

Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

October 16, 2014
Vol. 36 No. 10

Bnakwe Giizis
Falling Leaves Moon

JKL School bus loop construction project complete

SAULT STE. MARIE — Sault Tribe's Transportation Program recently completed a \$300,000 redesign and reconstruction of the JKL Bahweting School bus loop. The Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Transportation Program funded the project.

According to transportation planner Wendy Hoffman, who

managed the project, the need to redesign the bus loop was identified with several safety studies, including a 2014 U.S. Road Assessment Program analysis, a 2009 school traffic safety assessment and a 2010 Safe Routes to School plan.

"Years ago, schools weren't designed for the amount of vehi-

cle traffic we have now, so a clear route needed to be established," Hoffman said. "The area around a school bus can be very dangerous and this was the case at

Bahweting."

Over 500 students, 100 staff and their vehicles, parents' vehicles and school buses, in addition to morning traffic in front of the

school, created traffic congestion and major safety concerns that had to be addressed.

The new loop was designed
See "Loop," page 9

Tribal elder retires after 33 years with IHS



BY RICK SMITH

Joseph Nolan, an elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, retired on Aug. 28 after working for 33 years as a sanitation construction engineering technician with the Indian Health Service (IHS). During his tenure, Nolan traveled around Michigan serving all seven federally recognized tribes in the state. Specifically, Nolan was involved in evaluations and inspections of wells and septic installations for tribes, whether on or off reservations.

His colleagues offered Nolan a plaque upon his retirement. The plaque reads, "Presented to Joseph A. Nolan,

Engineering Technician — In sincere appreciation for 33 years of dedicated service to the Indian people of the Bemidji Area. From your friends and co-workers throughout the Bemidji Area Indian Health Service. We'll miss you. August 28, 2015." The IHS Bemidji Area covers five Midwest states including Michigan.

Nolan was born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie and graduated from Sault High. He worked a number of jobs around the town before he acquired an associate degree from Dunwoody Institute in Minneapolis, Minn., which he says helped him when he applied for an engineering technician position with IHS.



Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton

A ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly constructed bus turnaround in front of JKL Bahweting Public School in Sault Ste. Marie took place on Sept. 10. The turnaround was complete but still needed two weeks of asphalt curing and pole and signage installation. School Superintendent Theresa Kallstrom ordered a specially decorated cake from Simply Unforgettable Wedding and Event Services, owned and operated by Sault Tribe member Rose Perry. Mrs. Kwiatkowski's fourth grade students joined in the ceremony with student Bryce Carr cutting the ribbon. Pictured are (front row from left, kneeling) Nodin Biron, Rayce Rizzo, Bryce Carr, Starr Austin, (middle row from left, standing) Jaden Dunkel, Tiffeny Stratton, Riley Cryderman, Lennon Howell, Ryan Eicher, Ayden Buchanan, Ethan Cook, Alana Dyament, Talon Thomas-Holm, Taylor Christensen, Ayliviya Cloud-Goetz, Kayla Smith, Callie Lahti, Hallie LaBonte Back Row (standing from left) Walter Anderson, Hattie Sharland, Wendy Hoffman, Jacob Demolen, Callen Campell, Garrett O'Dell, School Superintendent Theresa Kallstrom and Elementary Principal Lynn Methner.

Payment named 2015 National TRIO achiever

ATLANTA, Ga. — Aaron Payment, an alumnus of the Upward Bound program at Lake Superior State University and Northern Michigan University graduate, is one of the winners of the prestigious national 2015 National TRIO Achievers Award honoring individuals of distinction who, as students, made the most of their TRIO participation.

Payment is Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors chairperson. He said Upward Bound planted a seed that eventually sprouted hope for a better life. "Upward Bound and other TRIO programs provide opportunities to advance not only to those in need, but our whole society benefits from the direct, indirect, and induced economic development that results when everyone reaches their potential and has a fair shot at the American dream."

Payment graduated from NMU with a Bachelor of Science in sociology and master's in public administration after building a strong educational foundation at Lake Superior State University. He will graduate in December with a master's in educational administration and is currently in the dissertation phase of his doctorate in educational leadership through a joint program between NMU and Central Michigan University.



Posing for a winning shot, (L-R) Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Chairperson Aaron Payment with his national TRIO Achievers Award, Lake Superior State University Upward Bound Director Heidi Witucki and Upward Bound alum John Quinones from the TV show, What Would You Do?

Last month, Payment was appointed by President Obama to serve on the National Advisory Council on Indian Education, which advises the Secretary of Education on Indian education issues.

"Aaron Payment has continued to be an active advocate for Upward Bound and TRIO," said Heidi Witucki, LSSU Upward Bound director. "I wholeheartedly endorse him for how far he has come and because of his enduring commitment to acknowledging the difference

TRIO has made in his life." Payment joined other awardees at a ceremony honoring their achievements at the 34th annual Council for Opportunity in Education Conference in Atlanta, Ga., Sept. 16-19.

Upward Bound, one of the federally funded TRIO programs, provides college preparation, mentoring, and college admissions assistance to thousands of low-income and first-generation students, and students with disabilities, across the country.

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Sault Tribe job openings

For the latest job openings, see saulttribe.myexachire.com. Sign up for email notifications or apply online. Also call toll free at (866) 635-7032 or email employment@saulttribe.net.

Governmental openings

Sault Ste. Marie, Kincheloe

- Diabetes Program manager – full time/regular – open until filled
- Staff pharmacist – full time/regular – open until filled
- Project coordinator – full time/regular – open until filled
- Telecommunications network technician I – full time/regular – open until filled
- Cook (Elder Services) – part time/regular – open until filled

• Economic Development director – full time/regular – open until filled

• Senior accountant – full time/regular – 10/19/15

Hessel, St. Ignace, Escanaba, Manistique, Munising and Newberry

• Community Health nurse (St Ignace) part time/regular – open until filled

• Dietician (St Ignace) – full time/regular – open until filled

• Physician supervisor (Munising) – full time/regular – open until filled

Kewadin Casinos openings

• Marketing director (Sault Ste. Marie) – full time/regular – 10/07/15

• Hotel manager (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – 10/21/15

• Food and Beverage manager II (Manistique) – full time/regular – 10/21/15

Ojibwe language classes available

Kina gwa iyaawaying, naw-ewaning nji-maachtaamigad — All of what we are begins in language.

Sault Tribe Language Department is actively trying to protect, preserve and revitalize our Anishinaabemowin language. The department offers weekly classes, Livestream delivery of lessons, and provides language to the Sault Tribe Child Care Center, Early Head Start and Head Start programs.

Our language classes are free and open to anyone. We hope to see you at our classes or watch online through our livestream page. The weekly class schedule is as follows:

Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m. — Beginner language classes (all ages welcome) at the Ojibwe Learning Center and Library, 531 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie.

Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m. — St. Ignace language classes at the

elders' center, 399 McCann St.

Wednesdays, noon-1:30 p.m. — Newberry language classes at the Newberry Health Center, 4935 Zeez-ba-tik Lane.

Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. — Munising language classes at the Munising Rural Health Center, 622 West Superior.

Thursdays, noon-1 p.m. — Language class lunch bunch at the Ojibwe Learning Center and Library, 531 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie.

Thursdays, 2-4 p.m. — Livestream lessons online at new.livestream.com/saulttribelanguage

Days and time subject to change.

Thursdays, 6-8 p.m. — Language classes at the Nokomis/Mishomis Building, 2076 Shunk Road in Sault Ste. Marie.

For further information, call the Language Department via 635-6050.

Request for proposals: appellate judge

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians seeks a community member for the position of appellate judge in the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Appellate Court.

The Appellate Court meets monthly. Oral argument is held in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Appeals filed vary from year to year, but typically can be anywhere from one to four per year.

This position, when active,

includes a \$200 per month stipend, unless you are an employee of the tribe.

Qualifications for **community member judge** position includes:

• Membership in the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

To further be considered for these positions, applicants should be able to demonstrate that they have:

• Education/knowledge in juvenile, criminal and child wel-

fare proceedings;

• Knowledge and understanding of the history and traditions of the Sault Tribe and the tribal community.

A letter of interest, resume and application should be submitted to Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court, 2175 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, Attn: Court administrator.

Applications can be picked up at the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa

Tribal Court or found at www.saulttribe.com, in the download section of Tribal Court's webpage under the government tab. A copy of the Tribal Code is also available to view at www.saulttribe.com.

For more information, please contact the court administrator's office at (906) 635-7747, or via email at tswan@saulttribe.net.

The deadline to submit an application is Nov. 2, 2015.

Request for proposals: reserve appellate judge

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians seeks qualified licensed attorneys for the position of reserve appellate judge in the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Appellate Court.

The Appellate Court meets monthly. Oral argument is held in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Appeals filed vary from year to year, but

typically can be anywhere from one to four per year.

These positions are paid at the rate of \$150 / hour with a maximum billing of \$5,000 / year.

Qualifications for **licensed attorney** positions include:

• Membership in good standing with a state bar.

• Preference given to members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

To further be considered for these positions, applicants should be able to demonstrate that they have:

• Substantial education and experience working with tribal, state and federal law;

• Extensive knowledge in civil, juvenile, criminal and child welfare proceedings;

• Knowledge and understanding of the history and traditions of the Sault Tribe.

A letter of interest, resume, and application should be submitted to Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa

Tribal Court, 2175 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, Attn: Court administrator or via email to tswan@saulttribe.net.

Applications can be picked up at the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court or found at www.saulttribe.com, in the download section of Tribal Court's webpage under the government tab.

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The deadline to submit an application is Nov. 2, 2015.

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<p>— Delegates — Head Veteran: Tracy Heath Encee: Bucko Teeple</p>	<p>Arena Director: Nick Van Alstine Head Dancers: TBA — Host Drum — Bahweting Singers</p>
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All Drums Invited — Minimum of 5 Singers

This is an alcohol and drug free event.
For information, please call Jackie Minton at
906-635-6050 or 906-203-4977.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month!

Wear Purple, Use Your Voice, Take a Stand!

Domestic Violence is a pattern of abusive behavior that some individuals use to control their intimate partners. Battering can include physical, sexual / emotional abuse and other controlling behaviors. If you are in an abusive relationship, remember: **You are Not Alone, You are Not to Blame, and You can Get Help.**



For more information on events for the month of October or for other resources in your area, contact:
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Feds offer nearly \$1 billion in contract support settlement

By Rick Smith

A proposed settlement of \$940 million by the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) would end a 25-year class-action legal ordeal between Indian Country and the federal government. The settlement would satisfy claims from over 640 American Indian tribes and organizations that the federal government did not fully fund contracts to administer a variety of vital programs during a 19-year period from 1994 to 2013.

If no appeal is brought forth and a federal district court approves the proposal, restitutions could be expected about a year after the case is concluded, according to DOI Director Sally Jewell.

The programs covered in the suit include services such as law

enforcement, housing, education and others that tribes provide to members under contracts with federal agencies, mainly the DOI and DOJ. The contracts help the federal government fulfill treaty, constitutional and congressionally mandated responsibilities to Indian Country while serving as a step toward self-reliance for tribes across the nation.

The U.S. Supreme Court decided on June 18, 2012, that the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act directs DOI to contract with willing tribes to provide services the federal government would otherwise have to provide directly. The law requires DOI to pay the full amount of contract support costs subject to the availability of appropriations. Tribal contractors are entitled to seek monetary damages under the Contract Disputes Act for

any contractual breach.

“The proposed settlement doesn’t make up for all short falls,” Jewell said in a media teleconference on Sept. 17. “It addresses contract support short-falls.” Jewell further explained the case saw two partial settlements in the past stemming from 1990. DOI Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Kevin Washburn and DOJ Principle Deputy Assistant Attorney General Benjamin C. Mizer also participated in the teleconference.

Jewell added, “This landmark settlement represents another important step in the Obama administration’s efforts to turn the page on past challenges in our government-to-government relationship with tribes. Tribal self-determination and self-governance will continue to be our North Star as we navigate a new chapter in this important

relationship, and we are committed to fully funding contract support costs so that tribal contracting can be more successful. Congress can and should make this happen.” Jewell clarified that Congress would have no say in approving the proposed settlement, required approval would come from the Indian Country plaintiffs and the U.S. Supreme Court. “The only question left is the exact amount of settlement,” Jewell noted.

Mizer said, “This agreement is a compromise that was long in the making – reached only after years of complex negotiations following the Supreme Court’s 2012 decision in *Salazar, et. al. v. Ramah Navajo Chapter, et. al.* During that time, the parties have met repeatedly, working with expert accountants, auditors and statisticians to analyze thousands of contract

documents. The result is a settlement that both sides can be proud of.”

Washburn said, “Time and again, we have seen that when a tribal government runs a federal program, the program is more successful and more responsive to the tribal community. Today’s proposed settlement, together with President Obama’s request for full, mandatory funding of tribal contract support costs in the future, removes one of the significant obstacles to tribal self-determination and self-governance. Tribes can now be confident that the federal government will pay sufficient costs to allow them to be successful in running federal programs.”

Jewell indicated the settlement in the case would prevent exorbitant monetary and manpower expense for both sides in settling claims individually.

Court again finds for tribe in pursuit of casino approvals

A Sept. 16 ruling by U.S. District Court for the Western District of Michigan in case number 1:12-CV-962 dismisses a lawsuit filed by the State of Michigan that sought to block the Sault Tribe’s right to seek federal approval of casinos in downtown Lansing and in Huron Township, south of Detroit. U.S. District Judge Robert J. Jonker ruled the state can’t sue the Sault Tribe Board of Directors to block the tribe’s effort to win federal approval of the casinos. Jonker dismissed the complaint, marking the second time the federal court has ruled against the state’s

efforts to halt the casinos.

Sault Tribe Board Chairperson Aaron Payment said, “This is yet another federal court ruling affirming the right of the Sault Tribe to move forward seeking federal approval for our proposed Lansing casino. The ruling is a clear signal that the Sault Tribe is within our rights to pursue the casinos, which will create thousands of good jobs for mid-Michigan and southeast Michigan, and millions of dollars in new revenues for the two regions and the entire state. With the recent loss of MEDC funding, the state should see the

opportunity that a Lansing casino represents as a win-win for my tribe, the City of Lansing and the State of Michigan.”

The tribe has submitted its mandatory trust land applications to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior for consideration and anticipated approval. The tribe awaits the secretary’s favorable decision.

Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero hailed the judge’s ruling as another key step forward for the City of Lansing and the tribe. “It is very gratifying to see the federal court rule in our favor. We have known from the beginning

that the Lansing Kewadin Casino project would face many obstacles, but we have remained confident that our great partners in the Sault Tribe have the legal right to move forward with the project,” Bernero said.

The mayor added, “Today’s ruling reaffirms that right and represents another significant step along the path to success, which will bring thousands of good-paying jobs to Lansing, while fully funding the Lansing Promise scholarship so every child who graduates from the city’s public schools will have four years of college available to

them.”

To read the ruling, see www.saulttribe.com/images/75_opinion_order_091615.pdf.

Traditional healers schedules

Harland Downwind, Sault Ste. Marie, Oct. 19, 20, 22; St. Ignace, Oct. 21, call 643-8689. Keith Smith, Sault Ste. Marie, Oct. 21, 27-29; Munising, Oct. 19, call 387-4614; Escanaba, Oct. 20, call 786-2636; and Manistique, Oct. 26, 341-8469.

To schedule appointments in the Sault, call Kim at 632-5268, Peggy at 632-0220 or Tony at 632-0238.

Yoga offered

The All-In-One Fitness Center at Chi Mukwa offers gentle hatha yoga for all by Amy McCoy on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., in the Hospitality Room. Classes begin on Tuesday, Oct. 6, classes during the week of Oct. 19 on Monday and Friday.

Cost is \$40 per month or \$8 drop in fee per class. Please bring yoga mats and blocks if possible.

Please pre-register at the All-In-One Fitness Club reception desk upstairs in the recreation center.

Please make checks payable to All-In-One Fitness Club. Payroll deduction available for Sault Tribe employees.

Please call 635-4935 for additional information.

Events in Sault Ste. Marie counter drug abuse

FAN presents an evening with Tall Cop

The Chippewa County chapter of Families Against Narcotics (FAN) support group usually meets on the third Wednesdays of every month, 5:30 p.m., at the Huntington Bank meeting room. However, in place of the October meeting, FAN presents a special educational evening with the Tall Cop, Jermaine Galloway, at the LSSU Cisler Center on Oct. 21 at 6 p.m.

Galloway will walk participants through a mock bedroom and uncover current drug trends and paraphernalia youth in our community are using. Local law enforcement will be present to answer questions regarding drug possession and arrest.

Parents, educators, and interested community members cannot afford to miss this event! You can’t stop what you don’t know.

No charge for admission, but

please RSVP your attendant to tjoss@chippewahd.com or by calling 635-3647. Refreshments served and door prizes to be won.

For more information, contact the sponsor, FAN, via email at chippewa@familiesagainstnarcotics.org, visit www.familiesagainstnarcotics.org or www.facebook.com/fanchipp.

Support for coping with prescription drug abuse

The Prescription Drug Abuse Support Group helps folks who have experienced loss, heart-break or diminished relationships due to someone else’s use of prescription drugs.

The group meets on the first and third Mondays of each month, 6 p.m., at the Huntington Bank in Sault Ste. Marie. Call Linda at 440-7252 or Suzy at 248-3545 for more information.

Second annual U.P. Substance Use Disorder Conference

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

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

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

Community Problems, Community Solutions: Bridging the gap between knowledge and prevention, Oct. 22, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Lake Superior State University Cisler Center. Keynote Speaker Jermaine Galloway, www.tallcopsaysstop.com.

Topics include non-traditional uses of alcohol, over-the-counter and synthetic drugs, and collaboration in rural communities.

Afternoon session hosted by Brighton Recovery Center with Anetia Isbell and Scott Masi. Topics include the legacy of addiction, and addiction and suicide.


Registration is limited. Payment must be received by Oct. 15 to guarantee your reservation. No refunds provided without a written cancellation received by Oct. 19.

If you prefer, please print out the conference registration at www.chippewahd.com and either

fax it to 635-1701, ATTN: Tonya Joss or mail it to Chippewa County Health Department, U.P. Substance Disorder Conference, 508 Ashmun St; Suite 120, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Visit chippewahd.com for more information.

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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.

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

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

Advertising: \$8.50/column inch. **Submission and Subscriptions:** *Win Awenen Nisitotung* Attn: Communications Dept. 531 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 Telephone: (906) 632-6398 Fax: (906) 632-6556 E-mail: saulttribenews@saulttribe.net.


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Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
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Culfa recognized at national health conference

“It is my profound honor, on behalf of the National Indian Health Board (NIHB), to inform you that you have been chosen to receive the 2015 NIHB Local Impact Award for your phenomenal contributions to advancing American Indian and Alaska Native Health. Your service to Indian Country has been noted by tribal leaders and advocates across the country and we are honored to have this opportunity to recognize your achievements and service. Congratulations on this stunning achievement.”

— Lester Secatero, NIHB chairperson

Sault Tribe Health Director Bonnie Culfa was chosen to receive a 2015 NIHB Local Impact Award for her work with Sault Tribe health. She received her award at the NIHB 2015 Awards Gala Sept. 23 at the Washington Hilton in Washington, D.C., during the 32nd annual NIHB consumer conference.

“It is a great honor to be acknowledged for the contribution I have made to our tribe and on behalf of American Indians and Alaskan Natives in Indian Country,” she said. “The successes and accomplishments could not have been done without the great



Photo Courtesy Bonnie Culfa

From left, NIHB’s Michelle Castagne and Stacey Bohlen, Sault Tribe Health’s Bonnie Culfa and Jackie McLean, and Unit I Director Cathy Abramson, all Sault Tribe members, proudly pose with Culfa’s NIHB Local Impact Award at the Sept. 23 NIHB gala.

team of managers and supervisors and front line staff that I work with each day in the Health Division.”

Culfa added, “This has been a humbling experience as I do not enjoy being in the limelight, how-

ever, I do appreciate the recognition of the great work we have accomplished as a team under my leadership.”

Bonnie Culfa was hired as the tribe’s health director in 2005. A Sault Tribe member, she is a

native of St. Ignace, Mich. She earned her bachelor’s degree in nursing and public health from California State University in 1984, and has since earned her Master of Science in nursing administration. She accumulated over 20 years of experience in the health administration field before coming to Sault Ste. Marie and her work has made a big difference for Sault Tribe health.

The Sault Tribe Health Division served 43,256 patients in 2014, which is a 33 percent increase since 2005. As director, Culfa led a reduced reliance on gaming and enterprise funds from 37.5 percent in 2005 to 0 percent today. During the same time, she led the tribe’s IHS annual funding increase by 73 percent — from \$11 million in 2005 to \$19 million today — and third-party revenues by 126 percent or \$8.4 million annually.

Culfa led 236 health division team members to gain Behavioral Health CARF accreditation, expand services and coverage, implement a market-based compensation system to recruit and retain health staff, expanded and integrated traditional medicine and partnered with a new hospital to share space to better serve the community.

Tribal health programs were awarded the CDC grants Healthier Anishinaabe, five-year Strategic Alliance for Health, Community Transformation, Traditional Food in Indian Country, Partners in Community Health, and Health and Wellness in Indian County.

Under her leadership, activities and successes leading to systemic changes include smoke-free designated areas, working with schools to place refillable water bottle dispensing stations, developing community coalitions to work on walkable/bikeable communities, community gardens, improved lunch menus, sidewalks/crosswalk designations, farmers markets and an emergency preparedness grant through the state that partners the tribe with the seven counties in its service area.

Culfa’s current efforts include working toward a VA agreement for reimbursement for tribal veterans who use our health centers and improved outreach to tribal veterans, an after hours clinic for the Sault Tribe health center to expand hours of service and access for members and Affordable Care Act sign up events for the new enrollment year.

SAULT TRIBE COMMUNITY FLU CLINICS FOR 2015 FLU SEASON

Check flu clinic schedule for your area —

HESSEL, DETOUR, DRUMMOND AREA

Drummond Island Twp Hall
Thursday, Oct. 229:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.
 Hessel Tribal Health Center
Monday, Oct. 269 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-4 p.m.
 Hessel Casino
 (Employees Only)
Thursday, Oct. 29 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.
 Hessel Tribal Health Center
Tuesday, Nov. 3 9 a.m.-12 p.m. & 1-4 p.m.

MARQUETTE AREA

Marquette Tribal Health Center
Tuesday, Oct. 13 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 20 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Tuesday, Oct. 27 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

MUNISING AREA

Munising Tribal Health Center
Wednesday, Oct. 219 a.m. – 4 p.m.

NEWBERRY AREA

Newberry Tribal Health Center
Thursday, Oct. 152 – 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 3 2 – 4:30 p.m.

SAULT STE. MARIE AREA

Sault Tribal Health Center
Friday, Oct. 168:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 Sault Kewadin Casino
 (Employees Only)
Wednesday, Oct. 218:30 – 4
 Sault Tribe Health Center
Thursday, Oct. 298:30 a.m. -4 p.m.
Wednesday, Nov. 41 – 4 p.m.
Thursday, Nov. 121 – 4 p.m.
Tuesday, Nov. 248:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.

ST. IGNACE AREA

St. Ignace Tribal Health Center
Wednesday, Oct. 149 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Wednesday, Oct. 219 a.m. – 4 p.m.
 Kewadin Shores Casino
 (Employees Only)
Thursday, Oct. 289 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Sault Tribe Members and other Natives from a federally recognized tribe: FREE.

Non Native Employees with or without insurance will be billed a co-pay of up to \$10.

Non Native spouses will be billed \$10 co-pay.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE FOLLOWING CLINICS:
 Escanaba Health Center at786-2636
 Hessel Tribal Health Center at484-2727
 Manistique Tribal Health Center at341-8469
 Munising Tribal Health Center at387-4614
 Newberry Tribal Health Center at293-8181
 Sault Community Health Program at632-5210
 St. Ignace Tribal Health & Human Services at643-8689

Manistique fall enrichment gathering and feast coming

On Wednesday, Nov. 4, 4-7 p.m., a Manistique Fall Health Enrichment Gathering will be held at the Manistique tribal Community Room, 5698W US Hwy 2, featuring a local and traditional potluck feast. There will be many share and learn opportunities — seasonal traditional presentation, traditional healer presentation, drum and dance presentation activity and information on “Native Plate” and Sault Tribe services. Call Gail for more information, (906) 341-9525.

Rummage Sale Oct. 22

The Sault Tribe Purchasing Department will be holding a “Rummage Sale” on Thursday Oct. 22 from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. The sale is open to Tribal Members and Employees from 10-11 a.m., and everyone is welcome after 11 a.m.

The sale will take place at the 3 Mile Warehouse located at 201 W. 3 Mile Road in Sault Ste. Marie.

Items for sale include but are not limited to: Casino Furniture Fixtures and Equipment.

All items are used and will be sold “AS IS.” Items will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. ABSOLUTELY NO RESERVING OR DELIVERY OF ITEMS.

For more information please contact Brad Pringle at (906) 635-7035.

NCAI partnership launching finance initiative for Native youth

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Building on its First Kids 1st initiative and its work advancing Generation Indigenous (Gen-I), the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) has recently joined forces with the Native Financial Education Coalition (NFEC) to launch NAT\$VE in the BANK because they understand that Native youth building relationships with financial institutions by opening a bank account is a proven difference-maker in them making smart financial decisions over the course of their lives.

Designed for Native youth aged 12 to 25, NAT\$VE in the BANK requires participants to finish four easy steps: complete a short, fun online course on financial education, open an account with a bank or credit union, take a “selfie” picture with a bank/credit union representative and share through words or art their financial goals in life. Once they do, participating Native youth

receive a NAT\$VE in the BANK T-shirt and a chance to win an iPad Air. If participants recruit at least three friends to also complete NAT\$VE in the BANK’s four easy steps, they are entered for a chance to win an iTunes gift card, an iPad mini or a trip to NCAI’s 2015 annual convention in San Diego.

“This important new initiative, which seeks to strengthen the financial capability and self-sufficiency of our youth, builds on NCAI’s work on First Kids 1st and Gen-I,” said Jacqueline Pata, NCAI Executive Director. “We encourage Native youth everywhere to participate, and we invite tribal governments, Native organizations, and financial institutions to play key roles in supporting Native youth to answer the NAT\$VE in the BANK call.”

Tribes and organizations can support NAT\$VE in the BANK by recruiting Native youth to participate, integrating the initiative into their youth programs,



and reaching out to local banks and credit unions to get them to participate. Banks and credit unions, meanwhile, can do their part by: accepting tribal IDs and a minimum initial deposit of \$25 to open accounts, waiving monthly account fees, hosting a

Youth learn financial capability; chances to win incentive prizes get smart about money

NAT\$VE in the BANK fair at a bank branch or school in/around a tribal community so youth can open accounts, and contributing matching funds to initial deposits made to those accounts.

One of the first Native youth to answer the NAT\$VE in the BANK call was Harmani Wilson, a citizen of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and high school senior who lives in Henderson, Nevada. She explains, “I said, ‘Why not give it a try?’ It was pretty easy to understand and do.”

She added, “I am happy I did it because I learned a lot from it. It was amazing how much money I was saving by putting it in the bank because I was not spending like I would if I had cash in my pocket. It helped me

budget better and I was able to save up for items I really wanted, and I learned that I can take my time and don’t need to buy things immediately.”

While eligibility to win the trip to NCAI’s coming annual convention in San Diego expired on Sept. 25, NAT\$VE in the BANK will unveil a new grand prize for youth who answer the call by March 31, 2016.

To learn more about NAT\$VE in the BANK, please visit the NFEC website at www.nfec.us or email Tyler Owens at towens@ncai.org.

Community Health offers health and wellness programs

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Community Health is inside the tribe’s health center on the first floor and currently offers services through two new Centers of Disease Control grant funded programs, Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC) and Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH).

Health and Wellness Manager Lisa Myers said the grants also support a preschool Farm to School program and some hoop house projects. There are plans to offer canning and preserving classes, traditional foods education and support for community garden projects.

Community Health also hosted a UP4Health Summit on Mackinaw Island in September that provided educational opportunities for community coalition members, community partners and Sault Tribe staff in the areas of nutrition, physical activity and smoke free environments.

Myers works with Community Health educators Colin Welker and Heather Hemming and plans to hire a few more health educa-

tors to enhance programming in outlying areas in the tribe’s seven county service area.

Myers said the Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country grant focuses on the tribal community, where the Partnerships to Improve Community Health project focuses on the communities across the tribe’s seven county service area.

“One is more tribal focused and the other is more community focused,” she said. “They both have the same three priority areas, which are: seeking access to physical activity opportunities, increasing access to healthy local foods and creating smoke free environments.”

Involving tribal youth

Hemming said they have partnered with Youth Education and Activities and have done some work to get youth to step up and become leaders and advocates for initiatives in our community, including smoke free and tobacco free environments. In March, the PICH grant paid for the American Legacy Foundation to speak with youth about the harm of second hand smoke exposure, including

e-cigarettes and other emerging tobacco products.

From that training, three Sault Tribe students were selected from across the tribe’s service area to attend the Students Working Against Tobacco training in Oklahoma and developed in conjunction with the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. The week-long camp offered leadership and tobacco prevention training to about 100 youth.

Welker said they also brought two youth to Washington D.C. in July for the White House Tribal Youth Gathering where they spoke to senators and legislators about tobacco as a problem in our community.

“I am taking one tribal youth to D.C. Sept. 16-21 for the National Indian Health Board Youth Summit,” he said. “The youth at the summit will be creating digital stories focusing on tobacco use and the problems they see in their communities. Their stories will be shown at the capitol building.” Out of over 300 applicants, 30 students were chosen to attend the summit – with one from the Sault Tribe.

More tobacco free work

Through the PICH grant, Myers said that Tyler LaPlaunt, a health educator working on the west side of the tribe’s service area, is working with the U.P. Fair to have some smoke free areas designated and some policy changes for next year’s fair. She said they also helped about 15 townships across the tribe’s service area establish tobacco free recreation areas.

Myers, Welker and Hemming are working with the Sault Tribe Housing Authority to designate more housing units as smoke free. Myers said they would be sending out a survey soon to see who is smoking in the houses and who would like a smoke free home. There are currently smoke free housing units available across the seven county service areas, but they are working to increase the number of smoke free units and also to designate one or two of the town homes in Marquette as smoke free, along with the elder center in St. Ignace.

To help housing residents, Community Health will be offering cessation programs at the housing sites. “If we are asking them not to smoke, then we need to assist them with their cessation

efforts,” Myers said.

More programming

Additional projects the trio is involved in include: completing a 10-year tribal community based chronic disease assessment to address programming needs; developing a referral system with health center staff for one-on-one physical activity assessments and the development of personalized programs; diabetes prevention and education classes in conjunction with the YMCA; developing a health division strategic plan; gaining public health accreditation; nicotine dependence program and nursing services.

There are community based and tribal member only services available, depending on the funding and requirements of each program.

Myers said, “The goal of these grants and programs is to improve the health and quality of life of our tribal families across the seven county service area and to prevent chronic disease in our population. I think that every step is a step in the right direction.”

For more information, visit www.healthysaulttribe.com or www.up4health.org. You can also call Sault Tribe Community Health at (906) 632-5210.

Mills takes records technician slot

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) recently hired Melissa Mills as a part time records technician.

Mills graduated in December from Bay Mills Community College with an associate’s degree in business administration. She has three children between the ages of 2 and 5 and said the hours she works are perfect, allowing her time to also be at home with her young children. She hopes to return to college eventually for a degree in social work. Mills is a 2007 graduate of Rudyard High School.

As a record technician, she provides support to the case-workers by scanning in and filing important documents for foster care files and court cases. “I like how ACFS puts the kids first and works with tribal families who



have had their children removed to get them back together in a healthier environment.”

Her oldest child, 5-year-old Landon, starts kindergarten in Pickford this fall. Her middle son, Silas, 4, will be going to Head Start and her daughter, Scarlett, who is 2, will be going to daycare

for the first time.

Mills’ fiancé is a commercial fisherman who is off during the winter months, which is when she attends school so that he can be home with their children. Then, during the summer months when he is fishing, she is home with the kids. She said she has a great support system from family and friends when he is away working.

ACFS provides human services for the Sault Tribe and manages 30 grant contracts. There are three primary components within ACFS supported by these grants — Child Placement, Advocacy Resources and Direct Assistance.

For more information about ACFS, visit the Sault Tribe webpage at saulttribe.com or call the Sault office at 632-5250 or (800) 726-0093. Satellite offices are also located in St. Ignace, Manistique and Munising.

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State Senate, tribal leaders meet in Lansing on Michigan Indian Day for talks

Bay Mills pipe carrier leads historic invocation

BY RICK SMITH

The Michigan Senate recently acknowledged and re-affirmed by resolution a 1974 act signed into law by then Governor William Milliken, which established the fourth Friday of every September as Michigan Indian Day. In addition, Governor Rick Snyder issued a proclamation marking the occasion and served as host to tribal leaders in a luncheon and business meeting.

Senate Resolution 0093, sponsored by Senator Wayne Schmidt, was adopted on Sept. 24 and witnessed by leaders of the state's 12 federally recognized American Indian tribes gathered in Lansing to meet with state legislators and the governor at the annual State-Tribal Summit.

Board members Dennis McKelvie, Jennifer McLeod and Kim Gravelle represented Sault Tribe at the summit at the state capitol.

Further, according to Schmidt, a pipe carrier from the Bay Mills Indian Community, Dwight "Bucko" Teeple, led the Senate on the historic occasion of delivering the first Anishinaabe invocation on the Senate floor. McLeod described seeing an eagle staff and Teeple in a becoming white ribbon shirt on the elevated speaker's platform overlooking the floor of the Senate chamber as one of the most powerful and moving moments of the visit.

The Senate resolution and the governor's proclamation recognize and recount highlights of the history and relationships between the state and tribes as well as the citizens of the state and tribes. They also note the partnership set by a government-to-government accord that promotes improved communication and mutual respect.

"We are grateful for the lasting relationship we hold with the 12 tribes that reside in Michigan's borders and look forward to continuing the fruitful and cooperative efforts to improve the lives of each of our citizens for generations to come," Schmidt noted in an announcement.

In his proclamation, Governor Snyder said, "The presence of the Anishinaabek in present day Michigan dates back centuries and the indigenous peoples and tribes of Michigan have contributed much to our state's success, history and cultural heritage." He added later on, "It is mutually beneficial to the state and tribes to convert meaningful consultation to active collab-

oration in furtherance of our mutual goals to strengthen our communities, promote the health and well-being of our citizens, promote wise and scientific management of our resources, promote education and career training opportunities and create jobs and investment in Michigan."

Aside from the proclamation, Snyder indicated he hosted the leaders of Michigan's 12 tribes at the annual summit. "We hosted the tribal leaders for a luncheon at the governor's residence prior to a business meeting with other state and tribal leaders at my office," he noted.

McKelvie indicated tribal leaders discussed with the governor matters concerning the Enbridge pipeline in the Mackinac Straits, circumstances surrounding Graymont mining in the Upper Peninsula and the proposed Ontario Power Generation nuclear waste dump on the shore of Lake Huron. The Unit I board representative also noted a discussion on the governor's staff on working closely with tribal representatives to form and adopt a more comprehensive and formal consultation policy.

McLeod conveyed the tribes also discussed with the governor their views against a proposed fish farm in the Bay de Noc area by a foreign firm along in addition to veterans' issues.

On the following day, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights released a statement from Director Matt Wesaw and United Tribes President Homer A. Mandoka recognizing Friday, Sept. 25 as Michigan Indian Day.

"Michigan Indian Day is an opportunity for each of us to learn more about the native people who call Michigan home, and recognize their legacy of stewardship and reverence for the two great peninsulas on which we live and the four great lakes that surround us," said Wesaw, a former chair of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians.

"Michigan's Native Americans, living and working in sovereign tribal nations, have the opportunity to govern ourselves – a reality only possible because of our legacy of self-sufficiency," said Mandoka, tribal council chair of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi. "Maintaining our independence and self-reliance and keeping our focus seven generations ahead is key to tribal growth and success, and it can serve as a model of strength and resilience



Photos courtesy of Governor Rick Snyder's office
Above, Senator Wayne Schmidt, Bay Mills Indian Community pipe carrier Dwight "Bucko" Teeple and Lt. Gov. Brian Calley. Below, from left, Sault Tribe Unit I Board Representative Dennis McKelvie, Governor Rick Snyder, Unit I representatives Jennifer McLeod and Kim Gravelle in Lansing for Michigan Indian Day observances and talks.



for other Michigan cultures and communities."

"Michigan tribal tradition tells us that our people have always been here, and will always be here," said Wesaw. "I believe Michigan's tribal communities have survived, through times of peace and of persecution, because they held fast to

the Seven Grandfather values of Wisdom, Love, Respect, Bravery, Honesty, Humility and Truth. This love of family, importance of community, and reverence for life are cornerstones of Michigan's tribal nations, and continue to contribute to the vitality and cultural richness of life in our great state."

NATIVE Act would enhance Indian tourism trade

BY RICK SMITH

A member of the Cherokee Nation recently introduced the Native American Tourism and

Improving Visitor Experience (NATIVE) Act to Congress. On Sept. 10, the bill was referred to the U.S. House Committee on

Natural Resources, committees on energy and commerce and House administration for consideration of provisions that fall in their jurisdictions.

Congressman Markwayne Mullins of Oklahoma introduced the bill, H.R. 3477, to create jobs and support businesses in American Indian communities. Essentially, the act would integrate tribal tourism with federal tourism initiatives to promote cultural assets.

In an announcement of the measure, Mullin said American Indian culture is known and celebrated among tribes, and it is important to share our traditions with people from all over the world. "Integrating Native American tourism with federal tourism efforts will bring great benefits to native communities in Oklahoma and across the country," he said.

A Senate companion bill, S. 1579, was introduced last June by U.S. Senator Brian Schatz of Hawaii.

According to the text of the bill, its purpose is "to enhance and integrate Native American tourism, empower Native American communities, increase coordination and collaboration between federal tourism assets, and expand heritage and cultural tourism opportunities in the United States."

Further, if enacted, it would spur economic development and increase tourism revenue, improve self-determination and self-sufficiency, encourage tribes to engage more fully in tourism ventures, provide financial and technical assistance to Indian tribes and organizations, spur infrastructure development, elevate living standards in Native communities, increase tourism capacity and support technological projects to incorporate federal travel and tourism information among tribes.

The U.S. Department of the Interior and Department of Commerce would have roles in coordinating development and

financial assistance would also come from those departments along with the departments of Transportation, Agriculture, Health and Human Services and Labor.

Grants would be authorized for purposes of the bill by the Administration for Native American, National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities and other eligible grant programs administered for Indian Country.

The Smithsonian Institution Board of Regents and Advisory Council would also be involved by working with tribes, tribal organizations and non-profit organizations to establish long-term partnerships with museums as well as educational and cultural organizations to share collections, exhibitions and strategies. They would also share in work on joint research projects and other collaborations to support tourism efforts of tribes and tribal organizations.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Purchasing Dept. is currently accepting sealed bids for the purchase of the following vehicles:

Located at 2186 Shunk Rd, Sault Ste. Marie - Parking lot across from Casino
2001-CHEVY MID BUSS (YELLOW) 77K MILES.....MINIMUM BID \$500

Located at 2186 Shunk Rd, Sault Ste. Marie- Parking lot across from Casino
2000-CHEVY EXPRESS PASSENGER VAN (BLUE) #101.....MINIMUM BID \$100
2000-FORD F 350 PASSENGER VAN (WHITE) #102MINIMUM BID \$100

- All vehicles are in non-working condition and will need repairs to be road worthy
- Vehicles are sold "As Is"
- Will be accepting bids over scrap value
- Vehicles can be viewed Monday – Friday, 8 a.m.-5p.m.
- All bids must be submitted by Oct. 23, 2015 AT 12 p.m.

Bids must be submitted to: Sault Tribe Purchasing
Bradley Pringle/Vehicles
2186 Shunk Rd.
Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783

For more information please contact Brad Pringle, (906) 635-7035

Bill would remove antitrust protections for NFL team

By Rick Smith

It's one of the shortest bills to be introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives, but if enacted, would remove the federal antitrust exemption for the National Football League (NFL) if the name of the Washington, D.C., franchise is allowed to remain in play. District of Columbia Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton sponsored the legislation on Sept. 10, 2015, which was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

Titled the *Respect for Native*

Americans in Professional Sports Act of 2015, H.R. 3487 would "make the antitrust laws applicable to professional sports leagues that use or promote or allow member teams or franchisees to use the term "Redskins" or the term "Redskin."

In this case, antitrust laws apply to measures to protect businesses from monopolies. The NFL has enjoyed antitrust exemption since granted by Congress in 1961. Essentially, the exemption allows teams to collaborate in negotiating contracts.

Representative Holmes Norton indicated the NFL should not benefit from federal antitrust exemptions while promoting a disparaging name legally found to be a racial slur. Further, she noted the nation's capital should not be associated with a name that mocks and insults American Indians.

The executive director of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), Jacqueline Pata, wrote Congresswoman Holmes Norton to express gratitude and support of the bill. She also brief-

ly described the NCAI view and effort on the matter. "In 1968," she noted, "NCAI launched a campaign to end negative and harmful stereotypes perpetuated by media and popular culture. These efforts have been rooted in an attempt to achieve social justice and racial equality for Native people. The continued use of racist and derogatory "Indian" sports mascots, logos and symbols have perpetuated negative stereotypes of America's first peoples. Rather than honoring Native peoples, these caricatures and stereotypes

contribute to a disregard for the diverse cultural heritage of Native peoples."

Pata went on to indicate such stereotypes adversely affect views of Indians and their place in society in both mainstream and American Indian eyes.

She added the nearly half-century campaign to eliminate degrading "Indian" stereotypes is directly linked to ongoing efforts to build healthful and nurturing conditions for American Indian youth.

ISHPI ranked on 2015 Fast 50 list, makes Inc. Magazine's "Inc. 5000" list of fastest growing private companies in U.S.

MOUNT PLEASANT, S.C. — ISHPI was ranked on the 2015 Washington Technology FAST 50 list of the 50 fastest growing privately-held small businesses in the government contracting market.

Washington Technology ranked the 50 fastest growing small businesses by calculating their compound annual growth rate from 2010 to 2014 — securing ISHPI a ranking with a compound annual growth rate of 56.71 percent.

This list includes prime and subcontracting revenue at the federal, state and local levels.

This year's rankings showcase the rich diversity and staying power of the small busi-

ness community. While several different categories of small businesses made the list with a variety of capabilities, there remains a strong representation of information technology and professional services.

"Our rapid growth is a direct reflection of the quality, commitment and character of our employees," ISHPI President Earl D. Bowers said. "None of this would be possible without the customer demand created by the tireless dedication and superior service our employees provide to our customers."

Bowers is a Sault Tribe member and U.S. Navy veteran with 30 years experience in business management.

More good news — ISHPI made the Inc. Magazine's "Inc. 5000" list of the fastest-growing private companies in America for the fifth consecutive year.

Only a tiny fraction of the nation's companies have demonstrated such remarkably consistent high growth, particularly in the difficult economic climate of the past few years.

Privately-held bootstrap companies like ISHPI are amongst an even more exclusive group on the list.

"The achievement truly puts you in rarefied company," Inc. president and editor-in-chief Eric Schurenberg, said.

Inc. ranked ISHPI the 1,052nd on the annual Inc.

5000. Now in its 34th year, the Inc. 5000 list represents the most comprehensive look at the most important segment of the economy — America's privately held companies.

"We are truly honored to be recognized for the fifth consecutive year as an Inc. 5000 awardee," Bowers said.

He added, "It is no secret that our employees are the reason for our success. They are incredibly dedicated mission-focused men and women who have a strong devotion to our clients' objectives along with exceptional talent, knowledge and integrity."

To learn more about ISHPI, visit online at www.ishpi.net.



ISHPI President Earl D. Bowers

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ALL SITES

American gamers will be eligible for **Hot Seat Draws & receive \$20 in Kewadin Credits!**
(after earning at least 50 base points)

Must Register at Northern Rewards Club to participate in the weekly events.
Club hours vary by site.

Odenaang on city sewer and water services

The long awaited Odenaang city water and sewer connection went live on Sept. 15 replacing existing well water in the community.

Dignitaries from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the City of Sault Ste. Marie gathered to celebrate this accomplishment.

This joint venture between the tribe and the city took approximately five years in the time Sault Tribe Housing Authority secured funding and shovels broke ground to finally turning the tap and official connection.

Current and future residents of Odenaang will enjoy a clean, reliable water source along with adequate fire protection for years to come.

Situated on about 300 acres south of Three Mile Road, which marks the city limit of Sault Ste. Marie, Odenaang (A place of many hearts) is slowly transforming into a community.

As a part of the Odenaang

land development plan completed in 2013, connecting to city water and sewer was crucial to achieving overall goals in the development.

The vision for a healthy, vibrant community respectful to both Anishinaabe culture and the natural environment includes future development of walking and biking trails, open spaces and parks, retail and office space and mixed housing such as apartment complexes, single family homes, duplexes and so on.

Bringing city water and sewer to the development moves it that much closer to the goal.

The \$3.429 million project drew from a number of funding sources such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Indian Health Service, United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, U.S. Department Of Housing and Urban Development, Indian Community Development Block Grant Program and the Sault Tribe Housing Authority.



At right, behind fire hydrant, from left, Aaron Payment, tribal board chair, and Tony Bosbous, city mayor. Back, from left, Dennis McKelvie, tribal board member; Joni Talentino, Sault Tribe Housing director; Kathy Twardy, city commissioner; Robin Troyer, assistant city manager; Don Gerrie, city commissioner; Joe McKerchie, tribal Utility Authority; DJ Hoffman, tribal board member; Russ McKerchie, construction manager; Jim Moreau, director of Public Works and waste water plant supervisor; and Oliver Turner, city manager.

EPA recognizes Umbrassas for “green” work

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

“Green” initiatives take time to develop. They require a meeting of like-minded professionals, a willingness to explore options and be open to change, to take the time to write for grants to move projects forward, and most importantly, staff who volunteer their time to become part of a unique national workgroup bringing “green” tribal building codes and tool kits “home” for our tribe and others to use. Former Sault Tribe Housing Department team member Joanne Umbrassas was an active member of the EPA’s Tribal Green Building Workgroup.

Culture and sustainability are important in Native communities, as is providing homes both safe and affordable, and that can be accomplished by using the newly released toolkit designed to assist tribes in prioritizing and implementing green building policies and practices.

The toolkit is a detailed guide with checklists that was developed with input from tribes, and includes information that may be helpful to other communities as

well, by providing information about land use, materials and resources, green manufactured housing, radon, mold and other pollutants, energy efficiency and renewable energy, water and resilience and adaptability.

It all began four years ago when eleven tribes and tribal organizations from across the U.S. came together for a historic summit of tribal leaders, federal agencies, non-profits and academic representatives, architects and lawyers during the first National Tribal Green Building Codes Summit that was held in June 2011 in Denver.

The workgroup saw green building codes as a framework to guide sustainable community development. During that first meeting, workgroup participants identified existing green building codes, technical, policy and planning resources, barriers and opportunities for further development.

According to an official statement by the workgroup, the group recognizes “the dire need for healthy, affordable homes and high performance, sustainable buildings in Indian Country. Native nations have

high levels of homelessness, severely crowded homes, and a lack of adequate water and sanitation systems, poor indoor air quality, and a high percentage of poorly insulated, non-electrified homes. Unlike the rest of the country, where there is a housing surplus, not enough homes exist in Indian Country, and it is estimated that well over 200,000 housing units are needed to provide adequate housing in tribal areas. While there is an urgent need to supply more housing, there is also recognition within Indian Country that homes must also better meet the environmental, social and cultural priorities of tribal people.”

Priorities identified by the national workgroup include: the need to have a tribally-driven and culturally-based process; maintain and expand a Tribal Green Building Code Workgroup; emphasis needs to be on the development of a process rather than a product; codes need to support sovereignty, and be reflective of community and culture; further education, training and capacity building in regards to sustainable building, tribal and federal

policies, and sustainable building codes; develop sustainable funding sources for tribal code development and sustainable tribal housing; develop Native bio regionally-based economies around the need for sustainable communities and appropriate, high-performance housing; plan, educate, and design for affordability; the workgroup requests that federal agencies improve collaboration and aggregate resources in this area.

Unlike state and local governments, tribal nations are not covered by state or local building codes. Tribes often use the international building codes, and because of this, building standards and practices implemented on tribal lands may not meet a tribe’s sustainability objectives.

Umbrassas said what it all basically comes down to is a vision — what do you want your community to look like and accomplish when it’s built? A Sustainable Development Code has been written for the Sault Tribe Odenaang property and adopted by Sault Tribe Housing’s Board of Commissioners. This work was made possible with a HUD grant secured by Umbrassas

which also created a Sustainable Development Code template that was distributed to other tribes in the Great Lakes region in both CD and book format. HUD is currently reviewing the Sustainable Development Code template for publication.

Umbrassas recently took a new position with Sault Tribe Community Health as a project coordinator after spending the past eight years at the Sault Tribe Housing Department as a project specialist.

Housing Director Joni Talentino said, “I’m very grateful for Joanne’s effort and leading the team to develop the Sustainable Development Code. This is a “cutting edge” document for the Sault Tribe Housing Authority and a very useful tool in the future development of the Odenaang community.”

The Tribal Green Building Codes Toolkit can be downloaded at www.epa.gov/region9/tribal/greenbuilding-toolkit.html.

Information about the Tribal Green Building Code Development is available at <http://www.epa.gov/region9/greenbuilding/codes>



Photo courtesy United Way of the EUP
KINGS FISH MARKET NOMINATED – For the last two years, King’s Fish Market of Moran has supported EUP Great Start Collaborative and Parent Coalition and the United Way of the EUP through its partnership with their annual Mosquito Dash, a 2K obstacle fun run. Owners Helen and Theron King have held an after race “by donation” lunch for the community and race participants with 100 percent of proceeds donated to both organizations. In recognition, King’s Fish Market was nominated Community Partner of the Month for September 2015. Pictured from left, UWEUP Volunteer Center coordinator Raulaniesa Aranda, Helen and Theron King, UWEUP Director Tracey Laitinen, EUPGSC coordinator Cara LaFaver, UWEUP administrative assistant Barb Reed with four little mosquito dashers up front.

DOJ funds ARC staffing for next three years

By **BRENDA AUSTIN**

The Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) – Aakdehewin Gaamig – Lodge of Bravery recently celebrated a huge victory when it was awarded a Department of Justice Department - Comprehensive Tribal Victim Assistance Program competitive grant in the amount of \$447,706.

“We had applied for this grant in 2014 without success,” said Program Manager Jami Moran, “so had no other option than to request tribal support funding or face having to close the shelter doors on Dec. 31, 2014. I am so grateful that our tribal board of directors understood the importance of continuing to provide this life saving service to the membership by funding these costs through to Dec. 31, 2015.” The new grant allows for the funding of emergency shelter staff costs for the next three years beginning Jan. 1.

At the time of this interview, 15 residents and their children had sought and were being provided safety within the tribe’s shelter facility. With only a

16-bed capacity, Moran said the need for emergency shelter remains a critical need for those seeking shelter from violence.

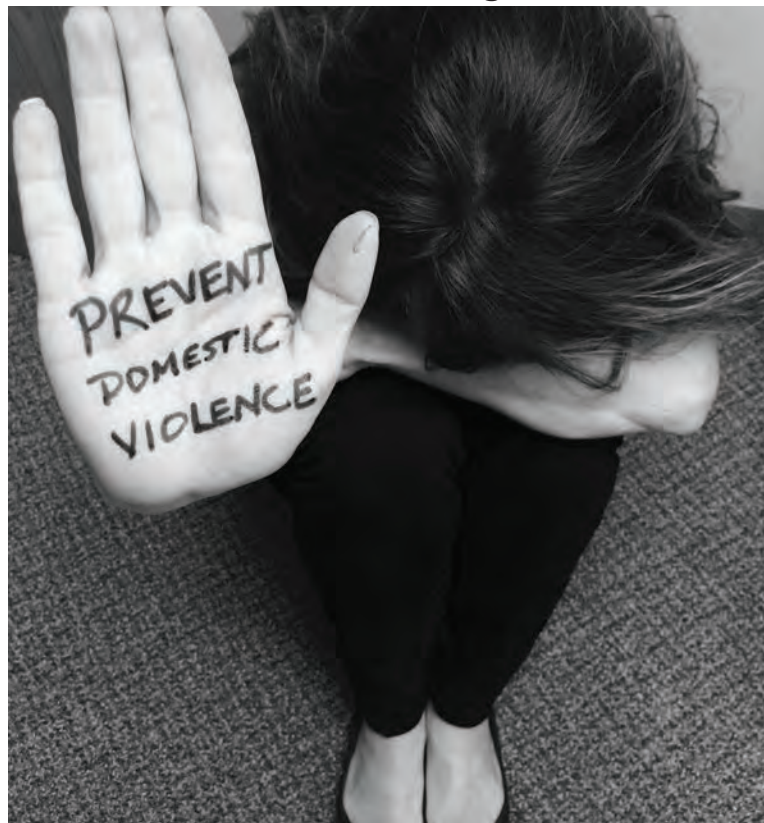
Safety is of the utmost importance when a person first enters the shelter, and staff is equipped to offer immediate safety planning, emergency Personal Protection Order information and assistance, and transportation to necessary community support programs. Shelter Manager, Bridget Akre, then works with each resident to create their own wellness plan and meets weekly to see how things are going, what barriers are being encountered and then problem solve possible solutions. Each shelter resident is offered their own ARC Casemanager (victim advocate) to provide additional support with achieving self-sufficiency.

Jena McKerchie – ARC Casemanager said she recently spent several hours providing transportation assistance which allowed the shelter resident to get their child’s tribal card, drop off housing applications, purchase food, and go to multiple other community programs. “If you

have someone who doesn’t have money or a car, they need that additional help,” McKerchie said.

Information and referrals to community resources are based upon individual needs and often times include any of the following: Food assistance programs, emergency/routine medical care, traditional medicine, behavioral health/substance abuse services, dental/optical/nutrition services, medical insurance information, housing assistance programs, education/GED information, income/employment programs, crime victim compensation, child care assistance, child development assessment, parenting education, child safety/car seats, legal services, free cellular telephone program, documentation attainment, social activities/fitness, credit issues/unpaid debt, life skills/stress management and legal aid programs.

Shelter residents are also offered the opportunity to participate in the ARC’s survivor awareness education, shelter talking circles, empowerment groups, yoga for survivors, and also a monthly women’s full



moon ceremony for survivors. Akre said, “While they are here in the shelter, their safety is our concern. We offer them the help and tools they need. There is nothing more beauti-

ful than a strong independent woman,” she said.

For more information on ARC programs, call 632-1808 or toll free at (877) 639-7820.

New JKL school bus loop streamlines traffic

From “Loop,” page 1

to separate busses from all other traffic patterns. A designated drop off lane was located on the west side of the building with a new curbed sidewalk along the length of the lane for parents and students to access or leave the school. “We hope the new infrastructure will provide traffic flow that is managed, predictable and enforced for everyone’s safety,” said Hoffman. “With the new sidewalk, students walking or riding a bike will also have safe access and a clear pattern to follow.”

The design even takes snow-fall into account.

Work at the site included excavation, new curbs and gutters, sidewalk, loop reconstruction, lighting and moving the school sign to a more visible location. The parking lot on the west side of the school will also be seal-coated with a new drop off lane installed, according to Hoffman.

Arrow Construction of Negaunee, Mich., was the general contractor for the project with engineering firm AECOM completing the design.

This project is unique in its use of stamped and colored concrete, imprinted with Anishinaabe clan animal tracks with sections of concrete using the four colors of the medicine wheel.

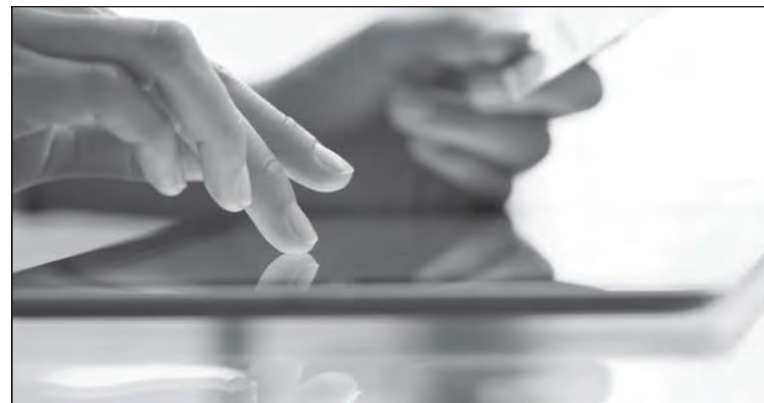
“The idea to use our clan’s tracks was conceived several years ago when the Culture Department and Transportation Program worked on designing an interpretive trail,” said Hoffman. “The board of directors and executive office approved the use of the stamps when we install new concrete at tribal facilities.”

Now retired cultural repatriation specialist, Cecil Pavlat, helped the project with language for the educational interpretive signs.



Photos courtesy AECOM

Above, images of the bus loop project before, left, and after, right. In front of the school building, in four different cement colors appear the tracks of four Anishinaabe clan animals. Lower left, turtle tracks, including the turtle’s belly, glide along the cement.



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IFWD collecting field data to assess climate change impact on Michigan's snowshoe hares

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Sault Tribe Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (IFWD) received a Climate Change Program grant in 2011 to build the capacity within the department to perform vulnerability assessments for fish and wildlife species. Out of that process they developed a formability assessment for snowshoe hare in the eastern Upper Peninsula (EUP) for a climate change vulnerability assessment.

Sault Tribe Biologist and Inland Fish and IFWD Manager Eric Clark said that project was completed early this year and they now have a final finished product. "Determining the vulnerability of snowshoe hare was largely based on expert opinion, there wasn't a lot of work done to actually take those expert opinions and go out and test them," he said. "We know snowshoe hare are vulnerable because we see there is a correlation between climate and the hare. We don't really understand what makes a hare vulnerable. Is it some sort of physiological response inside the hare or is it habitat related or is it competition of other species? There are all these questions that we really don't understand. What we are trying to do is go out and measure



some of those things."

To do that, the IFWD is looking at functional relationships between snowshoe hare, climate and habitat conditions. "We are collecting pilot data right now and really looking at population performance measures," he said. "We are looking at disease rates, parasites, reproductive rates and abundance and density of hares." Clark said the BIA is funding the project using climate change money.

They plan to use large scale landscape vulnerability assessments that say snowshoe hare are vulnerable to climate change in x, y, and z, then test those variables and come up with prescriptions. "So if their vulnerability is habitat related, can we do things to manage their habitat to make snowshoe hare less vulnerable?"

Or is that a waste of money? As an example, one of the things that might come out of this is: When spring and fall temperatures increase, snowshoe hare reproductive rates decline so much that they are just not able to keep up with mortality rates. I think that given the past two harsh winters, it seems like hares are doing pretty good. Some of the work we have participated in with Michigan State University the last few years has shown that snowshoe hare range is moving northward as the temperature increases," Clark said.

IFWD staff is trying to understand linkages between changing climate, changing habitat and actual population performance measures and are partnering with Michigan State University and the Hiawatha National Forest to get it done. "The next two years we will have fulltime field crews during the summers trapping hares and collecting blood samples, fecal samples to check for parasites, attaching radio collars to track natural mortality rates, and doing vegetation assessment for habitat," Clark said. "During the winter we are partnering with the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and we are going to use genetics

to develop population estimates using fecal pellets from the hares. We have cutting edge research we are doing with hares and will be producing some interesting data from that. Our research will allow us to better understand snowshoe hare climate and habitat relationships in the EUP."

Clark said this is a project that he is pretty proud of. "We have built a project around collaboration – these are things we have been working towards for a long time and we are seeing a response from funding agencies and are getting money to do the work," he said.

They will be hiring three seasonal field techs over the next two field seasons to help with the project. "We have three seasonal field techs a year for the bulrush restoration and migratory birds project and two seasonal field techs in the summer months for the snowshoe hare project and one in the winter months," he said. "We are really focused on trying to work with tribal members who are college students and trying to get them in here because those are the folks who will be applying for assessment biologist positions in the future. We really want to invest in tribal members in college and try

to foster them coming back and working in the department or having them out working for the DNR and having close contact with our program. I am pretty enthused about having these seasonal field tech positions because it provides the ability for students to come and do some cool work on summer projects then go back to school and continue to work with us during the summer months. Ultimately there is a lot of value for the tribe in having tribal members working in the department. Often there is a different perspective from a tribal member when you are talking about harvesting natural resources and managing and caring for natural resources. Sault Tribe is second to none in terms of talent, but there is a learning curve of learning to understand tribal perspectives on natural resources. Investing in tribal members and getting them into the program is something I feel is a big priority for us."

The Sault Tribe IFWD team consists of Natural Resource technician Rusty Aikens, assessment biologist John Powell, Permitting and Reporting assistant Rachael Shreve, biologist and Program Manager Eric Clark and biologist/ornithologist Joseph Lautenbach.

NMU reports on feasibility of fish farms in Michigan

BY RICK SMITH

American Indian tribes in Michigan might do well to become informed and keep abreast of the evolution of aquaculture in the state as potential sources of revenue and employment.

The National Marine Fisheries Service defines aquaculture — also known as fish farming or shellfish farming — as breeding, raising and harvesting plants and animals in all types of waters including ponds, rivers, lakes and oceans.

According to a collaborative study conducted by Michigan State University, which produced

A Strategic Plan for a Thriving

Aquaculture — or fish farming — is breeding, raising and harvesting plants and animals in all types of waters including ponds, rivers, lakes and oceans.

and Sustainable Aquaculture Industry in Michigan — Final Project Report, commercial aquaculture in Michigan is underdeveloped at a time when global demand for seafood is rising

and "global capture fisheries have reached maximum yield." Further, half the world's meat protein source is seafood and traditional wild catch fisheries are over-fished, spurring a need for more aquaculture. In 2012, farmed seafood consumption eclipsed wild caught for the first time ever.

The report indicates a billion-dollar industry is possible in Michigan fish farm operations.

Among other features, the 120-page plan contains an analysis of Michigan strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in pursuing fish farms in the state.

Many other considerations are aired in the report as well, including the engagement of tribal communities and observing treaty boundaries as well as consent decrees.

"While we tend to think in terms of state and federal government jurisdiction," the report notes in one section, "much of the open water harvesting of fish in the northern Great Lakes waters is ceded to Native American tribes through consent decrees. This adds a degree of complexity and uncertainty as to how aquaculture could operate in those waters. Dialog with tribal

stakeholders will be required to advance aquaculture in open treaty boundary waters."

A copy of the strategic plan can be viewed or downloaded in its entirety at www.miseagrant.umich.edu/wp-content/blogs.dir/1/files/2012/09/2014-MAA-Strategic-Plan_Final_141215.pdf.

According to the Center for Michigan, supporters say Michigan is "perfectly positioned to be a world leader in freshwater aquaculture and home to all the science, engineering and manufacturing that would accompany this growing part of the world's food economy."

Conservation officers share bowhunting tips

Michigan's bowhunting season opened Oct. 1, and Department of Natural Resources conservation officers are sharing tips for a safe bowhunting experience.

The top safety tips for bowhunting include:

Before you go out, inspect equipment, including your tree stand or other raised platform. If anything is worn, frayed, cracked or peeling, replace it or get it fixed. If using a compound bow or crossbow, make sure the cables and pulleys are in good working order.

When sharpening broadheads, be careful and take your time.

Practice tree-stand safety. The DNR recommends using a full-body safety harness to get into and out of your tree stand.

If using a raised platform, always use a haul line to raise and lower your gear.

Keep arrows in the quiver until you are ready to use them.

A common injury is to stab or injure yourself or a hunting companion while carrying arrows in your hand or nocked on your bow.

When heading out to the woods, hunt with a friend or family member or make sure you tell someone reliable where you are going and what time to expect you back. This information is valuable in helping conservation officers or sheriff's deputies to find you if you are lost.

Also, think about carrying a cell phone, compass, flashlight and other small safety items in when in the woods.

Other important reminders include:

Obtain permission from landowners before hunting on their land or using their land to access public land.

Never take a shot at a deer that is beyond the maximum effective range of your equipment

and your shooting ability.

If you are successful, field dress your deer and cool its meat immediately.

Michigan's unpredictable weather means October days are sometimes warm, and warm temperatures can cause the meat to spoil quickly.

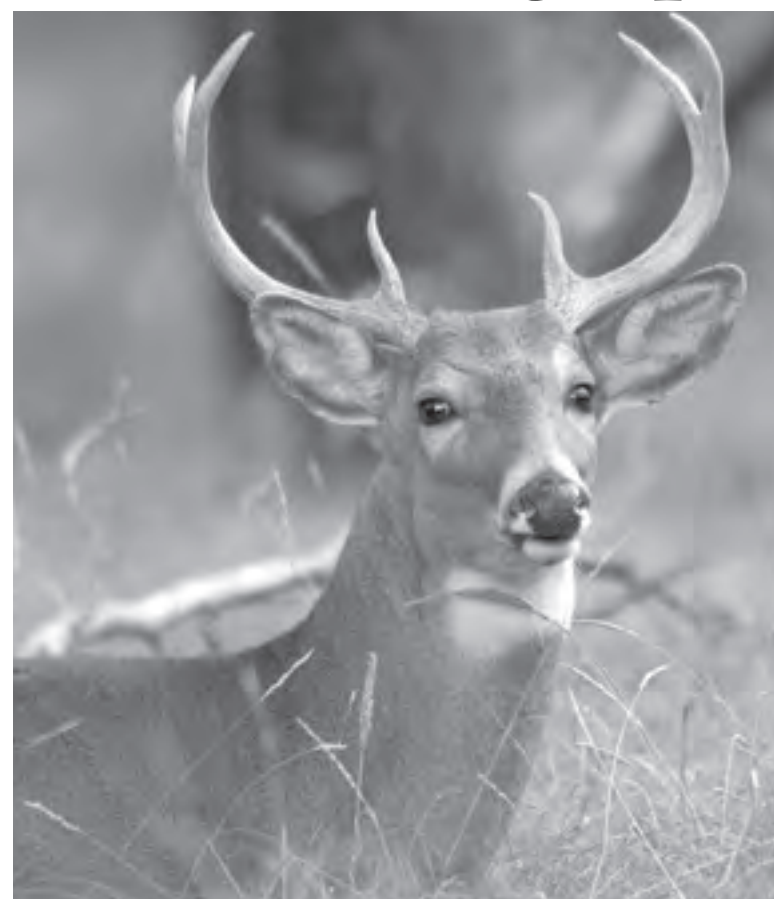
For more information about Michigan's conservation officers, go to www.michigan.gov/conservationofficers.

For more information about hunting in Michigan, go to www.michigan.gov/hunting.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the state's natural and cultural resources for current and future generations.

For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/dnr.

From the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Website.



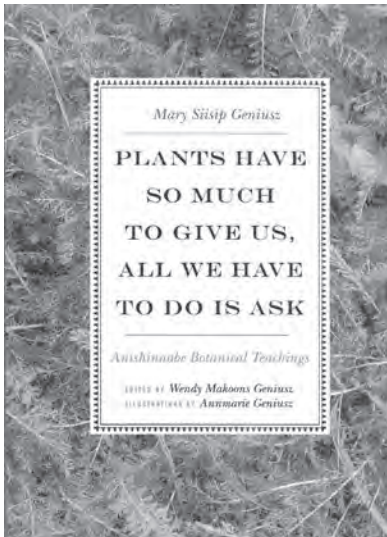
Geniusz writes Anishinaabe ethnobotany book

BY RICK SMITH

Valuable contribution to Anishinaabe cultural revitalization

Ethnobotany — seems a mysterious word to the unacquainted. However, ethnobotany is the study of relationships between plants and humans. According to the New World Encyclopedia, ethnobotanists examine culturally specific ways people view different kinds of plants and what they do with them. They also look at the influences of various plants on human cultures.

Plants Have So Much To Give Us, All We Have To Do Is Ask — Anishinaabe Botanical Teachings is a 372-page ethnobotanical opus by Mary Siisip Geniusz published by the University of Minnesota Press. It is a work that conveys much more than plant identification and usage. It is not a dry textbook, it is written in a conversational style in an interesting combination of old Anishinaabe customs, philosophy, lore and botanical facts.



Reading the book is much like sitting and listening to a knowledgeable elder as she conveys lessons from her vast store of learning and experiences.

After introductions and an invocation, the first chapter opens with a story about different relationships creatures have with a particular plant, shifts to commentary to underscore lessons in the story, veers into an accounting for the acquired knowledge and Anishinaabe views regarding plants and other beings, segues into a cautionary

anecdote on believing what some espouse as fact and concludes with matters related to the book. A bit lengthy, but all written in a way that keeps your interest alive.

All six chapters are written similarly to the first and cover subjects from plants perhaps you might not ever heard about along with trees, plant food sources, plants in Anishinaabe culture and medicinal plants. Illustrations included.

Bonuses abound toward the end of the book. Geniusz tells an old story that neatly underscores the Anishinaabe view of all beings in an epilogue, which is followed by 41 pages of recipes for employing plants for medicinal, hygienic or nutritional purposes. Since certain Anishinaabe terms are used liberally in the book, the author also provides a glossary of the words as well as a glossary of plant names. The book concludes with a bibliography and an index.

According to the book's editor, Wendy Makoons Geniusz, most

of the information in the book came to the author, her mother, from the late Keewaydinoquay, an Anishinaabe medicine woman and ethnobotanist from Michigan. "This book does not lament the loss of our old ways, nor does it present a laundry list of how the Anishinaabe use plants," the editor notes. "It is a detailed account of important teachings from Anishinaabe knowledge, and it will be a valuable contribution to Anishinaabe cultural revitalization."

A postscript indicates Mary Siisip Geniusz, Cree and Métis, is a member of the Bear Clan and worked as an apprentice with

Keewaydinoquay. She taught ethnobotany, American Indian studies and American multicultural studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire and Minnesota State University in Moorhead.

Wendy Makoons Geniusz is an assistant professor at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire teaching Ojibwe language courses. She is the author of *Our Knowledge Is Not Primitive: Decolonizing Botanical Anishinaabe Teachings* and co-editor of *Chi-mewinzha: Ojibwe Stories From Leech Lake* by Dorothy Dora Whipple.

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Climate change and tribal impact training

Climate "boot camp" to address tribal needs, concerns

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Selectively-invited graduate students and early career professionals gather each summer through the U.S. Department of the Interior's Northwest Climate Science Center to face the challenges and opportunities of climate change together as the next generation of educators, scientists, policy-makers and cultural and natural resource managers.

Using that week-long climate "boot camp" as a template, the first ever National Tribal Climate Boot Camp to address tribal needs and concerns related to climate change will be held at the University of Idaho's McCall Field Campus in June 2016.

Interested students and professionals from the 83 member tribes of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) and United South and Eastern Tribes will convene for immersion into climate science, indigenous ecological knowledge, policy and management issues and communication and outreach.

Participants will take part in case studies about tribal climate change issues and participate in field trips to experience collaborative efforts with a focus on planning for adaptation.

Faculty from the University of Idaho, Oregon State University, the University of Washington and other universities, along with tribal leaders, will be developing the camp's program and training.

"Being able to provide this unique educational opportunity is one of the most meaningful contributions the Northwest Climate Science Center can

make to the Native American community at large," said Gustavo Bisbal, NW CSC director. "Training tribal early-career professionals may have a lasting effect that can influence how a large number of tribes respond and adapt to the challenges of a changing climate."

The boot camp is part of a recent bi-coastal tribal climate change initiative, a collaborative effort between the Institute for Tribal Government, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Northwest Climate Science Center.

Don Sampson, ATNI's climate change coordinator, said, "Tribal communities are the most impacted communities in the United States and this effort will help build the tribal capacity to address climate impacts."

The Northwest Climate Science Center was established in 2010 and is a Department of the Interior (DOI) initiative, sponsored by the USGS and jointly hosted by Oregon State University, the University of Idaho, and the University of Washington.

One objective of the Center is to support and train graduate students and early career professionals to work at the interface of scientific research on climate and resource management decision-making.

If you need further information, contact Steven Daley-Laursen, UI, at (208) 885-5804 or by email: stevendl@uidaho.edu; or Tara Roberts, University Communications, at (208) 885-7097, or email: troberts@uidaho.edu.

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St. Marys River habitat restoration to encourage nesting, IFWD targets invasive aquatic plants

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Biologist and Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (IFWD) Manager Eric Clark and his staff have been working on a collaborative project with Dartmouth College, Loyola University, Oregon State University and a colleague at Boise State University doing migratory bird habitat restoration and prioritization planning on the upper St. Marys River in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Clark's department received a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Grant for \$111,000 last year, and has hired a full time assessment biologist (Joseph Lautenbach, ornithologist), who will be overseeing the entire project.

Clark also applied for a Coastal Program Grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and was awarded \$99,000 for implementation work and to identify places in the upper St. Marys River where there are invasive plant species, focusing on hybrid Cattail, non-native Phragmites and Purple Loosestrife.

Sault Tribe and Dartmouth were working together initially on the project, but quickly formed professional working relationships with other organizations doing similar work in the Upper Great Lakes; such as Loyola University, who already had cattail harvesting equipment and was also doing work through the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

In the past month, Clark and his team treated about 10 acres of an 85-acre stand of invasive cattails on Sand Island and will re-vegetate the area with native bulrush, an important species for migratory birds and fish. "We chose to start on Sand Island because we knew it was probably the biggest invasion north of Munuscong Bay of invasive cattails," he said. "The grants are being used for habitat restoration, and our hope is that by creating better breeding habitat we will get more breeding birds."

Clark said, "Native cattails are great; they grow at low densities and grow with a whole suite of other plants. If you see an invasive cattail stand, they are very dense and there are only cattails in it. Invasive Phragmites behaves in the same way. These plants outcompete native plants and completely change the ecology of wetlands, which also impacts the fish and wildlife species that use those areas."

Assistant Professor of Environmental and Native American Studies at Dartmouth College and Sault Tribe member Nick Reo is a partner on this project. He says, "These new plant species can cause rapid transformations of coastal wetlands from diverse, high functioning ecosystems to near monocultures in a matter of 10-20 years." You can see the after effects of these changes in places like Cheboygan Bay where hybrid cattail has taken over and on the St. Claire River and Lake St. Claire, where invasive Phragmites now domi-



IFWD staff haul their equipment with them through the marshy areas near Sand Island.

nates. "When I first started visiting Bkejwanong (Walpole Island First Nation) 20 years ago, their coastal wetlands were some of the most biologically diverse and beautiful places I had ever laid eyes on, and ducks took to the air by the thousands. I recently took a boat ride around Bkejwanong and rarely saw any plants other than Phragmites, and very few ducks whatsoever," said Professor Reo.

The ways these plants can affect wetlands is quite complex, and so are Anishinaabe perspectives about new plant and animal introductions. Professor Reo is interested in the ecology and management of invasive species, but he is equally interested in understanding how these new species fit into the Anishinaabe worldview. "It's very interesting if you think about it. Anishinaabek regard all plants and animals as part of our extended family. So how do we respond when brand new species show up and start taking over habitats? Are these new "family members?" If so, is it okay to just start removing them? Is that just a way of defending the plants and animals we have more than 1,000-year-old relationships with? It's pretty complicated and just about everyone I've spoken to seems to have a slightly different perspective."

The IFWD will spend this winter doing prioritization and planning work, which includes holding public meetings and forming and working with a technical advisory committee composed of experts on migratory bird habitat. The scope of the project includes the upper St. Marys River from the north end of Sugar Island to Munuscong Bay. Within that area there are over 190 islands with a lot of places that are potential worksites.

Clark said the upper St. Marys River is a biologically diverse area that has very healthy coastal wetlands and ecosystems where targeted efforts to kill new invasions of cattails can help maintain the ecological health of the river.

"This is all geared on trying to maintain places and opportunities for members to harvest sustenance species," Clark said. "This all started because of a gentleman

who has hunted Lake George off of Sugar Island since the '60s. He walked into our office and made a comment about how things have changed in the last 50 years that he has been hunting there. Our impetus to go down this road came directly from the membership who use these areas."

Shane Lishawa, a wetland ecologist who plays a leading role in this project for Loyola University in Chicago suggests that, "St. Marys River wetlands are at a crucial juncture; many have relatively recently been invaded by non-native cattails and other invasive plants, which have the potential to cause serious harm to biodiversity including fish and wildlife. But, because of their recent arrival, we are also at a point where targeted ecological restoration efforts have great potential to successfully control these invasive plants and maintain high habitat values in the St. Marys. These issues make the St. Marys very important for conservation and make it a truly interesting place to study restoration ecology."

Clark is proud of the accomplishments of the IFWD and said he thinks it speaks very well for the department that big name research universities are approaching them wanting to be engaged in their project.

"I also think there is a lot of interest generated because Sault Tribe has a lot of members who harvest in these areas and have interest in seeing these ecosystems healthy. Loyola can go cut cattails anywhere, but they want to cut cattails here with us because it is more than just about the cattails — there is a cultural connection to these places. They see and value that and see it as something worth investing time and effort into and being a part of," Clark said.

Lishawa said, "We are very excited to be working with the Sault Tribe to protect and restore St. Marys River wetlands. As someone who not only studies, but also cares deeply about the fate of the Great Lakes, I can't think of a better group to partner with to achieve long-term conservation goals."



Photos courtesy of Loyola University Partner universities, including Loyola, offer the use of their equipment and staff to assist Sault Tribe's IFWD to clear areas on the upper St. Marys River of invasive plant species and re-vegetate with native plants that will provide better nesting opportunities for migratory birds.



Work crews remove invasive cattails and re-vegetate the area with native species such as bulrush.



IFWD and Loyola University working together to restore native vegetation to about 10 acres in the Sand Island area.

St. Ignace elders picnic held in late August



The St. Ignace elders picnic took place on Friday, Aug. 28, with 41 happy, hungry elders attending. Above, Unit III directors Bridgette Sorenson and Keith Massaway serve Sally Valentine.



Photos courtesy of Sheryl Hammock

St. Ignace elders enjoying a late summer meal and good company.



Bridgette Sorenson working the grills.



St. Ignace area elders line up for some fabulous chow.



Sorenson and Massaway helping elders dish up some great meals.



From left, Gilbert Hinojosa and Mike Wilkins chat and chew.

Annual Newberry Honoring the Waters Powwow

Dark clouds and a hint of rain turned to clear skies and sunshine just before the start of the ninth annual Honoring the Waters Powwow in Newberry on Sept. 5. With a bald eagle soaring high overhead in circles, the grand entry started at noon to the beat of the host drum, Mukwa Geezhik of Hessel. Guest drum for the occasion was Weengush of Sault Ste. Marie.



Rocking shawl dancer.



Dancer's regalia shines in the midday sun.



The elders of Newberry conducted a bake sale at the powwow.

Powwow photos by Rick Smith



Host drum Mukwa Geezhik of Hessel, from left, Phillip Andrews, Valjean LaTour, Terry LaTour, James Landreville and Ron Poupard.



Nancy Shananaquet, an Odawa elder from Pellston, Mich., has a quiet conversation with a youngster as she works a crafts kiosk.



Photo courtesy Tribal Court

Michigan Supreme Court Justice Bridget McCormack (left) visited the Tribal Court on Sept. 18. Justice McCormack contacted the Court this summer requesting that she be able to come visit to learn more about our community and the role our Tribal Court plays in the Tribe. During her visit, she met with Judge Jocelyn Fabry (right) and other court staff, and was eager to learn about Sault Tribe's justice system and offer advice on meeting current challenges.



Henry Grondin Sr., the lucky winner of this year's elk permit lottery, stands above with his sons Henry and Jason, and their sons. At right, Grondin got his elk near Gaylord. It had a 6x6 rack and dressed out at 689 pounds.



Dancers framed by a U.S. flag and eagle staff feathers.

Fifth annual Recovery Walk sponsored by Tribal Court and Sault Tribe Behavioral Health

The 2015 Recovery Walk was held Thursday, Sept. 24, in Sault Ste. Marie, with about 225 walkers starting at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church and walking to the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. This year's theme was: "Join the Voices for Recovery: Visible, Vocal, Valuable."

The fifth annual walk took participants through Kewadin Casino and the tribe's reservation, about 1.5 miles.

The goal of the walk is to

increase awareness and understanding of mental and substance use disorders, as well as to spread the message that behavioral health is essential to overall wellness.

The family event featured the walk, craft tables for kids, games and prizes, motivational recovery speakers and a cook-out.

The first 150 registrants received a free T-shirt.

This event is supported by the Sault Tribe of Chippewa

Indians, SAMHSA, Access to Recovery, Tribal Court, Sault Tribe Behavioral Health, and people in and supportive of recovery. (It is supported by award number 2010-AC-BX-0024 from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs. The opinions, findings and conclusions or recommendations expressed at this event are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice.)



Photos by Brenda Austin

Madelyn Houghton, 6, just put her T-shirt on in preparation for the Recovery Walk.



Escorted by Sault Tribe Police, walkers begin their 1.5 mile walk through the tribe's Sault Ste. Marie reservation and casino in support of recovery.



Elliott Povey, 4 (laying down), Lisa Moran, Karlie Kubont, 8 (right, standing), and Nichole Causley.



Sault Kewadin Casino Security Manager Dave Lamyotte and Sault Tribe Police Officer Mike Pins.



Bella (left) and Mya Hickman waiting for the walk to begin.



Chief of Police Robert Marchand gets his T-shirt from volunteer Suzi Pavlat.

YEA's tribal youth council celebrates 20 years



Lisa Burnside and her granddaughter, Callee Mclarahmore, 1.



Photos by Brenda Austin

Sharing a potluck dinner and good memories from 20 years of youth leadership on the tribal youth councils.



High school students from Rudyard in the Rudyard YEA program, from left, Chelsey Levan, Ramibo Saben and Sierra Lanna.

The Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities tribal youth council 20-year anniversary community celebration took place on Sept. 19 at the Negauneeziizhik Ceremonial Building. A pot luck dinner and drum social honored 20 years of tribal youth leadership.

Tristan Slater, an eighth-grader from Manistique, gave a talk and said, "There are not a lot of places you can really get in touch with your culture and where you came from, and where you are going. There are so many people here for you, they are here for everyone, to teach other people and learn from the people here."

Ramibo Saben is a junior at Rudyard High School and is in the Rudyard YEA group. He likes going to youth council meetings "because it educates me on Native American teachings. Its good to branch out and learn about what happened with our history and learn the culture. Everything that has happened in the past to our ancestors has shaped what happens to us today."

Trevor Headley said this is his first year in the program. "I am Native and wanted to learn about my culture and knew I had the opportunity to do that with the tribal youth council," he said.



Callee Mclarahmore, 1, and parents Sarah and A.J. Mclarahmore.



Cathy Abramson recognized with hugs and congratulations for her years of involvement with the YEA program and tribal youth council.



From left, Sault Tribe Board Chairperson Aaron Payment and Unit I board member Cathy Abramson.



Adriana Smutek, 6, making a salad during the council's 20th anniversary potluck.

Youth council celebrates 20-year anniversary

BY DEE EGGERT

(See photos on page 16.)

The youngsters of the Bahweting Anishnabek Tribal Youth Council observed their 20-year anniversary of the council with a mini-conference and celebration at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center on Sept. 18 and 19. It was a huge success with 40 young people attending from across the Sault Tribe service area.

Twenty years ago, youth were presented with the idea that they could be empowered to make changes in their communities, their voices are the voices of tribal leadership, they do not have to be bystanders but active participants in solving problems they and their peers face.

Armed with guidelines from the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) organization, a group of the tribe's youth gathered at the Mary Murray Culture Camp on Sugar Island and created the Bahweting Anishnabek (People from Where the Waters Gather) Tribal Youth Council. In 1995, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors approved the council's bylaws, becoming an official committee of the tribe.

Made up of youth from grades eight through 12 wanting to serve their communities, more youth councils quickly followed. By 2004, there were seven individual Sault Tribe youth councils: the Waaniniigaanzijig Tribal Youth Council from St. Ignace, Nbiish-

be-mwi-jwaang Tribal Youth Council from Hessel, Anishnabe Nimmki Tribal Youth Council from Manistique, the Shkiniigid Bwaadang Tribal Youth Council from Kinross and Rudyard, Gichi-Mising Nimmki Youth Council from Munising and the Anishnabe Zii Biins Youth Council of Escanaba.

With all these individual councils formed, it became obvious one council would need to unite them. A council that would unify the voice of the constituent youth councils, promote communication and collaboration between councils and act as a liaison for Native youth representation to other organizations, communities and units of government. So the Maamwi Niigaanzigaw Grand Tribal Youth Council was established. With advisors Jill Lawson from Sault Ste. Marie, Sue St. Onge from St. Ignace, Lisa Burnside from Hessel, Patty Teeples from Manistique, Dawn Griffin from Kinross-Rudyard, John Pieper from Munising, Kelly Constantino from Escanaba and Dee Eggert Youth Education and Activities (YEA) administrative assistant, the council continues to provide a platform for youth leadership.

Over the years, the councils have taken on issues of childhood obesity, suicide and bullying prevention, drug abuse and domestic violence. They have produced public service announcements, workshops and presentations at

local, tribal, state and national levels. They conduct annual Bike the Sites events, a 47-mile bicycle ride to raise awareness on childhood obesity and its effects. The grand council has gone before the Sault Tribe Board of Directors to establish the policy that, in the Sault Tribe organization, any program working with youth for more than two hours in a sedentary activity must provide a 15-minute break to move around and soda cannot be purchased with tribal dollars for youth functions.

The grand council was recognized with the National Indian Health Board Youth Leadership Award in 2010.

The conference to honor this rich history began with the heartbeat of Mother Earth played by the Sturgeon Bay Singers in a grand entry. The flags and youth staffs were carried in by council volunteers with the POW MIA flag carried in by Staff Sergeant A.J. Mclarahmore of the 1437th Army National Guard Engineer Company. Chairperson Aaron Payment offered the opening and welcome, providing words of encouragement to never give up. Payment, with the assistance of Unit II YEA coordinator Lisa Burnside and the Sturgeon Bay Singers, led the attendees in a rousing two-step dance.

Council alumni provided testimony on their council experiences and how they helped them in their walks in life. A.J.

Mclarahmore of the Nbiish-be-mwi-jwaang Tribal Youth Council from Hessel spoke about his experience and accomplishments during his years with tribal youth council as well as the importance of endurance and dedication to today's youth for a brighter future. Words of encouragement continued with alumna Colleen Medicine from the Waaniniigaanzijig Tribal Youth Council of St. Ignace expressing gratitude to her advisors, offering her a place of comfort and acceptance, and providing an avenue for communication and self-expression. Kimberly Mattson of the Anishnabe Nimmki Tribal Youth Council from Manistique also delivered a message of encouragement with the importance of acceptance and communication during her testimony. Expressing gratitude to her advisors, Mattson spoke how participating in youth council provided her a safe place, and a deeper understanding and acceptance of herself as an Anishnabe.

Council members participated in workshops learning about using digital media to promote ideas, led by YEA coordinator Jill Lawson. Medicine and Mclarahmore presented on council development and creating a stronger voice for youth. YEA coordinator Sue St. Onge facilitated a round table discussion on being Native in the classroom.

The celebration continued during the evening with approxi-

mately 100 community members expressing support during the pot-luck feast and drum social at the Sault Tribe's ceremonial building and co-sponsored by Kewadin Casino. Payment and Unit I Director Cathy Abramson spoke on the development of tribal youth council. They recognized how activist Rosie Gaskin's efforts to provide Anishnabe youth activities that celebrated their culture led to the opportunities youth have today. Directors Jennifer McLeod from Unit I and Bridget Sorenson of Unit III attended the celebration in support of our tribal youth. The heartbeat continued with Joe Medicine and the Sturgeon Bay Singers, while Jody Gaskin provided words of encouragement to continue our cultural ways and stay strong with the drum and song. Gaskin, a singer and songwriter, led the group in several traditional dances.

A heart felt chi-miigwech to all the youth and adults, who over the past 20 years, have created a safe place for youth to explore and embrace their traditions and culture, to confidently take their place among their peers and to find their footing as leaders in their communities. As children of the first tribal youth council members are coming of age to be youth council members themselves, the next 20 years of youth leadership has never looked brighter.

Compete for Voice of Democracy Scholarship

Each year, nearly 40,000 high school students from across the country enter to win a share of the \$2 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the VFW's Voice of Democracy audio-essay competition.

The deadline to enter is Nov. 1.

The VFW established the Voice of Democracy program in 1947 to provide students grades 9-12 with the opportunity to express themselves in regards to

democratic ideas and principles.

The national first-place winner receives a \$30,000 scholarship paid directly to the recipient's American university, college or vocational/technical school. Other national scholarships range from \$1,000-\$16,000, and the first-place winner from each (state) VFW Department wins a minimum scholarship of \$1,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

Who can enter — The Voice

of Democracy Program is open to students in grades 9-12 (on the Nov. 1 deadline), who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States and its territories.

How to enter — Go to www.vfw.org/Community/voice-of-democracy to access the Voice of Democracy 2015-16 entry form and brochure.

If you experience problems downloading or printing the application, please try to access the entry form using Internet Explorer. If you continue to experience problems, please contact the VFW National

Headquarters at kharmer@vfw.org for assistance.

The 2015-16 theme is *My Vision for America*.

Students should record their reading of their essay to an audio CD or flash drive. The recording can be no shorter than three minutes and no longer than five minutes (plus or minus five seconds).

Once applicants create their essay and complete burning the audio version to an audio CD/flash drive, they can submit their typed version, CD/flash drive and the Voice of Democracy entry form to their local participating VFW Post by the Nov. 1

deadline.

Judging criteria

- Originality is worth 30 points: Treatment of the theme should show imagination and human interest.

- Content is worth 35 points: Clearly express your ideas in an organized manner. Fully develop your theme and use transitions to move smoothly from one idea to the other.

- Delivery is worth 35 points: Speak in a clear and credible manner.

Read the previous winning essay from 2014. For more information, see www.vfw.org/Community/Voice-of-Democracy.

Sierant pursuing Ph.D. at Yale

Michael Sierant received a Bachelor of Science degree in molecular and cellular biology from the University of Michigan and has joined the Department of Genetics at Yale University in New Haven, Conn., to pursue a Ph.D. while working under the direction of Dr. Richard Lifton, co-chair of the President's Precision Medicine Initiative.

Sierant is studying the genetic origin of congenital heart disease and hopes his research will one day lead to more effective treatments.

He is a proud Sault Tribe member, son of Chris and Diane Sierant of Rochester, Mich., and grandson of elder, Marilyn



"Teenie" Milatovich of Munising, Mich.

The secret is out: Statewide recruiting for Michigan Youth Challenge Academy Class 34 has begun, class starts on Jan. 17

The Michigan Youth Challenge has begun its recruiting process for Class 34, which begins Jan. 17, 2016. If you or someone you know needs to finish high school and gain self-confidence, respect and employment skills, consider Michigan Youth Challenge Academy (MYCA).

Statewide recruiting for the MYCA has begun. The MYCA is a no cost, voluntary residential education academy for both males and females ages 16-18 who have dropped out or are at risk of dropping out of high school. Over a 22-week period, program participants from all over Michigan attend classes at the MYCA as they would in

a traditional high school, but they also engage in a variety of activities aimed at developing leadership skills, teamwork, physical fitness, employment skills, and civic responsibility. The MYCA employs an inter-

disciplinary intervention model which includes formal education, elements of the social and behavioral sciences, and a quasi-military structure of organization and procedures.

Recruiting and informational events are scheduled around the state of Michigan and open to the public. These events provide an MYCA outline and benefits presentation along with individual applicant interviews. The main purpose of each recruiting event is to identify the best qualified applicants; those who possess the necessary abilities to become an MYCA graduate. For an active list of recruiting and informational events, visit www.miyca.org.



2015-16 GED programs underway

The 2015-16 GED program offered by Consolidated Community Schools Services (CCSS) and the Sault Tribe Adult Learning Center began on Sept. 14. Students may enroll at any time during the school year, so today is the perfect time to begin earning your high school credential. Classes and testing are free to tribal and non-tribal community members.

For more information, call Tanya Pages at (906) 632-6098 or tpages@eup.k12.mi.us. Or call the main office at (906) 495-7305.

Early Childhood Education brings back open houses

By TIFFANY MENARD

Sault Tribe Early Childhood Education Programs had fall open houses and cookouts to kick off the 2015-16 season.

Many families attended the functions at the Head Start Center

in St. Ignace, the Head Start and Early Head Start Center and the Child Care Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

While the program always provides a “peek-in” day for students and families, these are the first

family open house events conducted in quite some time.

Family meetings followed the functions and families received information on the creative curriculum, transportation safety, health requirements and informa-

tion on coming family training events.

We extend a “chi miigwech” to the parents who currently serve on the policy council and those who submitted nominations for policy council: Shannon Huhn,

Stephanie Dawn Sprecker, Sheila Kibble, Jamey Young, Sheryl Hammock, Vicki Sumner and Kristina Nichols. Without the active involvement of families on the policy council, our programs could not function.



St. Ignace families showed up in force for the St. Ignace Early Childhood program open house and cookout at the Head Start Center this September.



St. Ignace student Daniel and his mom chow down on burgers and watermelon.



Mother and child enjoy a cookout lunch at the Head Start open house.



From left, Leo and Gracie with mom, Samantha Esson, in Sault Ste. Marie.



Head Start and Early Head Start Center and the Child Care Center open houses in Sault Ste. Marie were well attended by area families.



Brothers and mom look pretty happy together at the St. Ignace Head Start open house.



St. Ignace boys eat — and play? — together at the Head Start Center cookout.



Daniel, James and Anthony with grandma and mom at the Sault open house and cookout.

Newberry members learn the art of pasty making

A class on cooking pasties in Newberry on Sept. 18 proved to be a popular course where instructors and students enjoyed themselves.

The class was a joint effort by the Rural Health Nutrition Department and USDA Food Distribution with Marlene Porcaro of the USDA and Gail Sulander of the Nutrition Department providing instruction.

“We were able to teach the art of making pasties and enjoy some delicious food,” said Sulander. “It was decided we would hold this class every fall in Newberry.”

To gauge interest for possible future classes, Sulander would like to hear from other tribal

members who are interested in having a class in their area,

they only need to call 341-9525 or gsulander@saulttribe.net.



Susan Askwith proclaims the pasties are done!

Kerr-Noller wedding

Krystle Kerr, daughter of Rose Kerr and Tommy Moody of St. Ignace, Mich., married Leroy

Noller, son of John and Karan Noller of Mecosta, Mich., on May 16, 2015.

The ceremony took place in Rodney, Mich., on the farm of Norm Beaubien. Krystle was given away by her stepfather Tommy Moody and brother Anthony Kerr. Childhood friend Jan Norton stood as maid of honor and childhood friend Shawn Renne stood as best man; both are from Rodney, Mich. Both Krystle’s and Leroy’s sisters, Michelle Gil, Audrey Boerma and Eugenia Holmes stood as bridesmaids along with Krystle’s friend Ann Aldrich. Standing for Leroy was his father John, childhood friend Cody Horton, as well as both of his brothers-in-law Nathan Boerma and Steve Holmes. Flower girl Ava Moses, Leroy’s niece, was escorted by ring bearer Tyler Renne, best man’s son.

Krystle is a member of the Sault St Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She and Larry reside in Clarkston, Mich., where Leroy works as a machinist in Pontiac. Krystle is currently working on her English degree. Living with them are Krystle’s children Larry, Henry and Todd.

For their honeymoon, the couple plans to travel through the U.P. to Wisconsin and back down through Ohio before heading home.



USDA’s Marlene Porcaro and Rural Health’s Gail Sulander, ready to teach the fine art of pasties.



From left, Joan Smith and Diane Corns rolling dough while Marlene Porcaro mixes up the filling ingredients.

State police offers tips to talk to students about bullying

SAULT STE MARIE, Mich.— The Michigan State Police (MSP) encourage parents and teachers to talk to students about what to do if they experience or witness an act of bullying.

Bullying is a form of abuse that consists of repeated acts over time that involve a real or perceived imbalance of power with the more powerful individual or

group abusing those who are less powerful.

“Reports indicate over 70 percent of students will witness an act of bullying while at school,” said a community service trooper in Sault Ste. Marie. “Bullying is a serious issue that can lead to harmful effects and that’s why it is important to talk to children about how to react if they are bullied or if they witness some-

one else being bullied.”

Here are some tips about how to best respond to bullying:

- Don’t respond with anger.
- Never get physical or bully back.
- Act brave, walk away and ignore the bully.
- Talk about it.
- Utilize your friends.
- If you are bullied, tell an adult.
- If you see someone bullied, tell an adult.

The MSP promotes anti-bullying through the Teaching, Educating And Mentoring (TEAM) school liaison program educating students about social rules and responsibilities, positive behaviors and what to do when experiencing or witnessing bullying. To find a community service trooper, visit www.michigan.gov/mspcst.



October is Bullying Awareness Month



Joe LaDuc is rolling out dough, too. Filling goes on top, edged, sealed and fluted for the perfect pasty!

BONNIE L. BUCHT

Bonnie Lucille (nee McInnes) Bucht, 76, of Drummond Island, Mich., died on Sept. 2, 2015, in her home. She was born on Oct. 13, 1938, to Lauchlan C. and Helen M. (nee LaPointe) McInnes on Drummond Island.

Bonnie grew up on Drummond Island and attended Loretto Catholic School in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., for two years before graduating from DeTour High School. On Dec. 3, 1960, she married Carl August Bucht. They started their life in Wisconsin, for a year, before moving back to their hometown on Drummond Island. For 23 years, they ran their business B&C Bakery, Restaurant and Motel. After retiring, she was a caregiver for many family members.

Bonnie was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the St. Florence Catholic Church and the women's golf leagues at both courses on Drummond.

She loved golfing, cooking and having fun. She enjoyed fishing and mushroom picking.

Bonnie is survived by her husband, Carl Bucht; children, Carlene Ann (Patrick) MacGregor of Wyoming, Minn., Michael Edward (Amy) Bucht of Laingsburg, Mich., and Kelly (Dale) Melvin of Drummond Island; grandchildren, Connor and Shea MacGregor, Colton, Kade and Kelsie Bucht, and Zachary and Blake Melvin; brothers-in-law, Norbert "Ike" Isaacson of Milwaukee, Wis., Harry Hirth of Dublin, Ohio, Sune (Carol) Bucht Jr. of Drummond Island and Vincent Klamerus of Drummond Island; sisters-in-law, JoEllen McInnes of Fenton, Mich., and Ann Schultz of Grosse Ile, Mich.; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Elaine (Woodrow) Nixon, Blanche Isaacson, Lorraine Hirth and Jeannine (Daniel) Gable; brothers, Lauchlan McInnes and James (Kathryn) McInnes; sister-in-law, Ruth Klamerus; and mother and father-in-law, Sune and Hilka Bucht.

A memorial mass took place on Sept. 5, 2015, at St Florence Catholic Church on Drummond Island.

Memorial contributions may be made to Drummond Island Ladies Golf Club or Hospice of the E.U.P. in Sault Ste. Marie.

R. Galer Funeral Home in Pickford, Mich., served the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.rgalerfuneral-home.com.

DANIEL B. LORDSON

Daniel Bryton Lordson, aged 19, of Escanaba passed away on Sept. 5, 2015, at the U.P. Health System in Marquette.

Daniel was born on May 11, 1996, in Clare, Mich., the son of Robert and Jennifer (nee Gerou) Lordson. He had a contagious smile and laugh. He was a sweet-loving kid and enjoyed

hanging out with his friends, parkour, singing and rapping, hunting, fishing and trapping with his dad, playing video games and was an avid Detroit Lions fan. Daniel graduated from Mid-Pen High School in 2014, a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and worked at the Hansen potato farm.

Daniel had a strong faith with God and his favorite Bible verse was *2 Timothy 2:3 — Join with me in suffering, like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.*

Daniel is survived by his parents, his maternal grandmother, Lois J. Gerou of Escanaba; paternal grandparents, Tony and Lois Lordson of Rapid River; brothers, Hawkins, Robbie, Tony, Joey, Josh and Jamie Lordson; sisters, Chelsey Gerou and Billy Jo Wiexel; step-father, Mark (Lois M. Gerou) Gaus of Gladstone; special cousins, Cliff and Casey Lordson and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

He was preceded in death by his grandfather, Mike Gerou; cousins, Heather Kern Bachelor and Tracy Kern; and his uncle, Scott Gerou.

Private funeral services took place at the convenience of the family.

The Lordson family was helped by the Skradski Funeral Home in Gladstone.

For additional information or to leave the family a message of condolence, go to www.skradski-funeralhomes.com.

JOHN R. MULLEN

John Robert "Bob" Mullen peacefully went to be with his heavenly father on Oct. 2, 2015, from the Hospice House in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., his beloved family was at his side.

Bob was born on June 7, 1932, in Sault Ste. Marie to the late Harold and Mary (nee Doyle) Mullen. He attended Sault High School. In 1952, he married his sweetheart, Theresa Tremblay, at St. Francis Catholic Church in Brimley, Mich. They spent over 63 loving years together.

Bob had a 30-year career with *The Evening News*, and after a brief stint with the railroad, had a second 16-year career with the International Bridge Authority before fully retiring in 1997 to spend time with his family. He was a member of Sault Tribe and a long-time parishioner of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Sault Ste. Marie.

Bob is survived by his loving wife, Theresa; children, Irene (Jim) Reischel of Bloomer, Wis., John Mullen of Sault Ste. Marie, Marie (Randy) Scoggins of Mount Dora, Fla., Brian Mullen of Sault Ste. Marie, Catherine (Mick) Maleport of Dafter, Mich., Daniel Mullen of Sault Ste. Marie, Dolores

(Larry) Hall of Orlando, Fla.; brother, Harold "Bud" Mullen of Midland, Mich.; 16 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren with two more on the way.

Bob has now joined his parents; youngest son, Paul; grandson, Elijah; sisters, Shirley Cameron and Marjorie Kelly; and brother, Jim Beaumont, who preceded him to heaven.

Bob's love for his family and friends was a shining example of Christ's unconditional love for us. His wit and sense of humor coupled with his considerate, kind and generous spirit touched all those he came into contact with. We eagerly look forward to being reunited with him in heaven.

A visitation for Bob's family and friends was held at the C.S. Mulder Funeral Home in Sault Ste. Marie on Oct. 5. Funeral services were held at St Joseph's Catholic Church in Sault Ste. Marie on Oct. 6, with Father Michael Chenier as celebrant.

The family welcomes flowers and donations to Hospice of the Eastern U.P. or Mass intentions.

Condolences may be left on-line at csmulder.com.

RHONDA L. RITTER

Rhonda Lynn Ritter found everlasting peace on Aug. 16, 2015. She passed away at Marquette General Hospital, Marquette, Mich.

Rhonda was a loving mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, cousin, aunt and dear friend.

She was born in Manistique, Mich., on April 9, 1957, the second child of Theodore "Cookie" and Patricia "Pat" Vertn Ritter.

Rhonda leaves behind three sons, Tyler Haddon, of Gladstone, Mich., Alex Rivers of Pickford, Mich., Lewie Miller of Manistique, Mich., and daughter-in-law, Mindy (Tarmutzer) Rivers of Pickford, Mich.; six grandchildren, Brooklynn Haddon, of Gladstone, Mich., Caden Johas and Eli Rivers of Pickford, Mich., Aiden (Bartholomew) Miller of Cooks, Mich., and Isaiah (Costello) Miller of Manistique, Mich., father and step-mother, Theodore (Cookie) and Leah Ritter of Gladstone, Mich.; sisters and brothers-in-law, Monica (Emery) Rochefort of Manistique, Mich., and Lenora (Rick) Beckman of Marquette, Mich.; brother, Theodore (Ted/TeddyPat) Ritter of Marquette, Mich.; niece, Shawn Beckman of Marquette, Mich.; nephews and nieces-in-law, Beau and Jessica Rochefort of Manistique, Mich., Eric and Kerri Beckman of Marquette, Mich.; great-nieces, Paige and Madison Rochefort, of Manistique, Mich., Ally Beckman of Marquette, Mich.; great-nephews, Isaac and Gabe Rochefort of Manistique, Mich., and Henrik Beckman of Marquette, Mich.; close cousins, Clara (Peter) Markham and Robin Marchand all of

Manistique, Mich. She also left behind several other dear cousins, aunts and uncles too numerous to name.

Rhonda was preceded in death by her loving mother, Patricia "Pat" Vertn Ritter; sister, Lisa Ritter; maternal grandparents, Mittie and LeRoy Vertn; paternal grandparents, Clara and Amos Ritter; dear aunts and uncles, June "Junie" and Richard "Dick" Marchand, MaryLou and Robert "Bobby/Boop" Ritter, Elieen and Ken Ritter, Alice and Bill "Junior" Popour, Alice and Bill "Chief" Ritter, George "Ace" Ritter and Lew Ritter; along with many more aunts, uncles and cousins too numerous to name.

If there were just a few words to describe Rhonda, it would have to be these: Beautiful, outgoing, beautiful red hair, freckles, awesome smile and such wonderful dimples and most of all a heart filled with an over-abundance of love. She always greeted everyone she knew, family, friends or strangers, with a big smile, a hug and a kiss.

Rhonda will truly be missed by her entire family and friends, especially her grandchildren, of whom she loved very much.

A memorial luncheon celebrating her life took place on Sept. 12, 2015, at the Sault Tribe Community Center in Manistique, Mich. Rhonda's ashes will be forever intertwined with her loving mother and sister at Lakeview Cemetery, in Manistique, Mich. As her mother welcomed her in life, she will also welcome her in death.

Dear cousin, hope you're busy frying burgers and making chocolate chip cookies with aunt Junie. And you no longer have to worry about the spiders in the night, surrounded by so many people who love you and will never be alone.

Love you always!

The Loss of a Cousin

Our eyes filled up with tears as we heard the news. It never occurred to us how much we could lose. We find ourselves wishing that it wasn't real, and every time we think about it, pain is all we feel. Tears fall from our eyes, we can barely see.

But our hearts tell us that she'll always be with us. We are glad she feels no more pain, now she lives in a perfect land. We can still feel the soft touch on our shoulder of her loving hand. We lie in bed and cry at night and we don't feel any better in the morning light.

And we will love and miss her forever until the day we are again together in that perfect place above filled with caring, sharing and love. But until that day comes, we will wipe our tears away and hopefully see her again someday.

LAWRENCE L. SCHWIDERSON

Lawrence "Larry" L. Schwiderson, 94, of Muskegon, Mich., passed away unexpectedly on Sept. 23, 2015. He was born on Feb. 16, 1921,

in Brimley, Mich., to Frank and Sarah Schwiderson. Larry was an active member of VFW Post 7729 and the Fruitport Eagles. He attended Fellowship Reformed Church and was a member of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Larry retired from Continental Motors in Muskegon. He was a friend to many and was a staple in the community. Larry loved to garden and was known for fixing many lawnmowers. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family and adored his children and grandchildren.

He is survived by his special friend, Maxine McLaren; his son, Carl (Lori Groh) Schwiderson; his grandsons, Kyle Lawrence Schwiderson and Robert Dale Afton III; and many nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

Larry was preceded in death by his daughter, Cheryl, whom he loved and missed dearly; his parents; and many brothers and sisters.

Services took place on Sept. 29 at Ever Rest Funeral Home and Chapel in Muskegon, Pastor Mike VanKampen officiating, with interment in Egelston Township Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to Hospice.

MARK K. WILSON

Mark Kim Wilson, aged 62, of Dafter, Mich., died on Sept. 8, 2015, in his home. He was born on Aug. 13, 1953, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Mark grew up in Brimley, Mich., and attended Brimley High School. After high school graduation, Mark worked in California in the lumber industry for several years. He met Gloria Mominee and they later moved to lower Michigan. Mark worked in construction and they then moved to Dafter to raise their son. Mark continued to work in construction and also did handyman work. He could fix almost anything.

Mark belonged to the carpenters' union. He was an avid sportsman who loved to fish, hunt and trap. He enjoyed reading and was a big history buff.

He is survived by his girlfriend of 37 years, Gloria Mominee of Dafter; mother, Shirley (Walter) Bandstra of Brimley; father, Edgar (Barbara) Wilson of Sault Ste. Marie; son, Jacob Daniel (Shena Sloboda) Wilson of Sault Ste. Marie; grandson, Gavin Xavier Wilson; brothers, Garry (Cindy) Wilson of Brimley and Edward Wilson of Sault Ste. Marie; and sister, Heidi Wilson of Sault Ste. Marie.

Mark was preceded in death by his sister, Cynthia Ann Wilson.

A private family gathering will take place at a later time. Interment will be at Hillcrest Cemetery in Raco, Mich.



Community health strategies discussed at conference

MACKINAC ISLAND, Mich. – More than 80 community leaders, educators and healthcare professionals turned out recently for a two-and-a-half day conference on Mackinac Island to learn and share ideas that will making the Upper Peninsula a healthier place to live. Hosted by Sault Tribe Community Health, the UP4Health Summit took place at Mission Point Resort Sept. 14 to 16 and included a full agenda of speakers. Nationally renowned speakers included Ryan Picarella, president of the Wellness Council of America, and Mark Fenton, an advocate for non-motorized transportation and consultant on bicycle and pedestrian community plans.

Picarella discussed strategies for changing organizations and

the community through policy, environmental change, better foods, more physical activity, decreasing exposure to smoke and other wellness strategies. Attendees learned about the chemistry of stress and its impact on health, and how organizations can build cultures of total health and well-being.

Fenton's keynote address covered the epidemic of physical inactivity. He talked about building environments that are supportive of routine physical activity and outlined how to sell the needed changes to community leaders, businesses and residents in general, with a focus on the unique challenges of rural settings and small towns.

In addition to keynote presentations, participants

engaged in a panel discussion, breakout sessions and cultural activities.

"The summit was very well-received. It was just the right number of people to engage in one-on-one experiences," said Joanne Umbrasas, Sault Tribe Community Health project coordinator. "We really wanted people to walk away with a deeper understanding of what current research tells us, and strategies to change social norms about how individuals view health."

The UP4Health Summit was funded by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Partnerships to Improve Community Health.

For more information visit www.UP4Health.org.



Photo courtesy of Sault Tribe Community Health
Ryan Picarella, president of the Wellness Council of America, addresses attendees at the UP4Health Summit on Mackinac Island, which took place on Sept. 14-16.

High school students "step-up" for summer research

Sault Tribe members Abby Alexander and Sage Bingaman, both 17-year-old high school seniors, spent their summer vacation differently than past summer breaks. While most of their friends were enjoying a break from schoolwork, swimming, fishing, hiking and a plethora of other fun activities, Abby and Sage were putting their energies and talents into research projects for the University of Nevada-Las Vegas and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Washington, D.C.

The projects, coordinated by several universities and the NIH, centered on health and environmental problems plaguing

under represented groups within the U.S. and its territories. The Step-Up Program is extremely competitive and acceptance in the project demonstrates a dedication to hard work and excellence found in the few students who make it through the vetting process.

Working closely with mentors in fields of biomedical engineering, behavioral sciences and public health medicine, the student researchers delve into hands-on projects that give their presentations a unique perspective on endocrinology, diabetes and various metabolic, digestive, kidney, urologic and hematologic diseases. The long hours of research, study, and consultations

with mentors and specialists, along with interviews with doctors and healers in the field, culminated in their presentation at the NIH in Bethesda, Md., the last week in July.

Joining the students at the presentation and banquet were their parents, Peter and Lara Alexander and Christopher and Carla (nee Wessell) Knowles, University of Nevada-Las Vegas Director Carolee Dodge-Francis and coordinator DeeJay Chino.

Alexander attends Grand Blanc High School in Michigan and plans on going into physical therapy. Bingaman attends Darby High School in Hilliard, Ohio, and plans on studying pharmacy.



Sault Tribe members Abby Alexander and Sage Bingaman, spent their summer doing research projects for the University of Nevada-Las Vegas and the National Institute of Health in Washington, D.C.

Ways to protect your health from wood burning stoves

BY JORDAN JOHNSTON

As autumn begin to unfold in the Upper Peninsula, we cannot help but turn our focus to the cold winter lurking around the corner. We spend more months fighting winter chill than abating summer heat. For many, tackling the winter chill means firing up the old woodstove.

Wood burning as a source of heat can give families and individuals a sense of self-sufficiency. As the spring and summer months unfold, people take the time and effort to cut, split and stack the wood that will help get them through the winter. That hard work pays off in the form of heat and comfort during the harsh Michigan winters. Wood burning as a source of heat is a renewable resource, unlike the fuels used in furnaces and gas stoves, and in many families is a time-honored tradition passed down through the generations. Just as autumn signifies harvest to us, spring signifies the processes of preparing wood for the following winter. However, it does have its disadvantages.

Wood burning is linked to poor air quality and air pollutants. Old wood burning stoves that are not properly sealed can and will leak smoke into the house. That smoke contains harmful chemicals and particulates that can impact the health of the house's inhabitants. Lung and heart disease have been linked to the particulates and chemicals that are

released when wood is burnt.

However, that doesn't mean chuck the woodstove and kick the furnace into high gear. As with most issues facing the health of our environment and our selves, there are small steps you can take in order to make a large impact.

The first recommended step is to only burn clean, dry, well-seasoned hardwood. This means you won't be burning wood that has been chemically treated (and never burn painted wood scraps!) and you won't be burning wet wood that produces a large amount of smoke. The most important quality for any firewood is its moisture content. Ideally the wood burned in stoves would contain a moisture level of around 20-25 percent. This seasoned wood will allow for a quicker start, greater production of heat and a cleaner burn. When attempting to burn wet or green wood, not only do you produce copious amounts of smoke, you also lose a large amount of energy and heat. This unseasoned wood not only costs you more in the long run, it also deposits large amounts of acidic water in your chimney.

It is said a long straight row of firewood standing in the yard in springtime is "like money in the bank." Over the summer months, if the wood is properly stacked to allow optimal airflow and in an area that receives a good amount of sunlight, you're gaining interest on your investment in that

wood. By cutting, splitting and stacking in the spring, you allow the summer months to do the work for you. The combination of wind and sun will help to dry out your wood and season it for use in the autumn and winter. An early start to your woodpile in the spring means a better season for you in the long run. Whether you are purchasing wood or cutting, splitting and stacking it yourself there are certain characteristics you can look for in order to know if the wood is seasoned and dry enough for an optimal burn. The Chimney Safety Institute of America writes, "Well seasoned firewood generally has darkened ends with cracks or splits visible, it is relatively lightweight and makes a clear 'clunk' when two pieces are beat together." On the other hand, green wood "is very heavy, the ends look fresher and it tends to make a dull "thud" when struck." However, even a well-trained eye can be fooled. The best way to make sure your woodpile is ready for the autumn and winter months is to give it a solid summer in the wind and sun.

Yet, even with properly dried wood, particulates and chemicals released with the smoke can be harmful to your and your family's health. The second step to take when trying to combat the air quality issues of wood burning is to assess your woodstove's output and take steps to improve or replace that old stove.

When determining if your stove is producing too much smoke and particulates the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suggests asking yourself a few questions. Do you smell smoke in your house? Do you see large amounts of smoke being emitted from your chimney? Do you notice more dust accumulation during the months you use your stove? Are you constantly feeding wood to your stove? Finally, do you notice yourself or your family members experiencing watering eyes and stuffy noses while the stove is in use? If you answered yes to any or all of these questions it's time to start planning for a new stove.

The EPA states on their website, "While older uncertified stoves release 15 to 30 grams of smoke per hour, new EPA-certified stoves cannot emit more than 4.5 grams of smoke per hour." This not only limits the amount of smoke put out, it also limits the chemicals and particulates released with the smoke. The EPA also states certified woodstoves burn one-third less wood than non-certified stoves. Cutting back on the amount of wood you burn can save you money and hours of labor. This improves the quality of air in your home as well as for your surrounding neighbors. The smoke from stoves can seep into even the most "air tight" homes from neighbors burning wood and decrease the quality of air even in

homes that do not use wood heat.

Beyond EPA certified woodstoves, pellet stoves are among the cleanest burning options out there. Not only are they much more efficient than typical wood burning stoves, they allow you to leave the chore of cutting, splitting, stacking and hauling behind. Some advanced pellet stoves even have a built in thermostat to allow you more control over the temperature in your home.

At Sault Tribe Environmental Department, we understand wood burning is more affordable than running your furnace during the harsh winters of the Upper Peninsula. We also understand in many cases wood burning is a family tradition handed down through generations. We do not expect nor would we want you to give up on that money saving family tradition. We do want you to consider your options, your health and the environment's health while burning.

When it comes to determining the right wood stove for you, we're here to help. We are always available to answer questions and to point you in the right direction when it comes to finding information and options. Should you at any time have questions about wood burning's impact on indoor air quality or wood burning options please give us a call at (906) 632-5575.

Jordan Johnston is on the staff of the Sault Tribe Environmental Department.

Approved resolutions of Sept. 22 board meet

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened a regular meeting on Sept. 22 in Munising, all were present with the exception of Cathy Abramson and Catherine Hollowell.

The board reviewed and approved 15 resolutions, 12 by unanimous vote.

Resolution 2015-199: Amending Tribal Code by Replacing Chapter 34: Personal Protection Orders and Injunctions – The tribal personal protection orders and injunction code was updated to reflect developments in state and federal laws over the past 18 years, which is when Chapter 34 was first adopted.

Res. 2015-200: Authorization to apply for Tribal Education Department Grant Program – A grant application and any subsequent award was authorized

by the board. If awarded, the grant would be used to fund an Education Director, a feasibility study for a Tribal Education Center and an expanded school readiness program.

Res. 2015-201: Indian Health Services Special Diabetes Program for Indians Grant-Financed Solely by Indian Health Service Funds – The BOD approved the submission of a grant application to the IHS for a Special Diabetes Program for Indians 2-year grant project.

Res. 2015-202: Trust Land Lease in Sault, Mich. – A parcel of land containing .36 acres was leased to Barbara J. Parr.

Res. 2015-203: Trust Land Lease in Kinross, Mich. – A lot was leased to Kayla Brown in Cedar Grove Estates III.

Res. 2015-204: Cellular Phone Services Contract, AT&T

Mobility – Cell phone service was continued with AT&T under the Western States standard agreement.

Res. 2015-205: Approval and Authorization of Amendment of PNC Bank Financing Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Consent to Waiver of Tribal Court Jurisdiction: The tribe waived the jurisdiction of the Tribal Court in connection with amending provisions of the loan agreement.

Res. 2015-206: Community Recreation Center, Child Care Center, Northern Travel, and Indirect FY 2015 Budget Modifications – A budget modification was approved to the four entities above for an increase in Tribal Support of \$243,779.

Res. 2015-207: Education – Honoring Our Children Initiative, Establishment of 2016 Budget – The board approved the estab-

lishment of an FY 2016 budget for the initiative with Inter-Tribal Council monies of \$30,920.

Res. 2015-208: Employment – WIOA Work Experience FY 2016 Budget Modification – An increase in federal monies of \$2,549 was approved.

Res. 2015-209: Midjim St. Ignace FY 2015 Capital Purchases Budget Modification – A capital purchases budget modification for the St. Ignace Midjim was approved for an increase of \$57,000.

Res. 2015-210: Child Care Center 2015 Budget Modification – Changes to the personnel sheet were approved with no effect on tribal support.

Res. 2015-211: Indirect – Executive Director and Indirect FY 2015 Budget Modifications – Changes in the personnel sheet and an increase in Tribal

Support monies of \$10,976 were approved.

Res. 2015-212: Continuing Funding Authority for Fiscal Year 2016 September to August and October to September – To ensure services are not left unfunded for a period between the expiration of the fiscal year 2015 budgets and approval of FY 2016 budgets, the board approved continuing funding to a number of cost centers for FY 2016, at their 2015 spending levels, for a period not to exceed 60 days.

Res. 2015-213: Approving Contract – The board approved the contract between the tribe and Butzel Long, P.C., ending Dec. 31, 2016, to provide employee benefits legal representation to the tribe.

To see resolutions in their entirety, visit saulttribe.com.

Resolutions passed at Aug. 18, Sept. 1 board meetings

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened a regular meeting on Aug. 18, all were present except Rita Glyptis.

The board took up 19 resolutions, passing 12 by unanimous vote.

Resolution 2015-173: ITC-CDC Breast Health Grant, Health Center Medical/Nursing, and Special Diabetes FY 2015 budget modifications — budget modifications (changes to personnel sheets and reallocation of expenses) were approved with no effect on tribal support.

Res. 2015-174: Cultural, Library Services Establishment of a FY 2016 Budget — A budget of \$7,000 was approved with federal revenue monies and no effect on tribal support.

Res. 2015-175: Continuing Funding Authority for fiscal year 2016 Sept. to Aug. — Continuing funding for eight cost centers for FY 2016 were approved at their 2015 spending levels for a period not to exceed 45 days.

Res. 2015-176: Manistique Health Clinic FY 2015 Budget Modification — Approved for changes to personnel sheet and reallocation of expenses with no effect on tribal support.

Res. 2015-177: Trust Land Lease, 1801 J. K. Lumsden Way, McGlinch, Sault Ste. Marie, MI — A lease was approved to Lisa McGlinch of a .36-acre parcel of land.

Res. 2015-178: Trust Land Lease, 1480 East Wolverine Drive, Schopp, Sault Ste. Marie, MI. — A lease was approved and

executed to Edward A. and Jody A. Schopp containing 1.15 acres of land.

Res. 2015-179: Trust Land Lease, 1900 J.K. Lumsden Way, Santiago, Sault Ste. Marie, MI. — A lease was approved and executed to Walter Santiago containing .36 acres.

Res. 2015-180: The Spirit of Community Health Michigan Public Health Institute Tribal Public Health Case Study — The BOD authorized the Health Division's Community Health Program to present the Spirit of Community Health Tribal Health Case Study aggregate results and key findings with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and to use this data in public health publications as approved by the health director.

Res. 2015-181: VOCA Grant Program Victim of Crime Act — The board authorized application to the Crime Victim Services Commission for funding of VOCA Program for FY 2015-2016.

Res. 2015-182: Recognition of Michigan Indian Legal Services on the occasion of its 40th anniversary — The board recognized Michigan Indian Legal Services on the occasion of its 40th anniversary and commended it for its substantial contribution to the Michigan Indian community.

Res. 2015-183: Bereavement Policies — The board enacted revisions to the Casino, Government and Enterprise Bereavement and Funeral policies beginning on Sept. 1, 2015.

Res. 2015-184: Authorize

the Chairperson to Enter into Contract with Arrow Construction as General Contractor for Bahweting School Loop Project — The board authorized the chairperson to negotiate and execute a contract between the tribe and Arrow Construction for general contracting services for Bahweting School Loop Project, and authorized expenditures from the Transportation Fund cost center.

Res. 2015-185: Approving Contracting Arranging for Loan Amendments — The board approved retaining the services of PNC Capital Markets, LLC, on an exclusive basis for six months to arrange for refinancing the tribe and Gaming Authority's outstanding balance on debt, seek relief from covenants on the current agreements, increase free reserves for slot improvements and other capital expenditures.

Res. 2015-186: Authorization to Enter into Joint Defense Agreement for Presque Isle Power Plant FERC Dockets and Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and of Tribal Court Jurisdiction for that Agreement — The board authorized the chairperson to negotiate and enter into a Joint Defense Agreement.

Res. 2015-187: Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Consent to Waiver of Tribal Court Jurisdiction Finance Agreement with Lake Forest Bank & Trust — The board approved a waiver of sovereign immunity and waived the exclusive jurisdiction of the Tribe Court over any action arising under the Premium

Finance Agreement.

Res. 2015-188: Oscar W. Larson Contract Consent to Indemnify — In order for the tribe to retain the services of the Oscar W. Larson Company for services in relation to the repairs and replacement of equipment at the St. Ignace Midjim location, the board agreed to a waiver of immunity and a waiver of Tribal Court jurisdiction.

Res. 2015-189: Tribal Code: Chapter 100, Cemetery Ordinance — The board approved and enacted the Cemetery Ordinance to be effective immediately and to be included in the Tribe's Code as Chapter 100.

Res. 2015-190: Amending Tribal Code Chapter 70 Criminal Procedure by adding Section 70.134 Limiting Certain Prosecution Agreements — The board approved the amendment of Chapter 70 of the Tribal Code by the additional of a new section titled: "Limitation on certain prosecution agreements to dismiss charges."

Res. 2015-191: Amending Tribal Code by Adding Chapter 77: Setting Aside Tribal Convictions — The board approved an amendment of Tribal Code with the addition of new Chapter 77: Setting Aside Tribal Convictions. According to the wording of the resolution, "Persons who have been convicted of only a single criminal offense under tribal law, and who have no subsequent convictions within the five years following their conviction, may apply to

have their tribal court conviction set aside subject to appropriate limitations, standards, and procedures."

The board convened again for a meeting on Sept. 1, all were present except Unit II Representative Lana Causley-Smith.

Budget modifications were approved to the fiscal year 2016 budget of Native Employment Works reflecting a decrease in federal funding of \$24,095.40 and no effect on tribal support; the fiscal year 2015 budget of judicial services for an increase in federal funding of \$30,953 with no effect on tribal support; and the fiscal year 2015 budget for juvenile detention repair and maintenance to budget \$98,637 from the program's fund balance and \$2,000 in tribal support to buy equipment.

Two fiscal year 2016 budgets were established for grants, the first, a \$227,087 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice for law enforcement purposes and the second, a \$76,000 Healthy Start grant from the Inter-Tribal Council.

The board authorized the tribe's Community Health Program to collaborate with the tribe's Early Childhood Program as an evaluation component of the Partnerships to Improve Community Health grant to undertake a Farm to School project evaluation as a research study.

Resolutions can be viewed in their entirety at www.saulttribe.com.

Bill would stop federal funds for tribes in weed trade

BY RICK SMITH

A bill recently introduced in the U.S. Senate would, if enacted, prohibit American Indian tribes or tribal entities from receiving any federal funding if involved in cultivating, manufacturing or distributing marijuana and other drugs. The bill is called the KIDS Act or, officially, the Keeping out Illegal Drugs Act of 2015.

According to Senator James Lankford (R-Okla.), who introduced the bill on Aug. 6, some tribes in the United States are experimenting with illegal marijuana cultivation. Further, he cites an assertion by the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention that American Indians are more likely than any other ethnicity in the country to die from drug-induced conditions.

He also points to Health and Human Services statistics that indicate younger American Indians, aged 12 and up, have a higher rate of drug dependence or abuse than other ethnic



groups.

"It is important for our nation to help address this issue for the sake of the next generation of Native Americans," Lankford said in announcing the bill. "This legislation is a good step in trying to protect young tribal members and fulfill our trust responsibility to Native Americans."

Lankford is on the United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. The committee heard information on the relationship of drugs and American Indians in an oversight hearing

titled Examining the True Costs of Alcohol and Drug Use in Native Communities. Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Director Mirtha Beadle and Indian Health Service Deputy Director Robert McSwain testified that drug and alcohol abuse continue as Indian Country's most urgent problems and that allowing marijuana or other illicit drug commerce on reservations would be "perverse."

In spite of the stated intent behind the proposed legislation, it smacks of paternalism. While it appears to have been born from good intentions and, indeed,

would act as good insurance against drug proliferation, one cannot help but think of what it says about how some in Congress view American Indians. It gives one pause to consider that at least some federal lawmakers appear to see themselves as guardians against the irresponsible citizenry and governments of Indian Country.

Further, in any case, whatever views one might have on the topic, it does not seem just that tribes would be singled out for such a measure in light of emerging marijuana legalization under differing circumstances among some states.

RAPID RESPONSE: YOUR HELP NEEDED



At one of the many Oil & Water Don't Mix Rallies I have attended to speak on behalf of protecting waters and shut down Line 5.

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

Ahneen, Boozo, Negee:

The following is an update on a few key items and a request for your support and action in solidarity on these items. We ask that our Senators and House representatives vote in favor of bills that support tribal sovereignty and funding that we rely upon as both a trust and treaty responsibility. Please see below how you can help.

GRAYMONT MINE

We continue to be deeply concerned about the State of Michigan's decision to sell state-owned public lands in our treaty ceded territory to Graymont, a Canadian limestone mining company. Graymont initially announced a plan to purchase more than 11,500 acres of state-owned public lands in the Rexton area of the Eastern UP. Our Tribe was an early and vocal opponent of this plan. We met with the Michigan DNR several times to oppose this unprecedented and massive sale of public lands. While our objections had an impact, the State ultimately approved a scaled back version of Graymont's plan whereby they are acquiring 2,000 acres

of surface lands. On the remainder of the property, about 7,000 acres, Graymont will be limited to acquiring

Enbridge Oil Pipe Line Burst at the Kalamazoo River from 2010. When



underground mineral rights and the state will continue to own and control the surface land. For now, the right of Tribal members to access the surface lands for hunting, fishing, and gathering is preserved on most of the affected lands.

We remain deeply disappointed in the outcome as it is still a massive sale of public land and mineral rights.

We feel it significantly diminishes the areas available to exercise our hunting, fishing and gathering rights. We will oppose similar proposals in the future. At this juncture, the Tribe remains vigilant in our opposition and will monitor similar special interest transactions. We are frustrated at the outcome and share

the desire to educate government officials of the need to protect our inherent and retained treaty rights. The work I and other Board Members do at the national level is always with this in mind.

ENBRIDGE LINE 5 IMMINENT THREAT

The pipeline at the Straits of Mackinac is an accident waiting to happen. I

have personally seen the devastation from the 2010 catastrophic pipeline failure in Michigan at the Kalamazoo River while I worked as the Executive Director for the local tribe there. The devastation of a spill at the Straits, to our tribal fishers and their livelihoods, cannot be overstated. Likely, our centuries old fishing way of life would cease. Senators Stabenow and Peters have introduced a bill in the US Senate dealing with pipeline safety, specifically banning oil shipments by tanker ship in the Great Lakes and assessing the current status of oil spill response and cleanup plans. In response to the Michigan Pipeline Safety Task Force recommendations, Governor Snyder recently created the Michigan Pipeline Safety Advisory Board, a great first step. The Governor, however, included Enbridge on that board but failed include any tribal representation.

Please call Governor Snyder's office (517) 373-3400 in Lansing or at his UP Office at (906) 228-2850 and ask for tribal representation on this important pipeline safety advisory board.

TRIBAL LABOR AND SOVEREIGNTY ACT (S248; HR511)

Please contact your Congressional Rep. and ask for their strong support of the Tribal Labor and Sovereignty Act. For purposes of labor law, the bill treats Tribal governments in the same manner as state and local govern-

ments. The bill requires that the National Labor Relations Act exempt Tribes from its list of "employers" (just as it does for state and local governments) and withholds Tribal businesses from the jurisdiction of the National Labor Relations Board. In short, this bill protects the sovereignty status of tribes.

TRUST ASSET REFORM ACT (S383; HR812)

Please ask your Congressional Rep to support the Trust Asset Reform Act. In addition to their continued commitment of the 1997 Michigan Land Claims Settlement, national legislators support for this act will reinforce tribes' right to manage their own resources. This bill enables tribes to negotiate agreements with the Secretary of Interior for the management of their own trust resources, and eventually phase out the Department of Interior's Office of Special Trustee for American Indians.

TRIBAL EMPLOYMENT & JOB PROTECTION ACT (S. 1771; HR 3080)

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to exclude from the definition of "applicable large employer" for purposes of the employer health care mandate under the Affordable Care Act: (1) any Indian tribal government or subdivision, (2) any tribal organization, or (3) any corporation or partnership if more than 50% of the equity interest of such an entity is owned by an Indian tribal government or tribal organization.

Please contact your legislator as noted above and please send me an email to confirm once you have done so. Your voice is important. Join us in protecting our future for the next Seven Generations and beyond.

Chi McGwitch, Negee!

Inaugural National Institutes of Health Tribal Advisory Committee meeting. I was proud to have been elected by fellow Tribal leaders as the Chairperson of this new committee. The costs of my travel, lodging and meals and that of a Technical Advisory are covered by NIH.



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

WATCH SAULT TRIBE BOARD MEETINGS ON LIVESTREAM: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/russmckerchie>

Conscious decisions: Don't stop listening and communicating



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

As I write this report, myself and my community is heartbroken for the third time in three years. We have lost three tribal youth to tragedy.

This is not the sort of thing these kids should be dealing with at this age. They should be able to enjoy their friends, play the sports they love, participate in band, clubs and plan their future.

Two of the youth should have walked with the rest of their class for graduation this past May but had faced personal issues and took their own lives. Nobody will know how these two were hurting and why they thought there was no hope or way out. The families, friends and community are left to wonder why and how this could have happened.

This past Friday night, a senior had left the homecoming dance on his way home driving a car and was hit head on by a truck. The driver crossed the centerline and was driving under the influence. The student died on impact and the driver was taken to jail. I am told the scene was horrific and even the first responders had a hard time.

Word spread quickly in our small knit community and hearts were aching for the families.

The kids built a memorial wall, the football team gathered to support each other and the community held a vigil on Sunday evening at the football field. This is the first time in my life

I attended a vigil. The bleachers were packed with hundreds of youth and adults. A cousin of the student talked about the loss to the family and the ray of sunshine he was. The football coach talked about the player and what a kind, loving student he was. His girlfriend and best friend presented flags with both his basketball and football numbers to his parents. His parents were both wearing his jerseys. The crowd released black and gold balloons and lit candles as prayers were offered. Many moved to the field to offer condolences to the family, while the community hugged and cried with each other.

The reason I decided to write about this is because all these tragedies could have been prevented.

Sometimes it is not easy to prevent suicide, but maybe if we educate and listen we could make a difference. Every day in school,



sports or other programs kids are bullied. Kids can be very mean.

Adults need to be their first role models on how to treat people. Many kids hear or see how adults behave and model that behavior or share that opinion.

We need to teach these kids to stand up for one another instead of against each other. Sometimes we blame things on the schools

but we need to teach at home too. I think it is a community effort to stop the bullying that could lead to suicide.

We also need to listen to each other and the kids. With all this technology it is more distracting to have someone's undivided attention. I am guilty of it myself. We try sometimes to multi-task and instead we end up not hearing our loved ones with things that really could be clues to things affecting their lives or hurting them in some way. We need to take time out and listen when they talk to us and ask our kids how their day was.

If we notice changes in behavior or mood of our kids or their friends we need to ask others if they have noticed anything. Talk to school counselors or even bring your son or daughter to a behavioral health professional.

Help is out there we just need to recognize the need and take action.

I am not saying that people always see this behavior because sometimes people suffer alone, but if we do notice it to quickly try and get them help.

We have all done stupid things while operating a vehicle — speeding, running a red light, talking, texting or playing with our phones, playing with the radio, turning around to yell at our kid in the back seat, drop something and try and pick it up while driving and driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

In this case, it can be very easy to blame or even hate the driver for driving under the influence. The sad reality is that we all do many of these stupid things while driving that can have a similar effect. We all have choices when we get behind the wheel and that is a great responsibility. It is not just about getting a ticket or getting our license suspended, it could result in a life change for anyone involved.

In 1990, my family had almost lost my aunt and her husband to a drunk driver. I was a senior in high school and my grandpa had just passed. My aunt was pre-

WISDOM LOVE RESPECT
BRAVERY TRUTH HUMILITY HONESTY



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergency	911
Poison Control Center	800.222.1222
Family Services	
ACFS- Sault Ste. Marie	906.632.5250
ACFS- Kincheloe	906.495.1232
ACFS- Manistique	906.341.6993
Health & Well Being	
National Domestic Violence Hotline	800.799.7233
AA Info Line	906.253.9364
Veterans Crisis Line	800.273.8255
Suicide Prevention Line	800.273.8255
Michigan Child Abuse/Neglect Reporting	855.444.3911
Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center	877.639.7820
Health Centers	
Escanaba	906.786.2636
Marquette	906.225-1616
Hessel	906.484-2727
Sault Ste. Marie	906.632.5200
St. Ignace	906.643.8689
Manistique	906.341.8469
Newberry	906.293.8181
Munising	906.387.4614
Hiawatha Behavioral Health Crisis Services	800.839.9443
Sault Tribe Behavioral Health	906.635.6075
Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (non-emergency)	
Sault Ste. Marie	906.635.6065
St. Ignace	906.643.7210
Manistique	906.341.8317

paring for last minute Christmas shopping for her kids before she came north for the funeral. She was driving when the other vehicle crossed the centerline. She had very serious injuries which included bleeding internally.

Her kids had to spend the holidays with other family members as she endured other surgeries and a month-long hospital stay. She also could not attend her dad's funeral. That was my family's emotional experience with that driver's choice.

My purpose is not to lecture anyone or place judgment, but rather for us all to be conscious of the decisions we make and how they may affect the lives of

our family and the lives and families of those involved.

May we all listen and cherish each other. May we stop bullying and stand up for each other. May we call for a ride or have a designated driver. May we drive undistracted. May we call for help or seek assistance when those cannot do it for themselves. May we spend quality time with our family and loved ones.

I am so thankful to live in this community and the support we provide to one another! The support will get us through these difficult times until we all meet again!

God bless the families of Andy, Ben and Mitchell!

Innerebner wins swimming medals against best in the midwest

BY DYKE JUSTIN

Andrew Innerebner, aged 12, swam against the best Midwest swimmers from states in the Swim USA zone meet in Minneapolis, Minn., between Aug. 7 and 9.

The fastest qualifying swimmers from Ohio, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota and Michigan all convened on the campus of the University of Minnesota to compete in three days of competitive swimming using the Olympic format preliminary swims and final swims in a 50-meter pool.

Because of Innerebner's qualifying times, he was one of about 65 swimmers to comprise team Michigan. As a result of his efforts, he received six medals, two bronzes, two fourth places and one for fifth place.

His two bronze medals were a result of his swimming the men's 400-meter freestyle relay, the men's 50-meter freestyle, and the 200 free relay. It is noted that he took his team from fifth place,



Andrew Innerebner after the competition with all of his awards. Thanks to the coach, team and community for all of their support.

to third place single handedly by swimming his leg in the second relay.

He saved his best performance for his last wherein he was seated 18 out of 36. He swam to a sixth place in the preliminaries (con-

verted to yards) at approximately 158 and in the finals improved his position to fourth place with a time of 155.2. That time added to his 52.2 hundred time and 24.03 50 free were personal bests and places his amongst



Innerebner with coach Justin on the last day of the competition.

the fastest swimmers north of Midland, Mich., regardless of age. Innerebner expects to continue to swim in Swim USA league and will swim for SCAT this fall and winter.

Innerebner has gone from a state top 15 USA Swim swimmer to state USA swim champion to national, regional talent. Innerebner trains strenuously

and has developed incredible powers of mental and physical focus, which has resulted in him being recognized as one of the top swimmers in a six-state area. Innerebner hopes to accomplish, in the next two years, an appearance at the junior nationals where he will be taking on the best swimmers nationwide 18 years and younger.

Let's step out of our non progressive box ~



DJ HOFFMAN
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Within the past month there have been many areas issues addressed by the tribal board and several areas that need serious attention.

BUDGETS

In last month's unit report, the topic of the budgetary processes and their deficiencies from the bureaucratic standpoint (not staff related) was pointed out. This area is still of serious concern. We, as a tribe, are currently operating on a 60-day continuing funding budget while budget meetings are being set up to establish the FY 2016 annual budgets.

As I have stated, it is not responsible to simply hurry up and adopt annual budgets without detailed plans and goals. Our tribe needs to develop, and adopt, both short-term and long-term plans within our governmental structure, as well as our enterprise structure. Without proper planning there is no reasonable manner with which to gauge our tribe's needs, successes, failures, goals and objectives.

THIS NEEDS TO BE ADDRESSED. I am hopeful that the tribal board will develop a process to ensure that these short-

comings cease in future budgetary cycles.

CASINOS

The tribal board of directors recently amended the existing northern casino debt financing by extending out the current notes by 27 months. This will allow our casinos to operate more efficiently with their reduced revenues and cash flows and ensure that tribal services are sustainable for the near future. If we had not amended the financing, the tribe would have been facing cuts of nearly \$3 million annually in governmental programming.

POLICY

I will continue to stress the importance of policy and adherence to our personnel policies and Tribal Code. As I have noted in the past, these policies are being abused and policies are being selectively ignored, positions are being "hand picked," and, ultimately, the abuses that many have championed against are still being allowed to continue.

In the upcoming months, I will be advocating for the adoption of tribal labor laws and policies to ensure that everyone, including the tribal board of directors, adheres to the policies and procedures of the tribe.

REMOVAL

Over the past month, a creative picture of myself was presented on the internet regarding my last report on the current removal. While the narrative took part of my report for its commentary, it left out the remainder of the statement. For further clarification I will post it once again within this report:

"Under Tribal Code Chapter 16 (16.106(2)) The Registrar shall review the petition and Tribal voter registration records under standards and procedures utilized for the verification of signatures

on nominating petitions for Tribal elections conducted under Tribal Code Ch. 10."

"The standards and procedures utilized for the verification of signatures on nominating petitions for Tribal elections under Tribal Code: 10.111(5)(a-d) clearly state that a Tribal I.D. number shall be required. There are no Tribal I.D. numbers provided on the removal petition."

Chapter 16 is the Removal Code, while Chapter 10 is the Election Code. These are direct citations from both codes. Chapter 16 references Chapter 10 within its requirements.

Thus, as I have stated, I understand there are those that are not pleased with and abstention. I also understand the easiest "political" decision to make would've been to vote "yes" on this issue; however, breaking one rule to follow another is not an acceptable option.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The economic development director position for the tribe has still yet to be filled. It is my understanding that interviews may commence within the next month for this position.

JKL SCHOOL GYMNASIUM

I am pleased to report that the new gymnasium construction is proceeding in a manner that exceeds expectations. I am extremely grateful that the tribal board approved this project to benefit our tribal children, and the children within the community. This project is self sustaining, and the revenues from the lease of the school pay for the construction of the project.

Some of the pictures thus far are included at the end of the column.

In closing, I will continue to push forward with members of the board who wish to be pro-

gressive. I will also continue to work with members of the board to ensure that we become innovative in our approach to economic diversification, membership services and stepping out of the non progressive box that we appear to

be confined to.

Sincerely,
DJ Hoffman

Cell: (906) 203-0510, Personal E-mail: djwhoffman@hotmail.com, Tribal E-mail: djhoffman@saulttribe.net



Site preparation, Wednesday, Oct. 7.



Installing rebar.



Finishing up pouring concrete the evening of Oct. 7.

Board members attend Tribal Leadership Summit in Lansing



JENNIFER MCLEOD,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Aanii, Anishinaabeg! Last month, I drove to Lansing for the Tribal Leadership Summit with Governor Snyder. Directors Kim Gravelle and Dennis McKelvie were there as well. Chairman Payment did not attend and asked Director McKelvie to be his delegate. It is an important meeting, and an opportunity to deal with the State of Michigan on a "government-to-government" level. This meeting was attended by many of the Michigan tribes. Director McKelvie and other tribe's chiefs/chairpersons/presidents sat at the table with the governor and other tribal repre-

sentatives sat in multiple rows around the room. It was well attended.

I was very proud of Denny McKelvie. Prior to the summit, he met with Kim and I to discuss the "white papers" and to decide what issues he should present to the governor. Whenever we meet with state and federal officials, our tribal staff prepare "white papers" for us to use to make certain that we have the information needed to express our issues. The "white papers" are generally bullet lists of talking points, and I can't express enough how valuable this work is. Our staff are the experts, not board members, and they do an excellent job preparing us for these presentations.

Standing under the magnificent dome of the state Senate, I was struck by the irony of three Sault Tribe leaders having a mini-meeting in the hall of the Senate building, working out our strategy. I am old enough to remember a time when our people were not only uninvited to the state Senate, but had three of us met in one of the hallways it would have attracted "serious" attention. How times have

changed.

Director McKelvie sat next to Governor Snyder. When it was his time to speak, Director McKelvie spoke with respect and clarity. In Denny's unique manner, he boldly told of issues that affect our tribal veterans. As a veteran himself, Denny provided firsthand testimony of the challenges ALL veterans face. Denny spoke against the Enbridge pipeline, strongly cautioning the governor that the state shouldn't wait for the pipeline to leak before doing something about it. Denny spoke of other issues as well, and by the time he was finished, the heads of the other Indians in the room were nodding in agreement.

At the end of the meeting, there were the typical photo opportunities with the governor that included Director Gravelle and I. During that time, I seized the opportunity to ask the governor how we could develop better cooperation between state, county and tribal drug courts. As a result, we are now in the process of setting up a conference call meeting between myself and state legal counsel to strategize on ways to encourage county courts to

work with tribal drug courts. Other states do this, it benefits tribal families, saves the state and county money and helps keep our people out of jails. I am hopeful that some progress can be made!

On the home front, the politics have not been improving. The games continue and, sadly, appear to be getting worse. The toxic leadership continues, despite good efforts of good people. Sometimes I shake my head and wish I could just write up a referral and send the naughty kids to the principal's office, lol. However, there STILL are good things happening.

The gymnasium at the tribal school is proceeding nicely. The excitement among staff, parents and especially the children is building. Many thanks to our hardworking tribal project team for meeting on a weekly basis, and the great job of keeping everyone up to speed and accountable. I also want to give a HUGE THANK YOU to our contractor, Moore-Trosper, for their extra attention to safety and willingness to work on weekends to minimize noise distractions and parental con-

cerns. I have been on site and have been completely impressed by crew professionalism and hard work. Our children deserve the best, and so far it looks like that is what they are getting. Chi-miigwech, Moore-Trosper and the tribal project team!

Other good things are happening, too! Our tribal service departments continue to do their good work of serving our people. When I meet with other tribes and listen to the challenges they face in their communities, I am always so proud of the programs we have and the caring folks that make it possible.

On a final note, it is nearing the time for our traditional ghost feasts and suppers, also known as giibi feasts. Look on the tribal website calendars for dates, times and locations. If you would like to learn more, please feel free to contact me or our Culture Department at (906) 635-6050.

Anishinaabe gagige
(Anishinaabe for always)

Jen
(906) 440-9151, jmcLeod1@saulttribe.net or jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

Budget reviews not presented in timely manner



**DENISE CHASE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

I voted to approve the following resolution at the last board meeting. We have to make sure that services and programs are not left unfunded. This resolution approves continuing funding for 75 cost centers for fiscal year 2016, at their 2015 spending levels.

Again, we were till the last hour and did not have the budgets presented to us in a timely manner in order to review appropriately. Staff said the budgets were prepared and done two months ago for review. So, the board will be scheduled to review budgets for the next couple of weeks, with the executive team and Chairman Payment.

Hopefully, by next year, we can get the budgets reviewed at least a couple of months in

advance, prior to passing.

We passed the continuing funding for a period of 60 days, so this gives us time to review the budgets thoroughly.

RESOLUTION NO: 2015-212 — Continuing Funding Authority For Fiscal Year 2016 September To August And October To September

WHEREAS, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians (“Tribe”) is a federally recognized Indian Tribe organized under the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, 25 U.S.C. 467 et seq; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors and tribal staff have not completed the process of reviewing budgets for their respective budget year 2016; and

WHEREAS, the attached cost center list, with the fiscal year of September to August and October to September, for budget year 2016 is still under review and will not be completed until after the fiscal year start dates of September and October; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors wants to ensure that services are not left unfunded for a period between the expiration of the fiscal year 2015 budgets and approval of the fiscal year 2016 budgets.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors approves continuing funding for the attached cost centers for fiscal year 2016, at their 2015 spending levels, for a period not to exceed 60 days.

Our dental director, Rural Health manager and health director are still in the process of trying to recruit a full-time dentist for the Manistique clinic.

The board passed a budget modification to add a temporary full-time dentist at the Manistique dental clinic. This person was a former employee and worked in Manistique. Dr. Shilling started on Sept. 8 providing dental services. We had a loss of third party revenue for the three months since our former dentist left, not to mention we had children, elders and families going without needed emergency care and dental services.

It was very important for me to advocate for and support this budget modification and get a dentist back in providing the needed dental care to our communities and members.

I also supported the resolution to amend our current loan agreement with PNC Bank. Approval of this resolution extends our existing debt of \$14,124,999 over a five-year period instead of 2.5 years. This lowers the debt payments from \$6.5 million annually to \$2.94 million. This

is a savings of \$3.56 million annually. This will also allow and free up funding for needed capital improvements.

Fall enrichment gathering and feast — On Wednesday, Nov. 4, 4-7 p.m., a Manistique fall health enrichment gathering will be held at the Manistique tribal Community Room, 5698W US Hwy 2, featuring a local and traditional potluck feast. There will be many share and learn opportunities — seasonal traditional presentation, traditional healer presentation, drum and dance presentation activity and information on “Native plate” and Sault Tribe services. Call Gail for more information, (906) 341-9525.

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) — Volunteers will be trained in their local communities to direct people who have an emergency on who to call. They will be there to help with emergencies: suicide prevention, natural disasters, etc. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Jami Traver, (906) 632-5200, ext. 23670.

The shingles vaccine will be available at tribal health facilities for elders aged 60 and over. Non-tribal spouses can also get the vaccine but there will be a charge for this. For more information, call the Pharmacy

Department at the closest health facility.

Heating Assistance — I have been receiving quite a few phone calls inquiring if the tribe will be providing heating assistance this year. On Nov. 1, the program will be open and you can get an application to fill out and submit for fuel assistance. LIHEAP heating assistance will assist low-income tribal households meet their home heating energy burden. The funding will be available until funds are exhausted.

The Elder Heating Assistance Program still has funding available. These funds are to assist elders who have been determined to be ineligible for LIHEAP assistance. Applicants must be 60 years of age or before the date of application.

Applicants must meet the program eligibility and income guidelines.

For more information, call or stop in and see Viola Neadow, Direct Services worker, at the Manistique Tribal Center, 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137.

Viola also holds weekly satellite office hours at the Willow Creek Professional Building on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

You can reach me by calling (906) 203-2471 or at dchase@saulttribe.net.

Tribe is a major player in federal Indian policy



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

In August, Chairman Payment, Director Hoffman and myself met with Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker when she visited the Upper Peninsula. This was part of President Obama’s commitment to have all federal agencies visit Indian Country. We took the opportunity to spell out how the Department of Commerce could better assist in meeting the challenges we face as a tribe. Chairman Payment advocated for better access to census data, Director Hoffman pressed for economic development resource support and I requested the Department of Commerce work collaboratively across multiple federal agencies in order to bring workforce training and employment initiatives to fruition. It was a short but informative meeting. We also learned how other tribes have brought economic development projects to successful delivery by utilizing the agency’s financial and technical assistance.

Last Dec. 16, President

Obama recognized communities across the nation as Climate Change Champions. Sault Tribe was one of two tribes to receive this recognition. In September, we were invited by the Department of Energy to attend the Tribal Energy Summit in Washington, D.C., in order to present our tribe’s climate change plans and strategies. I attended along with our environmental director, Kathleen Brosemer, and our strategic planner, Larry Jacques. We participated in panel discussions focused on energy policy, science and technology, economy and regulation, and jobs and workforce. Other participants included the Department of the Interior, Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency and members of Congress and the White House Council on Native American Affairs.

Additionally, we were invited to participate in the annual meeting of the Indian Country Energy and Infrastructure Working Group. This gave us an opportunity to go on the record and provide input on decision that have the potential to impact tribes in the Great Lakes region—for instance, the ultimate disposition of the Presque Isle Power Plant. This is not a decision merely between the states and commercial investors. The mines and the remaining paper producers have alternative methods of procuring electrical power, which leaves the tribe as one of the largest electrical cus-

tomers in the Upper Peninsula. We should be asserting our government-to-government relationship with the DOE and FERC to ensure our interests are taken into equitable consideration when deals are made and decisions are handed down regarding the Presque Isle plant. We pay some of the highest utility rates in the country. Our tribe’s electricity bill is over \$3 million dollars annually. It will only increase over time and strategies to reduce energy consumption, as well as produce some of our own energy, deserves to be looked at—for the sake of economic sovereignty.

Pope Francis happened to be in town the same time as the tribal summit. I was able to secure tickets through Congressman Benishek’s office for myself and staff to attend the telecast of Pope Francis’ address to the joint meeting of Congress. I admit some feelings of conflict regarding the pope’s canonization of Junipero Serra while on his trip to the United States. We raised our family in the shadow of the California missions — Santa Barbara Mission, La Purisima, Santa Inez. Beautiful places that we embraced and enjoyed, even knowing the mission system was the arm of subjugation, enforced slavery and colonization of the native populations who belonged to that land. Reconciling the past is not easy for indigenous populations. Never forget, but never be consumed by the past. This pope

has been a moral advocate for the human rights of indigenous people. We are still here and we have an obligation to be strong for our future generations.

In November, I will be traveling to Boise Forte Reservation in Minnesota for an EPA regional tribal caucus meeting. This will be an important operational meeting as treaty rights are the big item on the agenda. Currently, EPA is engaging Indian tribes across the nation in government-to-government consultation regarding, “draft guidance on discussing treaty rights.”

Some background: EPA Administrator McCarthy released a memorandum commemorating the 30th anniversary of EPA’s Indian Policy on Dec. 1, 2014. The memorandum provided a clear statement on the need to honor and respect tribal treaty rights and their role in the context of EPA’s actions. EPA is developing this draft guidance to help implement the treaty rights objectives in the administrator’s memorandum.

What does this draft guidance do? The guidance document will spell out how the EPA

approaches decision-making and actions that could impact natural resources or environmental conditions protected by treaty rights. This draft guidance does not create any new legal obligations for EPA, expand the authorities granted by EPA’s underlying statutes or alter or diminish any existing EPA treaty responsibilities.

What this means for our tribe (and other 1836 Treaty tribes): We do not have large “reservation” land holdings. We have retained treaty-protected rights that exist on state and federal public lands as well as on the Great Lakes waters. We have to stand up and make sure that treaty protected rights on **ceded lands and waters** get the same consideration as treaty rights on reservation land holdings. This is a very big deal, folks, and will be incredibly important moving forward in protecting the human and cultural health of tribal nations.

Next month, I will do my best to address internal tribal issues.

Please contact me anytime. (906) 430-5551 chollowell@saulttribe.net

Corn camp set for Oct. 16-17

Corn camp at the Mary Murray Culture Camp takes place Oct. 16-17 for ages 8-14. All elders invited.

Learn about corn, including the Anishinaabe creation story and how the gift of corn was given to the Anishinaabek. Presentation on drying corn and all participants take part in shucking corn and

learn how to make hominy.

Transportation, for those who need it, at the Niigaanigiizhik Ceremonial Building on Oct. 16 at 4:30 p.m., returning on Oct. 17 at 4:15.

Facilitator is elder, George Martin.

To register, call Jackie Minton at 635-6050.

Walk the Munising Health Center indoor track



RITA GLYPTIS
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

As fall turns into winter, it becomes more difficult, especially for our tribal elders, to get outside to exercise. I would like to remind everyone that the walking track at the Munising

Tribal Health Center is open and available for walking indoors Monday-Friday from 4:30 to 8 p.m. The walking track is on the third floor of the building and can be accessed through the main door of the health center. The views of Lake Superior as you walk around the track are amazing. For any questions, contact the center at (906) 387-4721.

Welcome to two new employees at the Munising Tribal Health Center, Heather Nord, secretary, and Amanda Cook, data entry. Although the names and faces sometimes change, all of the staff continue to work together to give the best care and service to our members. Thank you all for your hard work and commitment.

After many months of

discussion and planning, the shingles vaccine is now available to our members as it has been added to our pharmacy formulary. For information on obtaining the shingles vaccine, flu or pneumonia shots, contact your local tribal health center or Community Health staff. Flu shot clinics are scheduled for all outlying areas beginning this month.

Community Health Education recently partnered with the Marquette YMCA for the "Let's Get Moving" campaign and plan on future collaborations with them. A current grant application, if approved, has funds included for potential contracts for services at the YMCA for our members in Marquette. Our tribal members also have access to recreation at the PEIF Recreation Center at NMU. You must show your tribal card and sign in at the information desk to participate.

While attending elder meetings last month in Munising and Marquette, many concerns and questions continue to be brought up regarding the 340b program and the constraint it has put on our at risk elders in the seven-county service area. Due to extenuating health issues, physical disabilities and financial stressors, some are not able to comply with the 340b prescription requirements, which is

causing them great concern. The elders seem to be getting conflicting information regarding how many times they have to be seen, etc. The Health Division is working hard to find solutions and assistance for the most extreme cases involving our elders so they may continue to receive the care that they need.

At the board meeting in Munising, a continuing funding budget resolution was approved for fiscal year 2016. It states: The board of directors and tribal staff have not completed the process of reviewing budgets for their respective budget year 2016; and with the fiscal year of September to August and October to September, for budget year 2016 is still under review and will not be completed until after the fiscal year start dates of September and October; and the board of directors wants to ensure that services are not left unfunded for a period between the expiration of the fiscal year 2015 budgets and approval of the fiscal year 2016 budgets.

The purpose of this resolution should be to provide adequate time for the board and staff to work through the details and to identify any issues that may arise. The fact that we are given the budgets as a whole package at the last minute and are expected to approve them

proves to be very difficult. It has been shown by previous years that this process does not work and unknown issues and surprises appear later in the budget cycle requiring budget modifications. Some members of the board have requested the time to go through the budgets line by line in an attempt to avoid some of these issues. Many times we find out about budget shortfalls and mistakes after the fact and are forced to make decisions on the fly. This is not an efficient way to operate and I am hopeful that we will be afforded the necessary time.

A Prescription and Over-The-Counter Drug Drop Off (POD) is located at the Alger County Sheriff Department office. Items accepted are prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines, pet medicines, supplements and vitamins, medicated ointments or lotions and liquid medication or drops.

Thank you to the members who attended the board of director's meeting in Munising on Sept. 22. It is encouraging to see our members support our tribal community and to be involved in what is going on.

Miigwech.
Sincerely,
Rita Glyptis
Unit V Director
(906) 202-3224, rglyptis@saulttribe.net

Not seeing many improvements



DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

I ran for the board because I was concerned about the direction our tribe was headed. Since being elected, I haven't seen many improvements, my personal opinion is our tribe has gotten worse. I don't like getting phone calls or talking to members who are treated badly and it seems no matter where you go you hear complaints. It seems to me that the governmental division — ACFS, Health, Housing, Accounting, etc. — staff have forgot that they are here to provide services to tribal members. It makes me very sad and upset that tribal members come to their own tribe for help and they get treated badly!

This mentality has to STOP. We need staff who are going to help provide tribal members with services. We need division directors and managers held accountable for their actions or inactions and they also need to hold their staff accountable. At this time, I do not see that happening. Years ago, staff used to go out of their way to provide services to our membership. Somehow, somewhere, they forgot the reason why they are here. They need to be reminded they are here to provide services for tribal members and to always have excellent customer service skills both internal and external.

Our members are treated badly by other agencies throughout all our communities, they should not feel that way within their own tribe. I am not saying all staff are treating members badly and that everyone is not doing their job, but a majority of departments and staff are making the issues really stand out more and more to a small minority on the board. Director Chase and I will continue to push for everyone to be held accountable so that all tribal members are treated equal when using programs and services.

Our Kewadin Casinos are still in turmoil with low morale, poor management, poor customer service both internal and external, reduced coin in, etc. Three years ago, a survey was conducted at all five Kewadin Casinos, the information was invaluable to anyone wanting to fix the issues at each individual casino. Unfortunately, team members input fell on deaf ears. If I went back out and resurveyed team members today, three years later, it would be worse! I do not see the commitment that is needed by management to lead by example, have excellent internal and external customer service and treat all team members equal. Until these internal issues are taken care of and management is held accountable, we will not see the positive changes that are needed to increase revenue and succeed!

Our tribal issues stem from interference to our everyday operations, whether it is governmental operations, casino, enterprises, etc. It happens because we have certain board members continuing to dictate behind the scenes so they can protect family and friends.

Thank you,

Darcy Morrow, (906) 298-1888, dmorrow@saulttribe.net, P.O. Box 441, Manistique, MI 49854

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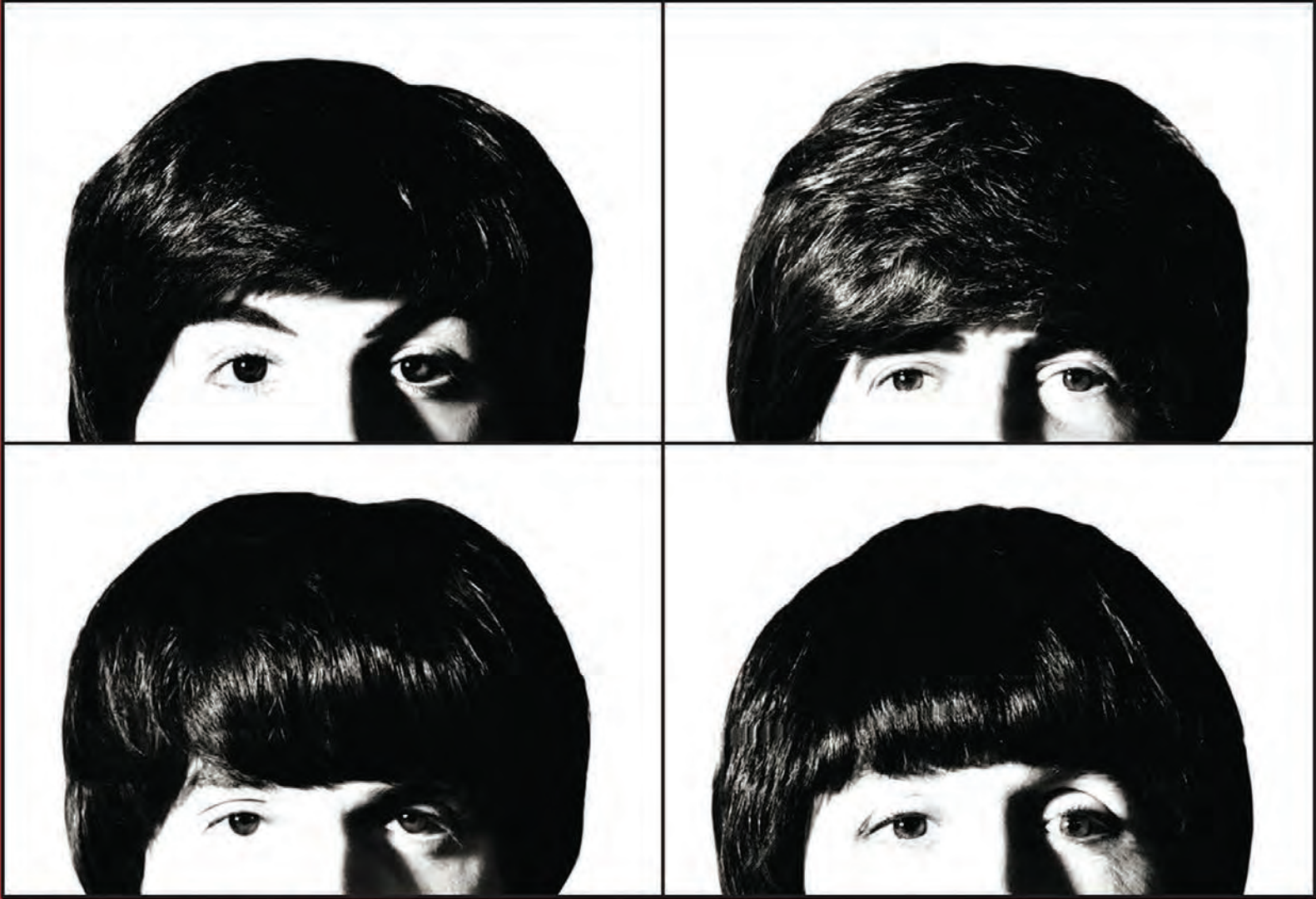
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YESTERDAY

A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES



Sault Ste. Marie

DREAMMAKERS THEATER

Saturday, Nov. 21

Show Starts at 8 p.m.



1-800-KEWADIN | kewadin.com

Sunday, Nov. 22

Show Starts at 4 p.m.

**Ticket Price
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