



Win Awenen Nisitotung

February 15, 2019 • Vol. 40 No. 2
Bear Moon
Mko Giizis



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

Tribe's 2 percent helps local villages, townships

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Communities throughout the Upper Peninsula are benefitting from \$904,075.17 in 2 percent contributions from the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians last fall that are being used to help support senior and youth services, and recreational and cultural opportunities for area residents.

The 2018 fall distribution checks were mailed the end of November as part of the twice-annual payments the Sault Tribe has distributed since 1993 to U.P. communities and organizations.

The payments are based on 2 percent of slot revenues generated from the tribe's Kewadin Casino properties located in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique and Christmas. In the past 24 years, over \$42.5 million has been awarded, with seven U.P. counties benefitting from the semi-annual distributions: Alger, Chippewa, Delta, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette and Schoolcraft.

Distributions are organized into two categories, short and long-term. Short-term recipients change each distribution cycle, depending on what community or organization is chosen for the allotted funding. Long-term distributions are ongoing payments to organizations or communities. Each of the tribe's five units distributed \$53,478.23 this cycle in short-term funds.

The following eight villages and townships are just a few of those that received funding during the fall 2018 short-term 2 percent distributions: Clark Township received \$5,000 for firemen's supplies; DeTour Township asked for and received \$10,000 for an assisted living facility to be built this year; DeTour Village asked for \$10,000 towards the purchase



Photo by John Blanchard

Newton Township Historical Museum in Gould City received 2 percent funds to help renovate the former post office, boarding house and barber shop.

of a much needed new plow truck; Garfield Township received \$800 for rear vision cameras for a brush truck and two fire engines; Hudson Township received a check for \$4,800 towards the Garnet Lake restrooms; McMillan Township received \$7,878.23 for their recreation center; Newton Township was happy to receive \$5,000 towards restoration efforts on their historical museum and Pickford Township received \$10,000 towards the funding of a new fairground area and ball diamonds.

Clark Township Clerk Susan Rutledge said the Clark Township Firemen's Auxiliary applied for the \$5,000 grant for the purchase of two hydrothermal stabilizers, a refrigerator, fire safety supplies, appreciation dinner awards and Halloween safety handouts they have every Halloween for local kids. They also have a kid's night at the fire hall where they serve hotdogs and cupcakes, and invite children to climb on a fire engine and help run the hoses. The grant was also used to purchase dress

clothes for the firemen for use during ceremonies.

The firemen are all volunteers who donate their time to help out their community. Rutledge said during their most recent appreciation award ceremonies, one volunteer was honored for serving on the fire department for 45 years.

The Firemen's Auxiliary has received 2 percent funds in the past that went towards the purchase of supplies and personal equipment, such as boots that cost over \$475 a pair. "We stretched the money as far as we could, we really appreciated the funding — it was put to good use," she said.

DeTour Village Clerk Marilyn McGuire said the village's 17-year-old Peterbilt plow truck has been limping along through the winter and they were expecting the arrival of their new truck the first week of February. The \$10,000 they received in 2 percent funding went towards the cost of the truck, an impressive \$189,000.

"We really appreciate the tribe and all they do for our village and township," McGuire said. "We do our own plowing in the Village and have our own department of public works. Our maintenance man John Fountain Jr. gets out there and plows, the county doesn't do it here.

McGuire said they are preparing to apply for the spring funding cycle and will be asking for funding towards one of the rooms in the Harbor View Assisted Living Hospice House scheduled to begin construction soon in DeTour Village. "The tribe gave the township \$10,000 in November toward it," she said. "Whatever we get, we are very appreciative."

Garfield Township Clerk Paula Fillman said the \$800 they received for rear vision cameras was greatly appreciated. The cameras have been delivered and will soon be installed on one of the fire departments brush trucks and two fire engines.

Fillman said Garfield Township also received 2 percent funding in May 2018 for \$1,542.95 for security monitors installed in their office so they can view the security cameras located at the Naubinway pavilion and marina and at Mill Pond Park. She said the cameras for the surveillance and security project in Naubinway were also purchased through 2 percent funding they received in November 2017 for \$6,000.

Pickford Township Supervisor Tom Ball is a former Sault Tribe employee and is married to a tribal member and former JKL School employee. He said he is excited the tribe is getting behind their project to bring more outdoor recreation and activities to the Pickford area. Pickford's Township Park sits on land that was once home to the area's fairgrounds back in the '50s. The township recently purchased an additional 15 acres adjacent to the park to build two additional ball diamonds with roads, parking and a bleacher, at a cost of \$27,000 per diamond. Ball has drawn up additional plans for tractor and horse pulling, a fenced rodeo arena for horse shows and barrel racing, as well as an expansion to their current campground located on the Munscong River.

"That would give us a larger
See "Fall 2 percent" Page 15

New tribal dental director announced DROCKTON RECEIVES 2018 IHS EXCELLENCE IN GENERAL DENTISTRY AWARD

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

David Drockton, D.D.S., has been a dentist with the Sault Tribe Health Center since June 1995 providing full-time oral health care for his patients. In order to recognize him for his outstanding patient care and service, retired Dental Director Bruce Anderson, D.D.S., nominated him for the 2018 Indian Health Service (IHS) National Oral Health Council Clinical Excellence Awards for General Dentistry. Drockton said he was honored and surprised when he was notified in November that he was selected as the recipient of the award for the senior clinician category.

Drockton said Anderson had received the award about 10 years ago so he was familiar with the nomination and selection process, but was unaware his name had been submitted.

Additionally, after Anderson's recent retirement, Drockton applied for the dental director position and was notified Dec. 7 that he had been selected as the new Sault Tribe dental director.

Some of Drockton's goals as the dental director are to fully staff the three open dentist positions, hire more dental assistants and



David Drockton, D.D.S.

hygienists, oversee the renovation of the dental clinic in the Sault, transition towards a paperless dental chart and institutionalize a non-invasive pediatric model of dentistry for all the Sault Tribe dental clinics.

Drockton said according to the IHS, the ratio of dentists to patients is supposed to be about one dentist to 1,200 patients. Currently there are over 4,000 patients per dentist. "We have support on board to get people retained and get to a position where we can recruit people who will be good providers that we can keep here for a while," he said.

Drockton graduated from the Case Western Reserve University School of Dentistry in Cleveland, Ohio, in May 1984 as a doctor of dental surgery. He then went into private practice for four years before taking a position as the chief dentist and manager of a dental program for the Stockbridge Munsee Tribe of Mohicans in Wisconsin, where he remained for five years. From there he accepted the position of chief of the Makah service unit in Neah Bay, Wash., managing the oral health program for four tribes.

Then in 1995 he made the move to Sault Ste. Marie after accepting a position with the Sault Tribe, and 24 years later is proud to be the tribe's dental director.

Looking forward to achieving his goals and providing best oral health practices for tribal members, Drockton said, "I have exceptional staff who provide the best possible care and service to their patients and I am counting on the full support of the tribe's board of directors and health center administration to make sure we continue to provide the most qualified staff members to meet our patients' needs."

www.saulttribe.com

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Lee Chatfield welcomed in Sault Ste. Marie

By Rick Smith

Speaker of the Michigan House of Representatives, Lee Chatfield, returned to Sault Ste. Marie on Jan. 25 where Lake Superior State University hosted a congratulatory celebration

of his selection as the State of Michigan speaker of the House for the 2019-20 legislative term. Chatfield represents the people in the 107th House District, which encompasses Chippewa, Emmet and Mackinac counties along with

the Cheboygan County townships of Koeler, Tuscarora, Beaugrand, Hebron, Mackinaw and Huron and the city of Cheboygan.

Legislative representatives from Washington, D.C., were among the dignitaries gathered

in R.W.Considine Hall on the LSSU campus. The assembly heard speeches and enjoyed a social afterwards. Sault Tribe officials who attended the event were Executive Director Christine McPherson and her assistant,

Jessica Dumback, along with Health Services Director Leo Chugunov, CFO Bob Schulte and Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry. Chatfield has previously visited the area as well as the tribe.



Left, the Sault Tribe delegation seated, listen to opening remarks by LSSU President Rodney Hanley as the guest of honor, Lee Chatfield (right, in the dark blazer) stands behind them, and far right, Gary McDowell, Michigan's Agriculture and Rural Development head. Seated from left, Asst. Executive Director Jessica Dumback, Health Services Director Leo Chugunov, Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribal Court Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry, CFO Bob Schulte and Executive Director Christine McPherson. Right, from left, Chatfield and his wife, Stephanie, exchange pleasantries with McPherson and Dumback.



Sault Tribe purchases Shunk Rental Properties

KINCHELOE, Mich. — The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians recently acquired Shunk Rental Properties in Kincheloe, Mich., adding 87 rental properties to Sault Tribe's property management company, DeMawating Development.

DeMawating Development paid the \$1.9 million purchase price for the rentals, which will in turn generate new revenue.

"I want to thank our economic development director and express my appreciation for the board of directors' vote to continue down

the path to diversify our economic development," Sault Tribe Board Chairperson Aaron Payment.

Payment added, "These rentals will complement our existing DeMawating rentals and increase our overall profitability in the long term."

DeMawating is organized as an economic enterprise under the Sault Tribe's EDC and has a long history of providing market driven affordable rental housing options to the local and surrounding communities.

"The acquisition of the Shunk

properties was approved by the Sault Tribe Board of Directors and facilitates the expansion and growth of the tribe's economic endeavors," Economic Development Director Joel Schultz said.

DeMawating Development and Shunk Properties have worked side by side in this acquisition to assure the acquired properties and tenants will integrate into DeMawating seamlessly. DeMawating Development looks forward to providing the existing Shunk tenants with the same

level of customer service they are accustomed to from the Shunks.

"We would like to thank Mr. Spence Shunk and the Shunk family for the opportunity to acquire the properties and for their work toward making the transition of ownership as smooth as possible," Sault Tribe Real Estate Manager Brenda Jeffreys said.

For information on available units and housing options, please contact DeMawating Development, 42 Wood Lake, Kincheloe, (906) 495-2800.



Photo by Rick Smith

From left, Sault Tribe Board Chairperson Aaron Payment shakes hands with Spencer Shunk upon concluding the purchase of Shunk properties as Sault Tribe Board Unit II Director Keith Massaway looks on.



KICK BUTTS DAY
SKATE NOT VAPE
FREE EVENT
AND OPEN TO ALL
In Honor Of National Kick Butts Day
MARCH 15th
4-6pm
MANISTIQUE
LITTLE BEAR WEST ARENA
FREE
Ice Skating Food
Giveaways **Activities**
Educational Displays



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The U.S. Census Bureau is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Employment Opportunities

Visit www.saulttribe.com to apply online and sign up for notifications.

GOVERNMENTAL OPENINGS

SAULT STE. MARIE AND KINCHELOE

Caseworker, Family Services specialist
Child Care aide
Clinical applications coordinator
Clinic manager
Community Health educator
Environmental research associate

Facilities manager – (Education)

Fisheries assessment biologist
General counsel
Homemaker aide
Human Resource generalist
Human Resource manager
Language instructor
Medical case manager – Behavioral Health

Prevention specialist
Project coordinator
Purchasing Director
Receptionist – Chi Mukwa
Senior accountant
Teacher aide
Tribal attorney – ACFS
Tribal grant school administrator

HESSEL, ST. IGNACE, ESCANABA, MANISTIQUE, MARQUETTE, MUNISING AND NEWBERRY
Staff dentist (St Ignace) – full time/regular
Community health technician (Hessel)
Maintenance technician (St. Ignace Lambert Center)

Tutor (Escanaba/Gladstone) - seasonal

Student services assistant (Escanaba)

Nurse practitioner (St. Ignace)
Maintenance technician (Sawyer Village, Gwinn, Mich.)

Housekeeper (Hessel and Kincheloe)

Dietician (St. Ignace)
Student services assistant (St. Ignace)

Tutor (Manistique) - seasonal
Detention officers (St. Ignace)

Licensed practical nurse (St. Ignace)

KEWADIN CASINO

OPENINGS ST. IGNACE

Hotel manager
Busser
Restaurant cashier
Bar servers
Bartender
Line cooks
Restaurant servers
Guest room attendant – full time/temporary

Guest room attendants – full time/regular

Maintenance worker
Casino porter

HESSEL

Deli cook
Deli/bar utility person – part time/regular

Deli/bar utility person – full time/regular

CHRISTMAS

Bar server
Bartender
Prep cook

Spread love this Valentine's Day, choose to foster a child

Could you offer a child a loving home environment?

Most children eagerly await candy and cards on Valentine's Day. Some children simply wish they had a loving home to call their own.

This is why Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) asks you to spread love and foster a child.

ACFS is in need of caring individuals to provide a safe and nurturing home environment for children who have been placed out of their home due to abuse or neglect.

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please call ACFS at (906) 632-5250.

Biboon gathering

Sunday, Feb. 17, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the tribe's Niigaani-giizhik Ceremonial Building.

Join us for a day of stories and teachings about ishkode (fire) and awesiinyag (wildlife).

Lunch is provided. Feel free to bring your feast bags and a dish to pass.

For more information, contact Jared Gregorini, jgregorini@saulttribe.net, (906) 203-6310, or Robin Clark, rclark@itcmi.org, (906) 632-6896.

St. Ignace language class schedule change

The Anishnaabemowin cultural language classes in St. Ignace, Mich., will now take place on Thursday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. at the new elder's complex (3017 Mackinac Trail). Weekly classes, which are free and open to the public, will start on Feb. 14. Please contact the Sault Tribe Cultural Division at (906) 635-6050 for any questions.

Pickford Library to host traveling exhibition

The Pickford Community Library is honored to announce that it is one of six Michigan organizations selected by the Michigan Humanities Council to host the Smithsonian's Museum on Main Street "Crossroads: Change in Rural America" exhibition from May 9 - June 21, 2020.

"Crossroads" offers small towns a chance to look at the

changes that affected their fortunes over the past century and to creatively focus on new opportunities for growth and development.

The library will be partnering with area organizations and local events and exhibits will be coordinated to coincide with the national exhibition.

To learn more, visit www.museumonmainstreet.org.

Sault gathering and powwow set for July 4-7

The 38th annual Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Summer Gathering and Powwow is on July 4-7, 2019. Going back to the July 4th weekend by popular demand! This event is free and open to the public!

Dates and times:

Thursday, July 4 - Spiritual gathering
Friday, July 5 - Kids' carnival and karaoke night starting at 5:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 6 - Drum and dancer registration, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.;
- Grand entries at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Traditional feast at 5 p.m.
(Free and open to the public)

Sunday, July 7 - Grand entry at noon.
- Traditional giveaway at 3 p.m.
- Dance and drum contest winners announced at 4 p.m.
- Powwow closing at 5 p.m.

- Singing and dancing contests.
- Traditional community feast.
- Authentic food and craft vendors.
- Drug, alcohol and political free event.

Full event flyer to be released at a later date.

Training opportunities available for eligible applicants

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) Program has funding available for on-the-job training and short-term occupational training opportunities.

The program may be able to provide tuition assistance for skills training if it leads to an industry-recognized certification or under OJT, the program may

reimburse an employer 50 percent of your wage for a specified training period.

Candidates must meet certain eligibility requirements and be a resident of the seven-county service area.

Please apply at WIOA office at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich, or call Brenda Cadreau at 635-4767 for more information.

The Totzone at Chi Mukwa

Here's your chance to let your infants, toddlers and preschoolers get out of the cold and meet some new friends.

Bring your strollers, push toys, ride-on toys, walker or trikes.

This is a great way for little ones to interact with other little ones and parents to meet other parents.

Winter fun for ages five and under.

Jumping castle, balls, scooters, children's music, snacks and special activities. Join the

fun! Bring friends.

The Totzone is on Saturdays, Feb. 9 and 23, March 16 and 23, from 10 a.m. to noon in the gymnasium of the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

The cost is \$4, non-walkers are free. Adult supervision is required.

For more information, call 635-RINK, email lfletcher@saulttribe.net or visit www.bigbeararena.com.

March USDA road schedule

Sault Tribe USDA Food Distribution Program staff certify eligibility of clients and distribute food at a central warehouse in Sault Ste. Marie and repeat the process at eight tailgate sites every month serving 15 counties in all. Those counties served are Alger, Chippewa, Delta, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette, Schoolcraft, Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Leelenau and Manistee. Those wishing to apply must reside in one of the 15 counties served in order to apply.

Applicants need to verify membership in any federally recognized tribe for at least one member of their households. Applicants also must verify all that applies to them on the application, such as all income received, all expenses paid out such as child support, day care, utility bills, rent or mortgage receipts.

Applicants over 60 or disabled may qualify for a medical deduction as well.

Those who may have questions should call 635-6076 or toll free at (888) 448-8732 to inquire.

A nutrition educator is also available to help with any nutrition questions you may have.

The application process to receive these benefits takes up to seven business days from the date the office receives it, and you cannot receive SNAP (food stamps) and commodities in the same month.

Here is the March 2019 food distribution road schedule:

Cheboygan	March 27
Hessel and Kincheloe	March 11
Manistique 1	March 5
Manistique 2	March 19
Marquette	March 7
Munising	March 25
Newberry	March 15
Rapid River	March 13
St. Ignace	March 21

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

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

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

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

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USDA: 635-6076 or (888) 448-8732
Child Advocacy Center: 632-4001
Advocacy Resource Center: 632-1808 or (877) 639-7820
Child Placement Program: 632-5250, 495-1232 or (800) 726-0093
St. Ignace Office: 643-8689
Manistique Office: 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137
Munising Office: 387-3906, (800) 236-4705

CULTURE

635-6050
Language, Mary Murray Culture Camp, Ojibwe Learning Center & Library

EDUCATION

632-6798
Child Care: 632-5258
Early Childhood: 635-7722
Youth Education & Activities: 635-7010
WIOA: 635-4767
Adult Ed: 495-7305, 632-6098
Higher Ed: 635-4767

ELDERS

Administration: 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356
Health Sufficiency Fund, Meals, Transportation, In-Home Service

HOUSING

Administration: 495-5555 or (800) 794-4072
Resident Services: 495-1450 or (800) 794-4072
Maintenance: (855) 205-2840
Homeownership: 495-1450 or (800) 794-4072
Home Improvement: 495-1450

RECREATION

635-RINK (635-7465)
Youth Programs
Events
Pro Shop
Recreation Agreements

ENROLLMENT

Administration: 632-8552 or (800) 251-6597
Tribal membership cards, tuition waiver certifications, blood quantum certifications, relinquishment requests, enrollment of children, update address changes, assist with treaty fishing license, family genealogy, eagle feather permits and form BIA-4432 (Indian preference forms)

NATURAL RESOURCES

Wildlife Program: 632-6132
Fisheries Program: 632-0072
Environment: 632-5575

LAW ENFORCEMENT/ CONSERVATION

635-6065
For emergencies, dial 911

Tribal members health and wellness opportunities across the service area

ESCANABA

Sullivan's Health and Fitness

1401 N. 26th St., Suite 118, Escanaba
Call (906) 217-2011 for an appointment to register. Bring Tribal ID.
Free for tribal members, their spouses and children residing in Escanaba area.
Large open group exercise area with exercise machines, workout equipment, free weights and bench stations.
Mon-Fri 6 p.m. to 6 a.m.; 24-hour access on weekends.

Escanaba Northern Lights YMCA

2001 North Lincoln Rd., Escanaba, (906) 789-0005
Free to Sault Tribe members: Fitness center, pool, hot tub, sauna and gym
Sault Tribe members receive discounted member rate for all programs at the YMCA.
Present tribal card to desk attendant. Age restrictions may apply.
Winter hours:
Mon-Fri: 5 a.m.-10 p.m.
Sat: 7 a.m. -10 p.m.
Sun: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

KINROSS/KINCHELOE

Kinross Recreation Fitness Center

43 Wood Lake Road, Kincheloe, MI 49788, 906-495-5350
Mon-Fri: 12-9 p.m.
Cardio workout machines, 12 station universal fitness center, free weights.
Bring Tribal ID.

MANISTIQUE

Manistique High School Pool

100 Cedar St., Manistique
Free to Sault Tribe Members
Open Swim
Mon & Wed now through

April 10, 6-8 p.m.

Closed Feb. 6, 11, March 25, 27

Present tribal card to pool attendant on first visit.

Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital Fitness Center

115 N Lake St., Manistique, (906) 341-3276
Open 24/7
Bring drivers license and tribal card to sign up.
Free weights, weight machines, aerobic machines

Little Bear West Ice Arena

180 N. Maple, Manistique, (906) 341-3863
Free Open skate and skate rentals
Bring Tribal ID.
For current public skating schedule, call 341-3863.

MUNISING

Alger Parks & Recreation Fitness Center

413 Maple St., Munising, 906-387-5636
Sault Tribe members stop in with Tribal ID to register for free membership.
24/7 fitness center with cardio room, cybex room, weight room, TV workout video room and gymnasium with walking track.

NEGAUNEE

YMCA of Marquette County

350 Iron Street, Negaunee
Register with tribal card on first visit.
Cardio and strength training equipment, sauna, locker rooms, rock wall, free drop-in fitness classes such as yoga, Pilates, Strong Bodies, etc. On-site tot watch for parents with children 6 weeks to 7 years for YMCA-member rates.
Mon-Fri: 5 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Sat: 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sun: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

NEWBERRY AND CURTIS

Helen Newberry Joy Hospital & Healthcare Center

Newberry-502 W. Harrie St. Curtis-N9246 Saw-Wa-Quato St.
Bring Tribal ID.
Total Health and Wellness Center
Exercise Machines
Weight Equipment
Shower Facilities
Free Towel Service
Lockers (Newberry only)

SAULT STE. MARIE Lake Superior State University Student Activity Center and Norris Center Pool

1000 Meridian St., Sault Ste. Marie
(906) 635-2602
Free to Sault Tribe members: Student Activity Center: Fitness Center, Track, Gymnasium
Present tribal card to desk attendant. Age restrictions may apply.
Winter Hours:
Mon-Thu: 6 a.m.-11 p.m.
Fri: 6 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sat: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sun: 8 a.m.-11p.m.

LSSU Youth Athletic Camps

Free to Sault Tribe members
Basketball: Little Lakers, Girls Individual Camp, Boys Individual Camp
Volleyball: Girls Fundamental Camp

Dates and registration to be published later. For more information, contact Tammy Graham at tgraham@saulttribe.net.

Big Bear Arena

Two Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie (906) 635-7465
Free to Sault Tribe Members
Winter Hours
Mon-Fri: 5 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sat-Sun: Based on facility schedule

Public skating & skate rentals
Sat-Sun: 2:30-4:20 p.m.
Tue & Thu: 1-2:20 p.m.

Basketball and Volleyball
Gyms: Sunday-Friday during open times, call for availability. Present tribal card to reception desk.

Open Gym for Tribal Youth: Mon-Thu 3-5 p.m. (new schedule in the summer). Report to basketball gym and report to staff.

Walking Track: Mon-Fri 5 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat-Sun 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Nature Trail/Playground: Seven days a week during daylight

Closed: April 19, April 21, May 25-27, July 4, Aug. 31, Sept. 1, Sept. 2, Nov. 28, Nov. 29, Dec. 24 and Dec. 25.

All-In-One Fitness Club Big Bear Arena,

Two Ice Circle Dr. Sault Ste. Marie
Free to Sault Tribe Members
Fitness Center, track, Basketball and Volleyball gyms, Saunas
Present tribal card to desk monitor to register. Age restrictions may apply.

Winter Hours:
Mon-Fri: 5 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sat-Sun: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Closed: April 19, April 21, May 25-27, July 4, Aug. 31, Sept. 1, Sept. 2, Nov. 28, Nov. 29, Dec. 24 and Dec. 25.

ST. IGNACE Little Bear East Arena and Community Center

275 Marquette St., St. Ignace (906) 643-8676
Fitness Center: Mon-Fri 5 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat-Sun 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

Equipment: Aerobic machines, free weights, weight machines, exercise machines.

Fitness Track: Mon-Fri 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Bring Tribal ID.

Membership liaisons' February schedules

Unit I — Sheila Berger, (906) 635-6050, ext. 26359; (906) 259-2983 (cell); Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sault Tribe Administration, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie.

Units II and III — Clarence Hudak, (906) 430-2004 (cell); Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Sault Tribe Lambert Center, 225 Wa Seh Dr., St. Ignace, (906)

643-2124 (office)

Units IV and V — Mary Jenerou, (906) 450-7011;
Feb. 19 and 27 at Munising Health Center, (906) 387-4721
Feb. 20, 21, 22, 26 and 28 at Manistique Health Center, (906) 341-8469
Feb. 18 at Escanaba Penn Star, (906) 786-2636
Feb. 25 at Marquette Tribal Health Center, (906) 225-1616

Sault Tribe Health Services Clinics

ST. IGNACE
1140 N. State St., Suite 2805
Phone: 643-8689
Toll Free: (877) 256-0135

ESCANABA
1401 N 26th St., Suite 105
Phone: 786-2636

SAULT STE. MARIE
2864 Ashmun St.
Phone: 632-5200
Toll Free: (877) 256-0009

HESEL
3355 N. 3 Mile Rd.
Phone: 484-2727

MANISTIQUE
5698W US Highway 2
Phone: 341-8469
Toll Free: (866) 401-0043

NEWBERRY
4935 Zeez Ba Tik Lane
Phone: 293-8181

MUNISING
622 West Superior St.
Phone: 387-4721
Toll Free: (800) 236-4705

MARQUETTE
1229 Washington St.
Phone: 225-1616

CLAN TEACHINGS

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program presents Clan Teachings with Gerard Sagassige. On Friday, Feb. 22, come join us for an evening of clan teachings and to meet our newest traditional healers, Gerard Sagassige and Joe Syrette, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Nigaanigiizhik Cultural Building,

at 11 Ice Circle Dr. in Sault Ste. Marie. A potluck will also be held. Feel free to bring a dish to pass and your dish bag.

For more information, call 632-0236 or 632-5268.



Transportation Department busy with multiple projects

FROM THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

The Sault Tribe Transportation Department has been very busy during the last few months preparing construction projects for the coming season and implementing several new initiatives. This year will see the redesign and construction of three large-scale projects: Sault Tribal Health Center, Bahweting Drive and Loop Project and Tribal Trails and Sidewalks.

Health Center Project

The Health Center Project will modernize the aging infrastructure and address several challenges at the facility, including access management, pedestrian safety

and lighting. The new infrastructure will provide dedicated staff and client parking zones, separate entrances for staff and deliveries, drainage improvements, curbs, gutters, signage, sidewalks, ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) ramps and a heated concrete entrance, allowing for safer pedestrian and traffic flow at the facility.

Bahweting Project

Bahweting Project has several components. First, this will include Phase I of Bahweting Drive, a long awaited public roadway north of JKL Bahweting School and a North Bus Loop. The scope of work will include excavation, sub base, curb, gutter,

sidewalk, signage, storm system, drainage improvements and lighting.

Tribal Trails and Sidewalks

The Transportation Program was awarded a \$650,000 grant from the Federal Highway Administration Safety Funds to design and construct trails and sidewalks at several tribal housing sites throughout the service area. The grant will focus on construction of sidewalks at Hessel, Newberry, Munising, Manistique, St. Ignace and improvements to Big Bear Trail located in Sault Ste. Marie.

Living Snow Fence

Another long awaited project,

a Living Snow Fence, will begin this year. A Living Snow Fence is the design and planting of up to 300 full-grown trees and shrubs at our Odenaang Housing site and other selected places. This project will mitigate strong winds, provide shade and, most importantly, decrease snowdrifts.

Motor Vehicle Safety

Continuing a focus on safety, the department was awarded a \$14,000 grant from the Department of the Interior, BIA Indian Highway Safety Program, to implement the Safe Binoojiis Project. This project is a partnership with several other programs and departments to encourage seat belt use and provide car seats to tribal families. The project will include installation by certified installers at tribal community events and safety fairs across the service areas. The primary goal of this project is to decrease the number of injuries and fatalities related to motor vehicles.

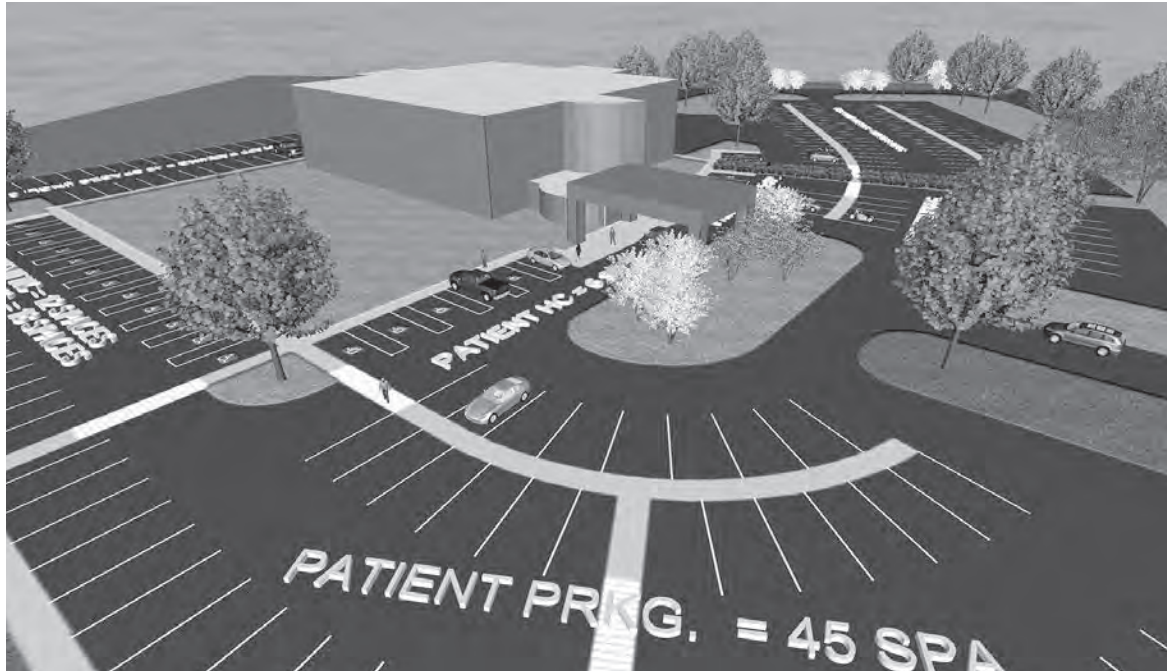
Regional Tribal Transit Initiative

The Regional Tribal Transit initiative has been successful with implementing cooperative agreements and services with three local transit providers — Eastern Upper Peninsula Transit Authority, Delta Area Transit Authority and Schoolcraft County Transit. The program will expand services and programming to St. Ignace, Munising and Hessel. Transportation was also able to register the tribe in the National Transit Database, which involved

collecting and reporting extensive transit data into the national system. This is the first step in accessing federal formula funding to sustain and expand transit services throughout the tribe's seven-county region.



Kathryn Burlew was hired as the transportation clerk in June 2018 to work with transportation planner Wendy A. Hoffman. She is a member of Sault Tribe who studied human services at Bay Mills Community College. Burlew lives in Sault Ste. Marie and has three children (Audra, Maliik and Micah) and a granddaughter (Ezmarra). "Since I began working here I have met many great people and I'm very thankful to work in a department that allows me to be part of the safety and growth of our tribe," Burlew said. "I look forward to community input sessions to hear what tribal members visualize in future development of our communities and any challenges."



This illustration shows plans for parking along with pedestrian and automotive traffic management at the tribe's health and human services center in Sault Ste. Marie.

Board of Directors green lights three solar energy projects

BY RICK SMITH

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors approved three sites for solar energy developments at their meeting on Jan. 22 that promises to save the tribe over \$100,000 in annual electrical expenditures plus generate thousands more in annual revenue. The projects represent the tribe's initial foray into solar energy development that will eventually be expanded to other sites.

The projects have been in the works for almost two years. According to the resolutions passed by the board, the tribe commissioned and received a solar energy study conducted by Srinergy, a clean energy technology company based in Holt, Mich. The study was funded by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. Srinergy identified suitable trust lands for the developments adjacent to the Sault Kewadin Casino, Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center and Kewadin Shores Casino.

The resolutions authorized Srinergy, at the company's cost, to carry out the necessary permitting processes and due diligence along with site preparations and mitigations with any side economic benefits going to the tribe. A side economic benefit could be lumber sales, for example. After site preparations are done, Srinergy will provide the tribe with a certified land survey describing the lands to be leased under federal regulations governing business leases on trust lands. Later, the company will facilitate working

agreements, leasing and investor arrangements as well as handling the maintenance on the physical solar plants and nurturing the business relationships. Sault Tribe will be the power purchaser and landlord while the investment company is the developer of the solar sites and Srinergy is a consultant and facilitator. Investment for the developments should be somewhere around \$6 to \$8 million.

As currently proposed, the sizes of the selected site at Kewadin Casino is 24 acres off of Seymour Street, the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center is at 3.5 acres and the Kewadin Shores site is 8.5 acres. All of the site boundaries may change before plans are finalized.

Sault Tribe Economic Development Director Joel Schultz said passage of the resolutions was just the latest step in the formal process. "It is an important step as it allows the tribe to commit lands to the project which should trigger investment commitments by the private investor and allow our team to work on the next steps of getting approved leases through the BIA."

Schultz added, "Sault Tribe will sign agreements with the investment company to buy electricity at a discounted price, accounting for over \$100,000 of savings annually. Additionally, Sault Tribe will lease lands to the investment company generating about another \$20,000 annually, all while supporting renewable, environmentally friendly energy. The hope is that this will be the first step for the tribe in solar development, and additional sites


will be slated soon afterwards."

Srinergy is a nine-year old company with operations in the United States, Caribbean nations


and Central America. According to the Srinergy web site, the company is affiliated with the Michigan Energy Innovation

Business Council, Lean and Green Michigan, Michigan Saves, Green Home Institute and a few other similar organizations.

KINDERGARTEN Round Up



Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School
Kindergarten Round Up for the
2019-2020 School Year



Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is holding Kindergarten Round Up for the upcoming 2019-2020 School Year. Only those who complete and turn in an enrollment application during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery. The Open Enrollment dates are from January 28, 2019, through Feb. 11, 2019, with extended hours from 4:30-5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 6. Applications may be picked up from the school office or from the school website at www.jklschool.org beginning January 28, 2019.

All applications must be received by the school office by 4 p.m. (Eastern Time Zone) on February 11, 2019.

The lottery will be held in the school cafeteria on Thursday, February 21, 2019, at 9:30 a.m., for those wishing to attend. Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.

The parents of those children selected from the lottery will be notified by phone to set up the appointment for Round Up. The Kindergarten Round Up dates are set for March 12 and 13.

Anishinaabemowin 2019

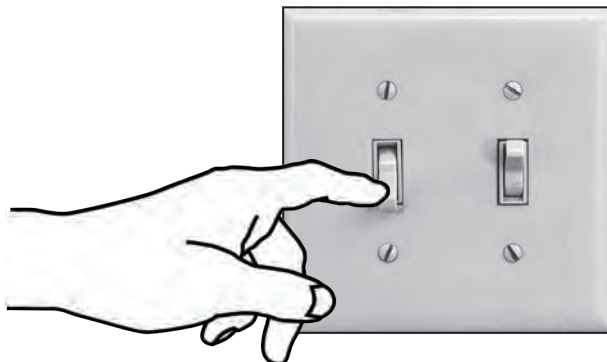
By Susan Askwith



It is in your hands to create a better world for all who live in it. Education is the most powerful tool you can use to change the world. — Nelson Mandela

We're having more daylight hours these days, but we still need to turn on lights in mornings and nights. Here are a couple things to mutter to yourself as you do that!

N'waaskwanebijigan I'm turning on the light.
N'aatebidoon I'm turning off the light.

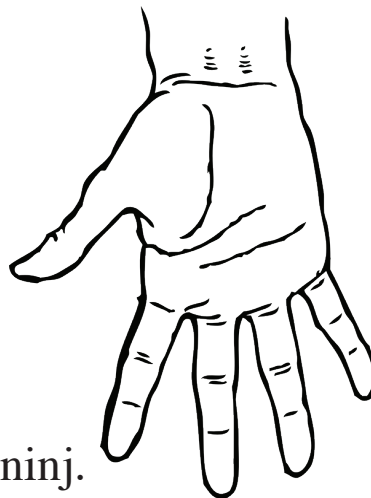


How do you say that?

The "N's" at the beginnings sound like "nnnn" and they are the "I" part of the word. (I am turning.)
waas kwan e bi ji gan — emphasize the "e"
aa te bi doon — emphasize the "te"

Fun with five or 10 fingers!

Last month we counted to 3: Bezhik, niizh, nswe. Let's add 4 - Niiwin, 5 - Naanan and 10 - Midaaswi



Most of us have niiwin fingers (ninjiinhsan) on each hand (ninj), and bezhik (1) g'chi ninj (thumb) on each ninj. It's OK to refer to thumbs as fingers, though, and we do.

(Notice ninj is the whole hand and ninjiinhs is a finger. The "iinhs" means a little version. "G'chi" means big. Neither hands nor fingers nor thumbs are considered alive. So you can talk about them using "Little Chats" below.)

How do you say that? Mkwa?

You don't really pronounce M as 'em.' You say "mmmmm," like a hum. That's how to start this word. Then the "kwa" kind of sounds like the English "go" except sort of nasal. It's a short little sound that is part of a short little word for a pretty big bold animal!!

That's it! (Mii wi!)

Fun Fact: In Anishinaabemowin we have an actual word to say for an exclamation mark. It is "kwa!" Of course, it's pronounced the same as in "mkwa" above. Cool.

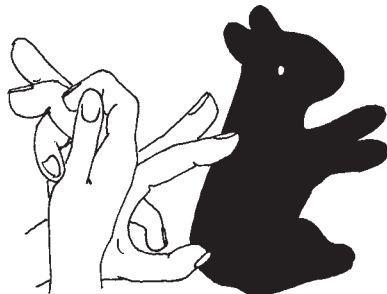
Hand shadows on the wall. *Mazinitiesin g'ninj aasmatig.*

Here's a chance to use your clever **midaaswi ninjiinhsan** to make some animals figures. Have someone shine a flashlight on the wall. Put your hands near the wall, moving your fingers into the positions shown. After you make a shadow figure, you can wiggle your **ninjiinhsan** to make its mouth or arms move.

Bear - Mkwa



Rabbit - Waaboozoonh



Deer - Waa'aashkesh



The fun never quits!

Our word for "sock" is "midaas." Usually we talk about more than one sock so that's "midaasan." It's SO close to "Midaaswi" (10)! A great way to remember "socks" is to think of 10 toes snuggled in them.



Little Chats Bangii ganoozh! (Have a little conversation!)

Maanda gnawaabandan!
Look at that! (Watch that!)
N'waabandaan.
I see it.



"I really hate my job."



"Oh, please . . ."

Pronunciation guide; How to sound really good:

Let's just stick with these basics: Letters sound like they do in reading English, except for these ones.

- a sounds like U in cup
 - aa sounds like A in fall
 - o sounds like OO in book
 - oo sounds like O in grow
 - i sounds like I in fit
 - ii sounds like EE in feed
 - e sounds like E in fed
 - g sounds only like g in go
- nh has no sound at all; it is only a SIGN that the vowel in front of it is said in a nasal way.**

Note: This is the way to talk about things that are not alive.

The "dan" end of "look at that" and the "daan" end of "I see it" are pronounced differently, of course.

Fun fact: Anishinaabemowin does not have a word for "please." We simply ask in a good way (*wewini*).

English has a lot of strange spellings. Our system of writing is easier. We pronounce all the letters shown, even if we say some of them pretty fast and some are pretty quiet.

Tribal HUD-VASH Act reintroduced in Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senators Jon Tester (D-Mont.), John Hoeven (R-N.D.), Tom Udall (D-N.M.), and Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.) reintroduced bipartisan legislation on Jan. 30 to better serve homeless or at-risk American Indian veterans.

The Senators' *Tribal HUD-VASH Act* will formally codify a joint tribal housing initiative between the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) program, which provides rental and housing assistance to homeless and at-risk homeless veterans in Indian Country.

While Native American veterans serve in the military at a higher rate than any other ethnic demographic in the United States, American Indian tribes and tribal housing authorities had been unable to access HUD-VASH funds prior to Congressional authorization of a Tribal HUD-VASH pilot in 2014.

"Every man and woman who served our nation has made huge sacrifices to keep us safe, and they deserve to have a warm and safe place to sleep at night," said Tester, ranking member of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. "Our bipartisan bill builds on the success of this pilot program and expands it to every American Indian veteran living in Indian Country."

"Native Americans serve in our nation's armed forces in higher numbers than any other ethnic group," said Hoeven. "This biparti-

san legislation brings certainty to a critical housing program for Native American veterans, and will help ensure that Native veterans have access to safe, affordable homes."

"This bipartisan legislation will help ensure that Native veterans have greater access to the stable, affordable housing they deserve," said Udall, vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs. "For generations, tribal members in New Mexico and across Indian Country have proudly answered the call to duty, no matter the personal cost, earning not just our gratitude but also equal access to the veteran support services we promised them. But too often, Native veterans face homelessness when they return from service. This is unacceptable. We must pledge to serve Native veterans as well as they have served us. That starts with a place to call home. This bill is an important step in the right direction, and I'll continue to fight to improve access to critical services for Native veterans."

"We never want to see a veteran without a home," said Isakson, chairman of the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. "This bipartisan legislation will help ensure our Native American veterans, who have served our country honorably, have the housing and support services they need. I am proud to work with my colleagues in the Senate to once again introduce this legislation for our veterans."

HUD-VASH has supported homeless veterans since 2008 by

combining HUD federal public housing program rental assistance with case management and clinical services provided by the VA. Tribes and tribally-designated housing entities, which do not participate in federal public housing programs, were unable to participate in the program until 2014. As of 2018, the tribal HUD-VASH pilot program codified by this bill has served 25 tribes and helped house more than 100 American

Indian veterans.

The *Tribal HUD-VASH Act* will authorize the program and ensure that at least five percent of all HUD-VASH vouchers are set aside for Native American tribes and tribal housing authorities to address Native American veteran homelessness. The bill will also ensure that HUD and the VA modify the initiative through tribal consultation to better guide available resources to homeless

American Indian veterans.

The bill also directs the Indian Health Service to provide any assistance requested by HUD or the VA to implement the initiative and directs HUD, the VA and the Indian Health Service to conduct a review of the initiative every five years.

The bill can be read online at <https://www.veterans.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Tribal%20HUD-VASH%20Act.pdf>.

Team competes in International Silver Stick finals



Submitted by Lisa Corbiere Moran

The Soo Lakers PeeWee AA hockey team competed in the International Silver Stick Finals held in Port Huron. There were 16 teams in their division. They defeated Caledon Hawks, California Wave and lost to Vaughan Rangers. They defeated Welland Tigers in the quarterfinals and lost to Owen Sound (they ended up winning tournament) in semi final game. In the back (L-R) are coaches Rodney Wilcox, Eric Moran, Andre Jaques and head coach Chuck Fabry. Standing (L-R) are Terek Sawyer, Evan Kennedy, Ethan Chambers, Ryan TenEyck, Evan Hoglund, Cayd Esherich, Korsen Pace, Cale Bell, Jacob Goodrich, Avery Wilson and Michael Bontrager. Sitting, Jarret Crimin, Treyce Moran, Drew Fabry, Randen Blair and Nick Wood.

GOLD CASH SATURDAYS

January and February 2019

Hot Seat Draws 1 p.m. - 10 p.m.
Win Up to \$200 Kewadin Credits

CASH Draws 10:15 p.m. & 10:30 p.m.
Win Up to \$500 CASH

See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.

Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion

All Sites:

Excluding Sault Ste. Marie on February 2

MANISTIQUE • ST. IGNACE • HESSEL • SAULT STE. MARIE • CHRISTMAS



1-800-KEWADIN



SAULT STE. MARIE + ST. IGNACE
HESSEL + CHRISTMAS + MANISTIQUE
1-800-KEWADIN | KEWADIN.COM

LUCKY CHARMS - ALL SITES Fridays in March

Hot Seat Draws 4 p.m.-10 p.m. Win up to \$100 Kewadin Credits

Earn entries for CASH and Pandora Bracelet Draws

March 30* Win Up to \$500 CASH and a Pandora Bracelet

*March 30th customers must have entries placed in grand prize barrel no later than 9:45 p.m.

See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.

Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion

FINAL FORTUNE - ALL SITES Saturdays in March*

*Excluding March 16

Hot Seat Draws 3 p.m.-10 p.m. Win up to \$50 Kewadin Credits

Win up to \$500 CASH Saturdays at 10:15 p.m.

See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.

Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion

ST. PATRICK'S DAY - ALL SITES March 16

Hot Seat Draws Noon -10 p.m. Win up to \$100 Kewadin Credits

Win up to \$777 at 10:15 p.m.

KEWADIN CASINO ST. IGNACE

PENGUIN PLINKO - February 14-16 & 21-23

Hot Seat Draws 7 p.m.-11 p.m. to play Penguin Plinko

WIN up to \$600 CASH!

Earn more points - get more hockey pucks to play Plinko

See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details.

Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion. Penguin Plinko will replace all other scheduled promotions on these days including: Valentine's Day, Let It Ride Fridays and Cold Cash Saturdays.

Up to \$15,000 Spin to Win Tournament - April 22-23

KEWADIN CASINO SAULT STE. MARIE

\$15,000 Keno Tournament - March 1-3

Up to \$15,000 Video Poker Tournament - March 8-10

\$250 Poker Tournament - March 9

- Earn your entry by participating in the March 8 \$65 Satellite Tournament

* Point requirement for all promotions. See Northern Rewards Club for more details.

Must register at Northern Rewards for promotions and tournaments. Club hours vary by site.

Cairns is assistant events manager at Big Bear

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Kaylynn Cairns was hired recently as the assistant events manager at Big Bear Arena in Sault Ste. Marie.

She previously worked for the Sault Tribe Education Department as the Sovereignty in Education grant manager, which allowed her to purchase culture and language resources for JKL School. When the Education Department moved from the Sault Tribe administration building to Big Bear Arena last March, she made the move with them. After the grant she managed ended in December, she applied for and accepted her current position – and moved to her new office – directly across the hall from her previous one.



Kaylynn Cairns

events manager has her booking space for birthdays, baby showers, wedding receptions, team meals, trainings, meetings,

school fun days and much more. She also works with the Youth Development Fund, which helps qualifying families pay for needed extra-curricular activities for their children such as sports, dance, music lessons, driver's education and more. She stays busy lending a hand with public events like public skating on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays; and makes sure Concessions, Pro Shop and Reception have what they need. If any area is understaffed, she helps fill in or helps solve whatever problems might arise.

"The three of us (Recreation Facility Manager Tammy Graham, Events Manager Logan Fletcher and herself) are always making sure everything is running

smoothly and ready for the day's events," Cairns said. "It's always busy here, especially after school and with all the different activities for youth and fitness classes being offered. In addition, there are open gyms for volleyball and basketball practices."

Cairns is from Pickford and her maiden name is Portice. Her mother, Sharon Portice, worked for the tribe for 20 years. "I am glad to be back with the tribe because I grew up in it," she said.

After graduating from high school, she attended Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, triple majoring in public administration, business administration and political science. She also earned her post-bachelorette certificate in a masters program at Penn State

University in community and economic development with a focus in rural development.

She is married to Jayson Cairns, and together they have two children, 11-year-old Maraya and 2-year-old Cecilya. The family lives on a farm where they raise cattle, pigs and chickens. "My husband and I met in 4-H when we showed livestock together as kids. Now we help run the livestock group we met in when we were 9 and 12-years old."

To make reservations for a party or an event, call Cairns at (906) 635-4903 or email kcairns1@saulttribe.net. The facility's program and events can also be found online at www.bigbeararena.com.

Sault insurance startup is based in SmartZone

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Karlene Mills took the plunge and became a business owner last year after being laid off her former job at the *Sault Evening News* due to downsizing.

to school with that has been in the insurance business for years had approached her about starting her own business.

After being laid off last year and with time on her hands, she decided to look into it. She began

by reaching out to Northwestern Mutual then doing some training online, and after four-weeks of intensive training in Grand Rapids last June, is contracted to sell their products and services.

After beginning her business in her home and growing her client base, she decided the time was right to locate an office and found the perfect space and business infrastructure already in place at the Sault Ste. Marie SmartZone in the Sault Industrial Park.

Mills offers life, disability and long-term care insurance and annuities. She will have her securities license by July and will then be able to sell Roth accounts. She said she uses a whole-picture planning approach when helping her clients, empowering them to plan for important goals and events in their future. She is able to do this by using the expertise of Northwestern Mutual's financial professionals and a personalized digital map to help clients find the plan they are most comfortable with to help them attain their goals.

Mills said Northwestern Mutual is the largest direct provider of individual life insurance in the U.S. and was listed as Fortune's 2018 World's Most Admired Life Insurance



Karlene Mills

Company with assets of over \$265 billion and is ranked at 104 on the Fortune 500 list.

One of her first clients was a young lady who thanked her for helping her to grow up when she signed her up for life insurance. "I don't think that most people really understand how to plan for their future any more. When my parents were young they used to have a lady from Prudential come have coffee with them and sit down and talk. Together they developed plans that helped them grow," she said. "And they did very well for themselves listening to her. Now you look at the younger generations and

saving for their future and financial planning, including life and disability insurance, is not something that is on their minds. I would like to help to change that, I think they would be very satisfied if they knew what to expect for their future."

Mills is a member of the Sault Tribe and grew up on Shunk Road before the Sault Tribe reservation became a reality. Her parents still live on Shunk Road.

Karlene Mills can be contacted by calling her at the Sault SmartZone, located at 2345 Meridian Street in Sault Ste. Marie, at (906) 440-4004 or by email at karlene.mills@nm.com.

Ashlee Milke fills Sault safety officer position

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Ashlee Mielke has been hired as one of three tribal safety officers and works out of the tribe's administration building in downtown Sault Ste. Marie.

She was formerly employed at the Kewadin Casino Hotel in St. Ignace for a number of years as a front desk supervisor.

Mielke said she saw the position listed on the tribe's website, and also spoke to St. Ignace Safety Officer John King about the position. "He helped me with training, knowledge and background info on the job," she said. "You have to know about fire extinguishers and other safety equipment, and issues such as pool safety and the chemicals that go into the pool. I have learned a lot on the job since being hired, Sault Safety Officer Dale Joseph has helped a lot."

The three safety officers oversee every building owned by the tribe and spend a lot of



Ashlee Mielke

time on the road traveling to the different sites for building audits and to talk with staff to see if they have any concerns.

She began her new position in August and said she enjoys meeting and helping the tribe's employees.

Mielke is from the Cedarville area and has another family member employed by the tribe – her aunt, Michelle Bickham, is the supervisor and a registered technologist at the tribe's radiology department.

Learn fly tying in Pickford

DIY Pickford presents fly tying nights, Tuesdays, Feb. 12, 26, and March 12 and 26 from 6:30 -7:30 p.m.

Join instructors Michelle Jarvie and Sheila Bergdoll for a FREE hands-on series on fly tying. This four-session series will introduce participants to the use of fly tying tools and materials. You don't need any experience to participate.

All materials are provided. Attend one, or all four sessions.

All ages are welcome; youth 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult. For more information, contact the Pickford Community Library at (906) 647-1288 or amsmith@uproc.lib.mi.us. The Pickford Community Library is located at 230 East Main Street in Pickford.

Traditional healers' schedules

Keith Smith

Sault Ste. Marie: Feb. 18, 19, 25, 26 and 27. Call Lori Gambardella 632-0236 or Laura Collins-Downwind at 632-5268

Hessel: Feb. 20. Call (906) 484-2727.

Gerard Sagassige

Sault Ste. Marie: Feb. 21 and 22. Call Lori Gambardella 632-0236 or Laura Collins-Downwind at 632-5268.

Joe Syrette

Sault Ste. Marie: Feb. 27, 28, March 1. Call Lori Gambardella 632-0236 or Laura Collins-Downwind at 632-5268.

February 2019

TVSO SCHEDULE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2

3	4	5	6 Marquette 8:30-3:30	7 Munising 10:30-3:30	8 Manistique 9:30-3:30	9
10	11 Sault 8:30-3:30	12 Newberry 8:30-12:00	13 Manistique 8:30-3:30	14 St. Ignace 8:30-3:30	15 Hessel 8:30-3:30	16
17	18 Sault 8:30-3:30	19 Escanaba 8:30-2:30	20 Marquette 8:30-3:30	21 Munising 8:30-3:30	22 Off	23
24	25 Washington DC	26 -----	27 -----	28 -----	2/1 -----	2/2 -----

Tribal Veterans Service Officer Stacy King holds office hours at all Sault Tribe health facilities. King can be reached at her email, s.king@michiganlegion.org, her primary work cell phone, (906) 202-4238 or her office, (313) 964-6640.

Sault Tribe and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians

By Rick Smith

According to the Indian Health Service (IHS), Congress established the Special Diabetes Program for Indians (SDPI) in 1997 in response to the diabetes epidemic among American Indians. The SDPI is a \$150 million annual grant program for diabetes prevention and treatment at IHS, tribal and urban Indian health facilities across the nation.

The IHS Division of Diabetes conducts the program with guidance from the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee, a body established in 1998 composed of one elected tribal leader from each of the 12 IHS districts, one federal representative and technical advisors from five American Indian councils, including the National Congress of American Indians.



Sault Tribe Diabetes Program Manager Devin Krause, MSN RN

“SDPI grant funding continues to have a large impact on the care for our tribal members with diabetes mellitus in all of the seven-county service area,” Sault Tribe Diabetes Program Manager Devin Krause MSN RN said. “By providing lifestyle and self-management education that

assist our tribal people to better control blood glucose, blood pressure and cholesterol levels as well as in the prevention of diabetes, pre-diabetes, new onset diabetes and diabetes complications.”

Krause said SDPI grants allow the tribe to offer members the benefit of comprehensive care through team management by supporting a collaboration of registered nurses, registered dietitians and medical care providers.

The SDPI funds registered dietitians and a new diabetes fitness trainer for the tribe, Krause said. These are people who use their education and resources to counsel members in achieving weight-loss goals to prevent or manage diabetes. The registered dietitians also offer a variety of classes on creating healthful and traditional foods for families and

individuals. In 2016, funds from the SDPI allowed for building a specially designed teaching kitchen for the education, support and promotion of healthful cooking among members.

“SDPI funding is well spent within our Community Health Nurse (CHN) staff and their largely populated CHN diabetic foot-care clinics,” Krause said. “SDPI provides continued education for our Community Health nursing team as well as the materials needed in their well-populated clinics.”

Further, thanks to SDPI funding, the tribe’s medical care providers have opportunities to attend annual diabetes education updates as needed or requested.

According to Devin, the federal program also provides financial support for the “tribe’s formulary of diabetes medications

so that medical providers have a comprehensive selection of medications to choose from in order to best meet our tribal members’ blood glucose control needs.”

Krause said she accepted her post in the autumn of 2017 upon completing here Master of Science in Nurse Education. Previously, she was on the staff of the Community Health nursing team for about six years. She described her time as a CHN as a privilege of caring for the tribe’s members in their homes and in Community Health clinics, such as the diabetic foot-care clinics and immunization clinics.

“My passion for my tribe’s health and well-being continues to be met as the Diabetes Program manager in which we will maintain and improve the health of our tribal people,” Krause said.

Mike Goetz steps into new diabetes fitness trainer position

By Rick Smith

Dec. 27, 2018 marked the day Mike Goetz became the first diabetes personal fitness trainer on the staff of Sault Tribe Community Health. His position is funded through the U.S. Indian Health Service (IHS) Special Diabetes Program for Indians. Essentially, his task is to help members in the Sault area in preventing or managing the various types of diabetes.

“My job entails consulting with patients who are referred by their primary medical providers and have been diagnosed with diabetes,” said Goetz. “After meeting with the patient and performing a fitness assessment, I will then develop a fitness prescription based on norms after evaluating their results from their assessments.”

Goetz explained patients then begin an initial 10-week, one-on-one fitness program with him or, optionally, they may choose to join group classes in either yoga,



Diabetes fitness trainer Mike Goetz

walking or Native dance. A second assessment is taken and the regular sessions are stretched out to two-week intervals for eight weeks. In the third stage, patients are assessed a third time and patients have two monthly sessions before conclude their fitness prescriptions, which take just a little over six months in all.

Only Sault Tribe physicians may refer patients to Goetz.

Diabetes Program Manager

Devin Krause said Goetz is filling a new role developed for the program last year. “To my knowledge, there are not any other diabetes fitness trainer in our IHS Bemidji area,” Krause said. “However, some of the Southwest tribes have implemented fitness education, but to my knowledge not as specific to diabetes education programming.”

Krause added that a needs assessment in 2017 identified the necessity for a full-time fitness trainer specifically for the tribe’s members with diabetes. She said it was also strongly supported by the program’s coordinators, a team of certified diabetes educators and registered nurses as well as registered dietitians — nurses Linda Cook and Teresa Filan along with dietitians Julie Trestrail,

Kristy Hill, Stacy Storey and Mary Bunker.

After a little over a month on the job, Goetz said, “Right now, I am feeling more and more comfortable returning to practice something I went to school for and graduated college studying. The people in Community Health and the Diabetes Program have made me feel like home and very much appreciated.”

He also has some plans. “I eventually want to develop a program for adolescents with diabetes,” Goetz said. “People need to remember this [diabetes] is not just a condition that you obtain when you get older, there are multiple families in this community that are affected through their children.”

Goetz graduated in 2013 from

Lake Superior State University with a Bachelor of Science in exercise science with a minor in coaching. “When I graduated, I went in a different direction with my career and worked at JKL Bahweting PSA for five years,” he added. “There I wore many hats, but the most enjoyable being coaching sports. I have a passion for making individuals feel successful and seeing progress.” At the time of the interview, Goetz said he was studying for an American College of Sports Medicine exercise physiologist certification, which he planned to have finished by mid-February.

Goetz said further, “I have an amazing wife, Jenna, and a 2-year-old son, Connor, and enjoy spending time with them and doing anything that involves sports.”

Patients evaluated for physical activity referrals from providers



Health educator Josh Firack and diabetes fitness trainer Michael Goetz
By Brenda Austin

Diabetes fitness trainer Michael Goetz and health educator Josh Firack were recently at Big Bear’s walking track doing a physical fitness assessment as part of a patient’s physical activity referral from their practitioner at the Sault Tribe Health Center.

Firack said when patients are referred to them, they do an initial assessment and set them up for a fitness assessment for their second appointment. From the fitness assessment, they provide one-on-one sessions or small group classes, depending on the patient’s functional level and health needs. They meet with patients for six months to guide them and help them meet their physical activity goals as prescribed to them by their health care provider.

Patients can be referred to them for such things as diabetes, hypertension, obesity, renal disease and others. To get a referral for an exercise prescription, visit your health care provider at the Sault Tribe Health Center.

Both Goetz and Firack are certified through the American College of Sports Medicine as certified exercise physiologists.

“Class of 2032” • Sault Area Public Schools • “A Great Place to Learn”

KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP!

If you have a child ready for Kindergarten in Fall 2019, please fill out the online form at www.saultschools.org (select “welcome to kindergarten”). Please select the appointment date and time you prefer.

What to Bring:

- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Shot Records
- Social Security Card
- Proof of Residence (Such as a utility bill)
- Tribal Card (If applicable)
- Your child

Location:
Sault Area Middle School Library
684 Marquette Ave
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Roundup Dates & Times

- March 11, 2019 – 12-6:30 p.m.
- March 12 2019 – 12-6:30 p.m.
- March 13, 2019 – 8:30-2:30 p.m.

Age Requirements
Age 5 on or before Sept. 1, 2019

If you have any questions regarding Sault Area Schools Kindergarten Roundup, please call Amy Kronemeyer at 906-635-5653.

Building healthier communities, one coalition at a time

BY SAULT TRIBE COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATION STAFF

Across Sault Tribe's service area, Sault Tribe Community Health Education leads community health coalitions to help everyone in our U.P. communities be active, eat healthfully and live commercial-tobacco free.

These coalitions often include professionals from health departments, school systems, other tribal nations, recreation departments, hospital systems and others. Most of these coalitions were created by Community Health Education, fueled by funding from the Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH) grant. Though the PICH grant no longer funds coalition programs, our Sault Tribe health educators are still active coalition leaders.

In this feature story, each health educator shares some coalition successes and highlights. If you would like to learn more, call Sault Tribe Community Health at (906) 632-5210.

Alger County Wellness Coalition: Promoting healthful food access and winter activity

On the west-end of our service area, David Wesoloski works closely with the Alger County Wellness Coalition, which has been most active and successful in sustaining two of its programs – M-Packs and the Market Walk. The M-Packs program aims to provide nutritious and easy-to-prepare foods for students who may experience food insecurity over the weekend. The Market Walk program encourages community members to be more physically active during the winter months by exchanging laps walked around the Sault Tribe Health Center walking track in Munising for tokens to be used at the Munising Farmers' and Artisans' Market in the spring, summer and fall months.

Both programs increase fruit and vegetable consumption and in the past two years of the



These two women attended the Youth and Elders Social at Big Bear in December sponsored by the Sault Tribe Wellness Collaborative.



Samantha Radecki, community health educator, leading the January Mackinac County Wellness Coalition.

Market Walk, more than 1,400 miles have been tracked. Each program is now in its third year of operation. Adult and youth volunteers, community donations, fundraisers and grants sustain the programs.

"The [Sault Tribe's] PICH grant has allowed many of our organizations to come together, collaborate on programs, and I think without that we wouldn't have gotten nearly as much done," Vicki Ballas, MSU-Extension Program instructor of Alger County, said.

Sault Tribe Wellness Collaborative: Bringing youth and elders together

Back on the east end, Charlee Brissette is part of the Sault

Tribe Wellness Collaborative. This collaborative was established in the fall of 2018 with the aim to increase collaboration among tribal entities (i.e. Community Health, Chi Mukwa (Big Bear) Community Recreation Center, etc.) already working toward similar community wellness goals. This December, the collaborative hosted its first youth and elders holiday social. They plan to host two more socials this year, as well as a week-long employee fitness challenge.

Tribal Food Sovereignty Collaborative: Building sustainable community food systems

Brissette is also part of



These women are participating in the Market Walk, a program supported by the Alger County Wellness Coalition. Names from left to right are: Myrth Condon, Jamie Crabb, Vicki Ballas, Amanda Cook, Nicole Cook, Cassie Steinhoff, and Anne Cromell.

the Tribal Food Sovereignty Collaborative, a group whose mission is to connect, promote, and build community food systems through education, youth engagement, cultural traditions and modern sustainability.

Past successes include the Seasons of the U.P. program series, which teaches participants how to harvest and utilize local edible plants and mushrooms. Coming events include Munising's third annual Harvest Fest and JKL Bahweting's Boat-to-School week.

Sault Building a Healthier Community Coalition (Sault BHCC): Improving bike safety

The Sault BHCC is facilitated by Mary-Ellen Hemming. It has been very successful in improving bike safety throughout Sault Ste. Marie by supporting the local Bike Friendly Soo group and donating to the eastern Upper Peninsula bike route guides. Additionally, the coalition continues to maintain and promote local trails with the Island Trail Committee. Together, they've improved parts of the Lynn Trail and trails at Voyageur Island Park. The coalition also supports the Soo Ultimate Paddle Day in Sault Ste. Marie.

For 2019, the Sault BHCC plans to expand media promotion for coming events, including their Slow Rides summer biking

events. The Slow Rides are community group bicycle rides that travel from Bird's Eye Outfitters in downtown Sault Ste. Marie to Rotary Park and then back to Bird's Eye. Stay tuned for more information on these events!

Kinross Building a Healthier Community Coalition: Making sports gear accessible to kids

This spring, the Kinross BHCC is collecting gently used sports equipment — ranging from hockey gear to dance shoes — to give to local youth. They will start collecting donations on April 1 and host their first Gear Giveaway event on May 15. The Kinross BHCC hopes these gear drives and giveaways will occur in the spring and fall of each year to make playing sports more accessible for all youth. Samantha Radecki facilitates the Kinross BHCC.

Mackinac County Wellness Coalition (MCWC): Tackling e-cigarette use among youth

Radecki also facilitates the MCWC. One of its 2019 priorities is to address e-cigarette use among youth in St. Ignace Area Schools. This January, coalition members started working with the school administrators to create educational workshops, to provide educational flyers to send home to parents and to provide anti-e-cigarette signage for the bathrooms and halls.

VA expanding mental health care

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is stepping up efforts to bring attention to changes in its mental health care policies for veterans along with online and telephone resources available to veterans and their families. The VA reported it is acting on research that demonstrates veterans with other than honorable discharges have an elevated risk of suicide.

According to the VA, an average of about 20 veterans a day complete suicides, that's about 7,300 veterans lost to suicide each year. Suicide prevention among veterans continues to be VA's top clinical concern. However, the VA says 14 of those 20 veterans who complete suicide every day are not seeking care in the VA health system.

Drew A. DeWitt, director of the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, said, "Suicide is a national public health concern that affects communities everywhere. Yet, it is preventable. While the VA has several suicide prevention initiatives and programs, the most important suicide prevention effort comes from those who are

closest to the veteran. You do not need to have special training to support the veteran in your life. Simple acts of kindness and small actions of support are thoughtful ways to show you care. Showing your support can be as simple as sending a veteran a text message, calling them or inviting them over to catch up. Your willingness to Be There and listen to a veteran in need can have a huge impact."

DeWitt added, "Approaching the subject of suicide with someone you know can seem very difficult, but it is very important to start the conversation – and it does not increase the risk of suicide to talk about it."

DeWitt suggested people concerned about veterans should take advantage of VA resources for help through their #BeThere campaign found online at www.bethereforveterans.com and Coaching Into Care services at www.va.gov/coachingintocare or call (800) 823-7458. Veterans or those concerned about veterans can also contact the Veterans Crisis Line 24/7 by calling (800) 273-8255 (Press 1), chatting online at www.veteranscrisisline.net or sending a text to 838255.

"Reaching out to a veteran in your life who is experiencing a rough time and opening the door for a discussion can make all the difference," DeWitt said.

The VA began providing mental health care for in emergencies for up to 90 days in 2017 for the estimated 500,000 veterans with other than honorable discharges. In 2018, this law was amended to provide needed mental health treatment for other than honorably discharged veterans who served in combat or experienced military sexual trauma. Further, the amended law does not limit the length of these services, nor whether the mental health condition needs to be service related.

For more information, veterans or their families may call the Iron Mountain VA Medical Center's Enrollment/Eligibility Office at (906) 774-3300, extension 32810 or visit www.maketheconnection.net/FindResources.

Links to the Veterans Crisis Line as well as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline are on the Sault Tribe's website at www.saulttribe.com.

Call for nominations LSSU Outstanding Native American Student Award

The Native American Student Organization (NASO) at Lake Superior State University (LSSU) is accepting nominations for the Outstanding Native American Student Award. This award is given to a graduating senior at LSSU who has shown remarkable character during their time at LSSU.

Candidates may nominate themselves or be nominated by peers. The nomination packets must include their GPA, at least one letter of recommendation explaining why the candidate is an outstanding student, any activities in which they participate on or off campus, tribal affiliation (Canadian students may apply) and a brief letter stating goals after graduation.

Nominations may be hand delivered, mailed or faxed to LSSU, Attn: Stephanie Sabatine, director, Native American Center, 650 West Easterday Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, 49783; phone (906) 635-6664 or fax (906) 635-2848. Deadline for nominations is Friday, March 8.

The Native American Center Award Committee looks forward to choosing the recipient for this year's award and wishes all applicants the best of luck.

ADVERTISE WITH US!
1-906-632-6398

Health Center Employee of the Year, Month



Congratulations to Wendy Snyder — named the Sault Tribe Health Center's Employee of the Year! Billing clerk Wendy Snyder was Sault Tribe Health Division's April 2018 employee of the month. Wendy has been with the Health Division for 21 years and works at the St. Ignace health center. Thank you, Wendy, for going above and beyond. Wendy is pictured with Health Director Leo Chugunov.



December Employee of the Month Congratulations to Kristy Hill, registered dietitian and certified diabetic educator, she was named as the December 2018 Employee of the Month. Kristy is working under the Special Diabetes in Indian Country, or SDPI, grant in the Community Health Department at the Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health Center. She graduated from Northern Michigan University with a Bachelor of Science in nutrition in 2000, and accepted a registered dietitian position with Sault Tribe Community Health in March of 2001. Kristy and husband, John, have three children and live on a dairy farm in Brimley, Mich.



November Employee of the Month Congratulations to Rick Corbiere for being named the November Employee of the Month. Rick was chosen due to his dedication for six weeks of returning after hours, long after going home for the day, to lock up the building since we are extremely short handed. His going above and beyond has been recognized and greatly appreciated. Rick was presented a lovely gift basket full of chocolate goodies by Health Director Leo Chugunov.

Applications for school environmental stewardship sought

Applications are now being accepted for the President's Environmental Youth Award (PEYA) and the Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators Award (PIAEE).

Applications are due March 8, 2019.

EPA is seeking PEYA and PIAEE awards applications that highlight environmental stewardship in a variety of areas, including the following: environmental sustainability, a healthy school environment including projects that reduce food waste in school cafeterias, environmentally friendly agriculture practices, reducing human contributions to ocean litter and how to prevent it, school gardens, recycling or using STEM to teach environmental education.

The PEYA program recognizes outstanding environmental stewardship projects by K-12 youth, promoting awareness of our nation's natural resources and encouraging positive community involvement.

PEYA is an annual award administered by the Office of Environmental Education at EPA. Since 1971, EPA has recognized young people for protecting our nation's air, water, land and ecology. Each year, the PEYA program honors a wide variety of projects developed by young individuals, school classes (kindergarten through high school), summer camps, public interest groups and youth organizations to promote environmental awareness. *Through environmental education and stewardship activities, students develop the critical thinking skills experience to make informed decisions and take responsible actions to address difficult environmental issues.*

EPA will select up to two winners in each of EPA's 10

regions — one regional winner for grades K-5 and one regional winner for grades 6-12. Winners of this year's awards will be invited to a ceremony in Washington, D.C., in mid-2019, and have their project mentioned on EPA's website.

All student projects must be sponsored by at least one adult over the age of 21. The application and eligibility information are available at <https://www.epa.gov/education/presidents-environmental-youth-award>.

For more information, please contact PEYA@epa.gov.

The PIAEE is an annual award program administered by the Office of Environmental Education at EPA. Since 1971, the EPA has recognized exceptional K-12 teachers employing innovative, interactive approaches to environmental education. It is one of the most important ways EPA and the Administration demonstrate commitment to environmental stewardship efforts created and conducted by our nation's teachers.

PIAEE awardees will receive an award of up to \$2,500 to be used to further the recipient's professional development in environmental education. The teacher's local education agency will also receive an award of up to \$2,500 to fund environmental educational activities and programs (and not for construction costs, general expenses, salaries, bonuses, or other administrative expenses).

EPA will select up to two winners in each of EPA's 10 regions.

Details regarding application requirements and descriptions of winning projects since 2002 can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/education/presidential-innovation-award-environmental-educators>

For more information, please contact: PIAEE@epa.gov.



Soo Lakers hockey district champions! The Soo PeeWee AA hockey team won districts in Traverse City and now move on to state finals! They defeated Petoskey 10-3 and Traverse City 3-2. In the championship game they beat Traverse City 2-1. Standing, coaches Rodney Wilcox, Andre Jaques, Terry Metro, Chuck Fabry, Eric Moran, Max Metro, Gavin Nutkins, Ryan TenEyck, Ethan Chambers, Evan Kennedy, Cale Bell, Cayd Esherich, Drew Fabry, Treyce Moran. Kneeling, Jarret Crimin, Randen Blair, Evan Hoglund, Jacob Goodrich, Korsen Pace, Avery Wilson, Nick Wood. Sitting, Terek Sawyer and Michael Bontrager. State finals will be in Fraser, Mich., March 1-3.

TRIBAL MEMBER REGISTRATION IN THE TAX AGREEMENT AREA

TRIBAL MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITIES

(Including the Issuance of Certificates of Exemptions)

INITIAL REGISTRATION AND OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Under the Tax Agreement between the Tribe and the State, tribal members who live within the "Agreement Area" are able to claim exemption from certain state taxes. In order to take advantage of these benefits, the member must be registered with the Tribal Tax Office and must prove that they do live in the "Agreement Area."

The registration process begins with the member filling out an "Address Verification Card" and providing their name, address, and other personal information. The member must also provide a copy of their MI driver's license, MI State ID card, or voter's registration card. All of these forms of State identification MUST have the member's current address and that address must be located in the Tax Agreement Area. Members must also include a utility bill in their name and their current address as an additional proof of residency in the Tax Agreement Area.

The Tribal Tax Office cannot register a member with the MI Department of Treasury unless these documents are included with the "Address Verification Card."

CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTIONS

Tribal Code 43.1103 states that Resident Tribal Members shall notify the Tribal Tax Office in writing prior to moving their principal place of residence.

If the Tribal Tax Office receives a request for a Certificate of Exemption and the address for the member on the request is not the same as the address that the Tribal Tax Office and MI Department of Treasury have on record, then no Certificate of Exemption can be issued.

We will usually attempt to contact the member to ask them to update their address by filling out the "Address Verification Card" and providing the required documents, but it is the member's responsibility to provide this information. A Certificate of Exemption cannot be issued unless the member has filed the correct information proving that they live within the Agreement Area.

Innovative tribal business hub, Tamarack Business Center, opens in downtown Sault Ste. Marie



JETA Corporation President and CEO Linda Grow, center, cuts the ceremonial ribbon signaling the grand opening of the Sault Ste. Marie office of her firm's energy supply and support operations.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY RICK SMITH

An open house conducted at Sault Tribe's new Tamarack Business Center in downtown Sault Ste. Marie drew quite a crowd on Jan. 15. Representatives of the inaugural tenant companies of the recently built offices were on hand as were officials from tribal, state, regional and local organizations involved in establishing the facility. The primary goal of the Tamarack Business Center is to provide opportunities and advantages for Sault Tribe members to launch or grow businesses on trust land. In addition, the businesses bring a variety of employment opportunities to the area.

Eight office spaces have a conference room, video studio, kitchenette and lavatories for amenities at 531 Ashmun St. in downtown Sault Ste. Marie. Current tenants are Tipping Point Solutions from Colorado, JETA Corporation from Wisconsin and Kingdom Key Upper Peninsula Real Estate. Of three office spaces remaining vacant, Moore Trospen Construction Company of Holt, Mich., committed to moving into one.

In addition to creating a launching platform for local enterprises, businesses attracted by the business center bring jobs and opportunities along with them as they move into the Sault Ste. Marie area. Jobs brought by JETA Corporation, for example, include construction work while building facilities for warehousing operations along with more permanent jobs in distribution, shipping, receiving and other functions. For another example, Kingdom Key Upper Peninsula Real Estate seeks people interested in careers in selling real estate.

"Kingdom Key Upper Peninsula Real Estate will be looking for those wanting to make a career move into real estate," said owner Michelle LaDuke. "KKUP is really about honor, service and understanding the housing needs of tribal members. Homeownership brings a sense of pride and stability to all families and I'm looking forward to helping tribal members to understand the full benefits to living or owning a business in the tax agreement areas across the seven counties. With the support of the tribe and its members, we're looking to the future with unlimited growth potential for our communities."

John McClellan, Sault Tribe economic development specialist, said the new office spaces could serve as either temporary or permanent offices depending on the needs of the businesses. "The goal for the Tamarack Business Center is to foster growth," he said. "For some businesses, like real estate, this space would be adequate for what they want to accomplish and might be permanent. Other businesses, like JETA, will need a larger space and the Tamarack Business Center will be a temporary solution for them. It all depends on the business."

Sault Tribe Economic Development Director Joel Schultz stressed the importance for Sault Tribe members to realize the opportunities and advantages of doing business on tribal lands and the tribe's board of directors is committed to creating opportunities for them. "The goal of the space is to work with Sault Tribe members to successfully launch or grow businesses on trust land," he said. "Each lease will have unique aspects, and be designed to fit the tenants needs. The board of directors has been very progressive in creating this space to create tribal economy, allowing us to be flexible."

Schultz said the office spaces are considered suitable for up to 20 employee accommodations, "As companies grow we would expect to see more than one person per office, the office spaces are pretty large with multiple line drops and computer ports."

Schultz said the successful creation of the business center received critical help from the inaugural tenants, Sault Tribe, Michigan Economic Development Commission, Michigan Senator Wayne Schmidt, Economic Resource Alliance, City of Sault Ste. Marie, Sault Convention and Visitors Bureau, Sault Downtown Development Authority, Sault Chamber of Commerce and the private sector.

However, Rick Schmidt, president and CEO of Tipping Point Solutions, remarked that Schultz was the "visionary" behind the project.

Preparation for building the offices was done by Sault Tribe Construction and McGahey Construction built the offices in about 60 days. Northern Hospitality provided the flooring.



Tipping Point Solutions CEO Rick Schmidt, Tipping Point Solutions Business Development Manager Mari Schupp and Sault Tribe Economic Development Director Joel Schultz cut the ceremonial ribbon on the firm's new Sault Ste. Marie office.



From left, licensed real estate broker and owner of Kingdom Key Real Estate stands with State Senator Wayne Schmidt and Sault Ste. Marie Convention and Visitors Bureau Executive Director Linda Hoath in the new office of Kingdom Key Real Estate of the U.P.



From left, State Senator Wayne Schmidt, Tipping Point Solutions President and CEO Rick Schmidt, Tipping Point Solutions Business Development Manager Mari Schupp.



Sault Tribe Board of Directors Unit I Representative DJ Hoffman addresses the open house assembly as other members of the board look on as do, from left at the rear, Tipping Point Solutions President and CEO Rick Schmidt and Sault Ste. Marie Mayor Tony Bosbous.



Sault Tribe Economic Development Director Joel Schultz speaks to the open house crowd as Sault Mayor Tony Bosbous looks on.



From left, JETA Vice President Thomas Grow, procurement specialist Tyler Bouschor, State Senator Wayne Schmidt, Founder/CEO and President Linda Grow, procurement specialist Adam Rutledge and human resources specialist Abigail Arnoldussen.

Tribal elders sought for Michigan Indian Elders Association

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians has two open delegate positions and one open alternate position for the Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA).

The MIEA mission is to provide a forum in which American Indian elders may speak, learn, grow and exercise control over their environment by having representation on state and national aging organizations, enable access to services, provide prevention training, act as an advocate for member organizations, perpetuate a positive influence on the youth member organizations and promote emotional and spiritual well-being through social interaction.

Any interested Sault Tribe elder 60 years and older, please send a letter of intent and three letters of intent to Elder Services Division 2076 Shunk Rd. Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. The letters are due March 1, 2019. Any questions, please contact Latisha Willette at (906) 635-4971 for more information.

Any interested Sault Tribe elder 60 years and older, please send a letter of intent and three letters of intent to Elder Services Division 2076 Shunk Rd. Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. The letters are due March 1, 2019. Any questions, please contact Latisha Willette at (906) 635-4971 for more information.

Committee vacancies - volunteers needed

The following committees have vacant seats. Sault Tribe members interested in filling these vacancies should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other members to Joanne Carr or Linda Grossett, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783. Call (906) 635-6050 with any questions.

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - five vacancies - three males (4-year term), two female (4-year term)

Child Welfare Committee - four vacancies (4-year term)

Election Committee - six vacancies (4-year term)

Higher Education Committee - Two vacancies (4-year term)

Health Board - six vacancies (4-year term)

Conservation Committee - one vacancy (fisher) (1-year term)

Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - six vacancies (2-year term)

Elder Advisory Committee

Unit I - Sault (4-year term), one regular vacancy

Unit II - Hessel (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit III - St. Ignace (4-year term), one regular vacancy, one alternate vacancy

Unit V - Munising (4-year term), one regular vacancy, one alternate vacancy

Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one alternate vacancy

Elder Subcommittees

Unit I - Sault (4-year term), one regular vacancies

Unit II - Hessel (4-year term),

two regular seat vacancies, two alternate seat vacancies

Unit II - Naubinway (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, two alternate seat vacancies

Unit III - St. Ignace (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, one alternate seat vacancy

Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy

Unit V - Munising (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies

Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), one regular seat vacancy, one alternate seat vacancy

Free - Unit III basket workshop

A black ash basket workshop is offered free and open to Sault Tribe members with instructors Sarah Bedell and Josh Homminga.

Sault Tribe hosted a two-day black ash basket weaving class - come learn how to make your own basket with colors!

Open to Sault Tribe mem-

bers first; there are only 25 spots available.

Feb. 23, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Feb. 24, from 10 a.m. to finish. Workshops will be at the Enji Maawanji' Iding (former McCann School), in St. Ignace at 399 McCann Street.

Call Bridget Sorenson at (906) 430-0536 to register.

21st Annual Family Celebration

EVENT INFORMATION:

Monday March 25, 2019
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Chi-Mukwa Recreation Center
(Big Bear) 2 Ice Circle
Sault Ste. Marie, MI

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

FREE Pizza and Snacks
FREE Ice Skating/Skate Rental
Cupcake Walk/Games
Family Fun Grand Prizes

Celebrate Parenting Awareness Month

Local organizations and businesses will have tables with program information for parents and interactive activities for children. Join us in celebrating YOUR family and attend this **TOTALLY FREE EVENT!**

****Parental Supervision is REQUIRED!**

Sponsored by:



Housing Authority



Sault Tribe Community Health Diabetes Program



Chippewa County Council for Youth & Families

16th Annual Family Fun Day

EVENT INFORMATION:

Saturday, March 16, 2019
12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Kewadin Shores Tent Structure
St. Ignace, MI

SPECIAL FEATURES

Hot Dogs • Cupcake Walk
Ice Cream • Cotton Candy
Activities • Games
Many Chances for Prizes!

Celebrate Parenting Awareness Month

Local organizations and businesses will have tables with program information for parents and interactive activities for children. There is no charge to attend and Family Fun Day is open to the public. Please join us in celebrating YOUR family and attend 2019 Family Fun Day!



Housing Authority



Family Fun Day

The Sault Tribe Welcomes You:

Manistique Tribal Center
There is no place better!

A person's a person,
no matter how small.
--Dr. Seuss

Friday March 8th, Save the date!
4:30 to 6:30, Don't be late!

One fish, Two fish, Red fish, Blue fish
One prize, Two prize, Me prize, You prize!

Celebrate Parenting with Dr. Seuss,
Snacks and fun for parents and you!



"The more you read
the more things you know.
The more that you learn
the more places you'll go."
-Dr. Seuss

Snowshoe Moon Walk

February 19
4-6:30 p.m.

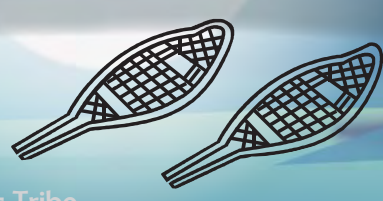
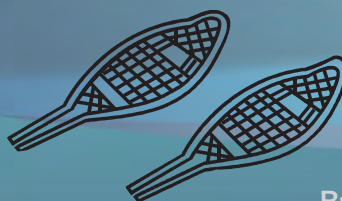
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Sault Tribe's 2 percent is helping local governments

From "Fall 2 percent," Page 1
venue and more access for people to come and use our facilities," Ball said. "Sault Tribe Unit II Representative Lana Causley encouraged me to apply for 2 percent money and between the \$10,000 from the tribe and the money volunteers have raised and the money we have budgeted for the new diamonds, it looks like we are going to be able to put one, maybe two, ball diamonds in this summer."

Ball said the entire project is estimated at \$124,000. "We have raised \$17,000 so far, including the 2 percent money," Ball said. "By this spring when we apply again for more funding, I will have current numbers for them of what we have raised and what we still need to reach our goals."

John Blanchard is the

Free fishing weekend February 16-17

Ready to experience some of the finest fishing around? Check out the 2019 Winter Free Fishing Weekend Saturday, Feb. 16, and Sunday, Feb. 17. Those two days, everyone – residents and non-residents – can fish without a license, though all other fishing regulations still apply.

During this weekend, the DNR also will waive the regular Recreation Passport requirement for vehicle access to Michigan's 103 state parks. Several locations may be hosting official Winter Free Fishing Weekend events

vice-president of the Newton Township Historical Museum's board of directors and also sits on the Newton Township Historical Society board. Blanchard said they submitted a request for \$5,000 based on some improvements they wanted to make to their historical museum.

The township purchased the former post office, which was also used as a boarding house and barbershop, and are working on renovating it. The building is home to their museum and is open part time during the summer.

"We are building a library and archives and have plans to put up a storage building to house displays that are not in use and to store equipment," Blanchard said. "We are also planning to build a veterans memorial."

perfect for anglers of all skill levels.

Michigan has celebrated winter's #MiFreeFishingWeekend every year since 1994 to build awareness of the state's vast aquatic resources and fishing opportunities. With more than 3,000 miles of Great Lakes shoreline, tens of thousands of miles of rivers and streams, and 11,000 inland lakes, Michigan and fishing are a natural match.

"There's nothing better than bundling up and heading out on the ice for Michigan's annual

Using all volunteer labor — except for the well — the community pulled together and built a wraparound porch on the museum. It has been rewired and plumbed, had new windows installed, and painted. "We have probably 50 projects and are trying to do it all with exclusively volunteer labor," Blanchard said.

Blanchard said the museum's board has big plans for the building and grounds. "We are going to tear down an old garage and build a storage building. We want to start on the landscaping for the veterans memorial, but we want to have all our buildings in place first before we do any excavating for it. We also have several painting projects to do," he said. "There is a room that was used as a day room for lumberjacks that is just bare stud walls. We want to finish trim-

Winter Free Fishing Weekend," said DNR Fisheries Chief Jim Dexter. "There can be a great social component to ice fishing, making it a perfect activity for friends and family."

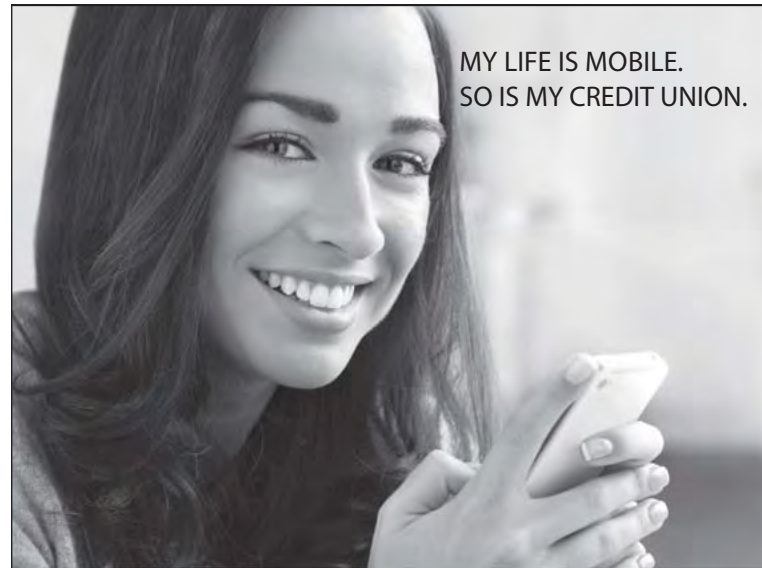
#MiFreeFishingWeekend activities – coordinated by a variety of groups, schools, local and state parks, businesses and others – are being scheduled in communities across the state, making it easy for people to find places to fish. Learn more at michigan.gov/freefishing or contact Elyse Walter: (517) 284-5839.

ming that out and put a ceiling in and do some decorating."

Blanchard said they are also considering building a humidity controlled document room. "The Luce Mackinac Genealogical Society disbanded and one of our board members took charge of their documents. We also found a large amount of old papers, books and business documents that would be affected by mois-

ture, so we would like to build a room that is humidity controlled. We have a full basement in the building, and if we can afford to build it large enough, we might make a repository for other places to use for their documents that need preserved," he said.

For more information on how to apply for 2 percent funds, contact Candace Blocher at (906) 632-6281.



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2019 Sault Tribe Inland Application

Please fill out the following application indicating all harvest tags that you would like in addition to your 2019 Harvest card. The Harvest card authorizes you to participate in activities pursuant to Chapters 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code only. Great Lakes activities require separate permits pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Tribal Code.

In 2019, the cost for each member will be \$5. You must pay with a check or a money order (DO NOT SEND CASH) payable to Sault Tribe. A \$36 NSF charge will be applied to all checks returned by a financial institution. Credit and debit cards can be used but ONLY in person at the Law Enforcement office. If you have questions, please contact Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (906-635-6065). Youth (16 and under) and Elders (60 and over) are not required to pay fees. **New** applicants must provide a copy of their Tribal card and if born after 1960, proof of hunter safety. **All members who held a 2018 harvest license MUST complete a harvest report whether you had any activity at all or a license will NOT be issued.**

First name Middle Last

Address City State Zip County

File Number (Red# on Tribal ID) STS # (Red #on harvest card) Date of birth Sex

Phone number Email address

Hunting harvest card (please select which tags you are applying for)
Includes Inland fishing, general gathering, small game, waterfowl, migratory birds and general furbearer.

Application Harvest Tags

Deer

Spring Turkey

Fall Turkey

Pine Marten, Bobcat, River Otter, and Fisher Harvest Tags (Trapping)

Non-hunting harvest card
Includes Inland fishing and general gathering.

Bear and Elk Applications will be available on the Sault Tribe website and the newspaper in April 2019
Walleye and steelhead permits for the specially regulated seasons will be available by contacting the Natural Resource Department, 906-632-6132 or see website for details (www.saulttribe.com).

For all other permits pursuant to chapter 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code, you must contact the Conservation Department @ 906-635-6065 (i.e. State Firewood and State Maple Sap).

Please mail completed applications to:

**P.O. Box 925
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783**

Senate Democrats working to expand Indian Country entrepreneurship across the nation

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D-N.M.), vice chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, along with U.S. Senators Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.), Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.), and Tina Smith (D-Minn.) introduced the Native American Business Incubators Program Act on Jan. 31 to expand entrepreneurship in Indian Country by promoting small businesses development in tribal communities.

Entrepreneurs in Indian

Country often face unique start-up challenges like difficulty accessing business loans, federal restrictions on leasing and other activities on tribal trust lands, and proximity to cities since many tribes are located in highly rural areas.

The Native American Business Incubators Program Act would create a competitive grant program in the Department of the Interior's Office of Indian Energy and Economic Development to establish and maintain business incubators that specialize in assisting Native-owned small businesses to navi-

gate those unique challenges.

"When Native small businesses succeed, they create more jobs, strengthen their communities, and expand opportunity across Indian Country," said Udall. "As vice chairman of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, I know that Native entrepreneurs can face unique regulatory and financing barriers. My bill will provide essential tools to help Native American start-ups develop an effective business plan, cut through red tape and gain access to the capital they need to grow small businesses and local economies."

"I'm proud to support this legislation to give Native entrepreneurs the resources and capital they need to grow and compete on an even playing field," said Heinrich. "By replicating the successful model of business incubators in tribal communities, we can create more prosperous economic opportunities in Indian Country."

"The federal government owes Indian Country a fighting chance to build a brighter economic future," said Warren. "I'm glad to partner with my colleagues on a bill that sends much-needed federal resources to help entrepreneurs in Indian Country succeed."

"Starting a business can be a difficult process for anyone, but Native American entrepreneurs face additional obstacles like regulatory uncertainty, lack of access to capital and remoteness of location. I'm proud to join Senator Udall in introducing the Native American Business Incubators Program Act, which would make strong investments that support our Native American entrepreneurs by providing them the tools they need to get started and establish strong partnerships with other companies," said Cortez Masto.

"We need to expand economic opportunity in Minnesota and across the country — and that includes promoting economic development on tribal lands. This legislation will promote business development in Native communities by creating grants to help innovators and entrepreneurs access workspaces, education, and mentorship opportunities — this is a step in the right direction to help create jobs and strengthen the economy," said Smith.

The bill is supported by the National Congress of American Indians, the National Center

for American Indian Enterprise Development and a number of other organizations representing the interests of American Indian and Alaska Native tribal governments and business enterprises.

"Creating business incubators with support services and resources focused on meeting the unique needs of American Indian and Alaska Native entrepreneurs will help grow tribal economies and create jobs in Indian Country," said Jefferson Keel, president of the National Congress of American Indians. "We appreciate Vice-Chairman Udall's continued efforts to promote economic development in tribal communities through the reintroduction of his Native American Business Incubators Program Act."

"The National Center thanks Vice Chairman Udall for his continued commitment to American Indian and Alaska Native businesses and entrepreneurs. Establishing business incubators tailored to maximize the unique characteristics and capabilities of tribally and other Native-owned businesses will catalyze economic development in Indian Country by unlocking the already strong entrepreneurial spirit in American Indians and Alaska Natives. We look forward to working with Vice Chairman Udall and members of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs to ensure this legislation becomes law," said Chris James, President and CEO of the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development.

The full text of the bill is available online at <https://www.tomudall.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/Native%20American%20Business%20Incubators%20Program%20Act.pdf>.

National Native organizations support Indian Child Welfare Act protections

Last January, 325 tribal nations, 57 Native organizations, 21 states, 31 child welfare organizations, Indian and constitutional law scholars and seven members of Congress joined the United States and four intervenor tribes in filing briefs to urge the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit to uphold the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), the long-standing federal law protecting the well-being of Native children by upholding family integrity and stability.

"ICWA is child welfare best practice. Thirty-one leading child welfare organizations said ICWA serves the best interest of Native children and families with their declaration that ICWA is the 'gold standard' of child welfare policy," said Sarah Kastelic, executive director of the National Indian Child Welfare Association. "As experts in research, education, advocacy, and providing services related to child welfare, adoption, and court-system reform, these organizations know ICWA ensures all children and families receive the protections they deserve and all children fare better with family."

"The National Congress of American Indians is moved by the overwhelming support to uphold ICWA. Tribal nations know, firsthand, the positive impact, the certainty, and stability ICWA provides in state-

based child welfare systems," said Jefferson Keel, president of the National Congress of American Indians. "ICWA works and the court should overturn the erroneous decision and support American Indian children and families because it's the right thing to do."

"The State of Texas and other plaintiffs, supported by the Goldwater Institute, bring this litigation against ICWA stating it seeks to protect the equal rights of American Indian children," said Shannon Keller O'Loughlin, executive director of the Association on American Indian Affairs, "but ICWA is equal rights and human rights legislation. Statistics show that state systems continue to remove Indian children from their families at greater rates than white children, even though incidents of neglect or abuse are similar. Current studies that have researched systemic bias in the child welfare system

have found that Indian families were two times more likely to be investigated and four times more likely to have their children removed and placed in foster care than their white counterparts. ICWA was meant to provide protections against this systemic bias and reduce the overrepresentation of Indian children into these systems."

"The Native American Rights Fund, along with our co-counsel at Dentons, is honored to represent the signatories," said Erin Dougherty Lynch, senior staff attorney at the Native American Rights Fund. "The district court's interpretation of the ICWA has never been adopted by any other court, makes no practical sense, is directly contrary to ICWA's policy and purpose, and finds no support. Indian Country is united in its support for ICWA, and we are confident the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals will overturn the district court's decision."

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Remembering a World War I Army veteran

By JULI PIONK

Sunday, Nov. 11, 2018, marked the centennial of Armistice Day, which brought an end to the first world war.

One American soldier who died in combat just weeks before the war ended was Sergeant William Alvin Belounga, who was born in Epoufette. He was killed in action on Oct. 8, 1918, during the Meuse-Argonne offensive. Sgt. Belounga is buried in the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery in France, and a memorial stone was placed in Gould City.

Sgt. Belounga posthumously received the Distinguished Service Cross, the second highest military distinction, for his actions on July 31, 1918. "With the assistance of another soldier, Corporal Belounga dragged a

wounded comrade to his own trench, a distance of 150 yards, through an intense barrage of machine gun and artillery fire.

Sgt. Belounga was assigned to the 125th Infantry of the 32nd Division of the United States Army. The 32nd Division, also known as the Red Arrow Division, included soldiers mostly from Michigan and Wisconsin at the time, many of which were of Native American descent, as was William.

On Monday, Oct. 8, 2018, Sgt. Belounga's great-nephews and nieces gathered with members of the Mackinac Island American Legion and Engadine American Legion posts and others to pay tribute to his memory and sacrifice during WWI. The group gathered at his memorial headstone at the Newton Township

Cemetery, which is also known as the Gould City Township Cemetery.

Among the veterans honoring Belounga was Tony Grondin, a Sault Tribe Mackinac Band elder and pipe carrier. Grondin, who is also a Vietnam veteran and Purple Heart recipient, performed a pipe ceremony to honor Belounga, whose heritage is also Mackinac Band Anishinaabe, asking two other veterans that were present to assist as honor guards for the ceremony. This was not only a spiritual ceremony, but one in which Grondin shared teachings about the Anishinaabe ways. During the ceremony Grondin explained that Belounga is considered an ogema ogichidaa nini (leader warrior man). Many present participated by offering semma in honor of Belounga.



Lighting the pipe by Tony Grondin and honor guards, left, John Blanchard of the Newton Township Historical Society and, right, Frank Pando, second great-nephew of William A. Belounga and a Mackinac Band descendent. The Newton Township Historical Society hosted the ceremony and provided a luncheon for all participants.

Walking on . . .

DANIEL E. BROWN

Daniel Evertt Brown of Sault Ste. Marie passed away on Jan. 10 in Grand Rapids after a courageous battle with a brain tumor. He was born on May 17, 1958.



Daniel was a loving and caring person, everyone who knew him loved him. He was an inspiration to many people. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and was very proud of that.

Daniel was born with a natural artistic talent. He was an accomplished drawing, painting, sculpting, cartooning, singing and songwriting. Dan created a cartoon strip called *Rita and Lloyd* and it was published in the Sault Tribe newspaper beginning in 1993.

Some of Daniel's artistic works involved working and burning a log in such a way that he could weave a dream catcher onto the log making it look unique.

After Daniel graduated, he moved to Grand Rapids where he worked at the Amway Grand Hotel. He attended the Kendall School of Arts, but his love for family and the Sault brought him home.

His drawings and artwork were displayed on the walls of the Kewadin Casino, but now can be



seen at Island Books and Crafts.

Daniel is survived by his parents, Richard and Lorraine Brown; a sister, Lori (Stuart) Young; a nephew, Benjamin Thompson; his children, Phoenix and Jaxxon; a niece, Alesha Teeple, and her children Alyvia and Kenlyn. Also, an extended family, including Tim Dalziel, Eva and Pat Youngs and Paula Yaginumus.

Daniel was preceded in death by his grandparents, Edward and May Sparks and Everett and Mary Brown; and a brother, Steven Brown, in 1994.

A memorial service took place on Jan. 20 at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building.

ROXANN E. LAVAKE

Roxann LaVake, aged 53, of St. Ignace, Mich., passed away on Dec. 31, 2018, at home in St. Ignace following an auto accident and health concerns. She was born on April 2, 1965, in Hartford, Wis., graduated from Grafton High School and proceeded onto



school and joined the painter's union.

She was a loving daughter, sister, aunt and girlfriend. She had a heart of gold and loved her family. She loved the outdoors and hunting as well as Lake Michigan. Her friends knew her as generous, selfless and kind. She was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She will be forever missed and always in our hearts.

Roxann is survived by her mother, Doris LaVake; two sisters, Tina Green (Cox), and JoAnne LaVake; one brother, Richard Green; her niece, Aleksia Erickson; and special friend, Chris Reimer.

She was preceded in death by her grandmother, Clarence Savard and Lucy May; Nelson and Helen LaVake.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Dodson Funeral Home in St. Ignace.

Editor's note, this notice is a corrected version of Ms. LaVake's notice published in the January edition of this newspaper. The earlier notice was submitted with an erroneous date of Ms. LaVake's passing.

KEINNA MASTA

Keinna Masta was called home by the creator on the morning of Jan. 15, 2019, at the age of 74, greeted by the love of her life Ted Lay.



Keinna will be dearly missed by her children Mark (Mars), Scott (Rachel) and Dawn (Mike). Loving grandmother to Marcus, Lester, Danielle, Cody, Michaela, Dalton, Darlene, Kiana, Cole, Brandon and Zack; great-grandmother to Brennan, Ava-Leigh, Chase, Naia, and Elaina; cherished friend and spiritual mentor to many and special mama to her fur baby, Snickers.

Keinna has touched the lives of many people, her teachings and wisdom will carry on. As said by Keinna, "Don't you shed a tear for me when I cross over, I've worked my whole life for this."

Journey well, Gram, you will be missed dearly.

No public services will be held.

CLARILYN A. (COCHRAN) GOETZ

Clarilyn Ann (Cochran) Goetz, 86, departed our world on Nov. 24, 2017. Her final days were spent at home reminiscing with her children while in the care of Hospice and her daughter, Jennifer. Born in DeTour Village on Oct. 31, 1931 to parents,

Genevieve (Brander) and Marvin Cochran, Clarilyn and her husband, James Anthony Goetz, called DeTour home until they retired to Brooksville, FL in 1982.



Left to grieve her loss and cherish their memories are her children: Darrell and Ellen Fountain of Chandler, AZ; Jennifer Warner of Brooksville and Goetzville; Donald and Helen Goetz of Drummond Island; Todd and Lisa Goetz of Brooksville. She is further survived by her brother, Dale Cochran, grandchildren: Renee (Jeff) Krueger, Derick Fountain, Andre'a (Jeremy) Duran, Paul (Nichole) Warner, Darrell (Vanessa) Warner, Donald (Amber) Goetz, Krista (Brian) Potoczak, Ryan (Angela) Goetz, Todd Goetz and Jennifer Goetz. Seventeen great-grandchildren; her sisters-in-law; friends and many nieces and nephews also survive her.

Clarilyn was preceded in death by her husband, James, son-in-law, Paul Warner and her brother James Cochran. In accordance with her wishes, cremation has taken place and a celebration of her life is planned for a later date.

Mia Smith shares a message of family wellness

SUBMITTED BY THE INTER-TRIBAL COUNCIL OF MICHIGAN, INC.

HANNAHVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY – Mia Smith, a Hannahville Indian Community family member, shared her family's health story on the importance of knowing family health history, the importance of early screening and the tools she and her family use to cope and care for her mother who is suffering from multiple forms of cancer, including breast and colorectal cancer.

Smith shared her story for a statewide campaign distributed by the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan (ITC) to encourage



Mia Smith resides in the Hannahville Indian Community and tells her story on the importance of talking about your family health history and scheduling your regular cancer screenings with your doctor.

Native Americans to share their family health histories with their families and their doctors so they can be assessed for their individual cancer screening needs.

"Knowing your health history is huge. We talk a lot about our family history. We just happen to know that. Knowing I'm at risk, I watch for everything," Smith explains in her story. "Traditional story telling is a Native American tradition used to educate children about cultural norms and values, and integrating family health history into these discussions will inform family members what diseases run in their families. This information is key to cancer

prevention and delaying onset and heart disease," said Beth Sieloff, ITC program manager.

Smith's story will be distributed as a 3-minute digital story for airing in tribal health clinics, health presentations and available online. ITC is distributing a shortened 30-second version of her story to air as a public service announcement throughout Michigan. There is also a 60 second radio public service announcement that will be distributed, along with a Family Health History education card funded by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services that is culturally specific to American

Indians and the importance of knowing and sharing family health history.

This production was supported by the Cooperative Agreement NU58DP006085 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The stories were filmed and edited by a Northern Michigan Company, Lamphere Visuals of Gaylord, Michigan.

To see Smith's full story and to learn more, visit <http://www.itcmi.org/FamilyHealthHistory>.



“ My tribe and four other tribes in Michigan, in the 1836 Treaty of Washington, ceded 14 million acres of land in exchange for out rights to hunt and gather and fish, and health, education and social welfare, into perpetuity. Tribes prepaid, in full, for our federal funding. Since we cannot foreclose on the land, we expect the federal government to fulfill the treaty and trust responsibility. I’m here to remind the Trump Administration that your mortgage payment is due”.

Aaron A. Payment, EdD, EdS, MEd, MPA, BS, GED



HISTORIC TESTIMONY IN FRONT OF 1ST TWO

Aaron A. Payment
Representing All Members Everywhere!
Ahneen, Boozho, Negee,

I am proud to be your Chairperson and will fight for you for as long as you want me to. In January, I had the honor of testifying in Congress, including responding to the very first question posted by Congresswoman Debra Haaland (Laguna Pueblo) from New Mexico’s 1st Congressional District (pictured 2nd from left above) in front of Congresswoman Sharice Davids (HoChunk) from Kansas’ 3rd Congressional District (far left above). My testimony appears at the link below at 40:00 with Congresswoman Haaland’s question to me at 1:03.

<https://www.indianz.com/News/2019/01/15/solutions-elusive-for-indian-country-as.asp?fbclid=IwAR3E7Xt2qO-oQ1hJsw27bihqhc3HJkOd-BYvbsfKwhizWkaEv5PpQZx8Ab aQ>

I am excited to report that the three main points in my testimony (and through over 25 interviews including the New York Times, Washington Post, CNN, CBS, ABC, BBC, PBS, NPR, MPR, Northern Michigan’s TV 9 & 10, etc., and through legislative hill visits I did the day before I testified) legislation was introduced in the Senate Indian Affairs Committee calling for Advanced Appropriations for the Indian Health Service, BIA, and Contract Support Costs. I did an interview on this bill with Law 360 right after it was introduced. This legislation is one of the most significant bills since the enactment of the 1974 Indian Education and Self-Determination Act. I am proud to have played a role in getting it this far. Please contact your Member of Congress and your Senators by go-

ing to the Sault Tribe Web Page which will have further instructions.

<https://www.saulttribe.com/>

Here is my testimony:

“On behalf of the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), thank you for holding this hearing on the impacts of the partial federal government shutdown on Indian Country. The shutdown breaks the treaty and trust obligations to tribal governments. Agencies that provide critical government services to our nations are caught up in unrelated politics over funding for a southern border wall and the welfare of our tribal citizens hangs in the balance. Again, my name is Aaron Payment. In addition to serving as Chairperson of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, I serve as the First Vice President for NCAI and as President of the United Tribes of Michigan. My tribe is the largest tribe east of the Mississippi with 43,000 tribal citizens.

No matter who is at fault, the shutdown threatens to abrogate the treaty and trust obligations to tribes. Federal funding tribes receive is woefully inadequate to begin with and is based on the 500 million acres of land tribes ceded in the 1800s to make this great country. My tribe is a party to the 1836 treaty of Washington which ceded 14 million acres of land in exchange for our usufructuary rights and “health, education and social welfare” into perpetuity. Tribes pre-paid - in full - funding for operations, programs and services. Since we cannot foreclose on the land, we expect the federal government to fulfill the treaty and trust responsibility.

Agencies that provide critical government services to tribes are caught up in politics over funding for a southern bor-

der wall. During this shutdown, the well-being of our tribal citizens is in jeopardy. As tribal leaders, we know that it is simply not an option for us to stop serving our citizens. That way is foreign to us. While some tribes are backfilling or subsidizing the federal government’s financial obligation, please realize that nearly 60 percent of tribes do not have access to Indian gaming, lack sufficient resources for meaningful economic development, and face unnecessary bureaucratic and regulatory burdens that create inequities and disadvantages to true self-determination. On behalf of Indian Country, we urge the President and Congress to do their jobs and reopen the government immediately.

Indian Country faces immense economic challenges and federal funding of Indian trust and treaty obligations serves as a critical component of tribal economies. Yet the often partisan debates affecting the appropriations process have an outsized impact on the daily lives of American Indian and Alaska Native people who already face underfunding of health care, education, and backlogs in physical infrastructure – all of which fall under the federal trust responsibility.

Through the treaties, the federal government assumed a trust responsibility to provide governmental services like health care, public safety, and education as a part of its negotiations with tribal nations. The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Indian Health Service (IHS), the primary agencies responsible for providing these services, either directly or through compacts or contracts with tribal governments, are currently hamstrung by the shutdown.

America’s longstanding, legally mandated obligations to

tribal nations should be honored no matter the political quarrels of the moment. Ironically, the Americans most affected by immigration over the last 500 years continue to be the most heavily impacted by the shuttering of multiple federal agencies that are unrelated to securing the homeland. Our communities rely on federal funding to administer key tribal government services, health care facilities, public safety, housing access, nutrition and food distribution programs, and social services, and the shutdown is causing widespread destabilization of these programs, as well as generating fear and anxiety among our tribal citizens. NCAI’s testimony reviews just some of the impacts we have heard so far from tribes to date. We request to be able to revise and append this testimony to share additional impacts as they are conveyed to us from tribal nations.

In Indian Country, due to the large role public administration jobs play in tribal communities and economies – coupled with low average household wealth – the shutdown disproportionately hurts Native families. Thousands of BIA and IHS employees, many of whom are tribal citizens, are furloughed or working without pay. Two of my tribal citizens who serve as IHS Directors serving other tribes are working without pay. Federal BIA and IHS employees should be receiving a paycheck, but are now struggling to pay household bills and mortgages. Furloughs and missed paychecks are not just hurting each affected employee, but their families as well. A single salary may support an extended Native family, sending harmful ripples throughout the tribal nation and surrounding communities.

The uncertainty of a shutdown also compounds the challenges tribal nations face attract-

ing and retaining professionals to work in health care and other skilled professions that are critical to fulfilling the federal government’s treaty and trust promises to tribal nations.

Views on the ground show that while the IHS continues to provide care through expected personnel, the hardship on those missing paychecks hurts not only now, but also into the future. A nurse practitioner in Albuquerque, New Mexico, who works at an IHS medical facility observed, “we have psychologists, psychiatrists, a plethora of people who provide care.

They can only maintain working without pay for a certain period. People will start dropping out. They’re going to have to find another job because they can’t pay rent. I have enough for two months. That’s it.”

During the last government shutdown and with the impact of sequestration, my Tribe lost a physician and five other medical staff. This is especially damaging in rural reservation communities who have difficulty recruiting and retaining medical personnel.

Dante Biss-Grayson Halleck, a veteran and federal employee, works as a safety officer serving tribal nations. In an interview with CNN, he worried that other federal employees will turn to work in the private sector to support their families. “There are very few people who can live without a paycheck for months,” he said.

Some tribes have already let workers go. On January 9th, the Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas announced that it had already laid off 22 employees due to the shutdown. “Unfortunately, due to lack of access to federal funding...we are providing very limited services to our tribal members and community,” Kickapoo

APRIL 2019 TRIBAL CHAIRPERSON OFFICE HOURS COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Unit 1	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4	Unit 5
Wednesday ~ April 3	Friday ~ April 26	Friday ~ April 12	Thursday ~ April 18	Thursday ~ April 4
Nokomis-Mishomis Elder Center (Sault)	Zellar’s Newberry, MI	St. Ignace Elder Complex*	Terrance Bay Inn Escanaba, MI	Munising Tribal Center
Elder Meeting: 12pm	Elder Meeting: 10:30am	Elder Meeting: 12pm*	Office Hours: 4:00-5:30pm	Elder Meeting: 11am
Office Hours*: 1pm - 4pm (*523 Ashmun)	Office Hours*: 1pm - 2pm (*Newberry Tribal Center)	Office Hours: 2pm - 4pm (Lambert Center)	Elder Meeting: 5:30pm	Office Hours: 1pm - 2pm
		*Near Midjim		* tentative location

Appointments will be honored first and open time provided. Please call Sheila at 906-635-6050 to schedule an appointment.

Dates and times are subject to change depending on the weather and unforeseen circumstances. In February, Kincheloe, Hessel, Escanaba and Marquette will be scheduled.

Lower Michigan meetings will be scheduled as well in the Spring.

Call: **800-793-0660**

Cell: **906-440-5937**

Email: **aaronpayment@yahoo.com**

Facebook **‘Aaron Payment’**

Tribal Chairman Lester Randall said in a release. "Even when the government shutdown ends, we will not have immediate access to our federal funding. Drawdowns from the Bureau of Indian Affairs and other federal agencies will still need to be processed, which could take weeks."

I implore this committee to advocate that any federal bill that pledges to reimburse States for lost revenues and backfilling operations should include language that extends this to tribes with specific draft language which reads, "States and tribal nations."

For some tribes, the shutdown hurts other important sources of tribal economic activity. The Colville Tribes will lose about \$400,000 every week that the shutdown continues due to reduced timber harvesting and forestry activities, a major economic driver. The total economic impact to the Colville Tribes and surrounding region is approximated at \$1.2 million per week of the shutdown.

In addition to the impact on federal and tribal workers, the shutdown will impact tribal economies due to the important role Native contractors play in providing services and job opportunities. Federal contractors play an essential role in helping agencies meet their mission and deliver services to the American people, with 40 percent of federal government missions staffed by private contractors. For tribal nations engaged in federal contracting, tribally owned enterprises, Alaska Native Corporations, and Native Hawaiian organizations have reported an estimated financial loss of \$200,000 to \$250,000 per day during the shutdown. These entities support the economic development and prosperity of Native communities and provide jobs and services in all 50 states. Their inability to meet these goals due to the shutdown is a substantial loss to Native and non-Native communities where these entities provide employment opportunities and resources.

For the more than 370 tribal nations who elected to take over the administration of federal programs through Self-Governance initiatives, the shutdown has stalled the federal government from fulfilling its agreed upon obligations to provide resources for tribal nations to administer federal services to their citizens. In addition, it is holding up critical negotiations of services to be taken over by tribal nations, including programs that affect the health and well-being of tribal citizens. Some tribal nations have contingency plans to address the lack of federal support to administer their programs, but they only provide a short-term solution to a potentially long-term problem. Many of the options available to tribal nations to address the lack of federal support have an associated cost – either a direct monetary cost (such as interest payments on funds borrowed from a financial institution) or an opportunity cost (when funds are removed from investments or reallocated away from planned economic endeavors).

IHS programs serving In-

dian Country have no FY 2019 appropriations. Despite the fact that the federal government has a trust obligation to provide health care to American Indian and Alaska Native people, the IHS remains unfunded while other agencies that provide critical health services, like the VA, have advanced appropriations or are otherwise funded. Tribal governments are cutting other services and scraping together scarce dollars, or securing interest-bearing loans, to keep health clinics operational, but this is not sustainable.

Our citizens are worried about whether they will be able to receive health care. I have seen numerous posts in social media of tribal members wondering if they will be able to get dialysis, cancer treatment, or other desperately needed care. I am fearful that if any furloughs happen as a result of not receiving our next IHS drawdowns and after we exhaust our reserve funds that we will lose additional medical team members. Again, during the last shut down and sequestration, we lost six medical staff. The window for full operations using tribal reserve funds for my own Tribe is about three weeks. At that point, we will be forced to triage our health delivery. I am concerned about how we will fulfill life sustaining prescription medicine orders for treatment of diabetes, heart disease and Vivitrol, a neurotransmitter blocker as a part of medically assisted treatment for opiate addiction. Like most tribes, we fulfill life-sustaining treatment for cancer though purchased and referred services (formerly Contract Health).

This shutdown only emphasizes the need for IHS funding to be allocated on a mandatory funding basis, so that Native people are not subject to federal governmental dysfunction and impasses. If IHS funding were in law outside of the annual discretionary appropriations process, tribal nations would not have to worry each day if their programs are funded. As an interim step, IHS should be funded through advanced appropriations, which would ensure that basic health services are funded if Congress and the President cannot come to an agreement on appropriations legislation. The IHS should be afforded at least the same budgetary certainty and protections extended to the Veterans Administration, which is also a federally funded provider of direct health care.

Meanwhile, impacts from the shutdown on healthcare delivery are growing. The Seattle Indian Health Board reports plans to cut services if the shutdown continues more than a couple of weeks. Some of the programs that would be affected are an in-patient treatment center for chemical dependency and a traditional medicine program to help people in recovery.

The Upper Columbia United Tribes report that even though the clinics are open, their referral system to send patients to outside specialists is limited to Priority I during a shutdown, which means only life-threatening conditions. Other tribes offer an example of how the US government should

operate. Larger tribes generate significant revenue on their own, such as the Cherokee Nation. With its own major hospital and eight health centers, the Cherokee Nation is able to use their general fund for a longer amount of time than other tribes. The federal government should be able to balance their budget and fund federal agencies.

Furloughs at the Interior Department have also halted progress on the negotiated rule-making process for standards, assessments, and accountability systems under Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which affects the BIE's ability to meet the deadline for ESSA implementation. The Education Department threatened to withhold funds if the BIE is not ready to implement standards, assessments, and accountability systems under ESSA by fall 2019.

While the BIA contingency plan identifies Excepted Personnel as including Law Enforcement, some tribes are still reporting impacts to public safety. The BIA runs the police force for the Mescalero Apache Tribe. The tribe reports that BIA is furloughing much of the staff, limiting the ability to respond to calls. In the middle of winter with deep snow on a mountainous reservation, furloughs of BIA staff are taking a toll on coordination and response to public safety issues.

The shutdown also impacts programs that rely on grants administered by the Department of Justice, including those authorized by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). Programs that support crime victims, including domestic violence shelters and rape crisis centers, have been told that their grant payment requests will only be processed through January 18. Many programs are worrying about keeping their doors open after that time.

The shutdown is also slowing down tribes' efforts to improve their criminal justice systems for the long term. Tribal prosecutors from across the country were scheduled to attend a weeklong training on prosecuting domestic violence crimes in Indian Country hosted by the Department of Justice's National Indian Country Training Initiative. The training was cancelled and has not yet been rescheduled.

During the government shutdown, individual American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians are unable to utilize housing programs at the USDA or complete their home loans through the HUD 184 Loan Guarantee program. Some tribal housing programs may shut down entirely until new funding is available, while others may be able to stretch out their dollars by providing minimal services to their members. With the BIA included in the shutdown, leases cannot be approved for rehab work on homes or title reports for home loans. The shutdown is delaying the dream of homeownership for Native people are in the home buying process right now.

The shutdown also extends to basic governmental services such as road maintenance,

a program funded through the BIA. Large land based tribes are especially affected by this kind of disruption. Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye reports that the shutdown is impacting transportation on Navajo's 24,400-square-mile reservation. The Navajo Nation has 7,000 miles of roads, including tribal, BIA, county, state, and federal roads. Road maintenance is now just at half its normal capacity.

In the area of social services, tribal workers play a critical role in advocating for the best interests of children and providing resources to support reunification of children with their families when possible. When tribal child welfare workers do not have the ability to actively participate in proceedings, children and families are deprived of support and resources.

While tribal governments provide many critical services to vulnerable tribal children and families, need the full engagement and support of our federal partners. Federal funds include payments to foster parents to support the cost of caring for foster children and income assistance to families that are unemployed and need help meeting their basic needs in areas like housing, food, and energy costs. Tribal social service staff are working tirelessly during this partial government shutdown to ensure that the most vulnerable within our communities receive the support they need, but as in past government shutdowns, it is often the most vulnerable citizens within our communities that suffer the most.

Tribes are reporting that various social services funded by BIA are interrupted. BIA General Assistance payments, which provide financial assistance payments to eligible American Indians for essential needs of food, clothing, shelter, and utilities, have been halted. The shutdown makes coordination difficult between tribal child welfare workers and other service providers to meet families' basic needs, including food, housing, healthcare and mental healthcare. Tribal nations have a unique relationship with the federal government, including the BIA, with whom they partner to provide services to vulnerable children and families.

At the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) could run out of funding by the end of January, which would end food assistance for 90,000-100,000 tribal citizens, who are mostly elders and children. FDPIR is a lifeline to 276 tribal nations and more than 100 tribal organiza-

tions to feed Native communities in the most remote locations in the US. A lapse in funding for food programs like FDPIR could have long-lasting impacts, including lack of fruit, vegetables, and animal protein food stuffs for 4-6 months in tribal communities, with effects lasting nearly a year following a shutdown.

If the shutdown continues for months, as the President has indicated is possible, funding for other food assistance programs, such as Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program For Women, Infants, and Children (WIC), will be affected. SNAP and WIC is only guaranteed through February. These safety net programs assist a large share of Native families, and children could lose access to affordable food and formula.

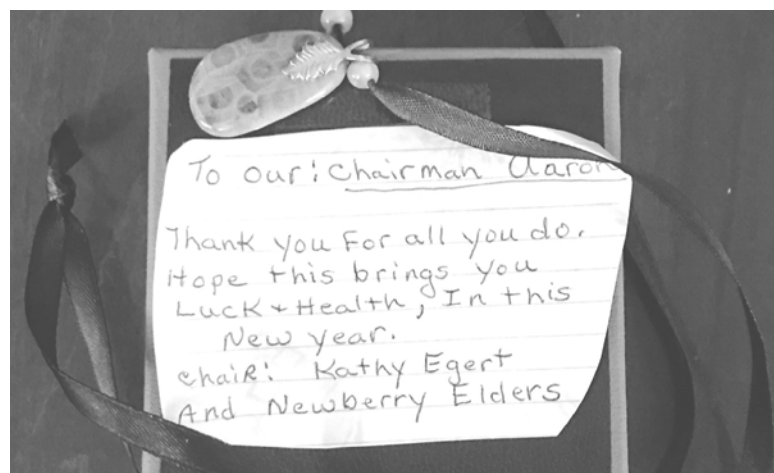
Meanwhile, tribes are stepping up on their own to ensure federal and tribal workers impacted by the shutdown will be able to eat. However, tribal nations and their citizens should not be forced to turn to for-profit crowd funding platforms and charities because the federal government has failed to meet its treaty and trust obligations. Tribal nations are resilient and provide services to around 2 million people; however, we cannot continue to provide for our communities without our federal partners upholding their obligations. The long-term effects of this shutdown will ripple throughout our communities for months or even years following the reopening of the government.

I urge the President and Congress to end this government stalemate, fulfill their trust and treaty promises to tribal nations. **I also urge interim steps, such as passing legislation to provide advance appropriations** for programs fulfilling the treaty and trust responsibility and exploring moving such programs to mandatory funding as opposed to discretionary appropriations, which can be interrupted by irrelevant policy disputes."

This very language has made it's way into Senate Indian Affairs legislation. I have been working on this since the 2013 Shutdown. I will be in DC the 2nd week of February to see what I can accomplish. The work I do for our people and all American Indians is hard but yields great rewards when we succeed.

Chi McGwitch, Negee!

Aaron



Matson updates Unit V tribal membership



CHARLES MATSON SR.
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Let's start with the weather. Gitchee Manitou has settled the winter season in from sub zero temperatures and snowfalls to freezing rain within days. Be safe when traveling, the roads have been very slippery at times. We always need to stop in and see how our elder members in our communities are getting by when they might be having trouble getting out for their everyday needs. Sometimes a hello and an offer of kindness can really help.

Talks leading up to the negoti-

ations with the state of Michigan have begun amongst the 1836 Treaty government recognized tribes (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa, Little River Band of Ottawa, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa and the Bay Mills Indian Community). Through these initial talks we are seeing that a lot of the issues and visions we have for our people in this document are the same. Not to say that there are no disagreements amongst us, but we still believe, as Anishinaabek, we can find common ground. It is my belief we need to educate the tribal and non-tribal public alike to the amount of resources we pour back into the enhancements of opportunities for all people using the treaty right and resource. We are going to have to educate the public on this to squash any misrepresentations against our tribe. The tribe plants many fish in treaty ceded waters. For example, we planted 1.6 million walleye in 2018 and 1.7 million walleye in 2017. These numbers need to be seen by the communities involved

to understand our tribe's commitment to preserving and enhancing the resource.

Let me state once again that I firmly believe the tribe needs to explore the possibility of sports betting in our casinos. We need not be left behind on this, as I

am sure other casinos are looking into it.

The hand drum workshop will be happening Feb. 9 and 10 in Munising and it will be a great opportunity for our people to learn an important part of our traditions and craft making. We

hope the weather takes it easy on those who have to travel to it.

Feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions at (906) 450-5094 or CMatson@saulttribe.net.

Respectfully,
Charles J. Matson

2019 Sault Tribe Board of Directors meeting calendar

Dates and locations of 2019 meetings of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors.

January 8 - Sault Ste. Marie
January 22 - Sault Ste. Marie
February 5 - Sault Ste. Marie
February 19 - Sault Ste. Marie
March 4 - Sault Ste. Marie
March 19 - Manistique
April 2 - Sault Ste. Marie
April 16 - Munising
May 7 - Sault Ste. Marie
May 21 - Sault Ste. Marie
June 11 - St. Ignace
June 18 - Sault Ste. Marie
July 2 - Escanaba
July 16 - Sault Ste. Marie

August 6 - Sault Ste. Marie
August 20 - Sault Ste. Marie
September 3 - Sault Ste. Marie
September 17 - Sault Ste. Marie
October 1 - Sault Ste. Marie
October 15 - Sault Ste. Marie
November 5 - Sault Ste. Marie
November 26 - Hessel
December 3 - Sault Ste. Marie
Per the Constitution and Bylaws, Article 1 – Meetings of the board of directors, Section 1:provided that at least one meeting per year shall be held in each of the five election units established pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the tribal constitution.

General meetings of the board of directors are held the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

All general meetings start at 5 p.m. All meetings in Sault Ste. Marie take place at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center, other sites to be announced. All special meetings will be announced as needed.

For further information call the tribe's administration reception desk at 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660 and ask for either Joanne Carr at extension 26337 or Linda Grossett at extension 26338.

Resolutions passed by Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Resolutions passed at Dec. 11 board meeting

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors met for a regular meeting on Dec. 11 at Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie. All directors were present, with the exception of Jennifer McLeod and Charles Matson. Fifteen resolutions were discussed and approved, 11 by unanimous vote.

Resolution 2018-285: GLRI American Marten Establishment of FY 2019 Budget – A budget was approved and established in the amount of \$9,298.83 with Federal BIA monies.

Res. 286: TOTR Opioid Establishment of 2019 Budget – Approved with Inter-Tribal monies of \$60,000.

Res. 287: TOP Opioid Establishment of 2019 Budget – Approved with Inter-Tribal monies of \$17,904.

Res. 288: Perinatal Opioid Use Disorder Establishment of 2019 Budget – Approved with Inter-Tribal monies of \$90,600.

Res. 289: Big Bear Pro Shop Establishment of FY 2019 Budget – Approved with Other Revenue monies of \$106,133 and Tribal Support monies of \$169.62.

Res. 290: Continuing Funding Authority Governmental Schedule C for FY 2019 – The board approved continuing funding for a number of governmental cost centers for FY 2019 at their 2018 spending levels for a period not to exceed 90 days to ensure services are not left unfunded for a period between the expiration of the FY 2018 budgets and approval of the FY 2019 budgets.

Res. 291: Understanding Northern White Cedar Dynamics in Boreal Transition Forests: Partnership with Michigan Technological University and Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan – The tribe has on-going partnerships with the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan and Michigan Technological University focused

on understanding the impacts of climate change on forests and specifically northern white cedar. ITC was awarded funding from the BIA to further this work and the board formally supported work contained in the submitted proposal.

Res. 292: Tribal Transportation 2019-2022 Transportation Improvement Plan – The board supported and adopted the projects that were developed between the tribe and the BIA for Tribal Shares Funding.

Res. 293: Child Protection Background Check Investigations for Team Members Having Regular Contact with or Control Over Children – The policy on background investigations for team members having regular contact with children was revised and adopted and the former policy rescinded. The Human Resources Department will be working with program directors, managers and supervisors to review existing job descriptions to ensure they are in compliance with the new policy.

Res. 294: Authorize Submission of Request for FY 2019 Litigation Support Funds – CORA – The board determined it is in the best interest of the tribe to participate in a joint effort with other federally recognized 1836 treaty tribes to protect and defend the right to fish in the Great Lakes by developing a common management plan and litigation strategy. The board approved and supported the submission of a request for FY 2109 litigation support funds by CORA to the BIA.

Res. 295: Financial Institution Change Open Deposit Account with Flagstar Bank Sawyer Village – The board approved the closure of two Wells Fargo accounts and the opening of a new security deposit account for Sawyer Village with Flagstar Bank in Gwinn, Mich.

Res. 296: Waiver of Sovereign Immunity and Consent to Waiver

of Tribal Court Jurisdiction Land Contract for Kincheloe Properties – Approved by the board so the tribe can enter into a land contract with the seller for properties located in Kincheloe, Mich.

Res. 297: Authorization to Apply for a Grant or Loan From the USDA Rural Development Agency Riverside Village – The board authorized the tribe's EDC executive director to apply to the USDA Rural Development Agency for a grant or low-interest loan, in the amount of about \$250,000 for upgrading and improving the water and sewer infrastructure at DeMawating Development Riverside Village.

Res. 298: Temporary Funding Authority in the Event of a Federal Government Funding Shutdown – The tribe's CFO was authorized to temporarily use legally available fund balances to assure the continued operation of federally funded tribal departments and programs until the necessary federal funding was restored or until further direction from the board.

Res. 299: Authorization of Full Settlement Tribal Court Case WC-17-01 – A workers compensation case resulting from a fall on May, 2015, has been settled as negotiated between the parties attorneys.

Resolutions passed at the Jan. 22 board meeting

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors convened in Sault Ste. Marie on Jan. 22 with all present.

2019-01 – 2019 BIA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Lake Whitefish Recruitment Bottleneck – Authorized negotiations for Bureau of Indian Affairs non-competitive funding for whitefish habitat and species projects.

02 – 2019 BIA Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Lake Whitefish Experimental Rearing – Authorized negotiations for competitive BIA funding for hab-

itat and species restoration and protection projects.

03 – 2019 BIA Hatchery Maintenance and Rehab – Authorized negotiations for BIA funding for maintenance and rehab projects for tribally owned and operated hatcheries.

04 – Support For Creation Of Collaborative Wildlife and Natural Resources Research Program With Michigan State University – Authorized negotiations between Sault Tribe and Michigan State University for establishing a formal research center to focus on management of tribally important resources through the integration of indigenous and western science tools. The aim would be to provide protection and enhancement of harvest opportunities, support Anishinaabe culture and livelihoods, increase education capacity for the tribe's members in wildlife sciences and other purposes.

05 – 2019 BIA Endangered Species Bizhiw (Canada Lynx) Habitat Assessment on St. Marys River Islands – Authorized negotiations for competitive BIA funding to develop management plans for Canada Lynx.

06 – 2019 BIA Invasive

Species Program – Authorized negotiations for BIA funding for a program to counter invasive species such as hybrid cattail in the upper St. Marys River and its connected coastal marshes.

07 – 2019 GLRI Invasive Species – Authorized negotiations for BIA funding for invasive species management in the upper St. Marys River and its connected coastal marshes.

08 – 2019 GLRI – Implementing Adaptive Fire Management Plan In the Eastern Upper Peninsula – Authorized negotiations for BIA competitive funding for a collaborative project with the U.S. Forest Service and the Intertribal Council of Michigan to develop an adaptive fire management plan driven by tribal wildlife and plant concerns.

09 – 2019 BIA Circle of Flight Manoomin Restoration In Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands – Authorized negotiations for BIA funding to restore wild rice in the coastal marsh ecosystems of the St. Marys River.

To view these and other approved resolutions in their entirety, visit the Sault Tribe website at: www.saulttribe.com.

Energy internship applications sought for summer 2019

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Indian Energy, Sandia National Laboratories is now accepting applications for a 12-week internship based in Albuquerque, N.M. Interns will gain first-hand experience with existing tribal energy projects and exposure to issues concerning tribal energy technology use and application.

Current full-time undergraduate students with a minimum GPA of 3.0 are eligible to apply. Candidates must also meet the following qualifications:

Currently attending and enrolled full time (or scheduled to graduate in the spring) in an accredited undergraduate program.

Ability to work up to 40 hours per week during the summer.

U.S. citizenship
Specific interest in tribal energy.

To learn more and to apply, visit: www.energy.gov/indianenergy/resources/education-and-training/college-student-internship-program/college-student.

Tribe buys 16 acres next to Escanaba housing



**DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Director Chase and I are very excited to announce the purchase of 16-plus acres of vacant land adjacent to our existing reservation in Escanaba from the

UPCAP organization. This has been a long-term goal for us in Unit IV that has finally become a reality! We have pushed to secure land or a building in the Escanaba area. Unfortunately, in 2008 we lost a building the tribe was going to purchase over in the Escanaba area. We are thankful today we have 16 acres with a lot of opportunity for the expansion of services. Director Chase and I would like to thank the whole board of directors for their "yes" votes; we appreciate all your support. We would like to thank Joel Schultz, EDC director; with his contacts, he was able to make this happen and Brenda Jefferies real-estate manager who made the transaction go smoothly. Before the property was purchased, Housing announced a request for proposals and had a small footprint of a

building for an expansion of services, but it needed to work within the current reservation property in Escanaba. With this purchase adjacent to our existing reservation, our Housing Director, along with our executive director, can now look at expanding the building footprint to include but not limited to an elder meal program, community rooms for meals and community events, with expansions to our health services, YEA program, ACFS program, elder program and new housing, etc. Director Chase and I will continue to push for the expansion now that we have the land; we need to look at expanding our services.

Director Chase and I continue to attend the Conservation Committee, CORA and 2020 fishing negotiation meetings between the five tribes held

throughout the state monthly. Our treaty rights attorney, Mr. Mason Morrisett, was here this past month to interact and take input from our fishers at the meetings. If you want to have input in the 2020 Consent Decree and would like to meet with Mr. Morrisett, contact me and I can help facilitate a time and place. The issues our tribe and fishermen faced when negotiating the Consent Decree in 2000 are some of the same issues we face now. An example is exotic (or invasive) species and the damage they do coming into the Great Lakes. The difference is 20 years later we have more exotics in the Great Lakes doing more damage; the state and feds have not done their jobs when it comes to eliminating or decreasing exotic species.

We need to guarantee we are looking out for our future generations; we need to ensure our grandchildren's children continue to utilize our treaty right to fish in our Great Lakes!

Director Chase and I have been getting workshops set up for February and March. We are glad to announce a moccasin workshop with Bud Biron is set for Feb. 23 in Escanaba at the Civic Center, Feb. 24 in Manistique at the tribal center and March 10 in Gwinn at the Sands Township Hall. See accompanying flyer for dates and times.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (906) 298-1888.

Thank you,
Darcy Morrow
Unit IV Representative
dmorrow@saulttribe.net

Heating assistance options for tribal members



**DENISE CHASE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Director Morrow and myself are very happy to report that the tribe has recently completed the purchase of two parcels, just over 16 acres, adjacent to our current housing site in Escanaba. The property is contiguous to our current housing site/reservation. The board of directors also approved resolution 2019-26, which requests that the Secretary of the Interior accept title to both parcels (A and B) into trust for the benefit of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians on behalf of the tribe. And, that the Secretary of the Interior is requested to declare the said land to be part of the reservation of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians under 25USC Section 5110. This additional land base is a huge benefit for our Delta County members and the tribe. I would like to say thank you to the tribal board for the acquisition of property. It will allow for community/elder center expansion of services and housing.

With the cold sub zero weather, snow and freezing rain storms we've been having, I would like to remind everyone about the LIHEAP program run by ACFS that provides assistance to help

lower your burden of high energy bills.

Here are some of the heating assistance programs available:

Heating: Opened Nov. 1 and until the fund are exhausted. Eligible households will receive a heating credit toward their heating bill to help reduce hardships resulting from high-energy bills during the winter months.

Crisis: Opened Jan. 1. Target households may receive energy assistance that are at risk or shut off. Target household has a documented disability, elder 60-plus or having a child under age 6 in the home.

Elder Heating: Open to elders 60-plus, elders must be tribal members. They can only apply if they were ineligible for the regular LIHEAP program. This program has a little higher income guideline than the LIHEAP program, and if eligible, you could receive a \$500 heating credit.

To apply for any of the above heating assistance programs, or to find out any additional information stop in your local or satellite ACFS office or call (800) 347-7137 or (906) 341-6993.

ACFS will be holding a family fun day in recognition of March Parenting Awareness Month: March 8, Manistique Tribal Center, 4:30-6:30 p.m. For more information, call (906) 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137.

Reminder: Health and Wellness Opportunities

— Schoolcraft Memorial Hospitals Fitness Center is now open 24 hours a day for members' access! The Sault Tribe has an agreement in place with Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital. You can access for health and wellness by stopping in with your tribal card. For more information, call (906) 341-3276 or visit 115 N Lake St. in Manistique.

— Sullivan's Health and Fitness, 1401 N 26th St. Suite

118, Penstar Building, Escanaba, (906) 217-2011.

— Negaunee YMCA-West End Facility, 350 Iron St., Negaunee, MI (906) 475-9666

— YMCA Bay College, Escanaba, (906) 789-0005

Stacy King, Tribal Services Officer for veterans or surviving spouses seeking information or assistance. Her contact info is (909) 202-4238 or s.king@michiganlegion.org.

Please remember there are free transit rides back and forth between Escanaba and Manistique for scheduled appointments at either health clinic. Please call the Escanaba Health Office, 789-2636, for more information on the medical transportation voucher program.

Very recently and due to the inclement weather we've been having at various times, the Tribal Administration has closed

various clinics, government offices and casino operations when needed and in order to keep our members and staff safe. They try to get the word out across the service area to every ASAP especially scheduled patients.

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

Thank you,
Denise Chase,
Unit IV Board Rep

MOCCASIN WORKSHOP

Unit 4 Sault Tribe Members

Presenter: Bud Biron

February 23rd – Escanaba Civic Center

February 24th – Manistique Tribal Center

March 10th – Sands Township Hall

Classes are limited to 15 participants – must preregister (Basic sewing skills required)

Saturday – February 23rd workshop to be held at
Escanaba Civic Center 204 21st St. Escanaba
Time: Noon – 8:00 p.m.

Sunday – February 24th workshop to be held at
Manistique Tribal Health Center on U.S. 2
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday – March 10th workshop to be held at
Sands Township Hall 987 S. M-553 Gwinn, MI
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Participants need to know basic sewing skills for this workshop.
All workshop materials will be provided for the workshop participants.
Meal, drinks and incentives will be provided.

To register or for more information call/text:
Darcy Morrow (906)298-1888 or Denise Chase (906)203-2471
Sponsored by: Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Unit 4 Education & Cultural Enhancement Fund.



Advertise with us!
Call 906-632-6398

Community restores Muukwa Giiziick drum



**LANA CAUSLEY-SMITH,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

This past month, our community had the distinct honor to assist in holding a community event to re-hide and witness our men take care to reconstruct our Muukwa Giiziick drum. About 14 years ago, our community constructed the community drum and has been taking care of this and taking care of our community. They have been invited to many other communities to take part in many special gatherings and powwows since. We had many men come and help to teach the songs and we have many men and woman in our community assist in that today.

I have a picture of the final, but I also need to recognize Gene Biron, who took the time to come and help us at the onset, and Tony Grondin, who took the time to make sure we had all the needs now to reconstruct the drum and take care of that (the tribe was not asked for any money and things were taken care of). We have a head drum keeper, Terry Latour, and many elderly men and young ones who have been committed ever since and they hold these teaching. (See picture of those who took part in re-hid-

ing and some are members of our drum — not pictured James Laneville, Mathew Landreville, Phil Andrews, Andrew Causley, Cal Burnside, Val Jean Latour).

I want to mention that getting this started, committing for years and taking care of this has never been about money or pay, these things have been taken care of with semaa and from the heart, it has been the most sincere connections as a people that we can witness. The Anishinaabekwe in their lives are always by their side supporting and taking care as well. We have watched young men grow from little ones to hard-working men now. It's truly been an honor. I do remember a few years back, it was a very cold winter morning and we had a funeral for an elder in the west end area of Unit II. I was walking up to the grave site to take part and wondering if she would have anyone there to send her off, (it was very early Saturday morning) once I took another step I heard them — our drum was there with those young men and I knew they did not personally know this woman. I watched as they froze playing that drum, but I also watched as they comforted that family so much. That was one of the proudest moments I had ever had for our Muukwa Giiziick Drum. These men and boys could have been doing so many other things that morning but they were there helping this family in their time of need. Anyway, they are a special gift to our tribe (as are the other community drums as well) and for our way. Always makes me wonder why people say we are losing our culture — if you're really looking, it's here and it's still strong in all of our communities, our big drums are a testament to that.

I would also like to share with



Hessel community refurbishes its drum, with help from area elders.

you how we came to receive the big drum (daawaagan) for our Ojibwa people and how we connect and what are responsibilities are as men and women of the community. (These are teachings I was given and I know some may differ, so please take what you need from these words). A very long time ago, a Dakota woman (Tail Feather Woman) and her village were threatened of attack, she had to flee and hide in order not to be killed under this attack, as she was running away she grabbed a reed from the ground and jumped and hid in the water. She had to remain hidden for four days, only breathing from the reed. They searched for her for all that time. During her struggle in the water, she prayed for her people and the Indian people all over, the Creator gifted her with a dream and vision at that time with all the instructions of a big drum that would end fighting and bring healing to our people and teach us to unite and gather with the heartbeat of Mother Earth. After receiving all she needed for this, she went to her own Dakota elders with what she

had received in her dreams, it's said that she had seen four horses in the direction going to the east, after council with the elders it was determined the Dakota would pass these teaching on to the Ojibwa to the east as they had already received their seven rights. With that, all instructions went to the Ojibwa men to hold that responsibility and take care of the daawaagan. That's why we say that the woman gifted and the men carry those teachings. Woman take no part in sitting at the big drum as we are to stand, protect and sing from behind in honor of those teachings. This teaching is much bigger, sometimes it takes many hours to tell a story and I am not the best at that. Again, please take what you need from it, as I am just passing on what I have been taught, this will give you thought about our sacred drum and how it came to our people. There is much more to this and, hopefully, you'll be able to hear it in a good lodge or circle someday.

We are very busy planning and scheduling many teachings and events in Unit II for youth and

adults by local tribal artists, pipe carriers and helpers. We have held basket making, storytelling, talking circles at the Hessel Tribal Center and we have held moccasin-making workshops in the Newberry area. This is a very good start of what we have in mind for our unit. I want to remind all that we have sign ups at both the centers for when these are scheduled, our youth program is also sending our notices to homes and through schools. If anyone in our unit would like to attend these and are in need of transportation, please contact our YEA coordinator, Lisa Burnside, as we do all we can to assist. We plan to hold some of these events in Pickford, DeTour, Drummond and Engadine as well, but be sure to sign up at our centers if you are interested in the ones we are holding anywhere in our unit. You can look for notices on our website, call our unit's tribal centers in Hessel and Newberry for coming events, many post on social media to communicate what we are hosting as well.

"Paving the Way to Cultural Pride" is our unit's theme and we are very excited about this growing in our unit. Other units are also holding events and when I see those I post as well, and I believe the website has those listed.

In closing, I would like to remind you to contact me through email, messenger or call if you would like to meet. I am at the Hessel Tribal Center on the third Monday of the month for office hours (stop in anytime I am in the office there as well) and the third Friday in Newberry. Call anytime if you would like to schedule at your convenience as well. Baamaappii, Lana Causley-Smith, lcausley@saulttribe.net, (906) 322-3818 or 484-2954.

McLeod launches new informational website



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aanii, Anishinaabek!
Mukwa Giizin (Bear Moon)

It is a sacred time for Anishinaabe people and especially so for people of the Bear Clan (Mukwa Dodem). Despite the severe cold, it is the time when baby bears are being born. In the darkness of a den, babies are born while their mothers sleep. Tiny cubs must find their way and latch on to their moms without help from anyone. It is a life or death struggle that plays out every year during the time of Mukwa Giizis, the Bear Moon (February). Anishinaabe Bear Clan people will often hold feasts

at this time, to honor the bears.

There are Anishinaabe teachings that tell us of the many gifts Mukwa has given to our people and for that we are grateful. At Bear Clan feasts, foods include the favorites of bears (fish, berries) as well as the favorites of people (mmm, frybread!). Sometimes, there is drumming, singing, ceremonies, dancing and, always, great visiting. It is in this way that we perpetuate our way of life. Holding fast to our traditions, and sharing them with our communities ensures that our ways will never disappear; that seven generations from now during the month of February, Anishinaabe people will still be honoring the bears and all of the blessings they bring.

NEW WEBSITE

I want to announce that I am launching a new website. It is at <http://www.jmcleodsaulttribe.com>. I have received input from our people regarding information they would like to have. My website will include:

- Cultural information (language, crafts, etc.)
- Sault Tribe news
- Events
- Sault Tribe Board of Directors information (meetings, minutes, voting info, etc.)

- Resources
- Important Sault Tribe documents (Constitution, legal code, hunting/fishing, etc.)
- FAQ (frequently asked questions)
- National news
- Directory
- Membership services
- And much MORE!

I remember what it was like to live so far away from the tribe's center of government and how hard it was to get information or help. I wanted to provide a service that could help our people feel more connected and I'm hoping this new website will do just that!

My niece, Jackie Debusschere, will be lending me her expertise to get it going, and I am so grateful to her. I am so busy I don't think I could get it done without her and I KNOW I couldn't even come CLOSE to her talent. Chi miigwech, Jackie (family is the best!). Please check it out, and let me know your thoughts and suggestions. It is a work in progress, and is intended to serve!

Working hard for you
I am so pleased that hard work is resulting in good things for our people! But I am not doing this alone, it is a GIGANTIC team effort consisting of tribal leaders

across the country, staff at federal levels, but most important to me — OUR STAFF AT HOME. Because of our staff at home, our tribe is a national leader in so many areas important to tribal people. I am so proud of the work they do.

Here is but a small sample of hard work benefiting our people:

Dental health technicians are coming to our tribe and that means better dental care!

Traditional foods are starting to be included in our USDA foods! That means better health through better food.

Veterans' payments causing "disqualification" for various programs is being addressed! That means that those men and women who wrote the "blank check" to protect us all, will someday no longer be disqualified for assistance, because the benefits they receive as a veteran is seen as income, and makes them ineligible (That is SO WRONG!).

The recent government shutdown has only "slowed us down" in our fight for what our tribal nations deserve. These benefits are not handouts and are not discretionary. Our ancestors pre-paid for them through treaties. We will not stop, even if the federal government shuts down again. That

"gigantic team" I spoke of earlier, is working fast and furious to get contingency plans in place to ensure our people are not negatively impacted during federal government shut downs.

Valentines Day
The Valentines Day holiday does a good job of reminding us to love the people around us. Of course, we don't need to wait for Feb. 14 to do that! May this Valentines Day fill your heart with joy for the love of your ancestors, your family and those generations yet to come.
Anishinaabe gageget (Anishinaabe for always),
Jen
(906) 440-9151
Email at jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com

Moving?

Please contact the newspaper with your new address!

slucas@saulttribe.com

JKL students present canoe to Elder Complex



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

As I write this report, we have still not passed the 2019 Schedule C budget. We are on a continuing resolution until the board passes the budget and capital expenditures.

During the government shutdown I know there were a lot of statements that it was costing us \$100,000 a day and we were getting into our reserves and that would only last a few weeks. The truth is we met with our CFO and executive director and we were able to get our drawdowns from the federal government. We had not spent any tribal support during the shutdown. The executive director had also put out a notice to staff so they were not worried about their jobs. It is a shame when people spew misinformation.

On Jan. 11, Dr. Chris Gordon

accompanied his students from the JKL with the drum and canoe they helped build with elder Ron Paquin of St. Ignace. The canoe was presented to the new elder complex and residents. The canoe is beautiful and I am happy this worked out so we could display it in this new building for all to enjoy.

The board got to meet with Mark Dumback, the new HR director. The time was used to discuss any board member's concerns as well as his concerns and possible future direction. I do not expect major changes to happen immediately, as it will take time for him to evaluate the staff, our policies and procedures and get up to speed on tribal business. I do hope in the next six months he will have suggestions on changes to our hiring process and a mentor program to promote from within. Like I told Mark, some of the changes need to happen with the board because we set policy. I am looking forward to any and all of his recommendations and a way to make things better for current and future team members.

The Unit III elder meal program has moved to the new elder complex as of the first week in February. Some elders were not happy to see the change of location. I understand they have a sense of ownership with the McCann building and change is not always easy and for some the drive will be farther. On the other hand, the cooks will have a brand

new kitchen and the residents will just have to walk down the hall for their lunches.

The McCann building will still be used to host community gatherings, feasts, workshops, baby showers, funeral luncheons, etc. We are hoping to be able to fix the outdated kitchen facility that is the worst of all kitchens in our tribe's buildings. Anyone interested in using the building can call the administration building at (906) 635-6050 and ask for facilities.

Our general counsel was supposed to retire at the end of the year. The job was posted and, unfortunately, there was not a Sault Tribe member qualified because the description required 10 years of supervisory experience. Well, how do we expect people to meet those qualifications if we never give them the chance? Does it really take you 10 years to learn how to supervise people? I realize the board had the opportunity for input on the job description but when the posting closes and you don't have

a Sault Tribe member qualified, then maybe we need to review the description. The applicant should have some treaty rights knowledge, also. Now, I am not a person who forces hiring tribal members, just that they have preference and opportunity as well as we should have a mentor or advancement plan. I am very thankful that John Wernet has stayed to help us during our search for his replacement.

We also have yet to replace Liz Eggert, who handled our child welfare cases, which is creating more work for the prosecutor's office. Our kids should be a priority and, when we are understaffed, that is not happening.

My last concern is over the ice sculpture that was in downtown Sault Ste. Marie in front of the Ojibway Hotel. The chair, in my opinion, went off half-cocked and was asking people to boycott the business and demanding the sculpture be taken down. I think from what I saw there were many mixed feelings on whether tribal members were offended or not.

I feel like there was a better solution than slamming a local business all over social media. Aaron could have picked up the phone or stopped at the business to discuss it. He said he was doing it as a member and not that of the chair, but The Sault News had on the front page — Tribal chairperson objects to ice sculpture.

He also went after the members who were not offended, saying they are not culturally oriented or are assimilated to a great extent. I am pretty sure the majority of our members are assimilated in one way or another. We drive cars, having running water, have electronics, etc.

We have a responsibility to work with our communities and business owners. We might not agree with them or even patronize them, but it is so wrong to blast them on social media.

As always any questions or concerns, please contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.



Chris Gordon stands behind his JKL School students with elder Ron Paquin (right) to present a canoe and drum to the elder complex in St. Ignace.



JKL School drummers sing at the presentation.



38th Annual Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

SUMMER GATHERING AND POWWOW

July 4-7, 2019




Going back to July 4TH weekend by popular demand!

DATES AND TIMES:

THURSDAY, JULY 4
- Spiritual Gathering

FRIDAY, JULY 5
- Kids' Carnival and Karaoke Night starting at 5:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 6
- Drum & Dancer Registration 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Grand Entries at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Traditional Feast at 5 p.m. (Free and open to the public)

SUNDAY, JULY 7
- Grand Entry at 12 noon
- Traditional Giveaway at 3 p.m.
- Dance & Drum Contest Winners Announced at 4 p.m.
- Powwow Closing at 5 p.m.

This Event is Free and Open to the Public!

- Singing and Dancing Contests
- Traditional Community Feast
- Authentic Food and Craft Vendors
- Drug, Alcohol and Political Free Event

FULL EVENT FLYER TO BE RELEASED AT A LATER DATE



UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT



Pam Tillis
MARCH 23
 STARTS AT 8 P.M.

SAULT STE MARIE DREAMMAKERS THEATER

TICKETS \$22.50



Collin Raye
MARCH 9
 SHOW STARTS AT 8 P.M.
 TICKETS \$22.50

ST. IGNACE EVENT CENTER

SAULT STE. MARIE DREAMMAKERS THEATER



THE GUESS WHO
IN CONCERT
APRIL 20, 2019
 TICKET PRICE \$25.00



JOHN BERRY
MAY 11, 2019
 SHOW STARTS AT 8 P.M.
 TICKET PRICE \$22.50

SAULT STE. MARIE DREAMMAKERS THEATER



SLAUGHTER
 SHOW STARTS AT 8 P.M.
 WITH SPECIAL GUEST



AUTOGRAPH

JUNE 29
 TICKETS ONLY \$10

Classic Rock 98.1 • 95.3

Kewadin ST. IGNACE CASINO



Cheap Trick
Cheap Trick
JULY 11, 2019
 SHOW STARTS AT 8 P.M.
 TICKETS START AT \$40

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