitor symbolized an ancestral spirit visiting and brought many blessings. There was always much love, laughter and incredible stories shared during these feasts. After each group of people would finish eating, the family would clear the dishes and set new places for the next group to come in and join in the feast. This would repeat itself until there were no more visitors. Then the family would often set the table one more time and leave the food out during the night for the ancestors.

See "McLeod," Page 26

DINING

DreamCatchers Restaurant
KEWADIN SAULT STE. MARIE

NEW FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIALS
SURF & TURF - \$16.99

Chargrilled 5-oz. Bistro Filet & Coconut Shrimp served over Rice Pilaf with our own Pina Colada dipping sauce. Accompanied by our vegetable du jour.

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A heaping portion of jumbo Coconut Shrimp served over Rice Pilaf with our own Pina Colada dipping sauce. Accompanied by our vegetable du jour. Available for a limited time only.

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KEWADIN ST. IGNACE

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FRIDAY NIGHTS 4 P.M. - 10 P.M.

Slow Roasted Strip Loin, Shrimp, Whitefish, Pork, Chicken, Wild Rice, Assorted Vegetables, Potatoes and Gravy and more.

\$19.99 adults + \$9.99 children 5-12 years

TOURNAMENTS

Roll 'em High Craps
Seeded \$300 per registered player
Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
October 25-27, 2013

\$15,000 Poker Blast
Kewadin St. Ignace
November 1-3, 2013

\$15,000 Video Poker
Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
November 8-9, 2013

\$15,000 Spin to Win
Kewadin St. Ignace
November 22-24, 2013

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RANDOM DRAWS for CASH!
6-11 p.m.

Earn Entries starting November 1st
Visit The Northern Rewards Club for rules and details!

ENTERTAINMENT

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With Special Guest Linda Davis

SATURDAY
December 14 ~ 7 p.m.
Tickets \$62.50 & 52.50

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Kewadin's DreamMakers Theater Voted Best Entertainment Venue in the Eastern U.P.

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Spooktacular drink specials
COSTUME CONTESTS FOR CASH:
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+ 3rd Place - \$50

CATEGORIES: Best Couple, Scariest, Most Original

28TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Kewadin Sault Ste. Marie
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2
- Happy Hour Buck-A-Beer from 4 - 7 p.m.

- Random Draws to Step Inside **THE MONEY MACHINE** from 6 - 11 p.m.

- Plus **FREE Appetizers!**

VETERAN'S DAY

All Kewadin Sites
Monday, November 11
Active & inactive service men & women who show a valid service ID at the Northern Rewards Club booth will receive **\$10 in Kewadin Credits.**

One per person. Employees are eligible.

On federal funding and harvesting wisely



DJ MALLOY, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

During the last few months, the executive team, division staff and casino management has been working on budgets to come in line with the drastic cuts anticipated from federal sequestration. So far, the federal government looks at treaty obligations as “discretionary spending.”

While we argue there is nothing discretionary about treaty obligations, the tide has yet to turn in favor of tribes across the entire United States. This means we must prepare for immense and painful cuts in the most basic of

services in Indian Country, like Indian Health Service, which is already funded at only 54 percent of the need. A myriad of services will be greatly affected if the U.S. government doesn't come together and pass a balanced budget. Most recently, the effects of the U.S. government shutdown has hit, and tribes are scrambling to make some sort of sense out of the fiscal conundrums.

It is our mission to make budget reductions with a scalpel rather than an ax. We are looking to preserve services and jobs as much as possible. This has been an arduous and painful process for staff. They have had to prepare budget after budget looking at different scenarios and levels of anticipated cuts in federal dollars. I am so proud and grateful for the work and dedication they have put into each of their departments in efforts to continue service at some level to our most needy citizens.

The one thing we cannot lighten up on is the presence of our tribal leaders in Washington D.C. This has been paramount in educating the legislators on

treaties and trust. And our own tribal chairperson has made great strides in representing and advocating for not only our nation, but for all Indian nations. A catch phrase “It's a trust thing!” was printed off and made into buttons then carried to Washington where it seems to be catching on. We have a glimmer of hope that there will be a recognition of federal treaty obligations or that the U.S. legislators will find common ground to stop the shutdown and perhaps even present a spending plan that comes in under budget thereby failing to trigger the 14 percent sequestration mandate.

Meanwhile, we can only hope for the best and plan for the worst. It would help if you contacted your U.S. legislator's and urged them to recognize and honor their obligations under the treaties!

Harvest time — fall is the time of harvest no matter where we live. And just happens to be my favorite time of year. Many are heading out to the woods to pick wild flora, hunt large and small game, cut wood and gather materials for crafting. Here in the

north we are blessed with quite a diverse harvest and I'm sure it is the Creator's way of making sure we have the means to get through the harsh winter months.

It is our charge to be responsible in our harvests. We should take only what we need and use as much of what we take as we can. When harvesting vegetation, don't take every plant of a species in any one area. Leave enough to insure the continued growth for seasons to come. Hunt mushrooms with a mesh bag to allow the spores to drop to the ground, again to make sure they are there for next year's harvest. Use as much of an animal as possible.

More and more often we are seeing evidence of people who need more teachings about sustainable harvesting. We see sweetgrass pulled up by the roots, entire patches of plants pulled and animal carcasses left rotting with only the hind quarters removed. Even the trees are being subjected to neophyte bark harvesting. The bark is being removed all the way around the tree and exposing the inner layers of the trunk. It kills the trees and is a waste of life and

resources.

Like many others, I have no desire to purchase things that were made from items gathered irresponsibly. And it pains me to see such devastation left along the paths. I choose to believe it is done out of naivety rather than disregard.

Remember, when we harvest, we are taking life. Being mindful of this keeps us close to the relationship we have with nature. There is nothing wrong with harvesting those things we need or can use from our surroundings. And there is nothing wrong with asking for direction if one is not sure of how to be responsible while harvesting. There are teachings available for those who ask and, in turn, the students later become the teachers.

In closing, I want to thank all those who continue to provide me with valuable input and visions for our future. Please know I am grateful for your insight and advice. I am available through email at dmalloy@saulttribe.net or by phone at (906) 440-9762.

Respectfully,
DJ Malloy

Tribal Youth Development program available



DARCY MORROW, DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

This is a reminder to all parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles of tribal youth the Tribal Youth Development program opened Aug. 1. Youth may request

funding for a variety of purposes: sports fees (registration, equipment, shoes, music, dance and theatre lessons, instrument purchase and rental, language lessons, camps sports, band, art, academic) and related travel fees, educational, cultural and class trips; testing fees, driver's education, senior pictures, school supplies and book deposits, regalia and youth drum. Applicants may receive funding up to \$100 once per academic year Aug. 1 – July 31. Applicants must reside in the seven-county service area and provide proof of household income. For more information about the program, please contact Jessica Dumbuck at (906) 635-7770. Applications are available at the Manistique Tribal Center ACFS office please call (906) 341-6993 to have an application mailed to you.

At the time of this report, the government has shut down and we have no definite number as to what sequestration is going to be. With the reality of sequestration and the government shut down now is the time our tribal leaders need to step up and make some long overdue changes to our casino operations.

During this first year on the board I have heard many complaints about the mismanagement of our casinos and how miserable all the team members are that morale is at an all time low. At one time, all five casinos had a good family atmosphere. Everyone helped each other out, there was real team work. Everyone took pride in their work and we all worked for the success of the Sault Tribe. Since 2008, somewhere along the line, that way of think-

ing went by the wayside. Now it seems most top management only work Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., some even work four 10-hour shifts. How do you run a business and actually have a handle on it unless you work different shifts, during promotions and weekends?

It seems management does not care that we are not increasing revenue because they are still being paid. The audit team Innovative Gaming Solutions has come in and provided the board with a report that shows many areas of improvement and currently the board has started going through the casino team member surveys. While going through these surveys and with the audit report, I hope that all board members can see that we need to make a big move in the right direction. I

cannot see how any board member can justify not making some major changes in our casinos.

Director Chase and I would like to thank everyone who attended the Unit IV elders picnic on Sept. 18 at the Manistique Tribal Center. We had a great turn out with 62 elders attending from across the service area.

We would also like to thank everyone who was able to donate items to the giveaway drawings. It was such a nice time to have all the elders under the same roof enjoying each other's company.

If I can answer any questions, feel free to give me a call at (906) 203-6699 or email me at dmorrow@saulttribe.net or darcymorrowforunit4@yahoo.com.

Thank you,
Darcy Morrow

Board resolutions summary for Sept. 24 meeting

MUNISING — The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened a regular meeting on Sept. 24 at the Munising Tribal Center. All board members were present.

Seven resolutions were passed unanimously and one (resolution 208) passed by a vote of 8 to 3 with one person abstaining.

Resolution 201 was passed authorizing the Transportation Program to submit an application requesting \$35,000 in funding for FY 2014 Tribal Transportation Program Safety Funds, administered through the Department of Transportation (DOT) to expand the current Road Safety Assessment Pilot Project. Expansion of the Road Investment Project will provide the tribe with the tools to identify resources, barriers and priorities and establish methods to implement strategies and expand assessments to include the entire seven county service area.

Resolution 202, based on the same DOT safety grant as men-

tioned in resolution 201 above, authorizes the Transportation Program to submit an application requesting \$12,500 in funding to develop a tribal transportation safety plan.

Resolution 203 authorized the chairperson to accept grant dollars from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation amounting to \$75,000, to fund predevelopment activities for the property located at 199 West 3 Mile Road. The tribe purchased the 8,000 sq. ft. facility along with 28 acres of land along the 3 Mile Road corridor in Sault Ste. Marie and the property and structure are in need of repair, development design and site improvements.

Resolution 204 approved the establishment of a FY 2014 budget for the Michigan State University Extension Mini Grant with MSUE monies of \$1,000.

Resolution 205 approved the establishment of a FY 2014 budget for the Americorp Grant with monies from the Federal Corporation for National Community Service in

the amount of \$67,200 and an in-kind match in salaries of \$22,946.

Resolution 206 approved the indirect cost reallocation FY 2013 budget modification and the establishment of an FY 2013 budget. This includes budget modifications to Indirect, Indirect-Membership Services, Indirect-Executive Director, and Board of Directors to reallocate personnel, expenses, and revenues to conform to the requirements of the Sault Tribe's Indirect Proposal as well as the establishment of a FY 2013 budget for administrative staff to conform to the requirements of the Sault Tribe's Indirect Proposal.

Resolution 207 approved the establishment of a FY 2014 budget for the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) TGRP 2010 grant with Federal Department of Justice monies of \$47,701.58. With Resolution 208, the board of directors, pursuant to Tribal Code Chapter 76, granted a partial waiver.

Under new business, the board accepted the resignation of Jeremy

Loebach from the Great Lakes Conservation Committee; changed the Oct. 15 regular board meeting date to Oct. 22; and the matter

From “McLeod,” Page 25 —

I have also attended ghost feasts held as a huge event in tribal communities. Most often held in community centers, these feasts also consist of wild game, berries, corn, wild rice etc. Families would contribute (pot luck style) special dishes of a beloved ancestor's favorite dish. From banana cream pie to spaghetti, each holds a special place in the memory of a family and is a way of remembering and honoring an ancestor. Food prepared for a ghost supper is generally (although not always) homemade, and always prepared or purchased with love and good thoughts.

Perhaps the ghost supper is new to you, perhaps not. But to all, I encourage you to keep our ways alive. It is the first purpose of our tribal Constitution – to perpetuate our way of life. It can be as simple

of license plates was deferred for 30 days to give the tribe's Legal Department time to review the issue.

as a small meal that includes a loved one's favorite dish or as elaborate as a feast to feed hundreds! It's all about remembering who we are, honoring those who came before and passing the traditions on to our children.

In these tough economic times, amid all the worry of sequestration, government shutdowns and especially the fear of the unknown, we are still (and always will be) Anishinaabe. Don't be afraid to try a ghost supper in your own home – even a little bit is good! I believe our ancestors would rather have us try, than do nothing. If I can be of any help, or if you have any questions, please contact me.

As always,
Jennifer McLeod
(906) 440-9151

JmcLeod1@saulttribe.net or jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com.

Recent constitutional voting at the board level



LANA CAUSLEY, DIRECTOR, UNIT II

On Oct. 1, 2013, the tribal board of directors voted on sending the original draft constitution out for a vote of the people. The item was placed on the agenda at least five days in advance per our Tribal Code and was placed on the agenda by the tribal chairman for action. After a long and honest discussion by all the board, the motion I made to send the document out failed with only myself and one other director supporting; the chairman voted 'no' as he can vote on constitutional issues.

I will take this opportunity to explain my position and refer to facts (meeting video, e-mails I have sent and resolution 2005-198) because now misleading attacks are being placed about myself for voting for the project to go out to a vote and ironically those that did not support it are being attacked as well, makes no sense and it's quite shameful, I believe it's simple this way as the whole item of constitutional reform has been used as a political weapon and abused to the most obvious degree to mislead members.

I explained last night as you can review on our site, I have always supported sending out the original document. Back in 2005, the tribe took on the project of constitutional reform and formed a TRIBAL MEMBER COMMITTEE to draft a document of amendments with NO INPUT OR INFLUENCE from the board of directors; see resolution 2005-198, "New Constitution Amendment Project, project plan." in this plan the wording states:

*"Guiding Principals
"The Project is designed to let the People of the Tribe develop and vote on proposed amendments to the Constitution. The Constitution is a document for all the People and the whole Tribe. The Board of Directors has agreed to takes steps to stay neutral in the Project, to try to keep 'politics' out of the Project, and to allow the People to develop proposed amendments to the Constitution.*

"The Project is a serious matter and any changes to the Constitution could last for many years. The current Constitution has been in place for 30 years.

*"Approval Process
"Once proposed amendments to the Constitution are developed, the Committee shall forward their recommendations to the Board of Directors. According to the current requirements contained in*

the 1975 Constitution, the Board of Directors must ask the BIA to hold a Special Election, called a 'Secretarial Election,' for the voters to make a final decision on any proposed amendments.

*"Voters Have the Final Say
"Any decisions reached by the Committee will not be final until approved by the voters of the Tribe in an election. The voters of the Tribe will make the final decision on any proposed amendments to the Constitution."*

These paragraphs are verbatim out of the resolution.

I stayed out of this process and was frustrated but adhered to it. We were prohibited from having input so there was no abuse, political influence or board members creating a document that was self serving.

Once the document was completed and presented to the board, the committee, board and some vocal membership did not agree to the changes. It's a truth the document sat dormant for almost six years with no real effort to bring that back. I have voiced at the board level, wrote in unit reports and requested on our agenda discussion many, many times about prioritizing and working on amendments in that six-year period, I have even been part of two good changes to our current Constitution and that is the reason I have always advocated for amendments. We can send out individual items so it does not cause confusion and we can adjust budgets to accommodate those changes based on planning.

Fast forward to 2013, we created another committee, this time WITH BOARD holding pen to paper with changes, we reviewed the document, discussed changes and some leadership advocating to strip many items out that the people of the tribe drafted (none were officially changed due to the fact it was a review). My elders in Unit II committed to this review and will agree it was only a review. It was in the original project plan that the board could not make changes to the draft that the original committee of THE PEOPLE drafted; it was to go out for a approval from the membership as is.

So, finally, on Oct. 2, it comes to a head. I will say here I respect every vote that was made by my fellow board members on this decision, either way mine was mine and I voted 'yes' because it truly is the only document we have that the people of this tribe created. Anything other, in my opinion, would be and is abused in the process. I explained at the meeting that once the document came in the mail to my home, as a tribal member I would not vote for it but as a leader I would support the entire membership making that decision, because remember, this is the only document that THE PEOPLE created and I wanted to PROTECT that and voiced those same words Oct. 2.

The chairman is a different story, although I respect his vote of NOT sending it out, I'm in total confusion. I agree with the other directors that there are items in there that cannot be handled financially at this time but this

constitutional process has been abused so terribly. You can see from the words out of the project plan that we had a process set with the people! Now games are played, you are misled and it's unacceptable. The document that I voted to send out is not perfect but it sure is better than the politicians making the changes and claiming they speak for you. I'd have to think that after all these years the chair advocating for the changes, then voting no to send out is confusing at the very least. NOW moving forward I will continue to advocate for amendments one by one with your input and direction. I won't use the process as a tool to mislead or create changes that represent myself. I was active and on the board when we did the last two amendments, "board members prohibited from working for the tribe" and "separating the CEO from the chair" and it does and CAN WORK for the people.

Okay, I'm done on that subject, please don't believe the lies and misleading information recklessly posted by leadership on the Internet. I stand willing and committed to changes within our governmental structure with proper planning and direction from the people.

The board has been working on balancing our budget for 2014. I'm proud to say we did get to the point of balancing the year, if we stay the course.

We still face the uncertainty of the final sequestration amounts and our administration staff is working diligently to balance and make recommendations per the amounts for savings. They are aware and agree any cuts are with services and employees retained in mind. I'm proud of them and our board for being on top of this and committing to our responsibilities of financial well being.

Can you believe that Indian tribes are even listed as discretionary spending when it comes to the governmental budgets? Oh, my gosh, I don't even want to get started on that. This is a battle that we must keep battling every day for our people.

I have received many calls on the changes with the Affordable Health Care Act. Below is some information; we have also identified staff at each clinic to assist members with questions.

1. If you are an an elder and already have Medicare or Medicaid you do not need to make any changes.
2. If you are an enrolled tribal member of a federally recognized tribe you can opt out from any requirement to sign up.
3. For those elders aged 60-64 who have no insurance, they can call for assistance to sign up on the exchange for the marketplace or to see if their income allows them eligibility to sign up for Medicaid expansion.

4. For coverage on the marketplace to sign up for an insurance plan on the exchange, they need their income from last tax year. This will help to determine the subsidies and tax credits and how much per month insurance will cost them.

5. You can go also to the website www.healthcare.gov and click on "Michigan" and review the exchange and plans available. There is assistance prompts on the website as well. Again, we have staff identified to assist so please take advantage of this on your individual circumstances at our clinics.

It's that time of year for ghost feasts, remembering and feeding our ancestors. Please take the time to feast at those in your communities. Hessel community will be hosting a gathering of the pipes and ghost feast on Nov. 2 at the Hessel Tribal Center. Pipes will be lit at sunrise with ceremonies throughout the day and a ghost feast will begin at dusk. Everyone is invited to attend.

We will also be holding a drum gathering and talking circle on Oct. 24 at 6 p.m. All are welcome; please bring a dish to pass if you can. I hope to see you there.

As always, if you would like to meet or contact me: lcausley@saulttribe.net, (906) 484-2954, (906) 322-3818. Baamaapii.

Lana Causley, Unit II board of directors representative.

HONORING OUR ANISHINABE VETERANS 10TH ANNUAL POW WOW

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2013
KINROSS RECREATION CENTER, KINROSS, MICHIGAN

PUBLIC WELCOME



WELCOME TO OURS

VETERAN'S BREAKFAST 10:30 A.M.

GRAND ENTRY 2:00 P.M.

FEAST / POTLUCK 5:00 P.M.

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS IF POSSIBLE.

— Delegates —

Head Veteran: Anthony Davis
Head Male: Chris Hall
Head Female: Debbie Pine
Arena Director: Tracy Heath

—Host Drum—
Bahweting Singers

First four drums paid honorarium.

Blanket Dance for All Other Drums — All Drums Invited.

All Drums must have a minimum of 5 singers — no Drum hopping.

This is an alcohol and drug free event. For information, please call 906-635-6050 or 906-203-4977.

Vendors: Please call Linda Grossett, 906-635-6050.



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