



Win Awenen Nisitotung

August 24, 2022 • Vol. 43 No. 8
Raspberry-Picking Moon
Mskominike Giizis



Bahweting Bidajimowin • Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Tribe awarded \$19.8M transportation grant

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — The Biden-Harris Administration has awarded the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians \$19.8 million to invest in the tribe's infrastructure, multi modal paths, and a boardwalk that will have a major impact on the tribal and surrounding community. The funding comes from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) discretionary grant program.

The award will fund the Ozhitoon Mino-Bimaadiziwin (Build for a Good Life) Project to improve pedestrian safety on a high-speed and high-traffic corridor, promote connectivity, and support the tribe's transformative vision for the Shunk Road neighborhood by connecting corridors and improving mobility for the residents who depend on transit, walking and bicycling. Multi-modal paths and bike lanes on Shunk Rd., 3 Mile Rd. and the Marquette Ave. corridors will encourage more use of the city of Sault Ste. Marie's bike network and improve safety by separating pedestrians from vehicle traffic.

"More and more people continue to seek alternative transportation options like walking, biking and public transit. These grant funds will ensure we can continue to invest in our community and the health and safety of our residents by improving the transportation options available to them," said Sault Tribe Vice Chairperson Austin Lowes. "I want to thank our tribe staff and local leaders for their work in bringing this grant to our community."

The transformation of the Shunk Rd. neighborhood received strong community engagement and support from the various partners and safety advocates in the region. Gov. Gretchen Whitmer,

U.S. Senators Debbie Stabenow and Gary Peters, Congressmen Jack Bergman and Dan Kildee, and State Senators Wayne Schmidt and Ed McBroom joined together to support the project.

"Investing in infrastructure will not only ensure residents and families can get around safely and efficiently, it will help our communities rebuild in a way that promotes long-term growth and resiliency," said Senator Peters, who wrote a letter of support for the project to Department of Transportation Secretary Buttigieg. "That's why I was proud to help secure this grant, which will help the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians upgrade roadways that are critical to their Tribe and economic success, while increasing access to the breathtaking nature our state has to offer."

"Greater investments in Michigan and our nation's infrastructure are long overdue. I applaud these critical road improvements to improve public safety and expand access to outdoor recreation and essential tribal services," said Senator Stabenow.

Local partners include Chippewa Mackinac Luce Community Action Agency, the City of Sault Ste. Marie and the Chippewa County Road Commission. The grant will allow the tribe to partner with the city and the road commission to make improvements to meet modern transportation demands and help to create local jobs while investing in the tribe and community's future.

According to the Department of Transportation (DOT) website, projects were evaluated on several criteria, including safety, environmental sustainability, quality of life, economic competitiveness and opportunity, partnership and

collaboration, innovation, state of good repair, and mobility and community connectivity. Within these areas, DOT considered how projects will improve accessibility for all travelers, bolster supply chain efficiency, and support racial equity and economic growth, especially in historically disadvantaged communities and areas of persistent poverty.

"This \$19.8 million federal investment will help build the safer, greener roads and trails that our tribe and city deserve: saving lives, easing commutes, and bringing communities closer together," said author of the Shunk Road Streetscape Project and the grant proposal, Transportation Planner Wendy Hoffman. "It was my privilege to help secure this transformative funding, and I will continue to work diligently with federal, state and local partners to achieve our 'Vision Zero,' ending traffic fatalities and providing connectivity.

U.S. Secretary of

Transportation Pete Buttigieg announced the \$2.2 billion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act RAISE grants Aug. 11 funding 166 projects across the

country. The program is highly competitive and rigorously reviewed with only 7 percent of grant applications historically chosen.



Photo by Brenda Austin

Princess Simmons, 4, gets help from her great-grandmother Joan Pavia mashing fresh strawberries to make freezer jam.

Advocacy Resource Center holds Facebook Live craft workshops

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center's (ARC) Cultural Healing Educator Ashley Gravelle began offering online workshops on traditional craft making in 2021 due to COVID-19.

Today, classes are still being offered online on the ARC's Facebook page, along with in-person classes.

Gravelle said traditional Anishinaabe culture plays a huge roll in the healing process.

"I think the Culture – The Key to Healing workshops have done wonders for those that have not been part of their culture," she said. "I have been that person, I had no idea what it meant to be Native, or 'Indian,' until I moved here to the Sault and started going to powwows and being hired at the Lodge of Bravery. There is where I first noticed that there were a lot of other people just like me — lost and looking for that missing part. That's when I first started to get serious about Native crafting and working with the survivors at the Lodge of Bravery. I found the more I did with them in a circle the better I felt."

Gravelle said when she was doing in-person events pre-COVID with Native crafting workshops, she noticed how participants seemed to always leave happier and lighter. "Our culture is what grounds us. The circle is home. Community and family is what culture is about. No



Jeanne Kennedy wearing a concho belt she made in one of Gravelle's Facebook Live classes.



Photo by Jeanne Kennedy

Moccasins made during one of the crafting workshops.

labels, just us. I think it is great that even non-Native people are finding healing in the culture. We can't expect to heal our community without also offering healing around us. Some of the non-Na-

tives that sign up are mothers to Native children, and we can't expect those mothers to pass along cultural knowledge to our children if they are not allowed to learn it themselves."

The ARC offers households one craft kit each as long as an adult registers prior to the deadline for each workshop. "The kits I pick I want to be a little easier for those who are just coming back into the culture and learning Native crafts," she said. "Some of them have been a little harder, but all the people who sign up always love them. The two workshops on Sept. 1 are teachings on how to make mandalas and medallions. Most of the upcoming workshops were based off of our Facebook follower's suggestions."

Gravelle said Fall workshops will include how to make dream catchers, a quill starter kit, deluxe tobacco bag, and deluxe traditional dance staff kit, with even more workshops still in the works.

Workshops being offered through the ARC's Culture – The Key to Healing program, include how to make a medallion, and will be hosted on the ARC's Facebook Live page Sept. 1 at 8 a.m. And later that same day (Sept. 1), a Facebook Live event will show participants how to make a 9-inch mandala and will be hosted on the ARC's Facebook Live page at 12 p.m.

To register for the workshops, call Ashley Gravelle, Advocacy Resource Center cultural healing educator, at (906) 632-1808.

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9/21/22 - KINROSS REC CENTER 1-3
9/28/22 - ST. IGNACE LITTLE BEAR 11-2
9/30/22 - DETOUR HEALTH CENTER 9-11
9/30/22 - HESSEL HEALTH CENTER 1:30-3:30**

Flu & COVID vaccinations available to Sault Tribe Members, other federally recognized tribes, non-native spouses, and Sault Tribe employees.

Don't forget to wear short sleeves.

Questions - call Jenni O'Dell, RN @ 906-632-5259

Old Drugs... New Threats



**Friday, Oct. 14 from 1-3 p.m.
Sault Tribe Cultural Center**

Information about the latest trends in youth drug use, products and devices is being brought to you Friday, Oct. 14 by Mackinac County Communities that Care, Chippewa County Communities that Care, Chippewa County 4-H, Michigan State University Extension, Chippewa County Health Department, and the Chippewa County Sheriff Office. This free program, "Old Drugs New Trends," will discuss the latest trends in drug use today. The Hidden in Plain Sight team

is bringing Melissa Moore, owner and trainer of M3 Consulting LLC, and consultant for Tall Cop Says Stop. This event is open to the public and anyone can attend. A zoom link will be sent out once individuals have registered.

Lean about what works (and what doesn't) in prevention, how to engage the community in efforts, and tour the Hidden in Plain Sight trailer!

This event is being held at the Sault Tribe Culture Center across from the powwow grounds, on Friday, Oct. 14, from 1-3 p.m. Register online at <https://bit.ly/HIPSOct14>.

Notice of relocation

The Escanaba Tribal Community Center will be relocating to a new facility in Gladstone, Mich., 2002 Minneapolis Ave. The office will be closed for business on Tuesday, Aug. 30, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. to move facility. Re-opening will take place on

Wednesday, Aug. 31, at 8 a.m. as the Gladstone Tribal Community Center, 2002 Minneapolis Ave., Gladstone, MI 49837.

Escanaba office location will no longer be open.

Questions: Please call (906) 341-1836.

JKL School Board vacancies

Northern Michigan University Charter School Office is accepting applications for open board positions at JKL Bahweting Anishinabe Public School Academy with term lengths of one year or two years.

Applications can be found on the JKL School website at www.jklschool.org.

Please send completed applications electronically to Lisa Ackland: lackland@nmu.edu (or call (906) 227-6602). The review of applications will be ongoing until all seats are filled.

Michiganders may qualify for student loan forgiveness under federal program

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

If you are a Michigander working in the public service sector, now is a good time to review the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program to see if you qualify for federal student loan relief. But act fast, no later than Oct. 31. It's estimated that over 148,000 Michiganders may still be eligible for the program due to a recent PSLF waiver.

"Whether you are a service member, firefighter, health professional, teacher, social worker, librarian—the list goes on—thank you for your service," said Governor Gretchen Whitmer. "Tens of thousands of Michiganders may qualify for this loan forgiveness program, which will help ease the burden of student debt and put money back in people's pockets."

Until Oct. 31, the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) is offering public servants working in government and eligible non-profits a second chance to qualify for student loan forgiveness.

According to the Office of Federal Student Aid's June report, over 6,000 Michiganders have taken advantage of the PSLF waiver and have had \$358 million in loans forgiven.

Changes to the federal PSLF program allow previously ineligible borrowers – those with a non-Direct loan, who are not enrolled in an income driven repayment plan, who have missed a repayment, or made a partial repayment in the past – to receive credit toward loan forgiveness for the years worked in government or a qualifying non-profit.

To apply for the PSLF waiver, visit studentaid.gov/pslf/employer-search/search-tool to verify that your employer qualifies for PSLF. Submit a certified copy of the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Employment Certification form to the USDE before Oct. 31.

If you have questions, visit studentaid.gov/pslf/ or call FedLoan Servicing at (855) 265-4038.

Congress created the PSLF program to help recruit and retain top talent in the public sector workforce. If an individual works for federal, state, local, or tribal government or a qualifying non-profit for 10 years, makes 120 full, on-time loan payments, and submits all required paperwork, the federal government forgives all of their remaining student loan debt.

Committee vacancies posted

The following Sault Tribe 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 Katelynn Griffin at 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783.

Call (906) 635-6050 with any questions.

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - Ten vacancies - four males (4-year term), four females (4-year term)

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

Conservation Committee - One vacancy (4-year term)

Election Committee - Two vacancies (4-year term)

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

Health Board - Three vacancies (4-year term)

Utility Authority - Four

vacancies (4-year term)

Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - Five vacancies (2-year term) Unit I: 2 vacancies, Unit II: 1 vacancy, Unit III: 2 vacancies

Elder Advisory Committee Unit I - Sault - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Unit II - Hessel - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Unit III - St. Ignace - One alternate vacancies (4-year term)

Unit IV - Escanaba - One regular vacancy (4-year term)

Unit V - Munising - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Unit V - Marquette - One alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Elder Subcommittees Unit I - Sault - Two alternate seat vacancies (4-year term)

Unit II - Hessel - Two regular seat vacancies, one alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Unit IV - Escanaba - Three regular seat vacancies, two alter-

nate vacancies (4-year term)

Unit V - Munising - One alternate seat vacancy (4-year term).

Free Narcan give away Aug. 31

Aug. 31 marks International Overdose Awareness Day. It's a day to remember and grieve those we've lost, and to strengthen resolve to end overdose injuries and deaths.

In 2020, over 93,000 people lost their lives to drug overdose. Naloxone is a lifesaving medicine that can reverse an overdose from opioids.

Mackinac Communities That Care, in partnership with GLRC, Sacred Hearth, and LMAS Harm Reduction will be offering free Narcan, drug deactivation bags, and resources to anyone, no questions asked. Come see at Aug. 31 at St. Ignace Family Fare between 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. ET.

Tribally Owned Offering Gas and Cigarette Discounts

Mid Jim Convenience Store, 2205 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie
Mid Jim Convenience Store II, 3045 Mackinac Trail, St. Ignace

Tribally Owned Offering Gas Discount Only

White Pine Lodge, 7889 E. W. M-28, Christmas

Non Tribal owned Stations Offering Gas Discount Only

Newberry BP Express Mart, 13975 M-28, Newberry
Freedom Value Center, 501 W. Washington St., Marquette
Manistique Oil company, 216 Deer St., Manistique
Carnes BP, 2300 Ludington St., Escanaba
Kinross BP Local Express, 4440 Tone Rd., Kincheloe
Cedar Pantry, 159 W M-134, Cedarville

Tribal members: need assistance?

Two membership liaisons work with the chairperson's office on membership issues and concerns across the service area.

The liaisons respond to membership issues and follow up to ensure they are resolved. Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact the liaisons when they need help with tribal issues by emailing membersconcerns@saulttribe.net

saulttribe.net or contacting them individually at:

Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, Mich.(906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net

Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469; Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, mjenerou@saulttribe.net.

Tribal program WIOA now offering funding for on-the-job training

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 ser-

vice area.

Please apply at WIOA at Big Bear Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., or call Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767 for more information.

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The official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

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Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor
Sherrie Lucas.....Secretary
Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
Scott Brand.....Staff Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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Approved resolutions from recent board meetings

A regular meeting of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors was held June 27, 2022, in Sault Ste. Marie at the Kewadin Casino Hotel and Convention Center. The board discussed and passed seven resolutions, six by unanimous vote.

#202-194: Permanent Endowment of Golf Scholarship — The permanent endowment of all funds from the Golf Scholarship Classic was approved to protect all established scholarships generated from the fund and to create new scholarships from the new endowment revenue. The permanent endowment will create funding for about 25-30 new scholarships.

#195: Authorization of application for Elder Services funding from the Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging Older Americans Act Title VI nutrition, supportive service and caregiver grants (Parts A/B and C) and participation in cycle VIII of the National Resource Center on Native American Aging Needs Assessment "Identifying Our Needs: A Survey of Elders." — The board requests funding from the Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging Older Americans Act Title VI grants (Parts A/B and C) for the grant period of April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026. The board authorized participation in the Identifying Our Needs: A Survey of Elders, needs assessment and grants permission to the National

Resource Center on Native American Aging to use all collected needs assessment information in an aggregate format for disseminating state, regional, and national results from analyses of the data. Specific information collected within the boundaries of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians belongs to the tribe and may not be released in any form to individuals, agencies, or organizations without additional tribal authorization.

#196: Cultural – Rematriating Anishinaabe art, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved for the establishment of an FY 2023 budget for rematriating Anishinaabe art with federal IMLS Revenue monies of \$8,014.93.

#197: COPS TRGP 2018, establishment of FY 2023 budget — Approved with federal DOJ monies of \$164,097.44.

#198: Stonegarden Acceptance of Grant and Establishment of FY 2023 Budget — The state of Michigan Department of State Police has awarded the tribe the Homeland Security grant program Operation Stonegarden. The board accepted the grant in the amount of \$72,000, with \$1,800 held by the state of Michigan for M&A. The board also approved the establishment of a FY 2023 budget for Stonegarden with Other Revenue of \$70,104.92.

#199: Tamarack II, Establishment of FY 2023 Budget — The board approved the establishment

of an FY 2023 budget for Tamarack II with State MEDC Revenue monies of \$300,000.

#200: St. Ignace Dental and Third-Party Revenue, FY 2022 Budget Modifications — The board approved the FY 2022 budget modification to the St. Ignace Dental to change the personnel sheet and decrease Third Party Revenue monies \$100,108.52. The board also approved the FY 2022 budget modification to Third Party Revenue to decrease the transfer out \$100,108.52.

July 12 meeting

#201: Vote of No Confidence in DJ Hoffman Servings as Chairperson of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and Suspension of Duties Effective Immediately and Until Further Notice — A Special Meeting was held July 12, 2022, and a vote of no confidence in DJ Hoffman as tribal chairperson was passed. The vice chairperson was temporarily assigned to the chairperson position until further notice.

July 26 meeting

Nine resolutions were passed by the board, seven by unanimous vote, at a meeting held July 26.

#202: Authorizing the Development of a SSBCI Application — The board authorized and approved the development of a SSBCI Capital Program application, including the required letter of designation and all other related materials and documents to accompany the application, to

be brought forward to the board within 90 days for review and consideration. The board also authorized the negotiation of a services agreement with Development Capital Networks to assist in the preparation of the SSBCI Capital Program application and to assist with the implementation and management of the associated programs as a contracted entity under the terms of the SSBCI Capital Program.

#203: Rescinding Resolution 2020-261: State of Emergency Health Requirements — Approved.

#204: Investigating Accusations Against DJ Hoffman — The executive director of the tribe, with assistance from the tribe's general counsel, shall hire an external firm to investigate allegations, with authorization to modify the existing budget to pay for these services. DJ Hoffman will limit his time in the tribal administration building to perform only duties assigned to him by Sault Tribe Code and the Constitution and only when his presence is requested in writing by Sault Tribe governmental staff or a majority of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors.

#205: Authorization to Change Signors with Central Savings Bank — Approved.

#206: Authorization to Change Signors with Huntington Bank — Approved.

#207: Authorization to Change

Signors with PNC Bank — Approved.

#208: Authorization to Change Signors with Peoples State Bank — Approved.

#209: Authorization to Change Signors with Nicolet National Bank — Approved.

#210: Authorization to Change Signors with Flagstar Bank — Approved.

August 9 meeting

At a regular meeting held Aug. 9, 15 resolutions were passed, 13 by unanimous vote.

#211: Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) — Approved the FY 2023 continuation of the LIHEAP grant, through FY 2025.

#212: Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) — Approved for the FY 2023 continuation of CSBG through FY 2025.

#213: Changing Recovery Hospital Location and Amend Resolution No. 2018-102 — Amendment approved, with a set-aside of a portion of the tribe's unimproved 68.86 acres in Sault Ste. Marie for the construction and operation of a recovery hospital.

#214: ACFS — OVC Tribal Victim Services Set Aside Establishment of FY 2023 Budget — The board approved the establishment of a FY 2023 budget for OVC Tribal Victim Services Set Aside with Federal Department of Justice Federal Revenue monies

See "Approved," page 5

SATURDAYS IN SEPTEMBER - ALL SITES


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Hot Seat Draws Start at 4 p.m.

SEPTEMBER TO REMEMBER

Hessel | Fridays in September
Win Your Share Of \$7,500 CASH
Hot Seat Draws Start at 6 p.m.

12TH ANNUAL CAR SHOW

Manistique | Friday, September 2 | 2 p.m. - 7 p.m.

\$22,500 MEGA BINGO

Sault Ste. Marie | Saturday, September 10 | 12 p.m.
Win your share of up to \$22,500

RESTAURANT SPECIALS

DreamCatchers, Horseshoe Bay | September
Honey Garlic Glazed Salmon Over Wild Rice And Roasted Vegetables

KEWADIN YOOPER SLOT TOURNAMENT

Hessel
Mondays | July 4 - September 27 | 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Christmas
Mondays & Tuesdays | July 4 - September 27 | 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Manistique
Wednesdays & Thursdays | July 6 - September 29 | 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Daily Prize Pool 25,000 Bonus Points

KEWADIN FALL FOLIAGE SLOT TOURNAMENT

Hessel | Tuesdays - Thursdays | September 6 - 29
Daily Prize Pool \$450 CASH

CAN - AM FREE SLOT TOURNAMENT

Sault Ste. Marie
Mondays & Tuesdays | September 12 - October 25

\$15,000 PINKTASTIC SLOT TOURNAMENT

Sault Ste. Marie | September 30 - October 1
St. Ignace | October 14 - 16

Continued from approved resolutions

From "Resolutions," Page 4 of \$271,502.14.

#215: Self Insurance — Property and Liability FY 2022 Budget Modification — The board approved the FY 2022 budget modification to Self-Insurance, Property and Liability, for an increase in the use of Other Revenue - Fund Balance monies of \$155,585.60.

#216: ACFS Division – USDA FY 2022 Budget Modification — The board approved the FY 2022 budget modification to USDA for an increase in Federal USDA monies of \$8,177 and a decrease in Tribal Support monies of \$49,917.10. This budget modification reflects actual expenditures, reallocation of expenses, and changes to the personnel sheet.

#217: Demawating Development, Tanglewood Marsh and Hessel Ridge Golf Course FY 2022 Budget Modifications — The board approved the new companies and cost centers for Tanglewood Marsh and Hessel Ridge Golf Courses.

#218: Continuing Funding Authority for FY 2023, — The board approved continuing funding for six specific cost centers for fiscal year 2023, at their 2022 spending levels, for a period not to exceed 90 days.

#219: Authorization to Negotiate and Purchase 3901 I-75 Business Spur, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Property Acquisition — The board authorizes Sault Tribe Inc.'s CEO or his designee, to negotiate the purchase of the property: TIN: 051-063-026-00, not to exceed the agreed upon terms. Upon successful negotiations, the board authorizes the chairman or his designee to sign any documentation to complete the purchase using ARPA funds as determined by the CFO.

#220: Authorization to Bid on Parcels, Public Land Auction, Aug. 26, 2022 — The board authorizes the Sault Tribe Inc.'s CEO, or his designee, to participate in the public land auction scheduled for Aug. 26, 2022, on-line; and to place bids on any or all parcels approved for purchase in resolutions 2018-185, 2018-207, 2018-219 and 2019-171 using previously approved funds. The board also authorizes the Sault Tribe Inc.'s CEO, or his designee, to place bids on any and all of the additional parcels of land being offered contingent to tribal land cost not to exceed \$6,000.

#221: Trust Land Lease, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. — Lease was approved

#222: Support for the Inclusion of the Sault Ste. Marie Municipal Airport (Sanderson Field) in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems — Supported by the board.

#223: Transportation Program, National Endowment for the Arts, Our Town – Creative Placemaking Grant — The board authorized the Transportation Program to submit a grant application and all necessary and required documents to the National Endowment for the Arts, Our Town FY 2023 competitive grant program, requesting up to \$150,000 to identify, create and integrate elements of our Anish-

naabe art and culture to public space and infrastructure; such as parks, plazas, signage, landscapes within neighborhoods and across districts.

#224: Appointment Transparency — This resolution states: Transparency and honesty are major goals of the current board of directors; and a political discussion took place during the board of director workshop on June 20, 2022, that provides insight into the previous board's decision to appoint the current chairperson, which the membership should be privy to; and political discussions are prohibited from taking place at workshops and meetings. The administration is instructed to publish a section of the June 20, 2022, workshop (2:38:38 to 3:59:55), where the political appointment was discussed no later than Aug. 16, 2022.

#225: Commitment Towards Indigenous Food Sovereignty — This resolution states: The tribe understands the health of a

community is directly tied to its relation to the land and to the food that is produced, consumed, and shared amongst the membership; and the reentry of indigenous foods into the diet of the community have deep health benefits at the nutritional, mental, and spiritual level; and an Indigenous Food Sovereignty Committee can serve in an advisory role to the board to make recommendations regarding future programming. The tribe shall establish an Indigenous Food Sovereignty Committee, which will consist of 12 Sault Tribe members, who will apply to the board to fill committee vacancies. The committee is encouraged to coordinate with tribal departments and other institutions that are relevant to the mission of food sovereignty. The Indigenous Food Sovereignty Committee is provided full support from the board and is authorized to serve in an advisory role.

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

Newberry Pow Wow

September 17th, 2022

Newberry Pow Wow Grounds

Grand Entry 1:00PM

Feast at 5:00PM

Please bring a dish to pass, if able



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Head Veteran: TBA

Head Dancer: TBA

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Anishinaabemowin 2022

Teachers open the door but you must enter by yourself.

This month's words are from Alphonse Pitawanakwat, a first speaker from Manitoulin Island, an elder who is wise and kind, and a teacher of our language at University of Michigan. He was speaking on the topic "Tying Science to our Culture" during an online presentation.

Wenesh ge kendamang noongwa?

we-nesh ge ken-da-mang noon-gwa

What do we think we know now?

Wenesh waa da kendamang?

we-nesh waa da ken-da-mang

What do we need to investigate?

Giizhaa dibaatan ge zhiwebag.

gii-zhaa di-baa-tan ge zhi-we-bag

Tell us about it - what will happen. (Predict)

Naagadawaamdan ezhiwebag.

naa-ga-da-waam-dan e-zhi-we-bag

Observe it - what is happening?

Wenesh enji kendamang noongwa

we-nesh- en-ji ken-da-mang noon-gwa

What are we learning at this time?

Wenesh dibaamijigan

we-nesh-di-baa-mi-ji-gan

What is our evidence?

Wenesh gaa dibizhigaadeg

we-nesh gaa di-bi-zhi-gaa-deg

What has been measured?

Dibaatan gaa waamdaman

di-baa-tan gaa waam-da-man

Tell about it - what you saw.

Wenesh e-nendaagog g'chi kwe-di-we-win?

we-nesh e-nen-daa-gog g-chi-kwe-di-we-win

What does it make us think about the big question?



Pronunciation?? Like last few months, you'll find these words pronounced at this FaceBook link:

www.facebook.com/SaultTribeLanguageAndCulture.

The words in the calendar on the page facing this one are there too. Or you can use the guide below!

Making our Sounds Most letters sound like in English.

Here are the exceptions.

aa sounds like the a in *awesome* **a** sounds like the a in *about*

ii sounds like the e in *be* **i** sounds like the i in *dip*

oo sounds like the o in *go* **o** sounds like the oo's in *book*

e sounds like the e in *Ed* **g** sounds only like it does in *go*

We underlined the syllables that get the emphasis.

Pronounce all the letters. Big deal: "nh" has NO SOUND of its own. It's a sign to say the vowels just before it in a nasal way - as if you had a stuffed up nose from a cold.

Manoomin miinwaa Waabagaa

Giizis: Grain and Leaves-Turning-Color

Moons

by Susan Askwith

Ndakenjigewin - Science

n-da-*ken*-ji-*ge*-win

"investigation" or 'sorting.

E-ndakenjiged - Scientist

e-n-da-*ken*-ji-*ged*

"one who investigates"

E-ndakenjiged n'daaw

e-n-da-*ken*-ji-*ged* n-*daaw*

"One who investigates, I am."

Wiijinakiindiying

wii-ji-na-*kiin*-di-ying

We are working together

Aanke'aataan nendamowinan

aan-ke-*aa*-*taan* nen-da-mo-win-*an*

transferring thoughts/information

Zhitoong naakonigewinan

zhi-*toong* naa-kon-i-*ge*-win-an

'making recommendations/decisions'

Word Scramble!

kidweweniw _____

monadenniwna _____

knaagoneiwnian _____

shween _____

jiidiiniiwnankgay _____

maagandiijib _____

maddagaanwaan _____

wanad _____

gijekneeddan _____

tabadani _____

We're proud of our members e-ndakenjigewin (who are scientists), whose jobs involve solving the problems we've caused Shkakimakwe (Mother Earth). We, all of us, know we are responsible for her health. We are all connected to everything that is. Everything any of us does, influences all of us. These are some traditional teachings we learned from our elders.

In our technological world, crowd-sourcing of data can be valuable, You might be interested in going to www.CitizenScience.gov to see how you could participate in ways that fit your interests, time and talents!

1. How does a scientist freshen her breath?
2. Why isn't there a clock in the library?
3. Why do magicians do so well at school?
4. What did the spider make online?
5. Why is 2+2=5 like your left foot?
6. What's the difference between a teacher and a train?

1. With experi-ments 2. It ticks too much
3. They can handle trick questions
4. A website 5. It isn't right. 6. Teacher says
"spit out that gum". Train says "chew, chew"

Traditional Healing: Native teachings are about a way of life

Traditional healers and elders say that the Great Spirit works through everyone, so that everyone has the ability to heal, whether it's the mother who tends to the scrapes of her child, a friend who eases your pain by kind words or the Healer who heals your sickness. Everything that was put here is healing – the trees, the earth, the animals and the water. In the past, knowledge of the medicines was a natural part of everyone's learning. We knew what plant medicines were for and how to prepare offerings for them. When we needed special help beyond what was common knowledge, we looked to our Medicine People and Healers. This familiarity with the healing properties of the plants that grew around us was empowering. It was something that belonged to the community.

This knowledge is no longer widespread and many of the illnesses that our communities are faced with today were not seen in the past. Many Native people are seeking emotional, mental and spiritual healing for past abuses and traumas, for the pain that they are carrying as a result of what generations of their families went through and for a loss of identity due to separation from family and culture. Others are seeking help for physical illnesses such as diabetes and arthritis that affect Native people in disproportionately large numbers.

Native people know that everything in Creation — the plants, trees, the water, wind, rocks and the mountains — have spirit. As part of Creation, we also are sacred and have spirit. Healing is understood in terms of the spiritual basis of everything.

Our approach to healing is through ceremony. When we put our tobacco down as an offering to these things we call Creation, our spirit is making that connection so that we will be able to get that life source from them. Our healing ways are referred to as traditional healing. This way of

healing is holistic, based on an understanding of the interconnectedness of all life and the importance of balance and harmony in Creation.

The Number Four in Creation

In all of Creation, there are four parts to everything that is natural. There are four parts to the morning, four parts to the afternoon, four parts to the evening and four parts to the night.

The human body has four parts: the arms, legs, trunk and head. A tree has four parts: the roots, branches, trunk and leaves. They are all connected but have different functions.

Just as in Creation all things are connected but have different functions, so our mind, body, spirit and emotions are part of the sacred circle of life and are interconnected. When one of them is out of balance, it affects the others. If you have a physical problem, it is connected to your spirit. If your mental state is out of balance, it will cause emotional turmoil.

Traditional healing is the restoring of balance to the mind, body, spirit and emotions. There needs to be harmony and balance in us just as there is in all of Creation. When that harmony and balance is lacking, sickness ensues.

It is said that a great deal of healing comes from ourselves because we want to be healed. In taking responsibility for our own healing, we may participate in ceremonies.

This can include our daily ceremony of offering tobacco. It can also include other healing ceremonies that we participate in under the guidance of healers and conductors, such as the sweat lodge, the shaking tent, the sun dance, the fast and the vision quest. When you start on a healing journey, you are making a commitment to help yourself, your family and your community.

Although ceremonies differ from first nation to first nation,

basic beliefs are similar. We have all come to take care of the spirit. Use of sacred items such as the pipe, the drum and the eagle feather can help us make the connection with Creation. It is said that all of Creation can give us teachings, that our way is a loving way that teaches us about kindness, caring, sharing, honesty and respect.

When we pray, the spirits that travel with us hear our prayers. They recognize us clearly when we let them know our spirit name. In this way our spirit name is said to be 50 percent of our healing and balance and also, because, with it, we know who we are, we know where we belong, we know where we are going and we know where we came from.

We can approach a traditional healer or medicine person for healing. We can also approach our elders who heal through the sharing of their wisdom and the teachings. When we go to a healer or elder, they ask the Creator for help on our behalf.

They have a gift to heal through spiritual powers which come from the Creator and their spirit helpers and from within themselves.

Healers and medicine people work in a variety of ways. Each healer has their own way and special gift. Healing involves ceremony. When a person comes for doctoring, that is a certain kind of ceremony. When medicine people call in the spirit of the medicines to help, that is also a kind of ceremony.

Some healers know and work with the plants through their connection with the spirits of those plants. Healers and medicine people prescribe medicines specifically for an individual. The way in which the medicine works is not exactly known and is sometimes referred to as "The Great Mystery."

Great respect is shown for the plants that are used in healing. Healers say that the spirit force

of a plant directs them to the plant to use for an individual. Before the plant is picked, the healer puts down a tobacco offering to acknowledge the spirit of the plant. The plant is addressed by its Native name as, it is said, at least half of the healing is done by the spirit of the plant.

Some healers do doctoring, which may involve the extraction of illness. Some Healers describe their way of working as working with energy, the mind and the spirit. Some are seers, some are counsellors, and some heal with their hands.

All traditional healing is holistic. If a person seeks help for an ulcer, it is not only the ulcer that is treated. The root cause of the condition is addressed. The whole person is worked on. Maybe the whole family will be involved in the healing process. Or maybe the person will need to do something for the community.

Referrals to Healers, Elders and Medicine People

As our awareness and knowledge of our traditions and culture increases, so does our honor and respect for these ways. This has not always been the case in our communities.

There are always those who present themselves as Healers, Elders or Medicine People who have not earned that title and may use the teachings and medicines in the wrong way. It is important for everyone, especially young people, to be aware of this and to exercise caution when they seek healing, teachings or advice. It is advisable to consult with people whom you trust to get referrals to respected and recognized Traditional Healers, Elders and Medicine People.

To obtain a referral to a Healer, Elder or Medicine Person in

your area, or to make an appointment in the seven-county service area, call Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine at 906-632-5200, option 9.

Special acknowledgement is given to the following Healers and Elders who contributed their knowledge and understanding of the traditions and culture in the preparation of the brochures from which this article was taken: Jake Aguonia, Garnett Councillor, Harlan Downwind, Roger Jones, Rose Logan, Mary Louie, Dorothy Sam, Nelson (SugarBear) Shognosh, Geraldine Standup and Ella Waukey. Reprinted with permission of Anishnawbe Health Toronto, aht.com.



Full Moon Ceremony Sept. 9

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program's Women's Full Moon Ceremony

Friday, Sept. 9

Social hour 7-8 p.m.

Ceremony starts at 8 p.m.

Located at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building (11 Ice Circle Drive)

Please bring a copper cup or drinking vessel and skirt if available to ceremony.

Women on their moon time may attend (offerings can be made on your behalf).

Please contact Lori, Bree, or Katrina with any questions. 906-632-0236 or 906-632-5268
Masks are recommended.

Fall Ceremonies Oct. 5-9

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program Fall Ceremonies will be held on Sugar Island Oct. 5-9, 2022, at the Mary Murray Culture Camp, 266 Homestead Rd., Sugar Island, Mich. Please call Lori,

Bree, or Katrina at (906) 632-0236, 632-0220, or 632-5268. Please remember moon time teachings.

Fall Releasing Ceremony — Wednesday, Oct. 5 - Sunday, Oct. 9.

Fall Fasting Ceremony — Thursday, Oct. 6 - Sunday, Oct. 9.

Women's Fast for Mother Earth — Saturday, Oct. 8, fasting begins at sunrise and ends at sunset, followed by a sweat lodge and feast.

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program
WOMEN'S FAST FOR MOTHER EARTH
SATURDAY OCTOBER 8th
FASTING BEGINS AT SUNRISE AND ENDS AT SUNSET, FOLLOWED BY A SWEAT LODGE AND FEAST.
MARY MURRAY CULTURE CAMP
266 HOMESTEAD RD. SUGAR ISLAND, MI

PLEASE CALL LORI, BREE, OR KATRINA AT 906-632-0236, 906-632-0220, OR 906-632-5268

PLEASE REMEMBER MOONTIME TEACHINGS

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program
FALL RELEASING CEREMONY
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 5TH - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9TH
Mary Murray Culture Camp 266 Homestead Rd. Sugar Island, MI

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL LORI, BREE, OR KATRINA
906-632-0236, 906-632-0220, OR 906-632-5268
FAX #906-632-5202

SAULT TRIBE TRADITIONAL MEDICINE
FALL FASTING CEREMONY
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 6TH - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9TH
MARY MURRAY CULTURE CAMP
266 HOMESTEAD RD.
SUGAR ISLAND, MI
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL LORI, BREE OR KATRINA
906-632-0236 OR 906-632-5268
FAX 906-632-5202

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program

GERARD SAGASSIGE

2022 September Healer Clinic Hours

September 7, 12, 14, 19, 21, 26
Sault Ste. Marie Health Center
(906)632-0236 Lori Gambardella

September 6th
St. Ignace Health Center
(906)643-8689 or (877)256-0135

September 13th
Manistique Health Center
(906)341-8469 or (866) 401-0043

September 20th
Munising Health Center
(906)387-4721 or (800)236-4705

Any Questions, Please Call Traditional Medicine Program at
906-632-0236 or 906-632-5268

Wild parsnip removed from Odenaang

BY HADLEY REED

Since the discovery of the wild parsnip infestation at the Odenaang housing complex, the tribe's Environmental Department has been hard at work finding a viable solution to the problem.

After exploring many options, the department decided on applying for an AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps team in hopes that they would be able to power through the parsnip and help protect Odenaang residents.

In the past three weeks, those hopes became reality with an amazing AmeriCorps NCCC team coming to the rescue. Providing a total of 219 hours of manual labor and pulling over 6,500 pounds of wild parsnip, the AmeriCorps NCCC team decimated the wild parsnip on the south side of Odenaang. With seven members, the team made quick work of nearly 14 acres of land infested with wild parsnip.

One AmeriCorps NCCC

member said, "Working with the Environmental Department of the Sault Tribe was a unique opportunity to learn about the culture of the Ojibwe People, and environmental conservation through a Native lens. My time in Sault Ste. Marie will be something that I will remember for the rest of my life as wonderful and formative for both my personal and professional interests. Thank you to everyone at the Environmental Department for making the team feel so welcomed."

In the coming weeks Environmental Department employees will continue to monitor the area to ensure no missed wild parsnip plants will go to seed and spread again. Wild parsnip will come back year after year; there is no mechanical control tactic that can completely eradicate an invasive plant. But with the hard work of this AmeriCorps team knocking back the infestation, our people will be able to keep it under control in years to come!



AmeriCorps NCCC volunteers help to remove Odenaang's hazardous wild parsnip.



According to AmeriCorps website, "AmeriCorps NCCC is a full-time, team-based residential service program for 18- to 26-year-olds.

Mission Accomplished

Interns complete 8-week run with Sault Tribe

BY SCOTT BRAND

Eight individuals successfully completed their internships with the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians on July 29 acquiring new skills and life experience that will help propel them in their future careers.

"It's great having the program back," said Assistant Executive Director Jessica Dumbach as the interns convened for their final day.

The paid internships allowed those involved to explore different employment opportunities and build upon that knowledge going forward. Dumbach serves as a good example of the doors that can open having been one of the first to go through the program in the inaugural class of 1997 and she has seen the benefits it has had on others over the years.

The 2022 class of interns

Margaret Jacquelyn Allard completed her internship with Kewadin Casino Marketing after graduating from Lake Superior

State University in May. Allard was born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

James Benoit interned with Management Information Systems (MIS). The 2021 graduate of Sault High is attending Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Mich.

Sawyer Dowd learned about contract law and board resolutions during his internship with the Legal Department. The 2021 Sault High graduate is enrolled at Lake Superior State University.

Jessie Frazier completed her internship at the Sault Tribe Youth Facility working with those up to 17 years of age. The 2018 graduate of St. Ignace High School is attending Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Mich.

Jenna Homminga interned with Education Division and the Recreation Division's Summer Rec Program at Big Bear, work-

ing with both Youth Education and Activities (YEA) and Head Start programs. Homminga, a 2019 Sault High graduate, is attending Grand Valley State University in Allendale, Mich.

Raven McKechnie focused on invasive species during her internship with the Environmental Department. The 2018 Sault High graduate is studying marketing and animal biology at Lake Superior State University.

Joe Nolan's internship was through the Executive Office, where he learned various aspects of office administration and construction oversight. The 2021 graduate of Sault High is attending Bay Mills Community College.

Madison Weingust of Detroit lived with her cousin here in the Sault while interning with the Planning and Development Department. The 2021 Cousino Senior High graduate will be attending Wayne State University in Detroit, Mich.



Photo by Scott Brand

Eight interns representing various educational institutions throughout the state of Michigan celebrated their final day on July 29 completing their individual programs with the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. In front, from left to right are Jenna Homminga, Jessie Frazier, Madison Weingust, and Raven McKechnie, while the back row consists of Margaret "Jacquelyn" Allard, James Benoit, Joe Nolan, and Sawyer Dowd.

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Daisy's Delicious Dishes returns to Chippewa County Fair

BY SCOTT BRAND

Despite the long hours and hard work it entails, Daisy McKechnie-Warner says she is looking forward to returning with her food trailer to the Chippewa County Fair.

"Last year was my first year," said Daisy reflecting on her inaugural experience at this location. "We're supposed to be open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., but I'm usually serving breakfast by 8 a.m."

While she manned the food trailer virtually the entire time, she was quick to point out that she has some help along the way. Her husband, Ben Warner, assists with the set-up and tear downs and is quick to bring in supplies when the food trailer starts to run low. The couple, Daisy added, already have their eye on expanding the menu in the future.

"When I get my big cart running, I want to offer some healthier options," she said.

Daisy explained she entered this business in 2018 with a real small hot dog cart and a cooler.



Three-year-old Alydia Wright purchased a snack while the engines roared during time trials at the Kinross Race Track.

988 provides access to suicide prevention and mental health crisis services

The U.S. has changed the 10-digit National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to 988 – an easy-to-remember three-digit number for 24/7 crisis care. The lifeline, which also links to the Veterans Crisis Line, follows a three-year joint effort by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Federal Communications Commission (FCC), and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to put crisis care more in reach for people in need.

The 10-digit Lifeline number 1-800-273-TALK (8255) will continue to be operational and will route calls to 988. Veterans, service members, and their families can still reach the Veterans Crisis Line with the current number 1-800-273-8255 and press 1, or by chat or text to 838255.



Daisy McKechnie, with help from Cook Stephanie Johnson, delivers freshly made hot dogs, brats and hot sandwiches at crowded venues throughout the area.

Her circuit, at that time, consisted of one day a week at Indian Health Services and working various parades and other special events. "I stuck around the Sault," said Daisy. "The second year, I started (to sell at) the races out in Kinross."

The Kinross Race Track, which is located on the Chippewa

County Fairgrounds, provided her with an opportunity to continue to expand her menu. In addition to the hot dogs — complete with an extensive condiment table — Daisy's Delicious Dishes now includes nachos, chili-dog burritos and brats.

"Were becoming famous for our toasted sandwiches," Daisy added, which includes classics

like the BLT, turkey club, chicken club, grilled cheese, grilled ham and cheese, and even some non-traditional offerings such as the Yooper Club and the Super Yooper Club. "And they all come with a pickle."

Daisy said the special touches to the menu is what fuels return customers.

"You have to find your little

areas where you can stand out," she explained.

Her desire to feed festival-goers, race fans, carnival workers and the youth of 4-H, among others, developed over the years. Daisy said she originally went to Lake Superior State University for business and even utilized what she learned at that institution at GM Trucking.

"I helped my dad (Gene McKechnie) with the managerial side of the business," she said adding that it was mostly doing paperwork where she missed her days of bartending and waitressing.

"I liked to interact with the people," she explained. "Now I like to see them take their first bite of my food and see the smile on their face."

Daisy will be setting up shop near the horse barn for the upcoming Chippewa County Fair and will be delivering those smiles for a minimum of 12 hours a day. She'll rest and take brief breaks at the nearby 5th wheeler parked at the fairgrounds for more than a week. "It's really nice to have it nice and close," she explained of her set-up.

The Chippewa County Fair is from Aug. 30 through Sept. 5.



The portable stand was located alongside the Kinross Race Track for the final run of July, but will move over by the horse barn for the upcoming Chippewa County Fair.



Utilizing a white board for the menu, Daisy's Delicious Dishes is able to make quick updates as inventory changes.

Photos by Scott Brand



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SAIL Disability Network holds open house

By **SCOTT BRAND**

The Superior Alliance for Independent Living (SAIL) Disability Network, located at 1122 E. Easterday Avenue in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., hosted an Open House on Aug. 3, providing the public with an inside look at their various services and an important piece of equipment.

Disability Advocate John Lyons of Native American services outlined a variety of programs that fall under the SAIL banner.

“SPAR offers a lot of different activities,” said Lyons referring to the Single Point for Activities and Recreation program. In the recent past, SPAR has hosted events for snowshoeing, fishing, skiing and fishing.

“We have adaptive equipment,” explained Lyons. “We have all different types of bikes, some you can even peddle with your hands.”

Other activities offered by SPAR, which is designed to help individuals with a disability live healthier lifestyles by participating in social and wellness activities in their communities, include arts and crafts, bowling, dances, sled hockey, kayaking, ice skating and cooking classes.

Lyons also pointed to programs that are specifically designed for military veterans, the Michigan Rehabilitation Services program that assists people with finding employment through Michigan Works! And Access for All which provides blueprint reviews for new construction to insure American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.

Lyons detailed a Smart 911 system that is designed to provide

Emergency Dispatchers and First Responders with critical information regarding medications and known health concerns. Getting this information into the system before an emergency arrives can save time and provide quicker care. Lyons also added that in a domestic violence case or other instances where the caller wishes to remain quiet, two-way texting can be accessed under Smart 911.

The star of the Open House, delivered from Marquette for the event, was the recently acquired All-Terrain Wheelchair.

“If they want to go on the beach with their family they can,” said Lyons. “They can go right over a snowbank.”

Accessibility Advocate Jamie Glenn of SAIL demonstrated the Action Trackchair’s capabilities and further explained the program. “The purpose of the wheelchair is to make all areas of the Upper Peninsula accessible to those with limited mobility,” said Glenn.

“It’s honestly a game-changer for anyone who has any accessibility barriers.”

The special wheelchair, with a price tag in the neighborhood of \$15,000, is housed in Marquette. It serves all 15 Upper Peninsula counties and can be reserved for day trips. A special trailer has been built to transport the wheelchair to the ever-changing destinations and at least one SAIL member will accompany the user and provide instructions on how to operate the device.

For more information on any of these programs contact Lyons at (906) 228-5744 or the SAIL toll-free number at (800) 379-7245.



Cody Jodoin of the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan prepares for a welcoming ceremony at the SAIL Disability Network Open House while Disability Advocate John Lyons of Native American Services looks on. The event, which attracted dozens of visitors to the local office at 1122 E. Easterday provided informational resources to those in attendance.

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Executive Director Julie Shaw and Accessibility Advocate Jamie Glenn of the Superior Alliance for Independent Living (SAIL) Disability Network featured the Action Trackchair during an Open House on Aug. 3.



Walking on...

THEODORE THOMAS HEABEART



Theodore Thomas Heabeart passed away on Tuesday, Aug. 9, 2022, at the age of 80. After several months of declining health, he died peacefully in his sleep. Theodore was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie tribe of Chippewa Indians and was very proud of his heritage.

He was born in Detroit, Mich., in 1942. In 1943 Theodore's father, Theodore N. Heabeart served in World War II which led his mother, Isabelle (McNally) Heabeart to return to her family in Munising, Mich. He spent most of his childhood on the farms helping his grandfather Thomas McNally. Later he returned to Detroit and in 1963, Theodore married the love of his life Sharon (Loomis) Heabeart. Together they resided in Fraser, Mich., and Harper Woods, Mich., though his heart and soul always remained grounded in the Upper Peninsula.

Theodore, also known as Tom, loved hunting, fishing and art. But nothing compared to his love for his family. Theodore was survived by wife Sharon and children, Jeanette, Thomas (Peggy), Katherine, Dena (Andy), Paul and Jennifer. Grandchildren, Martin (Melissa), Jacob, Jordan (Blake), Leah, Jacklyn, Andrew and Peyton and a great-grandson, Lane. He was preceded in death by Theodore N. (father), Isabelle (mother) Dennis (brother) and Martin (son in-law).

No one who met Theodore forgot his infectious smile, his beautiful blue eyes, his kindness, and loving spirit. Even when he didn't have the means, he helped, supported, and cared for many and always made others feel like part of the family.

PATRICIA ARLENE TAYLOR

Patricia Arlene Taylor, 62, of Battle Creek, Mich., went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 at Glenn Arbor Hospice Residence.

She was born on Sept. 27, 1959, the daughter of Charles Edward Collins and Loretta (McKerchie) Peterson.

Patricia is survived by mother and step-father, Robert "Pops" and Loretta Peterson, her husband of 41 years, William David Taylor; sons, David (Lori) Taylor and William Taylor; daughter, Heather Taylor; 5 grandchildren; 4 Great Grandchildren; Brother, William Collins; Sisters, Jean

Cooper and Joan (Bryan) Halder. She is preceded in death by her father, Charles Collins.

Patricia enjoyed arts and crafts, the outdoors and watching Olympic curling.

A Celebration of Patricia's life was held at the American Legion Post #257, 7475 B Drive North, on Sunday, March 27, 2022. Memorials may be made to: American Cancer Society. Arrangements by the Baxter Funeral & Cremation Service. www.baxterfuneral.com

ROBERT "BOB" ROYLANCE PETERSON

Robert "Bob" Roylance Peterson, 84, of Montello, Wisc. passed away Sunday, May 1, 2022 at St. Mary's Hospital in Madison, Wisc.

Bob was born in Wauwatosa, Wisc. on June 9, 1937 to Walter and Margaret (Tomilson) Peterson. He moved to the U.P. at a young age and graduated from Sault Ste. Marie High School in 1955. Bob later moved to Madison and retired after a 35-year career caring for animals in the zoology department at the University of Wisconsin. He married Loretta (McKerchie) Collins on December 19, 1992 and together they moved to Montello in 1994. Bob was always an animal lover and loved to dance. He also enjoyed his trips to Florida, hunting, camping as well as bowling. He will be missed by his many friends and family.

Bob is survived by his wife, Loretta, four children: Daniel (Colleen), Timothy (Cathy), Denise (Dennis) Muth and Pamela Peterson and three step-children: William Collins, Jean (Brian Dillard) Cooper and Joan (Bryan) Halder as well as step son-in-law, Bill Taylor. He is also survived by 17 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren as well as two sisters: Frieda (Chester) Baker and Vikki (Randy) Ohlrich. Bob is further survived by in-laws: Bernice Roberts, Carol (Robert) Lawrence, Irene (James) Sears, Beverly (Dennis) Watson, Michael McKerchie, Raymond (Sue) McKerchie, Russell (Linda) McKerchie and Daniel (Loris) McKerchie as well as many other extended family members.

Bob is preceded in death by his parents, step-daughter, Patricia Taylor and four sisters and two brothers.

Honoring Bob's wishes, private services will be held and he will be laid to rest at Oak Lawn Chapel Gardens, Sault St. Marie, Mich.

Crawford Funeral and Cremation Service of Montello and Oxford is honored to be serving the family.

CELIA MARY O'NEIL

Celia Mary O'Neil, 85, of Marine City Mich, surrounded by the love of her family, walked on to meet her Lord peacefully on July 16, 2022. Celia was born on March 31, 1937 to William and Eunice (Sly) O'Neil in

Gould City, Michigan.

Celia is survived by her five children, Deborah (David) McNeill, David Watson, Kenneth (Ana Patricia) Watson, Regina (Susan DeYoung) Watson, Kimberly Watson, as well as brother Eugene (Lesley) O'Neil and much beloved grand-dog Lester.

She also leaves behind seven grandchildren, Christian (Tiffany) Brown, Heather (Aaron Zook) Brown, Amanda, Sara, Katie Watson, Gregory (Carlie) Watson, Angela (Lance Pitcel) Watson and 10 great grandchildren, Kirsten, Kailey, Seth, Sawyer Brown, Scott, Georgie, Ava, James Watson, William Watson, and Thea Pitcel.

Walking on before her: daughter-in-law Carol Watson, parents William and Eunice O'Neil, sisters Lorraine Jones, Darlene (James) Barr, Marilyn (Jerry, son Shawn) Hudman and brothers Edward (Leda, son Russell) O'Neil, William (Brenda) O'Neil, and John O'Neil.

Celia enjoyed quilting, her flower garden, and music, particularly Josh Grobin. She was a lifetime member and elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, as well she



was a member of Our Lady on the River Parish Holy Cross Church, Marine City, Mich. Cremation has taken place with interment to be determined at a later date. R.I.P. mom

KENNETH J. ERMATINGER

Kenneth Joseph Ermatinger Sr., 73, of Hessel, Mich., passed away on July 28, 2022, at Pennington Home in Pickford, Mich. Ken was born on Dec. 26, 1948, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to parents Reginald W. and June (Zyrd) Ermatinger.

Ken grew up in the Sault Ste. Marie area. After graduating high school, he went on to work on the Great Lakes shipping boats. He met the love of his life, Betty Lou Smith, and they married on Feb. 4, 1993, and raised a family together. Ken owned and operated a survey and architect company "ESA" before starting work with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Ken worked for many departments within the tribe and finally ended his career as Executive Director of the Gaming Commission after over 30 years and retired in January 2020.

Ken was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the Eagles

club.

Ken loved spending time with his family and grandchildren. He enjoyed taking his family on trips to their favorite spot "Palm Springs, Calif." He can be remembered doing the thing he loved, which was sitting on his deck in the summertime with his faithful companion, Domino, watching people and boats go by. He was an amazing husband, father, and grandfather and will be missed by so many.

Ken is survived by his wife, Betty; children, Chris (Sarah) Ermatinger, Ken Jr. (Laura) Ermatinger, and Jason (Lisa-Jo) Smith; grandchildren, Ken Ermatinger III, Jayden Smith, Erin Ermatinger, Isabella Ermatinger, Payton Smith, Justin Pollard, Peter Treleaven, Alexandria Brown and Avery Brown; siblings, Mike Ermatinger, Cheryl (Rich) Swanson, and Edie (Jerry) Reno; as well as many others.

Kenneth was preceded in death by his parents, Reginald and June Ermatinger.

Services were held on Sunday, July 31, 2022, at the Hessel Community Tribal Center, 3355 N 3 Mile Road, Hessel, MI 49745, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Interment will take place at Cedar Cemetery in Cedarville, Mich., at a later time. The family was assisted by Galer Funeral Home.

See "Walking on," page 12



Sault Tribe Members

FREE L.S.S.U. Lakers Basketball and Volleyball Tickets

Game Dates available at LSSULAKERS.COM

Proof of Tribal Membership Required
Limited Availability
First-Come, First-Serve

REQUEST TICKETS BY EMAILING:
bookthebear@saulttribe.net
 Indicate game dates and provide copy of tribal card

Walking on continued...

From "Walking on," page 11
JAMES W. YOUNG

James Willard "Frisky" Young, 83, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2022 at the Hospice of the EUP - Hospice House.



James was born on May 3, 1939, on Sugar Island. He graduated with the Loretto Central Catholic High School Class of 1958. James served his country in the U.S. Army, and was stationed in Germany during the early 1960's. On Oct. 22, 1966, he married Elizabeth Trudeau at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

James was employed as a lineman at the Soo Locks. He also worked many years as a heavy equipment operator. He was a member of the Operating Engineers Local #324, American Legion Post #3, and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He loved to play league cribbage, tend to his large garden, and raise chickens and pigs. James also enjoyed spending time on his property on Sugar Island, fishing and milling lumber.

Frisky will be remembered by his easy-going attitude, generosity, and steady, grounding nature. He loved to drive his tractor, give away vegetables from his garden, spend time at the "shack" on Sugar Island, go on country drives with his wife, and visit with his beloved grandchildren. Some of his favorite moments in life were hitchhiking across the country in his youth and enjoying the comradery he fostered during his service in the U.S. Army. Frisky was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, and dear friend to many. Life will not be the same without him, but his spirit lives on with our ancestors, and he will forever be missed.

James is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; his sons: Clarence Young and James (Sue Menard) Young, both of Sault Ste. Marie; his daughter; Elaine (Eric) Clement of Kingsley, Mich.; four grandchildren: Alicia, Alex, Autumn, and Jamey; as well as three great-grandchildren: Jim,

Tony and Danny.

He is also survived by his lifelong friend Bob LaLonde and life-long special cousins Henry Bouley and Mick Frechette. James was preceded in death by his parents: Anthony and Catherine (Marshall) Young.

A visitation was held Monday, Aug. 15, 2022, at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building with a pipe ceremony and sharing later that evening. On Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2022, a funeral ceremony was held with readings, a veteran ceremony and drumming at the ceremonial building.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be given to Hospice of the EUP.

Arrangements are in the care of C.S. Mulder Funeral Home and Cremation Services. Condolences may be left online at <http://www.csmulder.com>.

JAMES CLIFFORD MCCALL

James "Jim" McCall, 74, of Sault Ste.

Marie, Mich., passed away July 30, 2022, at Hospice House of the EUP in Sault Ste. Marie.

He was born May 3, 1948, in Sault Ste. Marie to Russell and Sadie (LaSage) McCall.

The American Legion was a big part of Jim's life. He was the commander of the Sons of the American Legion. Jim coached hockey for over 20 years and was on the Sault Hockey Association Board of Directors. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and loved to go on long car rides. Jim retired from LSSU but while he was still working, he enjoyed playing softball in the employee recreational league.

Jim is survived by his wife, Terry L. (Clow) McCall who he loved to call "Toots;" son, Jim (Debi) McCall; daughter, Tina Popoola; stepchildren, Brandi (Tim) Adams, and T.T. Talentino; brother, Russell McCall; beloved niece, Lorie Tallmen, who was a great caregiver to Jim, helping him in many ways until the very end; previous wife, Frances McCall; 12 grandchildren, Stephanie, Kyle, Niki, Scotty,



Joey, Nate, KK, Travis, Kendra, Kullen, Parker, and Sydney; and five great grandchildren, Nathaniel, Raymond, Ariella, Grayson, and Sonny.

Jim's grandchildren and great grandchildren were his pride and joy. Jim is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, lifelong friends of the Westend, and many, many more friends. Jim was a friend to everyone.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents; sisters, Frances (Ed) Tallmen, Shirley Bishop and Bonnie Jean; nephews, Edwards Tallmen and Raymond McCall; niece, Theresa McCall; and good friend, "Son-A-Gun."

A memorial service was held Aug. 7 at the American Legion Post 3 in Sault Ste. Marie, with Carl Eagle officiating. Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.galerfuneralhomes.com.

ERIC CHARLES FALLSTICH

Eric Charles Fallstich, 62, aka. "Moby", of Mackinac Island, Mich., passed away unexpectedly on June 29, 2022 in Watertown Wisc.. Eric was born in St. Ignace, Mich. on February 9,

1960 to Mary Vernabelle Smith and William Henry Fallstich. Eric spent his childhood, and majority of his early adulthood growing up in the U.P. and met and married Betty Mohr in Lansing, Mich. in 1981. Eric was a supportive military spouse for 26 years and a dedicated father to their three children.

Eric spent much of his working years in the construction and manual trade industry as a foreman. In his free time, he loved to visit with his family and friends, watch sports, and go for long walks. He was an avid sports fan, a natural government historian, a dog lover, and a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Eric is survived by his 3 children Jessica J. Fallstich, Erich A. Fallstich and Chelsea A. Fallstich; grandchildren Anthony and



Kayleigh; as well as many nieces, nephews and extended family. He is preceded in death by his parents; his step father, Claire Edward; his sisters, Mary Hazel Skelton, Nova Jean Cowell, Julie Ann Strader and brother, William Raymond Fallstich.

Eric had a natural appreciation and curiosity for the world while accepting all its flaws and short comings with humility and understanding. We would like to remember that as difficult as times were, he always loved his family and his friends dearly.

No services were held. Hafemeister Funeral Home and Cremation Services served the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at Hafemeisterfh.com.

DONALD R. JEWELL

Donald Ralph Jewell, 84, of Sugar Island, Mich., passed away Aug. 1, 2022, in Sault Ste.

Marie, Mich. He was born Oct. 1, 1937, in Monroe, Mich., to

Harry and Ethel (George) Jewell.

Donald was a loving family man and a great father and grandfather. He loved old cars and was a tree expert.

Donald is survived by his sons, Donald L. Jewell and Rodger Lee Jewel; daughters, Chevone Jewell Montri and Deanna L. Jewell Bussell; a sister, Ruth Ann Jewell Cady; 20 grandchildren, and many great grandchildren.

Donald was preceded in death by his parents; and sons, Harry W. Jewell, and Larry G. Jewell.

Per Donald's wishes cremation has taken place. A private celebration of life is planned for a later date. Clark Hovie Galer Funeral Home assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be left at www.galerfuneralhomes.com

BONNIE JEAN JEWELL

Bonnie Jean Jewell, 76, of Cheboygan, Mich. peacefully passed away on July 24, 2022 surrounded by loved ones, after a difficult battle with lung disease. Bonnie was born on October

28, 1945 in Detroit, Mich., the daughter of Clarence and Winifred (Graham) Brooks.

She was a graduate of Cheboygan High School and spent more than 35 years working for Fox Valley and Ferret Instruments as a production supervisor.

Bonnie was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and enjoyed reading, gardening in one of her many beautiful flower beds, and spending time working on her family tree. She also enjoyed going to the casino for entertainment.

Bonnie was a kind, thoughtful, witty individual that would always put others before herself. She married the love of her life, George Jewell, at the age of 16 and celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on July 21, 2022, before her passing. She had three children, 2 sons, George and Robert and one daughter, Tina. For the past 29 years she has also cared for her brother Barry Brooks and had a special place in her heart for him and all children with Down Syndrome. She was the rock of her family and loved by many.

Bonnie is survived by her husband, George, 2 sons, George William (Colleen) Jewell and Robert Jewell, and daughter Tina (Mike) Kennedy, 6 grandchildren, Jacob (Valerie) Jewell, Sarah Jewell, Ryan (Chelsea) Jewell, Julian Jewell, Sophia Kennedy and Peyton Kennedy.

Bonnie also leaves behind her sister, Judy (Dick) Bellant and 4 brothers, Barry Brooks, Terry Brooks, Tom Brooks and Lawrence Plaunt, as well as many beloved in-laws, nephews, nieces and longtime friends.

Bonnie was preceded in death by her parents, Clarence and Winifred Brooks and grandson, Timothy Jewell.

A celebration of Bonnie's life was held at the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Cheboygan on Saturday, Aug. 13, 2022, for family and friends.



Positive emotions and behaviors are contagious

BY HOLLY TIRET, MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION

As adults, you may have noticed that meanness and bullying behaviors are contagious.

You may have observed these bullying behaviors in young children, teens and even in adults. When there is a culture of acceptance for cruelty or other forms of negative interactive behaviors, it can seem overwhelming. You may wonder what you can do to foster more kindness, compassion and empathy within yourself and those around you. It is possible.

Just as meanness and cruelty are contagious, positive emotions and behavior are also contagious.

In an American Psychological Association article, author Lea Winerman explains that humans have millions of mirror neurons that cause us to mimic each

other's behaviors, emotions and facial expressions. Mirror neurons are why we tend to smile when someone smiles at us, or why we wince when we see someone hurt or injured. These neurons are also why children's attitudes and behaviors are so contagious.

According to an article from StopBullying.gov, making intensive efforts to encourage empathy and other social skills in children can have immediate and long-lasting results. For example, 80% of the time bullying happens there are bystanders who may be able to make a positive shift in the situation. They state that 57% of the time, bullying stops in less than 10 seconds when peers intervene on behalf of the person who is being bullied.

Encouraging positive emo-

tions early on has an enormous impact on the future of a child socially, emotionally and academically. Adults can promote positive social and emotional health early on by fostering kindness, compassion and empathy. Talking about these emotions and behaviors daily is important; however, modeling those behaviors has the most impact. When you use words to describe their emotions, you are modeling pro-social behaviors of empathy. Notice and comment when they listen to each other, take turns, stay calm and accept responsibility for their own behaviors.

The MSU WorkLife Office website recommends that besides having a shared mission, goals and values, you can contribute to a more positive work atmosphere by modeling positive behaviors.

Remember those mirror neurons? Be respectful to everyone you interact with. Show appreciation for your colleagues either through a note, or a personal comment. Take responsibility for your own actions and remember everyone makes mistakes. Welcome and appreciate diversity. The best environments assure everyone can contribute their strengths and ideas.

Knowing that humans have millions of mirror neurons that cause us to mimic each other's behaviors, emotions and facial expressions, you have a choice. Just as callousness and cruelty can spread, positive emotions and behaviors are also contagious.

Do what you can to foster more kindness, compassion and empathy within yourself and those around you. It is possible.

MSU Extension offers a variety of classes to help you improve your social and emotional health. Stress Less with Mindfulness is a five-lesson series that introduces concepts of mindfulness such as mindful breathing, eating, walking, thinking and laughing. You can search for more classes by visiting our Mindfulness for Better Living and RELAX: Alternatives to Anger websites, or to sign up for a class you can go directly to our online referral site at https://www.canr.msu.edu/alternatives_to_anger/learn-more-refer-to-our-programs.

For more information, visit <https://extension.msu.edu>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <https://extension.msu.edu/experts>, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

Housing holds annual health and safety fair



Luna DeVoy, 7, at the annual Sault Tribe Housing fair.



Sault Ste. Marie Fire Department Capt. Nick Vaught, Engineer and Fire Inspector Gerald Skonieczny, and fire fighters Allen Hipps, and Tristan Cooper with Chloe, 4, and Gabby Monck, 7.



L-R: Riya Rutledge, Robert Lapine holding Aelianne Trimble, 18 months, Anna Lapine, and Cindy Lapine.



L-R: Diane Pepper Resource Center Victim Advocate Mary Jo Jenkins and Legal Advocate Chrissy Menard, with Shanna Roberson (top right), Kayson Perkins, 4, Keegan Roberson, 7, Aiden Weber, 7, and Kamden Perkins, 5.



Grandmother Debbie Pavlat with Chloe Monck, 4



Maxyn Nolan, 7, and Ray McCall, 5.



Sault Tribe Housing Resident Services Specialist Lisa Salminen was the event coordinator.



Rebecca Fuller (left) at the AmeriCorp Senior table.



For kids born just before and during the pandemic, the world has been very small. But now that the safe and effective COVID-19 vaccine is authorized for those 6 months and up ... it's about to get a whole lot bigger.

Michigan.gov/KidsCOVIDVaccine

Sault Tribe members gather in Newberry for 17th Annual Youth Empowerment Powwow



Head Female Dancer Rita Bouley and Head Male Dancer Richard Lewis.



Head Veteran Nick VanAlstine held the MIA staff leading the flag procession during grand entry.



Above, L-R: Austin Hoffmeyer, 12, of Bark River, Russell Kern, 14, of Newberry and Forest Lee, 17 of Hessel took on apprentice roles during the ceremonies, while a trio of 10-year-old girls, (right) L-R: Kaya Erkintalo, Cyanna Carginan and Kinsleigh Hoffmeyer wait ahead of the powwow.



Sault Tribe's Baawaating Singers.



Mary Goetz, 7, Ava Cornish, 9, Elizabeth Reiner, 9, and Ada Bowerman, 8, represented Munising Youth Education and Activities.



Above, Jessa Hoffmeyer, 7, with Youth Leader Kelly Constantino out of Escanaba. Below, Youth Education and Activities summer workers, Trent Morrow and Jasmine Hickman, attended the event. Morrow is a student at Sault High about to enter his senior year, while Hickman attends Rudyard Area Schools and will be going into ninth grade.



Above, a group of participants pose for the camera while below a shawl dance is underway.



Photos by Scott Brand

Above, Jackie Minton of the YEA Program presented Ed Furton with an Ojibwe applique shirt she made for the event, while below more dancers wait in the wings. To the right, Richard Lewis' ornately-crafted bustle drew the attention of virtually all in attendance in his capacity as head male dancer.



Austin Hoffmeyer, left, assists Emcee Cal Burnside.

Sault Tribe Community Health

2023 Flu Clinics

Check flu clinic schedule for your area and Mark Your Calendars!

FREE flu shots for:

- Sault Tribe members
- Members of a federally recognized tribe
- Health Division Employees

FLU SHOTS ARE A \$10 CO-PAY FOR NON-NATIVE SPOUSES

SAULT / KINROSS AREA
Kinross Rec Center
 Wed., Sept. 21 1 - 3 p.m.
DRIVE -THRU FLU CLINIC & HEALTH INFO (18 years old and older)

Big Bear Arena Parking Lot
 Monday, Sept. 19 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
DRIVE -THRU FLU CLINIC & HEALTH INFO (18 years old and older)

ESCANABA AREA
Escanaba YEA Building, 1226 Wigob
 Friday, Sept. 30 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Friday, Oct. 7 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
DRIVE THRU - 18 years and older

ST. IGNACE AREA
Little Bear Arena
 Wednesday, Sept. 28...11 a.m. - 2 p.m.
DRIVE -THRU FLU CLINIC & HEALTH INFO (18 years old and older)

St. Ignace Health Center
 (2ND FLOOR CONF ROOM)
 Monday, Oct. 3...9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Friday, Oct. 14...9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Monday, Oct. 17...9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
 Wednesday, Oct. 26...9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

NEWBERRY AREA
Newberry Tribal Health Center
 Thursday, Oct. 6.....9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. & 1 - 3 p.m.
 Tuesday, Oct. 182 - 5 p.m.
DRIVE THRU - 18 years and older

HESSEL, DETOUR, DRUMMOND AREA
DeTour Tribal Health Center, 200 Superior
 Friday, Sept. 309 - 11 a.m.
DRIVE -THRU FLU CLINIC & HEALTH INFO (18 years old and older)

Hessel Tribal Health Center
 Monday, Oct. 109 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Monday Oct. 179 a.m. - 2 p.m.
DRIVE -THRU FLU CLINIC & HEALTH INFO (18 years old and older)
 Friday, Sept. 30 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

MANISTIQUE AREA
Manistique Tribal Health Center
 Monday, Oct. 39 - 12 a.m. & 1 - 4 p.m.
 Monday, Oct. 109 - 12 a.m. & 1 - 4 p.m.
DRIVE THRU - 18 years and older


MARQUETTE AREA
Marquette Tribal Health Center
Behind the building -1229 W Washington St.
 Saturday, Oct. 1 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Thursday, Oct. 13.....1 - 4 p.m.
DRIVE THRU - 18 years and older

MUNISING AREA
Munising Tribal Health Center
North parking lot off of M-28
 Saturday, Oct. 8 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
 Wed., Oct. 12 1 - 4 p.m.
DRIVE THRU - 18 years and older

ADULTS, if you are not able to attend our drive-thru flu clinics, please call your clinic below to schedule an appointment:

CHILDREN needing a flu vaccine: please call your clinic to schedule an appointment on an alternate day.

Escanaba Health Center341-1836	Munising Tribal Health Center387-4721
Hessel Tribal Health Center.....484-2727	Newberry Tribal Health Center293-8181
Manistique Tribal Health Center ...341-8469	Sault/Kinross Community Health..632-5210
Marquette Tribal Health Center ...225-1616	St. Ignace Tribal Health Center643-8689, ext. 34531



CLIP & SAVE

ROAD TO WELLNESS

Sault Tribe Behavioral Health Clients!

**You don't have to miss your appointment
because you don't have transportation!**

**Please don't hesitate to call.
We may be able to help.**

906-635-6075

The Road To Wellness Program is in place to help Adult Tribal Members who have co-occurring disorders or severe mental illness by improving their access to healthcare services. These services include:

- Transportation to and from healthcare appointments, M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Help with scheduling appointments
- Help with health insurance applications

Transporter assistance is primarily provided within our seven-county service area, but can include transportation to services located elsewhere in the state of Michigan if staff and funding are available.

Eligible clients can be transported to and from healthcare services such as: Residential Substance Abuse treatment and detoxification programs, health and behavioral health appointments, and specialty care providers like physical therapy, cardiology, pain management, etc.

For eligible RTWP clients who lack adequate health insurance, we provide certified staff members to assist them in applying for health insurance benefits.

We do not provide transportation for those needing emergency care.

Funded by a Mental Health Block Grant from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services.

Annual Great Lakes fish assessment wrapping up

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Natural Resource Department biologists are wrapping up their annual Great Lakes fisheries assessments that run from early July through August (and sometimes September).

Sault Tribe Lead Fisheries Biologist Brad Silet said the assessments gather information on a wide range of fish species within the Great Lakes. The information collected from their work is used in determining the regulations and management needs of the 2000 Consent Decree, and the management of the Great Lakes as a whole.

Natural Resources Assessment Biologist Jason Smith said the assessment, called the Giigoohn Community Assessment, is a gill-

net survey that attempts to create an index of abundance (not a true count) of most of the fish in the Great Lakes fish community. Smith said, “An index of abundance is a measure of whether a population is growing, shrinking, or remaining the same, and also things like relative abundance can be inferred. If the survey is correctly designed and you catch more lake trout than yellow perch, you can infer that there are more lake trout than there are perch — lots of assumptions, but that is the underlying design.” Smith said they try to complete the entire survey during the time when the summer thermocline is present. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, a

thermocline is the transition layer between the warmer water at the surface and the cooler deep water below. In a thermocline, the temperature decreases rapidly from the upper layer temperature to the much colder deep-water temperature.

Smith said during the survey they try to capture every species, but said some of the very small fish escape detection. “We capture lots of lake trout, lake whitefish, alewife, bloater, suckers — plus some of everything else.” They survey from Bay de Noc in the west, to Drummond Island in the east.

The biologists set nets a minimum of 1-2 times per week during the survey, and pick the nets and fish up the following

day. “Some days we catch few fish, some days we catch lots — thousands are possible if we run into a big school of alewife,” Smith said.

The Natural Resource Department does not try to estimate population abundance from the results of the survey, instead they infer relative abundance of the different fish species. Smith said that as an example, if they catch more whitefish in this year’s survey than they did last year, they can state, with some degree of certainty, there are more whitefish this year than last. Similarly, if they catch more lake trout than lake whitefish this year, they can infer that there are more trout than whitefish.

Management in the Great

Lakes includes much more than just inferring fish populations. Smith said invasive species, pollution, and climate change considerations should all be part of a sound management plan. “The easiest two ‘levers to pull’ are harvest and stocking. In and of themselves, these two options are not nearly enough to manage the Great Lakes,” he said.

The data collected by the tribe’s Natural Resource Department during these annual assessments directly impacts tribal estimates for sustainable harvest amounts. Smith said the department also does considerable research — including this survey — in order to better understand the complicated Great Lakes.



Photos by Jason Smith

The Smallmouth Bass above has lesions from Largemouth Bass Virus (a partnership between Sault Tribe and MSU first documented this in adult Smallmouth Bass) and was caught in the lower St. Mary’s River.



Dave Pine holds a Lake Trout.



A trout from Lake Superior caught in a net as part of the on-going fish assessment.

Are you interested in becoming an ACFS tribal foster parent?

FROM ACFS

Who can become a foster parent?

We are in need of Native American foster parents! Our foster children are in need of foster parents who can relate to their cultural heritage, and provide a loving home. You are not required to own your own home, be married, or give up your job in order to foster children. If you are in need of childcare you may apply for daycare payments for the time that you are working or continuing your education. You will work with the agency to determine what type of placement works best for you and your family.

Why should I become a foster parent?

Children are placed in foster care due to abuse and/or neglect. Without the stability of a loving home, these children are constantly moving from

place to place, and are often left with no opportunity to form positive, loving and nurturing relationships with their caregivers. There is a desperate need for tribal foster care placements. Our children need nurturing adults in their life, especially during times when their families are experiencing a time of crisis or hardship. Currently there aren’t enough culturally appropriate foster homes. This has resulted in some tribal children being placed in homes that do not share their cultural heritage or traditions.

What does it cost to become a foster parent?

There are no fees involved in becoming a foster parent. After completing the licensing process, you will receive a per diem rate to assist with caring for the needs of the child in your care. Additionally, in most cases foster parents receive

clothing allowances for foster children. Medical and dental expenses are also covered by Medicaid.

How can I become a foster care parent?

Contact ACFS and ask to speak to a licensing worker, or email them at the email address listed below. A licensing worker will contact you to discuss any questions you may have. If you are interested in beginning the licensing process one of the licensing workers will work with you to complete the licensing process. Even if you are unsure about becoming a foster parent we encourage you to reach out and ask any questions you may have.

For more information on becoming a foster parent please contact ACFS at (906) 632-5250, toll-free (800) 726-0093, or by email at acfs-foster-homes@saulttribe.net.

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Members: You have a voice!

The Sault Tribe’s Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) 2023 Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) Plan is available for your review. The LIHEAP program is designed to assist in alleviating the burden of high energy costs to eligible Sault

Tribe households in the Sault Tribe’s seven-county service area. How we administer this program is partly determined by YOUR input.

The plan will be available from Aug. 22-Aug. 29, 2022, for comment at www.saulttribe.com the or following Tribal location:

ACFS 2218 Shunk Rd. Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. 49783

Email comments are encouraged to jbye@saulttribe.net.

If you have questions, please contact Juanita Bye, ACFS Director at (800) 726-0093.

Ref: Public Notice /2023 LIHEAP Plan.

Head Start kids learn how to make freezer jam

BY DANIELLE L. KAMINSKI, FAMILY SERVICES COORDINATOR

On Wednesday, July 27, the Sault Tribe Head Start and Early Head start program had the opportunity to learn how to make strawberry freezer jam. We had 12 amazing families that attended this event. We want to give a shout out to Charlene from MSU Extension for providing everything we needed to make the jam and teaching all three classes.

We also want to give a big thanks to Community Health for

donating the awesome canning cookbooks as well as a canning set. Without the community's support these events would not be able to happen.

The kids cut and mashed the strawberries (using kid safe knives). Then they measured the sugar and pectin out and mixed everything together to make their own jam to take home!

The kids enjoyed eating their strawberries and taste testing their own personal jams. We asked the kids what they

wanted to use their jam for. The responses we got were, make a PBJ sandwich! Put it on ice cream or just eat it with a spoon!

It was so great to see the families working together and laughing while making their jam.

After the event we were able to send home a spaghetti dinner with fruit and other extras with each family. We are looking forward to making jam with our families again next year!



Above: Madison Causley, 4, stirs her strawberry mixture. Below, sisters Madison Causley, 4 and Audrea Causley, 8.



Great grandmother Joan Pavia with Princess Simmons, 4, getting instruction from Charlene Brissette from MSU Extension (right) and Sault Tribe Family Services Coordinator Heidi Dragan (center).



Charlene Brissette using a child-friendly knife.



Audrea Causley, 8, with her sliced strawberries.

Photos by Brenda Austin



Danielle L. Kaminski, family services coordinator (left), helps 2-year-old Caroline McKenzie as her mom Diana McKenzie steadies her.



Caroline McKenzie, 2



Photos by Danielle L. Kaminski

Above: Ezra gets help from her mom Lisa slicing strawberries. Below: Blake and his grandpa Joe preparing their strawberries for freezer jam.



Caroline McKenzie, 2, and mom Diana McKenzie.



Great grandma Joan Pavia with Princess Simmons, 4.



Native music in the park night held locally

Photos by Jennifer Dale Burton

Native Music in the Park was held at LSSU Theater Aug. 3 due to rain. Grass dancers, mens traditional, womens traditional, jingle dress dancers, fancy shawl dancers, demonstrated various dances and regalia.



Jingle dress dancers reenact the story of the first jingle dress dancer.



Fancy shawl dancers take the stage.

Mastaw family five generations gather



Five generations: Marie Flowers of Allen Park decided to sit down with a few of her relatives this past summer, all five generations. Joining the great-great-grandmother (from left) was great-grandfather Brian Mastaw of Northville, grandmother Janet Mastaw of Redford, mother Michelle Frush of Redford and her infant son, William.

Above, a 1997 five-generation photo of the Mastaw family. Below, a current photo of, from eldest to youngest, Brian Mastaw of Sugar Island, Mich., father to Janet Mastaw of Petoskey, Mich., grandfather to Michelle Kresnak of Saline, Mich., great grandfather to Megan Frush and great great grandfather to her son Sawyer Medina of Canton, Mich.



YEA gets new student services assistant

The Sault Area YEA Little Learners program for Kindergarten through second grade began Aug. 17, focusing on STEAM learning with a sprinkling of culture. If interested, please contact Terri (tlinacre@saulttribe.net) or (906) 253-1321.

YEA's afterschool program is getting a makeover. It will run four days a week after school till 5:15 p.m. YEA is planning cultural, educational, physical and language activities.

Karen Moses is our new Student Services assistant. She comes to YEA from Gwinn and enjoys summer activities like kayaking and gardening. She is also a skilled Native American



craftsman. Dream catchers and leatherwork are two of her favorites. Moses also has two sweet kitties at home.



Everyone joins in an intertribal dance.



Bear Creek Drum, from both sides of the river.



Fancy dancer regalia is always something to behold.



Josh Homminga and Cathy DeVoy narrated the show.

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.

Clarification from tribe's general counsel



DJ HOFFMAN
CHAIRPERSON

I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of member of the board of directors of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, according to the best of my ability. In discharging those duties, I will honor the seven teachings of our people; wisdom, love, respect, bravery, honesty, humility and truth. Epitch nin kitisiminanbanig. Gaiat gaie. Kaginig gaie. Apine gaie kagigekamig. Ga-aiawigobanen. Anishinabewini-bimadisiwinan. Nin ga manadenan. (Continually as our ancestors were in the past, and are now and will continually be forever, I will honor the Anishinaabe way of life.)

As a Mmember of the board of directors (including the chairman), we take the abovementioned oath. It is not merely a collection of words, but a dedication to the service of our Tribe and its respective membership.

Recently I received clarification from our tribe's general counsel that I am permitted to communicate with the tribal membership pursuant to the Constitution. Originally, this was questioned as a result of tribal Resolution 2022-201:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Tribal Board of Directors hereby suspends DJ Hoffman of any and all duties assigned by resolution, ordinance, motion, or any other action of the Board of Directors in his previous role as Vice Chairperson and his current role as Chairperson including all internal and external committees and communications.

I would, however, like to express my appreciation that the board had the faith in our negotiation team, including myself, in continuing to fight for our treaty rights in consent decree negotiations.

In the past month, our tribe has been inundated with agenda items that are not in accordance with adopted legislation, or tribal practices including legal review and through workshops. Unfortunately, these items have not been positive items, nor do they comply with any of the Seven Grandfather teachings, the oath in which all of us have sworn to serve the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians, or the Constitution of the tribe. In the past month, there have been several "special" meetings of the board of directors. There seems to be a disregard for procedures for workshop, staff information requests,

and overall decorum. Hopefully this will one day be attributed to the large influx of newly elected officials and that proper mechanisms will be in place in the future for the safety of tribal membership, our tribal employees, and the tribe as a whole.

There are many board FB statements assuring the membership that the actions are being proposed because they were election "promises" by candidates in the recently concluded election. Ironically, these are candidates that campaigned on "transparency" and "adhering to tribal laws, swearing to the oath above. Unfortunately, this is not occurring.

In the past few weeks of transparency, many new board have conducted "non transparent" (secret) meetings, and proposed/adopted legislation that violate(s) the constitution of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and their respective oaths. There have been actions to harass and intimidate staff regarding election information in the workplace, utilization of legal staff for personal and political gain, and breaches of confidential membership information pursuant to Chapter 96 from meetings of the board of directors. In addition, there have been actions taken to "selectively" publish only portions of a closes session tribal workshop, while omitting the rest of the recorded information. If one is to be transparent, then all recorded information should be available to the membership that is true transparency. Finally, there are claims that the chairman appointment did not adhere to tribal law, and that it can be changed by an action of the board. These assertions are false.

In accordance with the action of the tribal board, and the tribe's general counsel opinion:

Sault Tribe Vice Chairman DJ Hoffman was appointed chairman by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors at its special meeting held June 27 at Sault Kewadin Casino.

"As the vacancy for the chairperson's seat arose after the tribe's 2022 General Election notice was posted, a special advisory election could not be held pursuant to this restriction set forth in the tribe's Election Code," Jeremy Patterson, the tribe's general counsel, said. "The tribe's board of directors therefore proceeded to fill the vacancy in fulfilling its constitutional mandate by appointing DJ Hoffman as the chairperson of the tribe at the June 27 meeting."

I realized that taking this role would be a challenge, and understand that not everyone will be happy with the results. However, is our duty as representatives of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians to represents the interests of the Tribe as a whole, and adhere to the Constitution of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians,

While I am pleased to be able to actually communicate to the membership, I have been prohibited from doing many items reserved for tribal leadership. I am prohibited from such areas as: official welcoming to dignitaries, powwows, written testimony on behalf of the tribe, or various speaking activities and events such as elder meetings and lun-

cheons. (Unless treaty related.)

I am also currently prohibited from entering the tribe's administrative offices, unless requested by staff in writing, or by written permission from the majority of the tribal board of directors. Therefore, I am unable to regularly enter the administrative offices, or the office of the chairman. This is also a result of Resolution 2022-201, (Vote of No Confidence in DJ Hoffman serving as chairperson of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and suspension of duties effective immediately and until further notice)

It is important to note that there is NO SUCH THING as a vote of no confidence in the Sault Tribe Constitution, or within the United States Constitution. The action taken has no ramifications aside from politically weaponizing tribal legislation to attack and malign others. Unfortunately, this has become the norm within our tribal politics. It should be noted that defamation and libel can have civil and criminal consequences. Tribal board members are not protected by the tribe or their respective positions for statements that they personally make or publish. It is acceptable to disagree with other and have opposing views. It is unacceptable to assert salacious claims (lies) in an attempt to malign, discredit, or shame another.

While the tribal board of directors have passed recent resolutions contrary to tribal law, and tribal legal notifications. It is my hope that these restrictions will be released as there are clearly violations of the tribe's Constitution and can be considered a bill of attainder: Tribes are prohibited from passing any bill of attainder. 25 U.S.C §1302 (9). A bill of attainder is "a legislative act which inflicts punishment without a judicial trial." United States v. Lovett, 328 U.S. 303, 315 (1946). In other words, "legislative acts, no matter what their form, that apply either to named individuals or to easily ascertainable members of a group in such a way as to inflict punishment on them without a judicial trial are bills of attainder prohibited by the constitution." Id. The passage of Resolution 2022-204 constituted a legislative action, that was directed at "a named individual and was intended to inflict punishment by; (1) defamation (2) legislatively prosecuting a tribal member without any judicial due process, (3) Restricting a member of the board of directors from entering their office at the tribal administration building, and (4) prohibiting a tribal member from entering tribal administration to pursue or receive tribal services.

As I have previously stated, I realize that some individuals are new to tribal laws and legislation. There is a learning curve for new board members, just as there is a learning curve for all board members. One example of this occurred at a recently called special meeting of the Board. The agenda was read aloud on two occasions, reaffirmed by the board staff. I read items onto the agenda and off of the agenda. There was a motion to approve the agenda, and a second. There was a vote and the agenda failed. With no

agenda, there is no meeting. The meeting adjourned. There was no motion to amend, there was no gamesmanship. It was following our meeting rules. The following week at a subsequent "special" meeting I read the agenda aloud. Just as I had done the prior week items were read into the agenda, and items were omitted. There was a motion to approve the agenda, a second, and a vote. The agenda was approved and the meeting occurred. Prior to the start of the meeting, I informed the audience that items were added to the agenda and removed from the agenda as discussed in open workshop earlier in the day, there was nothing nefarious or shady occurring in either instance. There was adherence to our adopted policies and procedures.

In the first regularly scheduled meeting of the board of directors since the election, the tribal board has scheduled releasing specific sections of a closed session workshop (not all of the workshop or all workshops), Adopting Food Sovereignty, and Investigating DJ Hoffman.

I take no issue with allowing the membership access to ALL recordings (video and audio) of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors. I do not agree when individuals want to selectively take snippets of conversations in an effort to further weaponize them politically. It's not transparency if it's only what you want others to view.

Food Sovereignty is an excellent item for our tribe to discuss, create a plan, and work towards the establishment of committees, funding and resources. When I first saw the item, I was pleasantly surprised that there was a positive agenda item. Unfortunately, hidden within the resolution was yet another attack. The Food Sovereignty resolution was written to strip the funding from Resolution 2022-122. Resolution 2022-122 was adopted by the tribal Board of Directors from the Unit 1 allocated ARPA funds to enhance Niigaanagizhik with an enclosed addition (Pavillion) and other enhancements.

The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Niigaanagizhik serves an important role in the tribal community. It provides safe public spaces in which tribal members may gather, promotes and reinforces the tribe's cultural heritage, ceremonies, and enhances the broader quality of life for tribal

members.

The tribe's Board of Directors approved Resolution 2022-122 and authorized the tribe's Purchasing Department to create and execute a bidding process for the hiring of an external contractor to construct and facilitate proposed cultural center enhancements, including all necessary and appropriate actions such as budgeting allocations for external construction management and design services for completion of the project.

THIS IS NOT JUST A SUMMER PAVILLION. The Niigaanagizhik improvements included building expansion consisting of an enclosed addition (which had the ability open its doors during appropriate seasons, yet remain fully function in all seasons with heat, AC, and additional bathrooms.) The resolution also includes upgrades to the facility and grounds, that are in dire need of repair and upgrades.

Elders, Community, and the Culture Department have all had input into the proposal and RFP. The items identified as improvements to the existing facility included: Replacement repair of current indoor fireplace, repair/replace outdoor decks, add acoustic tiling to existing building, carpet west side of existing building, add storage building exterior for facility, replace wall divider in existing facility, update HVAC in existing facility, increased storage in mechanical room – existing, generator for entire facility, improvements to lodge including ventilation.

There is no reason that food sovereignty cannot be done with unobligated ARPA funding. Stripping the funds from Niigaanagizhik is not acceptable. Without our culture and language, food sovereignty is just food!

PRIORITIES

As a board member it is my goal to move our tribe forward. It is not my goal to get involved in petty squabbles because of personal likes and dislikes. The common theme should always be to approach each topic, each vote based on the betterment of the tribe as a whole.

Sincerely,

DJ Hoffman

Cell: (906) 203-0510

Tribal E-mail: djhoffman@saulttribe.net

Personal E-mail: djwhoffman@hotmail.com

GoFundMe help for tribal member hurt in accident

(Editor's note: This request has been confirmed.)

A GoFundMe donation page has been set up for Sault Tribe member Levi Lamoreaux by his cousin Ronald Salerno, who wrote: On July 28, 2022, Levi was involved in a very serious motorcycle accident due to another driver and was not at fault. Levi was airlifted to Ocala Regional Medical Center. The air flight crew gave him a 2 percent chance of making it. Some of the injuries he received was a broken spine C1 through C7, broken clavicle, road rash and a brain injury. Levi has battled

and is coming back with all of his willpower. If you know Levi or you're in his circle, he is a great man and he would literally give you the shirt off his back. The doctors are saying he is going to need aggressive rehabilitation that is very expensive and it will take months for him to return to a normal life. Levi does not have medical insurance and anything that you can donate would be greatly appreciated by myself and the family. Thank you.

Please go to www.gofundme.com and look under Levi Lamoreaux to make a donation.

Moving forward for responsible change



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

I'm sorry I missed the last report and I did not have a chance to acknowledge the retired and past leaders.

It is with respect and sincere gratitude to wish all the past leaders for the hard work and dedication to the people and their respective units. I had a very good relationship with Kim Gravelle, Catherine Hollowell, Keith Mas-saway, Denise Chase and Charles Matson. Every single one brought strengths to the table and I will miss your leadership in those seats. Best to all of you for all the work for our tribal nation. I still plan to seek out your advice as elders of the tribe and again, wish you all good health and lots of family time.

I'm going to attempt to state my position in the appointing of the chair and other recent items. This decision, along with all others, is difficult and not done mindlessly. I supported appointing a chair who had experience and knowledge of our government relationships, treaty rights negotiations, legal items that we have been working on within the last months and years, business and project commitments, etc.

This was a decision to attempt to keep our nation stable. This is not a school board or committee

that we are running daily. It's a nation with a Constitution, codes, laws, court system, law enforcement, health care facilities, programs and services and a major workforce that demands stability. I hope that, moving forward, all of the board can work together to stabilize our markets, protect our treaty rights, protect all of our laws, make good responsible change to policy and prioritize services to the members and team members. I have worked with so many past leaders — change is good but it also needs certain stability, knowledge and experience for a government to keep the ship steady. I commit to working with all the newly elected representatives for our continued growth and success. Again, I've worked with many great people, so responsible and professional progress is what I will continue to do.

As in most past elections many always speak about amendments to the Constitution, policy change and reducing board salary. In the past I have supported all the above and will continue to do so. In fact, I have reduced my salary when we met budget restrictions and have dedicated a percentage of my salary to our emergency needs funds. I have been involved in policy changes that affect team members and have always voted to move constitutional changes forward. This all can be seen in our board meeting minutes and other documents. I look forward to those discussions and will support advancements toward this responsibly. I truly believe that using these items to divide a government is irresponsible and damaging — all can be done with planning and professional discussion to get there if that's truly what elected officials want to move to. (Watch close).

Our YEA Department hosted and helped the 17th annual Youth

Empowerment Powwow in Newberry this past month. I want to thank all the YEA staff, students and volunteers that made this possible to educate and teach our young ones about hosting and participating in our cultural. We have done this for so many years and I understand this was the biggest one to date. If you get a chance to look at great things on Facebook, check out the YEA site and view the pictures of the kids in the Grand Entry. It's an amazing sight to see and a true testimony to what our staff provide and encourage our young people. I could not be more thankful to them and our communities.

We will be meeting with the Housing Division this month to discuss locations and projects to construct more housing in Unit 2. We have a set amount budgeted to provide more housing (all units have AARPA funds to do this) and we will be seeking input for our construction of a new community center for all to use in our unit. Land has always been an issue and with both housing sites in our areas that will be the main focus as we already have the established trust land. In past reports I asked that all who needed housing complete applications so that we have better data on the needs, so I remind all to do that again, it's every day that members reach out to me about the need in ALL units so I truly understand that this is a priority for our families, elders and single people. I look forward to moving in this direction.

We are facing difficult times and there are many items on the recent board agendas that are contentious. As you have seen from me, I don't take part in the Facebook debates as I will not govern via Facebook sites and do not take part in the often-hurtful dialog that takes place. I will look at each and

every fact, legal recommendation and history on each item that is brought forward. It's frustrating when most members do not have to opportunity to know all the facts behind what we are expected to vote on (our communication is terrible and I work very hard to advocate to get better on that) our website has much more information on that so please visit often. I was elected to make decisions for us and that is never done lightly or without responsible thinking or knowledge on the item.

The above was written before the Aug. 8, 2022, board meeting.

Last night, we treaded on new ground to do a couple things that have not been done in the past. The board voted to release a small portion of a closed workshop discussion. I voted for this as I have nothing to keep from members as how I represent and what I discuss, but although I did vote for this, I attempted to speak last night to get all the workshops open to the public but the majority voted we could not continue to ask questions or have dialog on the resolution. In all the years of being on the board, this is the most frustrating situation to be in, to be shut down in mid discussion/sentence when trying to understand a resolution or intent of one. I am very disappointed in the new board members who voted to close our discussions down during this vote. With that being said, I want to invite anyone to contact me about any questions as to this released workshop discussion because it will NOT be in full content nor will you hear the entire discussion as again it was only a small portion of the discussion As stated above, this is dangerous, I believe it has ill intent and to make matters even worse, the board member that placed the item on agenda did not even show up for the workshop. Why place an item

on a workshop agenda and then not even show to discuss? I hope we move past this nonsense soon and get to work on the real items all campaigned on because I'm willing to listen, discuss and move on good change.

So, I will continue on the best I can. I have experience working with many great leaders and I will seek that out as I do believe change can be good. I will stay out of the muck and move us forward because, make no mistake, when we are in fighting, investigating, power struggling, we are weak and vulnerable as a tribe. It's very unhealthy for our government, and all our staff; the politics will trickle down to the services to the members and the success of our businesses and I take that very seriously. It will hurt us...I invite new items and changes that benefit our members and I will advocate to move to those.

I would like to take a this opportunity to recognize the recent passing of Ken Ermatinger. He worked his entire life for our people and he continued to do so even when he was retired. I appreciate all his work throughout the many years he gave us.

In closing, I am looking forward to working with our community on hosting our annual powwow in Hessel again this year and please remember Newberry will be hosting theirs on Sept. 17. (If you are interested in helping, please contact Lois at the Newberry tribal center.) This will be a good time to reconnect with community and old friends. I look forward to visiting and seeing everyone around the circle and fires again. Take good care of each other.

Baamaapii — as always, if you want to reach me or meet contact me at lcausley@saulttribe.net, (906) 322-3818 or home (906) 484-2954.

Kim Hampton updates Unit IV membership



**KIMBERLY HAMPTON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Aniin kina waya. This past month has been a busy and filled month. I have attended many workshops, meetings, and community events. One of the main items that I have been working on over the last month was securing funding for the 2022 U.P. State Fair wristbands so that all Unit IV registered, school-aged Sault Tribe children could receive a free wristband on Thursday, Aug. 18, which is Native American Day at the U.P. State Fair. I had been notified that the fund used to purchase wristbands in previous years had a transfer of

funds prior to myself taking the oath of office, leaving the fund with not enough money left to cover the wristbands we would need. I spent a lot of time brainstorming to figure out how to fundraise for the money but did not have enough time. Well, with much appreciation and respect for Unit V Representative Tyler LaPlaut, Unit IV was given a loan from the Unit V fund in order to cover the cost of the wristbands. We also received an anonymous donation to cover the \$500 vendor fee. Chi miigwech to this individual for donating this money to help make it possible for Units IV and V to distribute wristbands. Chi Miigwech to Tyler LaPlaut for this generous loan, making it possible for our Unit IV Sault Tribe children to receive a free wristband on Native American Day at the 2022 U.P. State Fair.

White House Council Webinars

On July 18, I attended a White House Council Summit webinar on issues throughout Indian Country with Native tribes from Alaska to Hawaii. I was able to submit a statement asking for our legislators to evaluate the housing crisis that we are experiencing across

the nation. On Aug. 2, I attended another White House Council webinar pertaining to eviction prevention and attended a White House Native Women Symposium webinar, on Aug. 9, regarding Native women's health and how to work toward better accommodating their needs.

Treaty Negotiations

Treaty negotiations are still occurring as Sault Tribe works toward a decree proposal to present to the state of Michigan. I have been trying to attend as many of the negotiations sessions as possible, which occur two to three times a week. On Aug. 10 and 11, Sault Tribe met with local tribes as well as the state of Michigan to try and enter into some agreements. I was not able to attend these meetings in person due to other obligations but did attend via Zoom. I kindly ask all to lay their semaa and continue asking the Creator for guidance and favorable agreements for Sault Tribe's fishing treaty rights.

Board of Directors Workshops and Meetings

The board of directors had workshops or meetings on the following dates: July 19, July 26 and Aug. 9. The July 19 meeting was

adjourned following the agenda not being approved. I would like to provide some information on this meeting adjournment as I have had many questions. The agenda was not read properly by the chairman, as he left out the proposed resolution to investigate accusations on himself. A majority of the board of directors did not approve the agenda as read due to the inaccuracy. The chairman adjourned the meeting prior to any board member being able to object to the improper reading of the agenda.

A summary of the workshops or meetings is as follows:

— Board pensions: Currently being reviewed by legal to ensure no negative consequences upon freezing board pensions effective immediately, with a grandfather clause being in place, with no pensions accumulating moving forward.

— Former chairman's resignation and investigation: Being reviewed by legal to determine the legal consequences that the Sault Tribe or board of directors may face if any information were to be released.

— Kewadin Casino improvements: CEO Allen Kerridge pre-

sented the board of directors with a comprehensive improvement plan for all Kewadin Casino locations. The board has asked Mr. Kerridge to develop finance options and present to the board with updates.

— Elder Meal Funding: A budget modification has been requested and approved to increase elder meal funding.

— Emergency Task Force: A passed resolution has been rescinded moving the sole decision-making regarding pandemic responsibilities from the Health Director and puts that responsibility onto the Emergency Task Force, which is comprised of five division directors.

— Fishery Fund: Sault Tribe currently has National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Funds to help Commercial and Subsistence Fishermen. The board of directors invites any and all fishermen to our workshop on Tuesday, Aug. 23, at 1 p.m. to discuss NOAA funds pertaining to Sault Tribe commercial and subsistence fishermen who have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

— SSBCI Application: A State
See "Hampton," page 23

Representing tribe at self-governance conference



ROBERT MCRORIE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

This month has been a very fulfilling month for me as a leader of our nation. I have met with many of our members, represented our tribe at the Self-Governance Conference, attended the Road to Healing Tour Event, and worked with fellow directors to establish a program that will enhance the lives of our members for many generations to come.

I am extremely excited to announce that a resolution, that I co-sponsored, passed, establishing a Sault Tribe Food Sovereignty Program. I would like to use this opportunity to thank the directors who also co-sponsored this resolution, as well as the directors who voted in favor of this historic step forward for our tribe.

During our campaign, this idea was by far the one that received the most attention from our members. As a leader who will always listen to the will of our members, I believe the feedback on this project tells us that it is one of great importance to our people, as well as another avenue to assert our sovereignty and provide for our own. It is now time to begin the planning phases of a Sault Tribe Food Sovereignty Program.

The first step to develop a successful Food Sovereignty Program will be to establish a committee of Sault Tribe members with expertise in agriculture and farm development projects. This committee will serve as an advisory committee to the Sault Tribe Board of Directors to develop a strategic plan for implementation. We will keep our membership up to date on the timeline of developing the committee as well as the committee membership selection process.

Together, we will increase the health and longevity of our members and assert our sovereignty through the security of knowing we have the ability to feed our own people. We are a strong Indigenous nation. As a sovereign people, we have a duty to care for our own.

True leadership is not believing you can do everything on your own, it is the ability to create a network of people who are equipped with the knowledge and passion to accomplish something great that will benefit our people for many generations. This is something we can accomplish

Cherilyn Spears, Red Lake Economic Development project coordinator said, "You can't be sovereign unless you feed your

own people."

According to the National Center of Biotechnology Information, diabetes among Native Americans is the highest percentage of Type 2 Diabetes among any race on earth.

With diabetes taking more and more of our people each year, and a growing concern for food shortages, it is time to assert our sovereignty by establishing an agriculture department that can provide organic fruits and vegetables as well as grass fed buffalo or beef as well as free range eggs to our members. We can make this project independently self-sustainable.

There are multiple examples of tribes that are already doing this successfully including the Red Lake Buffalo and Hemp Ranch, the Little Traverse Band's Organic Food and Market Program, the Standing Rock Box Garden Program and many more successful Food Sovereignty Programs across Indian Country.

This month, I will be working with directors from all five units to draft a resolution that could allocate funding and resources to ensure the development and success of this project. I urge members to reach out to each director to express support to fund the Food Sovereignty Program. I believe this is a project that our board can set aside political differences to accomplish. Good food for our people is something we should all be able to agree upon.

After we have developed a business plan that is self-sustainable, or profitable, we can scale our investment to accommodate for our members' needs.

It is my opinion that this project is imperative in the fight against diabetes, which is plaguing our people, as well as to establish a sense of food security for all members. There are also limitless opportunities to incorporate our culture, traditions, and language into this project, as I will be advocating for an educational component to this project that will engage many departments within our tribe. The goal will be to equip our future generations with knowledge, skills, and resources to ensure that our people will always have food on the table.

This will not happen overnight, and will take an all hands on deck community approach, but with unity and consistency, we can do this for our people.

At harvest time we will have plenty of food to go around to our elders and families across our great Sault Tribe nation. It is not only necessary, but also our duty.

At the beginning of August, I had the honor of representing our great Sault Tribe nation, along with three other board members, at the 2022 Self-Governance Conference in San Francisco, Calif. I believe it is important for us, as a sovereign nation, to have a presence at the national level to advocate for our people and Indian Country as a whole.

In my campaign announcement I wrote, "Sovereignty is not



Board members Kim Hampton, Tyler LaPlaunt, Austin Lowes with daughter and Robert McRorie (L-R) pose with Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland (middle) at the Road to Healing Tour gathering the stories of boarding school trauma, hosted by Little Traverse Bay Bands in Pellston, Mich.

only the right to self-govern, it is also a responsibility to become self-sustainable." Attending the Self-Governance Conference was a reminder of the importance of establishing a path to true self-sustainability. State and federal funding is not "free money." It is a result of the sacrifice our ancestors endured and treaties that were signed between sovereign nations. There is no way they can, "repay" us for what was taken from us as a people. The generational trauma from the genocide, boarding schools, and relocation of our people can never be undone with monetary value. In my opinion, proven by recent court decisions, our sovereignty is in jeopardy. Treaties have not been upheld. As a sovereign nation, we must stand united with great resolve and demand that our right to self-govern is upheld.

During the conference, I attended many presentations and breakout sessions that have enhanced my ability to help lead our people to a position of true self-sustainability. This is crucial when it comes to asserting our sovereignty.

Assistant Secretary of Indian Affairs Bryan Newland, presented and provided many updates on how the current White House Administration will seek to strengthen government-to-government relationships to support tribal sovereignty. Representatives from IHS gave an update on upcoming initiatives to improve Indian Health Services across Indian Country. A quote that stuck with me from these updates and presentations was, "We are not only fighting for what we need, but also what our grandchildren's grandchildren will need." Understanding that we are not only making decisions for our people today but also for our people seven generations from now is extremely important to me.

I also attended important presentations on how sovereign Indigenous nations around the country can collectively work together to address issues such as the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA), language revitalization efforts, increasing tribal deci-

sion-making authority over land use, establishing broadband networks as a profit generating asset, enhancing tribally-owned cannabis industries, among many other sessions that provided me with an abundance of useful resources to work with all of our leaders here at home in order to improve all of our Sault Tribe communities.

I had the privilege to briefly meet with the White House Council on Indian Affairs Executive Director Anthony Morgan Rodman, after he gave an update to the leaders at the Self-Governance Conference. It is inspiring to meet leaders who continue to advocate for Native Americans at the highest levels and demand that treaty obligations are upheld.

I was especially inspired by the film by Kyle Bell featuring Lakota Beatty. Lakota is an Indigenous Collegiate Basketball Player who suffered severe depression after her sister committed suicide. In the film, she told her story and how she felt broken for years after the passing of her sister. She talked about the feelings of hopelessness and how she felt like giving up. She explained how she reconnected with her inner-spirit and was inspired to create a basketball camp for young Indigenous women to deliver a message of hope. She uses her skills to connect with young Indigenous people to talk about the importance of reaching out when you need help, and to let the next generations know they are never alone. This was inspiring to me and has led me to start brainstorming how we can inspire our people to use the gifts that Creator has blessed them with to help others.

Although I do know that we have a lot of work to do, attending this year's Self-Governance Conference was both an encouragement to work as hard as I possibly can for our members in order to assert our sovereignty, as well as a reminder of how far we have come as a sovereign nation.

I truthfully believe our ancestors would be very proud of us all. Remember, we are the sovereign nation of Sault Tribe, and together we will remain sovereign.

I also attended the Road to Healing Tour Event in Pellston, Mich., on Aug. 13, alongside Director Tyler LaPlaunt, Director Kimberly Hampton, and Vice Chairman Austin Lowes, where we presented Secretary of Interior, Deb Haaland, with a gift bag containing our sacred medicines, on behalf of our people, for her continued efforts to bring healing to Indian Country.

This event was a reminder of why it is so important to talk about generational trauma caused by the actions of the federal government against our people.

Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland and Assistant Secretary Bryan Newland's initiative provides sovereign nations with an opportunity to further the process of healing for our people. "Healing begins with telling the truth about what happened to our people." Miigwech to both of these amazing individuals who continue to advocate for all of Indian Country at the national level.

Most importantly, a huge miigwech to all of the survivors and descendants of survivors of boarding schools who shared their stories. You are the true representation of the courage and resiliency that has held us together for many generations.

My focus for the upcoming month will be to continue meeting with our people to ensure that my leadership is an accurate reflection of the will of the Sault Tribe members. I will be reaching out to our elders to assess their needs and areas of concerns. This month, I will also be focusing on networking with community organizations that provide services to our people, as I believe we can get more accomplished when we work together.

I encourage all members to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns that you would like brought to the board's attention. I cannot promise that I will have all the answers, but I will do my very best to find them for you. I wish you all the very best in this upcoming month.

Never hesitate to reach out to me, as I am always here to work hard for you, the members.

Miigwech!

Darcy Morrow updates Unit IV membership



DARCY MORROW,
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV

It has been an interesting five weeks at the board table. I attended the quickest special board meeting on July 19; I think it lasted all of 2 minutes. The new plus 2 called a special meeting for July 19; after the agenda was read not once but twice, there was a motion and second to accept the agenda and they all voted NO; which shut the meeting down.

Director Sorenson, Director Causley-Smith, Director McKerchie and I voted YES on the agenda. They made a rookie mistake; then went and twisted it on Facebook that items were not on the agenda. The board takes off or adds items to the agenda before meetings quite regularly this is nothing new. If they understood Roberts Rules of Order, they would have accepted the agenda and then motioned to amend and added their item. Instead of coming in and calling special meetings weekly; they should have been doing their orientation and learning about the job.

Kimberly Hampton, Tyler LaPlaunt, Austin Lowes, Betty Freiheit and Rob McRorie sponsored a resolution to take away the Unit 1 ARPA funding of \$1.25 million which was already approved for the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial building – our cultural building

in the Sault! You voted in people who could care less about our traditions and teachings. They should be ashamed of themselves! They wouldn't look our cultural members or elders in the eye as they got to the podium at Tuesday's meeting and asked them why they were taking this money from a much-needed upgrade! Not a good look for Unit 4 when we have Kimberly getting involved in negative politics from the start!

Thankfully, Director McKerchie motioned to amend and removed the funding of \$1.25 million from the resolution and that passed. Anyone who has any true knowledge of our tribe would NEVER try to take away the much-needed improvement to our cultural building. I have been to funerals, teachings, drum socials, etc., and there is never enough room in our current building. Our cultural building has not received a lot of funding throughout the years. This funding was something positive for our people and for these five individuals to think they know better and take the funding is shameful!

I support the idea of Indigenous Food Sovereignty but not at the cost of the much-needed upgrades to our current Niigaanagizhik building. This resolution is another example of items being added to the agenda out of spite.

The same individuals, Kimberly Hampton, Tyler LaPlaunt, Austin Lowes, Betty Freiheit and Rob McRorie added a resolution for Appointment Transparency — they chose to share a small clip of video that has been cut to their liking from closed session on June 20, 2022, when we discussed the open chairman seat. I voted NO on this resolution; you can't take bits and pieces of a video. If they wanted to post it, they should have posted it in its entirety! Now they are acting like Bravo TV! They need to move on. DJ Hoffman is the chairman of this

tribe and was appointed to the position legally!

Warning to the membership, NOW when you come to a meeting and go into closed session with the board, they just proved they can take your closed session and post it out for EVERYONE to see!

Chairman Hoffman had a resolution on to share all archived video footage of any and all board activities. Austin Lowes motioned to table the resolution and Betty second it to table! All the new plus 2 voted yes to table this resolution! Directors Sorenson, Causley-Smith, McKerchie and I voted no to table this resolution. I find it funny they all ran on transparency, but they voted to table this resolution! Call them up and ask them why, they approved a small clip they had manipulated but not a resolution that opened all video footage.

Authorization to Negotiate & Purchase 3901 I-75 Business Spur, Sault Ste. Marie property (TIN:051-063-026-00) acquisition resolution for a homeless shelter was brought forward by Austin Lowes. I was the only NO vote, which really shocked me. Now Austin and Betty are on Facebook chastising me, because I was looking out for the tribe's best interest! These pet projects cannot continue without a solid plan in place. Do I support a homeless shelter — absolutely! I also had a lot of questions that were not answered with solid answers. What program would it go under? How many team members would we need to run it?

Currently we have 197 open positions throughout the tribe that we can't fill, how will these positions be filled? How would we support it financially? Will it be able to go into trust, it is not contiguous to anything we currently own in the Sault. If it's not able to go into trust, what is the yearly tax cost? Will it only be open to Sault Tribe members? When I asked questions, I got I think, or it should be; to me

that is not a solid plan! I welcome a committee to be formed with all units represented. Why would we limit ourselves to one area for the cost of this purchase we could have built a lot of homes or small homes on our own trust land.

Director Sorenson had a resolution on the agenda Investigating Accusations Against Elected Officials

WHEREAS, there have been complaints of harassment, intimidation election interference, and improper influence of an elected official committed by towards Sault Tribe members and Sault Tribe employees; and

WHEREAS, several Members of the Board cornered Election Committee volunteer(s) at their respective work office(s) to question them regarding the Election with no provocation or authorization; and

WHEREAS, an Employee complaint has been filed internally, as well as received by Sault Tribe Law Enforcement on this issue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Directors mandates and directs an investigation be undertaken regarding accusations of harassment, intimidation, interference in the Election process, Abuse of office, and Improper Influence of a Tribal official regarding these matters and further authorizes disclosure of any records otherwise classified as confidential for the purpose of investigating these allegations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Executive Director of the Tribe, with assistance from the Tribe's General Counsel, shall hire an external firm to investigate these allegations, with authorization to modify the existing budget to pay for these services.

Directors Hampton, Lowes, McRorie, LaPlaunt, Lee, and Freiheit all voted to table this resolution, while Isaac McKechnie abstained. Call them up and ask

them why they wouldn't investigate their own. Per the resolution there is a police report that was filed. They campaigned on transparency start holding them to it! They had no problem voting YES on their made-up investigation with no documentation or police report of Chairman Hoffman!

A key employee was also approved to be hired at the last board meeting. When I got the floor and tried to ask if the person met the minimum qualifications, Betty Freiheit tried to call for the vote so my question would not be answered, and the audience wouldn't hear the truth. I then went on with my question and asked for an answer, Betty didn't get a second the first time, she then called for the vote again and when that didn't work, she tried to censure me. The answer to my questions is the person did not meet the minimum requirements for the position. I voted NO and it was nothing against the person who applied, I blame the screening and interview committees who allowed it to happen. We have policies and procedures in place for a reason, team members must follow policy, but this board can make their own policies. Do as they say not as they do. If they wanted to change the minimum qualifications, the new board should have done that and reposted the position for more applicants that meet the new requirements.

And, on a final note, within the last 4 months in Manistique the tribe has purchased a home and a total of 13 acres contiguous to our current reservation lands. Both properties will be put into trust.

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and had fun at the fair - before too long school will be back in session.

Thank you,
Darcy Morrow
Unit IV Representative
dmorrow@saulttribe.net
(906) 298-1888

Hampton updates Unit IV membership on activities

From "Hampton," page 21

Small Business Credit Initiative application has been approved to be submitted on behalf of Sault Tribe to apply for further funding

- Investigating Accusations Against DJ Hoffman: A resolution has been passed to hire an external firm to investigate allegations against DJ Hoffman. Until the completion of the investigation DJ Hoffman will limit his time in the tribal administration building to perform only duties assigned to him by the Sault Tribe Code and Constitution and only when his presence is requested in writing by Sault Tribe governmental staff or a majority of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors.

- Bank Signers: The following have been added to the Sault Tribe bank accounts: Vice Chairman Austin Lowes, Treasurer Tyler LaPlaunt, and Secretary Kimberly Hampton.

- Recovery Hospital: A resolution was passed to change location of proposed recovery hospital from Dafer, Mich., to behind the Sault Health Clinic. This changed will allow for substantial financial savings as well as allow patients to have access to Sault Tribe services,

- including Traditional Healing services, to allow for the assistance of cultural practices in recovery.

- June 20 Workshop video: A resolution has been passed to make the June 20 workshop video, where political appointment was discussed, available for viewing by tribal members.

- Indigenous Food Sovereignty: A resolution was passed to create an Indigenous Food Sovereignty Committee to create a Food Sovereignty program for Sault Tribe.

- Creative Placemaking Grant: A resolution was passed to submit a grant application to the National Endowment for the Arts, Our Town FY 2023, requesting up to \$150,000 to integrate elements of Anishinaabe art and culture to public space and infrastructure.

- Sanderson Field: A resolution was passed to support Sault Ste Marie, Mich., Municipal Airport (Sanderson Field) in its efforts for inclusion in the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems and the Airports Capital Improvement Plan.

- Authorization to Bid on Parcels: A resolution was passed to allow Sault Tribe Inc. to purchase

- parcels up to \$6,000.

- Authorization to Negotiate and Purchase: A resolution was passed to negotiate and purchase property for a Homeless Shelter located in Sault Ste Marie, Mich.

- Additions to Committees: The Board of Directors approved to add individuals to the Conservation, Elder, Education, and Elder Advisory Committees.

- ARPA Funds: Sault Tribe CFO secured an additional \$6 million for projects to be decided for all units

- July 25 JKL Fiduciary Meeting
On July 25, I attended the JKL Fiduciary meeting regarding financials for the Sault Ste Marie-based school. The board of directors has requested further details on bonuses and regular reports on financials.

- July 28 Meeting Re: Manistique Fitness Center and Escanaba Community Center

- On July 28, fellow Unit 4 Board member Morrow and myself attended a meeting with U.P. Engineers & Architects regarding finalizing plans for the Manistique Fitness Center and the Escanaba Community Center. The Manistique Fitness Center will have site work completed by Winter 2022

- with main building starting in Spring 2023. The building of the Escanaba Community Center will begin in Spring 2023.

- Aug. 3 Upward Community Youth

- On Aug. 3, I attended a meeting with Upward Community Youth, Limestone Federal Credit Union, Manistique Area Schools, local businesses, and Sault Tribe Inc. to explore the next project for Schoolcraft County, to potentially expand to nearby counties. These organizations and businesses had been involved in the student run coffee shop located in Manistique called The Grind. There will be further meetings to solidify the plans to get youth entrepreneur businesses started and operating to enrich our communities.

- Aug. 3 Appeal Hearing

- Due to confidentiality purpose, I can only share that I attended my first employee appeal hearing to help advocate for our Tribal employees.

- Aug. 8 Sault Tribe Department Financials

- On Aug. 8, I attended a report of all Sault Tribe Departments' financials, budget modifications for the remaining 2022 Fiscal Year as well

- as budgets for the 2023 Fiscal Year.

- August Unit 4 Elder Meetings

- On Aug. 4, I attended the Marquette Elder Meeting, which includes both Units 4 and 5. At this meeting updates were provided regarding the Marquette Elder Christmas Dinner with updates provided by both Tyler LaPlaunt and myself.

- On Aug. 10 I attended the Manistique Elder meeting there was a brief meeting held, as most of the elder board was out due to various issues. No major updates were provided. The Manistique Elder Picnic will be held Aug. 17, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Manistique Tribal Community Center located at 5698W US Highway 2, Manistique, Mich. The next meeting will be held Sept. 14, 12 p.m., at the Manistique Tribal Center.

- On Aug. 10, I attended the Escanaba Elder meeting there was a reminder that the Escanaba Health offices will be closed on Tuesday, Aug. 30, and will be re-opening Wednesday, Aug. 31 at the new Gladstone location of 2002 Minneapolis Ave, Gladstone, MI 49837. The menu was decided for the Escanaba Christmas Dinner.

See "Hampton," page 24

Tyler LaPlaunt updates Unit V membership



TYLER LAPLAUNT
DIRECTOR, UNIT V

Let's move forward!

Aniin, Boozhoo! We officially have our first month under our belts and there is quite a bit of work to move forward in the meetings to come. In an effort to jump in head first and get to work, the board called a series of special meetings to workshop and address some items immediately, so we can begin planning for a better future together.

As I have mentioned countless times in the past, I have no desire to micromanage. We do, however, need to empower the division directors that we hired as experts and professionals to get the job done and bring us into the 21st century in every aspect of our tribe. If issues arise, I expect that not only will the issues be presented to the board, but also a list of recommendations of how those issues can be addressed and resolved. The board should be working for this tribe to make the tough decisions, not interfering and creating red tape to slow things down. More on this later...

On July 26, the board called a special meeting. There were several high priority items that needed to be addressed to move business forward and adapt to the world that we live in today. The first was the State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI application). This could potentially allow us to put investments or loans into small business startups and expand our economic footprint across our region. I look forward to seeing the application come together, it is due for submission on Sept. 1, 2022, which is why this needed to be approved so quickly.

We also voted to take a step

back from the previous emergency health order by rescinding resolution 2020-261. This removes the sole responsibility of tribal-wide closures from Dr. Chugunov's shoulders and puts it back to a committee to make a decision. There was a time when this was necessary when decisions had to be made quickly to protect the health and well-being of our people. Today, the pandemic has turned into an endemic and there are vaccines and medications available to combat the virus and its symptoms that were not available before. We appreciate the hard work and ongoing effort of the entire Health Division and every employee everywhere that helped us get through the last two years. It is time to begin to move forward into an age where we live with it and encourage the proper treatment and prevention methods for our people to live their best and healthiest lives.

Finally, following up from the vote of no confidence on DJ Hoffman, the board authorized an investigation into several accusations. Unlike previous eras, no matter what the investigation turns up, I will vote to release it in its entirety, only redacting information to protect other individuals. It is my hope that none of it is true, but true or false, I will push to have it published. The days of backroom deals need to come to an end. If we are going to use tribal dollars to investigate, it's your right as tribal citizens to see why that money was spent.

Jumping ahead to our first regular meeting as the board of directors on Aug. 9, 2022, we had a full agenda. I want to highlight a few things. First, we voted to release a portion of the June 20, 2022, workshop before the vote was counted and the new board took their oaths of office. We believe the discussions in this workshop to be a direct conflict of interest to all of the previous board that were running and an attempt at both election interference and to overthrow an election before the ballots were even counted. By the time you read this, the video should be viewable on our tribal website. Please take a look so you can see why we are so leery of the appointment of DJ Hoffman and why we are being

especially cautious with allegations against him and authorizing that investigation. I would like to thank Keith Massaway for his years of service and for standing up for what is right. I owe you an apology for lumping you in to the group before watching this video and for that, I am sorry. Thank you for standing strong for our nation and the integrity of our elections, Mr. Massaway.

On a lighter note, this was a very positive meeting. We had a lot of great discussion and took the first steps towards a food sovereignty program by authorizing the development of a committee. This is the first of many steps and I am very excited to get this moving. We also authorized the purchase of property to be used as a homeless shelter to help our citizens get back on their feet when they are down and out. I am confident that with a robust plan, we can create a solid back to work program and take better care of our citizens.

The last thing I will note is that we authorized a cost saving move of the recovery hospital. The move will save our tribe millions of dollars and create a more holistic environment by putting the recovery hospital right next to the health center in the Sault. These are all fantastic programs that will benefit the tribe as a whole in the future, and for that, I am very happy.

Taking a step back to Unit 5, I have been very active in our communities this past month and have been working with Sault Tribe Inc. CEO Joel Schultz to look into properties that would best suit our needs. We took a look at several properties and buildings, had a meeting with the City of Marquette, and are continuing to look at listings to see if anything fits the needs of the citizens in both Munising and Marquette. I have been updating the elders regularly at the meetings in both Munising and Marquette to keep folks in the loop and garner feedback. I've also been meeting with various tribal citizens across Unit 5 to better serve everyone. If I haven't gotten to you yet, I will, and I'm always open to calls until we can find a time to meet up.

On Aug. 4, I attended the elder meetings and meals in both Munising and Marquette. I provided updates and listened

to feedback. Unit 4 Director Kimberly Hampton joined me in Marquette as many of her nearby constituents join in that elder meeting since they are so close to us and so far from Escanaba and Manistique. If you are an elder, 60-plus, in the Munising and Marquette and surrounding areas, please join us.

The pandemic separated everyone, and many walked on, in an effort to strengthen our communities and bring us back together to share a meal, I am calling all elders to come if they are able. I'd love nothing more than to see these rooms full and hear stories and sharing, make new friends, and help us plan for a better future. The Munising elders meet and have a meal on the first Thursday of each month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Munising Tribal Health Center, they also have a meal on the third Thursday of each month from noon – 1 pm. The Marquette Elders meet and have a meal on the first Thursday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. tentatively at the Holiday Inn in Marquette. I am actively working with the Marquette Elder committee and looking for a more permanent space for you all. Again, please come and join us. Building a community starts with one connection at a time. It would be fantastic to see even one new face each month.

At the beginning of August, I authorized the purchase of wristbands for all Unit 5 youth up to the age of 18 for Native American day on Aug. 18 at the U.P. State Fair in Escanaba. This was an easy treat to say yes to. Unit 4 had run into some financial issues, so I stepped up and offered a loan to both Directors Kimberly Hampton and Darcy Morrow with the agreement that they pay these funds back as they come available. We all agreed and now those youth won't have to go without. Since it's in their backyard, they have far more youth available to go than any other unit. This was an easy decision because it doesn't hurt our unit as the money will come back to us and it helps the youth of another area. I believe Units 4 and 5 were the only ones that offered the wristbands this year. I'm happy that we can work together to do these things for our communities. I hope

that if we were ever in trouble in Unit 5, the favor would be returned, and I'm sure it would be.

To finish, I'd like to jump back into the bureaucracy of the tribe and how micromanagement and red tape can slow things down. We as a tribe have many positions open that have been unfilled for many years. Some of those are key positions. In the last meeting, we authorized the CEO to make an offer to a previous applicant and interviewee for the Education Director position. That person was a Sault Tribe citizen and very well educated. Due to the historic interference of the board and the extreme delay, this candidate passed. I don't blame this candidate. How many people wait months to hear back for an interview or a starting date? The board has created too many policies that have gotten in the way of efficiency and effectiveness and that needs to be changed and will be changed.

As I mentioned, it's time to bring this tribe into the 21st Century. That means empowering the CEO and removing the board from hiring for certain positions. That means empowering HR to make the hiring process more efficient and eliminating policy that bogs down processes. That also means a remote work and hybrid work policy for those positions that qualify.

Not everyone will be happy. We have to get away from a one-size-fits-all-divisions mindset. Casino enterprise is different than the Health Division and they are both different than Housing, and so on and so forth. These businesses wouldn't mix policy in the real world for obvious reasons. Why would we want to mix them and create a broken system for our own tribe? The board is working on this as we speak and I'm optimistic that things will slowly begin to change. It's hard enough to get our citizens to come back to work for us, why build more barriers?

It's time to move forward for a brighter future!

Miigwech,
Tyler Migizii Migwan
LaPlaunt
Unit 5 Director
(906) 440-8294
tlaplaunt@saulttribe.net

Working together for memebbers



SHAWN BOROWICZ,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

I hope all is well and that you have been enjoying the summer.

We have had a meeting and workshop almost every Tuesday since the election as well as attending functions outside of the tribal schedule. I've been contacted by several elders with issues from health care, housing and land issues. Some were taken care of and some are still in process, thanks for the contact and glad I could be of assistance.

The proposed housing complex in St. Ignace is moving along but probably won't see major results until springtime.

Housing in Unit 3 is of great need and the tribal board is moving this along as steadily as possible.

The Rendezvous at the Straits Powwow will be Aug. 27-28. Looking forward to meeting more tribal members and enjoy the weekend.

The board has more work to do to come together as one, for the benefit of all tribal members and the communities we live in, and I will strive to see this happens.

Shawn Borowicz
sborowicz@saulttribe.net
(906) 379-8511

From "Hampton," page 23

There was a guest speaker, Lacey Kinnart, program and operations coordinator at the National Native American Board School Healing Coalition (NABS), who gave a presentation on boarding schools and the efforts being made by NABS. The next Escanaba Elder meeting will be held Sept. 14 at 5:30 p.m. at the Delta County Chamber Building.

Aug. 13: The Road To Healing

On Aug. 13, Vice Chairman Lowes, Treasurer LaPlaunt, Director McRorie and myself attended The Road to Healing session located in Pellston, Mich., where we got to meet the Secretary of the Department of Interior Deb Haaland and the Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior Bryan Newland. The board of directors presented gifts on behalf of Sault Tribe. This session was held to allow boarding school survivors and descendants to share their experiences of the schools to bring awareness and healing to Indigenous communities.

Miigwech for allowing me to represent and advocate for our members. I am always available; I kindly ask for a 48-hour time frame to return calls or emails. My number is (906) 440-8138, email is: khampton@saulttribe.net.

Kimberly Hampton, Unit IV Representative

Board votes to purchase hotel for homeless shelter



BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

Unfortunately, the games continue, last month with a vote of no confidence in DJ, which delegated some things to Austin as vice chair. They did allow DJ to remain the lead negotiator for the consent decree. So apparently, he is good enough to handle one of our most precious rights.

They just recently also voted to investigate DJ, which the resolution that was written and passed was not even accurate.

They claim that he bribed someone and that someone can't even seem to get the bribery amount correct. There were accusations of interfering in the elections of which the election attorney sent a written statement to negate that. DJ has provided several affidavits to law enforcement about the "accused bribery" incident.

The first few weeks after the election, four board members had questioned an Election Committee member at work in a closed office. That team member was very intimidated and upset and did file a complaint. I had added to the board meeting for this to be investigated. The majority voted to table it and only one of them who was involved abstained from the vote. I then added it to another meeting and the same results occurred. I find it disturbing that only one of the four involved abstained from the vote. What it proved to me is that they want to investigate anyone other than themselves.

There was a resolution that was titled, "Appointment Transparency," that they wanted to

publish a portion of a closed session workshop on June 20. I think it is ridiculous that Betty got some of them hyped up about comments made and wants it out in the public. I voted YES but also stated let's let them view the whole thing not just clips. Austin and Betty were not there that day because they were traveling back from Alaska (they viewed it later). One of the agenda items that Austin had wanted to discuss twice was the chair vacancy and both times it was up for discussion he wasn't there.

There was also another resolution titled, "Video Footage" that would allow archived video footage of board activities to be reviewed by members by appointment at the administration building. That resolution was tabled. I find it comical that the "transparency board," votes YES on things that serve their purpose only. Just like when they want to go into closed session. Many of them ran on being transparent. I guess that means what they consider transparent!

Another resolution that was placed on the meeting agenda was to amend the Election Code. This resolution was not reviewed by Legal and I'm pretty sure it is unconstitutional. The board had previously discussed the need to review the Election Code and the board's executive assistant was going to schedule time with the Election Committee in September to review the code to see what changes needed to be made. Apparently, that was not quick enough for them and, thankfully, the resolution was referred to the Election Committee for review. Betty actually voted to refer this resolution and she didn't mean to and Austin was telling her she voted YES instead of NO.

As a tribal member, I would not be happy with a person who has been serving on the board for three years that needs to be told how to vote. The same individual has several times yelled, "Call for the vote," and gotten upset when the action doesn't happen. You always need a second to do things. Many times, the resolution hasn't been fully read and she

is trying to take action not sure it is for not paying attention or just cannot read. There are many times when there isn't even an item on the floor and it is being motioned to table. The same person I believe lets someone else write their unit reports and emails because you can tell how a person speaks and writes. You aren't fooling me!

A resolution to strip already earmarked funding for the Soo's cultural building was introduced as cutting that to start an Indigenous food sovereignty program. I support doing something with food sovereignty but not cutting the much-needed work on the Niigaanagizhik Building. What was shocking is that two board members outside the Soo, Tyler and Kim H. sponsored the resolution. Tyler stated he is doing all he can to provide food to the members in his unit. The board voted several years ago to provide two food trucks per unit every year. He stated he doesn't want our members to have to rely on the state. I agree with that 100 percent but I would go so far as to say, they shouldn't have to depend on the tribe either. Let's build our people up so they do not have to rely on anyone other than themselves for food and other needs. We need to make this a priority because you never know when the government will pull the plug on Native American funding.

Director McKerchie made a motion to strike the paragraph eliminating the funding for the cultural building. The motion passed and then Betty and Kim H. tried to table the resolution but did not have enough support. The final resolution passed, which resulted in no funding being removed for the cultural building and a food sovereignty program to be established.

It is super frustrating that these resolutions are being brought to the table without discussion from all involved parties. It is important to have discussion with all parties involved because sometimes you wonder why something is done a certain way and someone can provide the history or

reasoning for these things. I am very disappointed that many of the items placed on the agenda are not reviewed by our legal team. They receive the information five days in advance as well. They should be giving us a heads up if there are problems or better ways to do things. Our previous general counsel would always let the board know if he thought we should change or avoid things. I depend on our legal team as well as other executives to stand up and give their input before rash decisions are made that have a negative impact on the tribe.

Perfect example was when they voted to take DJ out of certain things including only having prior permission to enter the administration building. None of the impacts of this were stated and things still seem to surface in regards to what can or cannot be done. The board should have been advised of possible issues and told to caution or wait for further information.

I am fully aware that some people feel like they can't or won't stand up to the board and maybe intimidated with the new changes but at the end of the day, we all have the same job and that is protecting our tribe, its members, and our assets!

I recently attended the self-governance conference in California. The conference was very unorganized but did provide some good topics of discussion that I will try to bring to the table. Some of the topics included implementing livestreaming legislation, innovations among Native CDFI's, mental health, boarding schools, Alcatraz and a Native youth movement, COVID after affect, etc.

I was shocked that our previous chair was asked to moderate a discussion on the cannabis industry as he was very vocal about not supporting it for our tribe. Many other tribal leaders said tribes make their money off sin (gambling, drinking, cigarettes, etc.) but they are trying to diversify. I was also very uncomfortable with the board members that did attend and were spending time with this person. It makes me think that

many of these current actions are being instigated by this person, possibly out of retaliation.

I had added to the agenda a notice of violation. The motion was to serve a notice of violation as discussed in workshop. The vote was unanimous to support this action.

I also attended the Sault Tribe Business Alliance reception and conference on August 11-12. This is one of my favorite events because you get to meet Sault Tribe business owners and network with other agencies in regards to economic development and grant opportunities. I would like to personally thank the STBA members and the ST Inc. members for all the time they dedicate to these boards and helping move our tribe forward in a good way!

The board voted to build the new recovery hospital by the Soo health center instead of Dafter as the infrastructure is already in place and will save us lots of money.

The board also voted to purchase a hotel in the Soo to be used for homeless members. I agree we need to alleviate these concerns but not sure how the program will be implemented and what division will oversee it. We already have issues with transitioning members from other programs and services.

The board just passed the resolution for the annual LIHEAP funding. Tribal members will be able to apply for heating assistance beginning Nov. 1.

I know that as board member with any questions or concerns, I have always addressed these at workshops because things are not always what they appear to be. I do believe many of the new board members are seeing things from a new lens. I am hopeful they will get all their concerns out so we can stop the witch hunts and start focusing our attention on where we need to.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

Tribe receives \$19.8 million grant for infrastructure



KIMBERLY LEE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

Our summer has flown by. I hope you have found time to spend with your loved ones and do things that bring you joy. We are at a time within our tribe where change is occurring. We

may not always have the same opinion. I can respect that. I appreciate you sharing your why with me.

We have some exciting things to report. The recovery center location was better suited next to the Indian Health Services building in Sault Ste. Marie, by most of the board. This is a change in location as it was initially going to be in Dafter. This project can now move forward ASAP. We will also be saving money by doing it in this location. To be able to give our people who are struggling an opportunity for wellness. Our loved ones need help and support for healing. I am incredibly optimistic looking ahead to this life-changing support system for our members.

Our tribe was awarded a \$19.8 million transportation grant. I

know obtaining these grants takes valuable time, research, and talent. Miigwech to the staff that puts in the hard work this takes. This grant will be an investment in infrastructure. Helping work on road improvements, public safety, as well as expanding access to outdoor recreation areas.

The board has food sovereignty as a priority and a topic of discussion. We have many members with a large amount of knowledge on this topic. We are excited to hear more from them. Wanting to make sure we do our due diligence to see what needs to be done to make this a reality and a success. We are all hopeful that we can look to the future, and watch this come to life

I have had the opportunity to meet with a few members and listen to their knowledge, wis-

dom, and advice within our unit. I appreciate your time and commitment to wanting to help me help you. I also was able to go to the Naubinway elder's meeting. What a pleasure to spend time with and get to know them a little. I hope to make it to as many meetings throughout our unit as possible.

The Newberry youth powwow was wonderful. Seeing our youth come together and share our culture was heartwarming to all YEA programs staff and volunteers of the YEA program miigwech. Without you, this event couldn't have been possible. They allowed me to help in the kitchen and become a master of whipping up PB&J's in mass quantity. I was given some other light duties as well. Miigwech to Midge and Aunt Dorthy. You are dedicated to showing up at events before any-

one and being the last to leave for many years. The level of respect and admiration for our elders who never stop giving their all, wow, we are blessed.

The Newberry annual Powwow is Sept. 17. If you get the chance to go, you won't be disappointed. Our Hessel powwow was held and the grounds looked beautiful. It takes a team to execute these celebrations. Please consider volunteering for events. Our elders should not be out here doing this because we are short on youth power. It is my hope to see them supervising in the future and sharing their knowledge.

Let's continue together on the path ahead. Please reach out with any questions. Miigwech!

Kimberly Lee
klee@saulttribe.net
(906) 379-8965

The good, the bad and the ugly of our tribe



AUSTIN LOWES
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Aniin,

This unit report will contain details of the good, the bad, and the ugly of our tribe. Let's start with the good. Since the new board has been elected, our tribe has moved in an undeniably positive direction. The new board cast a vote of no confidence in DJ Hoffman, who is the first politician in our history to lose his primary. Despite this, he was appointed by the old board with eight days left in office. This appointment has been disastrous for our tribe, and it deprived the membership the right to vote for their chairman.

Since then, the majority of the chair's duties have been delegated to me. As vice chairman, I have carried them out with absolute diligence. I have fostered a positive relationship with staff, supervisors, program managers, and executive staff.

You will never catch me treating team members with hostility, disrespect, or browbeating behavior. It's my goal to improve the work climate of our tribe, and that can only be accomplished by treating our team with dignity and respect.

Since being delegated these duties, I have proudly represented our tribe at the Self-Governance Conference, MAST Conference, and the Road to Healing event for boarding school survivors, which was sponsored by Secretary Deb Haaland and Assistant Secretary Bryan Newland. I am proud to do this national work on behalf of our people.

On the home front, I have spearheaded purchasing a home-

less shelter for our indigent members, which has been an unmet need for our tribal community for decades. As a master's level social worker who has worked with this population for years, this purchase was a major goal of mine. It should be finalized in the upcoming couple weeks. When it is, a special announcement will be made, along with a ribbon cutting event.

I have also advocated for the creation of a Food Sovereignty Program. This allowed a resolution to pass that created an Indigenous Food Sovereignty Committee. My ultimate goal is to create a Sault Tribe farm, which will have indigenous food sources (buffalo or elk) and organic produce grown from heirloom seed exchanges. Tribes throughout the country are moving in this direction. A tribal farm is vital because it would reintroduce indigenous foods back into our diets that have been absent since colonization. This is just as important to our culture as language, traditional medicine, and ceremonies. A government's priorities can be identified by how it allocates its resources. People can say they support Indigenous Food Sovereignty all they want, but talk is cheap. Unless funding is allocated, they're just words, which mean nothing. I will secure funding for this program. I give you my word on that.

Now for the bad. As the vice chairman, it's important to identify financial waste that can be cut to make our tribe as fiscally responsible as possible. A perfect example of this is the exuberant legal fees that we pay. If the membership was privy to how much we pay the various out-of-state law, your jaw would drop. The new board will examine our finances to find ways to reduce our wasteful spending.

Also bad is the condition of our properties — specifically the Sault Ste. Marie casino and the condition of its hotel. This casino was one of the first in Michigan, which now makes it one of the oldest. It takes money to make money, and it's time we invest

in our properties to make them competitive with neighboring casinos.

Another unfortunate trend is the unfounded criticism from past board members who have been voted out by the membership. I was informed that one former board member, who lives on waterfront property compliments of the tribe and who also receives a board pension that none of our other 1,500 employees will ever receive, is vocally opposing our homeless shelter and is actually attempting to sabotage it through a referendum. How out of touch can you be? How can you support a million-dollar pavilion but oppose a homeless shelter? If this individual spoke to our social workers, ACFS, Housing, Strategic Planning, and our community partners, this individual would understand the housing crisis we're currently in, which makes emergency housing such as a homeless shelter absolutely vital.

Finally, we move on to the ugly. On June 20, which was three days before the General Election, while Director Freiheit and I were traveling home from

a national conference, the board had a workshop where they discussed how to sabotage the election results.

As you're aware, every single incumbent, six out of six, lost their elections. They must have sensed this possibility during the workshop, which prompted the discussion, which was NOT on the workshop agenda. I was disturbed by the contents of this workshop. Board members discussed leaving your ballots at the post office so they couldn't be counted, not certifying the election results that involved their family members, and asking our Legal Department "what do we have to do to appoint DJ as chairman?" This shows that collusion took place to explore sabotaging our democratic process. It also shows that DJ's appointment was a backdoor deal between him and a board that was on the verge of being voted out. This took place in a closed session workshop while the cameras were rolling. To improve transparency, the new board voted to publish this video. I urge you to watch it on the

tribe's website. You'll be equally disturbed.

Miigwech for listening.
Austin Lowes
Vice Chairman



Austin Lowes with his daughter at the Road to Healing event hosted by Little Traverse Bay Bands Aug. 13.

A day in the life of a board rep



ISAAC MCKECHNIE
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

If you are not able to attend our board meetings and the tribal paper is weeks away it is difficult to know what issues your Unit 1 Director is working on.

In my campaign, I pledged to deliver complete transparency in a timely fashion.

On Aug. 9, 2022, the board

held a workshop lasting through the day and then held our regularly scheduled board meeting.

During the workshop, we discussed many items for consideration.

Those items included self-insurance, tribal victim services, Community Health Nursing/Public Health Workforce, Manistique Medical Nursing, Escanaba Gladstone Clinic/Third Party Revenue, DeMawating Development-Golf Courses, Continuing Funding Authority, Construction Bid Acceptance, set up new companies and cost centers to track expenditures and revenues for the golf courses, Continuing Funding Authority, Construction Bid Acceptance, Trust Land Lease, Transparency resolution instructing tribal administration to publish a section of the June 20, 2022, workshop (2:38:38

to 3:59:55) when a political appointment was discussed, Indigenous Food Sovereignty, National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems and several others that we face daily.

In the coming months, we have a lot of information that we need to catch up on. We will continue to move policies forward to the best of our ability to serve our tribe now and into future generations. I love our tribe and only want to do what is best for us all.

I am honored to be your Unit 1 representative and will represent you to the best of my ability. I will continue to work to improve transparency and keep you informed of the work I do for our members.

You can reach me at imckechnie@saulttribe.net or (906) 203-4787.

Sincerely,
Isaac McKechnie

Members should demand accountability from board



MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Hope everyone's summer is going well. The board of directors have had some interesting board meetings and it's nice to see more members attending. Personally, I believe there is

a learning curve for how things operate between the board and our managers of our organization and enterprises. I don't believe any one board member should influence managers or directors and the only power we have is when the board votes in open meetings. I do not believe the sky is falling and the membership should be in an uproar, but I do believe the membership should remain attentive and keep an eye on how things are happening.

Recent resolutions suggest that the divisiveness will continue and several board members are only interested in holding some, not all, accountable. There was also a resolution to allow all board workshop and meetings available to watch, which got tabled. I'm unsure

why we wouldn't want additional transparency during this time of transition. Hopefully, we can see more and more resolutions offering full transparency and not just portions to mislead the membership.

See meeting votes under the "download" section on the board of directors tab on our website to see how directors voted.

I take small breaks from social media, which I do from time to time for personal balance; I highly recommend it, no need to announce — just take a break. With that being said, many do not and I've had several members and non-tribal members ask about Sault Tribe drama. I'm not a fan of airing our laundry, so I don't. I do speak my mind from time-to-

time but I'm not overly dramatic and I'm not trying to divide the membership, so it's usually pretty straight-forward and offers a different side of the story.

I don't think the chairmanship was stolen or that anyone was forced to do anything. I believe much of the resentment of how things came about comes down to how it was presented. Several choose to present it like laws were ignored and that an election was possible. Even though it's clear, it wasn't allowed — many continue with that narrative. It helps keeps us separated and also from dealing with real issues.

Before orientation and training could take place, we've had several special meetings. In doing so, we've lost how we're "supposed" to do some things.

There is no process for resolutions but there are best practices. It used to be that the resolutions would be workshopped and all those departments effected would participate and offer suggestions and recommendations — that is no longer happening.

It should happen, it should happen in open workshops with a section for the membership to weigh in on it, too. Transparency is being stated by many right now, but it seems rather selective — so I ask members to continue watching, continue to hold us accountable, continue to ask the same transparency from all sides, and if you don't see that — demand it!

As always, any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at (906) 440-7768.

Unit 1 Board Rep Betty Freiheit reports to the membership



**BETTY FREIHEIT,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello Tribal Members,
It's has been a busy month for the board!

On Aug. 9, the board approved a land purchase for the much-needed tribal homeless shelter! I am excited to see this benefit materialize for our members. Much thanks goes to Austin Lowes for spearheading this initiative.

The resolution to create a Food Sovereignty Program and committee also passed, minus the requested funding. The board recently learned of additional available American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds so we should be able to use some of these funds to move forward with the project.

A food sovereignty program appears to be directly in line with the purpose of these funds and I expect the board will bring a resolution for funding forward soon. Board workshops are once again open to the public! We are hoping to conduct all the necessary close session items such as legal issues, personnel, and business transactions in the morning so that we can open the rest of the workshop for members in the afternoon. Many important discussions take place in the workshop so this action will help inform members about the workings of our tribe and government.

The board also voted to release a tape of segments of closed board workshops that took place on June 20, 2022. This tape reveals an extended political discussion among the board, which is actually prohibited in our bylaws. And, it further provides background information on the board's intent to appoint DJ Hoffman as chair. Most disturbing was the brow beating from Hoffman to the tribe's legal counsel to try to tell him what he wanted to hear. Don't take my word for it, watch the video when it is posted. Board staff actually insisted we not pick up the ballots from the post office and incumbent board members suggested we not certify the election. This is seditious. Discussing how to throw out an election in a secret meeting is a violation of the Constitution, Open Meetings Act, and Election Code. This may very well constitute conspiracy to commit these crimes. The video will be released in the coming week and link posted on the tribal website at saulttribe.com.

At the beginning of the month,

I had the privilege of representing our tribe at the annual Self-Governance Conference in San Francisco as a self-governance tribe, it is important that board have the knowledge base to manage resources and programs from the federal government, in addition to numerous valuable sessions on appropriations, update on health care funding, child welfare and transportation. I was able to meet federal officials in charge of various programs as well as other tribal leaders.

A real bonus of the conference was meeting up with Dr. Aaron A. Payment, who was there as a presenter for two sessions in keeping with his never ending commitment to our tribe. He made sure to introduce me and

other board members to Morgan Rodman, Executive Director of the White House Council on Native American Affairs.

Once again, I want to express my gratitude to the new board for hitting the ground running and taking on some difficult issues.

Members elected an awesome group of people who are demonstrating their commitment to moving forward. It is energizing working with them.

In closing, as always, take care of yourself and family. Help your neighbor anytime you can and please take care of our Elders.

Betty F. Freiheit
Unit 1 Director
bfreiheit@saulttribe.net
906-379-8745





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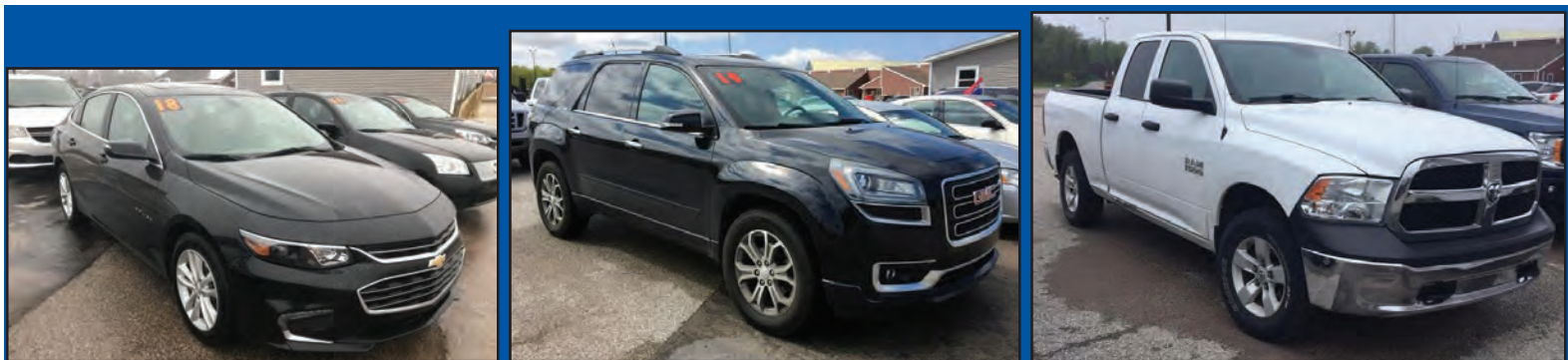
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