wenen

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



JKL Rocks the MEAP

SAULT STE. MARIE — Every fall, 3-8th grade students in Michigan take the Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP) test. Results are returned to schools late winter.

One way schools measure academic success is growth and another is achievement. Growth targets are set by the state. They are different for every school. This year, JKL Bawating Anishnabe School students met, or exceeded growth targets, in Math, Reading, Science and Writing, and came just under the Social Studies target, which is tested in 6th grade only.

Students scored well above the state average in Social Studies, as well as all other subjects.

JKL ranked 12 out of 210 charter schools. Among EUPISD schools, 8th grade students scored highest in the region in all subjects tested, including Reading, Math and Science.

Third Grade	Reading	Math	_
JKL-Overall %	75%	67%	_
State of Michigan	61%	40%	_
Fourth Grade	Reading	Math	Writing
JKL Overall %	75%	61%	61%
State of Michigan	70%	45%	51%
Fifth Grade	Reading	Math	Science
JKL Overall %	84%	66%	33%
State of Michigan	72%	45%	17%
Sixth Grade	Reading	Math	Social Studies
JKL Overall %	80%	50%	42%
State of Michigan	72%	42%	27%
Seventh Grade	Reading	Math	Writing
JKL Overall %	70%	49%	73%
State of Michigan	60%	39%	53%
Eigth Grade	Reading	Math	Science
JKL Overall %	>95%	48%	33%
State of Michigan	73%	35%	20%

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Win Awenen Nisitotung 531 Ashmun St. Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Feds to fully fund 2014 BIA, IHS contract support costs

By Rick Smith

The Indian Health Service (IHS) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) recently submitted spending plans to Congress indicating the intent of the agencies to fully fund Indian Country contract support costs during fiscal year 2014.

The move comes after Congress passed the fiscal year 2014 appropriations bill, which removed limits on contract support costs and created a method for the IHS and BIA to fund those costs in full in 2014.

The IHS contract support services cover health care expenses incurred through arrangements outside the scope of tribal medical services. BIA contract support services primarily cover some starting costs for an array of tribal programs.

"For the first time in decades," noted the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) in a prepared statement, "tribal nations will receive full payment on contracts signed with the federal government. The Bureau

of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service have submitted plans to pay their 2014 contracts in full."

The NCAI describes the development as a positive step in the right direction for future contracts, but federal agencies must also hasten the settlement of long overdue past claims amounting to millions of dollars in unpaid contract support costs from decades

While it all sounds good, there are a couple of glitches. For one, the BIA and the IHS must use existing funding to fulfill contract support costs. In effect, the agencies must "rob from Paul to pay Peter." The agencies must pay for contract support costs out of their current budgets, which could mean any number of IHS and BIA shortages from construction to staffing to equipment. In spite of recent budget increases, it is probable both agencies may face hard choices on making cuts elsewhere to satisfy contract support costs. It appears those choices will be more difficult for the BIA than the IHS due to fewer options and no substantial increase in BIA funding for the fiscal year.

After a 2012 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Salazar vs. Ramah Navajo Chapter, which stipulates that the U.S. government must pay every tribe's contract support costs whether or not Congress appropriates funding for that purpose, the court suggested putting limits on those costs on a case-by-case basis for individual tribes. In working out federal budgets recently, Congress made sure the BIA and IHS could pay tribal contract support costs by keeping funding for the agencies in general accounts instead of the usual specified accounts for their different needs. In effect, leaving it to the agencies to resolve the

According to the National Indian Health Board, while Indian Country and U.S. leaders have worked together to make a significant step in correcting an old problem, work still needs to be done on current funding plans for contract support costs along with recommendations for funding for next fiscal year and beyond.

Limestone mining operation proposed in Michigan's U.P.

Tribe opposes Graymont's proposal to purchase 10,000 acres of state-owned land from MDNR

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Sault Tribe continues to investigate a proposal by Graymont mining company to purchase about 10,000 acres of state owned land from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources for the mining of lime and limestone. Representatives of Graymont visited the Sault Tribe Board of Directors on March 4 to explain their plans after learning the board had unanimously adopted a resolution (2013-25) on Dec. 3, 2013, opposing the sale.

The following is a general overview of who and what Graymont is and what they are proposing. Comments from Graymont representative Paul Stoll, Sault Tribe's General Counsel John Wernet and Dean Reid, chairman of the Mackinac County Planning Commission, will follow. Pertinent portions of the Sault Tribe's resolution opposing the sale or exchange of public lands to Graymont will also be provided.

Graymont is a North American company and a leading producer

of lime and limestone with a majority of their operations based in the U.S. They have been in the lime and limestone business for over 60 years and have 18 lime plants and 1,400 employees.

They also have a presence in the Great Lakes and the U.P., with five operations located in Port Inland, Mich.; Superior, Green Bay and Eden, Wisc.; and Genoa, Ohio.

According to Graymont, lime and limestone are used for: water purification (e.g. Lansing water supply), air emissions scrubbing to remove pollutants, wastewater treatment (pH control, removal of pollutants, bacteria control), waste stabilization and soil stabilization.

Some industrial applications lime and limestone are used for include: paper - 20 percent of white paper is limestone, it removes impurities from steel and is an ingredient used in glass, mortar and plaster and also as a soil amendment for farming.

Examples Graymont gives as uses for their products include: The car that you drive in – steel, rubber, glass; the roads you drive on – road bed, asphalt; the food you eat - sugar refining, food preservation, cattle feed, amending the soil your food is grown in; and products we use - paper, paint, ink, plastic, rubber, leather,

textiles, brick, mortar, lotion and antacids.

In a public forum held Jan. 30 in Sault Ste. Marie, Graymont representatives said the proposed Rexton Project would include a potential project area of about 13,000 acres of private and federal land and about 10,000 acres of state owned land. The proposed project includes three phases. Phase 1 would be a surface quarry at Hendricks; Phase 2, a surface quarry northeast of Rexton; and Phase 3, an underground mine near Rexton. Graymont states that, "Depending on future market, a limestone processing plant may be included as part of the project."

For the two proposed surface quarries, Graymont proposes an estimated quarried area of 10 to 20 acres per year with the quarried areas being reclaimed along with the quarries progression. They are proposing up to 800 acres in active quarry area at any one time, including buffer zones, with 40 acres being acquired from a private owner.

Graymont's proposal for the underground mine includes a mine area of approximately 7,800 acres of State land with what they are saying will be minimal surface disturbance. They state the surface will remain open to

See "Graymont," Page 14

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

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Other things to help you get ready ~

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

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

Clip & Save







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.

HELP YOU

Accessing the tribe's brownfield records

Environmental Department Brownfields Program is to rehabilitate tribal land for future use in the development of resources, securing the wellbeing of present and future members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

One of our major duties in maintaining the program is to hold annual public meetings to inform the community about new developments on Sault Tribe land. Our next public meeting is on Thursday, April 10 at 7 p.m., at the Bayliss Public Library in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

The program staff also developed a public access website to provide public records of Sault Tribe properties. We invite all members to examine our electronic public records at http://

saulttribeenvironmentalbrownfields.wordpress.com. The purpose of having public records is to inform Sault Tribe members of any changes, issues, presence or potential presence of hazardous substances on tribal lands and to give updates on local revitalization efforts.

The Environmental Department has files in the department's office as well as online for easy access. Having both an online site and physical building allows access the to the public records early and conveniently.

The department is at 206 Greenough Street in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you have any questions, you may call us at (906) 632-5575 or email apeters@saulttribe.

Youth Development Fund taking applications

By Jessica Dumback

The Tribal Youth Development Fund is available to Sault Tribe youngsters living in the tribe's service area. The fund assists with the needs required by a wide variety of extra-curricular activities such as sports fees and equipment, music, dance and theatre lessons instrument purchases and rental fees, sports and academic camps, driver education, regalia making, youth drum and senior pictures to name just a few.

Applicants must live in either Alger, Chippewa, Delta, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette or Schoolcraft counties to be eligi-

April board meetings change

Sault Tribe Board of Directors meetings scheduled for April 8 and 22 are rescheduled for April 15 in Kincheloe and April 29 in Munising. Please call Joann Carr or Tara Benoit at 635-6050 if you have any questions.

Sault Tribe enterprise iob openina

Midjim assistant manager in St. Ignace, Mich. Benefits: 401K retirement. plan and competitive benefits package. Native American preferred. Reply to Sault Tribe Human Resource Department, 3015 Mackinac Trail, St. Ignace, MI 49781, 643-4176 or (866) 635-7032, fax 643-2127 or apply online at www.saulttribe.com.

Win Awenen

Nisitotung

The official newspaper of the

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe

of Chippewa Indians.

March 21, 2014

Ziisbaakdoke Giiziz

Sugar-making Moon

Vol. 35, No. 3

Circulation 20,000

Jennifer Dale-Burton......Editor

Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer

Rick Smith.....Staff Writer

Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary

ble. Youth may receive up to \$100 per funding cycle, which follows the academic school year of Aug. 1-July 31.

Applying households must meet the established income criteria of 150 percent of the 2014 U.S. Health and Human Services poverty guidelines, which ranges from \$11,670 per year for a household of one to \$40,090 per year for a household of eight. Amounts in between those two points are \$15,730 for a twoperson household, \$19,790 for a three-person household, \$23,850 for four, \$27,910 for five, \$31,970 for six and \$36,030 for seven. For each additional person beyond eight in a household, add \$4,060.

Applications meeting the established criteria are funded on a first come, first served basis as funding is limited. For a complete list of funding opportunities, or to receive an application, please contact Jessica Dumback at (906) 635-7770 or via email at jdumback@saulttribe.net.

Membership Liaisons

Rita Glyptis, Units IV& V (906) 450-7024 Munising Tribal Center: (906) 387-4721, ext. 36095 Manistique Tribal Center (906) 341-6993, ext. 29517 rglyptis@saulttribe.net

Clarence Hudak, Units II and III. Temporarily Unit I (906) 430-2004 Lambert Center, St. Ignace: 906-643-2124, ext. 34240 chudak@saulttribe.net

Wequayoc Cemetery Planning Project update

In the fall of 2012, Sault Tribe purchased Wequayoc Cemetery from the family of Lawrence Grimes. This parcel is comprised of 40 acres and includes both a home and a cemetery with approximately 50 marked graves of tribal members and their families. This place has been a spiritual gathering place for our Ojibwe families for generations and, as such is very important to the tribe and our members.

The tribe, wanting to develop a community-driven plan for using the property based on the needs of the families who use the cemetery and the tribal community as a whole, applied for and received a grant to assist with this planning process. The goal of the Wequayoc Cemetery Planning Project is to pilot a community-driven planning and regulatory development process that will serve as a template for future codes and policies. To accomplish this goal, the project strategy focuses on three specific objectives:

- Development of a community plan for Wequayoc Cemetery.
- Development of policies and procedures for the cemetery.
- Development of specific ordinances for the cemetery.

Planning is expected to take one year. As part of this process, the tribe has engaged the services of a member from Manistique, Alan Barr, who has over 25 years experience in community engagement and strategic planning as part of his consulting practice.

Mr. Barr began his work on the project in January, researching other tribal cemeteries to learn about locations, operations, ordinances, policies, procedures and resources. Besides extensive online research, he also contacted the U.S. Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs (national, regional and local offices), Michigan's Historic Preservation Office and the departments of anthropology from both the



Alan Barr

University of Michigan and Michigan State University for any information on tribal cemeteries and other resources.

When asked about what he has learned from the research, he said, "The bad news is there just isn't a lot of information out there about tribal cemeteries. The good news is our tribe will be in a position, thanks to this project, to show great leadership in how to engage members in such a planning effort. We will also be leaders in how to develop sound, community-driven policies, procedures and ordinances. Years from now, when anyone does research on these topics, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians will appear at the top of the list of resources. That's a great honor for our tribe."

A series of community planning sessions will be set up to meet with and learn from members from across the tribe's service area. These sessions will be open to all members who wish to participate. Once the sessions have been conducted and the community input gathered, compiled and analyzed, a series of recommendations will be created to assist in the formation of the policies, procedures and ordinances for Wequayoc Cemetery. A formal report documenting the

entire project will be created, allowing the tribe to use this project as a template for future community-driven efforts.

Please consider participating in the community planning sessions. Your voice is important in this process and will help us develop a plan, with supporting policies and procedures, which works for our members.

AMERICAN INDIAN INTERPRETER POSITION AVAILABLE FOR 2014

NOW HIRING — Mackinac State Historic Parks, Mackinaw City, Michigan Colonial Michilimackinac, has a full-time and a part-time summer seasonal position available for the upcoming 2014 season to be an American Indian Interpreter. Low cost dormitory housing at approximately \$96 a month is available, pay starts at \$8/ hour, 40 hours/week. Positions start in early May or early June and work through Labor Day (or later). Please visit our web page at www.MackinacParks.com for a complete job description as well as a listing of all the summer positions available or call 231-436-4100, or E-mail FEGANK@ michigan.gov for further information. EOE



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Women's event set for Newberry

The second annual Newberry Tribal Center Women's Event is scheduled for April 11 from 3 to 6:30 p.m. This year, we will focus on Empowering Our Women featuring speakers on the subjects of healthy relationship dynamics, creating cultural awareness, the Seven Grandfather tenets and discussions on local support services for women. Bringing all this information together will help in creating healthier relationships.

Those who attend may also have blood pressure and random blood sugar checks and get information on healthful eating, breast and cervical cancer awareness, great exercises and other issues for women.

A pot luck feast takes place at 5:30 p.m.

Please call (906) 293-8181 before April 4 to register.

This event is brought to you by the staff of the Newberry Tribal Community and Health Center.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Advertising: \$8.50/column inch. **Submission and Subscriptions:** Win Awenen Nisitotung Attn: Communications Dept. 531 Ashmun St.,

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 Telephone: (906) 632-6398 Fax: (906) 632-6556 E-mail: saulttribenews@saulttribe.

Forum educates against drugged driving

By RICK SMITH

The Tribal Court sponsored a Drugged Driving Prevention Night at Malcolm High School on Feb. 13 for the benefit of everyone, but especially for young folks in the area aged 14 to 18 years. The forum was conducted with the assistance of Sault Tribe Housing, the Title VII Parent Committee and Malcolm High.

According to a 2007 survey by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, about one in eight drivers on weekend nights tested positive for illicit or prescription drugs. According to statistics for that year from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the leading cause of death among young people 15 to 19 years of age was reported to be motor vehicle crashes. One study found 30 percent of high school students admitted to either driving while impaired by drugs or alcohol or riding with an impaired driver.

The White House calls the situation a public concern "because it puts not only the driver at risk, but also the passengers and others who share the road. Drugs can impair drivers' ability to operate a motor vehicle just as substantially as alchohol and can prove just as deadly. This is true of drugs such as marijuana and cocaine, as well as psycho-active prescription and over-the-counter medications."



Sault Tribe representatives, adults from left, receptionist Rachel Shreve, Specialty Court coordinator Pat McKelvie, therapist Christine Burlak, probation officer Brianne Lees, intern Nikki Bowens and Tribal Court Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry at the forum in Sault Ste. Marie.

The Drugged Driving Prevention forum, coordinated by Pat McKelvie of the tribe's Specialty Court and moderated by Sault Area High School seniors Alexis Clow and Emily Clow, featured testimony from Sault Tribe Police Chief Robert Marchand, 91st District Court Magistrate Eric Blubaugh and special guest speaker Kris Bromenshenkel. Representatives from Families Against Narcotics of Chippewa County, Anishnabek Community and Family Services, and the Tribal Court were also on hand with information about their respective organizations and provided an opportunity to learn about local resources for help with drug abuse prevention and treatment.

"We are all aware of the terrible consequences of driving drunk and are familiar with the many successful drinking and driving awareness campaigns. With the dramatic increase of handheld phones and personal devices, campaigns and laws targeting talking or texting while driving have also gained prominence." McKelvie noted. "Yet, an often overlooked issue, especially among teens and young adults, is drugged driving."

Marchand told *The Evening*News Sault Sunday in a story
about the event that drugged driving is a big problem in the eastern
Upper Peninsula. He indicated a
couple of factors come into play
that contribute to the prevalence
of drugged drivers and the difficulty in prosecuting them, mainly
the uncertainty of to what extent



Photos by Rick Smith

From left, Sault Tribe Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry, guest speaker Chris Bromenshenkel, moderators Alexis Clow and Emily Clow, Eric Blubaugh of the 91st District Court and Sault Tribe Police Chief Robert Marchand.

drugs and dosages will impact different individuals and the lack of guidelines for determining if someone is under the influence of illicit or prescription drugs.

The event was well attended and included refreshments along with drawings for door prizes for those on hand.

McKelive indicated the team anticipates conducting another forum on the issue during the next school year.



Representing Families Against Narcotics of Chippewa County, from left, board member Linda Christie, President Lisa Guathier and executive secretary Lynn Farnquist.

Migizi Doodem Mookodaasowinini — Eagle Clan Carver

Ron Paquin, 2433 Polish Line Road, Cheboygan MI 49721, (231) 268-3344, mmpaquin@charter.net

- 2014 WORKSHOPS-

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Quilled birch bark "bowl" — Monday, August 4, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oblong with sweetgrass sewn seams, quillwork on bottom. All materials provided, bring your own lunch. \$45.

Quilled birch bark wall pocket — Monday, August 11, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. All materials provided, bring your own lunch. \$45.

Pottery! I am considering teaching a ground fired pinch pottery class in September. Please note below if you are interested and I will let you know if I schedule one.

To register, send your check or money order for full amount payable to Ron Paquin, 2433 Polish Line Rd., Cheboygan, MI 49721. Your reservation is confirmed only upon receipt of your payment. First come, first served! Classes fill quickly! Should I have to cancel for any reason, I will refund your total amount. All classes will be at my home. Please include the enclosed form with your payment. Thanks, and I look forward to seeing you!

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- Constitutional Reviews
- Financials
- **Gaming Workshops**
- Budget Meetings

This ad is endorsed by Keith Massaway

Sault Tribe Golf Scholarship Classic scheduled

By Jessica Dumback

The 14th annual Sault Tribe Golf Scholarship Classic is set for Saturday, July 26, 2014. This distinguished event takes place once again at the beautiful Wild Bluff Golf Course in Brimley, Mich.

Generated funds are placed in an education fund, which provides Sault Tribe members with scholarships to further their education. Scholarships are awarded in honor of those who were previously Sault Tribe board chairman, board members and those who have made significant contributions to the tribal community.

The tribe awards 20 \$1,000 scholarships annually from the fund. Since the inception of the educational fund, \$208,000 has been awarded to students.

Classic participants have the opportunity to start the twoday event Friday morning with discounted rounds of golf at the Wild Bluff Golf Course. The reception, sponsored by PNC Bank, is set for Friday evening at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center. During the reception, golfers have the opportunity to check in, mingle with other golfers and enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres. The main event of the weekend begins with a shotgun start at 10 a.m. on Saturday. Golfers will have the chance to win cash prizes of \$10,000 and \$25,000 or one of two vehicles sponsored by local dealerships during our hole-inone contests. If golfers don't succeed in one of the hole-in-one contests, they can put their skills to the test during the putting contest for another chance to win \$10,000.

While on the course, golf-

ers will be treated to a delicious lunch of burgers, brats, baked beans, potato salad and all the fixings sponsored by Sault Printing Company.

Following the clasic, golfers and sponsors are invited to our banquet at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center for a tasty steak dinner. Sponsors are recognized for their tremendous support and contributions towards the fund. In addition, those attending the banquet have the opportunity to win great door prizes and to participate in our silent auction.

Closing out the night, prizes are awarded to the top teams in each division, men's and mixed.

Those interested should call me, Jessica Dumback, at (906) 635-7770.

Registration closes after the first 36 teams register and pay, with preference given to spon-

The event committee includes Jessica Dumback, Jeff Holt, Tamara Roche and Jake Sillers. Presented by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Kewadin Casinos.

Sault Tribe language classes now available online

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe Ojibwe language classes, or Anishinaabemowin instruction, are appearing online via Livestream. The online classes were proposed about three years ago by the late Orien Corbiere, a venerable Anishinaabemowin instructor working for the tribe at the time of his passing on Jan. 14, 2012. After his passing, language instructors and others from the tribe's Cultural Department started research and development on the proposed project.

Given the small staff of the department, the large geographic area involved in bringing Anishinaabemowin to interested members and others, frequent inclement weather conditions making travel dangerous and the need to keep within budget limitations, putting the language lessons online is not only merely an alternative, but a necessity.

Once the staff acquired federal grant funding for the project, they set to work in production development and gathering needed equipment. While the project remains a work in progress at this point, online classes are now available and can evolve as needed while the project progresses. "We just wanted to get it started," said Theresa Lewis, one of the instructors and a key figure in the project.

Another member of the depart-

ment, Cecil Pavlat, said vital initial assistance with the technology involved in the project came from Sault Tribe member Adam Khalil.

Those interested may view the initial works on a fledgling archive at livestream.com/saulttribelanguage.

Immediate goals for the frequency of placing instruction segments online have a window of one week to one month at this time. The schedule is likely to evolve as needs become more evident, as will all other aspects of the project. In addition to mastering the different aspects of the department's newest feature, the staff is working with incorporating the work in with their other duties, including continuing regularly scheduled classroom language instruction in the Sault, St. Ignace, Newberry and Munising.

Sometimes in future segments, Lewis and Pavlat said people should expect to see appearances by guest instructors and students who have reached certain standards of fluency along with the department's staff. At this time, other participants include language instructor Leonard Kimewon and a few of the tribe's Anishinaabemowin students, namely Susan Askwith, Michelle Andrews, Carol Eavou and Jeremy Ripley.

Segment taping for the project

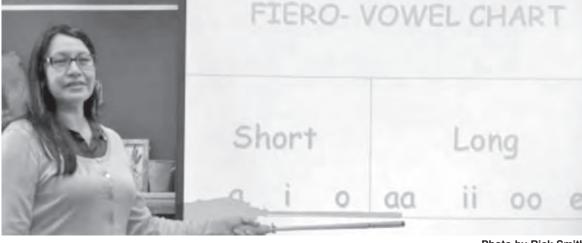


Photo by Rick Smith

Sault Tribe Anishinaabemowin instructor Theresa Lewis appears on one of the video taped lessons archived on Livestream.

takes place in the tribe's Ojibwe Learning Center and Library in the administration complex in

downtown Sault Ste. Marie.

Anyone who has any questions about learning Anishinaabemowin may call staff of the Cultural Department's language component at (906) 635-6050.



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Semi-annual reports presented to board of directors

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The tribe's semi-annual program updates to the board of directors began Jan. 22 in an open workshop and will continue on a scheduled basis until completed. The updates include 32 departments, membership and internal services and programs.

In the last issue of the tribal paper (Feb. 21) on page 10, are the first two departments to present to the board; enrollment and tribal court.

This last round of reports included the Sault Tribe Housing Authority, Recreation Division, Culture Department, Higher Education, and the Adult Education Program and the Cultural Division's Repatriation and Language programs.

Sault Tribe Housing Authority

Housing Director Joni Talentino, introduced her staff that were presenting with her, Resident Service Managers Maria Mongene and Cathy Menard. They reviewed the department's strategic plan and trainings and meetings attended by staff members and Talentino.

The Housing Authority worked with Matt Carpentier from Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) Emergency Management to establish an emergency management plan and put procedures in place for all types of emergencies. Emergency kits were purchased for each Housing Authority vehicle and office and all office first aid kits were updated. Their goals for 2014 include ordering and installing a office PA system; training all Housing Authority staff in emergency procedures; expand their usage of the Nixle system specific to the Housing Authority and work with STLE to develop an emergency plan for each housing site.

Also discussed were lowincome housing tax credits and pump house upgrades. A few of the 2014 operations projects that were presented to the board included vinyl siding replacement on 40 housing units in Kincheloe; the completion of closet door installs and flooring replacement projects in Kincheloe; the implementation of a new recall/layoff process based on performance for all field workers; and the remodeling of a vacant home ownership unit with foundation repairs, a new roof, vinyl siding and additional upgrades.

Additional projects planned this year include Kincheloe bathroom upgrades, a St. Ignace roof replacement project and exterior renovations for a home on Shunk Road. New porches and steps will be installed for Newberry housing residents, and in the Sault a vinyl siding warranty project for six housing units that have experienced a significant level of fading will be completed.

The housing team also reviewed the department's 2013 services, events, accomplishments and programs – including the rental assistant voucher program, the home rehabilitation program, sanitation, home improvement program, owner occupied rehab and weatherization programs.

Recreation Division

Housed within Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center are administration, scheduling, youth programs, events management, operations, the Fitness Center, Pro Shop and concessions. Chi Mukwa staff highlighted marketing activities and statistics. In 2013, 3,535.18 hours of ice and another 8,781.50 hours of dry floor space were utilized by customers and arena programs.

Events management was busy hosting events and activities, which included 138 birthday parties, 31 meetings, 19 Fun Days/school skates, 12 trainings, 10 hockey tournaments, seven banquets, five team meals, four facility tours, three bridal/baby showers and three Rock N Skates.

Chi Mukwa operations completed a few significant projects, including repairing sub-floor heating in the NHL arena, the replacement of a hot water storage tank, air conditioner compressor maintenance, six parking lot lights were replaced and the second driveway entering the main parking lot was restructured. Tribal members served

Youth program: The Summer Recreation Program had 96 participants in 2013. Sault Tribe members accounted for 61.5 percent, or 59 participants.

Events Management: Drop in basketball and volleyball had 1,573 participants, of those participants 1,228 were Sault Tribe members, or 78.1 percent. Public skating had 3,306 participants with 1,669 being Sault Tribe members, or 50.5 percent.

Fitness Center: There were 1,317 memberships, with 61 percent of those being tribal members.

Some upcoming events at Chi Mukwa include the International Charity Challenge March 21-23 that raises funds for the Canadian Cancer Society and the Hospice Hockey Challenge March 27, which raises funds for the Hospice of the EUP.

A few issues that will need addressed in the near future were discussed, including the age and hours on the current zambonis, the hot water and heating boilers are still original and will need replaced, the membrane on the facility's roof needs replaced, remaining exterior lighting and the condenser tower need replaced and the eves of the building need to be extended. There was also concern about the limited number of staff keeping up with the increase in ice rentals and dryfloor usage.

Higher Education

Administrative Assistant
Brandi MacArthur gave the
board members present a general overview of the scholarship
program, grant program and SelfSufficiency Incentive Awards.

She presented statistics and the number of students served, which included 23 scholarships during the 2012/2013 academic year totaling \$22,150. During the fall semester, 117 students were awarded grants totaling \$80,677 and the winter semester saw 105 students receive \$80,396. Self-Sufficiency Incentive Awards were received by 733 students at \$31 a credit hour, for a total of \$274,024

For the 2013/2014 academic year, 35 scholarships are scheduled to be awarded for a total

amount of \$34,150 (12 were private donation in the amount of \$12,000). There were 211 grant applicants with 113 being eligible for a maximum of \$775 each. Self-Sufficiency Incentive Award applications are still being accepted and as of Feb. 11, there were 667 eligible students.

The department's Facebook page from January through June 2013 reached 4,921 students via postings about events, funding opportunities, courses, jobs and internships.

A few other programs were highlighted, including a Pay It Forward: Career Mentoring Program, the LSSU and MI Tech annual STEM event held May 9, on the LSSU campus and FAFSA Friday and MI College Goal Sunday.

The amount of higher education assistance provided by the department totaled \$471,182 for 2013.

Some issues and concerns that were raised include a five percent reduction to the grant program for the upcoming academic year while direct educational expenses are expected to rise for the 2013/2014 academic year.

Adult Education Program

Sault Ste. Marie Adult Education Coordinator Tanya Pages, and Consolidated Community School Services Director Bill Sutter presented the Adult Education Program's semiannual review before board members present. Through a collaborative agreement with Consolidated Community School Services, the Sault Tribe is able to provide free GED testing and preparation classes to both tribal and non-tribal adults in the Sault Ste. Marie area. Students also have access to resume assistance and career readiness testing. Classes are offered from September through May at JKL Middle School and at the Michigan Works! Agency.

Some statistics associated with the program include: About 40 percent of Sault area adult education students self-report being Native American. For the 2012/2013 school year, 60 students were enrolled with 24 self-reported Native American students. Forty-four students tested in a least one content area and 22 students went on to earn their GED.

New developments with the program include computer based testing, CCSS partnered with PearsonVue to establish testing centers at the Sault Ste. Marie Michigan Works! Agency and Bay Mills East Campus. Testing is available to CCSS students and community members seeking vocational/professional certification.

For information about CCSS services, GED requirements or specific adult education programs, contact Tanya Pages at (906) 632-6098 or by email at tpages@eup. k12.mi.us

Mary Murray Cultural Camp

Program

The Marry Murray Culture Camp is a program offered by the Sault Tribe Cultural Division. The camp provides cultural activities for the Sault Tribe community and is an avenue to perpetuate traditional beliefs and practices by teaching traditional life skills, tribal history and traditional practices. Cultural Buildings Coordinator Jackie Minton narrated a 2013 year in review Power Point presentation to the board.

Minton described some of the activities and camps offered, including the smoked fish and corn camp. Participants were presented traditional teachings about corn, including the Anishinaabe creation story and how the gift of corn was given to the Anishinaabek. Participants learned how to dry the corn and the traditional process of turning dried corn into hominy. Learners were also taught the process of smoking fish, how our ancestors fished the waters of the Great Lakes and how the lakes have supplied the Anishinaabek with an abundant source of food.

Minton also reviewed the annual Kinross Veteran's Powwow and hand drum teaching camp, during which participants also learn how to make traditional shakers.

During the holidays, a Christmas Craft Camp was held and participants were instructed how to make pine cone tree

See "Reports," page 7

"Let's keep focus where it belongs: The practical business of moving our tribe in the **Best Way Forward**"

~Catherine Hollowell





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Re-Elect Catherine Hollowell Unit 2 Board of Directors

Paid for by the Campaign to Re-elect Catherine Hollowell

Semi-annual reports presented to board of directors

From "Reports," page 6 decorations, plaster handprint tree ornaments and holiday cookie decorating. Winter Survival Camp is another annual event where team leaders and lead presenters teach youth winter survival skills and how to build an outdoor shelter from materials available in the local environment.

Other camps held throughout the year include Moccasin Making Camp, Sugar Bush, Warrior Camp, Young Women's Camp and the Young Environmentalist's Camp.

Repatriation and Language
- Cultural Division

Repatriation Assistant Colleen St. Onge presented to the board. The Office of Cultural Repatriation is responsible for representing our tribe on issues concerning the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, which includes the return of ancestral remains, sacred items and items of cultural patrimony removed from tribal homelands.

On Dec. 3, 2013, Cecil Pavlat and St. Onge repatriated from the University of Michigan and also in 2013 the tribe transferred recipients for all unknown sites from Wayne State University.

Sault Tribe also requested the Bowknegtt Collection from Round Island, Mich., housed at the Chicago Field Museum, be repatriated.

In Nov. 2013, staff attended the quarterly MACPRA meeting in Mt. Pleasant, Mich., held in conjunction with the 50th NAGPRA Review Committee Meeting.

The goal of the Anishinaabemowin program is to teach people to speak the language and preserve sovereignty. Language Department staff provides Internet classes and classes across the seven-county service area. Language Department staff also teaches Anishinaabemowin to Early Childhood Education Program children. St. Onge said the language program impacts about 1,273 people who participate in the community language classes in Munising, Newberry, Sault Ste. Marie and St. Ignace. That impact increases to 3,556 people when you ad in the Early Education Program youth in Sault Ste. Marie and St. Ignace and the 52 teachers and staff who are learners and teachers.

The language program celebrated the graduation of ANA language participants and the end

of the ANA language grant in 2013. The language program also recently launched a Livestream option for language learners who would like to participate interactively during regular classes held in the Sault. To access the Livestream, go to http://new. livestream.com/saulttribelanguage and click on the "event" box that says "live now." This will launch a new page with the current live video.

The semi-annual reports are an ongoing process and further updates will be made available in the April edition of Win Awenen Nisitotung.

Board measures from February meetings in Sault and St. Ignace

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened a meeting on Feb. 4 in Sault Ste. Marie with all present.

In response to a solicitation from the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development, for proposals to "build tribal energy development capacity," the board authorized the submission of a proposal to be drafted and submitted by the tribe's Environment Program with the cooperation of all governmental and business entities. The action fulfills the first mandatory component of the solicitation that

tribes provide current resolutions authorizing proposal submissions.

Three fiscal year 2014 budget modifications were approved. The Indian Health Service (IHS) Special Diabetes Program received an increase of IHS funding of \$164,073.79 and a reduction in the same amount in tribal support. A decrease in tribal support of \$86,886.19 for Management Information Systems was approved for a change in the personnel sheet. And an increase in tribal support in the amount of \$2,940.82 was approved for Human Resource Administration for a change in the personnel sheet.

A fiscal year 2014 budget of \$10,000 from Inter-Tribal Council (ITC) funding was approved for the ITC and Michigan Department of Community Health 4X4 plan.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened a meeting on Feb. 18 in St. Ignace with all present except Joan Carr-Anderson and Cathy Abramson.

Eight resolutions were considered and approved, seven by a unanimous vote.

The board approved resolution 2014-33 authorizing the tribe's planning specialist to apply for a 2014 AmeriCorps State and National Grant for com-

munity assessment and enhanced veteran's services. The board also authorized the application (resolution 2014-34) for the Coordinated Tribal Assistance Solicitation for Department of Justice funding.

Additional approval was given for the grant application process through the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health Mobilization for Health: National Prevention Partnership Awards Program (resolution 2014-35). FY 2014 budgets were established under Governmental – EPA Pesticide Grant (resolution 2014-36); Governmental – Solid Waste Management (resolution

2014-37); Tribal Court – Alcohol and Substance Abuse; and Tribal Court – Judicial Services budget modification for an increase in BIA revenues of \$9,620 with no effect on tribal support.

Resolution 2014-40, FY 2015 Budget Document 001 was approved totaling \$864,509 of which \$11,855 comes from tribal support.

Under new business was a committee appointment and up for consideration by the board: Delegate Standing in Tribal Court for Violations of the Constitution in the Election Laws or Rules.

To view the roll call matrix or resolutions in their entirety, visit www.saulttribe.com.

SAULT TRIBE GUIDE All Voices Count

Productive and thought provoking conversation intended to help members and our tribe. All opinions are valued.

Topics include
Current Events, History, Culture and Politics



- Since 2008
- 1300 + members
- Operated by a caring and concerned group of members.
- Respectfully maintained discussions

To request membership on STG, email us at: join@saulttribeguide.com
You will be contacted with a link within 48 hours.

Administrators: Robert Stearns, Angie Declue and Dr. Kevin Leonard. Treasurer Steve Causley. Founded by Nathan Wright.

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Tribal members involved in indie film project

By Rick Smith

A few Sault Tribe members are among nearly 30 people involved in an independent short film project planned to premiere before the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues before possible worldwide distribution. Anyone interested in helping to fund the project may do so for a limited time through the crowd sourcing website indiegogo.com.

Sault Tribe member Kalvin Hartwig describes the work as a "short, artsy narrative" that follows a young, modern Anishinaabe female, portrayed by Andrea Landry, who comes to rely on her ancestral philosophy of living a good life, mino bimadiziiwin, to help her navigate through daily life in New York City. "We're planning on her to speak English in the first half, and Anishinaabemowin in the second," said Hartwig.

Hartwig is a co-producer and script editor for the project. Landry is a scriptwriter and the lead actress.

Translations for the script are in the works. Hartwig indicated he hopes to get the language staff of the Sault Tribe Cultural Department on board with the project for Anishinaabemowin translations. In order to allow for a much wider audience for the film, he currently has translators for Russian, German, Spanish,

French and Bulgarian versions of the film and hopes to reach out to more.

While the project is in progress without a working title, the film is fundamentally about the importance of language, culture and traditions for indigenous youth.

"We aim to complete the film in the next few months with the highest standards possible," said Hartwig. "After its premiere at the United Nations and within the framework of the 13th session of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the film is hoped to be broadcasted by UN WEB TV, UN TV and uploaded to its final home at the UN YouTube channel, where

anyone could either watch it, download it or get its link for future distribution." He noted other potential outlets include Arte, Dotsub, Vine, PBS and der Spiegel TV, along with an array of film festivals and local screenings.

Those who would like to provide financial help for the project may do so either by inquiring with the Endangered Language Project at elalliance.org, or through www.indiegogo.com once an account is established.

The premiere of the short film is anticipated to be at the United Nations (pictued right) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.



Black appointed to presidential advisory council

BY RICK SMITH

The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) reports the organization's director of the Partnership for Tribal Governance, Sherry Salway Black, was recently appointed to the President's Advisory Council on Financial Capability for Young Americans.

Established last June, the council assists in implementing policies that promote education and money and building "financial capabilities" among young people in the early stages of their lives.

"By starting early," noted

President Obama's executive order establishing the council, "young people can begin to learn the difference between wants and needs, the importance and power of saving, and the positive and productive role money can play in their lives. Having a basic understanding of money management from an early age will make our young people better equipped to tackle more complex financial decisions in their transition to adulthood, when critical decisions about financing higher education and saving for retirement can have lasting consequences for financial security. Strengthening the financial capability of our young people is an investment in our Nation's economic prosperity."

The council consists of the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Education, or designated senior officials from their departments, along with 22 presidential appointees who are not employed by the federal government.

In addition to her duties with the NCAI, Black also serves on the boards of the First Peoples Fund and the Johnson Scholarship Foundation, according to the U.S. Department of the Treasury. She is a citizen of the Oglala Lakota Sioux Nation of the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Further, the NCAI indicates Black is a member of the Honoring Nations Board of Governors and serves on the Hitachi Foundation Board of Directors as well as a few other boards.

Black received a bachelor's degree from East Stroudsburg University in Pennsylvania and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business.



Sherry Salway Black

Elect to Unit I



Aaniin,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for considering me as your Unit 1 representative. I believe that as a Tribe we need to move forward with changes that get us back to providing quality jobs, providing more services to our elders and children, protecting our sovereignty, and passing on the teachings of our ancestors. If elected, WE can rebuild our Tribe in a manner that is positive, proactive, steadfast, and vigilant to listening and representing the will of the people. Miigwetch

Nicholas VanAlstine

DEDICATED TO REPRESENTING ALL TRIBAL MEMBERS

Inspirations

My Uncle Robert "Bob" VanAlstine was a huge influence on my educational path. His dedication to increasing access to higher education, his approach to teaching, and his passion for history all greatly shaped my approach to academics, history, and providing higher quality education to native and nonnative people.

My Grandmother Loretta VanAlstine, provided me with so many teachings, a love of nature, music, and instilled a strong sense of pride for being Aanishinaabe.

My Aunt Shirley VanAlstine, for her courage to speak what she believes is right and her relentless support of me and our family.

My wife, children, mother and father, family and friends, for believing in me and your continued support, love, and words of encouragement.

Commitment to the People

- Create a system that protects the rights of employee's and ensures that due process is given.
- Providing greater access to financial assistance for Tribal Members seeking Higher Education.
- Educated and Balanced approach to making sustainable business investments.
- Attend Board of Directors meetings, Workshops, committee meetings, financial reviews, and quarterly reviews to provide input and stay current on all issues.
- Fight to press our sovereignty rights with the state and federal government.
- Fight to protect our lands, the waters, our fishing territories and treaties.

Education & Experience

- Associates of Arts from North Central Michigan College, High Distinction.
- B.S. in Social Sciences, with minors in Education and History, L.S.S.U., Cum Laude.
- Teacher of Economics and Government, Sandusky High School, Sandusky, Mich.,
- Board of Education Treasurer,
 J.K.L. Bahweting Aanishinaabe
 P.S.A. As a member of the
 School Board, actively practicing
 the use of "Open Meetings Act"
 and "Roberts Rules of Order"
- U.S. Marine Corps, Active Duty-Radio Operator, 1991-1995.
 Awarded Naval Achievement Medal, National Defense Medal, Good Conduct Medal, and Over Seas Deployment Ribbon.
- Human Resources Manager, Sault Tribe
- Assistant Manager Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island
- Black Jack Dealer, Kewadin Casino, Sault Ste. Marie
- Member of the Bahweting
- Drummers and Singers

There will be a meet and greet held at the Apple Bee's Restaurant on the I-75 Business spur in Sault Ste. Marie on March 29, 2014 from 5pm to 8pm. Public and Candidates welcome!

Contact me at membershipspeaks2014@gmail.com or on Facebook at "Nick VanAlstine"

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Nick VanAlstine

Amanda Gil accepts caseworker job with ACFS

By Brenda Austin

Amanda Gil is a Sault Tribe member with family roots deep in the soil of Sugar Island, where she was born and raised.

And as a tribal member and former student who was the recipient of the Michigan Indian

Tuition Waiver, she is happy to have accepted her current position with the tribe as a caseworker for Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) where she says she feels she has come full circle. Her first job during high school was through the Sault Tribe JTPA Program working for



the tribe's video production department.
"I want to give back to the community," she said. "I am very thankful I received the Indian Tuition Waiver that paid for my college education and now am employed by the tribe as someone who earned their

degree through the services of the tribe."

Prior to accepting her current position, Gil worked as a juvenile probation officer at Chippewa Tribal Court for over two years. She said her experience working with youth and their families in their homes will carry over

into her current position where she will also be offering family services to those requesting it or as ordered by the court. Family services include such things as in home care, adolescent care, and family continuity and prevention programs. "I feel grateful to be working with youth and their families, many who have experienced trauma and/or challenges, and I am excited to have the opportunity to present assistance to them through ACFS programs the tribe has to offer," she said.

Gil will also be working with the tribe's foster care agency doing child placements.

Because she is providing services through two branches of ACFS, she also has two direct

supervisors; Tara Stevens Calder for family services and Jill Thompson for child placement.

Gil will be completing a nine-week foster care training program, Juvenile Justice OnLine Technology, or JJOLT. Four alternating weeks will be spent at the Michigan Child Welfare Training Institute and five weeks will be spent doing fieldwork with a mentor assigned to her through the ACFS child placement agency.

As part of her work with the tribe's child placement agency, she will be monitoring Indian Child Welfare Act cases throughout the country that a Sault Tribe child is involved in.

Gil graduated from Sault Area High School in 1998 and from Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, Mich., in 2003 with a dual degree in juvenile justice and legal studies. Before moving back to the Sault area over two years ago to work for the tribe, she worked in real estate law in Florida, where her and husband Rafael lived for a number of years.

The couple recently purchased a 20-acre farm on Sugar Island where they have chickens, ducks and horses. They also adopted two former racing greyhounds named Rols and Skip and have three cats.

Gil is the daughter of Debra Cox of Sugar Island and the former Tom Cox.

Physical Activity Kits arrive among EUP tribes

BY RICK SMITH

Staff from the Bemidji area office of the Indian Health Service, Sault Tribe Community Transformation Grant and the American Indian Health and Family Services in Detroit, Mich., conducted a training session on March 7 with about 60 Head Start and Early Head Start instructors, aides and others from Sault Tribe and the Bay Mills Indian Community. The training was an introduction on using Physical Activity Kits, or PAKs, in promoting life-long physical fitness and took place at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Last November, staff from Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities and others across the tribe's service area received similar training geared to benefit more mature youngsters.

The kits were developed in partnership with the Indian Health Service Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Initiative and the University of New Mexico Prevention Research Center with support from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to promote "staying on the active path in Native communities" for the course of one's lifetime. Further, Sault Tribe was among a number of tribes and other entities that contributed in forming the content of the kits.

Consisting of eight spiral-bound books covering physical activity for different age levels, the kits include an astounding number of resources for technical assistance and information on related subjects. Information and suggestions in the kits draw heavily on American Indian customs. In addition, the kits present a multitude of possibilities for incorporating fun physical activities in almost any daily routine for people of all ages.

In reference to the March 7 session, Heather Hemming of the Community Transformation Grant Project noted, "The training is for Head Start and Early Head Start teachers and professionals and provides them with a package of culturally appropriate games and activities for young children." She indicated one of the three main objectives of the grant program is to increase physical activity opportunities among the tribe's members and associates.



ently took nart in a

About 60 Head Start and Early Head Start instructors, aides and others from Sault Tribe and the Bay Mills Indian Community recently took part in a training session at Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in the Sault that introduced the Physical Activity Kits, or PAKs, in promoting life-long physical fitness

Michelle T. Archuleta, health promotion consultant for the Indian Health Service, said the kits are part of "a program that supports Michelle Obama's Let's Move initiative" of making physical activity fun and instilling lifelong enjoyment in it.

Tiffany Menard, Child Care Center manager, described the training as a lot of fun. "I think the team members who attended the training really enjoyed themselves," she said. "Also while some of the activities were familiar ones that we do quite frequently, there was also a demonstration of how we could adapt the activities by adding Aninishinabe words for actions, thus promoting the use of our language as well."

It's too early to determine if expanding the training to benefit older folks and clients of health services using the kits may be developed in the future, but it might come under consideration.



I respectfully ask for your support.



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Shagi ndizhinikaaz. Bawating indoonjibaa. Nimkii doodem.

Phone - 906.440.1334

I am proud to have had the opportunity to serve our tribe. We have weathered many storms these last four years and I have great appreciation for the people who have worked with us through big issues like Sequestration in order to get our tribe moving in a more positive direction.

Our biggest accomplishment that I am most proud of is that we are within three years of paying off our debt. When I first took office, the board came together and zeroed in on this issue and made it a priority.

I am proud to say there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

Sponsored by the committee to elect Debra-Ann Pine, Unit One Sault Tribe

Tester appointed chair of U.S. Senate Committee on **Indian Affairs**

Aims to cut waste, improve education

BY RICK SMITH

Democrat Senator John Tester was recently appointed chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. The senior U.S. senator from Montana is a thirdgeneration farmer of English-Swedish ancestry who continues to work the family-owned operation with his wife in north central Montana. He was also a music teacher for his hometown school district.

According to media reports, the new chairman plans to focus on cutting wasteful spending, improving educational opportunities for American Indians and promote job development on reservations. However, according to a news release from the senator's office, he noted his immediate priorities include mending bills, such as the Violence Against Women Act, and moving them through Congress. "My goal is to get a majority of the people on the committee to work together, get a majority of votes to get some of these issues out and get them to the floor," he said.



The announcement confirmed his stance on the critical need for education, describing even early childhood education as a "nobrainer," saying, "It pays for itself over and over again.'

Tester further indicated he co-sponsored a bill on language immersion, describing it as another critical element in education for all tribes. He indicated tribes need connections to their past to support moving into the future. "I think language is one of those ways that you can stay connected to your culture," he said. "It's very important."

He said major challenges exist in figuring out how to deal with the nation's deficit while simulta-

neously meeting the government's trust responsibility to American Indian tribes. He noted many issues remain to be resolved in Indian Country, issues common among tribes such as access to potable water, education, police protection, housing and health

"The bottom line is you've got to empower tribes," he noted, "then things are going to hap-

Tester claims he has been in talks with federal administrators about boosting funding for some Indian Country programs that are chronically under-funded. But it's important to help Indian Country to build economies that will help them turn things around on their own. "We'll do our best to advocate for what we know, based on fact, and go from there," he said.

Senator still carrying the flag on MITW



State Senator Howard Walker (left) addressed the assembled tribal leaders and state officials that the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver is the state's responsibility. His goal is to put the responsibility back on the state and not the individual colleges. "We're still carrying the flag on this," he said. "There is still more work to be done." Walker was welcomed to the podium by UTM President and Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians Chairman Howard Mandoka (right).

MIEA Incentive Program taking applications

The Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) recently released the applications for this year's student incentive program. The program awards students in grades K-12 for all A grades or perfect attendances during the fist and second marking periods of the 2013-14 school year. The program is open to all students who are Sault Tribe members regardless of location.

To apply, download and send the application, a signed report card or verification letter of achievement from a school administrator and copy of student's or parent's tribal identification card to Leann Stindt, 103m Big Bear Road, Iron River, MI 49935. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. on April 1, 2014. Applications can be downloaded from the MIEA website at michiganindianelders.org under the "Student" section of the web-

This is not a Sault Tribe program. All applications must be sent to the address indicated

Higher Education Committee opening

The Higher Education Committee has an opening for one tribal member. The selected candidate will help review scholarship essays for the annual scholarship competition, review and recommend policies regarding our Higher Education pro-

Interested members should submit a letter of consideration stating why they are interested in serving on the committee, submit three letters of recommendations (should be from other members of Sault Tribe), and copies of their tribal cards to Tara Benoit, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tara at (906) 635-6050 or you may email her at:

tbenoit@saulttribe.net



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Results from the 2014 EUPISD Regional Science Fair

Faculty and staff of the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District (EUPISD) Math and Science Center conducted its annual Regional Science Fair for grades kindergarten through eight on Feb. 12, 2014, at Lake Superior State University. Bay Mills Ojibwe Charter, Brimley, Cedarville, DeTour Arts and Technology Academy, DeTour Middle School, Engadine, JKL Bahweting, Newberry, Pickford, St. Ignace, Soo Township, Washington Elementary, Lincoln Elementary and Whitefish schools all participated in the event.

Science reasoning is considered a critical 21st century skill, and working through the scientific process through activities like science fair projects enhances those skills. In fact, regional Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) data indicates that schools that participate in science fairs score higher on both the (MEAP) fifth grade and eighth grade science tests.



Photo courtsey of the EUPISD

Students from Bay Mills Ojibwe Charter, Brimley, Cedarville, DeTour Arts and Technology Academy, DeTour Middle School, Engadine, JKL Bahweting, Newberry, Pickford, St. Ignace, Soo Township, Washington Elementary, Lincoln Elementary and Whitefish schools all participated in the EUPISD Regional Science Fair at LSSU on Feb. 12.

Students were asked to describe their methods and results and discuss the overall project. Judges then evaluated the project based on pre-set judging criteria. The judging panel consisted of members of our local community, LSSU faculty, LSSU teacher education students, retired district teachers, as well as EUPISD Center staff. Although all the projects were great and it was a difficult decision for judges, the roster of students placing in the top three places follows.

Kindergarten: First place, Mason Wilcox of Soo Township; second place, Oliver Nehmer of JKL Bahweting; third place, Larissa Horn of JKL Bahweting.

First grade: First, Ross Pearson of Cedarville; second, James Johnson and Keegan Planck of Whitefish; third, Braelyn Duhoski of JKL Bahweting.

Second grade: Terek Sawyer of Soo Township; Hallie LaBonte of JKL Bahweting; Brendon Gross of Brimley.

Third grade: Julie Innerebner and Laura Innerebner of JKL Bahweting; Delaney Stec of Pickford; Aiyana Giddis of Bay Mills Ojibwe Charter.

Fourth grade: Zachary Snyder of Cedarville; Jonah DeNuccio-McShane of Washington; Ellie Purple and Kyle Goodman of JKL Bahweting.

Fifth grade: Valleta of St. Ignace; Aliah Robertson of JKL

Bahweting; Audrey Pearson of Cedarville.

Sixth grade: Benjamin Lee of St. Mary's; Bailee Stec, Carley Cottle and Darcy Bennin of Pickford; Lily McLean of St.

Seventh grade: Trinity Bauer of St. Mary's; Henry Swedene of St. Mary's; Jenna Hominga of JKL Bahweting.

Eighth grade: John Shackleton of St. Mary's; Nathan Magnusson of Newberry; Julia Stenglein and Jake Hopper of Brimley.

The Jeffrey Misner Eccentric Apparatus Award went to Braedon Kemp of Brimley.

First place winners were awarded with trophies, second place received plaques and third place received medals.

The Jeffrey Misner Eccentric Apparatus Award winner received a certificate.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the Regional Science Fair. Well done!

Cicalo takes oath for SagChip Board of Regents

On Feb. 12, Saginaw
Chippewa Tribal Council members and the Saginaw Chippewa
Tribal College Board of Regents
joined together in the swearing
in of two new regents. Tribal
Chief Steven Pego administered
the oath of office for Louanna
Bruner and Arthur Cicalo in
Saginaw Chippewa Tribal
Council chambers.

Cicalo, 34, is a Sault Tribe member originally from Bridgeport, Mich. His bachelor's and master's degrees are in social work and he earned a graduate certificate in administration.

"I previously interned at the

Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health Center in 2004 as a medical social worker. It was my first internship and first non-volunteer experience working with clients," said Cicalo. "I truly enjoyed my time there and it allowed for me to learn more about my tribe and culture as well."

Ciclo is a substance abuse residential treatment manger for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, based in Mt. Pleasant, Mich. "It is a rewarding, yet challenging job at times. My partner and sister both work for SECR casino, and my mother works for SCIT ACFS," Cicalo said. "I was nominated to the board of regents

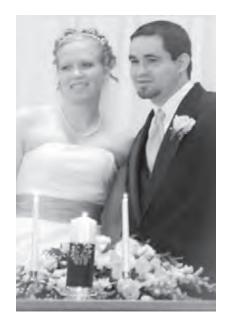
by the current board of regents for the college, with SCIT Tribal Council accepting their nomination and swearing me in to my new role."

According to Cicalo, the college's board of regents work to maintain the college's accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission, along with review-

ing policy, completing the presidents evaluation and working on facilitating the construction of the college's new learning facility, which they seeking to be certified under the Living Building Challenge. To be certified under the challenge, projects must meet a series of ambitious performance requirements, including net zero

energy, waste and water over a minimum of 12 months of continuous occupancy, according to Cicalo.

Cicalo and his partner, Adam, have two dogs. They live in Mt. Pleasant, as do his parents, maternal grandmother and one maternal aunt. His younger sister lives in Coleman with her husband.



Sault Tribe Board of Directors Unit 1 Candidate Robert L McRorie

My Native American heritage stems from my mother, Vanda Nolan, through my grandparents John (Mugo) Nolan and Shirley Nolan. I have been blessed with my mother's nurturing spirit, my grandfather's teachings of being a strong man rooted in family, and my grandmother's strong beliefs in our Native American Culture and Traditions. I will always remain true to these values and principles.

Constitution

I firmly belive in inviting all Tribal Members to vote on a new constitution or individual amendments including Separation of Powers, a Bill of Rights, Right of Recall, and Equal Representation of All Members. This will give our people their voice back.

Economic Diversification

We can no longer rely on our casinos alone. We must establish a real commitment to investigate new economic opportunities for our tribe.

Communications

We need to find innovative ways of including all of our members in tribal decision making by utilizing technology such as; social media, live stream, and video conferencing.

Education

Who we become as a Tribal Community tomorrow is a direct result in the investment we make in our youth today. I believe all Tribal Members should be entitled to an opportunity of an Education.

Decision Making

I am committed to adopting an open tribal meetings act and putting an end to the closed meetings that currently exists. My decisions will be made on behalf of our people's voices. It is my obligation to serve our people in their best interests with true representation.

Health Care

We must ensure that our tribe has the highest quality health care system attracting new clients who have health insurance, to increase third party revenues. This will open up health coverage for our members who do not have health insurance.

Miigwech, Robert McRorie

(906) 630-0017 rob_mcrorie@yahoo.com

This ad is endorsed by Robert McRorie



Photo by Joseph Sowmick / Tribal Observer Tribal Chief Pego administers the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College Board of Regents oath of office to Arthur Cicalo in Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council chambers. His term runs from February 2014 to May 2016.

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Many traditional medicine services available

By Cheri Goetz and Laura Collins

The Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program is the oldest and most successful traditional medicine program in Indian Country and was started in 1995 by Ted Holappa and Adam Lussier. Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine staffing includes practitioners Harlan Downwind and Keith Smith as well as assistants Peggy Holappa, Laura Collins and Anthony Abramson Jr.

The Traditional Medicine
Program provides many services,
such as healing sweat lodges,
treatment with traditional medicines including plants, herbs and
specific ceremonies. They also
provide cultural services, such
as giving Anishinaabe names,
clans and color identifications.
Practitioners provide consultation,
diagnosis and treatment to each
individual client.

The program does not require payment for any service they provide, but it does require tobacco. Each ceremony starts with an offering of tobacco, any other gifts are optional. It's more of the practice of giving and gratitude for the help received from the spirits. The gifts do not need to be given to the staff or the people in the program, they can be given to anyone, remembering the concept of a giveaway. This belief is important in our Anishinaabe way of life.

There are many misconceptions regarding traditional medicine. One is that medicine that is given will interfere with western medicine. This, however, is not the case. Anything provided by the healers is safe to use with whatever medications you are currently taking. Another misconception is you will do something wrong as you are not familiar with cultural practices. There really is no wrong way, the most important thing to remember is the intent as to why you are asking for help.

There are some people who hesitate to go the Traditional Medicine Program for a variety of reasons. The staff would like to encourage those who are interested to start out with a visit to get their Native name and colors. Then you can move on to aches, pains and other medical issues you may have. They also stress there is no judgment when you come to see them and traditional medicine can also fit in with Christianity. There is nothing bad that can come from traditional medicine as it comes from nature.

The Traditional Medicine staff is very approachable. Smith and Downwind are both from Red Lake Reservation.

Downwind grew up learning and practicing his traditions and has worked with elders and healers from his community and surrounding Minnesota Indian communities since the 1980s. His main teacher, Adam Lussier, taught him ceremonies since around 1974. Downwind is third degree Midewiwin from Lake Lena, Minn., and his main teachers were Adam Lussier, Dorothy Sam, Lee Staples, Larry Amik

Smallwood, Jigs Green, Leroy Strong, Pete Seymore, John Smith Sr., Jimmy Jackson and Murphy Jackson. He has worked with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and Batchewana First Nation since 1999 as a traditional practitioner. He worked at Four Winds Treatment Center as a licensed CD counselor and as a chaplain for American Indian ceremonies from 1994 to 2004 and was commissioned under the Minnesota Clergy Association as Chaplain I. He is sanctioned with the Ontario Council of Chiefs as a traditional healer and through the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan as a care provider with the title of traditional practitioner. Downwind has lived a drug and alcohol free life for the last 35 years.

Smith graduated from Flandreau Indian School in 1985 and is currently a student at Bay Mills Community College taking the Anishinabemowin Pane Immersion Program. He has been actively participating in traditional Anishinaabe ceremonies for the last 25 years and drumming and singing since attending Flandreau. Keith has been learning traditional practitioner methods for 24 years, including learning and distributing the native medicines, pipe ceremonies, fasting and sweat lodge ceremonies. He lives a drug and alcohol free life. Some of his main teachers were Adam Lussier, Harlan Downwind, Joe Barrett, Adrian Lussier, Giles Hart and Carol Snowball.

Access to the Traditional Medicine Program is fairly easy. They practice at all Sault Tribe health centers as well as Escanaba's Willow Creek Building. Please contact the Traditional Medicine Department at (906) 632-5200. If you are a home bound elder, depending on the situation, they will come to you. If you are an elder and need transportation to and from an appointment, please contact the Sault Tribe Elders Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

Elder Don Rose — Battle of the Atlantic vetera

BY RICK SMITH

Don Rose remembers he was a sick, 17-year-old, 10th grade student from Rudyard home in bed when he first heard about the 1941 attack that led to the United States declaring war on Japan. He said, "I thought to myself, 'What the hell is a pearl harbor?"

It wasn't long before he enlisted in United States Coast Guard Reserves in Sault Ste. Marie and was sent off to New Orleans, La., for basic training. After graduation from boot camp, he took further training in antisubmarine warfare with the U.S. Navy in Newport, R.I., and still more training in Norfolk, Va., and Pensacola, Fla. Somewhere along the line he was put on active duty and was assigned to the new Tacoma-class patrol frigate USS Bath (PF-55), named after a city in southwest Maine on the Kennebec River near the Atlantic Ocean. Mr. Rose assumed duties as a helmsman. The warship's captain was Cdr. John R. Stewart, USCG.

After a shakedown cruise around Bermuda and post-cruise repairs in Philadelphia, Pa., the Bath underwent sea trials off of Rockland, Me., and returned to Philadelphia for finishing repairs. Then they reported for duty under the Eastern Sea Frontier operational command with Task Group 20.9, Escort Division 38, based in Staten Island, N.Y.

The Bath was tasked with escorting shipping convoys and conducting anti-submarine barrier patrol missions. They were underway to take action in what would pass into history as the

Unit I — Elders will be hosting several fundraisers over the next few months. On March 19, a soup and salad fundraiser and, on April 16, the annual pulled pork fundraiser. Both events take place at the Sault Indian Health Services. On May 8 and 10, the annual yard sale is set at the Nikomish/Mishomis Building.

Battle of the Atlantic. Mr. Rose said the escort duty was dangerous because of German U-boat attacks, but especially so at first because of the lopsided numbers involved. "Well, you had about a 100 ships in a convoy and about four escorts for protection," he said. And who knows how many enemy submarines lurking below the surface of the seas during their passages. "But, things got better after a while, especially after airplanes were developed that could reach us."

Mr. Rose recounted one incident where he and other crewmembers watched a torpedo approach the Bath. "We could see it coming. I remember standing

on my tip-toes to watch it," he said. Fortunately, the torpedo was set too deep to strike the Bath and passed harmlessly underneath her hull.

Folks whose knowledge of World War II is derived mainly from old John Wayne movies may have never learned about the Battle of the Atlantic. It pitted the Allied naval forces of the Soviet Union, England, Canada and the United States against the submarines, surface warships and airplanes of the Axis military powers of Germany and Italy. It is considered to be the longest and largest naval battle in history. The Battle of the Atlantic started See "Battle," page 13



Above, United States Coast Guard World War II veteran and Sault Tribe elder Don Rose sits at home beside part of his large replica antique automobile collection.

VOTE MALLOY

DURING THE LAST FOUR YEARS, I HAVE FOUGHT FOR AND SUPPORTED:

✓ CONTINUED FUNDING FOR CRITICAL MEDICAL
SERVICES, ✓ EMPLOYEE RIGHTS, ✓ FAIR WAGES AND
✓ EMPLOYMENT LAWS, ✓ CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM, ✓ ELECTION CODE
REFORM, ✓ LOWER BOARD WAGES, ✓ INCREASED FUNDING FOR ELDER
SERVICES, ✓ BALANCED BUDGETING, ✓ PROTECTION OF TREATY
RIGHTS, AND ✓ GIVING A VOICE TO ALL SAULT TRIBE CITIZENS.

I HAVE ALWAYS ACTED IN THE SPIRIT OF TRUE REPRESENTATION AND HAVE MADE SURE THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE IS BROUGHT TO THE BOARD TABLE.

SAULT TRIBE PRIMARY ELECTION

- BALLOTS MAILED 5/1

- BALLOTS COUNTED ON 5/22

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VOTE MALLOY FOR UNIT 1



Mercury collection offered free through September

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WAYNE, Mich. — The **Environmental Quality Company** (EQ) has again partnered with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Mercury Collection Project to facilitate the collection of mercury. The project is providing free mercury collection services to residents and business in the state of Michigan. The free program will run through Sept. 30, 2014. This is an ongorecycle mercury. EQ will ensure proper recycling methods that will reduce the amount of mercury from entering our environ-

In 2013, EQ worked with the Michigan DEQ for the Great Lakes restoration and set up a designated phone number and e-mail address specifically designed for all requests received for this program. During this period, EQ received 164 bucket requests and recycled 325 thermometers, 145 thermostats, 520 industrial switches and fuses and various relay switches and gauges, lab thermometers, manometers and hydrometers.

The program is easy. Upon request, EQ will send a free collection bucket with a shipping box to your door via common carrier. Each bucket contains easy-to-follow return instructions. Once the bucket is filled with the mercury containing device(s) it can safely be returned in the shipping box to

Interested parties may call for a free collection container at (877) 960-2025 or send email to mercurybucket@eqonline.com.

More information on the program can be found at http:// greatlakesrestoration.us/ or the EQ website at www.eqonline.

NNN has five-year plan to reduce smoking and cancer

TAHLEQUAH, Okla. - As part of a nationwide partnership, the National Native Network (NNN) recently met to formally organize a five-year plan to positively impact American Indian populations experiencing tobacco related and cancer health disparities. In keeping with the spirit and the mandate of the program, as well as the policy of the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) Office on Smoking and Health, the event took place at a smoke free facility, the Signature at the MGM in Las Vegas.

Last October, the NNN, through the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan (ITCM), was awarded a grant from the federal CDC office to educate, communicate and promote implementation of effective community and clinical interventions to reduce the high rates of commercial tobacco use and cancer among the American Indian populations.

The effort uses partners from tribes and tribal organizations across the U.S., including the Cherokee Nation, Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, Southeast

Job opening for an elder

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' Elders Employment Program has an opening for a part-time, permanent health assistant at the Sault Tribe health clinic in St.

Health assistants are responsible for collecting, maintaining and monitoring patient health information and performs general office duties and other assignments as needed, attends meetings and training, assists with clerical tasks, functions as receptionist and other duties as assigned.

To obtain a full job description and application, contact:

Brenda Cadreau, (906) 635-4767

Alaska Regional Health Consortium, California Rural Indian Health Board, and the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen's Health Board. The NNN seeks to reach tribal communities and populations across all regions of the U.S. with tools, training and media in commercial tobacco use and cancer prevention and

control. Materials developed from the group will be available for all tribal nations in the U.S. and beyond. "We are off to a solid beginning this year by having an invigorating kick-off meeting with all of our partner nations," said

Derek J. Bailey, ITCM government relations and tribal policy consultant. "We are excited to continue the work of promoting tobacco cessation and prevention, and increasing cancer awareness that results from the addictive use of commercial tobacco."

A 2011 report by the CDC shows that 31 percent of the current adult smokers in the U.S. were Native American, far higher than any other ethnic group, the studies also show that cigarette smoking is responsible for about one in five deaths annually, or more than 440,000 deaths per

An estimated 49,000 of these smoking-related deaths are the

result of secondhand smoke exposure to adults and children alike who do not smoke.

The CDC's Office on Smoking and Health worked collaboratively with the NNN across Indian Country to develop a culturally specific tobacco education training and technical assistance program over the past several years. The new funding period for the next five years will expand these efforts to address both commercial tobacco and cancer.

The training and technical assistance addresses various types of methods and best practices to educate, increase awareness and provide culturally traditional teachings for the sacred use of tobacco, which in its pure form is recognized by many tribal nations as a sacred element.

"Through meaningful collaboration, a team-focused approach, and strong social media impact, our National Native Network group looks forward to furthering programming that will positively impact all ages within our American Indian communities," Bailey said.

For more information on the National Native Network, please call Derek Bailey (231) 715-6424. For more information about Keep It Sacred, please visit www. keepitsacred.org

Elder Volunteer of the Year in Unit 5 Marquette



Linda Snyder was chosen as volunteer of the year for the Marquette elders and was presented her recognition by Joseph Gray (right). She participates in many events and is a member of their subcommittee. She works very hard to help with the annual children's Christmas party. Without her commitment to the children, the Christmas party would not have been as successful as it was. The elders of Marquette would like to thank Linda for all she does.

Elder Don Rose, veteran of Battle of the Atlantic

From "Battle," page 12 in 1939 and ended with the defeat of Germany in 1945.

Shortly after V-E Day (Victory in Europe Day) on May 8, 1945, the Bath sailed through the Panama Canal en route to Seattle and Bremerton in the state of Washington, continuing to Kodiak and on to Cold Bay in Alaska to take part in Project Hula. The Bath and her American crew conducted one last mission at this point in the project to transfer dozens of ships to the Soviet Union and train Soviets in preparation for action in the war against Japan. The crew spent about two weeks training Soviet sailors on operations before the transfer.

"Then the worst part started," said Mr. Rose. Crewmembers were discharged and told they were, essentially, on their own. They managed to return to

Kodiak on board a submarine chaser where they found passage back to Seattle aboard a transport ship, the USS Sea Partridge. Then "things got better." He described how they spent 30 days "R and R" (rest and relaxation) as guests at a Civilian Conservation Corps camp in Washington. Mr. Rose described enjoying luxuries such as sleeping in, if he felt like doing so, and convivial hospitality before boarding a train to Detroit and going home.

These days, Mr. Rose enjoys a quiet life in Sault Ste. Marie. He owns an enviable collection of replica antique automobiles and airplanes and enjoys some of the social activities for elders through Sault Tribe. Celebrating 90 years of living on June 22, he may well be one of the oldest military veterans of the tribe.

Remember, hand washing is important!

The flu and cold season is still with us.

Hand washing is one of the most effective ways of preventing the spread of common illnesses such as cold, flu, pinkeye and more.

Wash your hands properly by rubbing them together for at least 30 seconds with soap and

water. Simple soap will do. You don't need antibacterial products. In fact, studies have shown antibacterial soaps are not any more effective at killing germs than regular soap. If you can not wash your hands, use an antibiotic hand washing gel product. Help protect yourself and others and wash your hands.

Vote Nichole Causley Unit I Representative



Meet N Greet! The Antlers in SSM, Mich.,

BIO: 31 years old, family of six, lifelong Sault Ste. Marie resident, spending the 11 years on the reservation raising four children. working for our Tribe and finishing my Bachelor's **Degree at Lake Superior State University. Presently** working as Planning Specialist for the Planning and **Development Department.**

MISSION: Bring unity and balance to our Board by

providing a fresh, new perspective to age old issues.

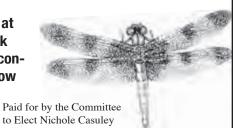
GUARANTEE: Full time representation to all of our members using self- sustainable goals and innovative approaches.

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or bcadreau@saulttribe.net March 29, 5-9pm

Michigan pondering a 10,700-acre land sale

From "Graymont," page 1 public use, except for up to 1,500 acres at a time for mining and processing facilities. They also state they will be using modern mining methods and technology to protect groundwater and surface waters (e.g. lakes, streams, wetlands) and avoid subsidence. The 30-50 foot limestone seam the company proposes to mine is located between 150-300 feet below the surface.

Sault Tribe's General Counsel John Wernet, said the tribe has five concerns, which have been shared in a recent meeting with the DNR. The first concern expressed by the Sault Tribe is Graymont's proposal to purchase roughly 10,000 acres of state owned public land. Wernet said, "To our knowledge that is completely unprecedented and poses an enormous public policy question of whether the state should even consider selling off its resources that way. It would be one thing to sell the mineral interests, but to sell the property itself seems completely unnecessary."

The second concern as expressed by the tribe is the potential impact on federally protected treaty rights. The consent decree with the State ensures the right of tribal members to continue to hunt, fish and gather on state owned public lands. "The mining company I think is trying to address that by making sure much of the land would remain open to use, but the fact is it would become private land and that clearly is going to have a detrimental impact on the right of tribal members to use the land," Wernet said.

Thirdly are environmental concerns. Wernet said, "While limestone mining doesn't pose the kind of dramatic environmental impacts that for example nickel and copper mining do where you get sulfuric acid – the problem from our standpoint is that no one has really looked at the potential environmental impacts yet, and that needs to be done."

The fourth concern raised by the tribe is the fact that there is some identified cultural and archeological sites adjacent to the proposed land purchase. "To our knowledge no one has really done a careful examination, a Phase 1 study of the area to determine whether there might be other sensitive archeological or histori-

cal sites that will need preserving. The company says they are going to preserve those sites, but what we told the state is we think these are things the state should be looking at before it decides to sell," Wernet said. "To us it's like selling your grandfather's house before going through the attic to see what's up there. If they are going to sell they should at least know what they are selling."

And last, according to Wernet, it has been very difficult up until now getting up to date accurate complete information from the state on exactly what's going on. In part, Wernet said, that is because the company's proposal keeps changing. "I think they have been trying to adapt their proposal to address concerns that the public has raised, and that's a good thing," he said. "They have been responsive, but it doesn't change the bottom line, that from the public policy standpoint the tribe is adamantly opposed to the sale of such a massive amount of public resources. That is really what it comes down to."

In a three-hour meeting between the tribe, a representative from the state attorney general's office and the DNR held Feb. 25 in Lansing, Wernet said the takeaway was, "... the issue is still an open question, they have many of the same concerns we do. So I don't think it's a done deal just yet. They are in the process of reviewing the request from Graymont and trying to figure out how they are going to respond."

Wernet said, "I encourage people that are concerned about this to make their views known. They can write to the DNR, the governor and their state representatives. I assume there will continue to be public meetings around the state; the DNR will be holding additional public meetings. If people have strong feelings about this project it would be good for them to show up and express those feelings.

Wernet said the tribe learned during their meeting with the DNR in Lansing that the decision to sell or not sell the land in question rests in one persons lap. "The director at the DNR is the one who will be making the decision at a public Natural Resources Commission meeting. The DNR staff is studying it, the attorney generals office will advise on whether the sale is legal, and staff

will advise on the public policy questions – but ultimately a single person makes the decision - I would write the DNR director," he said.

Mackinac County Planning Commission Chairman Dean Reid said not all mining is the same. "Limestone is a benign, natural sedimentary rock and is part of the Niagara Escarpment that underlies a huge area from Wisconsin to Niagara Falls in New York. No chemicals or water are needed to mine this resource," he said.

Reid said he is in favor of the project and views it as a safe way to bring much needed economic development to Mackinac County. In addition to new job creation, Reid said the only downside he can see would be that 800 acres around the surface mine would be closed to the public for safety reasons, but that there would still be 188,000 acres of land open to the public for hunting, fishing, and recreation.

Graymont's representative, Paul "PJ" Stoll is the plant manager at the Port Inland Plant in Gulliver, Mich. Stoll says the U.P. has a rich heritage in mining. "We see this project as an opportunity for Graymont to further demonstrate industry leadership in environmental responsibility and world-class operating standards while providing value to the communities. As a company, we work hard to be recognized for our work in areas in community involvement and environmental care.

"In the development of our projects, Graymont always conducts a thorough environment assessment and consultation process. In the case of Rexton, we will be undertaking hydrogeological and archeological evaluations of the area before any operations would commence. We have met with tribes, including the Sault Tribe leadership, to discuss this project. We continue to seek input as we work with the local communities to further develop the Rexton Project.

"We will continue to work with tribes, community members and others to address environmental and other community concerns related to our project. We are committed to ensure the surface is reclaimed and that water features are protected," Stoll said. "Most of the proposal area land surface will stay under DNR management

and of the remaining land, areas not in the active mine or processing areas will stay open for public uses. We invite the tribes, community members and others to work with us towards a world-class project."

Stoll said Graymont believes the Rexton Project aligns regional priorities and aspirations, including economic development, preservation of existing uses and environmental care.

"Graymont has put forward a proposal for a land purchase that establishes opportunity for new business, employment, and economic development in the U.P. while at the same time preserving the existing uses of the land outside of the active operations. This means that the non-active areas will be open to the same hunting, fishing, hiking, gathering, snowmobiling and other activities that exist today," he said. "The community needs responsible economic development. Graymont's proposal recognizes the concerns of the communities as well as working collaboratively to address concerns for development of a mutually beneficial project.

"We agree that more environmental review remains to be done and that consideration of environmental impacts will need to be an ongoing process throughout the project. We invite the tribes, community members and others to continue to work with us to identify win-win opportunities in the further development of the project," Stoll said. "We recognize that hunting, fishing and gathering activities may be impacted by our project. As a result, we have taken steps to minimize those impacts. The majority of the land that we propose to acquire from the State would remain available for all of the uses for which it is used today. Most of the proposed land would only be operated as an underground mine, which would have very little impact on surface uses and the majority of the surface in this area would remain under MDNR management. Relatively small areas where active surface mining and processing operations occur (with suitable buffers) would have restricted access for safety reasons. Once operations in these areas were completed, the areas would be reclaimed and restrictions on access removed."

Stoll said that Graymont appre-

ciates the opportunity to inform the public about the project and values both feedback and questions so they can continue to improve the design of the project for Graymont, tribes and other members of the community.

DNR U.P. Regional
Coordinator Stacy Haughey commented at the public forum on Jan. 30 that Michigan's townships and counties regulate and permit most of Michigan's nonmetallic laws.
Limestone is a nonmetallic mineral. She also commented that the entire process is still in the beginning phase and invited people to view the proposal on the MDNR website, email your comments and attend public meetings.

To find out more about Graymont: Rextonproject.com; info@rextonproject.com

To see state information on the Graymont Proposal: See www. michigan.gov/dnr and enter "Graymont land transaction" into the search bar.

The Michigan DNR is accepting public comment via email at: DNRGraymontProposalComments@michigan.gov until a final decision is made.

Gov. Rick Snyder can be contacted via his website www. michigan.gov/snyder. Go to the "contact us" link on the top right corner of the page then click on the link for "share your opinion."

To contact your state representative, go to www.senate. michigan.gov, click on the "Representatives" link at the top of the page, and in the center of the page fill out the information under "Find a representative" to contact your local representative.

EUP reps: Representative Frank Foster S-1486 House Office Building P.O. Box 30014 Lansing, MI 48909 (517) 373-2629 FrankFoster@house.mi.gov

Senator Howard Walker P.O. Box 30036 Lansing, MI 48909-7536 Phone: (517) 373-2413 Fax: (517) 373-5144



Gordon Lightfoot tour coming to Kewadin Casino

Legendary artist, Gordon Lightfoot will bring his crosscountry USA tour, *Gordon Lightfoot - 50 Years On The Carefree Highway*, to the Kewadin Casinos DreamMakers Theater on Friday, June 20, 2014. Tickets for the show go on sale at 9 a.m. on Friday, March 21 at \$42.50 and \$32.50.

The tour will feature his well-known hits as well as some deep



album cuts woven together with some of Lightfoot's own behind the scenes stories and personal anecdotes about his historic 50-year musical career. The event is sure to be a great thrill for live audiences and anyone who enjoys hearing great music and seeing a living legend in person.

Lightfoot has recorded 20 albums and has five Grammy nominations. His songs have been aired regularly for 50 years, earning him radio singles chart positions in North America achieved by few others. Lightfoot's radio hits earned five No. 1, five top 10 and 13 top 40 hits in the United States. In Canada, he earned 16 No. 1 hits, 18 top 10 and 21 top 40 hits

In June of 2012, Lightfoot was inducted into the Songwriters Hall Of Fame and honored for

his role in defining the folk-pop sound of the 1960s and 1970s. In his native Canada, Lightfoot has been decorated with the highest honors bestowed to a civilian including the Governor's General Award and the Companion to the Order of Canada honor of merit. He has also won 17 Juno Awards - Canada's equivalent to the Grammy Awards.

Lightfoot is a member of Canada's Walk of Fame and the Canadian Songwriters Hall of Fame. In 2007, Canada Post honored him by issuing an official Gordon Lightfoot postage stamp. Lightfoot is also in the Canadian Music Hall of Fame and the Canadian Country Music Hall of Fame. Lightfoot is an indelible part of the Canadian national spirit and regarded as perhaps the most prolific and greatest Canadian singer-songwriter of all time.

For more official Lightfoot information visit www.lightfoot. ca and for ticket information kewadin.com.



Carlene Conguy is the November team member of the month at Kewadin St. Ignace. Carlene has worked for Kewadin since April of 1993. She started in the slot department and now works as an executive host. She was born and raised in St. Ignace. "The most rewarding part of my job is interacting with customers and acquaintances I have made during my time here," she said. Way to go, Carlene! Thanks for all you do.

Humperdinck this spring

His voice comes from heaven. He has been a legend in the international music industry for the last 40 plus years with over 150 million records sold. He is coming to Kewadin Casinos. Engelbert Humperdinck, with his remarkable voice and extraordinary talent, will perform in the DreamMakers Theater on Sunday, May 11, at 7 p.m. Tickets on sale now at \$58.50 and \$48.50.

Engelbert Humperdinck has recorded everything from the most romantic ballads to platinum-selling theme songs. He had four Grammy nominations, a Golden Globe for "Entertainer of the Year" (1988), 63 gold and 24 platinum records and a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. And his work continues. In the past few years, he has joined in elite group of musical artists, such as Tony Bennett and Burt Bacharach, who have crossed over successfully to strike a new chord with a younger generation in addition to their core audi-

Engelbert has just about completed recording his first duets

> Opens May 1st



CD, Engelbert Calling. This newest project by Engelbert has collaborations with a who's who of the music world, including Sir Elton John, Willie Nelson, Smokey Robinson, Shelby Lynne, Charles Aznavour, Neil Sedaka, Dionne Warwick, Kenny Rogers,

Lulu, Beverly Knight and Gene Simmons, to name a few.

For more official Engelbert information, visit www.facebook.com/OfficialEngelbertHumperd inck and for ticket information, kewadin.com.

Weatherization Program



The Sault Tribe Housing Authority will be accepting applications for its Weatherization Program as of May 1st, 2014.

The purpose of the Weatherization Program is to provide energy conservation improvements targeting features of owner occupied homes that require repair/replacement to make the home more energy efficient.

Description of services to include:

- Repair/Replacement of windows, exterior doors, and roof
- Air-sealing measures such as weather stripping and calking
- Insulation of pipes, skirting, roof area/attic

- Must Own Home
 & Land *No
 Rented Lots
- Must be a Sault Tribe Household
- Must reside in the seven county service area
- Must meet income guidelines

Please contact the Home Ownership Program Annie Thibert @ 906-495-1450 or 1-800-794-4072 Affordable Care Act
("Obamacare")
enrollment event
for Sault Tribe members
and their families

Munising Tribal Health Center
622 W. Superior Street, Munising, Mich.
Monday, March 24, 2014
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Appointments 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Appointments 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Call (906) 387-4614 to schedule an appointment.
Walk-ins welcome.

Manistique Tribal Health Center 5698 W. HWY 2, Manistique, Mich. Tuesday, March 25, 2014 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Appointments 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Call (906) 341-8469 to schedule an appointment.

Walk-ins welcome.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act — also known as health care reform, the Affordable Care Act or "Obamacare" — is changing health care for EVERYONE.

You can now find a quality health insurance plan that fits your needs and your budget, if no affordable employer-sponsored plan is available to you.

Sponsored by Sault Tribe Health Division

Take it off and keep it off, weight loss matters

By Linda A. Cook

The American Diabetes Association website (visit at www.diabetes.org) has many tips to help you lose weight and take care of your diabetes.

You can lose weight and keep it off.

The first step is to talk with your doctor about being healthy enough to exercise.

The second step is to see your Sault Tribe registered dietitian (RD) for advice on how to lose weight. It can be hard to talk about weight loss, but talking to someone with expertise will help you get started.

If you have diabetes, it is important to see an RD at least once a year. Registered dietitians are uniquely trained healthcare professionals who are food and nutrition experts.

The Sault Tribe RDs can provide individualized eating plans

that fit your lifestyle and health needs based on your health goals. Learning how to balance food intake and activity is important in health management.

As a Sault Tribe diabetes case coordinator in the Community Health Program, I believe it is important to help people with diabetes to understand what they can do to help themselves manage their diabetes. As I looked at the American Diabetes Association website, I began thinking about how useful the information could be for many community members, therefore, I am going to share.

Studies have shown that a moderate weight loss of 5-10 percent can significantly reduce the risk of Type 2 diabetes mellitus and help manage diabetes in those that already have the disease. This might make more sense if I say, "a woman who is

200 pounds would have to lose 10 pounds for a 5 percent weight loss and 20 pounds for a 10 percent weight loss." Weight loss can be achieved by making realistic lifestyle changes that a person can maintain every day. It is important to make small changes because they are more likely to be achieved and they will become a way of life.

Eating three meals a day and allowing for snacks between meals is realistic. A sample schedule for a person might include having breakfast at 8 a.m., snack at 10:30 a.m., lunch at noon, snack at 3 p.m., dinner at 5 p.m. and a snack at bedtime. Everyone's meal and snack schedule may vary slightly. For example, one person may eat three meals and a bedtime snack and another person may eat three meals plus a mid-morning snack and a bedtime snack. Eating

balanced meals and appropriate portion sizes of foods is also important.

Exercise is necessary to achieve weight loss goals. Always talk to your doctor before starting an exercise program. Exercise should be fun, and active. You may like dancing, therefore an aerobics class may be the thing for you. Maybe it is swimming that gives you enjoyment. The key is to talk it over with your healthcare team and get started. The recommendation for general health benefits is 150 minutes of moderate-intensity physical activity or 75 minutes of vigorous-intensity physical activity per week. To promote weight loss, 60-90 minutes of physical activity per day is recommended. Moderate physical activity includes walking briskly, light yard work, light snow shoveling, biking a casual pace and

actively playing with children. Vigorous-intensity physical activity includes jogging, swimming laps and cross-country skiing. Does that sound like a lot? Start out with a short term goal of three days a week for 10-20 minutes per day. Your goal may be a 20 minute walk on Monday, aerobics class on Wednesday and 20 minutes of snowshoeing on Friday. Gradually increase your goal as your routine becomes easier. The important thing is to have fun and enjoy what you're doing.

Get started on that new path to health and wellness. Weight loss does matter in health. Go to and click on food and fitness to get started.

Call Sault Tribe Community Health at (906) 632-5210 and we will direct your call, or call your local health clinic for more information.

Miigwitch.

More screenings recommended

Colorectal cancer screening rates remain low

About one in three adults aged 50 to 75 years have not been tested for colorectal cancer as recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force, according to a new Vital Signs report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Despite research that shows colorectal cancer screening tests save lives, screening rates remain too low.

"There are more than 20 million adults in this country who haven't had any recommended screening for colorectal cancer and who may therefore get cancer and die from a preventable tragedy," said CDC Director Tom Frieden. "Screening for colorectal cancer is effective and can save your life."

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cancer killer among men and women in the United States, after lung cancer. Screening tests can prevent cancer or detect it at an early stage, when treatment can be highly effective. Adults aged 50 years and older should get tested with one or a combination of these screening tests: Fecal occult blood test (FOBT) or fecal immunochemical test (FIT) done at home every year; flexible sigmoidoscopy, done every five years, with FOBT/FIT done every three years and colonoscopy done every 10 years.

A colonoscopy can detect cancer early and it can find precancerous polyps so they can be removed before they turn into cancer. FOBT/FIT is a simple athome test that can detect cancer early by identifying blood in the stool, a possible sign of cancer. People are not always offered a choice of colorectal cancer tests, but studies have shown that people who are able to choose the test they prefer are more likely to get the test done.

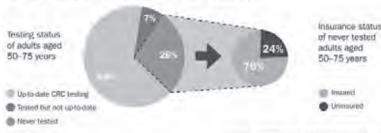
CDC researchers reviewed colorectal cancer screening data from CDC's 2012 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System to estimate the percentage of

people aged 50 to 75 years who reported getting screened as recommended by type of test. Major findings:

- Among adults who were screened as recommended, colonoscopy was by far the most common screening test (62 percent). Use of the other tests was much lower: fecal occult blood test (10 percent) and flexible sigmoidoscopy in combination with FOBT/FIT (less than 1 percent).
- The highest percentage of adults who were up-to-date with colorectal cancer screening was in Massachusetts (76 percent).
- The percentage of people screened for colorectal cancer using the fecal occult blood test within one year was more than twice as high in California (20 percent) when compared with most states.

The authors noted that increasing use of all tests may increase screening rates. Furthermore, research shows that more people may get tested if health care

Many adults are not being tested



providers used an organized approach to identify people who need to be screened, contact them at their home or community setting, advise them of each test and carefully monitor to make sure they complete their test.

Through the Affordable Care Act, more Americans will have access to health coverage and preventive services like colorectal cancer screening tests. The tests will be available at no additional cost. Visit healthcare. gov or call (800) 318-2596 (TTY/TDD 1-855-889-4325) to learn more. Open enrollment in

the Marketplace began on Oct. 1 and ends on March 31, 2014. For those enrolled by Dec. 15, 2013, coverage started as early as Jan. 1, 2014.

The CDC provides funding to 25 states and four tribal organizations across the United States to help increase colorectal cancer screening rates among men and women aged 50 years and older through organized screening methods.

For more information about the CDC's efforts to prevent colorectal cancer, please visit http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal.

It's long past time, so let's make the next generation tobacco-free

Fifty years after the release of the first surgeon general's report on smoking and health, remarkable progress has been made. Since 1964, smoking among U.S. adults has reduced by more than half, from 43 percent to 18 percent. Unfortunately, tobacco use remains the leading preventable cause of disease, disability and death in the United States. In January, 2014, the surgeon general released the 50th anniversary surgeon general's report, The Health Consequences of *Smoking* — 50 Years of Progress. The report highlights half a century of progress and presents new data that can potentially end the tobacco use epidemic in the United States.

Over the past 10 years, the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians also made remarkable progress in commercial tobacco control:

1. 2005: Successfully developed and implemented the comprehensive Nicotine Dependence Program using a systems approach using the *Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence*

Clinical Practice Guidelines from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

2. 2008: Amendment of the Tribal Juvenile Code which made it illegal for a person under age 18 to purchase, possess or attempt to buy commercial tobacco on tribal lands or provide commercial tobacco products to any person under the age of 18.

3. 2010: Sault Tribe Housing Authority adopted a smoke-free housing policy for designated buildings.

- 4. 2011: Sault Tribe Housing Authority adopted a tobacco-free playgrounds policy for all Sault Tribe housing sites.
- 5. 2012: Sault Tribe adopted a smoke-free dining policy designating three Kewadin Casino restaurants as smoke-free.
- 6. 2012: Sault Tribe adopted a policy to extend tobacco cessation services to all Sault Tribe employees who would otherwise not be eligible.
- 7. 2012: Sault Tribe adopted a Sault Tribe Health Division Tobacco-free campus policy for

all health centers.

The policy changes and program additions have reduced the overall rate of commercial tobacco use. However; according to the Sault Tribe health survey conducted through the Community Transformation Grant Project in December 2012 through March 2013, 33 percent or 1 in 3 Sault Tribe adults still smoke. Of those that smoke, over half have tried to quit in the last month. What is of extreme concern is that in the age group of 18-34 year olds, the smoking rate is 41 percent. These smoking rates are comparable to smoking rates in the U.S. fifty years ago.

According to the surgeon general's report, the strategies most effective in reducing tobacco use rates are:

• Higher prices on cigarettes and other tobacco products. For every 10 percent increase in the price of cigarettes there has been a 6 percent reduction in tobacco use rates. Higher prices are very effective at discouraging young people from starting in the first place. High prices also encourage adult smokers to quit.

- Smoke-free policies in public places. They protect non-smokers and make smoking the exception, not the norm.
- Easy to get, affordable smoking cessation treatments. Smokers who want to quit should have easy access to affordable smoking cessation treatments.
- Reduce youth access to tobacco products.

What can we do? Tobacco users can quit. Never smoke in your home, vehicles or around nonsmokers, especially children, pregnant women and persons with heart disease or respiratory conditions.

Retailers can never sell any tobacco product to customers younger than 18 years of age. Check the photo ID of any customer trying to buy tobacco products who appear to be 26 years of age or younger.

Medical professionals can ask patients if they use tobacco; if they do, help them quit. Advise nonsmokers to avoid secondhand smoke exposure, especially if they are pregnant or have heart disease or respiratory conditions.

Leaders can fund comprehensive tobacco control programs. Designate 100 percent smoke-free indoor air environments including workplaces, restaurants and bars. Increase the price of all tobacco products.

The time is now to begin a tobacco-free future for this generation and for generations to come. Let's make the next generation tobacco-free.

For more information on reducing exposure to secondhand smoke, and how to support Sault Tribe Community Transformation Grant strategies to reduce commercial tobacco use rates and prevent youth from starting to use commercial tobacco visit www. up4health.org. For help to quit smoking, visit the website www. healthysaulttribe.com or contact your local tribal health center.

To access the surgeon general's report, visit www.surgeongeneral. gov/library/reports/50-years-of-progress/index.html.

Tribal court enhanced through BIA funding

Each year, the U.S. Department of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs offers competitive onetime funding to tribal courts for purchases not affordable to the tribes themselves. In 2012, Tribal Court requested and was awarded \$10,000 of ear-marked funds for the purchase of SCRAM and Soberlink alcohol monitoring bracelets and devices, and for additional alcohol/drug screening products. In 2013, the BIA awarded the court an additional \$5,500 of ear-marked funds for the purchase of iPads and wireless microphones for the courtroom. These acquisitions have enhanced Tribal Court operations and have helped probation staff monitor probationers.

Soberlink and SCRAM devices allow for mobile monitoring technology that can conveniently detect alcohol use and promotes the accountability of probationers at any time of the day or night. The Soberlink device is a mobile breathalyzer that tests a user's blood alcohol content, takes their picture and records their location. Soberlink sends clients a test reminder via text or phone call when they are scheduled to take the preliminary breath test. To satisfy the testing schedule, the test must be taken within a predetermined test window. The camera in the Soberlink device takes a picture with the scheduled test to prove that it is actually the client

using the device. A test report is sent to the online website within 60 seconds and the results are shown electronically. If a client does not test when it is scheduled, it results in a failed test.

Likewise, the SCRAM system tests your alcohol level with a chain link device around your ankle. This device will be able to indicate any alcohol that goes into your system at any point in time. Instead of being incarcerated from alcohol dependence, the Soberlink and SCRAM system allow for a rehabilitation process. Within a few short years, these tools have proven to be an integral part of the recovery period for anyone struggling with alcohol dependency, as well as anyone assisting with the process. Not only will these monitoring devices check if any alcohol is in your system, they also have the capability to see your location because of the GPS linked within the product.

"These are very useful tools in the supervision of a probationer. These devices allow probationers to live in their residence, maintain employment and participate in services," said Steve Ewing, probation officer.

"The accuracy of both the Soberlink and SCRAM give the court more confidence to let more people stay out of jail – at least those charged with alcohol-related offenses," said Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry.

This funding has also allowed the court to upgrade technology used in daily operations as a whole. The court will be purchasing two iPads, obtain wireless Internet at the court and replace the outdated microphone system in the courtroom.

"The greatest benefit of the iPads will be the ability to review and authorize search warrants and petitions for removal of minor children electronically," said Fabry. Many of these emergency requests from law enforcement come in the middle of the night, because that's when they occur. That can create problems because the officer will then have to

find another officer to leave with a suspect or even bring the person in tow to the judge's or magistrate's house for them to review the paperwork. Now the judge or magistrate will be able to take care of the paperwork on the iPads. In addition, all Tribal Court staff will now have the ease in sending, preparing and signing documents at anytime from anywhere and will be able to take the mobile technology with them when away at training. The iPad will also allow the judge to conduct research right from the bench when issues arise.

"The iPad is already being used by the medical, legal, police

and education communities around us, and we are happy to have the same here now at Tribal Court," said Traci Swan, court administrator. "Having the latest technology is an important factor in moving forward with new opportunities such as going paperless, saving on postage and becoming more efficient. Justice delayed is justice denied and with this technology it will help reduce the wait. With the addition of a wireless Internet connection in the courtroom, I'm sure we'll see more attorneys that practice in Tribal Court pulling out their iPads instead of lugging around multiple, heavy files."

Team Member of the Month — Carolyn Corrie



Carolyn Corrie, lead server at **Kewadin Shores is** the Team Member of the Month! She started in 1994 in the bar department. She and her husband, Jonathon, have three children. "The most rewarding part of my job is being able to provide good customer service," said Carolyn. Congratulations, Carolyn! You

Workforce Investment Act offers many options

Programs available for youth and seniors, pays for certificate training programs for qualified applicants

By Brenda Austin

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) manager Brenda Cadreau has been an employee of the Sault Tribe for 25 years, the past 20 with the WIA program. Funded through the Department of Labor, the WIA helps to provide eligible Native American youth and adults with training skills to assist them in obtaining and keeping productively employed.

Training services provided by the program include: Work Experience, On-the-Job Training (OJT), Classroom Training and Summer Youth Employment.

Cadreau graduated from Sault Area High School in 1985 and started working for the Sault Tribe Job Training Partnership ACT (JTPA) in 1983. The former JTPA program is now the WIA program. Her first job as a student worker employed by the JTPA program was with Contract Health, which was housed in the current USDA building on the upper floor. She has also worked as a secretary at MidJim for John Jarvis and on the Count Team when Kewadin Casino first opened in the Sault.

While attending college at LSSU, she was hired on full time at Contract Health in 1989 and then moved to Human Resources in 1991 and worked with George Eicher. "We had similar programs when I started working for JTPA 20 years ago," she said. "Really not much has changed in the programs themselves."

The Work Experience program is for youth ages 14 to 21.

The program provides temporary training assignments meant to teach youth basic work skills to help them prepare for the adult work force. When possible, youth are placed in the area best suiting their future employment goals. The program runs from Oct. through May and is also referred to as the after-school employment program. Youth must reside within the seven county service are, be unemployed or fall within income guidelines, be Native American, and between 14-21 years of age and be able to pass pre-program drug testing. Cadreau said some examples of job placements outside of the tribe include the National Forest Service, LSSUs Native American Center, Chippewa County Animal Shelter and Northern Michigan University. Youth are also placed within the tribal structure.

The On-the-Job Training program is for adults 18 and older that allows the participant to learn job skills working in a place of business and the program reimburses the employer 50 percent of their wage to help cover the costs of training a new worker. The length of the employer reimbursed trainings very depending on the position, wage and skill level of the applicant. Cadreau said some places outside of the tribe that had On-the-Job training contracts were Hessel Home Bakery, Northern Transitions and Munising Public School. Eligibility requirements are the same as the previous program with the exception of age.

Classroom Training is a program for adults that pays for skills training in an institutional setting to obtain a license or certificate such as nurse aid training or heavy equipment operator, among others.

The Summer Youth **Employment Program provides** job training through the summer months to eligible Native American youth ages 14 to 21 and is basically the same as the Work Experience Program. Participants are placed into job sites for about 20 hours a week at minimum wage. The program runs about 10 weeks, beginning when school gets out for the summer until it resumes in the fall. Depending on funding, this program serves 10-30 youth. Applicants must be able to pass a drug test.

The Senior Employment program is funded through the Elderly Self-Sufficiency Fund and was created in 1998 to assist with employment needs of tribal elders. Elders hired through this program are placed into part time work assignments for up to 14 hours a week at minimum wage. There are currently 10 elder workers placed around the tribe at such places as ACFS, Contract Health, Sawyer Village, Housing, and tribal health centers. There is currently an open position for St. Ignace. To apply with this program you must be a member of the Sault Tribe, must reside within the seven county service area and must be age 60 or over.

For the current program year,

WIA has served 58 participants, with 31 in Work Experience, nine in Classroom Training and 18 took advantage of Onthe-Job Training. Thirty youth participated in the 2013 Summer Youth Employment Program; 10 of those were paid through the Department of Labor and 20 were paid through tribal funds. Also, in 2013 there were 11 elders hired through the Senior Employment Program.

If you would like further information about any of these programs, or would like to apply, contact Brenda Cadreau by calling (906) 635-4767 or by email at bcadreau@saulttribe.net.

SUMMER JOBS!

The Sault Tribe WIA
Depart-ment is accepting applications for the Summer Youth Employment Program. This is an income-based program for Native American youth aged 14 to 21 residing in the seven-county service area. Youth must be able to successfully pass a drug test.

Applications can be picked up at the WIA office at 523 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., or by calling Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767.

Application deadline is May 9.

Birth Announcement

Brian and Rachelle Gariepy of Manistique, Mich., are the proud parents of a baby girl, Joelle Maria, who was born Jan. 24, 2014, at St. Francis Hospital in Escanaba, Mich. She weighed six pounds, eight ounces and was 19 inches in length. Grandparents are Joe and Trish Katalin and Jim and Lynn Gariepy of Munising, Mich. Great grandparents are John and Ruth Katalin of Painesdale, Mich., and Lorraine Gariepy of Munising, Mich.





NATIVE AMERICAN BUSINESS INSTITUTE JULY 27 - AUGUST 2, 2014

Nam	ne	Date						
	ress							
		City State Zip code E-mail						
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Racia	ial/Ethnic Background (circle all t	hat apply) :						
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Nam	ne of High School							
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Expe	ected date of graduation from h	igh school (indicate month/year)						
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Inte	erest Area in Business (rank your t Accounting	Hospitality Business						
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	Finance	Supply Chain Management						
	Other Majors:							
The	following items must be include	ed with your application:						
me	Tonowing Items must be melau	eu with your application.						
	Resume or a list of your extracurricular activities, employment, community and volunteer services.							
	A short essay of not more than 250 words telling us why you should be selected as a participant in the Native American Summer Business Institute.							
	Copy of a high school transcript.							
Mail	I/Email/Fax your application to	Dr. Kevin Leonard - Multicultural Business Programs Michigan State University 645 N. Shaw Lane Room 419 East Lansing, MI 48824-1121 leonard1@msu.edu or Fax: 517-355-0970						
Sign	nature	Date						
	ent/Guardian nature	Date						

Please note that we are unable to consider incomplete application packets.

Questions? Consult our website at www.broad.msu.edu/undergraduate/mbp Or contact Dr. Kevin Leonard at (517)-353-3524

Employee snapshot — Dale Joseph

Name: Dale Joseph Department: Insurance Position: Safety officer Years in Position: Four

What is Dale's job? Safety, it's everyone's responsibility. My job, along with my co-workers, is to keep everyone trained on certain safety topics and remind everyone the importance of safe work practices.

What does Dale like best about his job? I get to work with all team members from every location, which covers the Sault to Christmas and everything in between. I find it very rewarding when the Safety team can make a difference in keeping everyone safe. We have some great training programs and I really enjoy meeting and working for the team members in helping to ensure their safety.

Dale was born in Saint Ignace but moved with his family to lower Michigan when he was a young child. "My Dad's family is from Sugar Island and as children we always came north to visit family on the island. All the elders I met, as a child, on the island said that once the island gets in your blood you will return. The elders were right. Shortly after graduating high school in Lansing, Mich., I returned to the island (a.k.a. the rock). It was the best decision

I've ever made. Today, I live with my wife in Dafter. I have a son, Joseph, two beautiful granddaughters, three sisters, three brothers and a mother who still keeps me in line."



Letters to the editor

Congressional thanks

As reported in the February edition of the Sault Tribe newspaper, Congressman Dan Benishek visited our tribe's USDA Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations facility in Sault Ste. Marie on Jan. 21.

A week later, Benishek expressed his impressions and gratitude in a letter to the tribal board's chairman as transcribed below.

I wish to thank you for the outstanding tour of the tribal food distribution center provided by Director Tony Nertoli. It is very clear that center provides valuable nutrition to members of your tribe who otherwise would go without.

Tony's presentation allowed me to learn the current challenges facing your program. This type of information enables me to better respond to your needs and to those of your tribal members.

This center is an outstanding asset to northern Michigan. Additionally, Tony and his staff displayed a commendable level of enthusiasm and pride in their work.

Again, thank you for your hospitality. If I may be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Dan Benishek M.D.Member of Congress

Road commission thanks

As reported in the February edition of the Sault Tribe newspaper, the tribe acquired \$820,000 in federal emergency relief funds to help the Chippewa County Road Commission to repair storm-damaged roads on Sugar Island. The commission later expressed gratitude in a letter to the tribal board's chairman as transcribed below.

We are writing to express our sincere gratitude for the assistance and cooperation that we have received from the Sault Tribe as it relates to the storm damage that occurred on Sugar Island last September. As you know, the damage to the area's roadways was severe and the repair process was and continues to be very expensive. Without the help and cooperation that we are receiving from the Tribe this event would have left the road commission in a dire financial situation and would have caused lasting effects on the level of service that we could provide to the residents of the county. We again offer our sincere thanks to the Sault Tribe.

In addition to our thanks to the Sault Tribe as a partner organization in this effort, we would also like to recognize the individual effort put forth by Ms. Wendy Hoffman. Wendy was involved with the response effort early after the event and she was eager to participate as we tried to identify all of the possible sources of disaster relief funds. Without hesitation, Wendy offered to research any possibilities through the BIA while the road commission and emergency management staff researched any other possible sources. In the end, due to the individual effort and the diligence put forth by Wendy, a funding program was identified, applied for, and eventually approved through the Bureau of Indian Affairs that will result in the reimbursement of approximately \$811,000 of repair work. To give some perspective to the significance of this amount, it is equal to about 20 percent of our annual maintenance budget. Without Wendy's individual effort and perseverance this program may have never been identified and our ability to maintain the county's roadways would have been dramatically reduced. We sincerely offer a personal thank you to Ms. Wendy Hoffman and would request that you place a copy of this letter in her personnel file as a testament to her exemplary individual effort and superb work ethic as it relates to this event.

Thank you again, we look forward to participating in an ongoing cooperative relationship with the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and your dedicated staff.

Robert Laitien, manager Dick Timmer, chairman Bernie LaJoie, vice chairman Brad Ormsbee, member

Chippewa, Luce, Mackinac summer camp counselors needed

Chippewa, Luce, and Mackinac counties 4-H programs are busy planning the 4-H Summer Camp. The camp will be at Northwoods, in Pickford, Mich., July 9-11, for youth aged 8-11 as of Jan. 1. The theme for this year's camp is "4-Hers Make Every Day Earth Day."

Summer camp not only allows a remarkable opportunity for youth to develop independence to help create successful pathways to adulthood, but also gives them a chance to have hands on learning adventures and to learn about different areas of study with which they may not be familiar. While all that is happening, they are forming wonderful friendships.

The 2014 camp will be offering fly tying, fly fishing, kayaking, nature programs, healthful food, global youth leadership, archery, crafts and much more.

However, in order for 4-H Summer Camp to happen, counselors are needed. Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac counties are recruiting adult (21 as of Jan. 1) and teen counselors (15 as of Jan. 1). For teens, this is an excellent leadership and service opportunity for you. Adults, this is a great way to spend some quality, fun, summer time with your child. If you are interested, please contact Melanie Greenfield, Chippewa County program coordinator, at 635-6368 or at greenf20@anr. msu.edu.

Sault Tribe reduces inland fee down to \$5

SAULT STE.MARIE — Sault Tribe's inland application fee is now only \$5, down from the \$15 charged previously.

Tribal Chairperson Aaron Payment said, "We understand we are likely to receive a increase of \$450,000-plus from Congress. I am comfortable changing the fee from \$15 to \$5."

The funds were needed to help pay for the tribe's Inland Fish and Wildlife Department's many mandates demanded by the 2007 Inland Consent Decree. Now that more funds are coming in from Congress, that fee can be knocked down. "Long ago, when we explained that we would lobby Congress to get new funding for Inland Treaty Rights implementation, I noted that once these funds were released to us, we would change the fee amount for our Inland Permits," said Payment.

The Inland Conservation Committee supported the change at its March 4 meeting.

For those who would prefer to use an electronic form, please go to http://www.saulttribe.com/membership-services/natural-resources.

Mining proposal against the public good

By Jennifer Dale-Burton, Editor

According to local oral tradition, we've been here long enough to see the end of the ice age and the glaciers receding. In the scheme of things, the 1836 Treaty of Washington and the formation of Michigan are very recent events. Public lands and waters here in the bosom of the Great Lakes, most specifically in our treaty ceded territory, are held in trust for us and the citizens of Michigan, and should not be at the mercy of one person namely the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Director, Yet. that is exactly what's happening.

This area is a prime area for hunting, fishing and gathering. It is centered in the headwaters of Lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron as well as the Carp River and Black River. It has been the home of the Anishinaabeg since time immemorial — where we were born, lived and died, where we fished, hunted, portaged from lake to lake between communities. Since colonization, citizens of Michigan have grown to love the same area. Their families have lived on this land, lumbered, farmed and hunted. It's there for all of us to enjoy.

Unfortunately, it is also a prime area for limestone and a company called Graymont wants to buy a total of 13,000 acres from the state and private owners to mine the limestone.

That it can happen at all is

thanks to a law passed by the state last year allowing more land to be sold off as "surplus land" under the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (Act 451) of 1994 section 324, Land Exchange Facilitation Fund.

A land sale of this size is unprecedented in modern times. Not only are we losing all rights to this land, it will be used for mining. The mining company seems like a fair company, made up of reasonable, flexible, nice people. They aren't the point here. Our land is the point. It is not surplus. What the state may define as "surplus" is hardly surplus to the people of Michigan. This area is high quality northern hardwood habitat we put to many different uses.

And what impact will the mining have on the area's hunting, fishing and other activities of tribes? We do not know. There are 1.200 Sault Tribe licensed hunters living in a 20-mile radius of this land. No environmental impact study has been conducted. People like to say that limestone mining is dry mining, and the mining area can be reclaimed. That is somewhat disingenuous. First, no one knows exactly what is underground. The hydrology of the place could be fragile — and there has been no hydrological assessment. Reclamation after clear cutting — at a rate of 10 to 20 acres a year, is just replacing the soil that is scraped off and set aside — you can't put back habitat — trees, plants, animals. Your favorite spots, your hunting camp, your best chanterelle patch would be gone forever.

Loss of such an enormous and valuable resource, its impact on our fishing, hunting and gathering rights, and lack of information on environmental impacts, are some of the reasons Sault Tribe is opposed to the sale of the acreage Graymont wants. Other reasons are lack of cultural inventory and the inability — despite two FOIA requests — to get a firm grip on current project information.

Bay Mills Indian Community has resolved to oppose the land sale for similar reasons.

What we do know is that the sale will result in the closing of existing roads and access to large areas of land we now use. Graymont people have agreed that it will remain open to public use — but only by their agreement as new owners of the land, and not where they have decided to mine or set up for underground mining. They may even build a processing plant.

Sault Tribe has the right to require consultation with the state, which occurred Feb. 26 in Lansing. At that time, the state was still evaluating the proposal. According to Steve Sutton with the DNR Real Estate Division, after DNR staff review and make a recommendation, the recommendation will go back to the public and another tribal consultation will be offered so everyone

knows what's on the table. Then, the DNR Director will make his decision.

During the tribe-state consultation there was considerable discussion on the tribe's five points of opposition: approval would be a terrible decision due to the enormity of the resource (10,700 acres); adverse impact on fishing, hunting and gathering of tribal members and other state citizens and visitors; no environmental assessment of this resource, which is connected to three Great Lakes watersheds and two major rivers; lack of cultural inventory; frustration due to obtaining concrete current information on the project, even through two FOIA requests.

All public comment will be reported to the director. The DNR considers environmental, legal, and social factors. DNR staff said these three factors include economic, recreation, treaty rights and public comment considerations.

The Graymont mining proposal to acquire 10,700 acres of state land of high quality habitat rich in resources does not serve the public good.

Anyone who has concerns about this project should be putting their thoughts, feelings and arguments on paper and sending it to the DNR at the email DNR-GraymontProposalComments@michigan.gov. Do it before the end of this month, BEFORE the director makes his decision.

2014 Sault Tribe Inland Application

Please fill out the following application indicating all harvest tags that you would like in addition to your 2014 Harvest card. The Harvest card authorizes you to participate in activities pursuant to Chapters 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code only. Great Lakes activities require separate permits pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Tribal Code.

In 2014, the cost for each member will be \$5. You must pay with a check or a money order payable to Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. If you have questions, please contact Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (906.635.6065). Youth (16 and under) and Elders (60 and over) are not required to pay fees. New applicants must provide a copy of their Tribal card and if born after 1960, proof of hunter safety. All members who held a 2013 harvest license must complete a harvest report.

First nam	e Middle					Las	st		
Address				City				State	Zip
File Num	ber(red# on Tribal ID) STS # (Red #	on ha	rvest card)		Date of bir	rth		Sex	
Phone no	ımber		Email address	s					
	☐ Hunting harvest card		Application H	arvest Tag	gs	☐ Non-hunting harvest card			
	ncludes Inland fishing, general gathering, small game, waterfowl, migratory birds, and general furbearer.		☐ Deer			Includes Inland fishing and general ga			gathering.
Ĺ			Spring 7	Гurkey					
			Fall Turl	key					
				arten, bob ter, and fis tags					

Bear and Elk Applications will be available on the Sault Tribe website and the newspaper in May 2014.

Walleye and steelhead permits for the specially regulated seasons will be available by contacting the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department,906-632-6132 or see website for details (www.saulttribe.com).

For all other permits pursuant to chapter 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code, you must contact the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (i.e. State Firewood and State Maple Sap).

Please mail completed applications to:

PO Box 925 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

GORDON T. CORBIERE

Gordon Theodore Corbiere, born on Nov. 25, 1936, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away



at his home on Feb. 15, 2014, with his loving wife of 57 years, Connie Corbiere, by his side, his loving daughter, Sharon, and his son, Raymond.

Gordon enjoyed playing his fiddle to his family. He was a man of infinite talents. He was truly "grandpa, tell me about the good ol' days."

Son to Theodore and Jeannette Corbiere, he was raised on Sugar Island, Mich. where he began his career as a firefighter and he retired captain with the Dumbar and Sullivan Dredging Company. He was a member of the Union Operating Engineers Local 181, Holy Name of Mary Pro-Cathedral, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Batchewana First Nation.

Gordon is survived by his wife, Connie; sons, Rick (Brenda) Corbiere, Robert (Jenise) Corbiere Sr. and Raymond (Joyce L) Corbiere; daughters, Suzanne (Herbie) Roy, Janice Manning, Sharon (Frank S) Corbiere and Karen (Erin) Mitchell; grandsons, Gordon (Sarah B) Corbiere, Joseph (Christine N) Ballas, Justin (Kristin) Corbiere, Robert Corbiere Jr., Aaron Corbiere, Brent (Jessica G) Roy, Joshua Corbiere, Jacque (Katie D) Corbiere and Cason Corbiere; granddaughters, Constance Manning, Erika Roy and Raelene Corbiere; great-granddaughters, Kamryn and Kacie Corbiere; great-grandson, Jace Corbiere; brothers: Emery (Donna) Corbiere, Gerald (Joanne) Corbiere and Donald (Karen) Corbiere; sisters, Arlene King and Judith Knutsen; and many nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents, Theodore and Jeannette Corbiere; brothers, William (Teepee) Corbiere and Gary (Tarz) Corbiere; and sisters, Viola Corbiere, Joyce Sanderson and Delores Fisher.

Visitation took place at the Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral

Home and Cremation Center on Feb. 19 and services were conducted on Feb. 20 at St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral Church, with Father Sebastian Kavumkal officiating.

His final resting place will be at Mission Hill Cemetery, Bay Mills, Mich., with interment in the spring.

GAIL E. DILL

Gail Eloise Dill, aged 75, of Kincheloe, Mich., died on Jan. 23, 2014, in her home. She was born on March 18, 1938,



to Richard and Dorothy (nee Leonard) Gereau in Wells Township, Mich.

Gail lived most of her life in Muskegon, Mich., where she married Douglas Dill on March 21, 1959. Every year, they would come to the Upper Peninsula to visit family. She worked as an elementary and high school secretary for many years. She also worked in real estate and as a real estate broker. Gail was every active in school activities at Muskegon Oakridge. Most recently she was a senior office worker for Anishnabek Community Family Services.

Gail returned to the Upper Peninsula after the death of her husband in 1987. She was a member of the New Hope Church in Kincheloe where she participated in the Bible study, worship team and volunteered at the food pantry. Gail was an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

She was an avid reader, loved to put puzzles together and enjoyed playing any card games.

Gail is survived by her son, Richard Dill of Kincheloe; and sister, Dolores Walsh of Las Vegas, Nev.

Gail is preceded in death by husband, Douglas Dill; and brother, Richard Gereau.

A Celebration of Gail's life took place on Feb. 2 at New Hope Church immediately following the regular service and interment will be in Mt. Hope Cemetery in Shelby, Mich.

Reamer Galer Funeral Home served the family and condolences may be sent to the family at www. reamergalerfuneralhome.com.

HENRY L. FECTEAU

Henry
Lawrence
"Sonny"
Fecteau, age
85, of Dayton,
Ohio, passed
away on Jan.
13, 2014.
Henry was
born on Dec.



7, 1928, in Hazel Park, Mich., to the late Joseph and Evelyn Fecteau.

He worked many years in the construction business for Danis Industries, rose through the ranks and retired as vice-president of In-plant Division. Hank, as he was known to most, had a great love of all genre of music and was quite an accomplished guitarist.

As a member of the Sugar Valley and Dayton country clubs, Hank's passion for golf began at an early age and extended well into his retirement years.

He is preceded in death by wife, Rita, and brother, Donald.

He is survived by wife, Sharon, "Rosie" Fecteau; children, Keith (Barbara) Fecteau, Holli (Bruce) Dupuis, Craig "Duke" (Jayne) Fecteau and Christopher Fecteau; grandchildren, Olivia (Colin) Cavasina, Nicholas (Elaina) Fecteau, Robert (Nanci) Dupuis, Blake (Ashley) Fecteau and Anne Dupuis; great-grandchildren, Gram, Nolan and Isabella; brother, Brent (Connie) Fecteau and sister-in-law, Joan Fecteau; several nieces and nephews; and many, many wonderful friends.

A celebration of his life by family and friends took place at Routsong Funeral Home and services were conducted at St. Henry's Catholic Church, Miami Township, Ohio. Memorials may be made to the University of Cincinnati, Department of Neurology, attn. Neil Holsing, 260 Stetson St., Suite 2300, Cincinnati, OH 45267-0525 or

to the Dayton Humane Society, 1661 Nicholas Rd., Dayton, OH 45417

JACKIE W. GERMAIN

Jackie W. Germain of Kincheloe, Mich., born on Nov. 3, 1956, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., died on Feb.



18 at his home surrounded by his family.

To know him was to love him. He enjoyed playing music with family and friends, camping and the casino. He was a very active member of his community and enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren. Jackie was a member of the Orioles Club and a proud member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

He is survived by his wife, Theresa; sons, Larry (Amanda) LaPonsie of Kincheloe, Mich., Brandon LaPonsie of Kincheloe and Jason Bennett of Sault Ste. Marie; siblings, Sanday Graham of Sault Ste. Marie, Janet Germain of Kincheloe, Linda (Harold) Grove of Hazen, N.D., Richard (Holi) Germain of Sherman, Texas, Buncie Germain of Sault Ste. Marie, Sharon Oliver of Kincheloe, Susie (Terry) Niemi of Barbeau, Mich., Patty (Gary) Bosley of Sault Ste. Marie, Butchie Germain of Kincheloe, Chicky Germain of Alpena, Mich., Bo Germain of Kingsley, Mich., Bobby (Peggy) McKechnie of Sault Ste. Marie and Larry McKechnie of Kincheloe; brothers and sisters in law, Prinny McKechnie of Kincheloe, John (Michelle) Tobias of Pickford, Mich., Bill (Sue) Tobias of Sault Ste. Marie and George (Roy) Tobias of Kincheloe; grandchildren, Larry LaPonsie, Caleb LaPonsie, Landon LaPonsie, Skylea Price and Wyatt Bird.

He was predeceased by his parents, Hoppy and Eleanor Germain; mother-in-law, Helen Tobias; brother, Weegie Mongene, son, Jackie Bennett; and nephews, Jimmie Lee Germain and Wally Bosley.

Visitation took place on Feb. 24 at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home and services were conducted at St. Issac Jogues Catholic Church on Feb. 25 with Brother John Hascall officiating.

Final resting place will be in Lakeview Cemetery in Kinross in the spring.

I little knew that morning, God was going to call your name. In life I loved you dearly, in death I do the same. It broke my heart to lose you; you did not go alone, for part of me went with you, the day God called you home. You left me beautiful memories, your love is still my guide, and though we cannot see you, you're always at my side. Our family chain is broken and nothing seems the same, but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

Ronald McKerchie Jr.

Ron passed away in Petoskey after a courageous year-long fight with cancer. Born to Ron Sr. and Bonnie McKerchie on Jan. 13, 1975, in Toledo, Ohio, he made his home on Sugar Island and loved it there.

Ron was a carpenter by trade and loved to fish, garden, entertain friends with cook-outs and dinner. He was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and had Garden River ancestry status.

He is survived by his parents; brother Eric McKerchie Sr. (Kami); girlfriend, Tracy Nelson; grandmother, Mary J. McKerchie; grandfather, Bernard E. Roy (Aili Allen); and nephews, Eric Jr. and Tyler McKerchie. Ron also had many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends who visited and kept him company when he was not feeling well.

He was predeceased by his grandmother, Marjorie J. Roy; grandfather, Harold J. (Cub) McKerchie Sr.; and friends Dewey and John.

A luncheon for family and friends took place at the Sugar Island Community Center on March 1 in lieu of formal services in accordance with Ron's request. Burial will take place in the spring at Maple Ridge Cemetery on Sugar Island.

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

Landmark court case settled in favor of tribal online lenders

LOUISVILLE, Colo.—Fredericks Peebles and Morgan LLP, a national tribal law firm announced this week a victory in the state of California for two tribal online lenders: the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and the Santee Sioux Nation of Nebraska. The California Court of Appeals affirmed the dismissal of a suit by the State of California against online lenders owned by the two federally recognized Indian tribes. The suit was an attempt by the state to shut down the sovereign tribes' online lending businesses and impose penalties for alleged failure to comply with the California laws governing shortterm loans.

This case comes in the wake of a series of other states' efforts to shut down various tribal lending operations around the country. States have mounted campaigns to restrict and control tribal lending operations in their state even though federally recognized Indian tribes are not subject to state laws in general and are regulated primarily through federal Indian law. This issue has gained widespread publicity around the country in the last several months.

This California case reaffirmed that federally recognized Indian tribes are sovereign nations, not subject to state control. The court decision will significantly impact other states and other tribes throughout the country as the issue of tribal sovereignty has been under attack on many fronts over the last several years.

In this case, California claimed that loans made by the tribes are not enforceable under California law because the tribes are not licensed in California and the loan fees exceed California's enforceable rates. In a ruling issued on Jan. 21, 2014, the Court of Appeals rebuffed the state's claims, finding that the tribes' lending activities "are subject to tribal laws governing interest rates, loans and cash advance services," and that California's lending laws are not enforceable against the tribal lenders. The court went on to find that "there can be little question" that the tribally-owned lenders "function as arms of their respective tribes" and therefore are not subject to the jurisdiction of the State of California.

The court observed that due to the relocation of these tribes to remote and severely depressed regions, revenues from these loans are "essential to maintaining a functioning tribal government able to provide necessary services to the tribe's members."

The decision marks the second

appellate court ruling in favor of these sovereign tribal lenders in less than a month. In December of 2013, the Colorado Court of Appeals dismissed the State of Colorado's appeal of the lower court's nearly-identical finding that these sovereign tribal lenders were arms of their respective tribes and are not subject to that state's jurisdiction. In both the California and Colorado proceedings, the courts affirmed the imposition of monetary sanctions against the respective states for their litigation misconduct committed during the course of the litigation.

The Miami Tribe of Oklahoma operates its sovereign lending business through MNE Services, Inc., a 100 percent tribally-owned subdivision and arm of the Miami Tribe. MNE Services, Inc., which is licensed and regulated by the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, and

does business under the trade names Ameriloan, USFastCash, United Cash Loans, Advantage Cash Services and Star Cash Processing.

The Santee Sioux Nation operates its sovereign lending business through SFS, Inc., a 100 percent tribally-owned subdivision and arm of the Santee Sioux Nation. SFS, Inc., which is licensed and regulated by the Santee Sioux Nation, does business using the trade name OneClickCash.

The tribal lenders were represented in both appeals by Fredericks, Peebles and Morgan, LLP. Fredericks Peebles and Morgan LLP is dedicated to the representation of American Indian tribes and Native American organizations throughout the United States. For more information on the firm, please visit their website at www.ndnlaw.com.

Photo by Sherrie Lucas

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

Q & A with Chairperson Payment

Ahneen, Negee:

While we have been inundated with negativity in Board Unit reports and planned attacks during meetings where Tribal Board members have called for criminal investigations and demanded apologies to anonymous Elders who have supposedly complained, I choose to focus on areas I can make positive change for our people on a national level and by promoting reforms in our Tribe's government. We'll get there. In the meantime, your patience is appreciated.

Chi MeGwitch,



CONTRACT SUPPORT COST UPDATE

Q. Mr. Chairperson, you have been traveling a lot to Washington DC regarding IHS Contract Support Costs. What is this issue about and how does it affect us back home?

A. In upholding the trust obligations of our 1836 Treaty, the federal government entered a legal obligation to provide us "health, education, and social welfare" [paraphrased]. Part of this obligation includes supplying our Tribe with an amount funds to manage this responsibility. This is done through "indirect" funding which is a tax of sorts on all of our federal grants and contracts, as well as, direct contract support costs. Across the country, it is estimated that the Indian Health Services is in arrears anywhere between \$665 million to \$1 billion. The amount due to our Tribe could amount to several million dollars. Thus, there is an issue of a past due amount plus on-going and future funding. The amount in dispute on-going is likely greater than \$300,000.

Given I have been very vocal on the national level to provide a workable solution, I was invited by the Interim IHS Director to serve on a National task force called the Contract Support Costs Workgroup. I believe my role has been to keep folks at the table in order to work out disagreements and find a solution. When Congress mandated that Contract Support Costs be fully funded and agencies appeared like they would cut services to fully fund contract support costs, I was the first voice from Indian Country to assert it felt like we were being punished and that this would represent an abrogation of the trust obligation. Initially, I was the lone voice so I had to wonder if I made a mistake. As it turns out, mine was just the first voice. Soon, I was joined by a chorus of tribal voices. As a result, the Indian Health Service found a way to fully fund contract support without cutting our services. Thus, we saw a growth in our services funding along with full contract support funding. Our work, however, is not done as we have to more clearly articulate how these funds will be calculated so there is less disagreement and our continued funding will become routine. IHS pays for my travel, lodging, and perdiem for serving on this workgroup.

A few Board Members have continuously voted to refuse to accommodate my schedule to represent our Tribe at the highest levels. They have refused to fund my travel for other purposes claiming I am just "resume building" but now that we have results and we are likely to receive a settlement greater than \$1 million and receive an additional \$400,000 or more annually, I want to affirm to the Members that one person can truly make a difference – even in the face of adversity both outside and even from inside our government.

PAYMENT ADMINISTRATION REDUCES INLAND PERMIT FEES

Q. When the Tribe began to exercise our treaty rights to hunt, fish and gather in our 1836 Treaty territory, there were to permit fees. Now there are. Who put these in place and why the recent change?

A. Members may recall that I refused to sign the 2007 Inland Consent Decree until Tribal voters were invited to ratify it via a Tribal referendum. This was a fight for 3 months until the Board finally agreed to let you vote. The Members then overwhelmingly approved the decree with nearly 80% approval. Shortly, thereafter, Director Abramson and I lobbied Congress during a M.A.S.T. trip to fund the cost of implementation including self-regulation. When I returned to office in 2012, I resumed my efforts here. I am happy to report that we recently received notice from the BIA that we will receive a new \$320,000 for Inland treaty rights which will lighten the burden on our BIA Self-Governance funds and in turn provide essential governmental and Member services. Funding at this level doesn't just happen. It requires work and travel to DC. I want to thank our Inland and Fisheries team for their assistance, as well as, that of Tribal Member Jane TenEyck who is the daughter of the late Cub McKerchie.

After I left office in 2008, fees were set at 3X times that of what State of Michigan permitees pay. Now that we have the funds, I reduced the fee to 1/3 of what the previous administration was charging our people. I am pleased to reduce these fees given our success in securing new funding. I believe some on our Board will fight it, but I am happy to fulfill our Inland Committee's request.

Recently, the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority Board voted unanimously to have me and the Bay Mills Indian Community President Levi Carrick represent CORA during the 2016 Budget Hearings in Congress. This is an honor. I have a great rapport with President Carrick. I am confident we'll do our best.



<u>Indian Health Services Contract Support Costs Workgroup</u> - Cathy Abramson (Far Left - observer as Chair of the National Indian Health Board), **Dr. Yvette Robideaux**, Interim Director of IHS (middle front row) and **Chairperson Payment** (to the right of center back row).

SELECT TRIBAL BOARD MANUFACTURED CONTROVERSIES

Q. In December, several Board Members led the charge to accuse you, the Chairperson of committing a criminal offense by requesting the number of registered voters of the Tribe. What was this controversy about?

A. My request to the Tribal Registrar was to know the <u>number</u> of registered voters. Somehow individual Board Members found out I requested this number and chose to politicize it. In explaining what I was looking for, I clarified I needed a list run of those registered to vote and a separate one of those not registered to see if the two numbers equaled the number of adult Members. Others interpreted that I wanted the list of names. When I found out this was the interpretation, I immediately clarified that I did not want names but just the number which is public information for which any Member should have access. My interest in how many Members are registered to vote was to publish this number before the election to ensure openness in reporting and to make sure the numbers of those registered to vote outside do not mysteriously drop. In past elections, hundreds of Members complained about registering to vote, then not getting a ballot – or – voting in the primary and then not getting a general election ballot. The Elder Advisory Board has reported, their adult children being forcibly moved from the unit of their choice to Unit 1 which then prohibited them from voting for their candidate of choice in their respective units. I am not making this up, the Chair of our Elder Advisory Board filed this complaint.

Rather than transparency in government, select Board Members choose to accuse me of committing some criminal act and voted to suspend all rules at a meeting to then vote to launch a criminal proceeding. The Election Committee Attorney even noted to the Board what they were about to do was improper. Board Members Joanie Carr-Anderson (Unit 5), Keith Massaway (Unit 3), Catherine Hollowell (Unit 2), Deb Pine (Unit 1) and others actually voted to suspend the rules to launch a criminal investigation. Most of these are political adversaries to just about everything I do so I was not surprised, but when I asked Director Carr-Anderson to explain herself, she made a public display of claiming to be singled out and bullied. I find this ironic as she voted to put on the agenda to criminally investigate. How is that not offensive or being bullied? Members in Munsing and Marquette are still awaiting her explanation.

Q. Recently, you published in social media sites, a list of names and cities (no street addresses) of those Members who are registered to vote. Select Board Members are again calling for a criminal investigation. What is the big deal with listing out the names of those registered to vote?

A. There is no issue here. The roll of registered voters is a public document. All candidates and non-candidate registrants are entitled to this list and it is not protected or confidential in any way. As a public service, I took my 2012 election list and eliminated the street address column. Then I saved it to a searchable pdf file so Members could go on line to see if they are registered. Members' privacy is retained in that their address is not even shown. Some Board Members have insisted some anonymous (or fictitious?) Elders have complained about having their name appear on a list. When each Member registers to vote, they consent to their name being on this list. Again, this information is not private or confidential. My motivation was to help facilitate voter registration. In the interests of transparency in government and facilitating democracy in governance, we should be doing everything we can to facilitate Member participation rather than crying foul that a crime is committed. In fact, all Members should be automatically registered to vote.

VOTER REGISTRATION: EQUAL PROTECTION VIOLATIONS?

Q. If the Tribal Constitution requires Members both inside and outside of the service area to register to vote, why are those who live inside automatically registered and those who live outside have to register? Is it legal to have this *a partied* like system to vote?

A. It is correct that according to the Sault Tribe Constitution, all Members are require to register to vote every four years. However, at an earlier stage in our history, the Board of Directors chose to eliminate the requirement for those inside the service area by interpreting that their enrollment in the Tribe was all that was needed. Members outside of the service area were still forced to register...

Toll Free: 800-793-0660 Cell: 906-440-5937 Email: chairpersonpayment@saulttribe.net Facebook 'Aaron Payment'

Watch Sault Tribe Board Meetings on Livestream: http://new.livestream.com/TOSSABCS2

[Chairperson's Report, continued from page 21]

...every election cycle. This was by design to disadvantage voters who live outside and lower their impact on election outcomes. In the late 1950s the United States experienced similar practices with knowledge tests required of African-American voters in the south and charging a poll tax. Clearly, this was a violation of the 13th Amendment of the US Constitution as it violated the "Equal Protections" doctrine. Our current "separate but unequal" doctrine for voter registration is no different as it is designed to purposely disadvantage those who live outside of the service area. The Tribal Board's complicity make this no less unethical or illegal. However, since we do not have a Separation of Powers in our Tribal Constitution (nor has the Board conferred standing for Members to bring a cause of action in Tribal Court) you have no way to challenge this illegal practice. Under our current "corporate charter" Constitution, you have no rights!

I tend to err on the side of inviting more participation in our governance not less and support all Members being automatically registered to vote. If we had a separation of powers, our Members who live outside of the service area could simply file an "Equal Protections" violation in our Court and overturn this discriminatory practice. In the meantime, the 66% of our Members will continue to be treated like second class citizens by our Tribal Board through laws they enacted or their complicity with not realizing their duty to correct past policies and illegal laws designed to hold people down.

ELECTION CODE VIOLATIONS: NO STATUE OF LIMITATIONS

Q. In the past, Members have been subjected to anonymous automated phone messages and election phone polls, as well as, anonymous and salacious mailers like the *Michael Jackson Mailer* and *Pink Post Card* in 2004 and the anonymous mailer that maligned Directors McKelvie and Hoffman in Unit 1 in 2010 after the primary. Given this issue is on going, is there anything that can be done? Is there any idea who was responsible?

A. Yes. As a matter of fact, there is. It is clearly a violation of Tribal law and there is no statute of limitations. While some cry "leave the past in the past" and "it's time to heal", this issue is ongoing; it is not ancient history. Further, with the phone polls, Members have complained that their confidentiality was breeched as their unlisted phone numbers that were only supplied to the Tribe were used. Through the discovery phase of the 7+1 case, we received sworn testimony that Bernard Bouschor and various defendants were engaged in this illegal activity. Bouschor, himself admitted this under oath by saying, "you got me there!" The Tribe is in possession of this testimony yet has done nothing.

The *Pink Post Card* was especially egregious as it claimed a fictitious group was endorsing me in order to make gay marriage legal on the reservation. While this issue is certainly contentious, it is my opinion that this is an issue to be settled by the surrounding State in which we find ourselves as we simply don't have the jurisdiction outside of our reservation to affect the outcome. Sending out mail though the US Postal system while fraudulently posing as someone else is a federal crime. This too has gone unaddressed.

Anonymous election calls are also violation of our laws. Why have such laws if only select people have to follow them? Each candidate and non-candidate registrant consents to the jurisdiction of our Tribal court. In 2008, my opponents had a fake Elder woman claim I would take away all of the services from the service area and, "give it to THOSE PEOPLE outside of our home" as if to paint a picture of 2/3 of our population as illegal squatters just waiting to steal our resources. This "us versus them" ugliness is pure politics driven by pure hate. My Uncle lives 385 miles away from the Sault in lower Michigan. He has more Indian blood than anyone on our Board; grew up knowing our language; is from Sugar Island; and practices our Indian ways. How dare anyone claim he or any other Members outside of the service area is any less deserving.

Given our Tribal court and Prosecutor are subordinate and not separate from our Tribal Board, I will introduce a resolution to grant jurisdiction to the US Attorney's Office to hire a Special Master to investigate and prosecute election related issues that have gone unaddressed for over a decade. Not to rehash the past, but to STOP THESE ABUSES from continuing. The consequence of not addressing these issues, as well as, Board Members who have had their campaigns illegally bankrolled by gaming vendors of the Tribe or Greektown partners, is to give permission for it to continue to happen. This has occurred as recently as 2010. I mean, why not if there is no chance you will be prosecuted.?

To Enter to Win \$1,000... Just go to the link below and take the survey. Once you are done, you will be rerouted to another link to enter to win \$1,000. It is that easy! WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/ s/2014STMemberSurvey If you have questions, please contact Aaron Payment at (906) 440-5937 or via email at aaronpayment@yahoo.com *** DEADLINE: APRIL 4TH ***

TRIBAL CAMPAIGN FINANCE WIDE OPEN TO CORRUPTION

Q. It has been reported in this paper numerous times that the former Chairperson received large sums of funds for his campaign from Greektown and Casino vendors, as well as, outside attorneys and a public relations firm hired to represent the Tribe. What proof exists of this and why has nothing been done?



A. First, of all, to gain a better insight on why this issue is important and is criminal, please watch the movie "Casino Jack". Of note is that when Jack Abramoff bilked tribes of an estimated \$85 million, he was threatened to be exposed by Saginaw Chippewa Tribal Council Member Bernie Sprague. As a result, Abramoff funded the campaign of his opposition. Sprague was not reelected. This is corrupt because outside interests can keep their revenue streams simply by bankrolling Tribal Council Members' campaigns. The Sault Tribe has laws to protect against this but if we do not enforce these law, then this is an open invitation for our Tribal nation to be taken advantage of.

During the 7 + 1 testimony, former Chairperson Bouschor admitted to taking thousands of dollars from casino vendors to finance his campaign. The law firm of Miller Canfield's attorneys funneled campaign contributions which in turn paid for the *Pink Post Card*, *Michael Jackson Mailers*, *Mike and Aaron Suck Mailer* and illegal campaign phone polls. While this activity is not illegal for outsiders, it is very much so for our Tribal Member candidates. Under oath, attorneys from Miller Canfield admitted to giving thousands of dollars which paid for the printing of campaign materials for Bouschor. Attorney Jim Jannetta admitted under penalty of perjury to crafting these salacious mailers and Bernard Bouschor himself admitted under oath to overseeing this activity. When they left their offices, Jolene Nertoli authorized the defendants to all take their computers and therefore any evidence of illegal campaigning.

When asked why she cut the checks in an amount exceeding \$3 million to the defendants in this case including \$445,000 to herself, Director Pine's mother Jolene Nertoli admitted it was, "Because Aaron Payment would have stopped us." Director Pine supplied a packet of information on behalf of the defendants including her mother immediately after being elected in 2010; her first official act was to violate the "personal interests" or conflict of interest clause of our Constitution. That the Board was and remains complicit in not having addressed this offense, underscores the need for real government reform.

ARE TRIBAL CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS REALLY NEEDED?

A. If the above Q & A does not demonstrate the urgency at which constitutional reform is needed, then I am afraid for our future. Original letters from our leader prior to federal recognition, Chairperson Fred Hatch, and our First Chairperson after recognition, Joseph K. Lumsden prove our intent was to accept this deficient "corporate charter" document only until we could amend it to include a "separation of powers" and "at large" representation to name just a few reforms. That any subsequent Board would purposely fail to follow though with this mission is disrespectful to the many founders like my Aunt Lavina (Boulley) and Uncle Isaac Marshall and Cousin Pie Pine who fought too hard for a complicit Board to sit on their hands and collect a paycheck in the meantime.

NEW TRIBAL BOARD MEETING FORMAT

At a recent Tribal Board meeting, there was again contention regarding my schedule. Earlier this year $(2X) \sim$ meetings of the Board were scheduled when I was attending to administrative duties. Fortunately, a majority of the Board has sense voted to authorize me to set a schedule to address this. Some complained they do not have enough time to address important issues. However, for meeting dates that were previously scheduled, some would attend just a few hours and leave. The new schedule increases the contact hours while dedicating time to much needed HR policy review. It also sets a time for Board issues at 1pm on the days of Tribal Board meetings to allow the administration to resolve their issues rather than the current 'gotcha' approach of raising issues at a Board meeting without first having productively tried to address their issue. Finally, it moves more sessions into the open to show **transparency in government**.



Expressing some thanks and pride in our tribe



LANA CAUSLEY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT II

It's been a long, cold winter and I'm so relieved that spring is on its way. Coming home in the evening during storms or frigid temperatures reminds me of times when I was young and my dad would say," Lets just be thankful to have heat and a roof over our heads." He always looked like he was in a different place when he stated this, so I know now it was memories he had of not so good times. I've never been cold or hungry, we had very little growing up but truly we didn't starve or freeze, not like our elders have suffered and seen struggling times that most of us will never know, real hard times!

I started this report off inspired about being thankful and just appreciating all we have as a tribe. I am proud to be a member, I am not losing my culture and I never will. So many hateful things are said and attacks are made that its difficult to see the forest through the trees. But I'm thankful for what we stand for and I know many, many tribal members are as well.

Our tribe has seen many successes and, yes, many failures (we have spoken about those) throughout the years and we have had to fight and scratch through every endeavor we've had. Past leaders and tribal members struggled for what we have. Currently, our tribe employees almost 1,800 people, we have programs that assist members through our ACFS program and has assisted thousands of members the past year, we have our tribal youth program that touched almost 4,000 youth through our programs, a fitness and daycare center that thrives with activity, we have six health facilities that have reached numbers of almost 42,000 visits in a year (not including our Behavior Health program and clinics). Our cultural department and traditional medicine programs promote our way of life and ALWAYS go above and beyond to help our members grow in our traditional ways, our powwows in every community hosted and planned by staff and tribal members every single year. Our men, woman and children who bring our big drums to celebrate

and comfort in members' times of need; our education department that services students in higher education, which provided several college scholarships and job training; our elders meal program that provides healthy meals and good laughs and visits in our communities numerous times every week; our law enforcement and court that protects victims and promotes safe environments for us to live in; our housing department provided down payment assistance and rental programs and home ownership programs that has provided 72 new homes and 438 warm, safe homes for our families; a safe shelter and victims services program that protects our children, woman and men in domestic violence situations; an Environmental Department that looks after our resources; a Communications Department that prepares and sends over 20,000 papers every month and, lastly, five casinos and enterprise businesses that bring in millions of dollars to provide our tribe with its needs.

There are so many mis-truths out there, we do not get grant funding that can even touch the amounts we need to sustain our services, we budget 18 million dollars from our profits to support our programs and the need grows every day in our communities

My report and message is

I'm thankful, as I know countless members are, for the staff who work countless hours every single day to make our community and family life better, the past leaders that helped us here, dedicated tribal members that volunteer and the current board who work to keep moving forward. I would ask you to keep these good things in mind regardless of what you hear through social media or dumb ads that attack ANYONE (I know that's not politically correct but, my thoughts) I assure you there is a mutual respect with our board and a huge dedication from our staff and members.

I'm saying all this at this time because another election is upon us and, in my experience, it gets so ugly and hateful — people, our staff and families get hurt, and that's not how it should be. I want us all to keep the big picture in mind of what we didn't have compared to what we have now. Take pride in that, our tribe is a steam engine for the Upper Peninsula and even our members and loved ones who live far away can brag. I applaud anyone who is running, because it's tough to have many good ideas and passion for our tribe while always hearing that negative. It'll be a struggle but keep positive and please don't get mucked down in the hatefulness and, please don't get me wrong, I will be the first to say we have many things to

improve on and that will always be the case, we just have to be willing to work hard and not look backwards. Trust me, anvone who knows me, knows I do not have my head in the clouds. I know things need improvement and can be better! I have learned from the past mistakes, sometimes that's why due diligence in our projects or changes take so much time. As I have reported in past reports, we have many different projects worked on daily for advancement, leaders are lobbying for our treaties and trust responsibilities to be upheld daily. Moving ahead in a positive, respectful way is the only thing that will sustain our tribe and it's people.

In closing, I would like to acknowledge the families who have lost loved ones this winter, our communities have been hit so hard by loved ones passing and there has been a lot of heartbreak this winter. These tribal members who passed on hold a special place in my heart, I've shared times with them and I believe they are with us still in a very different way. I take comfort in that.

That's all I have to write this time, I will see you at our monthly meeting in the area and look forward to any calls or contacts to meet.

Baamaapii, Lana Causley (906) 484-2954 or 322-3818, causley@saulttribe.net.

\$8,000 Spin to Win Kewadin Hessel April 25-27, 2014

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MANISTIQUE-ST.IGNACE-HESSEL-SAULT MARIE-CHRISTMAS

PAGE 24 MARCH 21, 2014 • WIN AWENEN NISITOTUNG

Lessons from Nanabozo still remembered



JENNIFER McLEOD, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Aaniin, Anishnaabek!

Last year at this time, we were in the sugar bush, doing what our people have done for many centuries, tapping trees, boiling sap, sharing stories and being together as Anishnaabe people. Being in the sugar bush is a time for rejoicing, for many reasons! But so far this year — nothing. This winter has been one of the hardest in recent years. Temperatures in the north woods have been subzero for a long, long time, and we need warm days and freezing nights to get the sap to move. I know that many of our people now live in areas where there are no sugar bushes. I recall that I was in my 20s before I had my first experience gathering sap, and it was a life changing event. It can be difficult sometimes, to feel connected to our culture, to find ways to learn, to connect with nature and the ways of our people. And so I try to include information in my monthly articles that share some of what I know (especially for those who have asked).

The following is a short story that I used in my classroom

when I was teaching. It can be found online at http://www. native-languages.org/ojibwestory. htm. Note that in some communities, Nanabozo is known as Manabozho.

"A very long time ago, when the world was new, Gitchee Manitou made things so that life was very easy for the people. There was plenty of game and the weather was always good and the maple trees were filled with thick sweet syrup. Whenever anyone wanted to get maple syrup from the trees, all they had to do was break off a twig and collect it as it dripped out.

One day, Manabozho went walking around. "I think I'll go see how my friends, the Anishinabe, are doing," he said. So, he went to a village of Indian people. But, there was no one around. So, Manbozho looked for the people. They were not fishing in the streams or the lake. They were not working in the fields hoeing their crops. They were not gathering berries. Finally, he found them. They were in the grove of maple trees near the village. They were just lying on their backs with their mouths open, letting maple syrup drip into their mouths.

"This will NOT do!" Manabozho said. "My people are all going to be fat and lazy if they keep on living this way."

So, Manabozho went down to the river. He took with him a big basket he had made of birch bark. With this basket, he brought back many buckets of water. He went to the top of the maple trees and poured water in, so that it thinned out the syrup. Now, thick maple syrup no longer dripped out of the broken twigs. Now what came out was thin and watery and just

barely sweet to the taste.

"This is how it will be from now on," Manabozho said. "No longer will syrup drip from the maple trees. Now there will only be this watery sap. When people want to make maple syrup they will have to gather many buckets full of the sap in a birch bark basket like mine. They will have to gather wood and make fires so they can heat stones to drop into the baskets. They will have to boil the water with the heated stones for a long time to make even a little maple syrup. Then my people will no longer grow fat and lazy. Then they will appreciate this maple syrup Gitchee Manitou made available to them. Not only that, this sap will drip only from the trees at a certain time of the year. Then it will not keep people from hunting and fishing and gathering and hoeing in the fields. This is how it is going to be," Manabozho said.

And, that is how it is to this day."

This is a great teaching, and is timeless. It speaks about values, work ethic and the price that may have to be paid for taking things for granted. I loved the discussions I had with the children. With their youthful wisdom, they would tell me why it was not a good thing to be lazy. Why it's important to work hard. What can happen to us when life is "too easy." The kids understood.

It is easy to draw parallels to adult life, and it's not too great of a reach to think about what is occurring in the life of the tribe. Please understand, I am not calling anyone "lazy." I am not blaming anyone for anything. But I was thinking back to a time when our casino enterprises were wildly successful. I've

heard people speak about those good days, when life was easier and money more abundant. Life improved dramatically for many. It was easy to believe that it would always be that way. We built it, and they came! But things change, as they always do.

We have a lot of competition now. There are many casinos all over Michigan. The U.S. economy has taken a hard hit with the recession, and the people of Michigan have suffered especially hard. Tribes have taken a hard hit with sequestration, and it seems as though the last two years have seen tribes constantly trying to find ways to keep our people safe and our futures secure. I am proud to say that our tribe has learned the lesson from Nanabozo. We have not been just lying under the branches dripping with syrup, getting fat and lazy.

Enterprises and governmental divisions have worked very hard coping with the changes. Many difficult decisions have been made and I am so appreciative of the dedicated staff who worked diligently to provide answers to questions and solutions to problems. I am especially thankful for the self-sacrifice of so many, who went beyond what was requested, and helped guide the board of directors through this difficult time. The minutes of board meetings and resolutions that pass or fail do not accurately show the work that was needed to get to that point. The list of individuals is long and I do not want to miss anyone. Therefore, to all who have worked to help me (and the board of directors) understand, who answered questions, prepared numerous budgets, spent sleepless nights and long days trying to find solutions, I say

"chi-miigwetch." I do not take your efforts for granted, and I know without a doubt, we could not do our work at the board level without you! I am also appreciative of the many tribal members who share their thoughts and ideas with the board of directors in a proactive, problem solving

Despite the difficulties of the past two years, there are reasons to hope. There are signs that the economy is getting better. There are indications that the changes that have been implemented within the tribe are working, but slowly. I am encouraged that the need for a five-year tribal strategic plan has been brought up. We know that the tribe will have substantial debt paid off in a few short years, and it would be great to have a plan in place that explains where we are going so that we do not repeat mistakes of the past. Politics continue to be problematic, and with this being an election year, we can expect that politics will become even more volatile and center stage. But I hope that we do not lose focus. We still have much work to do to perpetuate our way of life and ensure the welfare and prosperity of our people. Working together, we can accomplish great things.

Anishnaabe gagige (Anishnaabe for always),

(906) 440-9151 jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.

Website http://jmcleodsaulttribe.com

PS: March 28, 2014, is the DEADLINE to register to vote in the upcoming election. DON'T DELAY! Call (906) 635-6050!

Vhy "at large" should vote in tribe's units



DJ MALLOY, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Recently, a resolution was introduced to add two "at-large" representatives for all voters outside the service area. The resolution made this consideration with a caveat; all those outside the service area MUST vote for atlarge representatives. It prohibited registering or voting in the unit of your choice. This caused a staunch reaction from our members inside and outside the service area, and they traveled long distances to oppose the legislation (the proposal failed).

Since then, questions arose asking why so much fuss was made about this. An example came up likening it to living in one state and wanting to vote in another. However, we must look at our status as a tribe to get the full picture.

We are a nation, not a state. This is easy to forget because our Constitution has a corporate system in place for governmental structure. Instead of congressmen and senators, we have a board of directors; instead of a president, we have a chairman of the board. And while corporate stockholders do not vote regionally, we do. We vote in geographic units. These were based originally on the different bands that make up who we are as a tribe and to provide "representation" based on the tribal member population within those geographical band areas. The chairman is elected from the full membership.

We are more than a nation. We are a tribe. We are relations, family of sorts. We have ties to each other and the land itself. And as citizens of this tribe, we should have the right to vote in the geographical unit where we have

ties. Sometimes we find a family who has been absent from our ancestral home for generations; but who have fond memories of grandpa's stories, summers at auntie's house or the vacation to "where our family comes from." Whatever the reason, as a citizen of this tribe, you should have the right to vote in the area where you have ties or kinship. Imagine telling your brothers and sisters they have no say in the health care of your parents because they moved to another town.

My father was in the Navy. We moved 23 times, but they called the Soo "home." This is where they and their families were from. It is no different than people saying they're a Yooper when they've been living else-

where for 25 years. Our children are our biggest export in the U.P. and people who leave "home" for work or because their family moved long ago for the same reasons, should not be punished for seeking job security. No matter where you live, your heart can still beat in a place 10,000 miles away.

This is my stance on our people having the right to register to vote in the area where their heart beats. And as long as I am in the privileged position to speak up and stand up for your rights, I will continue to do so. As always, I appreciate your input and opin-

Respectfully, DJ Malloy, (906) 440-9762, dmalloy@saulttribe.net.

Feds look at impact of violence on children in public hearing

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz.- More than 30 tribal leaders, juvenile court judges, child advocates, juvenile justice system experts and community members from the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community testified today in the second public hearing of the Advisory Committee of the Attorney General's Task Force on American Indian and Alaska

Native Children Exposed to Violence. The hearing focused on how juvenile courts and other programs in tribal juvenile justice systems address the impact of children's exposure to violence.

"Too many Native children encounter violence in their homes and communities that can disrupt a path to living healthy adult lives, and we must do all that

we can to protect these young people," said Associate Attorney General Tony West. "By intervening early, we can help these children avoid a fate involving courts and the corrections system."

During the hearing, experts explained how children entering tribal, state or federal justice systems are screened and treated for trauma from previous exposure

to violence. They also discussed a variety of issues facing Native children in juvenile justice systems, including the availability of legal representation, tribal court transfer of juvenile cases to adult courts, culturally sensitive programs and services that divert youth from entering the juvenile justice system.

"The long-term impact of

a child's exposure to violence depends heavily on how law enforcement officials, prosecutors, defenders, judges, and corrections professionals handle that child's case," said Assistant Attorney General of the Office of Justice Programs Karol V. Mason.

For information about the public hearings, please visit www. justice.gov/defendingchildhood.

Busy with Indian Country health issues in D.C.



CATHY ABRAMSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT I Secretary's Tribal Advisory

Committee For the last two months, I have been quite busy at the national level. In February, I attended the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee. Some of the major issues and concerns brought forward to Secretary Sebelieus were 1) Advanced appropriations: this is a minimum to help address arbitrary funding interruptions; 2) Congress is making a statement that we need to fully fund Contract Support Costs in the future, as well; 3) Joint consultations should be held with IHS and BIA as we deal with these challenging issues for efficiency; 4) Exempt Indian programs from sequestratioin and rescissions; 5) Resolve issue of Medicaid expansion for states that haven't taken those options so that there are equitable services for tribal members, and 6) Office of Management and Budget (OMB): tribes need OMB representatives who understand IHS.

Centers for Disease Control Tribal Advisory Committee

Also in February, I attended the Centers for Disease Control Tribal Advisory Committee meeting and 10th biannual Tribal Consultation Session. I am the Bemidji area representative to this TAC. Some of the needs that I highlighted below come from a variety of resources, including a 2010 Community Health data profile of Michigan, Minnesota

and Wisconsin tribal communities, completed by the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Epidemiology Center.

It is a leading cause of death and disability and takes a huge toll on individuals and their families. It also impacts communities in negative ways, as treatment for diabetes accounts for a large percentage of health and disease related expenditures.

The prevalence of diabetes for Native Americans is more than twice that of U.S. adults overall. With this prevalence, we also see higher rates of cardiovascular disease, higher blood pressures and depression.

In the area of maternal-child health, Native people also suffer from some dramatic health disparities.

In the Bemidji area, infant mortality is higher for Native populations compared to the all races rates.

A disproportionate number of deaths occur due to SIDS in the Native population compared to the all race population. Two times as many Native infants die from SIDS compared to the all-race population.

Because many risk factors for SIDS are controllable, like reducing commercial tobacco smoking and improving sleep environments, this disparity is ripe for stepped up intervention in the form of increased outreach and education.

There are a greater percentage of births to teenage mothers of Native people as compared with all races. Both prevention and intervention efforts may be appropriate to address this disparity. Teen mothers are less likely to finish high school than girls who do not become pregnant during their teen years. Young mothers may not seek prenatal care as soon as older mothers and give birth prematurely or to low birth weight infants and have more problems delivering. There is a great need for smoking cessation programs, outreach and education for pregnant women. In the Bemidji area, statistics show that

approximately one-third of mothers of Native people smoked during their pregnancies, compared with 13.6 percent of mothers of all races infants.

For hundreds of years, Native people have used traditional tobacco as spiritual and physical medicine. In more recent times, many people have taken up commercial tobacco. The prevalence of smoking of Native people was more than 40 percent - way above any other racial or ethnic group. In the Bemidji area, we see some of the leading causes of death are cancer, lung cancer, and chronic lower respiratory disease. It is estimated that approximately 80 percent of chronic lower respiratory disease is caused by smoking.

We need more prevention activities. Therefore, we need to allocate the resources to ensure people never start smoking commercial tobacco in the first place. We also need to focus special attention on our youth and help them develop strong and healthy habits that will keep them from disease.

Obesity is also a concern in the Bemidji area. Forty percent of the Native population is obese and 35 percent is overweight. Related illnesses from this include coronary heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, cancers, sleep apnea and respiratory problems.

While it is true that there are agencies that have been set up to fulfill their trust responsibility, like IHS, it is also true that the duty has not been fulfilled. IHS is funded at approximately 56 percent of need. Because the federal government must meet it's solemn obligations to the tribes, it should, in fact – IT MUST look at every other possible avenue to discharge its duty. In the area of public health, the federal government must respond to these urgent unmet needs with CDC resources.

As the lead federal public health agency, CDC is both equipped and obligated to provide direct funding, training and technical assistance to tribes, to assist tribes as they tackle the formidable public health challenges already mentioned. Where funding is competitive, funding opportunities need to be written and evaluated so that tribes have a fair chance of winning awards. Funding all too often winds up far from the communities that need it most. Funding that goes to states often is allocated based upon data that includes the needs of Native populations. Unfortunately, that funding, often, does not make its way back to the tribes or does not return in anything close to fair proportion. Federal partners, including CDC, can increase the oversight they exercise over states receiving funding to ensure the funding is used as was proposed.

CDC can provide resources to allow tribes to successfully and comprehensively collect, use, store, share and protect American Indian/Alaska Native data. These resources should include funding support training and technical assistance.

Having this comprehensive and reliable data will allow tribes to view the most accurate picture of need, develop and carry out targeted interventions and evaluate their efforts. These data also can demonstrate AI/AN needs to those deciding funding priorities.

CDC should make every effort to reach out to the tribes, with every means available. We need to see our federal partners reaching out and engaging in regular and meaningful consultation and collaboration with tribal officials on all matters that have tribal implications.

Each federal agency is responsible for strengthening the government-to-government relations between the U.S. and tribal nations

With that being said, I am happy to announce that the Bemidji area will be hosting our next CDC Tribal Advisory Committee meeting and Tribal Consultation Session. This meeting will be held in August either in Sault Ste. Marie or Traverse City. I look forward to sharing

a wonderful woodland experience with all our relations across Indian country.

Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee

Just last week, I attended the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee meeting. This committee worked very hard on the various decision-making advice that we will be giving to Dr. Yvette Roubideaux, if and when the Special Diabetes Program for Indians gets reauthorized by Congress

The day before the meeting, a few of us walked the Hill and met with the staffer of Congressman Whitfield. Congressman Whitfield is on the Energy and Commerce Committee and the Subcommittee on Health which has jurisdiction on SDPI and the Medicare Extenders. Whitfield is the top Republican on the diabetes caucus.

We meet with the staffers of Congressman Reed who is on the Ways and Means Committee which has jurisdiction on SDPI. Rep. Reed is also a vice chair of the Diabetes Caucus

We met with Congresswoman Degette, who is on the Energy and Commerce Committee and chair on the Diabetes Committee. She is the biggest champion on SDPI in the House and spoken at NIHB conferences in the past on this topic.

We met with staffers from Congressman Pitts who is chairman of the Subcommittee on Health for the Energy and Commerce Committee.

Finally, last but certainly not least, we met with Congressman Cole, co-chair of the Congressional Native American Caucus, and very good friend of Indian Country.

While in Washington, D.C., I gave testimony for the FY 2016 Department wide Budget Consultation. I was extremely busy all the while and I look forward to staying home for awhile.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at cabramson@saulttribe.net.

Thank you.

Notes about scholarships and elders' meetings



CATHERINE HOLLOWELL, DIRECTOR, UNIT II

Spring! The snow is hip deep and we got three more inches last night. But you can see it in the sunlight, how it reflects off the cedar trees — that spring is quietly slipping in the door.

• Hessel community will be celebrating a spring equinox feast on March 22 at the tribal center. Pipes, drums, talking circle.

• Tribal youth: Your help is needed. March 24 the Hessel Tribal Center, 5:30-7:30 p.m.. Sault Tribe is collecting information from a short survey that will help us identify needs for teens and young adults between the ages of 14-24. Cash incentives for attending. Please come and make your voice heard.

• Environmental Day will be celebrated April 12. This event is very popular and it does my heart good to see the passion and concern from our next generation of leaders. Please call Lisa Burnside for more details at (906) 440-7666.

Now is the time to contact Higher Education Department for information on grants and scholarships. Visit our website at www.saulttribe.com, call (855) 635-7784 or visit our Facebook page. Lana and I are pleased to sponsor the "Nokimos Scholarship" again this year, in honor of our grandmothers, Mary Sabina Osagwin and Christine Muscoe. Sault Tribe scholarships will be announced on April 1 with a June 1 deadline. There are many educational opportunities, too many to list. But here is a sampling:

- Pre College Summer "Business Boot Camp": Native American Business Institute.
- Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA): Six scholarships and cash incentives for perfect attendance and all A grades. This deadline is approaching fast.
- American Indian Graduate Center (AIGC) has numerous scholarships for high school seniors.

As Anishinabe people, the preservation and survival of our

language is our most important mandate. Super excited about what our Cultural Department's has been up to. Please contact Coleen St. Onge for further information at (906) 635-6050.

- Dedicated in honor to Orien Corbiere: Anishinabemowin Livestream language class, first and fourth Thursday of every month at 12 p.m. EST or view in archives.
- Newberry Anishinabemowin: Newberry language class, Tuesdays from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Newberry Tribal Center.
- Anishinaabemowin-teg Language Conference, March 27-30, Sault Kewadin.

Elders:

• Reminder that Naubinway elders now meet at the Top of the Lake Snowmobile Museum on the last Friday of the month. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

- Newberry elders meet at Zellers on the third Friday of the month. 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Hessel elders meet on the third Monday during the noon elder's lunch, 12-2 p.m. We're working to include our DeTour and Drummond elders each month. I'll keep you updated.

This spring also brings tribal campaign season. A time for grandiose promises, grandstanding, mistruths and misinformation. I have much faith in the good common sense of our people and I will NOT participate in those tactics. I am passionate about serving our people, our communities and our tribal nation and I humbly ask for your continued support.

Limited to 500 words, so I'll sign off.

Please call anytime, (906) 484-6821.

Miigwech.

Notes on board activities, scholarship season



BRIDGETT SORENSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT III

There have been a few resolutions brought to the board by a couple of directors for at large representation and/or a Unit VI. Unfortunately, we have not been able to collectively have an opportunity to discuss these in a workshop. The timing for these resolutions for one is not the best as we have an election code that states no changes six months prior to an election.

I have very mixed feelings on the at large representation. First, how do we decide how many representatives will be added? Which area will they come from? Will they have to move to the service area when elected?

The current structure of 13 members of the governing body already makes it difficult to agree, compromise or move forward.

Another issue is that, if at large representation is granted, do they only vote for the at large director(s)?

I realize some are upset if that is what happens because they have ties to a particular unit. I can understand that but, at the same time for those pushing for at large representation and want to vote in another unit, what would be the difference of what you have now?

I would have to guess that 90 percent of what we vote on effects only the seven-county service area. In my almost two years of being on the board, I have only had a handful of my constituents contact me about wanting their own representation. I have received emails and calls from people in all units with questions and concerns that I have communicated with.

I feel that I represent the voters in Unit III and the tribe as a whole. If you have an opinion on the issue of at large representation or Unit VI, please reach out to your representatives to discuss the issues. Many times a certain group tells us they want or believe in this or that, but that does not mean the majority share their opinion.

The board has been meeting with the casino COO and CFO in gaming authority workshops twice a month for a few months and just recently added semi-annual reviews to the mornings of those two Wednesdays a month. We meet with a couple of government divisions at a time for reporting and updates which is very beneficial. The Communications Department has been videotaping these for

archives

At the Feb. 18 meeting in St.Ignace, the board made a motion to meet the other two Wednesdays a month to try and get to the many items we have been backlogged with. The chairman was upset saying this does not fit in his schedule and we have been holding these gaming authority workshops even though he can't make them. There was a motion to then amend to have the chairman try and re-arrange his schedule. I think the board is trying to move things forward and meet more to accomplish things and there will always be conflicts with someone's schedule. As long as a majority of the board can make it, business must go on. I have asked that the board be able to meet to begin preparing a fiveyear strategic plan. This is essential to plan our direction when our debt is paid off in the next three or four years. We need to incorporate economic development and possibly hiring a consultant.

On our Feb. 19 semi-annual review with the cultural division, we learned that they have the capabilities to Livestream and broadcast language classes or other activities. This is great news to our entire membership. What a better way for those members living away from home to be able to remain culturally active. Look for more information about this on the tribe's webpage or newspaper.

On March 3, I attended our Community Transformation Grant meeting. Our grant will be ending in October but we will be looking at ways to sustain some of the programs such as employee wellness programs, tobacco cessation, smoke free worksites, safe streets, etc. Our Head Start program has been having monthly employee contests and our St. Ignace health center has been having onsite fitness classes coordinated through Mackinac Straits Health Systems for their team members to remain active and less stressed. This grant program has also sponsored past screenings to casino team members and has sponsored a wellness challenge in the late spring/early summer. I hope we can continue to seek grants to help our team members and communities with wellness.

At our March 4 workshop, the Housing Authority presented their weatherization program and possible changes to the program. This program allows help to home owners for work on their roofs, windows, doors, insulation, heating systems, etc. The program will be open for applications in May with up to \$5,000 awarded. For more information on this program please contact the housing division at 495-1450.

At our March 4 meeting, the chairman requested we change our April meetings to accommodate his trip to D.C. I have always supported him going to D.C. on our behalf because he does a phenomenal job educating the legislators, but I will not support rearranging our meeting schedules for one person. We publish our meeting schedule

for the whole year and members make plans to attend meetings as well as staff and board members make plans around that schedule. I will re-iterate that business must go on. I feel that the chairman and Cathy as her role as chairwoman of the National Indian Health Board need to represent our interests in D.C. and they do a great job, so why not allow the other 11 members of the board to continue to meet and conduct business as usual. The more we can all accomplish, the better we are as a governing body. The April meetings will now be April 15 in Kinross and April 29 in Munising.

On March 5, we had our Gaming Authority workshop and asked our COO, Tony Goetz, to give us a back of the house tour of the Sault casino. Some board members have never been in these areas. I think the staff was very surprised to see us coming through the kitchen, offices, hotel and gaming floor. It is helpful to the board members to understand when team members contact them with concerns. I believe the staff also needs to know the board is serious about reform and making our casinos top notch gaming facilities and a place team members can take pride in.

We had good news involving moving forward with the Lansing project until the State of Michigan was recently granted a stay for the Supreme Court to hear the case. When the project was initiated, the tribe knew it would be a long road possibly taking years to move forward with our legal battles to open a down state casino, so as disappointing as this is, it was expected. The gaming expansion committee continues to meet twice a month for discussions with our developers and legal team.

I would like to apologize for the chairman publishing the 2012

voter registration list on social media. I have heard concerns from members regarding they did not appreciate their information going public. I have concerns especially for victims of violence that do not need their perpetrators gaining any of this information. I was always under the impression that, when we run in the election, this information was for our campaign only. I feel that if members want to vote, they will call enrollment and register. The idea that there has to be bribes of offering a chance to win \$1,000 prior to an election is strictly campaigning. During a discussion at the January meeting in Newberry, the chairman was upset with a resolution that would have made it so board members could not have any other employment other than their board seat. He said that members deserve the right to choose who they want representing them and why should we interfere with that. What is the difference if he is campaigning against incumbents? I was not on the board during his last term but know that he could not work with them either. He is not working with this board, hence the reason to register new voters to hope he can further create his dictatorship. I wonder is it really 12 members of two different boards or is it

I can tell you from experience that what you think this position entails is very different when you are actually here and then you realize "wow, what did I get myself into?" You can campaign on certain things and get elected and realize things are not as easy to accomplish as you thought. You gain more access to information on the inside and have to work with 11 other people to move things forward. The proposed constitution is one of those things. It is not black and white. Many of the vocal members tell

the board they support the new constitution but never really tell you why. I think if you hear someone tell you every day we need a new constitution then you think hey we need a new constitution but they can't tell you specifically why. It has been promulgated that the board does not want to give up any power. Would you rather 12 people in control or one? The 12 board members cannot even try to schedule more workshop times or stick to the meeting schedule because of the chairman's schedule. Now tell me who wants control? If the board does not concede, he threatens to not go to D.C. At one time he threatened the Lansing project if the board did not support constitutional reform.

Last year the board named scholarships in honor of certain people in each unit. Keith and I named the Unit III scholarship in honor of Donald "Duck" Andress of Mackinac Island. 'Tis the season to be seeking scholarships for those soon to be graduating seniors. Watch the tribal newspaper, website or contact the Education Department at (906) 635-6050 for further scholarship opportunities. I will again be giving away a \$1,000 scholarship to a senior in Unit III. If interested, please send me an email and I will send you an application, the deadline for submission will be May 15. The one thing in life that can never be taken away from you is your education.

Thank you to our dedicated team members for hanging in there during these sometimes difficult times. I appreciate your efforts and continue to push for a better future.

If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at my office 643-2123, cell 430-0536 or email bsorenson@saulttribe.ne or bridgett91@yahoo.com.

Thoughts on negativity in tribe, weatherization services available



JOAN (CARR) ANDERSON, DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Here it is a Monday morning and I am sitting down here at our tribal center in Munising. I am trying to think of what I want to put in my article this month.

My first thought goes out to one of our elders, Carleen, Jennifer McLeod's mother. I really appreciated what she wrote. I have those same feelings about members and family. If you can't say something nice, why say anything at all? Most of our board has been drug over the coals by certain people on Facebook and Sault Tribe Guide. You need to get a life! Seems you only find things that aren't going right for the few of you. Do you ever see any good we do?

Moving on to the board, we have been doing our everyday business at our workshops. Busy passing resolutions, working on 2 percent monies, hearing presentations by staff about casino, finances, etc.

At our last meeting, Joni Talentino and the housing staff gave a great presentation on the weatherization program. This program will open on May 1. There are guidelines to follow but it is a great program for our members. If you are in need of some home repairs or have questions about the program, please call Annie Thibert at (906) 495-1450.

The Rural Health Program is having community wide Affordable Care Act (ACA) enrollment meetings to assist our uninsured tribal members and families. The western end meetings will be held at the Munising Tribal Center on Monday, March 24, and at the Manistique Tribal Center on Tuesday, March 25.

We have also been working on our area scholarships to be given out. Our names have been submitted for our areas. They should be posted next month.

The WIA Department is now taking requests for summer youth employment jobsites. If you are interested in applying or have questions, call Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767.

Remember, with our election coming up to register to vote by March 28.

Joan Carr-Anderson, Unit V Jcanderson@saulttribe.net (906) 387-2802

Members: The silent majority is not forgotten



KEITH MASSAWAY, DIRECTOR,
UNIT III
The heard of directors and the

The board of directors and the chairman continue to work hard

on numerous fronts to ensure our nation is heard and respected.

We all have to pick and work on specific areas because to work on everything is impossible. The vastness and scope of the tribe is immense and there is not enough time to do it all — some board members focus on sovereignty, some on trust responsibility.

Board members also take up the yoke on the environment, our elders, our children and education. The list goes on and on but each board member tends to gravitate to their strengths.

Working for you as a director is very rewarding. I get to talk, converse and discuss a great many topics with our tribal members. That is a very important

part of my job. Sometimes we are confronted with a difficult issue.

The issue lately is a strong push for a voting unit downstate or a director for the at large membership.

Several board members went out to the membership and asked what they thought. I made some calls to outside members, some I knew and some I had never talked to before. Almost all of them were immediately upset that the board would stop them from voting in their current unit. They said an outside unit would be of little value to the entire membership at large and that a board member for the at large would be no different then the representation they have now. They wanted

to vote in the units because it gave them a connection to the homelands and their families. What they really want is to feel part of the tribe. They want to be accepted and acknowledged. They didn't demand new services, but an understanding of what is available, if anything. If they need something we can provide, they would like to know how, when and where. They asked for traditional teachings, knowledge of our history, our language and roots to our homelands. That is what I heard from the people I call the "silent majority," members who don't call directors, text, e-mail or Facebook. These members pore over our newspaper to glean anything to better understand our tribe.

I say that we have not forgotten about you and you are just as much a member as anyone in the tribe. Our fiscal responsibilities are huge and our recourses are very limited; expansion of benefits is not in the near future and even a consolidation may be coming. Ninety percent of the budget is dedicated to the homeland because that is what the federal government demands.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns and thank you for all the input you have given me.

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

Legal contest for our Lansing casino continues



DENISE CHASE, DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

The following is a current update on the Lansing Casino litigation by our general counsel.

 The Sault Tribe won an important victory in December, with a unanimous decision from a three-judge panel in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit, upholding the tribe's right to pursue our mandatory trust claim with the Department of the Interior.

The Michigan Attorney
 General asked the Sixth Circuit
 to reconsider its decision in favor
 of the tribe but the court rejected
 that request.

— The Attorney General then announced his intention to ask the U.S. Supreme Court to hear the case and he managed to obtain a stay (a delay) of the Sixth Circuit decision while he prepares to file in the Supreme Court. We believe that the stay was not justified and should have been denied. Late last week, our attorneys filed a motion asking the Sixth Circuit to lift the stay and allow us to move forward — or, alternatively, to at least set a much shorter time limit

for the Attorney General to file his petition in the Supreme Court.

— Sixth Circuit issued an order denying our request to reconsider the stay granted to the Attorney General. This extends the injunction preventing us from filing our mandatory trust claims at the interior. The tribe's legal team will be reviewing our options in the next few weeks and we will update you in the next issue

— We remain confident and upbeat about the tribe's right to pursue this project and will continue to push back against the efforts of the state's Attorney General to stop or delay the project.

It's urgent that the boards prioritize our gaming expansion projects like Lansing. In 3.5 years' time, the tribal debt will be paid off. The board needs to

schedule time to work on a 5-10 year plan on tribal-wide priorities; and, also, put into place a reserve that would include a percentage of Kewadin gaming revenues for future generations.

The board will be meeting with the executive directors, CFO and division directors to review the FY2014 sequestration reductions. The total consolidated amount recommended to reduce was \$3,518,213.32. This affected a lot of cost centers and programs throughout the tribe with sequestration not happening, a review will occur to go over program directors recommendations to add back reduced items.

The Weatherization Program has some new guidelines and eligibility criteria. If you're in need of home weatherization assistance, call Annie Thibert at (906) 495-5555 or (800) 774-4072. The

program opens up from May 1-June 30.

The board approved a resolution for mobilization for health - if the grant is approved, the amount will be \$500,000 per year for a three-year period. Staff would work with community health care partners to create programs designed to increase physical activity, healthy eating and tobacco-free lifestyles in participating work sites. The program would serve all 8,366 adult tribal members, families, and adult community members in participating work sites, including all 1,882 Sault Tribe employees. If funded, project starts July 1, 2014.

Thank you, Denise Chase, (906) 322-3819 Dchase@saulttribe.net

Our tribe functions like the "Three Sisters" do



DEBRA PINE, DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Ahniin kina gwaya! Hello everyone!

I just want to welcome everyone to this year's election race. I was always taught that leadership isn't what you think it will be and that it's a good thing to share in the responsibility of it. This lesson is probably why we had so many bands with many different types of chiefs who performed different responsibilities.

My relatives always said that our way is circular and not set up in a triangle, the way non-native leadership is set up with one person at the top of the pyramid. I can honestly say I have had the greatest opportunity to work with some of our best division chiefs who keep our tribal circle strong and functioning at optimum levels for the benefit of the membership. It is greatly appreciated.

We are in an election cycle and, since I am running, I'm limited to 500 words for my unit report. I would like to call this the "Three Sisters" report.

Our tribe has three distinct areas — government, enterprises and casinos. Corn, bean and squash. The traditional story is taught to young people that when you plant the three together, each has a way of protecting the other. It's interesting that our ancestors figured out that the three would support each other, yet there has to be a balance. Even though each is very unique and not related to the other, one being a grain, one a legume and the last a vegetable, we have to strike a BALANCE when planting them together.

I see our government, enterprises and casinos as such. The previous leadership made the decision to plant them together in our tribal soil in order to meet the needs of our people. However, I feel there is an imbalance. I worry that corn has overgrown the garden and taken too much of the sunlight. It's time to treat each a bit separate from each other, especially when it comes to compensation of our employees who

work in the three separate areas.

I have expressed my view to the entire board a few different times about how our current system is stifling our growth. The current attitude towards the three is "if we can't give raises to all, NOBODY IS GETTING ANYTHING," and I believe that attitude is wrong.

We, as leaders, need to map out an approach that meets the

needs of the three, to address each as a unique individual and compensate to that area's ability. For example, Head Start (government) will have the ability to write a COLA into the grant this coming year. Are we going to tell them no? IHS has third party revenue that could allow them to give a COLA to their staff. The casinos, if given the chance,

would be able to come up with an affordable approach to compensation.

My point is that the board, as a whole, needs to take a new approach to this issue.

Miigwech! Sincerely,

Debra-Ann Pine, (906) 440-1334.

NCAI encouraged By DOI opinion on Carcieri

WASHINGTON, DC - TheNational Congress of American Indians (NCAI) appreciates the efforts of the Department of the Interior in issuing a new legal opinion and working to provide further guidance in defining the tribes "under federal jurisdiction" as of 1934 in the wake of the Supreme Court's 2009 Carcieri v. Salazar decision regarding the Indian Reorganization Act. The opinion, however, highlights the need for Congress to make clear that all Indian tribes are under federal constitutional authority to regulate.

In its Carcieri decision, the Supreme Court determined that the Secretary of the Interior does not have authority to take land into trust for tribes that were not "under federal jurisdiction" prior to 1934. However, the Court did not define what it means for a tribe to have been "under federal

jurisdiction" as of the enactment of the IRA.

According to the DOI opinion, M-37029, the term "under federal jurisdiction" is ambiguous and undefined, therefore the DOI has the authority to determine which tribes do and do not fall under the statute and will proceed to make decisions about trust agreements accordingly.

In previous legal work, NCAI has taken the view that the Con-

stitution devotes authority in Indian affairs to the federal government and that the only question is whether an Indian tribe exists, as in the Supreme Court's decision in U.S. v. Sandoval in 1913.

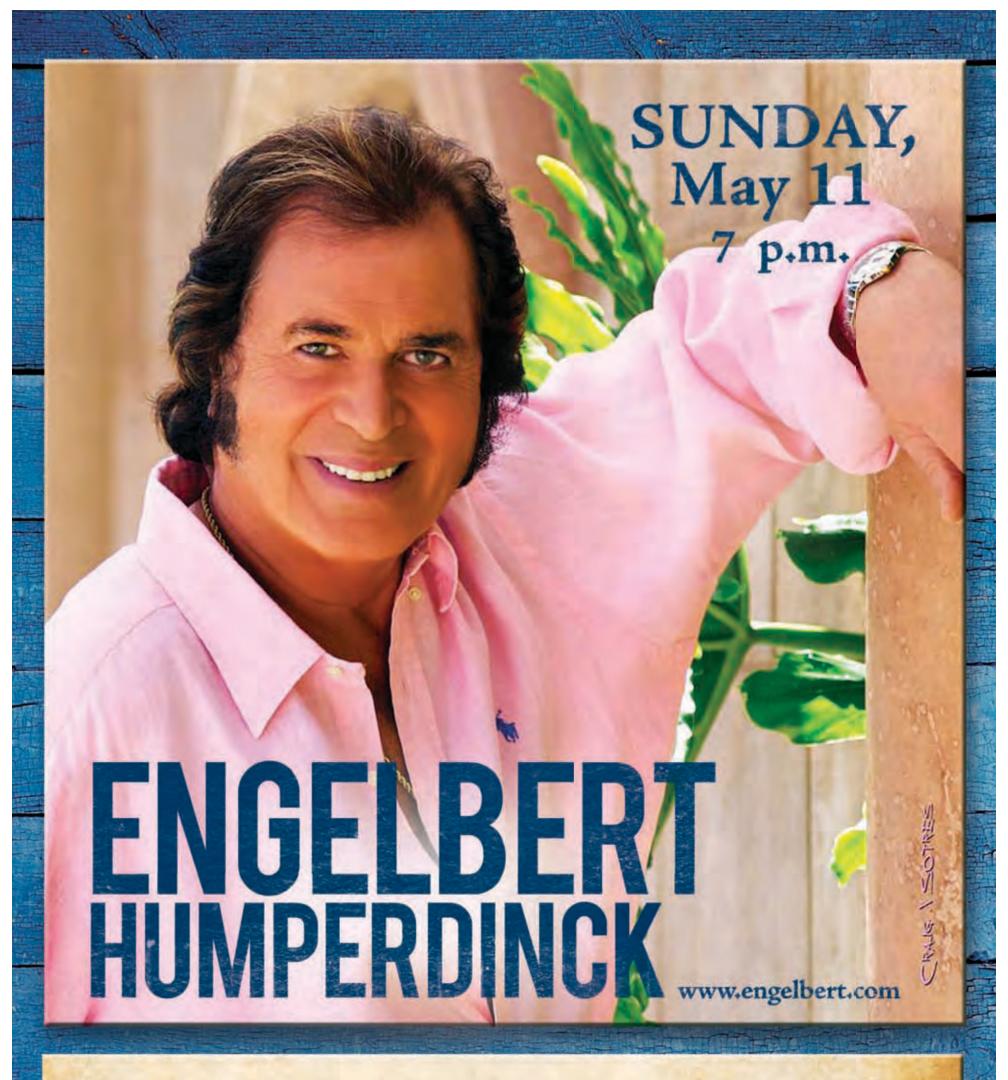
The opinion is encouraging, but Carcieri still stands. Tribes need a permanent, legislative solution and NCAI will continue to work towards a clean Carcieri fix

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