

# Win Awenen Nisitotung

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



August 15, 2014  
Vol. 35 No. 8

Mskominike Giizis  
Raspberry-Picking Moon

## Native-owned Indian Energy LLC included in U.S. Army \$7 billion order contract

According to a release, the U.S. Army awarded the final round of solar technology contracts on July 25 that will support a \$7 billion renewable and alternative energy power production for Department of Defense installations Multiple Award Task Order Contract (MATOC).

The contract awards add 11 small businesses to the pool of qualified contractors who will be eligible to bid on future individual solar technology project task orders. Indian Energy LLC, Newport Beach, Calif., is one of those awardees.

The MATOC now includes 49 solar technology companies, 15 biomass technologies, six geothermal technologies and 20 wind technologies, according to the release.

In 2010, Sault Tribe purchased a 15 percent equity interest in Native-owned Indian Energy LLC for \$2.5 million.

"With only 49 companies being awarded solar MATOC contracts by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, it is quite an accomplishment for Indian Energy, LLC," Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment said. "As the only Native-owned company to be pre-selected, it speaks very highly of our tribal members who founded and manage Indian Energy, LLC."

Indian Energy founder and CEO Allen G. Cadreau, also a Sault Tribe member, said, "Thank you for trusting in our vision. The Solar MATOC is just the start of a very exciting time for Indian Energy, LLC and the Sault Tribe. We are a powerful, caring and loving people with a vision for our children's children."

The U.S. Army Energy

Initiatives Task Force (EITF) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, established the \$7 billion MATOC primarily to use for power purchase agreements involving renewable or alternative energy projects greater than 10 megawatts, according to the release.

"The Solar MATOC award shows that Indian Country is capable of competing openly against the best on the biggest stage. This is Sault tribal members standing tall and proud for our people," Indian Energy COO and Sault Tribe member Henry J. Bouley Jr. said.

According to the release, these contracts will support the Army's achievement of its congressionally mandated energy goal of 25 percent production of energy from renewable sources by 2025, and improving installation energy security and sustainability.

The MATOC involves third-party financed renewable energy acquisitions and involves no Army capital or military construction appropriation. The Army only purchases the power from contractors who own, operate or maintain the generating assets, according to the release. The MATOC's total estimated value of \$7 billion refers to the total dollar value of energy available for purchase under all power purchase agreements task orders for their entire term, up to 30 years, according to the release.

As renewable energy opportunities at Army installations are assessed and validated by the EITF, the U.S. Army Corps

of Engineers, Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, will issue a competitive task order request for proposals to the pre-qualified MATOC companies

for the specific technologies. Task orders will specify the type and amount of energy to be supplied to the Army installation or other federal user as well

as other pertinent information for the developer to prepare a response that meets the government's requirements, said the release.



Photo by Stephen King

Morgan "Little Rabbit" McQuestion hams it up for the camera at the Aug. 2 youth powwow, held this year in Newberry.

## Graymont makes additional proposal; please tell the DNR how you feel

Graymont's bid to purchase approximately 11,000 acres of state land to mine limestone is still under consideration by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR). In addition, Graymont proposed this June to exchange more than 1,700 acres of mineral rights with the DNR, also near Rexton. The offered minerals are under state-managed surface and the desired minerals are located under federally-owned surface in the Hiawatha National Forest.

The public land being sought by Graymont contains significant amounts of high quality hardwood forest and the headwaters of the South Branch of the Carp River, the Black

River and other streams that flow into Lakes Huron, Michigan and Superior. Many citizens, both Native and non-Native, use this area for hunting and fishing. There are 1,200 tribally licensed hunters living within a 20-mile radius of this land.

The tribe has a number of concerns about the sale of land to Graymont: 1.) The sale of such a vast amount of public land is unprecedented and would be a terrible precedent; 2.) To be sold, the land has to be considered surplus -- and it is not; 3.) The sale of these lands into private ownership would harm our treaty rights to hunt and fish on those lands; 4.) The environmental impacts have not been examined

yet; 5.) The proposed site contains identified cultural and archeological sites; and 6.) Finally, our ability to evaluate the proposal has been frustrated by the inability to obtain complete information from the state on exactly what's going on, partly because the company's proposal keeps changing.

Since these two proposals are still on the DNR director's desk, it is important for all tribal members to contact the DNR to tell them how *you* feel about this land sale and mineral exchange. You can make a difference by emailing your comments to DNR-GraymontProposalComments@michigan.gov.

[www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com)

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# Services issue requests for public comment

Sault Tribe members have a voice! The Sault Tribe Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Community Service Block Grant Program (CSBG, also called the Emergency Assistance Program) request public comment on plans for 2015. How the programs are

administered is determined in part by public input.

The LIHEAP and CSBG fiscal year 2015 plans are available for public review and comment. The plans will be available at the following ACFS sites during Aug. 14-28 at 2218 Shunk Road in Sault Ste. Marie, 1140

North State Street in St. Ignace, 5698 West U.S. Highway 2 in Manistique and 622 West Superior in Munising.

The LIHEAP is designed to offset energy costs and efficiency for eligible tribal households in the tribe's seven-county service area. How the program is

administered is partly determined by your input.

If you have questions about the LIHEAP, please contact the direct service case manager in your county or call toll free at (800) 726-0093, reference notice of public hearing for the 2015 abbreviated LIHEAP plan.

If you have questions about the CSBG or would like the plan mailed to your home address, please call ACFS at 632-5250 or call toll free at (800) 726-0093, reference notice of public hearing for the 2015 CSBG plan.

Comments on both plans should be submitted by Aug. 28.

## Sault Tribe 2014 Diabetes Day: Roadmap to health

Managing your diabetes probably feels like a complicated full-time job! Let us help you break it down into a step-by-step process. Believe it or not, there are clearly defined tasks you can complete that will get you closer to ideal health.

At Sault Ste. Marie's Diabetes Day, gather information and talk one on one with the experts in dental, vision, traditional

medicine, traditional foods, tobacco cessation, behavioral health, nutrition, and general diabetes health. Hear Kelli Verdecchia RN, MSN, assistant professor of nursing for the Lake Superior State University School of Nursing, an expert in the field of kidney health, talk about managing diabetes to prevent kidney damage. Take part in an interactive food demonstration

led by Marlene Porcaro, nutrition educator for the USDA food commodities program.

Check out the tribal health centers Diabetes Day events in Hessel on Thursday, Sept. 11, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Sault Ste. Marie on Thursday, Sept. 18, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; and St. Ignace on Thursday, Sept. 25, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The more we learn, the better we live.

## Chi miigwech to powwow help

The Sault Tribe Powwow Committee would like to say chi miigwech to the following people for all of their hard work and services during the summer powwow — Marcie Smith, Ross Franklin, John McKelvie, Colleen St. Onge, Jake Sillers, Ruthie Willis, Ashley Hackworth, Pauline Andrews, William Sams,

Ed LaPoint, Cecil Pavlat, Mike Hatch, Chip MacArthur, Randy Monck, Les Ailing, Jamie Grossett, Lorita Gabow, Helen Bouschor, David Bouschor, Keith Bouschor, Clifford Waboose, Selina Lothrop, Shelly Sparks, Neil McCoy, Zach Sylvester, Mikena Sylvester, Brendon Shipman, Joe Medicine, Marlene

Porcaro, Val Smith, Jim Sylvester, Frank Marble, Clyde Bonno, Ed Schopp, Miranda Menard, Baahweting Drum, Father John Hascall, Great Lakes Recovery Center, Christian Youth Works, Sault Tribe Construction, Little Man Lawn Service, Lothrop and Son's Fisheries, Kewadin Casino, Kewadin Shores Casino.

## Support groups hold events, meetings

### Hogs for Hope – come and pig out!

Families Against Narcotics (FAN) is sponsoring a fundraising pig roast on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 1-7 p.m. at Aune-Osborn Park in Sault Ste. Marie. Tickets are \$8 in advance or \$10 at the door. Features include live bands, silent auction, bake sale, pie contest and 50/50 draw. Kids six and under eat free. Proceeds go to FAN of Chippewa County. For advance tickets, call (906) 203-8959.

**Families Against Narcotics (FAN)** meets on the third Wednesday of the month, 5:30 p.m., at Huntington Bank meeting

room in Sault Ste. Marie. For more information, call (906) 203-8959, email [Chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org](mailto:Chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org) or visit [www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org](http://www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org).

Meeting dates are Sept. 17 and Oct. 15. FAN — your connection for information, resources, and support. It is our mission to raise awareness of the prescription opiate drug abuse epidemic, reduce the stigma, change the face of addiction, educate about the dangers of prescription drug abuse and its potential to lead some to illegal narcotic use and to support those affected by drug

abuse or addiction.

Also look into the **Prescription Drug Abuse Support Group**. Have you experienced loss, heartbreak or diminished relationships due to someone else's use of prescription drugs? The Prescription Drug Abuse Support Group meets the first and third Mondays of each month at 6 p.m. at the Huntington Bank in Sault Ste. Marie. Coming meetings take place on Aug. 18, Sept. 2 (Tuesday due to Labor Day) and Sept. 15. Please call Linda at (906) 440-7252 or Suzy at 248-3545 for more information.

## Sault GLAD dance camp Aug. 18-22

Gregory George, artistic director for Children's Ballet Theatre of Michigan for the past 16 seasons, is scheduled to teach classes during the GLAD dance camp intensive Aug. 18-22.

A native of Michigan, George began dance at the age of eight in the Detroit area. From ages 12-18 he studied with the Indianapolis Ballet on the campus of Butler University with George Verdak (formally with Ballet Russe de Monte Carlo). There he began dancing professionally in his early teens.

He continued his studies with a full scholarship at the Ruth Page Foundation Chicago Ballet School, directed by Larry Long. For four years he danced leading roles for the Ohio Ballet in Akron, touring extensively throughout the United States and performing pieces by Ruthanna Boris, Paul Taylor and Balanchine. He performed in several festivals including Jacob's Pillow and the Spoleto Festival in Italy, as well as performing in original works reviewed in *Dance Magazine*. Returning to the Indianapolis Ballet Theatre, he performed leading roles in *Sleeping Beauty*, *The Nutcracker*, *Coppelia*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Giselle*, *Swan Lake*, *Sylvia*, *Raymonda*, *Cinderella*, *La Fille Mal Gardee*, *Sylvia*, *La Bal*, *Prince*

*Igor*, *Barabau*, *Les Sylphides*, *Carmen*, *Don Quixote*, *The Firebird*, *Paquita*, *Appalachian Spring* and *Gaite Parisienne* in addition to *Schederazade* and *Specta De La Rose* staged and coached by Madame Danilova.

Also teaching dance camp will be Dianna George, owner of Great Lakes Arts and Dance (GLAD) and the artistic director of Northern Lights Dance Theatre. Her classes will consist of dance history, musicality, acting, vocabulary, foot care, body alignment, related dance careers, nutrition and dance in film.

Dancers must be at least 7 years old and have had two years of ballet training. Dancers should bring all dance shoes with them. Girls should wear pink tights and shoes and a black leotard. Hair in a neat, well-secured bun. Post earrings may be worn but no other jewelry. All dancers should bring a lunch and water bottle. Dancers will arrive between 9-9:15 to warm up. Classes begin at 9:30 a.m. and will go until 3 p.m. Lunch between noon to 12:30 p.m.

Cost for the camp is \$125. Pre-registration is from Aug. 4 through 18.

GLAD is located at 539 Ashmun Street in the Sault, (906) 440-1312 or 440-3623; <http://gladdance.com> or [gladdance1@gmail.com](mailto:gladdance1@gmail.com).

## Down Payment HELP AVAILABLE

The Down Payment Assistance Program (DPAP) application period is now open from July 21 through August 29.

The program is designed to assist Sault Tribe members in becoming homeowners. The funds are HUD dollars and restricted to low-income tribal members. Eligible applicants could receive up to \$9,500 to be applied towards a down payment and closing costs. Applicants will need to contribute \$500 to receive the maximum grant of \$9,500 or 20 percent purchase price of the home. This program is open to Sault Tribe members residing within the seven county service area.

DPAP is open to Sault Tribe members with total incomes at or below 80 percent of the area median income, adjusted for family size. Participants must obtain a mortgage with a local lender.

Funds will be in the form of a Note applied as a lien against the property. No monthly payments apply; the amount depreciates 20% each year and is forgiven after five years.

Borrowers are required to participate in the Homebuyer Education sessions designed to assist the homebuyer in understanding and fulfilling the responsibility of homeownership.

If you have any questions please contact Dana Piippo, Homeownership Specialist, (906) 495-1450 or (800) 794-4072.

### Home Improvement Program

The Sault Tribe Housing Authority will have staff available to assist tribal elders in completing the application process, determine eligibility, and answer questions regarding the Home Improvement Program at local elder lunches and meetings. Applications must be complete in 2014 in order to be eligible to receive service in 2015. This is not an Emergency Program & funding is not guaranteed for each applicant.

### Mark Your Calendars

If you would like more information about the Home Improvement Program's please contact: Annie Thibert

Home Ownership Specialist  
Sault Tribe Housing Authority  
(906)495-5555 or (800)794-4072



**Sault Ste Marie**  
08/06/14 @ 12:00 pm  
**St. Ignace**  
08/08/14 @ 12:00 pm  
**Manistique**  
08/13/14 @ 12:00 pm  
**Newberry**  
08/15/14 @ 10:00 am  
**Hessel**  
08/18/14 @ 12:00 pm  
**Escanaba**  
08/21/14 @ 5:30 pm  
**Naubinway**  
08/27/14 @ 6:30 pm  
**Marquette**  
09/04/14 @ 6:00 pm  
**Munising**  
09/08/14 @ 4:00 pm

# Free online K-12 education available in U.P.

By RICK SMITH

Going into its second school year, the Upper Peninsula Virtual Academy is accepting applications for enrollment for the coming 2014-15 academic season. The academy is an online Michigan public school offering online core and elective courses to all K-12 students in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

"We provide an option to brick and mortar schools," said Darryl Pierce, superintendent of the Public Schools of Calumet-

Laurium-Keweenaw system, which oversees the academy. He noted the academy offers flexibility for students that isn't possible with traditional schools; students and their families can set their own schedules for studies, and classes can be taken from anywhere in the world they can access the Internet. Students can advance through grades as fast they are capable of satisfying requirements and could graduate earlier than expected.

Students of the academy

*Check it all out at  
www.upva.net!*

have certified teachers acting as mentors in addition to the certified course content instructors, and they are available through telephone, email, live chat or Skype.

The academy makes arrangements for students to take applicable standardized state tests, such as the Michigan

Educational Assessment Program exam, at sites in the local areas of students.

As in a traditional school setting, parents are encouraged to fill a critical role in enabling a student in a successful pursuit of education.

From providing appropriate structure and discipline for students to becoming involved with the student-mentor teacher team in striving toward academic goals.

Those interested in learning

more details about the free, online K-12 courses should visit the Upper Peninsula Virtual Academy website at [www.upva.net](http://www.upva.net). Pierce indicated deadlines for applications to the academy for the coming school year are the same set by local Upper Peninsula schools applicants would be attending otherwise.

Pierce said 45 students enrolled in the academy in its first academic season last year. "We hope to at least double the enrollment this year," he added.

## Payment elected co-chair of HHS American Indian Health Research Advisory Council

Aaron Payment and Stephen Kutz were elected co-chairs of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) American Indian and Alaska Native Health Research Advisory Council (HRAC) during its annual meeting on July 23 in Rockville, Md.

"I am pleased to have been elected by my peers to represent our research interests and ensure the integrity and ethics in data collection related to American Indians," said Payment, chairperson of the Sault

Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. "My travel and lodging is entirely covered by the federal government."

The HRAC is a tribal advisory committee that was created by HHS as a venue for consulting with tribes about health research priorities and needs in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. Members of the council are elected or appointed tribal officials and include one delegate and an alternate from each of the 12 Indian Health Service areas and four national

at-large members. Co-Chair Aaron Payment represents the Bemidji area. Co-Chair Stephen Kutz represents the Portland area and is a council member for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

The HRAC conducts its business through quarterly conference calls and an annual in-person meeting. The council produces an annual health research report, a compilation of findings related to important health research topics in American Indian and Alaska Native communities. The council

also provides recommendations to the Department of Health and Human Services throughout the year.

The Office of Minority Health serves as the executive secretary for the council.

The council also works with other federal partners such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Indian Health Service, National Institutes of Health and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

"The Sault Tribe is working

on developing our tribal research capacity," said Payment. "This affiliation will propel us forward exponentially faster than we would otherwise advance our data collection and analyses."

To learn more, see [minorityhealth.hhs.gov/hrac](http://minorityhealth.hhs.gov/hrac).

## State responds to tribe's dismissal motion

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — On July 21, Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette filed a brief in the U.S. District Court in Grand Rapids. The brief responds to the Sault Tribe's June 10 motion asking the court to dismiss the lawsuit filed by the state to stop the tribe's Lansing casino project — a project that was approved by the tribe's voters in a 2012 referendum.

The attorney general also filed his own separate motion asking

the court reinstate the tribe's elected officials — the chairperson and twelve-member board of directors — as individually named defendants in the state's case. The District Court had dismissed these individual tribal officers from the case in an earlier 2012 ruling.

Sault Tribe has until Aug. 22 to file its response to the attorney general's arguments.

These motions follow in the wake of significant actions in the federal appellate courts. In

December, the U.S. Court of Appeals in Cincinnati issued a unanimous opinion overturning an injunction that had been entered against the Sault Tribe by the District Court. That injunction prevented the tribe from even applying to have its land in Lansing taken into trust — despite the tribe's argument that trust status is mandatory under the Michigan Indian Land Claims Settlement Act. The attorney general appealed the Court of Appeals' decision

to the U.S. Supreme Court. But, after suffering a decisive loss in the Supreme Court in the Bay Mills case, the attorney general decided in early June to withdraw his appeal in the Sault Tribe case. The tribe responded by immediately filing its mandatory trust application and by filing a motion asking the District Court to formally dismiss the attorney general's lawsuit. A decision on these opposing motions is not expected until well into the fall.

## New bills would secure funding for contract support services for American Indian tribes

By RICK SMITH

Senator Mark Begich (D-Alaska) recently introduced two legislative items in support of mandatory funding and faster reporting on any funding shortages for federally covered contract support services for American Indian tribes.

The bills, if enacted would support American Indian tribal administration of health care and other services through tribal hospitals, clinics and other facilities are paid promptly and

in-full.

Begich described contract support costs as critical to tribal self-determination contracting as they cover necessary fees incurred in managing Indian Health Service (IHS) and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) programs and services. Such costs include fees for insurance, accounting and legal services.

"The federal government should honor the costs of all contractual obligations regardless of whether or not the contractor is

a tribal organization," Begich said in an official statement. "Refusing to pay these contracts in full and in a timely manner is a slap in the face to all the tribal organizations who are on the ground, doing the work and making sure their people get the quality care and services they need. And we shouldn't be robbing Peter to pay Paul by raiding discretionary funds."

The first bill, the Self-Determination Contract Reporting Commitment to Tribes Act, S.

2668, requires the IHS and the BIA to make timely and public reports to Congress to be used to accurately assess and address inadequate payment claims.

Another Alaskan Congressman, Representative Don Young (Rep.), recently introduced legislation similar to S. 2668 in the U.S. House of Representatives.

The second bill, the Self-Determination Commitment to the Tribes Act, S. 2669, prevents contract support funding to come

See "Contract support," page 4

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

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

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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-tuhng."

See our full, online edition at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

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# Board resolutions passed during two July meetings

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened a meeting on July 3 in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. All board members were present except for representatives Cathy Abramson and Joan Carr Anderson.

Authorization was granted to finalize negotiations with the City of Sault Ste. Marie for a set of agreements to provide sewer service for the Odenaang Subdivision to be constructed using funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and an Indian Community Development Block Grant.

A fiscal year 2014 modification was approved for the tribe's health services reducing tribal support by \$520,747.48 and allocating an additional \$1,611,059.04 Indian Health Service funding.

An application for a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant was authorized in support of Native Connections I 2014 Cooperative Agreements for Tribal Behavioral Health for the purpose of preventing and reducing suicidal behavior and substance abuse as well as promoting mental health among youngsters up to age 24.

The National Indian Gaming Commission's minimum internal control standards for Class II gaming was adopted for all tribal casinos effective June 3.

The board convened another meeting on July 22 in

Manistique, Mich. All board members were present except for representatives Lana Causley and Catherine Hollowell.

The board passed nineteen resolutions, with 12 passing by a unanimous vote.

Resolution 2014-123: Approval of partial waiver of convections for gaming license purpose for a tribal member.

2014-124: Approval of jail services agreement between the tribe, Chippewa County and the Chippewa County Sheriff to house inmates for the tribe's judicial system.

2014-125: The board authorized the Sault Tribe Housing Authority to submit an application requesting \$600,000 for the FY 2014 Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages, administered by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, to be used to correct the drainage issue at JK Lumsden Way and repair the crawl spaces of 20 homes.

2014-126: This resolution was to certify that requirements were met (of 24 CFR 1003.604(a)) by the Housing Authority and that comments from a public meeting with the residents of JK Lumsden Way about the drainage situation were considered and any modification to the proposed application have been made.

2014-127: Approval of a waiver of sovereign immunity

and consent to waiver of tribal court jurisdiction for a finance agreement with Lake Forest Bank and Trust.

2014-128: Approval for Anishnaabek Community and Family Services to prepare a program plan and reapply for and administer the Community Services Block Grant program through FY 2016. This program is administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community Service.

2014-129: Tribe and Michigan Economic Development Commission partner on Lake Michigan Water Trail Project and a grant application of \$14,400. The project will promote public access by creating and linking regional water trails on Lake Michigan shoreline.

2014-130: Approval of an easement on trust land by request of Kinross Township for the purpose of a public road for the benefit to all parties involved.

2014-131: Approval of board members to sit on the Head Start Advisory Committee.

2014-132: The board approved the creation of an Adhoc Health Access Exploratory Group to analyze, determine feasibility and recommend opportunities for health access revitalization and/or expansion in the geographic areas of Escanaba, Marquette, Kinross, DeTour, Drummond Island, Newberry and after hour clinic access in partnerships

in St. Ignace, Marquette, and additional areas to be identified. The United States Affordable Care Act of 2010 provides many new opportunities for tribes to expand health access through innovative and entrepreneurial efforts. The exploratory group was instructed to evaluate and make a recommendation for the creation of an autonomous tribally designated health entity patterned after the Tribal Housing Commission. The exploratory group consists of three health division team members, the Sault Tribe executive director, tribal chairperson and five board representatives, one from each unit.

2014-133: The board approved an additional expenditure of \$6,657.03 from the Transportation Construction Fund to cover the overages for the East

Streets project. 2014-134: Budget modification - approval of expenditure to Tribal Operations of \$1,500.

2014-135: Approved the establishment of a FY 2014 budget for Governmental/ Michigan Economic Development Commission (MEDC) Lake Michigan Waterways with State of Michigan MEDC revenues of \$14,400.

2014-136: Approval of a budget modification to ACFS tribal foster care with no effect on tribal support.

2014-137: Approval of an FY 2015 budget for Farm to School with other revenue of \$2,000.

2014-138: Approved the establishment of FY 2014 budget for energy rebates with

See "Resolutions," page 5

## New bills would secure funding

From "Contract support," pg. 3 from budgets for programs and services that directly provide a tribe's members with health care and make referred care funding mandatory instead of discretionary.

Begich described the funding for contract support costs as a critical component to tribal self-determination and key to managing IHS and BIA programs and services.

"The federal government should honor the costs of all

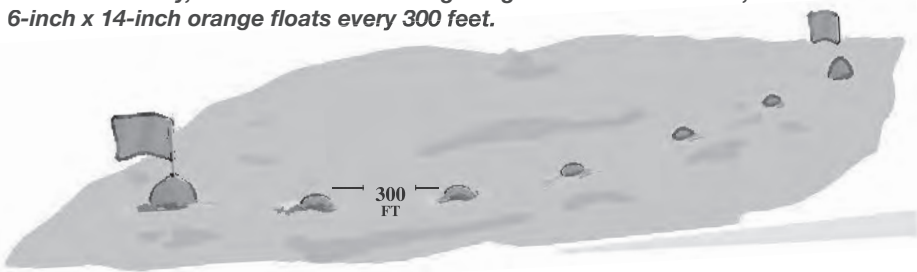
contractual obligations regardless of whether or not the contractor is a tribal organization," Begich said in an official statement. "Refusing to pay these contracts in full and in a timely manner is a slap in the face to all the tribal organizations who are on the ground, doing the work and making sure their people get the quality care and services they need. And we shouldn't be robbing Peter to pay Paul by raiding discretionary funds."

## ATTENTION BOATERS

AUGUST — OCTOBER

Possible Salmon Gill nets in northern Lakes Huron & Michigan

Salmon Nets must be marked on the surface at each end with a 5-foot staff buoy, 12-inch x 12-inch orange flag with fisher's number, 6-inch x 14-inch orange floats every 300 feet.



➔ Visibility will be limited during low-light or bad weather conditions. Please exercise extreme caution while boating in these areas.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority  
179 W 3 Mile Rd.  
Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.  
906-632-0043

U.S. Coast Guard  
Sault Ste. Marie  
906-635-3233

MDNR RAP Hotline:  
1-800-292-7800



**Tribal Commercial Salmon Fishery**

**LAKE HURON**

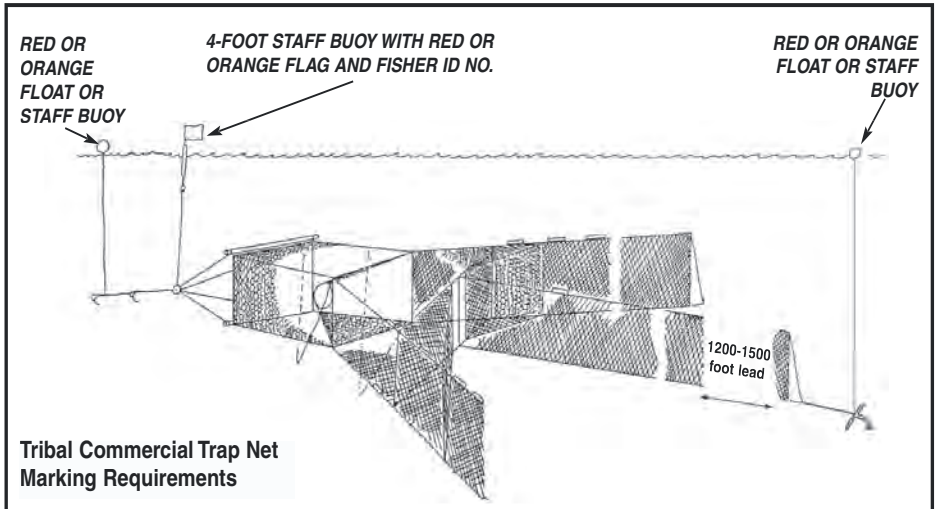
A. Aug 1-Oct. 15: Brulee Point to Rabbit Back Point.  
B. Sept. 1-Oct. 15: Cordwood Point to Hammond Bay Harbor Light.

**LAKE MICHIGAN**

C. Aug. 1-Oct. 15: McGulpin Point in the Mackinaw City area to Seven Mile Point near Cross Village, within one (1) mile of the shoreline.  
D. Sept. 15-Oct. 30: Off the tip of Leelanau Peninsula and west to just north of the Leland River.  
E. Day after Labor Day – Oct. 30: Suttons Bay from Omena Point to Suttons Point.

## NOTICE TO BOATERS

### COMMERCIAL TRAP NETS in northern Lakes Michigan & Huron



See <www.1836cora.org> under net marking for maps and other information.

- Vessel Operators should NAVIGATE AWAY from all markers and REMAIN 1,500 FEET AWAY from any staff buoy or jug markers.
- Please EXERCISE CAUTION while boating in these areas. Visibility will be limited during low-light or bad weather conditions.
- WARNING: Tampering with these or any other legally set nets is a violation of State and Federal law.

<p>For more information contact:</p> <p>CHIPPEWA OTTAWA RESOURCE AUTHORITY 179 W. Three Mile, Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783 906-632-0043</p>	<p>Report unmarked nets:</p> <p>LOCAL, STATE or TRIBAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS or Michigan DNR RAP Hotline 1-800-292-7800</p>
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# Odenaang Subdivision holds groundbreaking in joint venture for city water installation

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Dignitaries from the Sault Tribe and the City of Sault Ste. Marie gathered at the Odenaang housing site July 23 to kick off a joint venture that was four years in the making - bringing city water service to the subdivision.

Situated on about 300 acres south of Three Mile Road between Shunk and Seymour streets — the Odenaang site is designed to be more than just housing — with space for retail, granny flats (a small home on the same lot as a family home for grandma), walking and bike trails, and apartment complexes.

With the actual work already underway, site engineer Jeremy Gagnon said that with two crews working, “it will go fast.” The anticipated completion date is Nov. 1.

For the 400 or so current residents of the subdivision, a clean, reliable water source will be replacing their existing well

water. City water will allow for greater expansion and development of the community and by more households sharing fixed costs associated with the water plant, theoretically that would lower rates for everyone.

Mayor Pro-Tem William Lynn said the project could be summed up in one word, “cooperation.” Tribal Chairman Aaron Payment expressed his enthusiasm, crediting staff that had worked hard to overcome roadblocks and secure funding.

The \$1.82 million project drew from a number of funding sources: Environmental Protection Agency/Indian Health Service, USDA Rural Development, Department of Housing and Urban Development Indian Community Development Block Grant Program and the Sault Tribe Housing Authority.

Additionally, a sewer project will also be completed later this year connecting the housing site



Sault Tribe Chairman Aaron Payment (left center) and Mayor Pro-Tem Bill Lynn manned shovels on July 23 at a ceremonial groundbreaking bringing city water service to the Odenaang Subdivision. The joint venture brought out Sault Tribe Unit I Director Kim Gravelle, Housing Commission Vice Chair Shirley Goudreau, Housing Director Joni Talentino, project specialist Joanne Umbrasas, Unit I Director Denny McKelvie, site engineer Jeremy Gagnon and Chairman of the Sault Tribe Housing Authority and Housing Authority Unit II Representative Ken Ermatinger, the city was represented by Commissioner Don Gerrie, City Manager Oliver Turner, Commissioner Kathy Twardy, Commissioner Pat Shimmens, city clerk/assistant city manager Robin Troyer and city engineer Linda Basista.

to the city of Sault Ste. Marie’s sewer system.

Sault Tribe Housing Authority project specialist Joanne Umbrasas credits Eric Waara for

the years he spent in moving the project forward. Waara, senior engineer during the projects planning phase, was absent from the ceremony having taken a job in

February as the city manager of Houghton.

Contractor for the project is Don Herbert of Herbert Construction.

## Resolutions passed

From “Resolutions,” page 4 other revenues of \$2,017.20 and \$3,465.88 coming from fund balance.

2014-139: Approved budget modification FY 2014 to Tribal Homeland Security Grant Program for an increase in Federal Department of Homeland Security Revenue of \$296,811.21.

2014-140: A budget modification was approved to the Youth Development Fund for an increase in other revenue of \$18,900. Criteria have also changed to reflect 300 percent of

poverty guidelines and awards will go from \$100 to \$150.

2014-141: The board approved rescinding Tribal Code Chapter 93: Compliance with the Michigan Gaming Control and Revenue Act, effective immediately.

For a complete list of resolutions, voting matrix and roll call, visit [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) under Government, Board of Directors, downloads (on left side bar), and Board Meeting Votes and Approved Resolutions.

## USDA grants help veterans and minority farmers new to agriculture

WASHINGTON, D.C. — USDA Deputy Secretary Krysta Harden recently announced the availability of over \$9 million in outreach and technical assistance for minority farmers and ranchers and military veterans who are new to farming and ranching. The funding, provided through the Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program, also known as the 2501 Program, will enable community-based organizations and other partners to work directly with these groups to successfully acquire, own and operate farms and ranches and equitably participate in all USDA programs.

“The future face of agriculture needs to be varied in experience, background and knowledge to meet the demand of the 21st century,” said Deputy Secretary Harden. “The 2501 Program enables USDA to bring more farmers and ranchers into

American agriculture by partnering with the institutions, land-grant universities and other organizations that work directly with these diverse communities. Through these critical partnerships, we will build a stronger agricultural future for our country and for the world.”

Deputy Secretary Harden made the announcement at the White House during the Future of American Agriculture Champions of Change event celebrating the next generation of America’s farmers and ranchers.

Through the 2501 Program, support is distributed to entities that work with minority or veteran farmers and ranchers — 1890 Land grant institutions, 1994 land grant institutions, American Indian tribal community colleges and Alaska Native cooperative colleges, Hispanic-serving and other institutions of higher education, tribal governments and organizations, or community-

based organizations. The 2501 Program, administered by the USDA’s Office of Advocacy and Outreach, has distributed over \$57 million to 188 partners since 2010. The 2014 Farm Bill reauthorized the program and expanded targeted communities to include military veterans. Applications for 2501 Program funding will be accepted through Aug. 25, 2014, and must be submitted through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). More information about the 2501 Program is available at [www.outreach.usda.gov/grants/index.htm](http://www.outreach.usda.gov/grants/index.htm).

America’s farmers and ranchers continue to become more diverse. According to the 2012 Agricultural Census, minority and historically under-represented communities are part of the continued growth among new and beginning farmers and ranchers. According to the Census, 22 percent of all farmers were beginning farmers in 2012.

See “USDA grants,” page 6

## Comic artist realizes goals

Born and raised in Michigan, Daniel J. Stinehart (Dan Stinehart) has been drawing since the age of 5 along with an interest in writing and graphic design later on. Having made homemade comics for friends and family, it dawned on him that it was the field he wanted to pursue, along with graphic design, to name a few.

Stinehart graduated from LSSU in 2012 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts. His senior project, *Pseudo-Traditional*, a comic book, expressed his admiration

and passion for the medium. When it comes to comics, he has the philosophy that it can be beneficial for helping present and future generations understand their native heritages along with being, first and foremost, an art form.

As a freelancer, Stinehart’s webcomic, *Natively Awkward*, is one of the projects he’s currently working on. While the comic will appear in the Sault Tribe newspaper, new comics will be released biweekly on the website [www.nativelyawkwardcomic.com](http://www.nativelyawkwardcomic.com).

— natively awkward

© 2014 Dan Stinehart  
[www.nativelyawkwardcomic.com](http://www.nativelyawkwardcomic.com)



# Member's film, artworks part of first Soo Film Festival

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe member Bill Blanchard came to Sault Ste. Marie on Aug. 1 for a screening of his film in the first Soo Film Festival and to display a collection of his artwork associated with the film in the Sault Tribe Library and Learning Center.

Blanchard was a key figure in the development and production of a one-hour long 1980 documentary titled *A Difference of Rights*. Refraining from sides, the film is a record of arguments from all concerned over treaty fishing rights of Indians around the Upper Peninsula versus recreational fishing concerns of everyone else. On one side, Indians defy the state by pursuing livelihoods from commercial fishing without state issued licenses. On the other side, the

## USDA grants help veterans and minority farmers

From "USDA grants," page 5  
That means one out of every five farmers operated a farm for less than 10 years.

The recent funding announcement was made possible by the 2014 Farm Bill. The Farm Bill builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past five years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for taxpayers. Since enactment, the USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision

*A Difference of Rights* is scheduled for a free, public showing in the Bayliss Public Library Community Room, Sault Ste. Marie, at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 6.

state and regional businesses depending on the sport fishing industry as a source of revenue.

Tensions over the issues began a rapid rise in 1971 after Albert LeBlanc of the Bay Mills Indian Community was charged for fishing without a state license. Angry words were exchanged, guns were being toted and, sometimes, shots were fired. It was a dangerous time for Indian fishermen trying to support their families.

Those who remember the times may remember some of the folks seen and heard in the film, former Sault Tribe Chairman Joe

of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers, strengthening risk management tools, expanding access to rural credit, funding critical research, establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships, developing new markets for rural-made products and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill).

Lumsden, Bay Mills fisherman and entrepreneur Albert "Big Abe" LeBlanc, his brother Arthur LeBlanc, former Sault Tribe General Counsel Dan Green, Sault Tribe fisherman turned traditional craftsman Ron Paquin and Bay Mills member Dwight Teeple.

Eventually, the issue made its way to the attention of the U.S. Supreme Court and, with the controversy settled, Indians continue commercial fishing on the waters surrounding the Upper Peninsula.

Blanchard was a young film production teacher in Lansing when he saw the controversy over fishing as worthy of an exercise in investigative film making for his students. He indicated he secured help from Lansing Community College and the Michigan Humanities Council and he and his students set to work.

The film is an excellent learning tool for anyone who wants to understand the heat and hate over tribal fishing concerns of the era. Bayliss Public Library, a branch of the Superior District Library in Sault Ste. Marie, scheduled a public showing of the film in the library's Community Room at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 6. "It is a free showing, courtesy of the filmmaker, Bill Blanchard," said Susan James, the library's manager.

*A Difference of Rights* was shown in a prime time slot on the first of two nights of the festival

over Aug. 1-2, which took place at the Soo Theater Project. A schedule of events indicated Blanchard conducted a question and answer session following the film's showing.

An informal reception took place just prior to the film screening where portraits painted by Blanchard of key figures appearing in the documentary were on display for the general

public across the street from the theater at the Sault Tribe Library and Learning Center.

It is possible anyone interested in acquiring a copy of the documentary may still do so by writing Bill Blanchard at 2011 Cumberland, Lansing, MI 48906 or calling (517) 321-7897. A copy is available for check out in the Sault Ste. Marie area through the Bayliss Public Library.

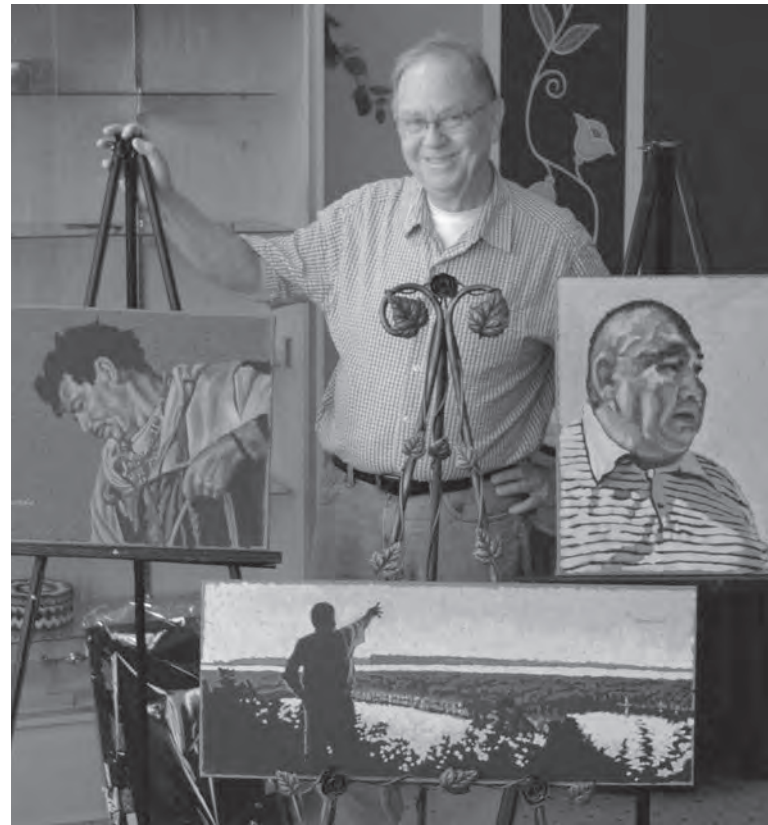


Photo by Rick Smith

Sault Tribe member Bill Blanchard came to Sault Ste. Marie on Aug. 1 for a screening of his film in the first Soo Film Festival and to display a collection of his artwork associated with the film in the Sault Tribe Library and Learning Center.



**It takes teamwork to quit smoking.**

It's hard to quit smoking all by yourself. You need the support of friends and family. And we give you the added support of a professional Quit Coach for free. We'll customize a quitting strategy around you. To get your own FREE Quit Coach, call **1-800-QUIT-NOW** (1-800-784-8669).

Michigan Department  
of Community Health

**M DCH**

Rick Snyder, Governor  
James K. Haveman, Director

# Appeals court sides with tribe in \$74 million dispute

By RICK SMITH

A panel of three circuit judges in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth District affirmed an earlier decision that Sault Tribe is not contractually obligated to pay \$74 million to former Greektown Casino partners Ted and Maria Gatzaros. The decision was rendered by a majority of two to

one on Aug. 1, 2014.

Sault Tribe General Counsel John Wernet described the decision as excellent news but added, "It will take some time to fully evaluate the full significance of this decision, and to see if the Gatzaros parties are going to seek further review."

Wernet explained the issue in

the case centers on whether or not Gatzaros had the right in 2012 to unilaterally (solely) alter the terms of a guaranty agreement with the tribe. The alterations eliminated clauses preventing his claims in the case against the tribe. Sault Tribe contended Gatzaros had no such authority. A district court dismissed the case

in favor of the tribe, ruling the contract did not give Gatzaros authority to make unilateral changes to the contract.

"Mr. Gatzaros' claim was that he somehow had the right to unilaterally rewrite this agreement with us in a way that fundamentally changed the very nature of the agreement," Wernet

noted. "We felt this claim was frankly ridiculous and we are grateful that the Sixth Circuit has now agreed with us."

The decision may also help in the ongoing bankruptcy litigation involving Greektown Holdings LLC, Wernet added, with the possibility of creating a new approach in reaching a settlement.

# Hearing conducted on IHS Advance Appropriation Act

By RICK SMITH

A hearing on legislation to authorize advance appropriations for the Indian Health Service (IHS) took place on July 15 before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs. House Resolution (HR) 3229, a bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to authorize advance appropriations for the IHS in cycles of two fiscal years, was among four measures discussed at the hearing. Testifying in support of the bill were IHS Deputy Director Elizabeth Fowler, National Indian Health Board (NIHB) Chairwoman Cathy Abramson and Alaska's Maniilaq Association President and CEO Timothy Schuerch.

Fowler briefly described the role of the IHS in relation to Indian Country, and Schuerch introduced the Maniilaq Association, a non-profit organization providing health, tribal and social services to residents of northwest Alaska.

All three mentioned the fact that the IHS is one of the

treaty-mandated compensatory programs the United States is obligated to providing Indian Country. Further, the IHS has a history of not receiving adequate financial appropriations to live up to its huge responsibility of providing medical care for the 2.1 million people of Indian Country.

Fowler expressed the IHS point of view that cash flow is critical in supporting tribal and urban medical care programs, and when financing is not enacted on time and the federal government is either shut down or funded in increments, it severely impairs the availability of medical services. "While advance appropriations could address some of the challenges of uncertain timing of annual appropriations," she testified, "they would not address the more urgent issues of adequately funding IHS with discretionary levels that are sufficient to support critical investments, as proposed by the president, and completing annual appropriations by the beginning of the fiscal year."

According to Fowler,

sequestration reduced IHS funding by over \$200 million in fiscal year 2013 and "no amount of planning can mitigate the effect of these cuts."

Abramson expanded on Fowler's assertion. "While HR 3229 will not solve the severe lack of funding that the agency experiences," said Abramson, "advance appropriations would allow IHS, tribal and urban health programs to effectively and efficiently manage budgets, coordinate care and improve health quality outcomes for [American Indians]."

Both Abramson and Schuerch touched on how funding delays leave Indian Country health care operations in deplorable situations and compared IHS with another federally supported medical care programs which acquired advance appropriations in 2010, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA). "IHS, like the VHA, provided direct care to patients as a result of contractual obligations made by the federal government," said Abramson. "To NIHB and tribes, enacting HR 3229 is a civil rights issue and a

matter of equality. Like veterans, tribal communities have made sacrifices for this country, both historically and contemporarily. However, under the current funding mechanism, [American Indians] do not have the same stability in the care they are provided."

Schuerch noted, "The fact that Congress has implemented advance appropriations for the VA medical programs provides a compelling argument for tribes and tribal organizations to be given equivalent status with

regard to IHS funding."

According to the NIHB, before the bill advances in Congress, it is critical to acquire additional co-sponsorship from House representatives. Those interested in helping the cause should contact their respective representatives to urge their support. The latest reports indicate the bill has 12 co-sponsors, none of whom are from Michigan.

A similar bill, S.1570, currently pending in the U.S. Senate as well.

# Doing business with government agencies conference September 18

Learn how to sell to federal, state, local and tribal government agencies

By BRENDA AUSTIN

The second annual Doing Business with Government Agencies conference will provide business owners or those with plans to start a business, a unique opportunity to learn how to increase revenue by selling products and services to federal, state, local and tribal government agencies.

The one-day event is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 18 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Kewadin Casino, Hotel and Convention Center in Sault Ste. Marie. The conference is free, however since space is limited you must pre-register by calling conference liaison for the Sault Tribe, Jeff Holt at (906) 635-6050.

Topics that will be covered throughout the day include: Government contracting basics and what the Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) is; working with the government panel discussion and success stories; doing business with the Michigan Department of Transportation; small business programs and government certifications; starting and building your business; commercial lending; what the government buys and finding opportunities; doing business with the State of Michigan; and doing business with DLA Land and Maritime Office of Small Business Programs.

NDN-PTAC Native Diversification Network Procurement Technical Assistance Center office opened April 1 of this year and is operated through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Department of Defense, Defense Logistics Agency.

Free assistance is provided to Native American owned businesses (American Indian, Alaska Native Corporations, and Native Hawaiian) that wish to do business in the government marketplace. This includes contract and procurement activities of federal, state, local and tribal agencies, large prime contractors, subcontractors, and other large and small businesses.

NDN-PTAC can be contacted by calling (612) 877-2117 or by email at: [ndn-ptac@ndn-ptac.org](mailto:ndn-ptac@ndn-ptac.org).

Holt said in addition to MDOT and the State of Michigan participating in the conference, the newly organized NDN-PTAC, a Native diversification network procurement technical assistance center, would also have representatives present. "The federal and state governments buy billions of dollars of goods and services each year, and for too long tribes have not been able to tap into that network," Holt said. "This is an opportunity for tribes, and more specifically tribal business owners and non-tribal business owners, to come together and hear about how it's possible."

The Sault Tribe is hosting the conference and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation is the primary sponsor.

The list of agencies attending is still growing, and Holt said he is hoping to see local financial institutions attend in addition to

agencies that are experienced in doing business with government agencies. "If you have an idea and want to start a business, there will be people there available to help get that process started at no cost to them," Holt said. "Our goal is to assist anyone with questions or that would like to get involved in doing business with federal, state, local or tribal agencies."

For out of town travelers, a special rate of \$75 is available at Kewadin Hotel by calling (800) 539-2346 or (906) 632-0530, use code: NDN-PTAC.

NDN-PTAC, Northwest Michigan Council of Governments, Small Business Administration, MDOT, Pure Michigan, Northwest Michigan PTA and America's SBDC Michigan and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians are sponsoring this event.

## Thank You



Denise Chase,  
Vice Chair

To all of the Unit 4 members who supported and voted for my re-election. I will continue to work toward moving the tribe forward in a positive manner.

## JOBS AVAILABLE!

Prescription Oxygen Service is planning to expand services to St. Ignace, Mansitque and the surrounding areas. We are therefore in search of a qualified and highly motivated individual to service these areas.

Duties will include, but will not be limited to: Sales and Marketing, Set-up and Delivery of home medical equipment and supplies. Experience is preferred, but not necessary. Tribal member preferred but not required.

Please submit resume to:  
**Prescription Oxygen Service**  
2303 Ashmun Street  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
Attn: Ronald Gordon

## PRESCRIPTION OXYGEN SERVICE

"Providing Service You Can Depend On"  
Tribal Member Owned and Operated

We are a full service Home Medical Equipment Company. With three locations in the EUP, with plans to expand, to better serve you. Our staff has combined experience of over 100 years in the industry. Don't let our name fool you. We do much more than oxygen. Here is a sample of the services we provide:

- Oxygen Concentrator
- Portable Tanks
- Portable Oxygen Concentrators
- Overnight Pulse Ox Testing
- Nebulizers
- Hospital Beds
- Wheelchairs
- Patient Lifts
- Commodes
- Walkers
- Canes
- Orthotics
- Back Braces
- And many more!

# Seven steps to keep your summertime food safe

Warmer weather conditions may be ideal for outdoor picnics and barbecues, but they also provide a perfect environment for bacteria in food to grow quickly and cause foodborne illness. Follow the suggestions below to avoid foodborne bacteria and reduce the risk of food poisoning this summer.

1) Wash, wash, wash your hands. Always wash your hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds before and after handling food. Sing *Row, Row, Row Your Boat* twice to get

a sense of how long you should wash.

2) Marinating mandate. Always marinate food in the refrigerator. Don't use sauce that was used to marinate raw meat or poultry on cooked food. Instead, reserve a portion of the unused marinade to use as a sauce.

3) Hot, hot, hot. When grilling foods, preheat the coals on your grill for 20 to 30 minutes or until the coals are lightly coated with ash.

4) Temperature Gauge. Use a food thermometer to ensure that

food reaches a safe internal temperature.

5) Where are the beef, chicken and fish? Hamburgers should be cooked to 160F, while large cuts of beef such as roasts and steaks may be cooked to 145F for medium rare or to 160F for medium. Poultry must reach a temperature of 165F. Fish should be opaque and flake easily.

6) Stay away from that same old plate. When taking foods off the grill, do not put cooked food items back on the same plate that held raw food, unless it has been

washed with hot water and soap first. And in hot weather (above 90F), foods should never sit out for more than one hour before going in the refrigerator.

7) Icebox etiquette. A full cooler will keep its cold temperatures longer than one that is partially filled so it is important to pack plenty of extra ice or freezer packs to ensure a constant cold temperature. Keep the cooler out of the direct sun. Keep drinks in a separate cooler from foods. The beverage cooler will be opened frequently while the food cooler

stays cold.

For more, call the U.S. Department of Agriculture Meat and Poultry Hotline at MPHOTline (888) 674-6854 or TTY (800) 256-7072.

This article was adapted from the Fight BAC!® website at [www.fightbac.org](http://www.fightbac.org)

For more information, please contact your local diabetes and nutrition programs in Manistique at (906) 341-8469, Munising 387-4614, St. Ignace 643-8689 or Sault Ste. Marie 632-5210.

## Men's event in Newberry focused on health

BY LOIS BRYANT

The second annual men's event took place at the Newberry Tribal Community Health Center on July 27. Our focus was on movement and different ways to stay active to improve our health and wellbeing.

Tribal member George Tessier was our facilitator and one of our speakers who conducted a lesson on semaa and keeping it sacred. Eric Clark, tribal biologist, encouraged a lively discussion on inland harvest data and trends and their American marten assessment

results. Bruce Gustafson, retired conservation officer, shared some stories from the past.

We had a mini-conference on beekeeping and the habits of bees from Jim Manville, a local beekeeper who shared some of his harvest of sweet honey. We had fish, which was donated by Theron King and smoked by Joe Paquin, and each attendee of the fair got a sample. After our speakers, we all enjoyed a feast prepared by the health center staff and family members of those men who attended the fair.

We did not get to hear from Gerry Blanchard or William Weber, who were here to share that day. Hopefully, they will speak at one of our monthly support groups or our family events scheduled for September.

We thank Kewadin Casinos for the vegetable and meat trays donated for our event. Thank you to everyone involved.

**Participants at the Newberry men's event on July 27 focused on ways to improve health and wellbeing.**



## Native youth health summit taking applications

The National Indian Health Board (NIHB) is proud to announce that we are currently accepting applications for this

year's Native Youth Health Summit. The summit this year is hosted by the Navajo Nation and will take place in Window Rock,

Ariz., Sept. 4-9, 2014, as an official pre-conference event to the annual consumer conference. The youth summit always serves to energize all youth and adults involved — as there is no better investment in our future than investing in our youth.

The summit will allow participants to develop their own digital stories that they can take back home to share with their tribes, health boards, area

and friends. The summit will also feature fitness activities, educational forums and some fun activities that will bring participants outside and interacting with the community. The summit is a wonderful and exciting opportunity to help youth to grow in their own health advocacy and knowledge.

The application packet and additional information is available online at [nihb.org/](http://nihb.org/)

communications/acc\_2014\_youth\_summit.php. The packet contains information on deadlines, application process, travel, fees, agenda, roles and responsibilities for both youth participants and adult chaperones, and the actual application forms needed to be completed and submitted to NIHB by July 31.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Robert Foley at [rfoley@nihb.org](mailto:rfoley@nihb.org).

### Sault Tribe Head Start & Early Head Start Now Accepting Applications For The 2014-2015 School Year



*Head Start & Early Head Start will provide your child with high quality school readiness preparation while providing comprehensive services to your child & family. Children with disabilities are provided a wide range of services with professional staff within our community.*

#### HEAD START

- **Full Day, Full Year:** located at the Sault Tribe Child Care Center, 2218 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI
- **Part Day, Part Year:** locations in the Sault (2076 Shunk Rd.) and St. Ignace (225 WaSeh Dr.)
- **Eligibility:** Children need to be 3 years of age by Oct. 1, 2014; Members of a Federally Recognized Tribe; and meet Income Eligibility Requirements.

#### EARLY HEAD START

- **Center Based:** two locations in the Sault, 2218 Shunk and 2076 Shunk
- **Home Base:** Residents of Chippewa and Mackinac Counties
- **Eligibility:** Children from birth to 3 years old and pregnant women; Members of a Federally Recognized Tribe and meet Income Eligibility Requirements.

**For more information or an application,  
please call 906-635-7722.**

## Seniors save over \$11.5 billion on prescriptions since 2010

Information recently released by the Department of Health and Human Services shows that more than 8.2 million seniors and people with disabilities with Medicare continue to enjoy prescription drug savings as a result of the Affordable Care Act, saving \$11.5 billion since 2010.

This news comes on the heels of continued historic low levels of growth in Medicare spending. According to the recent Medicare trustees report, the life of the trust fund has been extended to 2030, up from its projection of 2017 in 2009, and Part B premiums are expected to stay the same rather than increase for the second year in a row. Additionally, a new HHS report found that per capita, Medicare spending growth has averaged 2 percent over 2009 – 2012, and nearly 0 percent in 2013, one-third of the growth rate over the 2000-2008 period.

"Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, seniors and people with disabilities are saving on needed medications," said HHS Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell. "By making prescription

drugs more affordable, we are improving and promoting the best care for people with Medicare."

The Affordable Care Act makes Medicare prescription drug coverage more affordable by gradually closing the gap in coverage where beneficiaries had to pay the full cost of their prescriptions out of pocket, before catastrophic coverage took effect. This gap is known as the donut hole.

Since the enactment of the Affordable Care Act, out-of-pocket savings on medications for people with Medicare prescription drug coverage continues to grow. More than 8.2 million seniors and people with disabilities with Medicare have saved over \$11.5 billion on prescription drugs since 2010 as a result of discounts in the donut hole and rebates in 2010, for an average of \$1,407. These figures are higher than last year at this time when over 6.6 million seniors and people with disabilities with Medicare had saved over \$7 billion on prescription drugs averaging \$1,061 per beneficiary in donut

hole discounts.

Because of the Affordable Care Act, in 2010, anyone with a Medicare prescription drug plan who reached the prescription drug donut hole received a \$250 rebate. Beginning in 2011, beneficiaries in the donut hole began receiving discounts on covered brand-name drugs and savings on generic drugs. These savings and Medicare coverage will gradually increase until 2020, when the donut hole will be closed. In 2014, people with a Medicare prescription drug plan who fall into the donut hole will save from discounts and increased coverage in the gap about 53 percent on the cost of brand name drugs and save from increased coverage in the gap about 28 percent on the cost of generic drugs.

For state-by-state information on discounts on the donut hole, please visit <http://downloads.cms.gov/files/Medicare-Part-D-Donut-Hole-Savings-Summary-2010-June-2014.pdf>.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug benefits, please visit <http://www.medicare.gov/part-d/>.



# Travis Tritt comes to Kewadin Casino in September

Multiple Grammy and Country Music Award winner, Travis Tritt, will perform at the Kewadin Casino DreamMakers Theater in Sault Ste. Marie on Thursday, Sept. 18 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$48.50 and \$38.50 and are on sale now.

Don't let his conspicuous lack of a cowboy hat fool you as this Georgian has been churning out country hits for well over 20 years now. Infused with his lifelong influences in southern rock, honky-tonk, blues and gospel, Travis Tritt has crafted multiple well received albums and hit singles that have led him to amass more than 25 million in career album sales, two Grammy's, three CMA awards and a very devoted fan base that fills venues coast to coast to hear his brand of rebel country music.

Despite turning 50, Travis Tritt is feeling as if he's still in his 20s and putting out

the same energy, the same amount of love towards each live performance and studio session that he was when he was first working the honky-tonk circuit as a teenager and on his landmark 1990 debut, *Country Club*.

With his creativity and dedication to country music never wavering, Travis Tritt is constantly perfecting his craft and working to become a better guitar player, banjo player, vocalist and songwriter to the point that his fans at his recent shows have been thinking to themselves, "I never knew Travis could do that."

You don't want to miss out as Travis Tritt brings *The Calm After Tour* into Kewadin's DreamMakers Theater in Sault Ste. Marie on Thursday, Sept. 18!

For more official Travis Tritt information, visit [www.travistritt.com](http://www.travistritt.com), and for ticket information [www.kewadin.com](http://www.kewadin.com).



# Charles Oncina named food and beverage director

Charles Oncina of Alpena, Mich., recently accepted the position of food and beverage director for Kewadin Casinos Hotel and Convention Center.

Oncina comes to Kewadin with over 30 years of food and beverage experience. "I started working in a restaurant when I was 15. I've surrounded my entire life with this industry and am very excited to have this opportunity," said Oncina. "I love this business, every single part of it, and I am very excited to take everything I've learned over the years and make it work for all Kewadin dining and beverage areas."

The staff at Kewadin has been very welcoming to Oncina, according to casino chief operating officer, Tony Goetz. "He has a great team to work with at all of our properties in all the departments he oversees," said Goetz. "With his direction and leadership, I'm confident we can make our restaurants, bar and food service in our convention center better than it already is."

It all started for Oncina when he was 15 years old and worked as a dishwasher in his mother's restaurant. During his college days at Michigan State University, Mr. Oncina worked at the Golden Mushroom in Southfield under master chef Milos Cihelka— one of four master chefs in the country at that time. His food career took him through the ranks at Mountain Jacks, Gordon Food Services and SYSCO in the sales and marketing areas. He also owned his own restaurant, named Charly O's, in Hillman, Mich.

"This particular opportunity that Kewadin has given me is truly a culmination of my professional career," Oncina said. "I've done everything there is to do in the food business, and now it's time for me to help others do everything they can do to benefit the patrons and staff of Kewadin."

Oncina said his first steps are to familiarize himself with the operation in each area and in each facility of the casino. He wants to become part of the crew and to encourage the crew to become part of the team. "I want to foster us all working together as one," he said.

When Oncina is not engulfed in the food and beverage areas of

the casino, he enjoys competitive chess, writing poetry and making music. "Oddly enough, I can't play any instrument – I just run the electronics in my music studio," he said.

Oncina will oversee food and

beverage services for Kewadin's four restaurants, three delis and eight bars and the convention service area. This includes the DreamCatchers Restaurant in Sault Ste. Marie, Mariner's Cove Restaurant in Manistique,

Horseshoe Bay Restaurant in St. Ignace, Frosty's Bar and Grille in Christmas and Northern Nooke Deli in Hessel. The casino boasts 3,272 square feet of kitchen space and a 12,019 square foot dining area serving

over 400,000 guests per year.

Kewadin Casinos is owned and operated by the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and employ nearly 1,000 staff. The casinos have been in operation for nearly 30 years.

## RENDEZVOUS AT THE STRAITS POWWOW



ADMISSION

\$5.00

ELDERS

\$4.00

5 & under - Free

**PUBLIC WELCOME**



St. Ignace

Father Marquette National Memorial

Located On Boulevard Drive Near The Bridge View Park

**TRADITIONAL DANCING  
NATIVE FLUTE MUSIC  
HOOP DANCING  
FOOD - ART - CRAFTS**



# AUGUST 23-24

**HOST DRUM  
Sturgeon Bay  
CO-HOST  
Bahweting**

**NO DRUGS  
OR  
ALCOHOL**

**Information**

(906)984-2083 - Darryl Brown  
[turtlesback@charter.net](mailto:turtlesback@charter.net)  
[saintignace.org](http://saintignace.org) \* [stignace.com](http://stignace.com)  
(906)643-8717 (906)643-6950



**Grand Entry - 12:00 PM  
Saturday & Sunday  
BLESSING OF THE GROUNDS  
Friday 12:00 PM**

**FIREWORKS  
10:00 PM  
Saturday  
FREE MOVIES  
by the Bay  
Sunday**

**ST. IGNACE HISTORY WEEK  
AUGUST 18-25 - 2014**

# Dancing with the Stars at Kewadin



Photo by Jill Rivenburgh

This year's dancers are Melissa Gustafson and John Burke, Mark Meiners and Francene Barbro, Lisa Bumstead and her father, AJ Rogers, Amy McCoy Sayers and Dean Sayers, Barb and Jon Hampton, Kristine Anderson and Pat Bennin, Tara and Klem Kelgar, Bonnie and Joe Tremblay, Paul VanWagoner and Nicole Kott, Maria Farney and Kristom Miller. Missing from photo are Mark Meiners, John Burke, Bonnie and Joe Tremblay.

Hospice of the EUP in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., hosts the fourth annual Dancing with the Stars competition on Oct. 24, 2014, at the Kewadin Casino DreamMakers Theatre.

Dance professionals from Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario and Michigan, have come together to help local couples compete for the coveted Mirror Ball Trophy. Local couples are practicing for the big event. Other awards are the Judge's Award and the People's Choice Award for the individual who collects the most online votes from Oct. 1-20 at [www.euphomehealthhospice.com](http://www.euphomehealthhospice.com).

This year's dancers are Melissa Gustafson and John Burke, Mark Meiners and Francene Barbro, Lisa Bumstead and her father, AJ Rogers, Amy McCoy Sayers and Dean Sayers, Barb and Jon Hampton, Kristine Anderson and Pat Bennin, Tara and Klem Kelgar, Bonnie and Joe

Tremblay, Paul VanWagoner and Nicole Kott, Maria Farney and Kristom Miller.

If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Hospice for different levels of sponsorship opportunities. Also, keep an eye out for some of the dancers hosting meet and greets and fundraisers.

Join us for a great night of entertainment, all proceeds from the event go towards end of life care in Sault Ste. Marie.

Tickets go on sale Sept. 16 at the Kewadin Casino Box office, (906) 635-4917.

Seating for this year's event is reserved, with a choice of concert seating for \$25 or table seating for \$35 per seat. For more information please visit our website at [www.euphomehealthhospice.com](http://www.euphomehealthhospice.com) or by calling Mary Jo DuVall at Hospice, (906) 259-0222.

# Sidewalk Sales brings out family



Desi Clewley holds baby Ty (Tyler), 8 months, and Aaron Payment holds his niece, Ella, 3, and next to him is his nephew, Dan Stinehart.

# Free Laker hockey tickets for Sault Tribe members

SUBMITTED BY JESSICA DUMBACK, RECREATION FACILITY MANAGER

To be eligible for tickets, tribal members must fill out the free Laker hockey ticket application and check off the games they wish to attend. Mail application

with a valid copy of applicant's tribal card to the address indicated on application by Sept. 17.

Limited number of tickets, applications reviewed on a first come, first served basis until all tickets are disbursed. Please note, children under three years of age

do not require a ticket if sitting on a parent's lap.

Applications received after the deadline will be serviced last with any remaining tickets.

Please call (906) 635-7770 for additional information or applications.

## FREE LAKER HOCKEY TICKET APPLICATION FOR SAULT TRIBE MEMBERS

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER IN HOUSEHOLD \_\_\_\_\_ TRIBAL CARD FILE # \_\_\_\_\_

Circle the games you wish to attend and indicate the number of tickets needed for each game. Please note, children under 3 do not require a ticket if sitting on a parents lap.

**Please note: you may not receive tickets for all games requested.**

### LAKER HOCKEY (Taffy Abel Arena)

	# needed
10/04/14 Michigan Tech	_____
10/05/14 Michigan Tech	_____
10/24/14 Northern Michigan	_____
10/25/14 Northern Michigan	_____
11/21/14 Alaska	_____
11/22/14 Alaska	_____
11/28/14 Minnesota State-Mankato	_____
11/29/14 Minnesota State-Mankato	_____
01/16/15 Bemidji State	_____
01/17/15 Bemidji State	_____
02/13/15 Alabama-Huntsville	_____
02/14/15 Alabama-Huntsville	_____
03/06/15 Ferris State	_____
03/07/15 Ferris State	_____

Mail application and copy of tribal card to:

Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center  
ATTN: Jessica Dumback  
2 Ice Circle Drive  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

Opens September 1st

## Owner Occupied Rehab Program

The Sault Tribe Housing Authority is currently accepting applications for its Owner Occupied Rehab Program.

The program opens September 1st and runs until funds are exhausted.

The purpose of this program is to remove issues of substandard heating systems and water heaters; that is not due to the fault of the applicant; that impedes or threatens the safety of the household; in which the household is not able to resolve the substandard heating system and water heater with their own funds. These funds will be distributed to eligible applicants who meet the eligibility criteria and who have demonstrated a need, based on an emergency situation and it has been determined that providing assistance will remedy or eliminate the emergency situation.

- Must Own Home & Land
- Must be a Sault Tribe Household
- Must reside in the seven county service area
- Must meet income guidelines
- System (s) **MUST** be failing or not working

Please contact the  
Sault Tribe Housing Authority  
Home Ownership Program  
Annie Thibert @ 906-495-5555  
or 1-800-794-4072



# In loving memory of . . .



*To my beloved son,  
James Ailing*

**11/22/54 - 7/16/13**

My dearest son, today marks one year since you  
were called home to the Lord  
It has been a hard and lonely year, son  
Not a day goes by that I do not shed tears for you  
The love a parent holds in the heart  
stays deep, strong and true  
And son, no matter where you may be,  
my love is there with you each day.

*Love and miss you much,  
your mother, Vida Captain*

*Our dearest son, brother  
and uncle, Jim Ailing*



We little knew that morning that God  
was going to call your name  
In life, we loved you so dearly  
and in death we do the same  
It broke our hearts to lose you;  
you did not go alone  
For part of us went with you,  
the day God called you home  
You left us peaceful memories  
and your love is still our guide  
And though we cannot see you,  
you are always by our side  
Our family chain has been broken  
since you left us and nothing seems the same  
But God will call on us one by one and our family  
chain will be linked once again  
Baamaapii gaawaabmin

*Sending you all our love, Jim, we miss you  
dearly, your family, mom, dad, Robert, Timmy,  
Ada, John, Kristin, Tim, Traci and Bebie*

# Tribe participates in sidewalk sales



Each year, volunteers and members of the Sault Tribe United Way Committee man a booth selling baked goods for the United Way of the EUP. Left to right, Tiffany Jones, Lisa Moran, Michaela Lamoreaux, Karen Moran and Teri Romano.



ACFS Director Juanita Bye and project specialist Sheila Kibble at the Anishnaabek Community and Family Services booth. Bye said ACFS is recruiting for tribal foster parents, call ACFS if interested.

## TOURNAMENTS

**\$15,000 Spin to Win**  
KEWADIN SAULT STE. MARIE  
August 22-24

**\$15,000 Keno**  
KEWADIN SAULT STE. MARIE  
September 5-7

**\$8,000 Spin to Win**  
KEWADIN HESSEL  
September 5-7

**\$15,000 Video Poker**  
KEWADIN SAULT STE. MARIE  
September 12-14

**\$30,000 Blackjack**  
KEWADIN SAULT STE. MARIE  
September 26-28

**\$8,000 Spin to Win**  
KEWADIN CHRISTMAS  
September 26-28

**STAY 5 HOURS OR STAY THE NIGHT!**  
Free Shuttle to Kewadin St. Ignace  
from Gaylord Walmart Parking Lot  
Thursday-Saturday pickups  
Departs Walmart 12 p.m. Departs Kewadin  
St. Ignace 10:30 a.m. & 6 p.m.  
Park at the southeast end of the Walmart parking  
lot. (Near Automotive Department)

## KEWADIN KLASIFIEDS

KEWADIN CASINOS 1-800-KEWADIN | KEWADIN.COM

**Jackyl AND Winger**

KEWADIN CASINOS  
DREAMMAKERS THEATER  
SAULT STE. MARIE  
Hotel Packages Available

Thursday, August 21, 7 p.m.  
Doors: 6 p.m.  
\$48.50 & \$38.50

CALL 1-800-KEWADIN or 906-635-4917 or  
visit [www.kewadin.com](http://www.kewadin.com) for tickets.

**Travis Tritt**  
THE CALM AFTER...

Thursday, September 18  
Doors: 6 p.m. • Show: 7 p.m.  
\$48.50 & \$38.50

KEWADIN SAULT STE. MARIE'S  
DREAMMAKERS THEATER

### BOX OFFICE HOURS

Sunday & Monday: Closed; Tuesday-Saturday: Open 9 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Sunday & Monday Show Days: Open 1-8 p.m.  
Tuesday-Saturday Show Days: Closes one hour after the show starts.

## Tie in Tuesday

Come in Tuesday & earn up to \$10 in  
Kewadin Credits at all Kewadin sites!  
Drink Specials Random Draws

## Fab Friday

Earn up to \$25 in Kewadin Credits on  
Friday if you play on Tuesday at all sites!  
Drink Specials Random Draws  
Visit [kewadin.com](http://kewadin.com) or Northern Rewards for  
official rules and details.

## Big Hat Rodeo Draw

Every Sunday until August 24  
ALL KEWADIN SITES  
We're giving away 2 FREE Tickets  
for a 3-Day Pass to Big Hat Rodeo!  
Must be or become a Northern Rewards member  
and be registered for the promotion.

## Hessel Fishing Challenge

4 divisions: salmon, pike  
walleye & perch  
Cash prizes for 1st & 2nd per division!  
SECOND CHALLENGE -  
July 14 through August 26  
Cash awards & giveaways night of Aug. 30!

## 6<sup>TH</sup> Annual Labor Day

**Car Show**  
KEWADIN MANISTIQUE  
Friday, August 29

## Customer Appreciation Day

KEWADIN MANISTIQUE  
Saturday, September 20  
Random Slot, table and VIP draws from 2-11 p.m.

Northern Rewards Club hours vary by site.

# Annual Youth Empowerment Powwow in Newberry



Woman's traditional dancer Becky Parish.



The 11th annual Youth Empowerment Powwow took place on Aug. 2 in Newberry at the powwow grounds. The powwow is sponsored by the Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities Program. Grand entry was at 1 p.m.

*Photos by Stephen King*



Head junior female dancer was Olivia Wyers.



Young shawl dancer.



Lisa Burnside, Hessel YEA youth service coordinator.



Dancers of all ages enjoyed the afternoon's festivities.



Head junior male dancer was Cameron Wilkenson.



# Powwow time in Newberry focuses on youth



Calvin Burnside serving as emcee.



Young dancers at the 11th annual Youth Empowerment Powwow in Newberry on Aug. 2.

Photos by Ed Furton



Drummers under the arbor.



Head junior female dancer, Olivia Wyers (center). Below, left: Lisa Burnside YEA youth service coordinator.



Head junior male dancer Cameron Wilkenson.



Opens September 1st

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- Must meet income guidelines
- System (s) **MUST** be failing or not working

Please contact the Sault Tribe Housing Authority Home Ownership Program Annie Thibert @ 906-495-5555 or 1-800-794-4072



## Diabetes Day

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

### — Roadmap to Health —

Where & When:

Hessel Tribal Health Center:

— Sept. 11, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sault Tribe Health Center, SSM

— Auditorium: Sept. 18, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Sault Tribe Health & Human Services Bldng, St. Ignace, 2nd Floor Board Rm:

— Sept. 25: 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

What:

Food Demo (Sault)

Kidney Health Expert Speaker (Sault)

Screenings & Flu Shots

Health & Wellness Booths

Prizes, Snacks, & Samples



The More We Learn, The Better We Live!

# Better health for soil and plants using rain barrels

By ENVIRONMENTAL STAFF

Rain barrels, or containers that collect the rainwater that drains off your roof, are a great way to water your plants and save money on your water bill. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, garden and lawn irrigation accounts for 40 percent of your water bill in the summer months. Because rain barrels sit underneath the downspouts of your gutter and collect and store rain, they utilize water that comes naturally. Adding one to your landscape will make your home a greener space.

Did you know that rainwater is healthier for your plants? There are many beneficial microorganisms in the soils that help your plants. These microorganisms improve the soils ability to support life and help your plants get the nutrients they need. Tap water contains chlorine that reduces the population of these helpful microbes, while using rainwater

does not.

Rainwater stored in barrels cannot be used for drinking. However, rain barrel water can be used to rinse cars or any other type of household cleaning. The smallest amount of rain can contribute a great deal of water to your barrel; since the water runs off a surface area the size of your home, just a few hours of rain will fill your barrel. For many, one full barrel will last the whole summer.

The water collected in rain barrels also helps by collecting rain that would otherwise contribute to storm water run-off and erosion, both of which impact the pollution of waterways, like rivers, streams, and ponds. In addition, rain barrels are a way of being prepared in an emergency, providing a back-up source of water in the event of a drought, natural disasters and other emergencies.

Rain barrels are available

through many sources online, with prices ranging from \$40 to \$350. Just type "rain barrels" into your favorite search engine, and search for what suits your needs, as they come in different sizes, colors, and with different capabilities. You can have the typical barrel-looking type, but they also come in shapes of large rocks or woodpiles to disguise the barrel. There are even rain barrels with planters on top! Rain barrels are also available in most hardware stores and larger warehouses.

This year, the tribe's Environmental staff had a grant-funded workshop and gave away 20 rain barrels to the community. Workshop attendees learned how to make rain barrels and why they are so important and helpful. The Environmental Department has 55 gallon rain barrels for sale for \$65. Feel free to call us or stop by at any time at 632-5575 or 206 Greenough St. in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.



Photo courtesy of Environmental Department  
Water specialist Crystal Bole demonstrates how a rain barrel works to environmental fair attendees.

## Tribal IFWD assistant Rusty Aikens recognized

By BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Inland Fish and Wildlife Department permittal and reporting assistant Rusty Aikens received a letter of appreciation from the National Forest Service for his help with a project to provide spawning habitat for native brook trout in Carr Creek, located about 16 miles northeast of Nahma Junction in Delta County.

He was also gifted with a silver National Forest Service belt buckle.

Aikens said, "The important thing to take away from this is the cooperative effort with the Forest Service and being able to work on projects with them."

Inland Fish and Wildlife Biologist Eric Clark said, "I think this is an example of the kind of thing we have been pursuing – a cooperative working relationship where our staff can work alongside of theirs to get more done to benefit both tribal members and non-tribal."

The Hiawatha National Forest

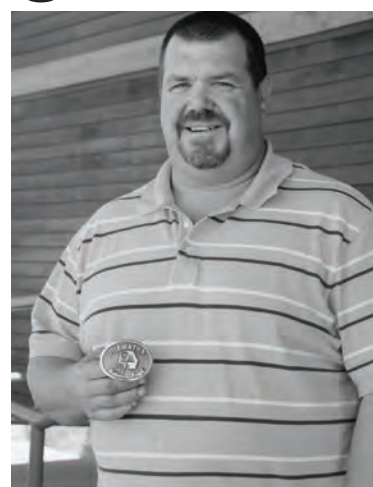
Rapid River-Manistique District constructed spawning habitat, with help from Aikens, along about 250 feet of the creek.

Carr Creek is a cold, spring fed stream that offers good conditions for brook trout but has a shortage of gravel suitable for spawning. About 100 cubic yards of 4-8 inch rock and 70 cubic yards of 0.5 to 1 inch washed gravel were installed in the creek at specific intervals to provide depth and current velocities favorable for spawning. There

were a total of three rock sills created, with each one followed by a deeper pool of water within the creek.

Habitat management, such as this project, made conditions in the creek more suitable for natural reproduction, with resulting wild fish that are better adapted to stream conditions than hatchery fish.

Rusty Aikens displays a National Forest Service belt buckle he received as part of a gesture of appreciation from the agency.



## Your Great Lakes National Forest: Unforgettable experiences

FROM THE US FOREST SERVICE

Knowing we refer to the Hiawatha National Forest as "Your Great Lakes National Forest," you will not be surprised that aquatic ecology, fisheries, and hydrology are among the key sciences applied in our management efforts. In this month's feature, we'll explore how the fisheries program benefits species, ecosystems and human beings.

A variety of wetland types exist within the boundaries of Hiawatha National Forest. Fisheries management occurs primarily in a select subset of the Forest's more than 400 inland lakes/ponds, and more than 1,780 miles of streams. Of these, approximately 130 lakes and 800 miles of stream are actively managed for sport fisheries. Our projects target improvement of habitat for lake sturgeon, brook trout, steelhead and largemouth bass — although what benefits these fish also benefits many other aquatic creatures.

Today, lake sturgeon are a threatened species in Michigan. Over-harvest in the 19th and early 20th centuries, drastically reducing abundance and distribution. Lake sturgeon are large fish (75-100 pounds) that reside in the Great Lakes and a few large inland lakes and rivers. Lake-dwelling populations ascend National Forest rivers, such as the sturgeon, whitefish and carp, to spawn. Juvenile sturgeon have been stocked in the Whitefish River in recent years to encour-

age recovery of the population.

The Hiawatha's Forest Plan describes brook trout, steelhead and largemouth bass as "species of interest" popular among anglers. Brook trout is a native species dependent on cold groundwater input. Steelhead is a non-native, migratory rainbow trout introduced into cold-water and cool-water streams of the Great Lakes basin in the late 1800s. And largemouth bass is a warm-water fish common in many inland lakes.

To accomplish management for these fish species, Forest Service biologists design and implement projects that preserve, restore or enhance habitat in rivers, streams and lakes. For instance, projects completed in 2014 have restored more than 10 miles of brook trout habitat in inland stream through removal of sediment and placement of spawning gravel and wood structure. Trout habitat has also been expanded by removing barriers to migration such as "perched" culverts. Lake habitat in several locations has been improved by felling shoreline trees, which once in the water provide habitat for fish and aquatic insects.

Evidence that fisheries management benefits target species is clear: Brook trout on several west zone streams have benefited from recent installation of spawning beds. Gravel installed in the Fishdam River in 2011 was heavily used by spawning brook trout in 2011 and 2012. Number



Grasses are planted to conceal a bank cover structure added on the left side of the Little Indian River to provide cooling shade that benefits many species.

of redds (trout spawning beds) present in early November 2011 was about 65 with high numbers of brook trout still present. Over 70 percent of the available gravel had been spawned on. Similar numbers of redds were present in 2012. There was no recent pre-treatment electrofishing data in this project area, but post-project monitoring found 417 young-of-the-year brook trout per acre in 2012 as well as high numbers of adult brook trout.

Our fisheries projects also benefit many more species of fish and other aquatic organisms than just the four indicator species. For instance, installation of rock and wood in streams and lakes provides excellent habitat for aquatic insects and non-game fish species such as dace and sculpins that provide forage for brook trout and

bass. Many species of amphibians also benefit from restored habitat.

In addition to improved fishing opportunities, people benefit from this management gaining more diverse streams and lakes. Reduced sedimentation in our rivers means that less sediment moves through the watershed to the Great Lakes. Fisheries management, in combination with other soil and water management activities, can help improve the health of the entire watershed, providing cleaner water for humans and other creatures. National Forests are the largest source of municipal water supply in the Nation, serving over 66 million people in 3,400 communities in 33 states.

As with most management efforts, partnerships play an important role in the success of

fisheries management on the National Forest. Individual and organizational partners have provided instrumental volunteer and financial support of the Hiawatha's fisheries management over the years.

For instance, Delta County Wildlife Unlimited has supported the Eighteenmile Creek spawning habitat and Fishdam River log bank covers projects, while National Fish and Wildlife Foundation contributed to the Biscuit Creek spawning habitat project. The 2011 "Coho Run" spawning habitat project is an example of a project in which volunteer labor played a key role. The Boy Scouts installed gravel in several hundred feet of this brook trout stream using wheelbarrows and buckets.

With so much aquatic habitat, the Hiawatha has long been a leader in fisheries management beginning with arrival of the first Forest Service fishery biologist on the Hiawatha in the 1970s.

We hope you will take time to explore the Hiawatha National Forest with your fishing pole and tackle box! For more information about fishing visit <http://www.fs.fed.us/fishing/>. To learn more about Hiawatha National Forest, visit our website <http://www.fs.usda.gov/hiawatha> or stop by your local U.S. Forest Service Ranger district office in Manistique, Munising, Rapid River, Sault Ste. Marie or St. Ignace.

# Chi Mukwa recognized



The Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center was named Spotlight Recognition Business Neighbor of the Month for June by the United Way of the Eastern Upper Peninsula. Chi Mukwa was nominated by the EUP Great Start Parent Coalition. For the past several years, Chi Mukwa donated space at their facility during the winter months for the coalition's weekly playgroup. This playgroup has a huge attendance by area families with children aged newborn to four years. The weekly playgroup provides a valuable opportunity for these children to get out during winter months for some physical activity and develop social skills interacting with other kids. The Great Start's partnership with Chi Mukwa is greatly appreciated by the parents involved. The group of parents also have taken the initiative to meet through the summer at playgrounds. From left to right, Alyssa Mckinney, Matthew Mckinney, Chelsea Marble, Chase Marble, Sara Mckinney, Isabelle Freitas, Becky Freitas (Great Start Parent Coalition), Marlayna Freitas, Rex Matchinski (Chi Mukwa events assistant manager) and Jessica Dumback (Chi Mukwa facility manager).

## Hargraves trying crowd funding to raise enough to acquire epilepsy service dog

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Sault Tribe member Bobbi Hargraves and her family have been coping with her epilepsy for years. As well, they have long been seeking a service dog capable of detecting oncoming seizures and provide warning before the seizures start. Such dogs come at a hefty price, as much as \$30,000. Recently, Hargraves family found a dog trainer in Tulsa, Okla., who could provide a seizure service dog named Pogo for \$7,000. The family is trying to raise funds through the online crowdfunding site GoFundMe.com.

Pogo is a heeler/Aussie mix who will be ready to come home with Bobbi in about three months. A service dog can help her and her family. Pogo could literally be the difference between being housebound and imprisoned and having the ability to go somewhere as simple as church or the store with freedom and security knowing that she will be safe.

Please visit [www.gofundme.com/bxjjdg](http://www.gofundme.com/bxjjdg) and help a fellow member live a better life.

Above right, Bobbi Hargraves, who suffers from epilepsy, and her family seek funding through the modern method of online crowd funding on the website [www.gofundme.com/bxjjdg](http://www.gofundme.com/bxjjdg) to raise the money to acquire Pogo, below right, a service dog capable of helping the family cope with living with epilepsy.



## Swing 'Em High — an intriguing new book

BY RICK SMITH

Nope, Clint Eastwood has nothing to do with it as the title of the book might suggest to some folks. The book is an account by and about Say'yepum Ah-toot-wy Stacey Speedis, or SASSpeedis for short, of the trials and triumphs of her life after a "horse wreck" as a single mother of two children on the Yakama Indian Reservation in the state of Washington.

The book is written in a conversational style, that is, it doesn't adhere to standard principles of prose such as spelling or punctuation. While reading the book, one gets the feeling the author is sitting down and talking with the reader in a private conversation, retaining all of her linguistic nuances and accent. In an introduction, she gives grammar Nazis notice, "Well, I grew up here from the rez', the Yakama Rez' here in Topps (Toppenish) Washington. There are words n phrases that mite not be correct, but that's the way I speak. When you really do get to meet me you'll notice that that's how I talk. I know a lot of my own Native lingo here from the rez' also; one, of 14 different dialects. I come from the Wish-xam dialect which is almost dyin', but there are other dialects that are similar y'know. I'm just sayin', that you should come en' spend a day or few here on the rez' n see if you can catch the lingo . . . But 'til then, please don't criticize min Ennitt."

The opening passage in the book's forward not only give a glimpse of her word usage and style, it provides a clue as to her ability to clearly convey



Say'yepum Speedis.

imagery, "What gave me the inspiration for the title of this book, 'Swing em' High' is for the fact that my life goes up en' down like the shawl of a lady fancy dancer. Why I picked out a lady fancy dancer specifically is because I used to be fancy dancer before I got in the 'Horse riding accident'. My life goes up and down because besides of the everyday things that happen to me, I am a single mother of two-children who grow older as each second flies by with me tryin' to grasp each moment."

While the book's publisher calls the book an inspirational autobiography full of tragedy, triumph and self-therapy, a peek through the chapters reveals more to it than that — some of the chapters hide humorous side trips around her reservation unrelated to the main story.

Swing 'Em High is available in softcover, hardcover and ebook forms through Amazon, Barnes and Noble, AuthorHouse or local book stores may be able to provide custom orders. Swing 'Em High is assigned the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) 978-1-4918-7092-1.

## Innerebner performs with excellence in championship

Andrew Innerebner's performance at the Swim USA state long-course championships was nothing short of jaw dropping. Based upon his qualifying times, he was ranked 49 out of 50 swimmers in the 100-meter backstroke. This placement was based upon his qualifying time of 1:23:86. He beat his time by more than eight seconds, swimming a 1:16:86.

That type of drop is virtually unheard of in a 100-meter race. He improved his standing amongst the swimmers going from 49th to 13th place. No swimmer in the state meet swimming 100 meters distance or less improved their time so much.

Head coach Dyke Justin explained that he and assistant coach Nick Donaldson had to completely revamp Innerebner's backstroke in the space of about nine days. Modifying the stroke included changing how his hands entered the water and improving his "shoulder roll" by approximately four inches per stroke. This, along with improving his time off the wall, was behind Innerebner's astounding performance.

Being ranked at 49th meant that Innerebner had to give it his

all during the preliminary race and left him still a bit tired for the finals, explaining the 1.18 time during his final. He swam an incredibly brave and fast 100 meters in both prelim and final. I am certain that more than a few people were busy looking up the times for this kid from the Upper Peninsula.

Innerebner ended up 15th in the state, which is an incredible feat considering he only works out two or three times a week. The individuals he was swimming against were swimming up to seven days a week.

Innerebner continued his swimming on day two of the state finals, where he improved his time and was ultimately ranked 28th in the state for the 50 meter fly. Justin commented that he was most likely still drained from his incredible performance before, and believes that innerebner, if fresh, would have swum even faster.

"Innerebner is a credit to all swimmers that practice part time and have other lives," Justin said, and he is certain Innerebner is going to be one of the most heralded swimmers from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.





# Morans celebrate 50 years



Thomas and Christine (nee Hutte) Moran celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 8, 2014, they were married in 1964 in Sault Ste. Marie. They have six children, Lisa Moran, Thomas Jr. (Becky) Moran, Bonnie (Albert) Lehre, Laura Moran (deceased), Mike (Karey) Moran and Dawn Moran. They also have 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

# A recipe for delicious cheesecake burgers

Before you roll your eyes or think “disgusting,” read the concept.

We all love cheesecake, but it costs me \$20 to make a New York cheesecake from scratch. It’s worth every penny when it’s done, but it’s still pricey.

I wanted to come up with a way to make cheesecake lighter and more assessable. The cheesecake burger is what I’ve come up with; of course, this little dessert gem has no burger in it at all, it simply sort of takes the shape of a burger.

Here’s what you will need and how we will make it.

Ingredients:

Pre-made shortcake rounds, like the kind you buy at grocery stores for making strawberry shortcakes, enough to have two shortcakes for each person.

2 tubs Philadelphia ready-made cheesecake filling (not good as scratch, but yummy)

Canned strawberry pie filling  
Spoon cheesecake filling onto a shortcake, top with a little of the pie filling and cover with a second shortcake. That’s all there is to it, refrigerate until ready to serve.

From the Kitchen of Bob Flowers

# Morrow earns master’s



Sault Tribe Member Roxanne Morrow, daughter of Janice and the late Ronald (Roxie) Morrow, recently earned a master’s degree in social work from the University of South Florida. She graduated from Cheboygan Area Schools and received an associates degree from North Centra Michigan College in Petoskey while working at the Cheboygan Daily Tribune. She moved to Florida where she attended the University of South Florida earning a Bachelor of Arts degree. Morrow worked at First Step while earning a master’s and she did her internship in the “Crisis of Stabilization Unit” at Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Bayside. She currently lives in Venice, Fla., and works in Sarasota.

# Thanks expressed to helpful families

Dear Editor,  
I would like to thank the Pavlat, Carr and Gurnoe families for all they do in our community

— cooking and volunteering at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building for things like funerals, special events and fundraisers — they are good people. Miigwech!  
Dave Shannon, Sault Ste. Marie



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- Client Relations in Corrections - CJ112
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- MA102 - Beginning Algebra II
- MA114 - Intermediate Algebra
- MA116 - College Algebra
- NA113 - Native American Awareness
- NA117 - Nishnaabek Clothing & Crafts: Beadwork
- NA125 - History & Org. of MI Indian Tribes
- NA132 - People & the Land/Seasonal Life Ways
- NA154 - Traditional Drumming & Singing I
- NL105 - Ojibwe Language I
- NP141 - Basic Immersion I
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- NP251B - Advanced Immersion I
- NP253C - Advanced Immersion III
- NP256D - Advanced Immersion VI
- NP161 - Ojibwe Immersion I
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- NP283C - Comprehensive Immersion III
- NP286D - Comprehensive Immersion VI
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# CELEBRATE THE NCAI 70th ANNIVERSARY

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**1944 – The founders of NCAI in Denver, CO.**



**Aaron A. Payment, MPA**  
Tribal Chairperson  
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**Ahneen, Boozoo, Neegee:**

It is with great pride that I provide you with information regarding the National Congress of American Indians for which I serve as Vice President for the Midwest region. The photo above was taken when I served as the local host for the Summer 2006 NCAI conference. In this role, I have been called upon to testify in the U.S. Congress several times including supporting President Obama's national budget as it relates to American Indian funding pursuant to treaty obligations. The access that we have gained through NCAI, and through Cathy Abramson's leadership as the Chairperson of the National Indian Health Board, has more than made up for not having a federal lobbyist. For this, I am grateful for the work of NCAI to advance our causes as well as that of all American Indians.

The National Congress of American Indians was founded in 1944 as a response to the termination and assimilation policies the US government forced upon tribal governments in contradiction of their treaty

rights and status as sovereign nations. To this day, protecting these inherent and legal rights remains the primary focus of NCAI.

Today, with hundreds of member tribes and thousands of individual members, NCAI is still dedicated to the Mission and Founding Principles of the organization, which include:

- Securing and preserving American Indian and Alaska Native sovereign rights.
- Protecting American Indian and Alaska Native traditional, cultural and religious rights.
- Enhancing the quality of life of American Indian and Alaska Native people.
- Educating the general public regarding American Indian and Alaska Native governments, people, and rights.

As we head into celebrating NCAI's 70th Anniversary we are looking to strengthening the voice of Indian Country, our organization is strong but with your support we can be stronger still. Membership dues and other contributions from tribes like yours helped us accomplish the following:

Approval of **unprecedented trust settlements** - \$3.4

billion for the *Cobell* settlement, tribal trust settlements over \$1.1 billion and water settlements over \$2 billion.

Legislation and regulations that **streamline leasing and expand energy development.**

Passage of legislation to expand tribal jurisdiction to **protect Native women and respond to natural disasters** by enhancing our Public Safety and Emergency Management.

**Protect and Restore Tribal Lands** – NCAI works every day to address the BIA's land acquisition program and Supreme Court cases like **Patchak** and **Carcieri** that threaten tribal rights.

**Assert Tribal Tax Rights** – NCAI has led the effort to address IRS overreach on general welfare programs and trust per capita, and many other issues like tobacco taxes.

**Educate the General Public About Native Peoples**, including continuing the decades long work to eliminate derogatory "Indian" mascots. NCAI's mascot campaign had an unprecedented impact on the conversation, our **"Proud to Be"** YouTube video secured over 3 million hits and brought Indian Country into the national conversation like never before.

This year, Indian Country faces a number of challenges:

Protecting the **Indian Country Budget.** Including fighting for full funding of contract support costs. (As included in the President's FY 2015 Budget.)

— Continuing to focus on protecting **tribal homelands and tribal lands restoration.**

— Bringing self-determination to **tribal energy development.**

— Ensuring tribal provisions are **enhanced and protected in Congressional reauthorizations such as education, housing, transportation, and Special Diabetes programs.**

— Strengthening and protecting **tribal economic development opportunities** through inclusion in tax extender legislation, trust modernization, and energy legislation.

— Working to track and improve the **consultation process and government-to-government relationships.**

— Continuing to support information-sharing in Indian Country for tribes working on **implementation of the Tribal Law and Order Act enhanced sentencing as well as the Violence Against Women Act special jurisdiction provisions.**

— Working to **secure Native voting rights** through amendments to the Voting Rights Act and consultation on the Department of Justice's proposal regarding voting sites on Indian reservations.

To meet these challenges, NCAI is asking all tribal leaders, tribal members and supporters to join NCAI either with Tribal Membership, Indian Individual Membership, Associate Individual Membership or Associate Organization Membership.

There is no better investment than being a dues-paying member of NCAI. I am urging you to be a part of hundreds of tribes, tribal members, and supporters of Indian Country from around the nation to amplify our collective voice. This tribal membership will be updated for our 2014-2015 membership cycle commencing at our 71<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention in Atlanta, Ga., on Oct. 26-31, 2014. Be a part of this historic year and join today!

Please consider my personal commitment to this organization and consider making a contribution as a Sault Tribe member so we can show our "Sault Tribe Pride!"

**Chi Miigwech, Neegee!**

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# Director Causley: Kudos for youth powwows



**LANA CAUSLEY,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

Many things to talk about, but one thing I want to share is my experience this past month at our Newberry Youth Empowerment Powwow.

Eleven years ago, the youth education staff started a powwow in Rexton due to it being a area where we needed more cultural activity, it has taken place

every year since and the goal then was to have the youth in charge of facilitating and planning a powwow. John Miller and I were head dancers and we had one drum and a handful of kids, some in regalia and some not.

This year, the tribe's youth education program decided to move this powwow to the Newberry area so that we could have more involvement from the community and invite and reach more youth.

I had planned on attending with a few of my family members but, due to circumstances, everyone needed to rain check me so I went alone.

I was able to visit and speak with many community members there and, most importantly, I was able to reflect and watch what true pride and dedication the things that are happening in our tribal communities. So many people need to be thanked for

this outcome. I was very early and the activities had not started yet, but I walked over to the fire to offer sema and was so filled with pride to see Greg Currie as the fire keeper, this young man is on our drum and I have watched him grow into a young man who is prideful and dedicated to our tribe, he was only about four years old at our first youth empowerment powwow.

The day needs to be explained as a message for those who live here and far away; not everyone can be here, so sharing it with you will also make you proud about our people. John Miller and Fran Wyers were the head dancers and are committed to teaching our kids the proper way to dance, the MC, Cal Burnside, shadowing and teaching the young men how to speak and explaining the role of facilitating a powwow. I watched in great pride as the line up began with every single young

lady who went into the arena to dance at grand entry had on a handmade shawl and was taught the proper and traditional way to enter that ceremony (the youth staff worked all morning to make sure the girls all had shawls and were prepared).

During the grand entry, young men were able to carry the flags with two veterans assisting them; one, a lead elder, Tim Clark, and head veteran Terry Teeples following with our prisoner of war flag.

Our dedicated and amazing youth drums from Hessel, Muckwa Giizek, and Manistique, Kichi Tikipi, with Joe Medicine's Sturgeon Bay drum assisting us too. All those adults on the drum prepare these youth and are patient and teach them to carry on our heartbeat.

In closing about this day, I want to recognize the elders of that community who came and supported the youth. There is one statement I sometimes hear and it couldn't be farther from the truth, "We are losing our culture." I'm sharing this to assure you all that if you could have witnessed this day, you'd

know that simply is not true.

I also attended the Sault powwow in July. I brought my granddaughters with me and my Ava looked up at me and said, "There are so many happy people here, grandma, this is a good powwow." She is only three and a half years old, all I could say was, "Yes, it is my girl." In that moment, I was truly so filled with pride from our tribe. So to all our people who assist with our ceremonies, chi miigwetch!

In Newberry, our youth education staff was all present and committed to making this happen. Shirly Kowalke and Lois Bryant always working and making sure things are running smoothly.

We plan to change the locations in the units so all youth can participate in the future.

Chi miigwetch. I hope you all know your dedication and involvement are so appreciated by so many people.

See you at the coming powwows in Newberry and Hessel. Baamaapii.

Lana Causley  
(906) 484-2954 or 322-3818  
lcausley@saulttribe.net.

# Director Chase: Your input needed for tribal transit plan



**DENISE CHASE,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

I would like to congratulate all the elected board members and I look forward to working with all of you.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Joan Carr Anderson, DJ Malloy and Debra Pine for their years of commitment and service to the tribe, membership and their communities. They are three strong women who brought a wealth of knowledge and input to our tribe in their individual ways.

Once again, I would like to say "happy retirement" to my good friend Joan and I wish her all the best, safe travels and good health.

The Manistique powwow had a great turnout and nice weather this year. I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with the powwow. Thank you to everyone who brought a dish to pass for the feast meal and anyone who donated items for the auction. I'm not going to try and mention individual names, because I don't want to leave anyone out. I know Viola is doing a thank you in the local paper from the powwow committee.

For sale: Gathering of the Clans Powwow T-shirts. Youth and adult sizes available. If interested, call Viola at 341-6993 or Darcie at 203-6699 or Denise at 322-3819. \$10 kids, \$15 SM-XL,

\$18 XXL-1X.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians in collaboration with Corradino Group is currently conducting a study to develop a tribal transit implementation plan. The purpose of this study is to develop a three-year plan for public transportation services in our service area. It's important that we gather input from community members to help us access current transit needs, use and/or identify ways of improving transit services.

The Corradino Group, Sault Tribe and transportation planner Wendy Hoffman held a number of meetings throughout the seven-county service area in June to get input on our membership's transportation needs. If you were unable to attend one of the meetings, you can still complete a short survey at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/G3BPDVB](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/G3BPDVB). We also left surveys at each of the tribal community and health centers for staff to handout to patients and visitors.

This is very important: we want to know about your transportation needs and issues. Are there places you would like to go that you can't get to? Do you have any suggestions or issues? Please take the time to complete a survey. You can call Wendy

Hoffman at (906) 635-6050 to get a survey mailed to you, or stop into your local tribal center. Transportation is one of the biggest issues in our communities — please give your input.

I have received a huge volume of inquiries already asking if the tribe is offering heat assistance this year. Yes, on Nov. 1, the LIHEAP (energy heating assistance) program will open up. For more info call Viola at 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137.

During this two-week span, Aug. 14-28, you can stop in to any ACFS office to review their plans and give your comments, input or suggestions on LIHEAP energy assistance and CSBG block grant (energy needs).

\* I wanted to make a correction for my last unit report. I mentioned in less than four years time, the tribal debt of \$28 million will be eliminated. It should have read the "EXTERNAL" tribal debt of \$28 million will be eliminated. The Gaming Authority debt (external debt) balance at the end of July is \$21,166,666; monthly payments on the debt is \$541,666.67.

Thank you,  
Denise Chase, vice chair  
(906) 322-3819  
dchase@saulttribe.net.

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# Director Sorenson: We are having far too many cancelled/non-productive meetings



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

In July, the Great Lakes Conservation Committee and board of directors met with attorney Bruce Greene and staff about the coming 2020 consent decree. We want to be proactive in getting this process moving and gathering all input from fishermen and members. We will be setting up more input sessions in the near future.

The Sault Tribe hosted the Michigan Indian Elders Association conference at the Kewadin Sault Convention Center on July 14-16. Many of our elder committee members were in attendance and enjoyed themselves. These opportunities also fill our hotel rooms and get people on the gaming floor.

On July 22, we held a meeting in Manistique and had no members in the audience. I am not sure we have ever had that happen, at least since I have been on the board. Director McLeod

had added to the agenda to do a JKL presentation to the board, but the chairman said he didn't know what she was presenting and it should be seen by the JKL committee first, so he had enough votes to not allow her to present even though she is the chairwoman of the JKL Fiduciary Committee. This kind of behavior makes me sick.

Once again, the board voted at the special meeting on July 8 to cancel the Aug. 5 meeting in Kinross. I can't even express how disappointed I am that the board continues to support changing or canceling the meetings around the chairman's schedule. It could have been the reason no members attended the Manistique meeting because it is hard for members to keep track of the constant schedule changes.

We are only having one meeting this month, which will be Aug. 19 in Marquette. Board workshops have also been canceled on Aug. 5 and 12. The chairman and Director McKelvie were going to be gone to Minnesota for training. Denny will be proceeding on to a veteran's training in South Dakota. The following week there is a Centers for Disease Control (CDC) conference in Traverse City and also a Midwest Allegiance of Strategic Tribes meeting following the CDC.

The craziest issue with all these cancelations is that the board has yet to even look at the 2015 budgets. They were ready in June and the executive

staff had just recently reviewed them. Some of the budgets start Sept. 1. I personally believe this is all a game for the budgets to be pushed through at the last minute, since that has been the game for the last two years. The first year we were coerced to pass the budgets and then make adjustments, last year we had a continuing spending resolution passed with last minute meetings scheduled. I do not blame this on the staff, but rather games from the chairman. I believe he will be calling special meetings for the last week of August. I hate to be backed into a corner, but without the board standing their ground the games continue to be played.

The staff gets caught up in this tug of war and it is frustrating for them. We continue to change the schedule so they can't get in front of the board with their presentations and concerns. If we could stick to a time line and not the constant "when I left office" and "when Bernard was chair," we maybe could take care of business.

I have no problems with meeting multiple days a week but when we just meet without accomplishing things it is ridiculous. Myself, I schedule things out ahead of time and, when we constantly change things, it takes away from things in our communities and spending more time with our members.

As for the casinos, I am becoming very disappointed. I try to bring things forward as concerns from our team members

and because the chair does not like me, he blows it off. He even told me it is not my job. I told him it is my job to bring concerns forward, that is why I was voted in and I told him I would let the members know what his opinion is. All the promises of working with directors at the installation, was just that — empty promises. Teamwork is not in his vocabulary.

During the last week, we have run out long-term staff at the casinos that I am not happy about. We have also changed our eatery menus and raised the prices. First of all, in my opinion, you should make changes at the beginning of the year or season. You study your competition and market and see what increases the market can bear. I do not mind paying a higher price for a good quality meal, and I don't think many others mind if you get a good product and service.

I feel like all we are doing is cutting jobs, promotions and benefits and raising prices to compensate for our declining \$1 million plus in revenues. Our customers are not happy. We need to listen to them and do our homework, or better yet, listen to the front line staff who hear it all. A couple of weeks ago, the Shores promotion of two for one Tuesday breakfast was cut as the usual weekly promotion. There was no notice given to staff or customers. Many tables left. Why didn't we apologize to the customers and give it to them that day but let them know it was

being discontinued? Instead, the front line staff get confronted by the customers. Can you as a member see why the morale is low and customers are going elsewhere?

We continue to go all out on things and cut things back the next time. Things have to change soon. I have seen good team members put in their notice and management not say, "Why are you leaving? Is there anything I can do?" Some people believe everyone is replaceable. The fact is, yes, in the physical form anyone can be replaced, but not their customer service, dedication, honesty, etc.

I hate to sound negative, but I want to be honest with what is going on in this tribe. I have always been an advocate for the casinos and want them to succeed, but we need to change the way we have been doing business. Management needs to be more involved and communicate with staff. Team members feel like nothing will ever change and why bother talking to someone. Things cannot improve under these circumstances. Maybe they could resort to a situation similar to undercover boss to get closer to the action. We know the market is becoming saturated, so we need to be number one. We need to be unique and offer a great memorable experience.

As always, please contact me with questions or concerns at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, my office (906) 643-2123 or cell 430-0536.

# Director Morrow: Hoping board makes the right changes



**DARCY MORROW,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

The Gathering of the Clans Powwow in Manistique was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who volunteered, brought a dish to pass for the feast meal, donated an item for the auction or just attended the powwow. We hope to see you all again next June. Thank you to the committee members for their hard work and dedication: Betty Neadow, Rita Glyptis, Viola Neadow and Denise Chase. I would like to especially thank Viola Neadow for all the behind the scenes work she does, it is greatly appreciated.

Congratulations to all the winners of this election. Denise Chase will continue to represent Unit IV; she was also re-elected as vice chair. I would like to thank Joan Carr-Anderson,

Debra Pine and DJ Malloy for their service to the members of our tribe. Each one of them will continue to do good work in their communities. Joan Carr-Anderson retired this election but she is one lady I will never forget. Many road trips and laughs later, she has a special place in my heart. She will be missed but not forgotten. She left Unit V in good hands with newly elected Rita Glyptis.

Since the election, we have only had one official board meeting, so at this point we will see what direction this new board takes. I can only hope that this board will make the right changes for the right reasons. During financial review last week the casinos presented numbers that are not acceptable. Our five Kewadins' consolidated coin in is down \$2.8 million for the first half of the year. Last year, we didn't meet our bank covenant, which ended up costing us money and no one was held accountable for this.

When this tribe and our members count on the revenue from these five facilities to help provide the services the tribe offers, it a shame to watch politics take the place of a business decision. I feel sorry for all the team members who are working under the mismanagement of our facilities.

I hold the top management at each facility responsible for the

mess we have on our hands. The lack of management shows in our numbers! If these managers were working nights, weekends and were actually on the floor talking to customers, we may find out what the problems are. Talk to the frustrated team members — they have lots of input on what customers want or don't like. Management just allowed new restaurant menus to be implemented without training

staff properly on the menus or the changes to the point of sale system. One of our restaurants didn't even have the new menus for customers to order from! Who do we hold accountable? Management needs to be held accountable but our problem is lack of management.

I have worked for the tribe as an assistant casino manager and a casino general manager, both Christmas and St. Ignace (Shores)

were under my management when each built a new facility. I have been very successful in running our business in the past, but my voice gets lost at the board table when politics, friends and family take a front seat to what is right for our tribe and our members.

Thank you,  
Darcy Morrow  
dmorrow@saulttribe.net  
(906) 203-6699

# Director Hoffman: Tribe is facing many obstacles, opportunities



**DJ HOFFMAN  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

The past few weeks have been a proverbial whirlwind of politics and presentations. I would love to take this opportunity to inform the membership that this time has all

been spent productively, however, that would be misleading. As a governing body, the tribal board needs to become more structured and organized in how it conducts itself during workshops and meetings to ensure efficiency and productivity. We need to focus not only on the present circumstances facing the tribe, but on the threats and opportunities that may lie ahead.

Our tribe has many obstacles facing it presently, and in the near future. Many of these are external factors that we must face head on, however, these are not the most difficult to address. The most difficult issues facing our tribe today are those internal factors that prevent us from being proactive.

## ACCOUNTABILITY

Accountability is definitively

one of the greatest problems facing our tribe, at all levels. While we are not as fiscally sound or flush with cash as we once were, we are in this state because of a lack of accountability.

## PROFESSIONALISM

Elected officials must be professional and ensure the membership is represented in a professional manner. We do not need to talk about peoples' personal lives. We do not need to attack people just because we have different opinions. We must inform the membership of what is occurring in the tribe and what we are doing to ensure progress, and respect the fact that sometimes people can agree to disagree. A request will be placed upon the

*See Hoffman, page 21*

# Director Hollowell: Addressing many issues



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

I hope everyone is having a great summer. This season has flown by and it's been so great to have a chance to gather and visit and enjoy our good weather and good company. I was honored to be invited to many of your family gatherings this summer. It's so much fun to touch bases with old friends and new faces. We also managed to get out and gather strawberries, blueberries and sweet grass this season and to sample the garden produce raised by our youth group. We are blessed to have so many good people — volunteers and staff alike — who devote their time and energy to our families, and our communities. Miigwech to all.

**Downstate gaming development**

The state's attorney general has withdrawn his U.S. Supreme Court appeal of the favorable ruling we received in the 6th Court of Appeals, so its full steam ahead. Our strategic outlook always anticipated roadblocks and challenges and we are not surprised by some of the media coverage that has emerged with our recent legal successes. We expect to see more. We were however, saddened to see commentary from former congressman Dale Kildee in the *Detroit Free Press*, opposing our efforts. He was a proven friend on Capitol Hill during his tenure. It's important to note however, that Mr. Kildee is now on the

payroll of the same Washington law and lobbying firm working to block our application. The story in the *Detroit Free Press* should have disclosed this. Certainly Mr. Kildee has a right to his opinion. But the newspaper had an obligation to disclose this. Another example of being careful of what you see in the media.

Another news article you may have seen regarded the recent favorable ruling in the 6th Circuit Courts regarding 'Ted Gatzaro et al v. Sault Tribe.' The Court found that we do not owe \$74 million to the party.

This is a good time to remind everyone about the difference between Greektown and our current downstate development efforts: Greektown was a commercial casino the tribe happened to own (with partners). It was subject to the State Michigan Gaming Authority and the constraints and demands of local jurisdictions. Our current effort is to establish tribal gaming (Kewadin) under the authority and regulation of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA) and the National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC).

**Indian Energy (IE) LLC**

If you recall, the board made a decision to passively invest seed capital to this IE LLC in order to have an interest in the energy market and the decision was approved by the people in a referendum election. It was always portrayed as a high-risk investment in a highly volatile and political market. Recently, IE achieved a major objective by making the list of prequalified contractors:

*HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — "The U.S. Army has awarded the final round of solar technology contracts that will support a \$7 billion renewable and alternative energy power production for Department of Defense installations Multiple Award Task Order Contract (MATOC).*

*The U.S. Army Energy Initiatives Task Force (EITF)*

*and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, established the \$7 billion MATOC primarily to use for Power Purchase Agreements involving renewable or alternative energy projects greater than 10 megawatts."*

*Indian Energy LLC is one of the pre-qualified contractors. These two projects (Gaming & Energy) represent both traditional and diversified economic efforts to secure long term, high revenue opportunity for our tribal nation. Both have the potential for high revenue and high risk of failure. Next month I will try to update on more local economic development efforts, that I hope will translate into jobs for tribal members.*

**Northern Kewadin**

The issues we are facing at our up north casinos involves personnel, operations and management — and the adverse impact on our workforce and customers — exasperating an

already downturned economic climate. If you work for our casinos and enterprises, or if you frequent our businesses, you already know what I'm talking about. The board of directors and the gaming authority do not make day-to-day management decisions. But we certainly have a fiduciary obligation for oversight. I am disappointed in management performance over the last two years, and we need to intervene and make sweeping change now in order to turn this enterprise around. Our workforce deserves it and so do our loyal customers.

**Communication and tribal input**

Internal communication at the executive administration level has been a little sketchy as of late. Not sure if it has to do with the transition to a new board, changes and cancellation of board meetings, workshops and committees, but I hope it improves quickly. One thing of particular concern is not being

aware of tribal activity until after the fact. I don't know if it's inadvertent or purposeful, but when elected representatives are disenfranchised, the people are also disenfranchised.

On a good note, I want to once again thank our key government employees who have worked to implement IT infrastructure improvement within our tribal organization. Access to pertinent documentation has improved tremendously. This is the foundational investment required so that we can now evaluate opportunities for cross division information sharing. Ultimately this should translate into better, more responsive service to tribal members who access tribal services.

Looking forward to the Hessel and Newberry powwows and hope to see you there. Enjoy these last days of summer. Creator bless.

Unit2tribal@gmail.com, www.catherinehollowell.com, (906) 484-6821.

## Tribe needs to diversify

*From "Hoffman," page 20*  
next board workshop to start the development for a code of conduct for tribal officials to address this very issue.

**DIVERSIFICATION**

We, as a tribe, need to diversify. I have and will continue to stress the need to diversify economically. In fact, I look forward to the day that I am able to report that we have made meaningful progress. Too often the excuses made for our lack of attentiveness to economic development and diversification has been that "we can't afford to do that." The tribe cannot continue to depend upon the funding of its casinos as its main revenue generator. We need diverse income streams to ensure our tribe's future. The tribe has many talented members, as well as the resources to ensure that this diversification occurs. The governing body just needs to take the time to make this a priority.

While the beginning of this report may seem doom and gloom, the past few weeks have not been without signs of positive and productive movement. There have been discussions to address some of the abovementioned areas and I am cautiously hopeful that some changes will be forthcoming in the coming months.

In the coming months the Freedom of Information Ordinance will continue to be discussed at the workshop level until there is support for its adoption and approval. In addition, my previous website will be modified to reflect current events, tribal issues and legislation so that the membership may also lend their respective support or opposition to legislation proposed for the tribe.

Sincerely,  
DJ Hoffman  
(906) 635-6945 or cell 203-0510; djwhoffman@hotmail.com.



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# Director Abramason: Importance of work in D.C.



**CATHY ABRAMSON,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

My time during the month of July was filled with a variety of activities. On July 15, I testified before the House Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Indian and Alaska Native Affairs. On behalf of the National Indian Health Board and the 566 federally recognized tribes we serve, I submitted testimony specifically addressing H.R. 3229 – Indian Health Service Advance Appropriations Act.

It saddens me when I see our own people write posts on Facebook how they feel our work in D.C. is unimportant and that it's only grant money that we get anyway. It shows me how far we are getting away from who we are and to protect the promises that our ancestors were made so that we may continue to survive. It came to my attention a long time ago that not only do we have to educate Congress, but we must educate our own. The following are excerpts from my testimony:

"First, I would like to emphasize the importance of the federal trust responsibility, when it comes to the health of American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) people. The United States assumed this responsibility in a series of treaties with tribes, exchanging compensation and benefits for tribal land and peace. The Snyder Act of 1921 (25 USC 13) legislatively affirmed this trust responsibility. To facilitate upholding its responsibility, the federal government created the Indian Health Service (IHS) and tasked the agency with providing health services to AI/ANs. Since its creation in 1955, IHS has worked toward fulfilling the federal promise to provide health care to Native people.

"In passing the Affordable Care Act, Congress also reauthorized and made permanent the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (IHCA). In renewing the IHCA, Congress reaffirmed the duty of the federal government to American Indians and Alaska Natives, declaring that "it is the policy of this nation, in fulfillment of its special trust responsibilities and legal obligations to Indians — to ensure the highest possible health status for Indians and urban Indians and to provide all resources necessary to effect that policy."

"Still, American Indians/Alaska Natives have higher death rates in liver disease/cirrhosis, diabetes, unintentional injuries, homicide, suicide, etc.

"Sadly, these statistics have become all too familiar in our communities. IHS is currently funded at only 59 percent of total need. In 2013, the IHS per capita

expenditures for patient health services were just \$2,849, compared to \$7,717 per person for health care spending nationally.

"An advance appropriation is funding that becomes available one year or more after the year of the appropriations act in which it is contained. For example, if the FY 2016 advance appropriations for the IHS were included in the FY 2015 appropriations bills, those advance appropriations would not be counted against the FY 2015 funding allocation but rather, against the FY 2016 allocation.

"While H.R. 3229 will not solve the severe lack of funding that the agency experiences, advance appropriations would allow IHS, tribal and urban health programs to effectively and efficiently manage budgets, coordinate care, and improve health quality outcomes for AI/ANs.

"This change in the appropriations schedule creates an opportunity for the federal government to come closer to meeting the trust obligation owed to tribal governments and bring parity to federal health care system by bringing IHS in line with other federal health programs.

"Advance appropriations will allow IHS and tribal health professionals time to plan and tackle many other administrative hurdles, thereby improving access to care. Additionally, it will result in costs savings through lower administrative costs as significant staff time, at all levels, is required each time Congress decides to pass a continuing resolution. Advance appropriations would mean better ability to plan programmatic activity over several years, thereby leading to better health outcomes for AI/AN people and decreased long-term healthcare costs.

"Medicare and Medicaid provide health care to millions of Americans, but these individuals do not have to worry on Sept. 30 of each year if they will be treated on Oct. 1 — because they are considered 'mandatory spending.' The VHA provides care through discretionary spending, but still knows its budget a year in advance.

"Despite being founded on contractual treaty obligations and federal law, the requirement to fund the IHS is still discretionary. Our people must still wait on the whims of Congress before they can know if their health care is funded. Advance appropriations will be one important step forward toward improving the health of AI/ANs."

If you are interested in reading the entire testimony, please contact Jennifer Dale-Burton at our Communications Department.

Have we accomplished anything by going to D.C.? Absolutely! We (and I do mean Chairperson Payment) have established many contacts and developed excellent working relationships congressional staff and the congressmen and congresswomen themselves. We work on the Secretary's Tribal Advisory Committee. This is a committee made up of tribal leaders across the country. We meet quarterly with the top administrators of the Health and Human Resource

Department. We have had meetings with the president. Does this help our tribe? Absolutely! Our contract support dollars owed to us will soon be here. We have received more healthcare funding. Our Bemidji area and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians is on the map. More national conferences have been in our area. We are able to tell our stories about the health of our people. So many things that I could go on and on. We could not do these things without the support of our tribal board. Thank you for that!

I participated in the Sault Tribe Golf Scholarship tournament and I must say it was the best one ever despite the

quick downpour! We raised over \$80,000 and money is still coming in. That's more than we have raised in years. A big chi-miigwech goes to the tournament fundraising team of Jessica Dumback, Tamara Leask, Jeff Holt and Jake Sillers, not to mention all the volunteers that day. You all did awesome and I'm still eating my M&Ms.

I attended Trever and Becky Mills wedding reception at our DreamMakers Theater this past Saturday. It was so beautifully decorated! The wait staff served over 350 plated dinners. They did an awesome job! I was so proud of them! What a wonderful family party it was! I would highly

recommend this place to anyone!

Our new board has been meeting a lot in regards to management, budgets, communications, planning and development. I am going to recommend that our Unit I board members meet on a regular basis to discuss our unit's areas of concerns and solutions we may bring.

There are many more challenges ahead of us. The economy is down, which in turn means the casino is down. We were told last week that we will not meet our covenants with the bank and we will have to pay a large fine. Changes are in the air. If you can believe it, we need to do more with less.

## THANK YOU!

*The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians would like to thank our generous sponsors, our many volunteers and our dedicated committee members who helped make our 14th annual Sault Tribe Golf Scholarship Classic a tremendous success!*



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*In addition, a special thank you to Rob Lussenhop and his fantastic staff at Wild Bluff Golf Course for their great hospitality!*

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# Director McLeod: From my heart to yours



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin, Anishinaabek, I am very worried about our tribe. We have some serious challenges facing us in 2015, and 2016 will probably not be any better. Sequestration and the slow economic recovery in the United States is hitting our nation, our tribe and our families hard. In the two years that I have been on this board of directors, I (and other board members as well) have often brought up the need for a strategic plan, the need for prioritization due to loss of revenue (from grants as well as our businesses), and the need for a plan to realize the vision for our people that is spelled out in our tribal Constitution. More recently, I have been pushing for a logical separation of duties and powers that would better position our tribe to take on these challenges by putting the BEST people in the RIGHT positions for the success of our tribe.

I strongly believe our elected chairperson needs to work in the political arenas, he is beyond "good" at it. He's VERY good at it. However, by his own word, his business sense is only "better than most." Unfortunately,

the financial challenges we are facing requires a level of ability that goes far beyond "better than most." Our tribe needs expertise. I have worked hard to maintain a professional perspective and have not made this a personal issue against the current chairperson. My presentation and supportive arguments have been based on principal and a common sense approach. However, others have taken it to a different level and are asserting otherwise. But think about it, if you owned a business or were responsible for running an agency, whom would you hire? A politician? Or an individual with the skills, experience and expertise to help you through hard times and keep you on the road to success? Personally, I want the politician to stay in the political arenas, and for our tribe to hire someone extremely well qualified to run the day-to-day operations.

As a result of my position, the chairperson is using his political prowess to distort, distract and deceive from the simple logic of the best person in the right job, causing chaos in the boardroom and confusion in the workplace. When that hasn't worked, he then seeks to discredit and destroy anyone he feels is in his way. One need only to read his monthly tirades in our newspaper to find evidence of this. One need only watch the Livestream videos or attend a board workshop to witness for yourself what is happening. This is completely unacceptable, and is proof that this change is necessary. Success for our people cannot be achieved when there is a toxic leader doing everything he can to prevent progress.

I have been trying hard to avoid writing about this in this very public way, hoping that the board could successfully navigate through the manipulations of our

meetings, but it has been next to impossible, as the chairperson allows meetings to languish to avoid the topic altogether. Example, due to the chairman's running of the meetings, we once spent nearly 45 minutes discussing a toilet, leaving just a few minutes to address separating the duties of the chairman from a CEO (or whatever we decide to call the one in charge of day-to-day operations), hard to believe? Watch the online Livestream video.

The chairman asserts that too much time has been wasted due to my efforts to separate the politician from day-to-day operations. Near as I can gather, I've had less than an hour of the board's scheduled time. I could be wrong. However, even if it were a WEEK of time, the future of our tribe deserves careful consideration and discussion, and even a week would not be too much. What little time has been actually spent thus far, is nothing compared to the seriousness of the issue.

From those who oppose the separation, you will hear all types of arguments, including "we already have a CEO." Well, look at our organization chart, and tell me the job title (other than the chairman) that is responsible for the day to day operations and reports directly to the tribal board of directors. There is no such position.

You will hear words such as "power grab" and "destabilizing the tribe" or "we will lose our investors." These fears may be real, perhaps even justified, but the blame for these fears is directed at the wrong person and the wrong circumstances. Ask yourself, who is really after the "power?" The only person I hear saying anything about "power" is the chairman, and he constantly cries out that he is going to

be "stripped of his authority." The authority of the chairperson is spelled out clearly in our Constitution and was there when the current chairperson decided to run for office. None of that will change. Allegations of turning the chairperson position into a "ceremonial figurehead" are unfounded and serve only to excite our people into believing that some gross injustice is occurring when it is not.

As for "destabilizing the tribe?" I believe having someone accountable more than every four years in an election cycle is far more stabilizing than what we currently have. If our tribe had an employee running the day-to-day operations, we could demand goals, profitability and progress. If it didn't happen, guess what? As Donald Trump would say, "You're FIRED!" As it stands now, accountability for the current chairperson will occur in two more years. Can our tribe wait that long? What do you think our bankers, investors and employees would rather have?

Also, the chairperson's monthly rants and constant public posts on the Internet against our tribe, our members of the board of directors as well as the keepers of our traditions demonstrates clearly where the lack of stability is occurring. If there are ANY stability concerns from our banks and investors (outside of the simple financial concerns), perhaps it lies with these behaviors.

I am not happy to be writing this article. I would rather have continued to address these issues in the board meetings. However, in the book entitled *The Allure of Toxic Leaders* by Jean Lipman-Blumen, I learned why we follow destructive bosses and corrupt politicians. I'm not asserting that we have a "corrupt politician."

However, I do feel that many of his behaviors are toxic, and this book teaches how we can survive them. Basically, "survival" all boils down to facts and truth.

Please don't just take my word for it. Despite my best efforts to maintain professionalism and objectivity, I too am only human, and am growing weary of his "discredit and destroy" campaigns not just against me, but against other members and former members of the board of directors as well. Elders, members and loved ones continue to support that I not "go in the weeds," and I thank them all for their support and good advice. But for those of you who want facts and truth, you can see it all for yourself in the Livestream broadcasts, monthly publications, board meeting minutes and by talking to those employees and staff who are not in fear of losing their jobs. I have, and despite the thinly veiled attempts to stop me, I am still pushing forward because I believe it is the right thing to do for the future of our tribe.

In closing, I humbly ask for prayers for all who are suffering. At home and throughout the world, people are experiencing deadly viruses, war, natural and man-made disasters, and live an existence that isn't just day-to-day, but minute by minute. May the Creator bless them all and allow them to find ease to their pain. I am counting my blessings.

As always, if there is anything I can do to help, even if just to lend an ear, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Anishnaabe gagige (Anishnaabe for always),  
Jen,  
(906) 440-9151  
jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

Website [jmcleodsaulttribe.com](http://jmcleodsaulttribe.com)

# Director Glyptis: Learning the many ropes



**RITA GLYPTIS  
DIRECTOR, UNIT V**

It's been an interesting month transitioning from membership liaison to board member. I miss the members and employees I saw every week and our elders from units IV and V who always treated me so well. I looked forward to our meal times, conversations and all you had to share. Thank you.

I have been working hard to learn the ropes, of which there are many. Although you think you know what is going on in our tribe at some level, it is impossible to perceive the enormity of the situ-

ation we currently find ourselves in financially and otherwise: bad decisions, bad management and selective information being presented and shared with the board and our members. It is essential for the survival of our businesses that the information being presented is complete, true and accurate. It is time to own our mistakes and to make changes that will get this turned around. Politics, protecting family or friends and lack of action can no longer be the norm for the management of our tribe.

The consistent decrease of revenue at our casinos is very serious and has already had an effect on members' services and employee benefits. Although upper management is fully aware of what is going on, I have yet to see any type of plan for improvement. I do see a whole lot of nothing getting done. Talk is cheap, it's time for action. It is clear to me that, if you're not doing the job, it is time to go.

Over the past few months, I have heard board members and others say that employee morale at the casinos is getting better. Sounds nice, but not true. Our front line employees are not listened to or taken seriously. They are being left to fend for them-

selves and are being ignored by management. They are begging for leadership and positive direction, only to fall on deaf ears.

This past weekend I was made aware of extreme working conditions at our Christmas casino. I will not go into the details but the fact that our team members are put in such a situation is deplorable. They deserve better. The time is now. Something needs to be done before we have no revenue and no employees. I would like to commend the staff at Christmas Kewadin for getting through the weekend by working together with few resources and putting the customers first.

On a lighter note, I attended the Marquette elders' picnic on Saturday at the Beaver Grove Park. What a nice picnic and a beautiful day! Thanks for the invite, Marquette!

Mark your calendars for the Munising powwow on Sept. 13 at the Munising City Park. Grand entry is at 1 p.m. If you would like to volunteer or donate, please give me a call.

The walking track on the third floor of the Munising Tribal Health Center is now officially open. The hours of operation are Monday-Friday, 4:30 - 8 p.m. You

can access the track by entering the main entrance of the health center. It is open to the public, so bring your family and friends. The view of Lake Superior from that level is amazing!

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (906) 202-3224 or [rglyptis@saulttribe.net](mailto:rglyptis@saulttribe.net).

Sincerely,  
Rita Glyptis

## Public Invited to Join a Presentation of Youth Suicide Research Results and to Discuss Further Prevention as a Community

On Sept. 2, from 5 to 9 p.m., the public is invited to participate in an open discussion of youth suicide as a major issue in the Sault Tribe community, with readings of academic research results and creative writings by Seth Allard, tribal member and graduate student of anthropology from Western Michigan University.

Youth suicide is one of the most serious and deadly issues facing our youth, and is a trend that has spread among many indigenous groups throughout the United States, Canada, and, indeed, the globe. Until recently, most research of youth suicide in indigenous communities has revolved around Western approaches to clinical psychology and evaluation in tribal communities. In recent years,

however, indigenous researchers are trying to bring to light the historical and cultural factors that have contributed to the rise and spread of youth suicide by making the community the central voice in research and prevention. Please join Seth Allard in a presentation of early research on youth suicide in the Ojibwe community of Sault Ste. Marie. The presentation will follow a mixed academic and traditional format, with readings from Allard during the talking circle, and concerns and views expressed by the participants throughout. A dinner will be hosted at midpoint for all participants. If you are interested in assisting with the event or have questions or concerns, please email Seth Allard at [seth.m.allard@wmich.edu](mailto:seth.m.allard@wmich.edu). Chi Miigwech.



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Includes potato salad, corn on the cob, baked beans, peach cobbler and drink ... \$10

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**SUNDAY: BBQ CORNISH HEN** From 3-5 p.m.

Includes baked potato, baked beans corn on the cob and drink ... \$10

After 5 p.m. Hamburger, Brat or Hotdog with homemade BBQ chips and drink ... \$6



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