



# Win Awenen Nisitotung

"One Who Understands" • Official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Namebin Giizis  
Sucker Moon

April 29, 2016 • Vol. 37, No. 4

## SPECIAL! PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATE'S FORUM PAGE 6



Photo by Kathy Roy

On April 19, the Sault Tribe Inland Fish and Wildlife Department received a call from a member who had been coyote trapping and caught an eagle in one of his traps. Rusty Aikens and Joe Lautenbach went out to assist them. They were able to safely remove the eagle from the trap and bring it in to Sault Animal Hospital to be checked out. After it was given a clean bill of health from the vet, they returned it to the area it was caught. Above, Aikens lifts off the crate top and the young eagle is ready to fly.

## Official candidate list out for primary and special election

SAULT STE. MARIE — This year's primary election sees four tribal members running for chairperson — incumbent Aaron Payment, sitting board member Keith Massaway, former board member Tom Miller and newcomer Charles Forgrave.

Incumbent director of Unit II, Lana Causley-Smith, is effectively re-elected as she is unopposed. In Unit I, 15 are in the running for three seats, and three candidates each in Units III and IV for one seat.

Four candidates are competing in the Unit V special advisory election for the remainder of Rita Glyptis' term, which expires in 2018. Glyptis was removed Jan. 14. All election procedures and timelines for the 2016 general election applies to the special advisory election.

Ballots will be mailed out April 28. Voters must complete ballots and have them back to the tribe for the May 19 primary election.

The following candidates' names were released by the Election Committee April 19. (They are listed in alphabetical order and incumbents names are italicized.)

Chair: Charles Forgrave, Keith Massaway, Thomas Miller, *Aaron Payment*

Unit I: Angeline Bouley, Nichole Causley, Charles Cook Sr., Angela Declue, Betty Freiheit, Janice Frye, Samuel Gardner Jr., Janet Liedel, *Jennifer McLeod Tyson*, Michael McKerchie, *Dennis McKelvie*, George Parish, Maureen Pavlat, Helen Wilkins, Barbara Willis

Unit II: *Lana Causley-Smith*

Unit III: Ilene Moses, *Bridgett Sorenson*, Bonnie Woodford-Culfa

Unit IV: Krystal Goudreau, *Darcy Morrow* and Gerald Winberg, Sr.

Unit V: Boyd Snyder, Tyler LaPlaunt, Charles Matson Sr. and Anita Nelson.

# Olympic champion Billy Mills to visit Sault

**MAY 12 PRESENTATION OPEN TO THE PUBLIC; JOIN THE BILLY MILLS FUN RUN/WALK MAY 14**

SAULT STE. MARIE — Olympian Billy Mills returns to Sault Ste. Marie this May as special guest of the Billy Mills Fun 5K Run/Walk special guest. Mills will appear May 12 at the LSSU Fine Arts Center in the Cisler Center from 6 to 8 p.m. in a presentation open to the public. The community is welcome to attend! Also a motivational speaker, he will give an in-service to Sault Tribe team members May 12 and visit JKL School May 13 before attending the race named in his honor on May 14.

Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment said, "During college, my race was 10K cross country. Fellow Sault Tribe Member Cathy Belogna ran cross country. In 1991, she and I took him to lunch and explained our vision for Sault Tribe recreation. Cathy became our first recreation director. Billy then promised to attend an annual fun run if we create a running team and the rest is history."

Mills was the inspiration for the movie "Running Brave," starring Robbie Benson, the story of Mills' life on the Pine

Ridge Indian Reservation and the obstacles he overcame to become an Olympic champion. At the 1964 Olympics, Mills came from behind to win the gold medal in the 10k race, setting a world record of 28 minutes, 24.4 seconds. He is still the only American to ever win a gold medal in the 10k event.

"Billy is the last American to win the Olympic 10,000 meters in 1964," Payment said. "He is one of my heroes and is a role model for Indian Country."

As part of his effort to give back to his community, Mills helped found Running Strong for American Indian Youth and became the organization's national spokesperson. Today, Mills visits American Indian communities throughout the U.S. and speaks to youth about healthful lifestyles and taking pride in their heritage. In 2014, Mills celebrated the 50th anniversary of his gold medal win by founding Dreamstarter, a grant program to jump start the dreams of Native youth.

This year's race also sees the start up of the Chi Nodin Running Club, which runs three days per week from June 13 through Aug. 17. Sault Tribe youth aged 12-18 can register at the race or contact Heather Hemming at 632-5210, ext. 21372, or [hemming@sault-tribe.net](mailto:hemming@sault-tribe.net). (See page 29 for more on Chi Nodin Running Club.)

The Billy Mills Fun Run/Walk Race on May 14 features a 5K race, a 5K walk, youth 1-mile run, and a "tot trot" for younger



children. Everyone is welcome to participate and there are no registration fees. Race shirts are limited and will be given on a first-come, first-served basis. Pre-register and arrive early on race day to receive the right shirt size.

The youth one-mile run and tot trot begin at 8:30 a.m. on the east side of Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center across Shunk Road from Kewadin Casino in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. The 5K run and 5K walk begins at 9 a.m.

The top male and female 5K runners in the regular (4-39), masters (40-69) and grand masters (70 and over) divisions and the top overall male and female 5K walkers will receive a plaque. All participants will receive medals.

All participants are required to register. Early registration is preferred and late registration opens at 7:30 a.m. and will end promptly at 8:15 a.m. To register or ask questions, contact Lori Jodoin at (906) 635-5055, or [ljodoin@jkl-school.org](mailto:ljodoin@jkl-school.org).

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

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# Inaugural community egg hunt proves quite popular

BY RICK SMITH

The first of many annual Sault Community Easter Egg Hunt celebrations to come took place at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building on the reservation in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on March 19.

"I'm from Bay City, Mich., and every year I take my daughter to egg hunts down there when we visit family for Easter," explained Tiffany Escherich, who spearheaded the hunt. "It got me thinking that I haven't heard of any big community egg hunts

up here. So, last year, my family went around town here in the Sault and in Bay City purchasing all the clearance eggs we could find to have an egg hunt up here this year."

Escherich now lives in the Sault and is on the staff of the Sault Tribe Environmental Department.

The Easter egg hunts were divided into three age groups for children ranging from newborn to 3 years of age, then 4 to 6 years old and children aged 7 and older.

Families began arriving for the

toddler's hunt just before starting at 10 a.m., Escherich said. The 2016 World's Mrs. Michigan Tourism Kari Yipe O'Gorman helped at the registration table and students from Malcom High School volunteered helping hands as well.

Children from the ages of newborn to 3 searched for eggs hidden in plain sight and under shredded paper. "Children had chances to win assorted prizes and the opportunity to meet the Easter Bunny," Escherich said.

The other hunts began at noon and 2 p.m. "All together, the children sought over 9,525 eggs, made goodie bags for assorted goodies and enjoyed a variety of games," Escherich said. Along with the opportunity to meet the Easter Bunny, the estimated 400 children were also treated to 32 large prizes, 142 medium prizes and 302 small prizes.

Folks from the Students, Parents, Educators Alliance to Know Special Education (SPEAKS) organization were on hand offering food to buyers in support of the SPEAKS organization.

Escherich said she wanted to start small for the first year of the hunt to gauge how it goes. A

casual observation on the popularity of the inaugural event suggests the event may be moved to the more spacious and nearby Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center or another facility for subsequent hunts.

Fundraising has started for next year's egg hunt and Escherich is accepting donations to replace eggs lost in the inaugural hunt and to increase the number of eggs. She said a final decision has yet to be made on the site for the 2017 hunt.

"We had a donation bake sale to fundraise for next year's egg hunt. Money raised will be used to replace eggs and purchase even more eggs to expand the hunt for next year," Escherich said. "If we want to get into a bigger facility, we need a lot more than what I have raised funds to purchase."

No doubt exists about the popularity of the first hunt brought to the community by one mother with a small army looking to engage folks in a fun family event.

"This event was 100 percent funded by community donations," Escherich noted. She indicated she had donation cans posted at Soo Corner Store and the EZ Mart gas station.

Businesses sponsoring eggs, candy and baskets included McDonalds, Burger King, the Antlers, Jump U.P., Alpine Chocolat Haus, Applebees, A Cut Above, All-Star Graphics, Auto Zone, Big Lots!, Bright Futures Day Care, Buffalo Wild Wings, Century 21, CosmoProf, Cup of the Day, Family Fare, Family Dollar, Family Video, Hungry Howie's, Little Ceasars, Malette Construction, Midpoint Marathon, Monica Lubiarez-Quigley Law Office, Old Mission Bank, Pizza Hut, Pure Country Family Restaurant, Quaker State, R&R Marine Supply, Save-A-Lot, TJ Maxx, U.P. Tire, Smith & Company Real Estate, WalMart, Waste Management and officials of the tribe's board of directors.

Escherich is not wasting any time seeking donations for the 2017 community egg hunt set for Saturday, April 15, 2017.

She is seeking a larger site to accommodate over 500 youngsters in searches for over 10,000 eggs.

Anyone with contributions may contact Escherich at (989) 646-1582 or tmielens@gmail.com.

Donations of plastic egg shells, baskets and cash are the most sought after items.

Opens  
May 1st

## Weatherization Program



The Sault Tribe Housing Authority will be accepting applications for its Weatherization Program as of May 1st, 2016.

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

Description of services to include:

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

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

Please contact the Home Ownership Program  
Jamie Harvey @ (906)495-1450  
or (800)794-4072



Above left, tykes and parents gather around eggs placed in the open to facilitate the hunt for the smaller children, a larger section of the floor has eggs hidden with shredded paper at the first Community Easter Egg Hunt in Sault Ste. Marie. Above right, some of the Easter prizes waiting to be won. Left, tykes hunting for eggs with helpers in the first of the day's three hunts for different age groups. The special guest of honor, the Easter Bunny, appeared so he could visit with about 400 children at the inaugural hunt. The Easter Bunny arrived with the help of an old friend, Jim Winegard. Tiffany Escherich, who initiated the inaugural hunt indicated fundraising for next year's egg hunt has commenced, she will be found selling chocolate covered strawberries at the SPEAKS Education craft show at Sault Area High School on May 7. At this time, she is also planning a Pampered Chef and Thirty-one bingo night at the Antlers Restaurant in Sault Ste. Marie at a date yet to be determined.

Photos by  
Rick Smith



*Child care subsidies available through ACFS*

**FROM ACFS STAFF**

Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) announces funding available through the Child Care Development Fund Program to help defray quality child care costs for families whose parents work, attend education programs or both. Help through the fund is based on household income and type of child care provider.

Families income-eligible for the State of Michigan's Child Development and Care Program will be required to access the state's program.

The ACFS fund also regulates child care providers on trust land. If you live on tribal reservation land and would like to become a tribally-licensed home day care provider, registered relative provider or registered day care aide, please contact ACFS. Child Care Development Fund applications are available at any ACFS office or online at [www.saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/acfsdirectservices/68-membership-services/acfs/acfs-direct-services/91-child-care-development-fund](http://www.saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/acfsdirectservices/68-membership-services/acfs/acfs-direct-services/91-child-care-development-fund).

For more information, please call 632-5250 or toll-free (800) 726-0093.

**Thanking community for helping make Family Fun Days a success**

Dear Editor,

The staff of Anishnabek Community and Family Services thanks the following entities for their contributions to the 2016 Family Celebration Day in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on March 28: Sault Tribe Housing Authority, Advocacy Resource Center, Community Health Program, Law Enforcement, Tribal Court, Youth Education and Activities, early childhood education programs, United Way of the EUP, Girl Scouts of the EUP, Great Start Readiness Program/EUP Intermediate School District, Chippewa County Department of Health and Human Services, Chippewa County Health Department Tobacco-Free Living Coalition, Chippewa County Council for Youth and Families, Animal Kingdom, Community Health Access Coalition, Families Against Narcotics and the Dafter Lions Club.

Thanks to our co-sponsors: Anishnabek Community and Family Services, Sault Tribe Housing Authority, Chippewa County Council for Youth and Families and the Great Start/Eastern Upper Peninsula

Intermediate School District.

Thanks to our other donors: M&C Water Systems, Save-A-Lot, Parker Ace Hardware, Unit I Sault Tribe Board Representative Kim Gravelle, Dana Piippo, Soo Locks Boat Tours, Kewadin Casino, Mackinac Island Carriage Tours, Star Line Ferry, Super 8 Motel, JKL Fiduciary Committee, The Cutting Room, Back in Motion, Days Inn, Domino's Pizza, Dondee Lanes, Family Fare, Family Video, Indo-China Garden, Jump UP, McDonald's, Picture This Photography, Taco Bell, The Hair Studio, Palace Saloon, Wendy's and Zorba's.

Special thanks to our volunteers, Jenny Gillotte, Jennifer Gillotte, Gina Cook, Les Neubert, Cameron Martineau, Jennifer Clerc, Jackie Tasker-Ailing, Sault Tribe youth council: Sara Weber, Mady Weber, Aurora Kelly, Alexis Kelly, Mia Keller, Selena LaCrosse, Dawn LaCrosse, and Lynnne Gregg, and Youth Education and Activities staff: Caitlyn Synett, Melissa King, Jill Lawson.

Thank you, Jessica Gillotte, et al., ACFS

**Notice of Odenaang road construction**

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Transportation Program announces intention to reconstruct East Polaris Drive, Timberwolf Drive, South Cougar Drive and Wolverine Drive at the Odenaang housing site in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. The project is in Chippewa County and is scheduled for during the 2016 construction year. The total net length of centerline is 6,130 feet and the project is funded through the Bureau of Indian Affairs

Tribal Transportation Program. Work will include drainage improvements, sub-base, aggregate base, curb, gutter, sidewalk, HMA and drainage along existing asphalt roadway. Plans and other related information concerning the project are available for viewing by contacting Wendy Hoffman, transportation planner, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI. 49783, (906) 635-6050.

**Sault Tribe job openings —**

Sault Ste. Marie and Kincheloe Economic development director – full time/regular – open until filled

Nurse practitioner/physician assistant – on call – open until filled

Staff pharmacist – part time/regular – open until filled

Education director – full time/regular – open until filled

Assistant prosecutor – full time/regular – open until filled

Event worker – part time/regular – open until filled

Insurance manager – full time/regular – open until filled

Weight room monitor – part time/regular – open until filled

Medical technologist – part time/regular – open until filled

Project specialist (education) – full time/regular – open until filled

Diagnostic radiology technologist – full time/regular – open until filled

Manistique and St. Ignace Chief solo dentist (Manistique) – full time/regular – open until filled

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

Staff dentist (St. Ignace) – part time/regular – open until filled

Sault Kewadin Casino Chief executive officer – full time/regular – open until filled

Marketing director – full time/regular – open until filled

Christmas Kewadin Casino Bartender – part time/regular – open until filled

Line cook – (2) part time/regular – open until filled

**Monday night beginning Ojibwe language class canceled**

Due to poor attendance at our Monday night beginning language class, the Language Department canceled the class until further notice. However, we are keeping a sign-up list going and remain hopeful of

filling the list and re-instating the class. To sign up, please call Colleen Medicine at (906) 635-6050. All of the other language classes still proceeding. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

CHIPPEWA-LUCE-MACKINAC COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY  
P.O. BOX-70  
SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783

**QUARTERLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM**

There will be a T.E.F.A.P. commodities food distribution in the Eastern Upper Peninsula on June 8th thru June 10th 2016. For more information please call 632-3363.

**Distribution for the Chippewa, Luce and Mackinac Quarterly Food Distribution is as follows:**

WEDNESDAY, June 8, 2016

Clark Township Community Center, Cedarville (3 – 5 p.m.)  
*(Center Time and Day Change)*  
Drummond Island Township Hall, (3 – 4 p.m.)  
Newberry Community Building (alley), (2 – 4 p.m.)

THURSDAY, June 9, 2016

Pickford Township Hall, (8 – 10 a.m.)  
Raber Township Hall, Goetzville (8 – 9 a.m.)  
Rudyard Community Center, (8 – 10:30 a.m.)  
300 Water Street (Senior High Rise), (10 – 11 a.m.)  
Sugar Island Community Center, (8 – 9 a.m.)  
Whitefish Township Hall, Paradise, (8 a.m. – Noon)  
Mackinac County C.A.A., St. Ignace, (8:30 – 11:30 a.m.)

FRIDAY, June 10, 2016

Detour Township Hall

Distribution is 9 a.m. until Noon, UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. Many centers will NOT remain open once the food is gone. Check with local centers in case of a schedule change.

**Insurance Manager Position**

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians seeks qualified applicants to fill the position of **Insurance Manager**.

The Insurance Manager is responsible for performing a wide range of difficult to complex administrative activities within the organization related to analyzing and understanding the insurance needs of the organization through its directors, enterprise managers and department supervisors to design both short and long range solutions. The position is responsible for protecting the assets of the organization and for working towards eliminating vulnerabilities and mitigating risk issues.

Qualified applicants shall possess a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management or related field required. Minimum of 2 years management, supervisory and administrative experience required.

Sault Tribe Human Resource Department  
2186 Shunk Road  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

(906) 635-7032

Or apply online: [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com)

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

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

*Win Awenen Nisitotung* welcomes submissions of news articles, feature stories, photographs, columns and announcements of American Indian or non-profit events.

All submissions are printed at the discretion of the editor, subject to editing and are not to exceed 400 words. Unsigned submissions are not accepted.

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

*Win Awenen Nisitotung* is funded by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and is published

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

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

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

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

Please call for rates to other foreign countries.

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## Chairperson



**CHARLES FORGRAVE**

Forgrave for chair, the right stuff

I was raised in a home some would call substandard. Well, I like to define my own experience in this world. I prefer to say I was raised in a home of good-willed loving people, end of story. I was raised in the fishing village of Iroquois Beach west of the Sault on Lake Superior.

I come from fishermen, pulpwood cutters, berry pickers and construction workers.

I was the first one of the village to go to college. I got a B.S. in education and did a half-year of graduate work in public administration. I earned my way by working relief on the ore boats and tugboats in the summer and by working in the dorm kitchens in the winters. I borrowed some money from the National Defense Act in the early '60s.

I'm not asking for your vote based on my good looks or positive personality. I actually have some things that I'm going to do which I think will revitalize the tribe, besides waiting for the Lansing and Detroit casinos to become operational.

I have a reasonable plan for the following:

- To incentivize the board to send the new constitution out to a vote of the people. Also, to elect common ground candidates who agree to send it out to a vote.
- To raise a regulated tribal militia and to join the United Nations and to attend its general assemblies.
- To hire a professional management team to bring our casinos online and to operate them efficiently.
- For diversifying our tribal economy, beginning immediately.
- For putting the board back to working for us again; I feel like we're working for them, something wrong with that picture.
- To forgive the board for failing to successfully handle our businesses for us and for squandering both our futures and our children's futures.
- For getting an apology from the board that will help us to let go of our failed past and to prepare us for moving on into a successful future.

Please go to my Facebook sites to read my platform; it's long but please take the time to read it. Go to Facebook, type Sault Tribe into the Facebook search widow and they will come up. I will beat the big-shot politicians and their huge \$50,000 campaigns with the help of the tribe's beautiful young people and their hard working moms and dads like you. Please circulate my posts off those sites as widely as possible.

Call me at (906) 259-1558 or

259-3378 to talk or to argue.  
Thanks, Chuck



**KEITH MASSAWAY**

Aanii, Maysaswaywannine Ndizhiniikas Etta Knaamashing Niin Doojiba Jichakk Doodem. Hello, My name is Man With A Loud Voice. I am from St. Ignace and I am Crane Clan.

First of all, I am very honored and humbled to be running for the chairman of our tribe. Working on the board of directors for the last 10 years have given me an understanding of how a government is much different from a business. I come from a successful business background and can apply that knowledge and experience to lead our enterprises forward and to have them continue to prosper. With my 10 years of governmental background, I now have the necessary experience to help move our tribe forward with strong leadership.

I would like to put forth five key words and phrases to show what is needed and what has to be done.

The first of these phrases is, "Stop the Chaos." We must stop the destructive comments, lies and innuendos that follow the chairman and board. I do not partake in these actions and would work diligently to bring honor and respect back to our tribe.

Next is "Sustainability." We must look to our needs for the future. We have for too long fought the brush fire in front of us and let the forest fire keep growing behind us. We have to make our tribe resilient and build in protections that will carry us through the next seven generations safely.

"Accountability" comes next. We need to hold the federal government accountable for their treaties. We need to hold the state accountable to uphold our sovereign rights. We must hold our tribe accountable to take care of our citizens.

The next phrase is very important to me. "Stop the Bullying." We have to stop the bullying at all levels of our government and businesses. It must start at the top. We teach our children in school how being a bully is never a good thing yet we condone it in almost every aspect of our lives, from the presidential campaigns to state legislatures and every other level of government. We tend to turn a blind eye to it and our children

can't understand why. Neither do I. We have to work together and empower everybody to stand up to bullying and not to let them get what they want just because they are demeaning, degrading or disrespectful. Bullying needs to be eradicated from the tribe.

The last word is "Respect." If we do not respect each other on the board then how can we expect anyone else to respect us? Respect isn't demanded, it is earned and it is one of the few things everyone has and can give to each other. Without respect, whatever you are trying to accomplish will always fall on deaf ears. I will make our tribal government respectable once again.

We need strong leadership. We have to start now. I humbly ask for your support in this election.

Keith Massaway  
keithmassaway.com



**TOM MILLER**

Tribal members,

My name is Tom Miller and I am seeking your support in my efforts to serve as the Chairman of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians. The role of Chairman takes an experienced individual with vision, maturity, accountability and professionalism.

My professional experience includes serving as the superintendent of the Hannahville Indian School for the past 36 years (retiring in June), as well as small business owner. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Health Administration and a Master's Degree in Educational Administration. My role as a national leader in Indian Education, involved me working closely with the US legislature with the struggle to ensure that education funds are continuously appropriated.

In addition to my professional career in education, I have been fortunate to serve our tribe as a representative from 2004 to 2012 and have a firm grasp on the politics and issues facing our Tribe. While I have not been involved in Tribal politics for nearly four years, I have been paying close attention to the struggles and issues that plague our tribe. I have witnessed an inability of the board and chairperson to work together. These issues can be fixed in a very quick manner by instilling professionalism and ensuring accountability at the elected level, as well as within our enterprises

and governmental operations.

My professional, educational and acquired experiences enable me to properly represent our tribe at the tribal, state and national level. It is of critical to note that the most important area of focus should be at the tribal level. While I cannot change what has happened in the past, I can affect what is going to happen in the future.

I believe that the future of the tribe consists of educating our membership to put them in control of their future and experience more opportunities for growth. As a Tribe, we need to increase the number of Tribal members who are in college (four-year/vocational), while at the same time not losing sight of the need to have young people career prepped and ready to enter our work force.

The future of our tribe's success also hinges on our ability to diversify our economic base. Our tribe has a few economic projects (casino expansion); however we must also focus on new and diverse non-gaming revenue streams. Our future may be supplemented by our gaming revenues, but it should not be solely dependent for our tribe's success.

Our tribe is at a major crossroads as to the direction it takes. It is imperative that our tribe has qualified and experienced leadership who can evaluate and choose properly on these crucial decisions. As a tribal elder, I have the ability to look at problems from a slightly different view than those who do not have the experience and maturity that comes with time.

I have and will continue to always do what is best for the tribe, to ensure our tribe moves forward and gets "back on track." Sincerely,  
Tom Miller  
(906) 644-3334  
Millertom906@gmail.com



**AARON PAYMENT**

Dear Sault Tribe members everywhere:

I am honored that you returned me to office in 2012. After losing an election, you see things differently. This is why I have left the past in the past and focused on establishing our tribal prominence on a national level while balancing the budget back home without cutting services or jobs. Rather than pitch my qualifications, I

would rather give homage to some of the collaborative work and inspiration I received from working with fellow board members.

Upon returning, Director Abramson urged me to help establish a regional IHS health board. She also nominated me to join her on the U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Tribal Advisory Committee. Recently, she nominated me as vice-chair of this committee. In 2015, I was elected an Executive Officer to the National Congress of American Indians; was appointed by President Obama to the National Advisory Council on Indian Education; and appointed a Member of the Federal Negotiated Rule Making team to write the regulations for the Every Student Succeeds Act. Chi Miigwech, Cathy.

Director Lana Causley also inspired me by asking me to help crystalize a focus on the epidemic rates of teen suicide and accidental overdoses. This hit home as my beautiful cousin died from an accidental overdose. She was a vibrant, athletic and brilliant young lady but her first time was sadly her last. Since then, I have dedicated my dissertation topic to historical trauma and demonstrating the negative impact of the assimilation era and Indian Boarding schools. I have testified in Congress and to the HHS Secretary on this issue. Lana's care and compassion here inspired me to facilitate a session of all our services staff to begin our Tribal Action Planning, which is nearly complete. Chi Miigwech, Lana.

Returning to office with Director Dennis McKelvie, I asked if he'd be willing to serve as Treasurer. He agreed. At our very first meeting back, we scrutinized the downstate casino plan, which was negotiated by Keith Massaway, Tom Miller and Bernard Bouschor. We insisted on financial background checks on the developers, a market study and a traffic study. None of these had been done. We were slated to overbuild by \$100,000,000! We have since right sized the plan such that it is not only viable, we have maximized our potential revenues. Chi Miigwech, Denny.

Finally, I'd like to recognize Directors Chase and Morrow for collaborating with me to write a resolution to create our Health Access Adhoc Advisory Committee, which returned our clinics to Marquette and Escanaba; established after hour care in the Sault and St. Ignace; and set for a Trauma Triage function across the UP. Chi Miigwech, Directors Chase and Morrow.

Our work is not done. I believe we have set a new standard for expectations and outcomes for the Office of Chairperson. I would be humbled again if you give me the honor of serving you for another four years as your Chairperson. Chi Miigwech, Negee. — Aaron A. Payment, M.P.A., M.A.Ed.

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From Candidates, page 4  
**Unit 1**



ANGELINE BOULLEY

Ahniin! (Greetings) Angeline Boulley nindizhinikaaz (my name is). I want to EARN your vote. My experience, education and respect for our culture would be utilized as YOUR elected representative to our tribal board. I would work for YOU.

**ABOUT ME:** I am a strong Native woman (Anishinaabe kwe) who comes from good people. Growing up downstate in New Buffalo, Mich., I visited grandparents, aunts and cousins in Sault Ste. Marie every summer. My ancestral and cultural roots are firmly on Sugar Island. I was the first member of my family to graduate from college. My career has focused on Indian issues and public policy. I am a thoughtful person who conducts herself with integrity and respect. I've worked for our tribe for 10 years in executive management positions focusing on education, culture, elders and social services.

**WHY DO I WANT TO SERVE?** Is this the tribe our grandparents hoped it would be? For 10 years I've worked for the tribe as the assistant executive director, experiencing how our current board treats employees and managers. I want to do better for our tribe, our members and our employees. Working with many tribal communities during my career, I recognize there are different ways to address issues. I have three grown children and am concerned for the future of our tribe.

**WHAT WOULD MY LEADERSHIP BRING TO THE BOARD?** My focus would be on the long-term survival and sovereignty of our tribe. I treat people with dignity and can work with anyone. I may not agree with another person's ideas or their methods; however, I strive to find common ground. I demonstrated these skills with the Constitution review sessions, which included board, elders, and original Constitution Committee members. Listening to elders, actively promoting our culture and finding leadership opportunities for youth are additional ways to "walk my talk."

**WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST ISSUES FACING OUR TRIBE?**

- Most of our tribal issues stem from lack of a separation of powers. Fix this and Sault Tribe will have an effective structure for addressing issues. I will advocate for a separation of powers — meaning, board/legislative branch SETS tribal codes/laws/policy, administration/executive branch IMPLEMENTS codes/policy through programs and services and court/law enforcement/judicial branch INTERPRETS/ENFORCES codes/laws.
- We are unprepared for the approaching storm that is the

Mackinaw City casino, to open within weeks! Located less than 20 miles from our St. Ignace casino and operated by Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians, it WILL impact us and REDUCE the amount of tribal funding for governmental programs and services to members. What is being done to market our casino in St. Ignace to visitors who will be this close to the Mackinac Bridge? A crisis is both a threat and an opportunity, depending upon our leaders' ACTIONS.

Working for YOU on the Board would be an honor and I respectfully ask for your vote! Call me at (906) 203-8847 if you have questions. Your voice matters and every vote counts. Miigwech (thank you) for your support!



NICHOLE CAUSLEY

Aaniin! My name is Nichole Causley and I am running for a board seat in Unit I. My Ojibway name is Shaanaiin, the Southern Wind that Starts the Thaw. I am bear clan from my father and my mother is crane clan from her father. I have an internal desire to care for and nourish our people with a loving and passionate heart, which motivates me to step into a leadership role for our tribe.

I have the leadership skills needed to bring about change: courage, bravery, respect, humility, dedication, commitment, experience and knowledge to provide the leadership you deserve and want. Through working my way out of poverty, to raising four beautiful children and finishing a formal education (B.S. and M.P.A. in public administration) while working against the odds, I humbly ask for your vote.

I laid out a plan in my teenage years regarding 1) getting a higher education, 2) keeping my kids out of foster care, 3) keeping my family safe. As I became a young mother at 19, with a high school diploma, a little college, living on the reservation dealing black jack, I made the decision that I wanted to represent our people.

I have gained 12 years of working experience on the casino side and the governmental side providing me the perspective needed to lead our tribe into the future. Along with life lessons from elders, I know how to be a leader for our tribe.

Throughout the years, my mom, Lisa, always said, "You can be anything you put your mind to." She also reminded me throughout the years that I have to make hard choices and stick to them. My dad, Darryl (R.I.P.), and my uncle, Jer (R.I.P.), always told me, "Get your priorities straight, girl," as I forewent washing dishes to doing homework while babies slept. And, ohh, how proud these men were when I graduated from university with a bachelor's degree! They taught me to hold

fast to my vision and keep in mind my priorities. Creator taught me have faith and keep moving forward as I accomplished each new goal. God love 'em all for putting up with my stubbornness, hard work, dedication and commitment to seeing my vision through!

I will bring these values to the table when elected. They are the values of our ancestors, the values that have brought our tribe up from the dirt on Shunk Road to a \$90 million a year operation, employing more than 1,100 employees across the seven-county service area to offering more than 85 government funded programs and services.

**Mission:** "WE, THE SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS, to provide for the perpetuation of our way of life and the welfare and prosperity of our people, to preserve our right of self-government, and to protect our property and resources, do ordain and establish this Constitution and Bylaws." (Sault Tribe, 1975).

Ask yourself: Are we better off today than we were four years ago? If NO, vote for new leaders.



CHARLES COOK SR.

Aaniin! My name is Chuck Cook, "Giigada Aanakwad" (Talking Cloud). My clan is "ajijak", crane. My family roots are from Sugar Island. My Mother, Margaret (Mugs) Cook, was born on Duck Island.

I have been involved in our culture and community for more than 40 years. I have a strong passion for our culture, teachings and community. You have to have this passion to be an effective and strong representative for our people. Our Seven Grandfather teachings will guide me while serving the tribal members and the tribal board.

I am humbly asking for your support to serve you as a Unit I representative on the Sault Tribe Board of Directors.

- I want to be involved in strengthening the foundation of our culture and financial assets. Both can be accomplished if we work together. Strengthening our Anishnabe way of life, language and teachings, we will flourish and grow. Preserving our Anishinabek way of life will create strong leadership in our future generations and will promote a prouder and stronger current leadership.

- We need to continue to improve our cultural programs, assistance for elders, youth and employment opportunities. Reinstating the 40k contribution plan for employees to supplement their future financial needs.

- Protecting and preserving our current treaty rights to fish, hunt and gather is crucial. The current Consent Decree of 2007, based on the Treaty of 1836, expires

in 2020. We need to ensure this agreement remains in place, planning in terms of generations, not years.

- We are established business owners in this community and surrounding communities. Our primary focus has been on our gaming facilities. We need to diversify our investments into other proven businesses and investments that have potential for a stable and safe growth. Doing so will subsidize our financial needs and help us when our gaming facilities are not at their peak.

- I retired from the Michigan Department of Corrections in 2013. Now I can devote the necessary time to be an effective board member. Keeping communication open between the board and tribal members, we will strengthen our cultural foundation and return our tribe to financial prosperity. It would be an honor and humbling privilege to be "YOUR VOICE" as your Unit I board representative.

**Education:** Bachelor of Science with a major in security administration and a minor in business administration; associate degree in criminal justice from Northern Michigan University.

**Experience:**

- Michigan Department of Corrections (Management, budget and policy compliance)
- Extensive leadership training
- Certified substance abuse counselor
- Instructor for Family Reunification Program
- Dafer Township Board
- Adult and juvenile probation officer for Sault Tribe Court
- Internship with Sault Tribe,

which led to assistant head of security

- Child Welfare Committee with Sault Tribe
- Sworn in deputy for Chippewa County Sheriff Department, mounted division
- Contact information: (906) 203-8862 or email; dafter13@gmail.com

Primary Ballots will be mailed out on April 28, 2016. DON'T FORGET TO VOTE! REMEMBER, "YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE."

MIIGWECH



ANGELA DECLUE

Hello, my name is Angela DeClue and I am running for a board seat in Unit One and humbly ask for your support.

I have been married for 20 years to my husband, Matthew; we have two children, Mark and Taylor, and one super special grandchild named Ryan.

I was born and raised in Pontiac, and moved to the Sault last year to run for this position, I have no immediate family in the area or working for the tribe.

I have had many of my family

See Candidates, page 6

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**Sault Tribe committee vacancies**

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

- Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - Two vacancies (men, four-year term)
- Health Board - One vacancy (four-year term)
- Inland Conservation Committee - Two vacancies (four-year term)
- Election Committee - Two vacancies (four-year term)
- Special Needs/Enrollment Committee - Five vacancies (two-year term)
- Housing Committee - One

vacancy for Unit III (four-year term)

- Child Welfare Committee - Five vacancies (four-year term)
- Elders subcommittees:
  - Unit II Hessel - Two regular vacancies, two alternates (four-year terms)
  - Unit II Newberry - Two regular vacancies, two alternates (four-year terms)
  - Unit III St. Ignace - One alternate (four-year term)
  - Unit IV Manistique - One alternate (four-year term)
  - Unit IV Escanaba - Two regular vacancies (four-year terms)
  - Unit IV Munising - One alternate (four-year term)
  - Unit V Marquette - One regular vacancy, one alternate (four-year term)



**From Candidates, page 5**

members who have advocated for our tribe, from my great-great-grandmother Delia (nee Mastaw) Wright, my grandmother Bertha (nee Wright) Richardson, my aunt Rosemary LaVictor, my uncle Mike Wright, cousin Nathan Wright, cousins Tommy Allard and Joy Lewis and many others.

I waited till my youngest son graduated from high school (3.98 G.P.A. GO TAYLOR) to see if I could help bring a different point of view to the board. I am not from this area, I don't know many people, and I have no obligations or debts to anyone. I have been following the political scene for the past seven to eight years and have been very active on social media, have attended board meetings when possible and have followed the Livestream and Ustream.

I packed up some belongings and I headed north; there is a one-year residency rule in our Constitution that disallows a large percentage of members to run for a position on our board of directors. Those that live out of the area can vote, but aren't allowed to run for a seat unless they uproot everything they have ever known on a chance of maybe getting elected. Sounds a little ridiculous.

I think it's long overdue that the division that is felt in this tribal community stop. Its my belief that a majority of members who live out of the area only want to feel as though they belong to the tribal community, if eventually some sort of health center is in the future for downstate members because of a casino, that's icing on the cake.

I would like to see the board make quarterly meetings downstate, I would be honored to be a voice for the members, a voice of the members, and a voice with the members, not a voice that is above the members.

**Miigwetch**

If you would like to speak with me personally I can be reached at (248) 895-2351, email [angiede@comcast.net](mailto:angiede@comcast.net) or facebook <https://m.facebook.com/Angieforunitone/>.



**BETTY FREIHEIT**  
VOTE Betty (nee Krull)  
FREIHEIT Unit I

Hello, tribal members, my name is Betty F. Freiheit. I am a candidate for Unit I. I am respectfully asking for your support in the upcoming election.

My lineage is from a long list of people from the Durant Roll. I am a tribal elder from Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. I am number four out of 13 children, 11 still living. After the passing of my mother, there were eight siblings left at home. I helped raise four of

them. I have two children and six grandkids. I retired in good standing from the State of Michigan as a correction officer. I am not in this race for the money — I am financially secure. I obtained my secure financial status without a college degree! I have attended college, where I studied Native American government and law. I am NOT a candidate that comes out of the woodwork only at election time. I have been a watchdog for our tribe for the past 25 years. As a result of my advocating for your tribal rights, I have made many positive changes that have impacted tribal members' lives. I have sat on tribal committees. I became the first lay advocate in the Tribal Court.

If elected to the board, my platform will be 100 percent in support for the following:

- Separation of powers
- Electing tribal judges and prosecutor
- Pass a code of ethics
- Willing to consider positive amendments to the Sault Tribe Constitution and Bylaws
- Work with local, state and federal officials on behalf of the tribe
- Passing the Violence Against Women Act to prosecute non-Natives who commit crimes against Native women in Indian Country
- Eliminate the board of directors retirement and benefits
- Decrease the board's salary and increase elder checks
- Term limits for elected officials.
- Enforce the Sault Tribe (Native) hiring preference
- Promote education, culture, health, treaty rights and elder care
- Drill our own wells and septic systems
- Build more affordable tribal housing
- Establish a trade school for tribal members
- Develop a department for grant writer
- Eliminate Tribal Card from Expiring and Fees
- Never any back door deals.
- You can count on me to work for you!

Without your support to place me in a position where I would be more effective than a watchdog for the tribe, it is a waste of my time and tribal resources for me to continue! Without membership support to successfully place me on the primary ballot, I have no other choice but to respectfully end my political watch.

Thanks you for your support,  
Betty F. Freiheit,  
[sootribal@lighthouse.net](mailto:sootribal@lighthouse.net)  
(906) 322-0976

**JANICE FRYE**

For those who do not know me. mv name is Janice Frve. I

am the daughter of Phyllis (nee Mastaw) Gregg and the granddaughter of John and Clara Mastaw. I have been married to my husband, Bill, for 37 years. We have three children and two grandchildren.

I began working for the tribe in 1985 when we opened the first casino. We were very small at the time. Did not yet have slot machines, but we had blackjack. I worked in the cashier's cage.

In 1990, we purchased the American Café and operated it for 10 years. For some reason, my heart kept pulling me back to the tribe. A position came open in the restaurant for an assistant manager. I applied for the position and started back working for the tribe. Over the next few years, I applied and took over the positions of restaurant manager, assistant food and beverage director and then, in January 2006, director of food and beverage, which I held until January 2014.

When I retired from my position, I left behind some very good team members who work hard for the tribe every day. This is in all areas, casino, governmental and enterprise. Those in charge must not overlook those efforts. The team members are on the front line of the tribe's dysfunction. Think of the tribe as a machine, with the engine being the team members. Without their hard work daily, we would come to a grinding halt, and very quickly. I would focus my efforts first on team member issues. This is ALL team members both tribal and non-tribal. The benefits that have been lost over the years need to be brought back, beginning with the 401K. We also need to make it easier to recruit and retain staff.

My next effort would be to focus on issues that the members have already voted on and approved, separation of powers. We need people making decisions for the tribe that are free from political influence. This would give the board time to focus on the future. We need a long-range master plan created. This would give future board members a "road map" to follow. We cannot reinvent the wheel every two years in an election cycle.

My goal in these efforts is to try, with the help of fellow board members, to get the tribe moving forward. We are lost and that weighs heavy on my heart. Recent events in my life have made me stop to think very long and hard about what I want to do for the rest of my life. My goal right now is to help the tribe get away from all this nastiness and return to our roots; the ones where we actually cared about one another and helped each other. We have children, grandchildren and future members counting on us to do so. Let us all stand proudly when we say, "I belong to, or work for, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians."

**SAMUEL GARDNER**

Boozhoo, Gizhii Aanakwad N'dizhnkaaz, Bahweting Maampii N'doonjbaa, Mukwaa N'doodem.

I just want to take this moment to thank everyone so far that has been supportive of my decision to make a run for the board. This

**SAMUEL GARDNER**

has already turning into quite the learning experience. That's one thing I like the pride myself on is realizing that you never really stop learning.

My premise for running for the board is simple. We need to take a step forward into the future with our tribe, but a large step back into our culture. We are members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Now take a good look at the first descriptive word, tribe. We are a tribe, a band of people who existed before the development of this country. We are distinct, we are dependent on our land, and we are also dependent upon our language and culture to ensure our continued survival as a people.

We are at a precipice. We have so much as a tribe, to think that we could ever lose what we have. But even though I see what we as a people have to offer to our own tribe and to others around the country. I worry that our traditions are no longer a focus to our community. I feel we forget about the respect that our elders deserve. I worry that although we focus heavily on education for our next generations it seems we forget they are the future of our tribe. We have programs out there to help with our health and sobriety. Yet we have nothing to persuade families to do something different. We are forgetting to look out for our own members both young and old.

As a member I want to see us last, I want to be around when our children run this tribe. I don't want us to lose our ways simply because we didn't put them into focus for ourselves. I say this out of my own concern for what I know and what I see. I know some of the language. I don't know many people my age from our community that can speak it fluently. I know some of our culture, again I do not know any members my age that know it much more than I do. Our decisions need to become more focused. Although many decisions we make need to be a here and now decision, we need to think about our seven future generations. We need to offer more to our members, more jobs, and more opportunities, more of a future.

So as we enter this election cycle please, think about what everyone has to offer. How can this make a difference for our future? After all that is what we should be focused on.

Chi Miigwech for your time and support,

Samuel Gardner

Please feel free to contact me at (906) 203-0356 or [sgardner86.sg@gmail.com](mailto:sgardner86.sg@gmail.com).

**JANET LIEDEL**

Aanii! I would like to introduce myself to you. I am Janet Liedel or Abdabzip naneesh que of mukwa dodem. I'm the great-granddaughter of John and Florence McCoy, granddaughter to Theodore and Jeannett "Chicky" Corbiere and daughter of Arlene King. My family is from Payment on Sugar Island, which is where our tribe originated. I've been married to my husband, Dan Liedel, for 27 years and have been blessed with two daughters, Stephanie and Sarah, along with one grandson, Chayse.

I've had the privilege of attending our tribe's workshops and meetings for approximately 35 years. I've filed multiple referendums to ensure the membership gets to vote on important issues that directly affect our tribe. I've always asked the hard questions to our leaders as well as advocated for members and employees on the issues they have. I'm a current member of the Secretarial Election Committee for Sault Tribe. I volunteered for the Chippewa Health Access Coalition from 2004-06. I've assisted with countless fundraisers for Sault Tribe members for a variety of reasons.

I believe in equality and transparency, in that each and every tribal member matters and should be informed of every action that is taken by their leadership. We have many issues that need to be addressed from Little Traverse Bands putting up a casino in Mackinac City, which will affect our revenue sources to our fisheries and the 2020 Great Lakes Consent Decree. We need to expand our health care services we provide to our members including putting more funding towards our mental health and substance abuse programs, as both are in high demand and serious need in our tribal community.

Our tribe seems to run on crisis management! We need to take the politics out of everyday operations and treat our employees with respect as they are our professionals running our day-to-day operations. Our codes need to be updated to reflect our Constitution. Our culture and traditions needs to be more prominent in the decisions we make as a tribe.

As a leader, I will listen to what the membership is telling me and what their concerns are. I'm determined to make a difference for our tribe. I have a strong voice and ethical values, I have made many positive changes for our tribe as a member already, elect me and see what else I can do.

Chi miigwech,  
Janet

*See Candidates, page 7*





**JENNIFER MCLEOD TYSON**

Born Jennifer Lynn McLeod, my parents Laurence and Carleen raised me and my six siblings in a rural setting, where my favorite pastimes were hunting and fishing, or helping my dad fix cars. I graduated from high school, started college and at 19 years of age was the executive director of Oakland County American Indians, Inc. (a social service agency operating under a CETA grant).

I am the mother of two sons. When they were young, I successfully opened my own graphics communications company. A health scare resulted in closing my business to spend more time with my children. I then worked in the private business sector, briefly for our tribe and also as a subcontractor on a Department of Defense project.

I moved to the Upper Peninsula in 1998, and began working at the Hannahville Indian School. The students were amazing and, at their request, I returned to college, earning my teaching degree and graduating summa cum laude (4.0 GPA). I still make time to work with tribal students, teaching culture and language, in addition to reading, writing and arithmetic. I am eagle clan and enjoy our old ways of life. My husband, Denny, and I live on Sugar Island with our granddaughter, Alana. We share our love of the "Anishinaabe way" with her, our five children and nine grandchildren.

I am a strong, determined, independent woman; influenced by what I believe is right, not by last names. My father taught me to never allow anyone else to do my thinking for me, and he was right! As a board member, I maintain my objectivity and do what I believe is right. This has made the chairman and occasionally other board members angry with me, but I STAND UP despite the obstacles and retributions. Our tribe is a great tribe, destined for great things, but it will take strong leadership and the support of our people to bring us back to our former glory. Working together, we can create a vision of greatness for our tribe that reaches *from the hearts of our ancestors to the hearts of our unborn children*. But we need to meet, face to face, and more than just once a year. I recall as a young girl, the gatherings in our homes, schools and tribal centers; if re-elected, I will do those things again.

Four years ago, I promised that I would work hard and put people first, and I did my best regardless of who tried to stop me. I have learned a great deal and stand before you now even stronger than before, and able to accomplish good things. We are facing some difficult challenges with

a new casino in Mackinaw City and the national elections coming up. I believe the knowledge and experience I have gained will help us to move forward. It's time to DO SOMETHING; *I am tired of talk that comes to nothing.*

Miigwech for your continued support.  
Anishinaabe gagige  
(Anishinaabe for always),  
Jen  
(906) 440-9151  
jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com



**MIKE MCKERCHIE**

Dear tribal members, I am respectfully asking for your vote as Unit I representative. My name is Michael McKerchie; my parents, Russ and Bonnie McKerchie, both worked for the tribe in various positions to help it grow and succeed. I'm the proud grandson of Earl and Adeline (nee Aikens) McKerchie and Ken and Helen (nee Gurnoe) McCoy.

I was born and raised in this community and am very proud member of the Sault Tribe. Together, my wife and I are raising our family here. I grew up in a household that fought for tribal sovereignty and treaty rights; they taught me the importance of being involved. For the last 22 years, I have worked for casino and tribal operations under several administrations. During that time, I've graduated LSSU with a bachelor's in political science, served over 14 years on the Election Committee and I am currently volunteering on the JKL Bahweting School Board, serving on the finance, compensation and policy committees.

I ask for your vote because I will work hard to represent you. I believe in responsible leadership even when it means making hard choices. No empty promises or just saying things you want to hear. I will work with community members, the tribal membership and the board of directors to move our tribe to a future our children and elders will be proud of.

I will work to improve our current operations. My work history and community involvement has had me witness first-hand the many internal problems our organization needs to overcome. Our casinos cannot remain competitive if we do not continuously keep them updated and inviting. I have also seen a lot of good employees leave our organization for numerous reasons — the tribe needs to invest back into our biggest resource — our team members. I will work to improve pay scales, increase training at all levels and create a better work environment. I will work to reduce micromanaging, minimize board involvement and re-evaluate internal services to bring accountability back to increase

morale and business functions. We must give the managers the proper tools if we expect our organization to succeed.

I believe in order for our tribe to maintain and improve services we need to diversify the tribe's resources. I support expanding our gaming operations as well as creating additional tribal businesses. Simply put, the tribe needs more resources to assist members and to expand our services to all tribal members that require assistance.

Our tribe can't afford to argue and delay. We need to work together and to listen to each other. Then we must act and get things accomplished. To better our tribe, we need to move forward. I believe this can be done with mutual respect and wanting our tribe to succeed. We need to learn to compromise once again. I promise to help achieve this and am willing to work with anyone who is trying to improve our tribe and our way of life. I respectfully ask for your vote and support.

Miigwech,  
Michael McKerchie



**DENNIS MCKELVIE**

Dear respected tribal members, My name is Dennis McKelvie. I am a 65-year-old elder and Unit I candidate for the Sault Tribe Board of Directors.

My wife of 46 years, Anne (nee Lahti), and I live on Sugar Island. My wife is also a tribal member. I graduated from Sault High School in June 1969 and entered the U.S. Army, serving 24 years in Vietnam, Germany and many places in the U.S. As a combat soldier in Vietnam, I earned a Bronze Star and Purple Heart. We lost our first child in 1970, the lowest point in my life. We have two living children, our daughter who was born in Germany and our son who was born at Kincheloe Air Force Base.

After retiring as first sergeant in 1993, I moved my family home to Sugar Island. I began working full-time for the U.S. Postal Service while attending Lake Superior State College studying political science and government. Continuing to work full-time with the USPS until elected as a Unit I board representative, I resigned my USPS position to give the tribe my full attention and energy.

If you don't know a lot about what I do in our own community, let me share a few things from over 17 years of helping. Before school starts, I hand out backpacks filled with school supplies. I help with Sault and Sugar Island powwows, help tribal families with Thanksgiving and Christmas and take care of Wilwalk Cemetery.

I've had the honor and privilege to serve as your tribal board member on and off for 12 years. During my tenure on the board,

there were many difficult, tough decisions to be made. Each time a decision was made, I, as a leader, asked myself how it would affect us as a tribal nation. Would this decision move us forward, or hold us back? It's not easy to make such decisions knowing there is always someone who doesn't agree with you, but a leader must be ready and willing to accept this. I have and will do so in the future.

I believe in being a full-time board member. Nobody past or present has a better record of attendance at board meetings and workshops than I do. We need to be full-time board members and do more for our people. Two of my biggest accomplishments on the board was establishing a primary election and eliminating the blood quantum requirement for elected office.

On a positive note, after 14 years of decreases in our casino revenues, 2015 was the first year we came up on the bottom line. We have been serious about paying down debt. We went from \$70 million in debt to \$12 million, and we need to keep going in that direction and drive down debt.

Many good candidates running and I don't have anything bad to say about them and won't. I wish them well in their endeavors.

Thank you for your continued support in the 2016 elections.

Dennis McKelvie



**GEORGE PARISH**

Together: Moving Forward and Preserving our Past!  
Vote for George Parish, Unit 1 Board of Directors  
Phone: (906) 440-1328

My name is George Parish. I am running for the Unit 1 Board of Directors. I have had the honor of living and working within our tribe my whole life. I have been employed by the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians since 1985. I have had the privilege of raising my family here and being a tribal police officer for the last 29 years. I continue my education on a regular basis as to issues facing our tribe. It's time that we all gather and place our focus on "home," protecting our values, teaching our youth and providing a bright future for all!

I have had the opportunity through the years to assist tribal members daily. I assisted in development of the National Indian Child Welfare policies, development of our tribe's adoption and foster care programs and ongoing community education with the Sault Tribe Police Department. It's been my honor to devote these years to our community. I believe in our people and I believe in helping our fellow community members, on or off the clock. I have seen the best and worst of circumstances facing

our tribe. I know that through compassion, support, education, economy and diversification we will sustain our way of life and make positive strides toward a brighter economic future. We must communicate to ensure that the honor and character of our people is upheld in building for our next seven generations.

I'm sure you want to know what my "agenda" is. My "agenda" in running for this office is simply put, to be your honest voice in the decision making for our tribe. I will work for you, listen to you and answer to you. I am not all-knowing and if you have questions that I cannot answer, I will tell you. I will also make it my mission to find the answers, educate myself and educate you in return. In turn, I will communicate the truth to you at all times regardless if it is what you want to hear or not. Honesty is my policy! I come from a place of care and concern for our tribe and this is why I ask for your support. We are a community and for us to be at our best, we must gather. Will you support me in efforts to protect our sovereign treaty rights, strive for native preference in business and employment, preserve and progress our current business assets, diversify our economic development and above all support our youths' education and our elders' way of life? I believe in the character of our tribe and our ability to take action, making a better life today and preserving it for your grandchildren and mine!

How do you feel about the ongoing debate surrounding a separation of powers?

Give me a call, let's discuss this. I want to know your thoughts!



**MAUREEN PAVLAT**

Aanii, I am Maureen Sue (nee McCoy) Pavlat and I am seeking a board seat for Unit I. I go by my middle name Sue. I grew up in Payment on Sugar Island. My parents are Arthur (Nugs) and Joyce (Leask) McCoy. I am the oldest of eight children. I have been married to Rudy G. Pavlat for 45 years. We have 3 children: Gerry, Travis, and Tanya and 5 grandchildren.

I worked at JKL Bahweting School from 1996-2014. I retired after 17 years as a paraprofessional. While there, I was involved in PAC (Parent Advisory Committee). I was lead paraprofessional for 10 years. I was a liaison between administration and the paraprofessional body in both educational and administrative decisions.

As a board member, I will do what is best for the membership. I will do this by listening to the members. I believe that our youth is our future. We need to encourage our youth to educate

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themselves beyond high school. To instill in them that skilled labor such as welding, carpentry, automotive, electrical services, machining, plumbing, pipe fitting, linesman, ect. are not only valuable occupations but are also dying trades that can be capitalized on with very little time or monetary investment. That these very occupations are what our forefathers built our country on but are falling by the wayside to the expectation of all youth to go to college.

I have strong ethical and moral values. I believe that everyone should be shown respect.

I would like to see positive changes for our Tribe. I will live the change that I want to see for our Tribe and our people.

Maureen Sue Pavlat



**HELEN WILKINS**

Vote for Honesty – Hard Work – Self Sufficiency – Respect – Accountability – Commitment

My name is Helen (nee LaLonde) Wilkins, Red Sky Woman, and I am wolf clan. I am running for Unit I representative on the tribal board of directors. I will not make promises I cannot keep and I will always try to be a leader among our people.

**Experience:** I currently work for the Sault Tribe Housing Authority (five years) as administrative assistant to the director. Before this I have worked for Human Resources and Law Enforcement. In the early 1990s I worked for the Sault casino in multiple departments as we grew so fast. I owned and operated Frank and Jim's in Kinross until it sold few years ago. I currently own and operate a seasonal restaurant and bar (The Bunker) at the golf course in Kincheloe. I have a very diverse background in work and self-employment and feel this will help in the many aspects of what a director will need to know when working for you.

**Community involvement:** I am a committee member on the Sault Tribe Child Welfare Committee; I volunteer for the Chippewa Animal Shelter on a regular basis and have been an exchange student parent for many years. I have also been on the Sault Michigan Hockey Association Board, volunteered at the JKL School for children's functions, Early Head Start Parent Committee, and as a F.O.C.U.S. organization board member. I believe that being a valuable part of your community is very important and helps you to not just live in a community, but be part of it.

**Issues to focus on:** I cannot make promises on what I alone can do, but I will give you the information on what I want to

work on with the board as a whole. We need to improve how the board functions and gets business done during workshops and meetings. The board needs to be held accountable and start getting the important things done and stop micromanaging the management team we have in place and let them do their jobs. We need to improve the current work environment for all casino and government team members with empowering them to do their best and make our management team accountable. We need to diversify and work on business opportunity (besides gaming) to become self-sufficient. Enhance job training programs for current team members looking to promote within and tribal members who want to work for their tribe.

We need to stop the dysfunction and bring back our Seven Grandfathers teachings and work to enhance our tribal heritage for the future generations. We need to hold the federal and state governments accountable for our rights as a sovereign nation. We need to take hands-on approaches to ensure our rights in our Great Lakes Fishing Consent Decree do not disappear in 2020 as could happen. Our fishing and hunting rights need to be preserved and protected.

Please contact me anytime at (906) 440-6632, votehelen-wilkins@gmail.com or on Facebook: Vote Helen Wilkins Unit I Representative.



**BARB WILLIS**

My passion and energy for commitment to my people will drive me during my time on the board. I've worked for and with the tribe off and on since I was 12 years old. I not only relate to my own people in their day-to-day struggles, I can relate to the employees of the tribe as they strive to be an "employee of value." We make our mistakes, as everyone does — we are human — but my concern for our businesses will be guided down the path of accountability, responsibility and diversification. Together, we can make a great future for our youth as well as making our elders and the people who have walked on very proud.

We need change, fresh ideas and attitudes. We need to consider our possibilities for the future, as well as our needs for today. We need to be very concerned with our operational needs. We need a formulation of policies and business objectives. We need to discern what the consumer wants and what the market potential is in and around the twin Saults, northern Michigan as well as the Midwest. We need active "employee advocates" on the board, not micromanagers. We are one big Indian family, and

the sooner we look at things from that perspective, the sooner we will conduct business in a manner that will be conducive to success for the members and the tribe.

I will be business-minded and policy-driven. I want to see recycling programs on the reservation, training and mentorship programs for staff who want to grow in our businesses, strategic plans with an agenda for follow through and communication to the membership for awareness and more management training to ensure accountability on the part of our executives.

I will stand with a strong voice for our people and my loyalties will be the members and with the tribal chairman, whoever he or she may be. I may not always agree with everyone on every issue, but I will communicate with everyone, and do my best to understand our differences and reach consensus.

Accountability is key to our future; we need a separation of powers to ensure the streamlining of our board functions and responsibilities, which will give our board members needed time to focus on our real concerns — our tribal citizens. I will dig deep into issues; I will not point fingers; I will find solutions; I will strive for fairness. Being the daughter of Basil Willis and Blanche Belanger, my convictions are deep-rooted and strong, as are my concerns for this great tribe. I understand and accept that I have a duty to carry on what our ancestors fought so hard for.

## Unit II

Lana Causely-Smith is unopposed.

## Unit III



**ILENE LAVAKE MOSES**

Ahnee, my name is Ilene (nee LaVake) Moses. I'm the eldest daughter of the late Frank and Marie (nee Owen) LaVake. I have a brother, David LaVake, and a sister who passed away, Joann Conguy. I was born and raised in the third ward of St. Ignace, where my family lives and where I live today. Married to the late Franklin D. Moses, we had four daughters, three of which live in St. Ignace and one in Marquette. Our infant son, David Daniel, died in 1972. We have 13 grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

In 1975, the Sault Tribe had many programs. I was involved in those programs as I wanted to learn more about our tribe and what we as a tribe had to offer our people. When employed with the State of Michigan, my title was Indian Outreach Worker. As a liaison person for the State of Michigan and Sault Tribe, I offered services and worked with tribal members and families liv-

ing in Mackinac County.

As a candidate for Unit III representative on the board of directors, I feel now is a time of great change in our tribe and our tribal members should have a say in what direction to take.

Our tribe has come a long way since 1970, when the first program in St. Ignace was health services. It was in a tiny room at our Court House, with two CHTs and one secretary. Look at how far our service programs have expanded for our members by having a board of directors. As a tribe, we need to keep moving forward towards a promising future for our children.

There are a lot of issues that need to be addressed in Unit III regarding:

- **Employees** — Employees being number one on my list, as these are our tribal members.
- **Health needs** — Our tribal members' health needs must be met to keep them healthy so they can work.

- **Housing** — The housing must be kept up to date and the concerns of tribal members living in the housing communities must be heard.

- **Tribal work sites** — Work sites must be updated or repaired, and all up to date with safety codes.

I will be committed to represent you by voicing your issues and concerns. With the support of you, the tribal members and members of Unit 3, we can and will accomplish our needs. I urge all Unit III members, please register to vote in the coming election. Your vote counts and would be appreciated. Thank you for your support.

Contact me at (906) 298-0546.



**BRIDGETTE SORENSON**

I was born and raised in St. Ignace. My parents are Jim and Loncie (nee Adams) Sorenson, grandparents Eudene (nee Paquin) McDowell, and the late Sterling "Bud" Sorenson, Gordon and June (nee Cronan) Adams and great-grandparents Tom and Electa (nee Becker) Paquin and Earl and Olive (nee Latondress) Adams. I have two sons, Kody and Konnor Rickley.

I received an associate's degree in business management and a bachelor's degree in business administration. Upon graduation I was a chairman's intern for the tribe's EDC for a summer before accepting an employment representative position in Human Resources for three years and then transferring to casino administration for seven years. I also held a real estate license for 10 years.

My two sons play hockey and have inspired me to be a part of our local hockey association for the last several years. I am

on my second term as president and this year organized our first annual "Pink in the Rink" game that raised over \$2,500 for the Mackinac County Relay for Life for which I am the team leader. I have participated for years in Relay for Life with our Kewadin Crusaders team members. I was also able to secure \$15,000 from our visitor's bureau this past season to keep youth hockey affordable.

When the new board is in place, one of the first priorities needs to be a strategic plan with long-term and short-term goals that are reviewed annually. We seem to operate in crisis mode instead of being proactive. We need to have a functional org chart with staff reporting to our executive staff. We need to continue to move forward with our downstate projects so that we have more revenue to meet more of our needs in the service area and expand services outside the service area.

If we continue to lose our language and culture we will no longer be a tribe. We need to consider these areas some of our top priorities.

Things to be completed are the Human Resources audit, hiring the budgeted employee relation specialists, continuing to re-invest in our properties to remain competitive and using some of the third-party revenue to increase the education, culture, elder and funeral programs.

We need to be able to put the right people in the right jobs and continue to train and foster their growth within our tribe. We need to hold everyone accountable so that people have consistency. Managers and supervisors need to communicate with staff and be role models. The success of our businesses is vital to us all. People need jobs, people need services and to sustain that we need to operate a successful, profitable business.

I am 100 percent for better working environments and advancement opportunities. We need to stop the nepotism and favoritism that has got us to where we are today. Many in this tribe are related, but it does not mean they should receive or keep their job because of who they are. Managers should not feel compelled to hire or keep them.



**BONNIE WOODFORD-CULFA**

I graduated from La Salle High school in 1970 and worked hard to become a registered nurse with a master's degree in nursing administration. This educational foundation has provided me over 35 years of experience supervising and managing large staffs and budgets. I have been honored to serve as the tribes' Health Division director since 2005,

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providing leadership, integrity, vision and experience. Over the past 11 years we have improved services for our tribal members by:

- Reducing the need for tribal support dollars to fund health services. In 2005, the Health Division relied on one-third of its budget from tribal support dollars, \$7 million out of a total \$21 million. Today, the Health Division receives zero tribal support dollars out of a \$32 million budget.

- Each year the division is under budget and balanced and has increased our third party revenue with this past year in 2015 to \$9.5 million.

- Attending hundreds of meetings partnering with the Mackinac Straits hospital staff, engineers and construction company representatives from design phase to moving into the new facility making it a successful transition.

- Finalizing after-hours access for the entire service area through agreements with local health organizations.

- Establishing after-hours telephone triage call line in the service area that will access a nurse for advice and triage when we're not open for care.

- I am professional, positive and have learned in my life to be able to work with everyone even when I have a different viewpoint. I will do the same at the board level. There is much to do and many challenges facing our tribe. To start, I will begin advocating for the following:

- Addressing the decreasing revenues from our casinos — We need to diversify!

- Shutting down Line 5 under the Mackinac Bridge (This threatens our natural resources and economy).

- Sending constitution amendments to membership for a vote instead of waiting years for action to be taken (Separation of powers).

- Adopting a tribal strategic plan that includes membership input.

- Fix pay compression on grid for all team members.

- Increased Elders Services (Targeted case management).

Increased attention to youth focused upon graduation, higher education, culture, job training.

I will not just talk for the next four years, but listen to the membership and work respectfully to make positive changes. Innovations require a vision and the budget management experience to implement them. I have the experience to do that and more.

I ask you for your support and vote so I can serve you as your Unit III representative.

GIVE CHANGE A CHANCE, VOTE BONNIE WOODFORD-CULFA RN MSN.

Miigwech. \

**Unit IV****Krystal Goudreau.**

Aaniin! My name is Krystal Goudreau. I have been a lifelong resident of Manistique, Mich., in Unit IV. I did not grow up living the Native cultural ways, but have been learning more and more about our culture over that last four years. I have a 9-year-old son who means the world to me. I

**KRYSTAL GOUDREAU**

am working on completing my bachelor's in nursing through Eastern Michigan University and currently work as the clinic RN at the Manistique Tribal Center. It has been an honor to help our members in my current position and I look forward to providing care for our members in the future, even if that role is not as a board member. While working for our tribe, I have been able to see first hand what areas are lacking in the medical division. Current employees and board members involved in Unit IV have done a great job thus far. I would like to be able to continue to improve what is already underway tribe wide.

Major gaps I have identified and would like to work on during the next four years include improving awareness of current services available to our members, identifying and meeting needs for transportation for all members, working on employment opportunities for our members — which would include job and skills trainings and expanding what employment we have available, and identifying areas that would help our members become more independent — including child care services, substance abuse treatment services and ways to deliver these services to our large service area. Our chairman has reported that third party revenue for the medical sector is in excess of \$7 million. While this is great, our billing department should be expanded and has the ability to generate even more revenue that would benefit all of our members.

I also have found that access to cultural education is lacking for our area. I would like to expand the access to the library sources found in the Sault to be available to outlying units as well. I am under the understanding that there are also issues rising in wildlife, specifically our commercial fishing regulations. As I do not have intimate knowledge of these issues, I am willing to learn more about them and meet any members affected by these issues. I would be humbled to hear from any members and discuss concerns or hear ideas about how to improve what our tribe has to offer. I can be found on Facebook, you can call me on my cell phone at (906) 450-1700 and leave a message if I do not answer, or you can email me at kgoudrea@emich.edu and I will respond as quickly as possible.

**Darcy Morrow**

I have been very dedicated to our community and was involved prior to being elected as your tribal representative. I worked for the tribe from 1987 to 2008; I started out as a student worker and worked my way up to the

**DARCY MORROW**

general manager of the Kewadin Shores Casino in St. Ignace. Since being elected, I have worked hard to address the needs of Unit IV tribal members and the membership needs regardless of where they live. I have been a member of the Powwow Committee for 15 years; my husband, three children, daughter-in-law and I volunteer each year for this event. I have been dedicated to our Manistique and Escanaba children's Christmas parties for 23 years. I ran for a board seat four years ago because I wanted to make a difference in our tribal communities.

After being elected, my first motion was to reinstate the Youth Development Fund so our children could have their funding back. This program helps our children with their driver's training, pay-to-play sports, sports equipment, senior pictures, band equipment, etc. I know what it's like to struggle daily and sometimes there is no extra money for our children to do extracurricular activities. My family struggled while I grew up and at the age of 14, I wasn't able to play sports any more. I got an after-school job. My hope is that this program helps our children pursue their dreams, whatever they may be!

Having lived and worked in three of our five tribal units has given me an advantage to understand more of our tribal members' needs. After being elected, I was at the forefront pushing to renew health services taken away in 2008 from Escanaba and Marquette. In November 2012, I sponsored a resolution to establish an Adhoc Health Access Exploratory committee. This committee was formed to revitalize services and put back Escanaba, Marquette and other areas needing access to health services. In 2013, services were reestablished in Escanaba and in 2014 for Marquette. A resolution for after-hours health care clinic contracts is on the agenda for the April 19 board meeting. This became possible through the ad hoc committee. If this passes at the board meeting, tribal members will be able to access walk-in clinics in Escanaba, Munising, Manistique, Marquette, Newberry, St. Ignace and the Sault on nights and weekends when our clinics are closed. I will continue to push to expand on these services and the need for services in Gwinn, Negaunee and Ishpeming.

In less than four years, we will be negotiating with the state on the 2020 Consent Decree. We lost our fishing rights in Unit IV last Consent Decree, we need to safeguard and fight for our treaty rights not give them away!

Now is the time to ensure strong and persistent board mem-

bers remain seated to ensure that members benefit.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you. I need and appreciate your support.

Darcy Morrow, (906) 298-1888, darcymorrowforunit4@yahoo.com.

**GERALD WINBERG**

Without your vote there is no change

I was born and raised in Cedarville. After graduation, I joined the United States Marine Corps. I served over 12 years, raising my son as a single father during that time. I received an honorable discharge in 1986. I returned home and started working as a dealer at the Chip-In (now the Island Resort) Casino.

I worked my way up to the assistant general manager. I was sent to colleges in Las Vegas, Reno, Atlantic City and Florida, learning the gaming industry and management training. In 2001, I moved to Manistique to be near my mother and started work at Kewadin as security supervisor until the position was eliminated and started as a slot tech.

My mother Lucille (Beaver) Winberg was born at Sandtown in Nahma. She raised me to know and understand the importance of the tribe and our heritage. She taught our language to many and I would assist her in gathering. In all of this she taught me the importance of keeping our traditions and way of life alive. Between my mom and the Marines, I have learned many life lessons that will enable me to better represent you on the board: faith, loyalty, honor and family. Loyalty to the people I represent and honor them by letting their voices be heard.

As we approach this election there are many issues that need to be addressed. We need to bring to the members a new Constitution, a tribe with separation of power, not this one group has power over everything and everyone.

We need to address services to the Gladstone, Escanaba and Marquette areas. As I travel, I am meeting members who need medical services closer to them. Some have medical conditions that make it hard to travel, some are unable to drive or get and pay for transportation. Elders are having to pay co-pays on needed medication that they can't afford.

We need to hire an economic development director so we can investigate other business opportunities to bring revenues in other than casinos. Other tribes have been doing this for years, we need to bring our tribe into the future.

We need an education director to develop a plan to fund youth education and an incentive to increase chances to further their education. Not just typical

schooling, but bring our culture and history into their education.

We need an employee rights worker to give employees protection in their jobs. Remove the fear of repercussions for speaking up on the conditions of their work place. We need to develop a happier better place to work for our employees and guests.

There needs to be more involvement in protecting our treaty rights. There are so many issues that need to be addressed and action taken, not just tabled and forgotten. We need a board that will listen to the members. I invite you to call or email me anytime gwinberforunit4@gmail.com or (906) 286-4117.

Miigwech for considering me to represent you.

**Unit V**

Unit V primary candidate BOYD SNYDER elected to not participate in this forum, running only a paid ad this issue.

**TYLER LAPLAUNT**

Aanii Unit V, I am Tyler LaPlaut "Eagle Feather" and I humbly request your vote to be the Unit V representative for board of directors. If elected, not only would I work full-time, but this position would become a lifestyle to me. Our unit deserves a hard working board member who will maintain a strong presence and have a powerful voice for our people. I am asking for your support so you can see what it is like to have an active board member in your community who really cares, and who can really make a change. I have the knowledge. I have the experience. I have the heart. All I need now is your ear, your support and your vote.

**Three sisters of a flourishing tribe** — I believe in the betterment of our people through progressive policy that will enhance our culture, health and education. Through culture, we will remain sovereign. Through health, we will thrive. Through our education, we will be prosperous. With this in mind, we need to work together to move our tribal community forward. The time for infighting is at an end. It is our time to unite in the common interest of our people, to care for our elders and sustain our legacy for our children.

**My promise to you** — I am not a politician, therefore, I will not make empty promises I cannot keep just to get elected in to office. I am running for this position because I truly believe I can make a difference in our unit, as well as our tribe. I, like all of you, am tired of seeing politics get in the way of progress and our peoples' well being.

What I can promise, I promise to maintain a strong presence and

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be available to the people within our unit. I promise to keep an open line of communication to the members in our community by developing listening posts, both in the communities and online. I promise to represent you to the best of my ability, keeping your interests a top priority. I promise I will not always be right when making decisions, but I will admit to my mistakes, be held accountable and move forward with our unit and our tribe always in my heart and mind. These are the promises I know I can keep, and these are the promises that if all board members lived up to, would make for a prosperous community.

**Miigwech** — I'd like to thank everyone for the opportunity of being in this election. I believe we are all ready for a significant change, and I am here to serve our citizens, to speak the truth and represent you with loyalty and honesty. I love this tribe, and every opportunity I have ever been given. With your support and your vote, as my final promise to you, I promise you will not be disappointed. **Miigwech!**

**VOTE TYLER LAPLAUNT UNIT V!**

Contact me at (906) 236-5729 or [tlaplaun@alumni.nmu.edu](mailto:tlaplaun@alumni.nmu.edu)  
**I'M LISTENING!**



**CHARLES MATSON**

Ahnee, my name is Charles Matson and I am honored to be on the ballot for the Unit V board of directors seat. I am 48, a lifelong Unit V resident and father of three great children, Malorey, 26, Charles Jr., 22, and Alexis, 17. My parents are Victor and Lizet Matson. I have been a private business owner (fifth generation fisherman) for 26 years and worked for the Sault Tribe for four years as a treaty fishery

rights advocate.

Our campaign is based on the idea of positive change, fair and equal government and making sure the tribal members have a voice in that process. These issues are the foundation of my campaign to create change.

**Membership participation:** The assets of the tribe are every single tribal member's. We should be allowed to vote via a members' referendum on large business decisions and investments. Unit meetings and office hours need to be held. It is very important to provide the opportunity for unit members to voice their concerns and ideas directly to their representatives.

**Investing in future generations:** We need to increase our education funding and provide trade schools funding to our members, providing quality day care for working families. Establish culture camps in Unit V.

**Elder care:** Increase elder housing. Establish home medication delivery to lessen their burden of travel.

**Gaming expansion:** Knowing that gaming revenues have leveled off and in some areas declined due to the economy and over-saturation, we need to reach out to new customers. Expanding into sports betting would be a great start. Not only would we profit from the betting, but we would increase our food and beverage sales. Internet gaming is a growing and profitable venture. Since our casinos are built on trust land, we should be trying to establish our part in this fast growing business.

**Business diversification:** Diversifying our businesses will be key to our success. We can't rely on a single revenue stream. For example, water bottling, a wood pellet plant and alternative energies.

**Treaty rights protection:** Establish a strategic plan for the 2020 Consent Decree. We need to assemble a team of knowledgeable people to negotiate to protect our commercial, subsistence and sport fishing treaty rights. The tribal fishery is the second largest employer of tribal members; they deserve representatives that understand the treaty fishery to protect their occupation. I was part of the negotiation team for this Consent Decree in 2000 and the Inland Decree in 2007.

**Constitution reform:**

Separation of powers to lessen total control by the elected officials. We need to elect our judges to ensure their treatment of tribal members. Establish an independent news source that is outside the elected officials control.

In closing, this election is about choosing the best candidate that can create jobs, diversify and manage our businesses, protect our treaty rights, provide for our elders, invest in our youth and preserve our culture. I believe I am that candidate. Let's stand together to create positive change.

**Chi miigwech**  
**Charles Matson**



**ANITA NELSON**

**Elder wisdom:** Vote Anita Nelson, Unit V director.

My dear tribal elders and Unit V members:

This is about me: My husband is James Nelson. We have three grown children and four grandchildren. I was born in Marquette, raised in Alger, but attended school and worked in both counties.

My path to learning of our Native ways first came to me as a teenager visiting my LaCoy uncles on Sugar Island with my father. We are members of the Crane family.

Then, as a young mother, I served on a tribal committee and worked as a CHR serving Alger and Marquette County. My first job started with a legal pad and pencil, no office. I did surveys in both Alger and Marquette counties visiting the homes of tribal people documenting their needs. For five years I traveled often for the tribe to learn the ways of other Indian nations in several states. In addition, I received training in mental health, health care and environmental health.

My hobby is genealogy. I

have assisted over 300 people in receiving their Indian card certification so their families could receive health benefits. Sometimes it's not the jobs you get paid for doing, it's the volunteer work you do out of the goodness of your heart.

This is about you: The new casinos down state are going to generate a lot of revenue for our tribe. Alger and Marquette want a big piece of that fry bread (pie). I will promote and defend all the needs of Unit V. Since Marquette's Native population has increased, I believe they should have their own representative. I would like to see the designated area extended.

I will be working for you as I have been lucky enough to have benefits that you deserve, too. We definitely need more housing for all ages in the area. We need increased employee wages in order to get quality workers who want to stay. Turnover is terrible, these people have families. Equally important is replenishing the Elder Fund. Some monies should go for research. I want to focus on our environment. What are we eating? Drinking? The problem is not just in Flint.

**Employment:**  
Retired/state DOC/BO accounts payable

Past employee/SaultTribe/CHR

Past employee/Alger-Marquette banking system

**Education:**

High school graduate/Eben

## Sign up for 3rd annual Jim Ailing Memorial Golf Scramble on June 5

Jim was a family man who loved to help others and golf. In his memory, we are donating the profits to the two cancer charities Jim and Sheri supported over the years. Jim was employed by Kewadin Casino from November 1985 until his death from lung cancer on July 16, 2013. Jim was director of surveillance and security over all five Kewadin Casino properties.

Prizes for first, second and third places: First place team put on the scramble plaque; closest to the pin, longest putt, men's and women's longest drives; silent auction and raffle prizes available.



Scramble take place on Sunday, June 5, at The Crossings Golf Course in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Registration at 9 a.m., scramble starts at 10 a.m. \$260

per four-person team, includes 18 holes with a cart, burgers, brats, hot-dogs, salads and deserts.

Register by May 15 for a T-shirt. Sponsor a hole for a \$50 donation. Donations for prizes, the silent auction and raffle welcome.

Profits go to Hospice of the EUP and proceeds from the 50/50 donated to the Road to Recovery.

Contact Sheri Ailing to register at (906) 203-5597 or email [jimailingmemorial@gmail.com](mailto:jimailingmemorial@gmail.com).



# Home Improvement Loans

A lot of people are fixing up their old homes rather than buying new ones. It's a great investment. We can help you do that. See us about a home improvement loan. We're an equal housing lender.

## Community People You Know™

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# Keith Massaway for Chairman

## 7 Grandfathers —

Nbwaakaawin — Wisdom  
Use good sense.

Zaagidwin — Love  
Practice absolute kindness.

Mnaadendimowin — Respect  
Act without harm.

Aakwade'ewin — Bravery  
Use courage to choose.

Debwewin — Truth  
Be faithful to reality.

Dbaadendiziwin — Humility  
Treat all life equally.

Gwekwaadiziwin — Honesty  
Speak the truth.



## My Values —

The tribe comes first

Integrity matters

Accountability must be present

Honesty is a given

Humility is a gift

Sustainability is a must

## STOP THE CHAOS

We must stop the destructive comments, lies and innuendoes that follow the Chairman and the Board. I do not partake in these actions and would work diligently to bring honor and respect back to our tribe. We need a strong leader to make this happen and I know I can accomplish this for you.

## ACCOUNTABILITY

The decisions we make today will have a lasting effect on our people. We have to weigh our responsibility to our current needs with the future. To not heed our seven generations teachings is to disregard those who need us the most.

## SUSTAINABILITY

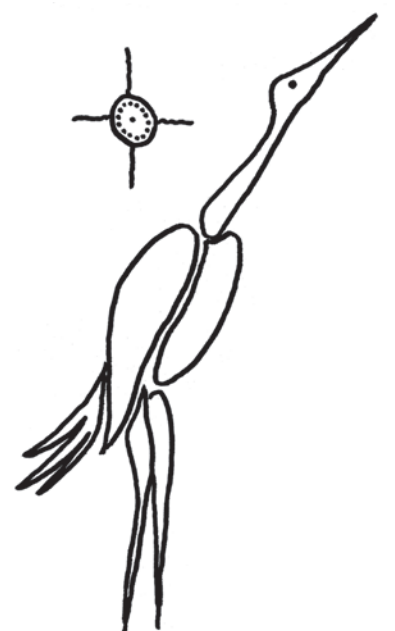
We have to look at what we have and plan so we can maintain at least to stay at the same level of deliverables. This is a key to how I vote and how I will lead the tribe.

*“Having been on the Tribal Board for 10 years, I know I have the Knowledge and Experience to lead our Tribe.”*



Contact me any time  
kmassaway@yahoo.com  
(906) 630-1693  
keithmassaway.com  
702 Hazelton St.  
St. Ignace, MI 49781

Visit My Website!  
keithmassaway.com



My Clan is the Crane Clan. The Crane Clan is the traditional leaders of our tribe. I have direct descendants from Chief Satigo and would bring that strong leadership back to our tribal government.



# Teen foster care project started in Chippewa Co.

BY LINDA BOUVET

An impassioned group is on a mission to provide a secure and enriching home for Chippewa County teens in foster care.

The Chippewa County Family Project was established during the past year to provide a group home in Sault Ste. Marie for boys and girls ages 14-18 who lack stable foster care, are considered too old for adoption or simply can't find foster care in Chippewa County.

The project's committee, led by Tracey Holt, Jen Obreiter and Debbie Harrington, is searching

for property on which to build or convert a home for up to six youth.

The non-profit project also has committee members working on grant writing and fundraising, building a mentoring base and making policy. Sault Area High School students serve and are involved in all phases of the process.

The project is partnering with the Lake Superior State University Department of Athletics, which has enthusiastic mentors on its varsity teams. The group home dynamic is expected

to be mutually beneficial to displaced teens, the schools and the local community.

During the past year, initiatives to help Sault Ste. Marie's nearly 100 documented homeless children inspired the project's establishment. While the group home concept is phasing out on a national scale, it's often the only option for teens.

This committee's goal is not for institutionalized care, but to help teens integrate into society. Support teams will be assembled to ensure opportunities to play sports, participate in clubs, work part time or simply enrich social and life skills.

Among 12 Chippewa County teens currently in foster care, eight have been placed outside the tri-county area. All five Mackinac County teens in foster care reside outside of the eastern Upper Peninsula. On average, these teens will spend 13.3 months in foster care. Many of these children will be placed in licensed institutions for care, which lack the family setting of a

traditional foster home.

The outlook for most teens in foster care is troubling. For youth who age out of foster care instead of returning home or becoming adopted, 38 percent will experience emotional problems, 50 percent will use illegal drugs, 25 percent will become involved in the legal system and only 48 percent will graduate from high school by age 18.

As adults, children who spent long periods of time in multiple foster care homes were more likely than other children to encounter problems such as unemployment (50 percent), homelessness (20 percent) or early pregnancy (71 percent).

Removing teens from institutionalized settings and placing them into a home designed to foster family connection enables them to enter adulthood as successful and productive members of the community.

The home will be available to teens already networked in the Michigan Dept. of Health and Human Services or ACFS.

The goal is to provide a support network for every teen who stays in the home, encourage them to develop their skills and talents, and enable them to enter adulthood as confident and productive members of the community.

A mentoring structure will be built into the residential situation.

During a recent presentation to the Sault Area Schools Board of Education, Obreiter added that volunteers and staff will be trained in "trauma informed care," which is intended to help teens form new ways of thinking and acting, which is preceded by their understanding of the trauma that led to their removal from the home and hopefully healing.

The Chippewa County Family Project Committee includes Lisa and Rob McRorie, and Linda Bouvet. Individuals or organizations seeking more information and wanting to contribute can contact any committee member for details.

Bouvet can be reached at (906) 635-2601, Holt can be reached at (906) 259-0222.

## Drama and dance exchange continues — try out for a play

University of Michigan students and faculty return to Sault Ste. Marie this spring to continue the Chippewa Storytelling Incubator project. The group participated in an immersion program at the Mary Murray Culture Center in the fall and returns to complete the second phase of the project. This time around, students and faculty from the School of Music, Theatre and Dance will be working with the community in workshops and performances.

U-M invites the community to the following free workshops: Salsa dance class — Learn how to dance the salsa. Move your hips and free your spirit as you join UM students and faculty in this fun, social dance on Tuesday, May 10, 6-8 p.m. — or — hip hop and spoken word — Bring on your jam. Got a poem? Hear a beat? Perform and listen to hip hop riffs and spoken word stories in a night of music and poetry slam on Thursday, May 12, 6-8 p.m. Both workshops take place at the Ojibwe Learning Center and Library at 531 Ashmun Street.

Faculty and students are also working with the Advocacy Resource Center, the Diane Peppler Center and Uniting Three Fires against Violence to stage the play *Sliver of a Full Moon* by Native playwright, Mary Kathryn Nagle. *Sliver of a Full Moon* is a powerful reenactment of the historic congressional reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act in 2013, a movement that restored the authority of tribal governments to prosecute non-Native abusers who assault and abuse Native women on tribal lands.

The project is seeking eight American Indian performers (six women and two men) for a staged reading of the play. Auditions are set for May 1, 5-8 p.m., at the Ojibwe Learning Center and Library. Those interested should bring a monologue or a poem to recite at the audition, rehearsals run May 10 through 15.

The community is invited to attend a performance of *Sliver of a Full Moon*, directed by Dr. Anita Gonzalez, a professor at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, on Monday, May 16 at the DreamMakers Theater at 6 p.m. Appetizers served and a discussion follows the performance. Important dates: Auditions for *Sliver of a Full Moon* by Mary Kathryn Nagle, Sunday, May 1, 5-8 p.m. at the Ojibway Learning Center and Library; Rehearsals run May 10-15 at the Ojibwe

Learning Center and Library; Performance of *Sliver of a Full Moon* by Mary Kathryn Nagle on Monday, May 16, 6 p.m., at the Kewadin DreamMakers Theater. For additional information, please call Jackie Minton of the Mary Murray Cultural Camp at (906) 635-6050 extension 26144.

Vote  
**Miller**  
Chairman  
for  
Sault Tribe  
*Back on Track*  
Paid for by the committee to elect Tom Miller

**36 Years of Experience in Tribal Government & Education**

✓ PROFESSIONAL

✓ EDUCATED

✓ EXPERIENCED

✓ TRIBAL ELDER

**It is essential that we get our Tribe "Back on Track" by:**

- **Behaving in a professional manner**
- Whether we agree or not on an issue, we must treat fellow elected officials, the membership, and employees with respect. Behave in a professional manner.
- Adopting short and longterm strategic plans for all of our operations and survey the Tribal Members for their input.
- Ensure accountability and implement performance benchmarks within all of our operations.
- Amending our Constitution to ensure a true separation of powers and eliminate micromanagement that stems from all areas, including elected officials.
- Increasing Tribal jobs and salaries to avoid another generation of working poor. We must fix the pay compression grid and address issues within Human Resources.
- Creating new and effective after-school activities and programs for youth.
- Granting employee release time for education and training opportunities.
- Promote and support the importance of culture, education

- and lifelong-learning and support continuing education.
- Stepping outside the proverbial "box" and doing things differently and more effectively than "we have always done them."
- Working to diversify and stabilize the Tribal economy, including expanding economic diversification opportunities within the Tribe in all areas.
- Protecting Tribal Sovereignty and working to secure the future of our Tribe.
- Protect our Natural Resources and Treaty Rights and defend them against threats such as Line 5 and Enbridge.
- Ensuring that our Elders' voices are a regular part of the Board of Directors meetings.
- Improving Elders' services (i.e. medical, housing, support personnel, transportation).
- Increasing the annual Elder check amounts by annually adding to the principal.
- Working to increase overall services to Tribal members in a fiscally responsible and sustainable manner.

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME AT (906) 644-3334, OR VIA EMAIL AT: MILLERTOM906@GMAIL.COM**





# "The Benefit of One is the Benefit of All"



*Alneen, Boozho ~ Dear Sault Tribe Members Everywhere:*

I was raised in Unit 1 in the Sault. My family originates from Sugar Island. My Uncle Henry is a full blood who spoke *Ojibwe* growing up. He enlisted in the Navy and settled in New Buffalo, MI. While he lives downstate, he is every bit a tribal citizen as I am. Today, his only benefit of Membership is our Elder checks but he graciously gives back to our Tribe by tending fire during fasting camps, warrior camps and Sugar Bush on Sugar Island where he teaches our youth of our ways. He is my hero and my motivation for fighting to raise revenues so we can do even more for our people no matter where they live. Of course, this means first expanding services near our reservation.

In 2008, my opponents did illegal anonymous calls including from a fake Elder who claimed I would "steal away the services from back home" and give it away to "those people" downstate. This divisiveness is just hateful. I respect expansion of services back home first and when revenues allow, expand to benefit all of our people no matter where they live as they are our brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, grandparents, children and grandchildren. These are "our people" not "those people."

I have been working hard to honor the referendum passed in 2012 to expand our land holdings using our *Mandatory Trust* provision on the *1997 Land Claims Settlement Act*. This project holds great promise for our future as our revenues will grow exponentially. You supported it via referendum and I am very close to gaining approval, but, I need your support to see this through. With our gaming expansion projects, we will be able to expand services to all Members near the Rez, in lower Michigan, and where ever we live.

It puzzles me to hear incumbents and former Board Members running against me claim nothing is progressing. This is not true as evidenced in our accomplishments. Please send them a clear message that our successes are shared and we intend to move forward not backward. I would appreciate your support and vote.

*Chi McGwitch, Negee, Aaron*



## For the Record ~ See & Judge for Yourself



Testifying in the U.S. Senate Indian Affairs Committee to increase tribal funding for our Tribe.

- ✓ Balanced the Tribal Budget every year. Before this, Up to \$3 million a year had to be reconciled & checks bounced
- ✓ Reinstated Transparency in Operations & Accounting. Prior to this, hundreds of thousands were illegally spent annually
- ✓ Returned annual raises to Team Members by under-spending over \$ 1million each year while preserving jobs & services
- ✓ Entered office in 2012 with a \$70 million debt. Though disciplined operations, debt retirement is nearly complete
- ✓ Put the Sault Tribe on the map Nationally & changed the Chairperson position to one of National prominence & access
- ✓ Presidential appointment (1st time for a Sault Tribe Chair) & serve on National committees to increase funding & benefits to Members
- ✓ Testified in U.S. Congress 12 times (2X on the President's annual budget for all of Indian Country). Serve on Tribal Interior Budget Committee
- ✓ Increased health center annual funding agreement to \$18 million; \$9.5 million in 3rd party revenues & \$5.5 million in contract support costs
- ✓ Restored Health Centers in Escanaba & Marquette after Massaway and Anti-Western End Board Members voted to Cut these Services in 2008.
- ✓ Moved nearly all Tribal properties into trust status & saved over \$200,000 annually in taxes. Another \$100,000 in tax savings is pending.
- ✓ Secured increases in all federal budgets including \$455,000 in new treaty rights funds & reduced treaty permits by 2/3rd to just \$5
- ✓ Led the litigation strategy & negotiated to recover \$1.2 million from BCBS. Massaway & other Board Members' mistake cost us >\$5 million.
- ✓ Created a group of the Board, Constitutional & Elder Advisory Committees to finalize draft Constitution Amendments. Massaway skipped these
- ✓ Leader in the National fight to end sequestration & developed a Nationally recognized model for Tribes to minimize the impact of sequestration
- ✓ Wrote & secured approval to re-instate Tribal Termination Employment Appeal Rights that Director Massaway voted to Eliminate in 2008
- ✓ Fought for Treaty fishing rights; attended all Conservation meetings. Unanimously Elected as Treaty Chair by all Five of the 1836 Treaty Tribes
- ✓ Donated Over \$80,000 in 4 Years to Tribal charities & individuals; Raised over \$50K for Christmas parties and > \$40K for Tribal Scholarships
- ✓ **Please Cast Your Ballot for Chairperson Aaron Payment for both Progress & Stability to Benefit All Members Everywhere!**

## Join Me In Building A Strong Future for Our Tribe!

- Increase Land Claims Fund Annually by 10% Once Gaming Expansion Approved
- Increase Elder Checks to \$5,000 & More Once Gaming Expansion Approved
- Increase Need-Based Higher Education & Job Training Scholarships to \$2,500 "
- Return Non-Need Based Higher Education & Job Training Scholarships to \$2,000 "
- Create \$1,000 K-12 Student Merit Scholarship Based on Attendance & Grades "
- Program Expansion in Service Area & Enhance Services in all 5 Units
- Establish & Expand Tribal Centers in Lansing & all Service Area Population Centers
- Extend Tax Agreement Area to Include Mackinac Island, UP, and All of Michigan
- Create Veterans' Outreach Workers for Service Area & At Large Veterans
- Fund 3 Service Area & 3 At Large ACA Medicaid Expansion Coordinators
- Retrofit Tribal Government, Enterprise & Casino Buildings to be ADA Compliant
- Create a Tribal Workgroup to Advocate Special Needs & Services for Members

- Next Generation: Expand Tribal Youth & Young Adults Recreation & Opportunities
- Create an Independent Economic Development & Enterprise Authority for the Tribe
- Public - Private Partnerships to Build Single Unit Apartments & Townhouses
- Open Tribal Midjim Convenience Stores in Kincheloe, Hessel, Manistique & Munising
- Invest in a Tribal Career Development & Job Placement Function to Serve Members
- Referendum to Set Chair & Board Salary Once and For All
- Strong & Tough Negotiator for 2020 Great Lakes Treaty Negotiations
- Constitutional Amendments ~ Separation of Powers with Elected Judges
- ~ Tribal Labor Rights to Due Process & Annual Raises
- ~ Require Referendum Votes on Treaty Rights
- ~ Member Vote on Creation of *Unit 6 & At Large Unit*
- Always Give You 100% ~ Representing You with Honesty, Truth, Respect, Humility, Wisdom, Bravery, Love, Integrity & Care and Compassion as I know where I came from and respect my responsible to help all Tribal Members when it is needed.

Paid for by the Community to Elect Aaron Payment

*Please Vote*

# PAYMENT

*Sault Tribe Chairperson ~ Serving All Members Everywhere!*





# Reo speaks at LSSU on tribal-led river restorations

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe member Dr. Nicholas J. Reo spoke in a presentation at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on March 23 about a project involving three international tribal communities involved with river restorations.

Reo holds a Bachelor's of Science and a Master's of Science from the University of Michigan School of Natural Resources and Environment as well as a doctorate from the Michigan State University Department of Fisheries and Wildlife. He currently serves as assistant professor of environmental studies and Native American studies at Dartmouth College of Hanover, N.H. Among Reo's fields of expertise interest are tribal views and methods regarding natural resources and their roles present day ecological stewardship.

His presentation, titled *Indigenous Confluence: A Comparative Study of Indigenous-led River Restoration*, was made before an audience of about 100 scholars and others with interests in aquatic biology and watershed protection. The study focused on efforts of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan, the Walpole

Island First Nation of Ontario, Canada, and the Waikato-Tainui Maori of New Zealand.

Specifically, Reo delved into indigenous social, cultural and spiritual aspects of rivers and the role those views play in modern river restoration efforts. "Indian have increasingly taken leadership roles in river restoration," he said. He examined how indigenous knowledge applied in river restoration works affects restoration projects and the socio-cultural and political influences of such projects on communities.

In short, Reo indicated river restoration works conducted with indigenous approaches have the potential to not only restore vial ecosystems, but to transform community relationships with rivers and watershed protection. Mainly, indigenous views can help communities make the step from seeing rivers and watersheds as resources for exploitation to sharing in the idea of rivers as living beings.

Perhaps most new and interesting of all the concepts raised in the presentation is the emerging practice of acquiring legal status for rivers as living beings entitled to rights and protections. "The spirit of this concept of rivers as living, non-human persons is playing out in grass-



Photo by Rick Smith

**Dr. Nicholas Reo speaking to a crowd gathered at Lake Superior University on March 23.**

roots restoration efforts like the projects I described in my lecture as well as in the policy arena," Reo said. "The autonomous political rights of rivers have recently been acknowledged by courts in two river systems — the Whanganui River in New Zealand is now recognized as a person when it comes to legal matters, and Ecuador granted

similar rights to all its rivers, forests, islands and air via its constitution in 2011."

Reo said indigenous languages serve to underpin or strengthen the expression of indigenous knowledge and views when relayed to other peoples. For example, it isn't a stretch for others to learn about the view of rivers as living ancestors who

need care and protection to seeing rivers and watersheds as the lifeblood of Mother Earth and themselves.

Further, Reo noted, in order for indigenous views to be applied to protecting Mother Earth, it is important for folks of Indian Country to be physically and spiritually present at all opportunities.

## Jason St. Onge runs for Cloverland board

BY RICK SMITH

Sault Tribe member Jason St. Onge of Mackinaw Island recently announced his candidacy for the District A seat on the Cloverland Electric Cooperative Board of Directors.

"I'd like to be a voice for all of the people served by Cloverland," said St. Onge. "Some of the rate increases in recent years have been hard to stomach, particularly to people on a fixed income."

St. Onge said he wants to pursue options to alleviate hardships for members of the utility.

Cloverland's District A encompasses southern Chippewa County and eastern Mackinac County.

Born and raised on Mackinaw Island, St. Onge holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Michigan and indicates he is no stranger to public service.

Along with 15 years of operating St. Onge Latex and Groove, a contract painting firm, St. Onge has served on the local school board for 14 years, serving the last three as president, plus he has 11 years on the city council and 24 years with the fire department. Further, he is nearing completion of a Master's degree in public administration.

According to Cloverland Electric, the utility is a non-profit operation controlled democratically by its clients, who are considered members of the cooperative.

The utility's three-district service area covers a large portion of the Sault Tribe service area. Each of the cooperative's districts are represented by three directors elected by the respective



**Jason St. Onge**

members of those districts.

Each year, one director's seat in each district opens for election to three-year terms.

Cloverland Electric Cooperative noted voting takes place by mailed ballots, which will be attached on the May editions of *Cloverland Connections* magazine.

Information about the candidates can be read on pages 14-15 of the May edition, according to Cloverland. The utility indicates ballots should be marked and returned in the provided envelop no later than May 31.

Election results will be announced at the annual meeting of members on June 9 in Dafer, Mich., near Sault Ste. Marie.

## ITCM brings noted speaker to Sault Ste. Marie forum on the effects of historical trauma

BY RICK SMITH

The Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan Inc., brought a founding board member and facilitator of the Native Wellness Institute to Lake Superior University in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to speak with tribal personnel involved with children and families. Theda New Breast of the Blackfeet Nation of Montana came to the Crow's Nest at LSSU on March 16 for the speaking engagement as a part of staff development training. She spoke on a number of topics dealing with healing from the lingering effects of historical trauma. Also noted on the agenda, wellness in tribal workplaces.

Effects of historical trauma could be defined as accumulated emotional and mental conditioning brought on over time by deplorable situations such as widespread and chronic racial prejudice and the infamous Indian boarding school programs. Enduring such situations for prolonged periods can cause the development of emotional and psychological harm that can pass from one generation to subsequent generations, even long after the trauma inducing situations have ebbed or ceased.

The Native Wellness Institute is a national non-profit social service organization founded in 2001 "to bring about positive changes in the physical, spiritual, emotional and mental well-being" of people in American Indian communities, according to [www.nativewellness.com](http://www.nativewellness.com). The website further indicates the organization evolved from its grassroots beginnings to become



**Theda New Breast of the Native Wellness Institute speaks to an assemblage at Lake Superior State University on March 16.**

"a sophisticated, rich resource for Native communities and families." The organization provides training and technical assistance across the country through workshops and gatherings. The institute is based in Gresham, Ore., with an office in Union, Wash., and operates under an executive director, a project director and eight-member board of directors.

New Breast is one of the pioneers in the field of training American Indians in wellness and a leading authority for over 34 years in cultural resilience and

recovery, according to the institute. She has worked with over 500 tribes promoting healing, sobriety and growth as well as other works.

A seven-minute documentary film directed by New Breast, *Why the Women in My Family Don't Drink Whiskey*, garnered a humanitarian award by the Red Nation Film Festival in 2013 in recognition of work on the film and during her lifetime. The film is one of a half-dozen of the *Native Women Rising Digital Stories*.



# MSU student business group visits U.P. youth

By RICK SMITH

The Michigan State University Native American and Hispanic Business Students (NAHBS) organization visited the Sault reservation on April 14-16 to conduct a Native American Community Outreach Program symposium for teens to promote higher education in general and NMU programs in particular. Youth from several Upper Peninsula school districts involved with the Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities Program along with others from the Sault Tribe Community Health Youth Tobacco Task Force attended the function on April 15 at the Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Building.

According to MSU, NAHBS works to establish rapport between American Indian and Hispanic business students as well as other student organizations under MSU Multicultural Business Programs, such as the National Association of Black Accountants, Women in Business Student Association and others. The NAHBS organization is designed to help students develop entry-level business savvy through workshops, visiting various organizations and businesses and an annual conference. Membership is open to all MSU students in any major. NAHBS also conducts community service projects, such as the symposium that took place in Sault Ste.

Marie.

Dr. Kevin Leonard, senior program coordinator for MSU's Multicultural Business Programs, accompanied the group and said the outreach project encourages young American Indians to pursue higher education with guidance in areas critical to getting started, such as applying for financial aid, choosing majors and seeking academic opportunities. The main objective is to increase American Indian attendance at institutions of higher education. During these outreach visits, NAHBS members also have opportunities to become acquainted with the histories and cultures of the tribes they visit.

An annual program offered by MSU now approaching, Leonard pointed out, is the Native American Business Institute for high school students conducted on the MSU campus in East Lansing from June 25 to July 1. According to prepared information received from Leonard, the 2016 institute is a program for students entering high school grade levels during the 2016-17 school year. "Participants work with MSU admissions officers, college counselors, tribal community leaders and corporate representatives in a seven-day 'business boot camp' that prepares students for college and exposes them to numerous academic and professional opportunities," the letter noted. High school students



Photo by Rick Smith

The Michigan State University Native American and Hispanic Business Students (NAHBS) pictured at the start of their presentations at the Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie on April 15. Dr. Kevin Leonard, far left, senior program coordinator for the MSU Multicultural Business Programs, accompanied the group during the outreach visit over the weekend.

interested in the program must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.8 or higher to be accepted. Those interested in participating in the program should note the first round of applications are due by May 6, applications received after that date are reviewed and accepted on a space available basis.

During the symposium in Sault Ste. Marie, the NAHBS group took lodging at the Kewadin Hotel, according to an official schedule, and attended a potluck shortly after their arrival.

The schedule further indicated sponsors of the potluck dinner as community elders, Sault Tribe Housing Authority, Kewadin Casino, Sault Tribe Cultural Department and Sault Tribe Youth and Activities. The group heard presentations from a few tribal officials and staff and later danced to the drums of Muckwa Giizhik and the Sturgeon Bay Singers. Workshops and other activities took place on the following day. Workshop subjects focused on leadership, public speaking and presentation skills

as well as resume development. A question and answer session was set before the symposium closed.

The group departed after breakfast and checking out on the next day, returning to MSU in East Lansing.

Anyone interested in learning more about the MSU Multicultural Business Programs or the coming Native American Business Institute should visit [www.broad.msu.edu/undergraduate/mbp](http://www.broad.msu.edu/undergraduate/mbp), call Leonard at (517) 353-3524 or send email to [leonard1@msu.edu](mailto:leonard1@msu.edu).

## New language instructor hired

Shirley Recollet recently accepted a position as a Ojibwe language instructor for Sault Tribe. Recollet, also named Dkibins Kwe (Spring Water Woman), is of the Waawaashkesh dodem (Deer clan) and was born and raised on Manitoulin Island, Canada. She is married to Theodore Recollet and mother of three beautiful girls. She and Theodore are the proud grandparents of five girls and one boy. Her parents were David and Delia Peltier and she is the eighth child of a large family of 14, nine sisters (one gone to the spirit world) and four brothers.

She notes, "Miigwech opa (noos) and oma (ngaashi) in speaking to me the Ojibwe language all the time." In addition, "I am very proud to be part of the Sault Tribe as a Native language instructor and excited to share my knowledge and culture in the Ojibwe language with



your children. I look forward to meeting with everyone and to be able to help out in any way I can by sharing the Native language and culture I have received. My door will always be open."

Recollet can be reached at (906) 635-6050, ext. 26064, or [srecollet@saulttribe.net](mailto:srecollet@saulttribe.net).

## Sault Middle School orientation, May 18

Sault Area Middle School is hosting an orientation for all fifth grade students and their families joining us as sixth graders in the fall.

Students transferring as seventh or eighth graders are also welcome.

The orientation is on Wednesday, May 18, and begins at 5 p.m. at the Middle School (4:30 for those interested in learning more about our band program).

A light meal and childcare will be provided.

## WALK-IN CLINIC

Sault Tribe Health Center, 2864 Ashmun, St. Sault Ste. Marie

Open Monday through Friday  
from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Sault Tribe Health Center 2nd Floor  
2864 Ashmun, Sault Ste. Marie

Rae Ann Brand FNP  
Andrew Rife PA



*The Walk-In Clinic Provides Routine Medical Care, Such As:*

- Vaccinations
- Evaluation and Treatment of Cold and Flu Symptoms
- Minor Ailments or Illnesses
- Minor Cuts Requiring Stitches
- Minor Injuries
- Minor Burns
- Sore Throats, Earaches
- Insect Bites
- Simple Rashes
- Skin Infections
- Sprains and Strains



### No Appointment Necessary!

#### ELIGIBILITY

All patients eligible to be seen at our medical clinic are eligible to come to our walk-in clinic.

#### WEEKEND CARE

Urgent care patients can still be seen at War Memorial Hospital's Community Care Clinic on weekends and holidays when the Tribal Walk-in clinic is closed.

#### AFTER HOURS CARE

After hours, call 906-632-5200 to speak to a nurse for guidance on your health issue.

*Sault Tribe Health Services ... "Health for a Lifetime"*



# Sault Tribe Elder Services —

## General services

Sault Tribe's Elder Services helps members in the tribe's service area aged 60 and older with priorities given to those with disabilities, limited mobility and other chronic impairments. The mission is to provide high quality in-home care, transportation and community-based services for health and independence.

## Elder Health Fund

The Elder Health Fund helps income eligible elders with partial payments for dentures and eyeglasses; services must be received from the tribe's health facilities. Elders who live outside of the service area but in the United States are also eligible for the Elder Health Fund which pays for certain durable medical equipment as

deemed "medically necessary" by a physician. Applications must be submitted annually.

## Meal programs

All elders of the tribe are invited to participate in gatherings for meals in Sault Ste. Marie, St. Ignace, Hessel and Manistique. Meals cost \$1 for Sault Tribe members and \$3 for any guests joining them.

Meals can be delivered to elders' homes free of charge, except in Manistique, if delivery is warranted by nurse assessment. Meals are served at 11:30 a.m. in Sault Ste. Marie, Monday through Thursday, at 2076 Shunk Road. Meals are served at noon in St. Ignace on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 399 McCann Street. The Hessel Tribal Center

and the Manistique Tribal Center also serves at noon on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

## Walking club

Those elders in the vicinity of Sault Ste. Marie can take advantage of joining the elders' walking club for exercise and social opportunities. The club gathers at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 to 11 a.m. for gentle, low impact exercise in a relaxed and friendly environment complete with a nurse on hand to monitor vital signs.

Elder Services is at Nokomis-Mishomis Place, 2076 Shunk Road in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. Call (906) 635-4971 or toll free at (888) 711-7356, the fax number is 635-7005.

# St. Ignace elders socialize over dinner at McCann building



St. Ignace elders visit over good food and stay in touch with community events and happenings.



Photos courtesy of Sheryl Hammock  
Elders of St. Ignace met through the winter months at the McCann Building on the first Sunday of each month, which included potluck dinners and opportunities to socialize. The meetings are done for the summer months but start again in December.

# Jordan twins receive academic awards

Sault Tribe members and twins, Andrew and Allison Jordan, received academic awards in their first year of college. Andrew was selected to Honors Carolina and the dean's list at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. He also was selected as rookie of the year for Tar Heels ice hockey team. Allison was also selected to the dean's list with a 3.9 GPA at Colgate University.

Andrew is a premedical student at Carolina majoring in chemistry and Allison is a prelaw student at Colgate majoring in philosophy. Andrew is also a recipient of the Hayden B. Renwick Award for Academic Achievement recognizing African-American and American Indian students on April 9, 2016, at UNC Chapel Hill.

They are the children of tribal elder Michael R. Jordan and grandchildren of tribal elder George Marshall Jordan Jr. of Rogers City and Saginaw, Mich.



Above, Allison Jordan was selected for the dean's list with a 3.9 GPA at Colgate University. Right, Andrew Jordan was selected to Honors Carolina and the dean's list at the University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. He also was selected as rookie of the year for Tar Heels ice hockey team.



# 2016-17 Higher education scholarships availability

Eligible Sault Tribe members are encouraged to apply for the 2016-17 tribal scholarships listed below, application deadline is June 1.

## SCHOLARSHIPS:

Noah Thomas Leask Family Scholarships: 35 at \$1,000 each. Any field of study, any undergraduate or graduate degree at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Bernard Bouschor Honorary Scholarship: One at \$1,000 each. Any field of study, any undergraduate degree at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Pamela Cable Gershon Scholarship: One at \$150. Must be a 2016 graduating high school senior with a minimum 2.50 GPA residing in the tribe's seven-county service area and accepted to a two or four-year college or university in any field of study. Full-time status.

John P. Carr Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must be a permanent resident of Unit V in any field of study for any undergraduate degree at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Don Corp Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must be pursuing undergraduate degree in history, historical preservation, museum studies or other history-related field at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

June Curran Porcaro Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must have been homeless, displaced or in the foster care system

during your lifetime or pursuing a degree in the human services field with a career goal to work with such individuals and must demonstrate financial need.

Fred L. Hatch Memorial Teacher Education Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must be at least one-quarter Indian blood quantum, verified by Sault Tribe Enrollment Department enrolled as at least a junior in a Michigan public college or university in a teacher education program with a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA (submit transcript). Full-time status.

Lori Jump Survivor Honorary Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must be pursuing an undergraduate degree in social services at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Joseph K. Lumsden Memorial Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must be at least one-quarter Indian blood quantum as verified by Sault Tribe Enrollment Department as at least a junior in any field of study at any accredited college or university with a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA (submit transcript). Full-time status.

Vic Matson Sr. Tributary Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must be pursuing undergraduate or graduate degree in fisheries, natural resources management or related-field of study at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Ken McCoy GED College Scholarship: One at \$1,000.

Must be an individual who earned a General Educational Development certificate pursuing any undergraduate degree at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Mary and Harold "Cub" McKerchie Tributary Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must be a non-traditional student in any field of study pursuing any undergraduate degree at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Martha Miller Tributary Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must be pursuing undergraduate or graduate degree in social work, social services or related human services field of study at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

George K. Nolan Tribal Judicial Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must be at least a sophomore in good academic standing (submit transcript) pursuing undergraduate or graduate degree in tribal law, law enforcement, legal studies, political science or public administration at any accredited college or university in the United States Full-time status.

Barb and Ed "Pie" Pine Tributary Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Any undergraduate degree in any field of study at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Wright-Hatch Journalism Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Must be pursuing an undergraduate degree in journalism at any

accredited college or university. Full-time status.

The Nokomis Scholarship - Mary Sabina Osagwin and Christine Muscoe Anderson: One at \$1,000. Any Unit II resident pursuing an undergraduate degree in any field of study at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Donald "Duck" Andress Honoree Tributary Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Any Unit III resident pursuing an undergraduate degree in any field of study at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Martha "Marty" Snyder Honoree Tributary Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Any Unit IV resident pursuing an undergraduate degree in any field of study at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Anita Nelson Honoree Tributary Scholarship: One at \$1,000. Any Unit V resident pursuing an undergraduate degree in any field of study at any accredited college or university. Full-time status.

Special Needs Scholarships: Four at \$1,000. (Two awards for students aged 18 and older, two awards for students under 18). Must have a documented physical or emotional disability (submit letter from physician, mental health provider or special education professional) and must indicate to what educational purposes the entire scholarship amount would be applied, including an itemized list of expected costs.

## HOW TO APPLY:

Essay topic: Please visit [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) visit Membership Services, Education and Higher Education where you can print the Higher Education application packet and essay guidelines along with a synopsis of the scholarship essay: "How do you perceive the pipelines under the Straits of Mackinac will impact with Anishinaabe?"

Deadline to apply: June 1, 2016. (Late applications will not be accepted.)

Required documentation: Students MUST submit: one Sault Tribe Higher Education application packet (Application, W-9 Form, and a copy of their tribal card) and one copy of their essay with a cover letter attached. If the scholarship requirements state it, you may need to submit your transcript and/or blood quantum verification letter.

To apply, email or fax all documentation to [bmcarthur@saulttribe.net](mailto:bmcarthur@saulttribe.net) or (906) 635-7785, or mail to Sault Tribe Higher Education, ATTN: Brandi MacArthur, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

It is recommended you save documentation of having sent items to our office, for example, a fax confirmation sheet, sent email, mail receipt, etc.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Brandi MacArthur, Higher Education administrative assistant, at (906) 635-6050, ext. 26312 or [bmcarthur@saulttribe.net](mailto:bmcarthur@saulttribe.net).



# ACFS brings fun and info in family expositions

By Rick Smith

The Manistique Tribal Center led off the tribe's 2016 Parenting Awareness Month expositions on March 18. A count of 53 adults and 65 children from the area enjoyed games, food, prizes and found information on important services thanks to the help of 11 adult volunteers and six youth volunteers.

Folks crowded into the Little Bear East in St. Ignace on March 19 for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Shirley Goudreau Family Fun Day for a celebration of family unity as well as having an opportunity to learn about many beneficial resources for families.

In Sault Ste. Marie, a count of 523 folks gathered for the 18th annual Family Celebration Day

at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center for the expo on March 28.

Anishinabe Community and Family Services (ACFS) sponsored all three expos with help from other tribal entities and officials as well as businesses and organizations of mainstream communities. The focus of the events is spending time together as a family.

According to Jessica Gillotte of ACFS, the St. Ignace Family Fun Day name was changed in honor of the late Shirley Goudreau, "a beloved resident of St. Ignace and dedicated case-worker at ACFS" who passed away last February after a battle with cancer.

Gillotte noted Goudreau

planned, shopped and hosted the events, doing the majority of the hard work herself, and took pride in handling the events with a lot of help from her family as well as many others. Gillotte indicated the Goudreau family was helpful in planning and conducting the function this year as well.

"Shirley loved gathering her community for the family-centered event as she had a great love for her town of St. Ignace," Gillotte said. "She and her family came together to help other families learn about new parenting tips, safety measures and other helpful information brought forth by the community and different agencies throughout the counties," Gillotte added Goudreau loved the events even though

planning it was sometimes stressful on top of regular duties, but "she pulled it off with a smile each year." Gillotte said plans call for the annual St. Ignace exposition to continue under its new name.

"This years event was a success and fun was definitely had by all," Gillotte said. She credited Angie Gillmore of the St. Ignace ACFS offices for taking the lead and helping with the planning of the expo this year. "We wanted to run the event exactly how Shirley ran hers and, with a few minor exceptions of course, I think we did a pretty good job!"

In Sault Ste. Marie, the Family Celebration Day took up large parts of both floors of

the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center. Folks huddled in the foyer to register and afterwards had options of taking in the main event in the basketball court to visit with folks at information tables, enjoy games and ogle or win from a pile of nice prizes. Also on the schedule, free skating on one of the ice rinks and free use of the facility skates. Upstairs, children enjoyed games, face painting, a bouncy house and free pizza for everyone.

The Family Celebration Committee is grateful to all who help or contribute to make the events possible each year. "A lot of hard work is put forth each year," said Gillotte, "and the success of the events make it well worth all of the effort."



Above left, folks mill around the Chi Mukwa basketball court at the start of the Sault expo taking in offerings from information tables and chances to win great prizes, above right.



Above left, a lad puts his ticket into a bag for a chance to win a prize indicated on the bag as the girl takes in the choices. Above right, an always-popular attraction, a bouncy house.



Above left, a young lady watches action elsewhere as she has a face painting. Above right, free pizza for one and all enjoyed on the second floor of Chi Mukwa.

Photos by Rick Smith, Jessica Gillotte and Sharon Hutchinson — More on page 16.



# Over 400 parents, children, family agencies and educators participate in family reading night

Parents and students of all ages were invited to celebrate reading month at the third annual EUP Reads forum March 21 at Lake Superior State University's Cisler Center. The event featured activities that try to make reading fun for people from infancy through college. Several area schools and organizations collaborated on the event, among them was JKL Bahweting School. JKL Superintendent Theresa Kallstrom said the forum attracted 400-500 people in each of its first two years.

The Sault Tribe provided a free book for every student who

attended.

Sault Area Public Schools, Rudyard Area Schools, St. Mary's, and Ojibwe Charter Schools were also involved. Among the participating community organizations was the Salvation Army, War Memorial Hospital, Project Playground, Win Awenen Nisitotung, and Little Free Library. Each group hosted an activity, with some relating to technology, comprehension and others to vocabulary.

There were reading games, crafts, and raffles featuring prizes donated by the groups participating in the event. Prizes included

Kindles, gift certificates, and backpacks stuffed with reading-related materials.

Kallstrom credited Donna Fiebelkorn, assistant dean of LSSU's School of Education, with helping to arrange EUP Reads. She also praised JKL Bahweting's parent involvement coordinator Lori Jodoin, who played a big role in organizing the event.

Kallstrom said the idea for EUP Reads grew out of a proposed bill in Lansing which would have required school districts to hold back any third grade student who was not reading at a satisfactory

level. Although the legislation has not passed, she said it got local education officials talking.

"We felt like, as a community, we should be doing everything we can, and we know that parents are a key component of helping kids read," Kallstrom said.

EUP Reads is one of four annual events presented by the coalition of schools and community groups. The others are a book exchange in May, a summer read-a-thon, and a family reading night in November.



JKL Culture Teacher Chris Gordon, Ph.D., with his wife Janet and their daughters, Maci, 2, and Tia, 3.

Photos by Brenda Austin



Catherine Wilson, Sault Tribe Head Start Teacher lays out craft items as Kaiden Menard, 7, decorates the first letter of his name at one of the art tables set up for the kids.



JKL Bahweting Technology Teacher Vince Gross helps students pick out a book to take home with them.



Helena Bourque, 14, a student at Sault Area Middle School, reads a book to her brothers, Leland (back), 8, and Joseph Bourque, 5.



Amy Brown, a paraprofessional, and her husband Michael Brown, a teacher, both work at JKL Bahweting Anishnabe PSA. Below: 4-year-old, Hailey Valvino, enjoying some popcorn.



Lilly Leppien, 7, deciding which book she would like to take home with her from Win Awenen Nisitotung's offerings.



JKL Bahweting Kindergarten Teachers Janet Veum and Troy McBride volunteered their time at the family reading event.



Left: Chase, 7, his little sister Hailey, 4, and mom Stephanie Valvino look at what JKL Bahweting Special Education Teacher Mary Forbes has displayed on her table.



Vanessa Johnston, 10, and Sophia Goetz, 11, students at Lincoln Elementary School, visit the table of JKL Secondary Teachers Katie Fewchuck and Laurie Darvie.



Kristie Chambers with her children, Ethan, 9, Allie, 5, and Claire, 8.



A group of children listening to a traditional spoken story and using rattles to emphasize different parts of the story.



# Photos from St. Ignace and Manistique ACFS family expositions



Above left, Herb Brown and Angie Gillmore prepare the food stand just before the start of the St. Ignace exposition. Above right, Tommy the Moose put in an appearance at the expo.



Above left, Tara Calder makes last minute preparation on the ACFS information table before the expo start. Above right, deputies John Eby and Isaac Harrigan of the Mackinac County Sheriff Office standing by.



Above, a family enjoys some eats as others mingle among the information tables.



Above, folks gathering to mingle and enjoy some food at the Manistique Tribal Community Center.

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# Tribal enterprises in the western service area

BY BRENDA J. JEFFREYS

In the Fall of 1996, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians acquired approximately 110 acres in West Branch and Forsyth Township in Marquette County. The property consists of 275 housing units and five commercial buildings on the former KI Sawyer Air Force Base in Gwinn, Mich. Upon acquiring the property the tribe organized a property management company and named the operation Sawyer Village.

It features a variety of housing types to fit any family's needs from three and four-bedroom apartments, three and four-bedroom duplexes, three and four-bedroom single family homes to four-bedroom execu-

tive homes.

Sawyer Village routinely improves the homes by upgrading or replacing flooring, roofs, furnaces, exterior painting, siding, windows, water heaters, appliances, kitchen countertops and cabinets. Continued improvements are made based on the results of the annual inspections in all of the homes and the capital expenditure budget.

Sawyer Village also offers year round indoor storage for recreational vehicles of all sizes in three of the commercial buildings. Pricing is based on the size of the recreational vehicle to be stored.

Eagle Ridge consists of 16 two-bedroom apartments and is on almost seven acres in

Marquette Township. Sawyer Village is paid an administrative and maintenance fee for the management and maintenance of Eagle Ridge Apartments.

Sawyer Village and Eagle Ridge on-site team members include Property Manager Joy Page, administrative assistant Charles Howe, maintenance coordinator Corey LaPlaunt, maintenance technician's Al Houle and Josh Drury and maintenance worker Paul Menser. Administrative oversight of the property management companies is provided by the Sault Tribe Real Estate office organized under tribe's chief financial officer.

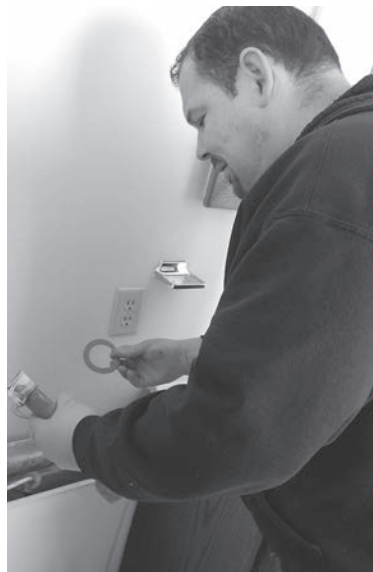
*Brenda Jeffreys is the Sault Tribe real estate manager.*



Maintenance technician Al Houle



Maintenance Coordinator Corey LaPlaunt



Maintenance technician Josh Drury



Maintenance worker Robert Menser



Sawyer Village and Eagle Ridge Property Manager Joy Page



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St. Ignace Poker 906-643-9361 to register  
or for more information.

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KEWADIN SAULT STE. MARIE  
April 29-May 1

## \$15,000 Cash & Credits Video Poker Tournament

KEWADIN ST. IGNACE  
May 13-14



## King Creole

Saturday, June 18

Show Starts at 8p.m.

Sunday, June 19

Show Starts at 4p.m.

SAULT STE. MARIE  
DREAMMAKERS  
THEATER

Ticket Price  
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Monday, May 30

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military ID to receive \$10 in Free Play.

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# Angeline Boulley

## Unit 1 Board of Directors

### My Call to Action/Goals to Accomplish:

**Our Board must focus on key issues!**

- ✓ Separation of Powers
- ✓ Long-Term Strategic Plan/Vision
- ✓ Prepare for Mackinaw City casino

**Our Board must lead by example!**

- ✓ Code of Conduct addressing conflicts of interest & confidentiality violations
- ✓ Rescind Board retirement until employee retirement/401(k) match in place
- ✓ Board should undergo random drug testing, just as our employees do
- ✓ No employees' pay should be cut unless Board pay is cut first



**My experience, education, and respect for our culture have prepared me to serve as YOUR representative on the Board of Directors:**

- 25+ years working with Indian tribes in Michigan
- Former Assistant Executive Director, Sault Tribe Membership Services 2012-2015
- Led Constitution Review Sessions 2012-2013
- Board of Regents, Bay Mills Community College 2006-2015
- Project Director, Wequayoc Cemetery Planning Project 2013-2015 (ANA grant)
- Sault Tribe Education Director 2006-2012
- Chairperson, Michigan Tribal Education Directors Consortium 2009-2012
- Vice-Chairperson, Tribal Education Departments National Assembly 2009-2015
- Project Director, STAY Project addressing tribal youth suicide prevention & anti-bullying, 2008-2012 (SAMHSA grant)
- Federal grant reviewer
- Facilitated Sault Tribe Land Claims community input sessions 1997
- Master of Public Administration degree, Central Michigan University 2001
- Thesis: "Tribal Political Empowerment: How Indian tribes impact public policy at the Local, State, and Federal levels"
- Bachelor of Science degree, Central Michigan University 1988 (Psychology major, Management minor)
- Admissions Counselor for Native American Students, Central Michigan University 1984-1985 & 1987-1988

This ad endorsed and paid by Angeline Boulley.

For more info, please visit [www.AngelineOnBoard.com](http://www.AngelineOnBoard.com) or [www.Facebook.com/Angeline.Boulley.1](http://www.Facebook.com/Angeline.Boulley.1) or call (906) 203-8847.

Floral art by Tracy Toulouse, Aboriginal Designer. Used with permission. [www.swirlingwind.com](http://www.swirlingwind.com)

Photo details TOP (left to right): Kissing my Gram at CMU graduation, With my children, Just me, With Billy Mills, Completing the Honolulu Marathon.  
 Photo details BOTTOM (left to right): At Sugar Island Powwow, With STAY Project Staff, At son Chris Matson's graduation, With dad Henry Boulley, Sr.



KEEP CALM  
AND  
VOTE FOR  
ANGELINE



# 727 School of Cosmetology opens in Sault

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Danielle Eggart is the new owner of the 727 School of Cosmetology located at 101 Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., across from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Interest has been so great in her course offerings, she says, she is already looking for a larger building to house the school. She has a growing waiting list for students and said she contacts them all once every two weeks by email to see if they are still interested and keep them updated.

"I started small," she said, "because I wasn't sure how the school would do, so I only made room for about 12 students. I can have 20 students for each instructor and I have two instructors. So, I can have 20 students comfortably as long as 10 are out on the floor and 10 are still in the theory room. But I won't enroll more than 15 at any one time right now."

The Theory Room is where students spend their first 350 hours and are not allowed in the clinic area until they have completed their hours. They practice on their manikins and each other, do their testing and watch mock demonstrations until they are ready to be on the clinic floor where they can work with the public.

Eggart graduated from high school in California and moved to Sault Ste. Marie in 2000. She went to cosmetology school when it was being offered at the former

New U, then after graduating from the program she rented chair space for eight years from another local salon called Head To Toe.

"I always wanted to have my own business; there is a certain way I like to do things. When I found the right spot I decided it was time to do it. That was the hardest part, trying to find a good location with parking," she said.

The school opened its doors Jan. 19 to its first students, however, Danielle has been offering her clients hair cutting and styling services at the new business since September.

She said the school will be opening to the public the third week of April for hair cuts, styling, coloring, manicures and pedicures, artificial nails including acrylic, gel, and wraps; manual, electrical and chemical facials, eyebrow and eyelash beautification and makeup. She said there are a number of students ready for clients and they also have a manicurist and esthetician ready to take on clients. One of her cosmetology students is also very good at braiding hair, Eggart said.

There are currently nine students in varying stages of study at the school, with three more starting the end of April.

Considered a secondary vocational school, she said she wouldn't be able to offer financial aid until she becomes accredited, a two-year process. "I do offer the Ace grant, which gives students \$1,000 off of their tuition and I also offer three different payment



Photo by Brenda Austin

Danielle Eggart (third from left) is the new owner of the 727 School of Cosmetology located at 101 Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie, across from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. She is shown here with four students.

plans in addition to occasional specials."

Eggart said that Bay Mills Community College has a program where they pay tuition for members of the Bay Mills Indian Community to go through the program. "I am trying to also work something out with the Sault Tribe for financial aid for Sault Tribe students," she said.

Once students have completed their coursework, they are prepared to take the state-licensing exam by taking mock tests at the

school.

Eggart said she is excited that she was approached by Paul Mitchell to be an exclusive supplier of its product lines. Although she isn't a Paul Mitchell school, she will be listed on its website as a partner school.

In addition to her already busy schedule, she is also in the process of getting her instructor's license, which the school also offers, while working to keep up with her clients' needs. She said it takes 500 hours of coursework

to become an instructor and she will have that completed by June.

Danielle is married to Dean Eggart and has two sons, Max, 7, and Samson, 3.

The name of her school, 727, was taken from the month and day of her eldest son's birthday. For information about the coursework and what they have to offer, visit the 727 School of Cosmetology's website at: [www.727schoolofcosmetology.com](http://www.727schoolofcosmetology.com). Or, call Danielle at (906) 748-4026.

## A Strong Leader for a Strong Tribe



I am honored to serve as your Unit 1 Director, and I thank you all for the trust that you have placed in me. The past four years were spent working hard, helping to provide for our way of life and the welfare and prosperity of our people. As a Board, we faced many challenges against our right to self-government, and the protection of our property and resources. But among all the meetings, the voting, the politics and the fighting, I sadly realized that too much of our time is spent focused on GRANT dollars and political games... **not on creating a STRONG TRIBE.** I chose to do more.

I have found great joy in the direct help that I have been able to give to our People... helping them no matter where they live! I have helped our members with food, housing, and medicine. I have **stood strong** for children with problems at schools, and alongside women and children who are victims of

Domestic Violence. I've worked with our people who are suffering from Substance Abuse and helped them rebuild their lives. **Helping our People** is the reason I asked for your vote four years ago, and I hope it will be the reason you give me your support once again. Though much of my work is in political arenas, **I am not a politician. I am a Tribal Leader.** I do not tell our people what they want to hear, I tell them what they **MUST** know.

I am an Eagle Clan woman, firmly rooted in the culture and traditions of our Anishinaabe people and **I am Focused on Our People.**



Call: (906) 440-9151

[jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.mcleod.2012@gmail.com)

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Sault Tribe

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# Brothers document U.P. indigenous experience

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The world premier of Adam and Zack Khalil's *INAATE/SE/* (it shines a certain way, to a certain place, it flies, falls), was shown February 29 to a sold-out theater of 400 people during the Museum of Modern Arts (MoMA) *Doc Fortnight 2016* festival.

According to a press release from MoMA, this was the festival's 15th annual showcase of recently produced documentary films examining the relationship between contemporary art and nonfiction practices, and on new areas of documentary filmmaking.

The Khalil's 70-minute long feature film draws from the Ojibway seven fires prophecy, using interviews, performances, and drawings combined with historical research to highlight contemporary indigenous identity in the brother's hometown of Sault Ste. Marie in Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

"The premiere was a huge success! We sold out the theater," Adam said. "We were really honored to have Audra Simpson join us in the post screening discussion. Audra is a rad Anthropologist from Columbia University - she's also Mohawk and her book *Mohawk Interrupters* is amazing and a huge inspiration to the film."

Those viewing the film will be drawn into their conversations with friends, family members, tribal elders, and singing superstar Brett Michaels (who was performing at Kewadin Casino), and an investigation into Sault Tribe history with visits to tribal archives, the Smithsonian, and the Tower of History, located near the waterfront in the Sault.

Following is the Museum of Modern Art's synopsis of the film: "History is written by the victors, but this film reminds us that the history of the oppressed can still be saved from being extinguished. Native American video artists Adam Khalil and Zack Khalil here reclaim the narrative of the Ojibway of Sault Ste. Marie, in

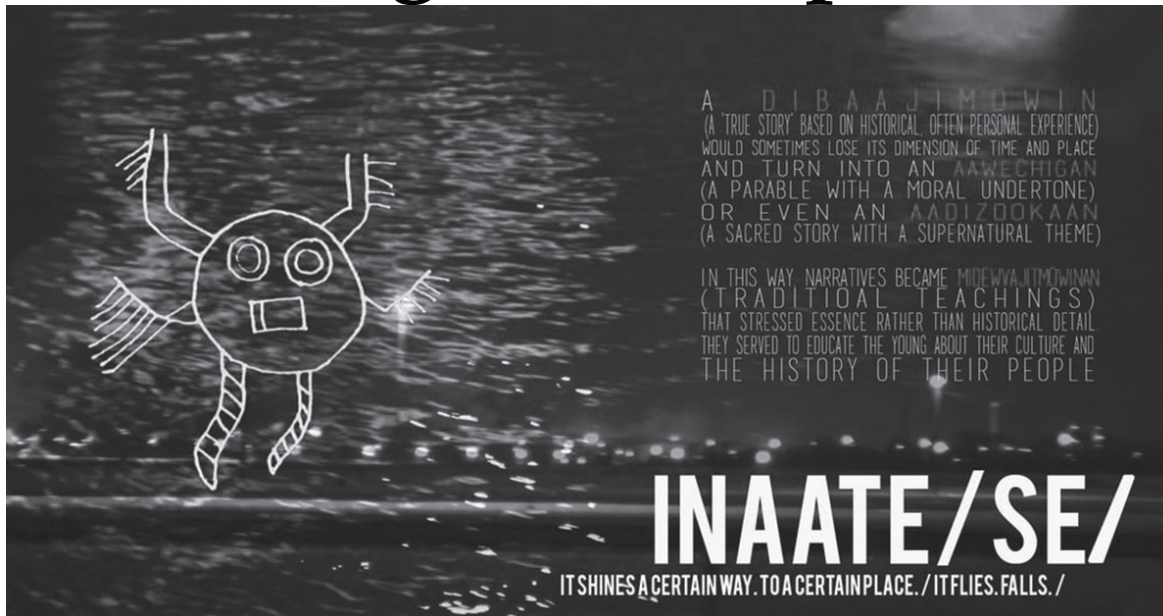
“Adam Khalil and Zack Khalil (both Ojibwe) provide a raw take on their ancestral community within the Sault Ste. Marie area — documenting the harmony and debauchery of the Indigenous experience today. This experimental film, now in the works, juxtaposes the voice of the romanticizing settler with contemporary Ojibwe perspectives.”

— Gloria Bell, *First American Art Magazine*

Michigan's Upper Peninsula, from the archives and museums that would confine it to the past. Using personal interviews, animated drawings, performance, and provocative intercutting, the Khalil brothers' feature debut makes a bold case for the Ojibway people to be their own storytellers—while seeking a cure for the damage inflicted by colonization—in a spiritual reconnection with tradition."

Adam said, "A lot of what the movie is tackling and talks about is the question: What does it mean to be Ojibway in the 21st century? I don't think anyone really knows. It's a good question to ask and I think there are a lot of easy answers, but I think that being Ojibway in the 21st century is whatever we want to make it. And I think that is the most important thing to remember - and that is what we are trying to present in our film."

"When Zack was finishing up school and I was in NY, our mom (Allison Boucher Krebs) was getting her PhD at the university of Washington and became very sick. Zack took time off school and was helping to care for her until she passed away, and a lot of her work that she didn't get to finish is related



to the film that we made," Adam said.

"What she was working on was this idea of indigenous information ecology. Which is the idea that everyone should have access to information, but when it comes to indigenous communities information is trickier because traditionally and historically information has been taken without consent, under the guise of something that is good like academics, anthropology, or ethnography. Our mother was studying the idea that for indigenous communities, information should be for all, but knowledge should be for some - to create a distinction between those two things. That was the start of it," he said.

Khalil said they did over 30 interviews, with many lasting

over three hours. "It was an insane process to go through, but it was really important to sit with people and let the knowledge come to us. We can't take it, it's not information that's available, it's something we had to wait for and be respectful of and show that we wanted it, but that we could wait and when it was ready it would come. That was our approach, and I think that is inherently Ojibway in a lot of ways.

The brothers are coming back to the Sault area soon and will be playing the film for a hometown audience. Adam said it's a film that is good to have a conversation about.

The brothers are currently based in Brooklyn, NY, but travel home to Sault Ste. Marie a few times a year to visit fam-

ily and friends. Their films and installations have been exhibited at UnionDocs, e-flux, Maysles Cinema, Microscope Gallery (New York), Spektrum (Berlin), Trailer Gallery (Sweden), and the Carnival of eCreativity (Bombay). Both brothers graduated from the Film and Electronic Arts program at Bard College and are UnionDocs Collaborative Fellows and Gates Millennium Scholars.

"We keep going back to the Sault because it is such a meaningful place to us, and it really is home. I feel grounded when I am there," Adam said.

To view their movie trailer, go to: [inaatase.com/trailer](http://inaatase.com/trailer), or to see more information on the *MoMA Doc Fortnight 2016* festival, visit: [www.moma.org/calendar/film/1617](http://www.moma.org/calendar/film/1617).

## Vote Michael McKerchie, Unit One Board of Directors to Move Forward Together ...

I respectfully ask for your vote. I will work hard to represent you. I believe in responsible leadership and I will work with community members, the tribal membership and the Board of Directors to move our Tribe forward. Please see my profile in the Candidate Section for more information.

**I Support:** · Improving Current Operations · Expanding Gaming · Exercising our Treaty Rights; Preserving Hunting and Fishing Rights · Protecting the Environment; Working with State and Federal governments · Continue Fighting for Access to Additional Education and Health Programs · Working To Increase the Principle of the Self Sufficiency Fund (Elder Fund) · Including our Elders in the Decision Making Process · Create an Annual Gathering of the Elders · Continue Working for the Education of our Youth to Maintain our Strong Communities

**I ENCOURAGE MEMBERS TO CONTACT ME WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT MY CAMPAIGN OR HOW TO SHOW YOUR SUPPORT:**

(906) 203-7828

[VOTEMCKERCHIE@GMAIL.COM](mailto:VOTEMCKERCHIE@GMAIL.COM)

[FACEBOOK.COM/VOTEMCKERCHIE](https://www.facebook.com/VOTEMCKERCHIE)



### Board Members must represent members and strengthen our tribe by:

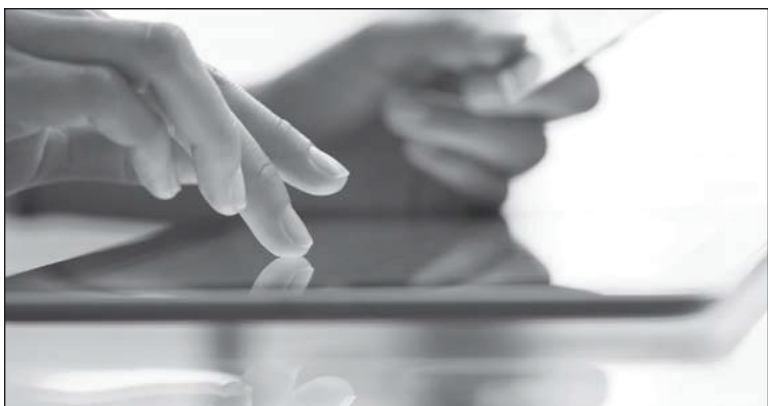
- Setting our tribe's mission and create policies to achieve our goals.
- Establish budgets with financial & fiscal controls.
- Ensure that our Constitution, By-Laws, Ordinances, and tribal laws are followed.
- Provide resources for our programs and services for our members.
- Always remember who we are and where we came from.

As your Board Member, I promise that I will represent your interest to the best of my ability. I have the experience and I can help our tribe flourish. I've been involved and I'm dedicated to the success of our tribe. I ask for your vote for positive change to move our tribe forward...



**EXPERIENCED  
INVOLVED  
DEDICATED**

**Michael McKERCHIE**



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Kinross • Cedarville • Paradise

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NCUA Insured



# Two departments work together on cash flow

By BRENDA AUSTIN

The Sault Tribe Payroll Department is an integral part of the tribe's operating structure. Employees include Payroll Manager Shelley Shelleby (a 32-year employee), Payroll Assistants Kerri Sams (22-year employee) and Marsha Nolan-Ailing (24-year employee), and Payroll Coordinator Lisa Moran (26-year employee).

At Payroll, staff process and distribute payrolls for Sault Tribe entities. They also process and distribute W-2s; coordinate and submit withholdings; and prepare and submit monthly, quarterly and yearly tax reports. They are also responsible for the set up, maintenance and updates to the JDE payroll and Kronos systems; comply with audits and administer the 401k plan.

Shelleby said, "We currently have nine payrolls we run, some on a weekly basis and some on a bi-weekly basis. That includes the Kewadin casinos (all locations), governmental, Northern Hospitality, DeMawating Development, Sawyer Village, Midjim, the board of directors, Housing and Sault Tribe Construction."

Payroll will be rolling out the capability of e-mailing direct deposit slips to employees in April. Information on how to sign up will be included in employee's direct deposit slips as a payroll insert. Those who sign up for the electronic version will be required to enter the last five digits of their employee number as a security measure before they will have access to their direct deposit slip. Shelleby said that

by making this change, it would have an impact on cost savings in supplies, and processing and distribution time. The Payroll Department will also be offering a Roth option through the 401K plan. Participants will be able to sign up for the ROTH option effective April 5, 2016 but withholding will not occur until July 1, 2016.

Shelleby said, "We work with the Accounting Department on how employee wages and fringes are distributed to the different cost centers and the Accounts Payable Department to coordinate our withholdings from employee paychecks. Once we do those withholdings, we send them to Accounting, [Kewadin Casinos] Accounting and Housing's Accounts Payable department, who then cut and disperse the checks. We also work with the Accounting Department on our yearly audits."

The Accounts Payable and Receivable Department, under Accounting's umbrella, has three employees: Administrative Manager Laurie Mansfield (a 30-year employee), Accounts Receivable Clerk Albertinia Moran (a 17-year employee), and Linda LaFaver, accounts payable clerk and a 20-year employee. Also working within the Accounting Department is Lori Randazzo, a bookkeeper and 23-year employee.

Mansfield said what they do is pretty repetitive: they make deposits, and process and print vendor and employee travel checks. They do not process payroll checks.

"As Accounts Payable and

Receivable, we do accounts payable for all the departments with the exception of the casinos; travel disbursement vouchers; reconciliation of travel advances and vendor payments, such as DTE energy or any places we purchase supplies from," said Mansfield.

All money coming in from other tribal departments and outside vendors goes through Albertina Moran.

As the bookkeeper, Randazzo does the bank reconciliations, maintains, balances and reconciles cash accounts and does the bookkeeping at Law Enforcement two days a week for the St. Ignace detention center. She runs bank reports each morning and makes sure all the postings go to the right cash accounts, she balances journals every month, and

reconciles everything the end of each month.

Both departments are individually important for the work they

do, but when they come together as a team are instrumental making important contributions to the infrastructure of the tribe.



Left: Payroll Coordinator Lisa Moran, Manager Shelley Shelleby, Payroll Assistants Marsha Nolan-Ailing and not shown is Kerri Sams.



Left: Administrative Manager Laurie Mansfield, Accounts Payable Clerk Linda LaFaver, Bookkeeper Lori Randazzo and Accounts Receivable Clerk Albertinia Moran.

# Brittany Behm and Nika headed for UKC canicross competition

Brittany Behm and her seven-month-old Dutch Shepherd, Nika, captured second and third places in recent skijor (cross country skiing under dog tow) competitions along with first place in United Kennel Club (UKC) competitions recently conducted in Mason, Mich.

The duo heads to the Troutfest Dryland Dog Derby

in Kalkaska, Mich., in April to compete in canicross races, in which cross-country runners are tethered to pulling dogs and, later on, to the UKC Premiere competition in June competing in conformation, agility and

obedience classes. Established in 1898, according to the organization, the UKC is the largest all-breed performance-dog registry in the world covering all 50 states and 25 foreign countries.

## RE-ELECT BRIDGETT SORENSON UNIT 3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



### SINCE BEING ELECTED:

- ✓ Held office hours by appointment since being elected
- ✓ Unit report in every newspaper
- ✓ Donated \$1000 scholarships annually
- ✓ Donated fish for Elders fish fry fundraiser
- ✓ Full-time Board Member
- ✓ Held Monthly Unit Meetings
- ✓ Tasered for Jr. Police Academy Fundraiser
- ✓ Tesified twice for Sault Tribe Head Start
- ✓ Attended Self Governance Training
- ✓ Presented TAP at Dept. of Justice conference

### EDUCATION/WORK EXPERIENCE:

- ✓ Bachelor's in Business Admin.
- ✓ Associates in Business Mgt.
- ✓ 10 yr Real estate sales license
- ✓ Worked for Sault Tribe HR & Casino for 10 yrs

### COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- ✓ St. Ignace Hockey Association President
- ✓ Mackinac County Relay for Life Team leader
- Member:**
- ✓ St. Ignace Events Committee
- ✓ Mackinac County Communities That Care Committee
- ✓ Mackinac Straits State Park Committee
- ✓ St. Ignace Recreation Board
- ✓ MAHA District 7 Board
- ✓ Sault Head Start Advisory Board
- ✓ Sault Tribe TAP Committee
- ✓ Planned the first annual Pink in the Rink 2016
- ✓ Past Red Cross Blood Drive coordinator

bridgett91@yahoo.com • (906) 984-2052

FACEBOOK: Bridgett Sorenson Unit 3 Sault Tribe Board of Directors

Paid for and endorsed by Bridgett Sorenson



## Elect Ilene (LaVake) Moses Unit 3 Board of Directors



### EXPERIENCE:

- 8 yrs Teacher Aide HEAD START PROGRAM 1966-1974,
- 17+ yrs State of Michigan Indian Outreach Worker (IOW) 1975-92,
- 4 yrs former Sault Tribe Unit 3 Board of Directors Representative 1998-2002,
- 1 yr Sault Tribe General Assistance representative 1992-1993,
- 4 yrs Sault Tribe Contract Health Coordinator 1995-1999,
- 7 yrs Sault Tribe Elder Service Division Health Coordinator 2002-2009,
- 3 yrs Title IV Indian Ed Program Chair/St. Ignace Area Schools 1975-78,
- 13 yrs Title IX Indian Ed Program Parent Committee member/St. Ignace Schools 1999-2012,
- 10 yrs member of Unit 3 Sub Committee 1995-2005,
- 10 yrs Secretary and member of Elderly Advisory Committee/Unit 3 St. Ignace 1995-2005,
- 10 yrs member Sault Tribe Child Welfare Committee 1998-2008,
- 10 yrs member Sault Tribe Health Committee 1998-2008,
- 17 yrs Sault Tribe delegate to Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) 1996-2013,
- 3 yrs member of Jewel of Mackinac Golf Tournament 1998-2000 Moses Dialysis Unit,
- 10 yr member Moses Dialysis Board/Mackinac Straits Hospital 2002-12,
- Sault Tribe Elder Service Division Kitchen Aide 2014-present,
- Title IX Indian Ed Program Parent Committee Chair/St. Ignace Schools 2013-present,
- Member Unit 3 Sub Committee 2015-Present,
- Member Wequayoc Cemetery Committee 2015-present

**COMMITMENT:** I will work hard for our Tribe and all the Committees to better understand the functions of our programs. I will work hard to serve the Tribal members of Unit 3. I will not make promises I cannot keep.



Brittany and Nika display a couple of the awards won in competitions.



# Michelle Castagne joins NIHB congressional team

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member Michelle Castagne was a National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) project intern for the Sault Tribe during the summer and fall of 2014, working in the tribe's Communications Department. Castagne has since applied for and been chosen for two outstanding job opportunities in Washington, D.C., her most recent with the National Indian Health Board's (NIHB) Congressional Relations Team.

Executive Director of the NIHB, Stacy A. Bohlen, said, "I am pleased to let you know that after a very competitive, national search the National Indian Health Board invited Michelle Castagne to join its Congressional Relations Team as an associate. In this role Michelle will actively engage with policy, budget and appropriations analyses, formation and advocacy. Michelle will work directly with Director of Congressional Relations Caitrin Shuy."



Wiyaka Little Spotted Horse, Oglala Lakota, and Michelle Castagne (L-R) at a congressional briefing on Native children's mental health.

Castagne joined NIHB in December 2014 as a public health coordinator in the Public Health Policy and Programs (PHPP) Department and distinguished herself as a leader for Native American youth health care issues and leadership building, serving as

a key member of the NIHB PHPP team. Bohlen said that Castagne's work on the Tribal Leaders Diabetes Committee helped advance the committee's efficacy, and the programs upon which it advises Indian Health Service.

Castagne began her new posi-

tion on April 18, remaining with the PHPP team until after the National Tribal Public Health Summit. "I love conference time and I am glad I was able to stay on in my previous role though the conference. To pull off these big conferences with a small staff takes everybody pulling together to make it happen," she said.

Castagne said she is looking forward to the challenges her new position offers and is excited to be working with Caitrin Shuy. "I have been surprised at how receptive representatives and their staff have been, and also how much they don't know and understand about things such as the federal trust responsibility and tribal sovereignty – things I thought people knew about, especially on the Hill. Positions like this are really necessary and Caitrin Shuy has been a huge advocate for Indian Country for the past couple of years and does a great job," Castagne said.

"If we aren't educating legislators on how policies are impacting

tribes, they aren't going to know," she said. "I have had a lot of good experiences with staffers and representatives who want to know what the issues are, and that what they are doing on the Hill is making a difference at home."

Castagne began her college career at Lake Superior State University, where for two years she studied nursing and general education before transferring to Grand Valley State University in her junior year. There she completed a Bachelor of Science degree in non-profit and public administration with an emphasis in community health. "I completed a couple of internships in Grand Rapids while I was there and between the summer of my junior and senior year I interned for Sault Tribe Community Health. That is where my interest started in working with our tribe and Alaskan Natives and American Indians in general," she said. She graduated from college May 2014.

## See Jane Drill website teaches how "You can do this!"

BY RICK SMITH

Does it seem your house is falling down around your ears? Is your old jalopy making strange noises? Just don't have the money to pay a pro to take care of these things? Then hop online and log onto seejanedrill.com, a free online resource center where folks are shown how to do these things for themselves.

According to the web site, the mission of See Jane Drill "is to take the mystery out of all things mechanical, so that people can fix, renew and restore their own stuff." By mechanical, they mean gadgetry applicable to home improvement and automotive maintenance fields.

Co-founders of See Jane Drill are Leah Bolden and Karen DeVenaro of the U.S. Pacific Northwest. Bolden is a master



craftswoman featured in free, easy to follow video tutorials on the website showing everything from basics on the proper way to use tools to step-by-step guidance on how to carry out an array of plumbing, carpentry, electrical and automotive jobs. New videos are posted every Thursday. DeVenaro carries out similar lessons in a like fashion in written form on a different array of home improvement and automotive repair tasks.

"Our goal is to empower people to save money by taking care of their own homes," DeVenaro noted, "and approach every home

improvement job with confidence!"

Those who may have questions can email them to either Bolden or DeVenaro at the addresses posted on the web site.

Bolden has over 30 years of experience in the construction industry, including 20 years as a journeyman plasterer for a public agency, according to her introduction. She developed

and taught numerous building trade workshops and is passionate about sharing her skills and knowledge.

DeVenaro has a Bachelor of Arts in creative writing from Hampshire College in Massachusetts and is a leading expert on public electrical apprenticeship programs. She is a former electrical apprenticeship manager for a major metropolitan

public utility, according to the web site. She has been a champion of promoting the success of women in the skilled trades, particularly in the electrical field. One of her proudest accomplishments is the creation of the Basic Electricity and Applied Math (BEAM) program, which prepares people with the skills and knowledge that they need to be successful in the skilled trades.

## BONNIE WOODFORD-CULFA for Unit 3 Tribal Board



*"I have served as your health director for 11 years and ask for your vote so I can serve as your unit representative."*

*"I work to get things done and will dedicate myself to get results. Give change a chance."*

Miigwech,  
Bonnie Woodford-Culfa  
White Snapping Turtle  
Questions: 906-630-5733  
Whiteturtle815@aol.com

### LEADERSHIP • INTEGRITY • VISION • EXPERIENCE

#### Education & Experience

- ▶ Master's Degree in Nursing Administration
- ▶ Registered Nurse for 35 Years
- ▶ Sault Tribe Health Division Director 11 years with oversight of the \$32 million budget and led team to increase third party revenue to \$9.5 million in 2015.
- ▶ 2015 received National Indian Health Board (NIHB) Local Impact Award for "phenomenal contributions to advancing American Indian/Alaskan native Health"
- ▶ Strategic Planning Experience to help set direction for the next three, 5 and 10 years.
- ▶ Experience in setting up a market-based compensation system for employees.
- ▶ 11 years experience with planning and implementing Elders services including community resources and case management.
- ▶ 35 years working for better Health Care Services, which is our #1 priority.
- ▶ Member of the TAP workgroup to focus on suicide presentation, prescription and substance abuse in our community

#### UNIT 3 MEMBER, I WILL FOCUS MY ENERGY ON:

- ▶ Elder Services, target individuals needs
- ▶ Transportation for health center appointments
- ▶ Education and job training program
- ▶ Employee market based compensation system; our team members are our greatest financial asset
- ▶ Mackinac Island Services — I get it, I have family who are year round residents
- ▶ Youth activities and engagement program
- ▶ Reservation based programs for kid's safety with an adult volunteering and outreach program in our tribal reservation community.

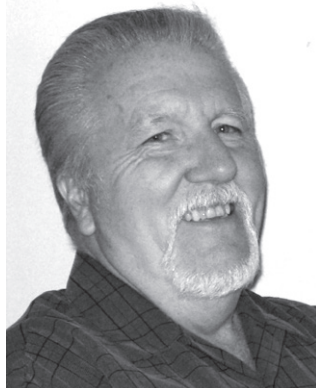
This ad endorsed by Bonnie Culfa

## Elect

# BOYD SNYDER

to the Sault Tribe Board of Directors

## UNIT 5



*"I Will Walk What I Talk."*

#### CURRENT

- ✓ Co-Chair Unit 5 (Marquette) Elders Committee
- ✓ Member Elder Advisory Board
- ✓ Member specials needs enrollment committee.

#### PERSONAL

- ✓ Past President Title IX (Marquette)
- ✓ Former Tribal Commercial Fisherman
- ✓ Small Business Owner 35+ years
- ✓ Past President Board of Realtors
- ✓ Past real Estate License Instructor

boyd.snyder@sbcglobal.net or 906-249-3051

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Boyd Snyder



# Birth announcements...



They are named in honor of their grandmother, Marcy, who was a proud citizen of the Sault Tribe until her untimely passing in May 2015.



**ANTHONY J. GORDON**  
Josh and Allison Gordon of Sault Ste. Marie proudly announce the birth of their son, Anthony James Gordon, born on Jan. 27, 2016.

Grandparents are Brian and Melanie Rader of Pickford, Rich and Carrie Sayles of Brimley, Ron and Sara Gordon of the Sault.

Great-grandparents are Ellis

and Sandy Olson of Cheboygan, Royce Rader of Pickford and Theresa Cryderman of Pickford and late great-grandmother Dorothy Cobb. Anthony also has a late great-aunt, Susan Olson.

**NOLAN A. HORNER**

Nolan Aubrey Horner was born on March 2, 2016, at Munson Hospital in Traverse City, Mich.

He weighed 6 pounds, 6 ounces and was 19.5 inches in length.

Parents are Josh and Amber Horner of Sugar Island, Mich.

Grandparents are Will and the late Lisa Nolan of Sugar Island, Scott Horner of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and Rayann and Bob Bertram of Riverdale, Mich. Great-grandparents are Sharon and Jay Piirainen of Sugar Island, Bob McKay of Sugar Island and Lois Horner of Sault Ste. Marie.



# Smith going to Saginaw Valley State University

Makenna Smith will be attending Saginaw Valley State University in the fall as a student athlete on a scholarship.

She said softball has long been a big part of her life and is happy to be able to extend it into college. She expressed fondness and pride at playing for SVSU.

She started playing softball in little league and found her love for the sport grew into something of an obsession. Plus, she indicated she was very lucky to have so many people in her life to guide and support her, from family to coaches.

Smith currently plays on the Petoskey High School

Redmen softball team, mainly as catcher and shortstop. She said through hard work she received all-state honorable mentions for the past two years from the Michigan High School Softball Coaches Association and aspires to make all-state this year, indicating she is 47 hits away from breaking the school record of hits in a career.



# VOTE ✓ Unit 5 Tyler LaPlaunt



**MIGIZII MIGWAN — EAGLE FEATHER**



**Culture** ~ Our entire Tribe needs to offer more cultural events, activities, and teachings. Growing up in Unit 5, I felt lost most of my life. I didn't know where to look, I didn't know who my elders were, and I lost out on who I was. I am proud to say that I will be the last generation in my family that was lost. I am Migizii Migwan (Eagle Feather) and my daughter will grow up knowing who she is and where she came from. I want that for all of our people through increased teachings across the seven counties.

**Economic Diversity** ~ As a Sovereign Nation, we need to be self-sustaining and less reliant on US Government. The only way to do this is to move forward with new business investments. I agree with the downstate casino proposal, however, the casino system is antiquated, and we need to improve on what we already have. An expansion of the Health Division to provide more services throughout our seven counties would not only provide a better life for our Tribal members, but also a viable revenue stream.

**Treaty Rights** ~ It is our duty to fight for what was promised to us. When those promises are broken, we need to be vocal, we need to organize, and we need to take a stand. Every Board Member should be present when our rights are being obstructed, not just for our Tribe, but for all Tribes, and every generation to follow.

**The New Constitution** ~ I absolutely agree with a separation of powers. Every elected official should be elected by the people, not by a governing authority. By getting the people involved, we will help prevent corruption and ingrained nepotism. The Board trusts you to vote them into office, why not trust you to make the right decision for our entire Tribe? We should all have a say in our future.

**Education** ~ I am a firm believer in higher education. As a Tribe, we need to encourage our members to continue to move forward with their educational goals. We can do this through increased grants, scholarships, and a hiring incentive for those who graduate and would like to return and serve the Tribe. By encouraging our own to become educated, and hiring them into our workforce, we can create a better standard of living for generations to come.



**CONTACT ME:**  
906-236-5729 or [tlaplaun@alumni.nmu.edu](mailto:tlaplaun@alumni.nmu.edu)  
**I'M LISTENING!**

Tyler LaPlaunt endorses this ad.



# Walking On...

## DONALD R. FRAZIER

Donald R. "Don" Frazier, 77, a lifetime resident of Naubinway and a businessman, died after a lengthy illness at the Hospice House of the EUP in Sault Ste. Marie on March 28, 2016.

Born in Naubinway on Oct. 13, 1938, he was a son of the late Melvin and Archimese R. (nee King) Frazier.

Don was a commercial fisherman for his entire life and eventually owned and operated Frazier Fish Inc. in addition to Carl and Don Frazier Inc., another commercial fishing business he owned with his brother. Don was a ham radio operator (call sign KA8CVE) and enjoyed talking to people all over the world, going to the casino and going to hunting camp with his sons and grandsons. He was a proud member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and a member of Post 290 of the American Legion in Engadine. He also enjoyed going to outings in Arizona and Georgia as a member of the Gold Prospectors Association of America. He built and flew radio controlled model airplanes and participated in a lot of fly-ins.

Don is preceded in death by his parents and his nephew Roy Frazier.

Don is survived by his wife of 52 years, the former Karen Beckman; sons and daughters-in-law, Dwight (Brenda) of Sault Ste. Marie and Doug (Tonda) of Engadine; four grandchildren, Josh, Whitney, Dylan and Drew; three special young people he considered his own, Riley, Tim, and Chantell; three brothers, Carl (Sally), Lawrence (Judy) and Allan (Kathy) Frazier, all of Naubinway; two sisters, Linda (Jerry) Kerbersky and Charlene (Bob) Cook all of Naubinway; sister-in-law, Janet (Teto) King of Romulus; and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation and services were at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Naubinway on April 4 with Fr. Marty Flynn officiating. Veteran's honors by American Legion Post 290 of Engadine and Native American interment services will take place at the Naubinway Cemetery at a later date.

Condolences maybe expressed at [www.beaulieufuneralhome.com](http://www.beaulieufuneralhome.com). Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry assisted the family with arrangements.

## JESSICA M. GOLLINGER

Jessica Marie (nee McKechnie) Gollinger passed away unexpectedly on April 6, 2016, at her home in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., at the very young age of 28. She will be dearly missed by her husband, John Robert Gollinger,



and her sweet twin four-year-old daughters, Annie and Jamie.

Jessie, as she was known by family and friends, was a graduate of Sault Area High School. She lived in the Sault her entire life. She and John married and soon had twin girls. John and the girls were the focus of her life. She tended to them with utmost care and devoted every moment of the day to their well being.

She will be missed by her surviving mother, Laura McKechnie (Clark); sister, Ashley Russo; brother, Frank Russo; father, Thomas Moran (Becky); grandparents, Tom (Christine) Moran; uncles, Terry (Deanna) Moran, Jeff (Kathy) Moran, Eli Moran, Larry (Hazel) Moran, George (Jami) Moran, Mike Moran, Robert McKechnie (Shauna), Gene McKechnie (Cheri), Ron McKechnie (Jamie), Isaac McKechnie (Nikki), Charlie McKechnie (Kim); aunts, Hulda Moran, Lisa Moran, Bonnie (Albert) Lehre, Dawn Moran, Marlene Janetos (Rick) and Sally McKechnie (James); sisters-in-law, Liz Gaus (Rick), Margaret Dahl (Bob), Judy Gollinger (Francis); and numerous cousins.

She is predeceased by her great grandmother, Marguerite Moran; aunts, Laura Moran, Mary Moran; uncle, Hilliard Moran; grandmother, Ann McKechnie; grandfather, Isaac McKechnie; cousin, Billy Dowd; and in-laws Elizabeth and John Gollinger.

Visitations took place on April 9 and April 10, services rendered by Brother John Hascall on April 11 at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church.

Online condolences may be left at [www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com](http://www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com).

## LORNE J. LAPLAUNT

Lorne Jerome LaPlaut, 82, went home to be with the Lord on Dec. 29, 2015. He passed away peacefully at home in the presence of his loving wife, Wanda. He was born on Feb. 3, 1933, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., a son of the late Wilvey and Grace LaPlaut.

At the age of 17 he was called to serve his country in the Korean War. He served in North Korea building bridges near the Hwachon Reservoir. He attained the rank of corporal and received the Army Occupation Medal (Japan), Korean Service Medal and two Bronze Stars for heroic or meritorious service in the combat zone. He received an honorable discharge on March 22, 1952.

Lorne touched many lives throughout the country. He was employed with Union Carbide in Sault Ste. Marie and continued this work in Ashtabula, Ohio. In 1963, he made a career change and became grounds safety officer with the United States Air Force. This endeavor brought with it many friends from



Michigan, New York, Nebraska, Colorado, Washington and Indiana. He retired from Offutt Air Force Base Strategic Air Command Headquarters in 1992. He was an active community member. He belonged to the Christopher Columbus Society and was a Sault Tribe elder. He devoted his life to his family and he loved the time spent at the cabin in Brimley with everyone. No one who met him forgot his infectious passion towards life. He was a selfless person and the rock of the family, offering help and advice to anyone in need. He was an expert card player, chili maker, story teller, puzzle solver and campfire keeper. He will be sadly missed by family and friends.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years, Wanda Esther (nee McLeod), whom he married on Oct. 17, 1953, at the St. Mary's Catholic Church in Sault Ste. Marie; his five daughters, Vicky (Jamie) Martin of Goulais River, Ont., Canada, Dena (Dale) Cryderman of Sault Ste. Marie, Alice (Michael) Redmond of Rhinelander, Lesa Florek of Fort Wayne, Ind., and Lorna (Larry) Livermore of Brimley, Mich.; 20 grandchildren; four sisters, Laura (William), Grace (Edward) McCarthur, Myrna Wilson and Wilma; brother, Brian (Pat) LaPlaut; nieces, nephews, other family and many friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and two brothers, Bernard and Eugene.

## DARLENE A. MASTAW

Darlene Ann Mastaw of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on April 5, 2016, at her home.

She was born on June 16, 1946, in Sault Ste. Marie, the daughter of Alphonse and Agnes Mastaw.

Darlene is survived by her daughters, Kimberly A. (Chris) Swailes and Robyn E. Smith; grandchildren, Jessica Swailes, Luke Swailes, Bella Smith and Jaden Smith; siblings, Elaine Faragher, Patsy Cox, Brian (Joyce) Mastaw, Jerry Mastaw, Johnny (Becky) Mastaw, Richard Mastaw, Franklin Mastaw, Nancy (Larry) Evans and Danny Mastaw; many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She is predeceased by her parents and siblings, Terry Barr, Charles Mastaw, Jackie Smith, Billy Mastaw, Mary Catherine Mastaw and Carol Mastaw.

Visitation took place on April 8 at Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home and services followed on April 9 at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church with Brother John Hascall.

Online condolences may be left at [www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com](http://www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com).

## PATSY A. PARRETT

Patsy A. Parrett, 72, of Rapid River, Mich., passed away at her home on March 28, 2016, following a lengthy illness.

She was born and raised on Sugar Island, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on July 2, 1943, daughter to Mildred Roy. Patsy attended

school in Sault Ste. Marie and resided there before moving to Rapid River 40 years ago. She later attended Bay De Noc Community College where she received her certificate in computer applications.

On Nov. 14, 1996, Patsy married Charles "Chuck" Parrett in Rapid River.

Patsy loved spending time with her children and grandchildren. She enjoyed fishing, quilting, traveling to Grand Marais, beading, gardening and working with flowers.

Survivors include her husband, Chuck, of Rapid River; children, Marcia Lehto of Escanaba, Marla Follbaum, of Willis, Mich., Mike (Sherri) Parrett of Rapid River, Jim (Sandy) McPherson of Rock, Geri Turek of Manistique, Kristin Brace of Escanaba, Jennifer (Chuck) Raspor of Escanaba, Patsy Parrett of Rapid River and Gerald Parrett of Escanaba; grandchildren, Stephanie Tomaszewski, Alison (Alfred) Rising, Patrick Tomaszewski, Tony McPherson, Neikko Turek, Josh Parrett, and Kloe Brace; and numerous aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Mildred, and a grandson, Gerald Bond.

A graveside service will be held at a later date in the Rapid River Cemetery.

The Crawford Funeral Homes assisted the Parrett family.

## NANCY M. SASADA

Nancy Marie (nee) Sasada, aged 65, of Brookfield, Wisc., passed away in her sleep on March 1, 2016. She is the beloved mother of Jason, Joshua (Jennifer) and David (Erika) Sasada. Loving grandmother of Brooke, Carter and Nathan. Further survived by nieces, nephews other relatives and friends.

Private family services took place. In lieu of flowers memorials to the charity of your choice appreciated.

## KENNETH L. SHUTE

Kenneth Lloyd Shute, 64, passed away on March 9, 2016, in Virginia Beach, Va., after a short battle with cancer. He was born on May 28, 1952.

He is survived by a son, Daniel.

Kenny was a home builder and later a grounds keeper. He will be remembered as a hard-working, stand-up guy.

## REINO E. SYRJALA

Reino Emanuel Syrjala, Sr., was born on Aug. 2, 1922, on Sugar Island, near Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Emanuel and Aina (nee Laine) Syrjala. He passed away on April 13, 2016, at



Hospice House of the EUP in Sault Ste. Marie.

He married Doloris Thibodeau on March 16, 1946, in Sault Ste. Marie.

In his youth, Reino participated in cross-country ski races on Sugar Island. While serving in the Army during WWII, he served in the European Theater in the 9th Armored Division where he saw action in Germany. He was a member of the DAV and the VFW.

He drove a school bus when his children were young, delivered milk and was a carpenter for most of his life working construction. He worked on the Mackinac Bridge from start to finish. He was involved in the Chippewa County 4-H and FFA programs with his children. He was a hobby farmer, raising Shetland ponies for over 40 years. Children, grandchildren, many relatives and friends enjoyed pony cart rides at the farm. He also enjoyed deer hunting and fishing with his childhood Sugar Island friend, George Currie. He enjoyed his many friends and good times at the senior lunches at the Sugar Island Community Center.

He was very involved with the Sugar Island Historical Preservation Society, especially with the Finn Hall restoration project. He loved to play cribbage and Farkle with his family and friends.

Reino is survived by daughters, Pamela (William) Moore of Rockford, Ill., Gwenn (Dennis) Aho of Sault Ste. Marie and Penny Syrjala of Kinross; sons, Robert and Reino, Jr. of Sault Ste. Marie and Ronald; grandchildren, Kimberley (Todd) Pietrangelo of Sault Ste. Marie, Timothy Aho of Sault Ste. Marie, Robert Moore of Rockford, Ill., James Moore of Ketchikan, Alaska, Justin Syrjala of Kinross, Joshua Syrjala of Kinross and Tammy (Mike) Selby of Minnesota; great-grandchildren, Madeline Moore, Ashley Pietrangelo, Erica Pietrangelo; and great-great grandchildren, Kyler Pietrangelo and Ayanna Cobert.

Predeceased by parents, Emanuel and Aina Syrjala; wife, Doloris, son-in-law, William Moore; sister, Mildred (Leonard) Morgan; brother, Kayo Robert Syrjala; granddaughter, Jackie Wemigwans; special friend, Irja Cole; and nephews, Mark Morgan and Leonard Morgan, Jr.

The family requests memorial contributions be made to Hospice House of the EUP, 308 W. 12th Avenue Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 and the Sugar Island Historical Preservation Society, P.O. Box 72 Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Visitation was on April 23 at the Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home. Burial with military honors will follow at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens.

Online condolences may be left at [www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com](http://www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com).





# Indoor cats are safer for everyone, including wildlife

BY JOSEPH LAUTENBACH

Cats are among the most popular pets and are becoming more common as companions in North America. Cat ownership can improve an owner's quality of life, can benefit an owner's health and provides companionship.

While domestic cats are excellent pets, cat owners should be aware that indoor-outdoor cats cause lots of harm to wildlife populations, humans and themselves.

Research shows cats kill between 1.3-4 billion birds and 6.3-22.3 billion small mammals each year in the United States, making them one of the leading causes of preventable death in wildlife populations. By attaching cameras to indoor-outdoor cats, researchers were able to show that 44 percent of indoor-outdoor cats actively hunt and kill an average of 2.4 animals in seven days of roaming.

Domestic cats are also a major cause of death for birds in their nests. The presence alone of cats reduces nest survival of birds because they stress out birds and distract them from their parenting role. When a cat is around a nest, birds spend less time in

their nests and less time feeding its young. The birds also have increased nest defense behavior; this is helpful in defending their nest but also increases the likelihood of nests being seen and attacked by other predators such as crows and ravens.

Cats have a major influence on many declining songbirds, which enhance our quality of life by visiting bird feeders and eating insects, such as mosquitos. Game species, such as waterfowl, American woodcock and ruffed grouse, are also affected by domestic cats, which attack their nests and kill juvenile and adult birds. With the annual spring migration of bird species across Michigan and North America underway and with the nesting season approaching, it is an important time for pet owners to keep domestic cats indoors.

Cats also kill other game species like squirrels, rabbits and hares. Furbearing species, such as American marten and fisher, rely on small mammal populations, which means they must compete with domestic cats for this limited food resource.

Additionally, diseases like feline distemper can spread from cat populations to wild populations of bobcat, American marten



and other important furbearing mammals. Keeping your cats indoors reduces wildlife death and injury and also helps to protect many species important to hunters and trappers.

Indoor-outdoor cats are more likely to be injured and become diseased. Researchers documented 85 percent of indoor-outdoor cats engaging in risky behavior. These behaviors included crossing roads, drinking dangerous substances and exploring dangerous locations like storm sewer drains, roofs and small crawl spaces. Crossing roads increases the chances of cat death or injury. By exploring new locations, cats may become trapped or

injured. Your cat may encounter strange cats carrying diseases that could infect your cat or your family. By keeping cats indoors, cats are not exposed to injury, diseases or death, which increases the quality of life and lifespan of your cat.

Owners of indoor-outdoor cats are exposing themselves to risks because their cats are more likely to carry parasites and diseases that infect humans. One example is toxoplasmosis, a disease that can cause blindness, deafness, seizures, schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease, autism and obsessive-compulsive disorder. Toxoplasmosis can be transferred to humans by coming into con-

tact with cat feces, which may mean eating unwashed vegetables from an area where a cat has previously defecated or petting a dog that rolled in cat feces. This disease can be passed from an infected mother to an unborn child and can cause developmental delays, severe disease in newborns or miscarriages. Currently, there are no treatments that can prevent cats from carrying the parasite responsible for toxoplasmosis. By keeping your cat indoors, you are reducing your family's and the community's exposure to diseases.

By keeping cats indoors, owners can reduce wildlife mortality, increase their cat's lifespan and reduce the risk of encountering diseases that can be transferred to humans. Cats can live indoors, while living a full and rich life. There are many resources discussing how to increase an indoor cat's quality of life. One source is the website <https://indoorpet.osu.edu>, which is a great introduction to indoor cat needs. Please help keep yourself, your cat and wildlife safe by keeping your cat indoors!

*Joseph Lautenbach is an assessment biologist with Sault Tribe Inland Fish and Wildlife Department.*

## Chi Nodin Running Club for youth starts on June 13

BY COMMUNITY HEALTH STAFF

The Chi Nodin (Big Wind) Running Club starts again this June 2016. The 10-week youth running program, sponsored by the Sault Tribe Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country and Sault Tribe Community Health Special Diabetes Program for Indians grants, starts on June 13 and ends on Aug. 17. The program is in the Sault Ste. Marie community and open to Sault Tribe males and females aged 12 to 18. The program recruits a maximum of 30 runners.

"The goal is to incorporate other health and wellness education and activities into the program; for example, nutrition, physical activity and Native cul-

ture by using resources through the Sault Tribe Community Health Program and other community coalition partners," said Heather Hemming, Sault Tribe health educator. "The emphasis of this program is on participation and developing a healthy lifestyle, as opposed to the competitive aspects of running."

Regular running sessions and fitness-related activities are scheduled three days each week, Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, morning sessions from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., and evening sessions from 5 to 7 p.m. Interested applicants need to indicate on the registration forms if they will be available for either morning or evening sessions and

preference for one or the other. Registration forms and information packets will be available at the Billy Mills Run on Saturday, May 14.

Youth travel and participate in 5K races every other Saturday. Racing schedule: Summer Solstice 5K in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., on June 18; Black Mountain Blast 5K in Cheboygan, Mich., on July 2; Bear River Crawl 5K in Petoskey, Mich., on July 16; and the Clark Lake 5K Run in Clark Lake, Mich., on Aug. 6.

Youth also participate in fitness-related activities through the Lake Superior State University Regional Outdoor Center (ROC)

every other week in activities such as using the climbing wall, riding bicycles or playing disk golf.

Two part-time running coaches instruct and facilitate weekly lesson plans. These lesson plans cover cognitive, physical and social skills. Cognitive skills include thinking positively, mentally pacing oneself for the run and so forth. Social skills include helping others to finish the race, encouraging teammates and being positive to help others achieve goals. Physical skills include proper running form, importance of warm-ups, stretching and cool-down. Local athletes, fitness instructors and registered

dieticians will be guest speakers and attend each week to highlight the lesson plan and assist running coaches with arranging fun games and activities to engage the youth.

Each runner receives a pedometer to keep track of steps for each running and activity session and a running journal to track goals, distance and duration of the run, weather conditions and thoughts about each run. Participants also receive shoes and apparel through the Nike N7 program.

For more information, please contact Heather Hemming, Sault Tribe Community Health, at 632-5210 extension 21372 or at [hhemming@saulttribe.net](mailto:hhemming@saulttribe.net).

## Military sexual trauma survivors can get help

BY SARITA GRUSZYNSKI

IRON MOUNTAIN, Mich. – April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). The Department of Veteran Affairs uses this month each year to make others aware of veterans who have survived military sexual trauma (MST). The theme for this year's SAAM within the VA is "Recovery from Military Sexual Trauma: Strength in Community."

MST refers to experiences of sexual assault or repeated threatening sexual harassment that occur while on federal active duty or active duty for training. Perpetrators can include, but are not limited to, recruiters, civilians, strangers, a spouse, comrades or superior officers. Veterans from all eras of service have reported MST. One in five women and one in 100 men report experiencing MST; however, almost 50 percent of all veterans who disclose MST to a VA provider are male.

MST is not a diagnosis, it is an experience. However, sur-



**Some of the employees at the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain who wore teal on April 7 to show support for Military Sexual Trauma (MST) survivors.**

vivors frequently have mental health diagnoses such as PTSD, depression, anxiety and substance abuse. They may also be affected by physical health issues such as gastrointestinal problems, cardiovascular problems, chronic pain, chronic fatigue and headaches.

Veterans who are survivors of MST are not alone. The VA can help. There is a range of outpatient, inpatient and residential services available to assist veterans in their recovery from MST.

All services related to MST

experience are free of charge at the VA. Veterans who do not qualify for VA care or are not service-connected (have a disability rating) may still be able to receive this free care.

Every VA healthcare facility has a designated person, the MST coordinator, to assist veterans in obtaining this sensitive care. The coordinator at the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, Mich., is Sarita Gruszynski. She can be reached by calling (800) 215-8262, extension 32531.

## Learn about Lynch Syndrome and hereditary cancers risks

FROM MICHIGAN HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Michigan residents with colorectal cancer and their family members are urged to talk to their health care providers about their personal and family history of cancer. Lynch Syndrome (LS) is the most common hereditary cause of colorectal cancer. Individuals with LS have significantly higher risks of developing colorectal, endometrial (uterine), ovarian, pancreatic, stomach, brain and other types of cancer. All recently diagnosed colorectal cancers should be screened for LS, according to recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

If you or one of your close relatives has had colorectal, ovarian or endometrial cancer, it's important to consider cancer genetic counseling. Preventive measures such as earlier and more frequent colorectal cancer

screening are critical to reducing risks of cancer for individuals with LS.

Diagnosis of LS is important for individuals with colorectal cancer due to increased risks of developing other cancers. If LS is diagnosed, genetic screening can help identify family members who are also at risk.

To learn more, visit [michigan.gov/hereditarycancer](http://michigan.gov/hereditarycancer).

**Traditional healer hours:**

**Harlan Downwind**

May 9, 10, 31 at the Sault Ste. Marie Clinic and May 24 at the St. Ignace Clinic.

**Keith Smith**

May 12, 18, 24 at the Sault Ste. Marie Clinic; May 10, 31, at the Munising Clinic; May 11 in Escanaba and May 18 in Hessel.

Sault call (906) 632-0220 or 632-0236; Munising call 387-4721; Escanaba 786-2636 and Hessel call 484-2727.



# ACFS recognizes Child Abuse Prevention Month

BY ACFS STAFF

April was declared Child Abuse Prevention Month by presidential proclamation in 1983. This is a time to acknowledge the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse.

In Child Maltreatment 2014 (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau) it was reported, in federal fiscal year 2014 in the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, an estimated 646,261 children were victims of child abuse or neglect, and 1,580 children died as a result of abuse or neglect. Child maltreatment is a form of physical, sexual and emotional abuse as well as neglect.

Research indicates risk factors for maltreatment include poverty and economic conditions, poor neighborhoods, substance abuse in the family, domestic or intimate partner violence, teen parenting, age and health of a child and children with disabilities to name a few. The state of Michigan's Children's Trust Fund report from 2013 data reflects that 80 percent of abuse towards children stemmed from neglect, 18 percent from physical abuse, 9 percent sexual abuse, 2.3 percent from medical neglect and



10 percent other.

The majority of child abuse cases stem from preventable situations when community programs and systems are engaged and supportive. A community that cares about early childhood development, parental support and mental health, for instance, is more likely to foster nurturing families and healthy children. In 2015, Sault Tribe Child Protective Services program received 169 reports of child abuse and neglect.

The mission statement for the Family Service component

of Anishnabe Community and Family Services (ACFS) is to provide protection, services, support and assistance to families in need so that all children and families of the Sault Tribe will be safe, secure and knowledgeable and receive appropriate care. ACFS has a number of family support services open to Sault Tribe members across the tribe's service area. The primary goal of these support programs is to ensure tribal parents have the resources and support available to them to ensure their children

are safe, protected and receive appropriate care. Promoting family well being involves understanding and addressing child, youth and caregiver functioning in physical, behavioral, social and cognitive areas.

In addition to home-based family support programs, ACFS also offers a variety of domestic violence support services and multiple financial assistance programs, including the USDA food distribution program.

Sault Tribe offers many other programs and services to help and support families in areas of physical and mental health, specialty court services and options, and many early childhood, youth and education programs. The tribe also offers a number of employment opportunities for members and their families.

Sault Tribe partners with state and community based support programs to ensure that families have a variety of resources available. Healthful, supportive connections made by children and families in their tribal and larger communities result in improved outcomes for children.

*"All children deserve to grow up in a caring and loving environment, yet across America; hundreds of thousands of children are neglected or abused each*

*year, often causing lasting consequences. Although effectively intervening in the lives of these children and their families is an important responsibility at all levels of government, preventing abuse and neglect is a shared obligation. During National Child Abuse Prevention Month, we recommit to giving every child a chance to succeed and to ensuring that every child grows up in a safe, stable, and nurturing environment that is free from abuse and neglect."* — President Obama.

If you or someone you know is interested in learning about the variety of services available to families of Sault Tribe through the ACFS, if you need assistance accessing community based support or if you need to report a situation involving the abuse or neglect of a child please call (800) 726-0093 or 632-5250.

If you are aware of an emergency situation involving the safety of a child you may also call the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services 24 Hour Protective Services Hotline at (855) 444-3911; Sault Tribe Law Enforcement at (906) 635-6065 or call 911.

*Resources: Michigan's Children's Trust Fund, US Dept. of Health and Human Services.*

## Drug Court team attends drug abuse treatment training

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The Michigan Association of Treatment Court Professionals (MATCP), in cooperation with the Michigan Judicial Institute (MJI), hosted a two day conference March 15-16 in Grand Rapids, Mich., to help meet the educational needs of anyone working within the Michigan justice system dealing with defendants engaged in drug and alcohol abuse.

Eight Sault Tribe Drug Court team members from traditional medicine, tribal court, ACFS, substance abuse treatment programs and law enforcement attended. Sault Tribe Court Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry sits on the MATCP board, and said the state offered training sessions specific to tribal drug courts.

There are five tribal drug courts within the state of Michigan: Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Bay Mills Indian Community, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe and

the Little Traverse Bay Bands (LTBB) of Odawa Indians.

During the conference, Fabry was appointed to the MATCP executive committee and both herself and Traditional Medicine representative Tony Abramson, Jr. were workshop presenters.

Abramson and Anthony Davis, a cultural advisor for LTBB tribal court, presented on how to incorporate culture and tradition in Healing to Wellness Courts to the youth of Generation X.

Abramson said, "One way to embrace these challenges is to look to our Anishnabe teachings and find what feels right within us spiritually that leads us to the *mino bimaadiziwin*, the good life.

Abramson said the tribe's Traditional Medicine Program serves on the Drug Court Team to help connect individuals in need of help or counseling to our traditional practitioners (healers) and ceremonies such as sweat lodge or fasting camps.

"Incorporating culture and tra-

dition to Generation X is important as it focuses on people in their 20s to 30s that may have never been familiar with or have veered away from such practices."

Fabry said she facilitated a session with participants from the Upper Peninsula (U.P.) on how to better incorporate medication-assisted treatment that works with the limited resources available in the U.P.

"Often grants require that medication assisted treatment be allowed when appropriate. In the past, a majority of drug courts did not allow medication-assisted treatment, so this a new issue for drug courts. MATCP rolled out guidelines for medication assisted treatment in regard to opiates, and what they are saying is it has to be medically necessary and there has to be accountability that could include pill counts and random drug screens," Fabry said.

She added, "Downstate, there are facilities where you can see your physician and get your pre-

scription, go immediately to treatment, your therapist is outpatient and drug screens are done there — so it's a Cadillac of medication-assisted treatment all in one place. We don't have that in the U.P."

Fabry said there is no one in Chippewa County that prescribes Methadone, Suboxone or Vivitrol (a little safer than the previous two drugs because it doesn't have the ability to be abused).

"I can understand why," she said, "we have a real problem with those substances around here."

She said because clients are not able to get their treatment-assisted medications filled locally it leads to communication difficulties between the prescribing physicians and the courts. "If someone is traveling to Petoskey or Marquette to get their medications and I and the probation staff don't have a working relationship with that prescribing doctor to be able to pick up the phone to address

concerns, or to let them know that they are testing positive for other things, that client may not be getting the treatment they need."

Fabry said establishing relationships with doctors across the U.P. is important. "I would like to see physicians and the courts sit down and have a conversation about how we can work together to get people the treatment they need while holding them accountable. It's a hot button issue so there are a lot of strong opinions about it," she said.

Over 800 treatment court professionals from throughout Michigan attended the conference.

"I want people to have confidence in our drug court. We have a drug court team that is continuously educating themselves on addiction treatments and the justice system — and this conference is at the forefront of the issues facing drug courts today," Fabry said.

## Governor appoints Sault Tribe member to Benton Harbor board

LANSING — Governor Rick Snyder announced the appointment of Kathryn Debien of Spring Lake to the Benton Harbor Receivership Transition Advisory Board.

"Kathryn's leadership on this important board will be beneficial in the work to enhance financial stabilization and continue to drive success in the city of Benton Harbor," Snyder said.

Debien is a state administrative manager in the field audit division at the Department of Treasury in the Tax Compliance Bureau. She is a certified public accountant and holds a bachelor's



**Kathryn Debien**  
degree in business administration from Michigan Technological

University. Debien will represent the state treasurer and fills the vacancy created by the resignation of Larry Steckelberg.

A Sault Tribe member, Debien is the daughter of John and LeAnn Stindt of Iron River, Mich.

Other members of the City of Benton Harbor include Bret Witkowski, representing the director of the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget; Sharon Hunt, as a member with relevant professional experience; and Marvin Raglon, as a member with relevant professional experience.

## Tribal members: Get help with your concerns

Three membership liaisons work with the chairperson's office on membership issues and concerns across the service area. The job requires knowledge of the tribe and its practices, administrative experience and the ability to work with data, write reports and organize special projects and events.

The liaisons will also respond to and follow up on membership issues to ensure they are resolved.

Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact liaisons when they need help with tribal issues by emailing memberscon-

cerns@saulttribe.net or individually at:

Unit I — Sheila Berger, Office of the Chairperson, Sault Ste. Marie, (906) 635-6050, (800) 793-0660, sberger@saulttribe.net

Units II and III — Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, (906) 643-2124, chudak@saulttribe.net

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



# Holt accepts City of Sault Ste. Marie position

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

After 23 years as an employee with the Sault Tribe Economic Development Department, Jeff Holt has taken a position with the city of Sault Ste. Marie as the executive director of the Economic Development Corporation (EDC).

Holt was a member of the board of directors on the Sault Ste. Marie EDC for 21 years before stepping down to interview for his current position. Holt said his position with both the city and tribe made it easier for the two entities to work jointly on projects and share information. Prior to his work for the tribe, he was a U.S. Customs broker and freight forwarder for 15 years. Holt said, "I was very fortunate to work on a lot of major projects over the years with the tribe, from enterprises to community facilities such as the Manistique Community Center, Munising Community Center, and the Newberry Community Center - and am very lucky to have been a part of the project management team for those facilities. I am very proud of the work we do here at the city EDC, but I also want to thank the Sault Tribe for giving me 23 years of training and opportunities that I might not have had anywhere else. I am eternally thankful and grateful for the experiences that I had with the tribe and I wish them well."

After going through the city's hiring process and being unanimously selected for the position,



Holt began his new job in early March. The Sault EDC office is located in the SmartZone building in the Industrial Air Park on Meridian Street alongside the city airport.

Sault Ste. Marie Advanced Resource and Technology, Inc. (SSMart), operates the SmartZone as a partnership with the city, the EDC, Lake Superior State University (LSSU), and the Michigan EDC. A SmartZone is a technology center used to promote the collaboration of resources between universities, industry, research organizations, and government and community institutions to establish technology-based businesses and jobs.

Holt said the SSMart building provides incubator space for start up businesses through LSSU.

The Michigan Small Business Technical Development Center has an office located in the SSMart building, along with five other tenants who own small start up businesses. Holt said, "We recently signed a lease agreement with a firm out of Holland Michigan that will do technical reporting and statistics, we are excited to have another tenant in the building and still have room for more." One of those tenants includes LSSU's Simulation Lab, where nursing students attend classes simulating childbirth, accidents and other trauma.

In addition to the SmartZone building, the EDC also owns and operates the 64-acre Industrial Park in Algonquin and oversees nine industrial buildings within the park. "Our goals are to create wealth for the community of Sault Ste. Marie," Holt said. The SSMart Zone, also called the breeder building, allows business start-ups to review manufacturing options and start on a small-scale production of their product. The facility provides economical office space, meeting rooms, equipment, and software. From the breeder building they graduate to the Industrial Park and the incubator building where they can get help with tax abatement issues, workforce training, technology information, small business resources, and labor and market research.

Holt said that in the past year the EDC arranged a large training grant for one of their manufacturers. "We work with MichiganWorks! to provide training dollars and identify firms that can use those grants," he said.

The Industrial Park is also the site for Foreign Trade Zone #16, a federal incentive program beneficial for firms with a foreign source of raw material or components. Holt said the EDC is planning to further develop the Trade Zone and potentially put up a new building on existing property the city owns.

"This is a job that I am truly blessed to have. We are here to

help our community, whether it is starting businesses or developing existing businesses, bringing in new businesses or manufacturing and retail, we work very closely with all of them. We also work closely with the Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Development Authority, the Convention and Visitors Bureau and Sault Area High School and the Intermediate School District.

Holt said one of the things the city is very hopeful about is the upcoming Career and Technical Education Millage vote on May 3. Taxpayers are going to be asked to provide much needed funding to establish and operate Career Technical Education programs for all Eastern Upper Peninsula juniors and seniors. These programs provide needed job skills high school juniors and seniors who wish to join the workforce after graduation. Holt said for more information about this millage, to visit [www.eup-schools.org](http://www.eup-schools.org).

"If this millage passes, it will allow students to have training so they can step into manufacturing; so hopefully manufacturing will expand, and that is where the EDC can help them. Our manufacturers are finding that they cannot find good qualified employees and we are trying real hard to rectify that," Holt said.

For additional information, call (906) 635-9131 to speak to a business development professional, or email to: [www.saultedc.com](http://www.saultedc.com).

## DOJ: Tribal sovereignty in ICWA cases often not recognized by courts, media coverage

BY RICK SMITH

Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Sam Hirsch of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a rallying call of solidarity during recent remarks in support of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) as he spoke at a conference of the National Indian Child Welfare Association concerning child abuse and neglect on April 4 in St. Paul, Minn. In essence, Hirsch said American Indian tribal sovereignty in ICWA cases frequently goes unrecognized in courts and media coverage, 38 years after the act was signed into law.

Hirsch recommended and asked for cooperation from all concerned to turn this all too common oversight around, "This is a critical moment for Indian children," he noted in prepared remarks. "At the federal level, we are rising to the challenge. But we also need your help — tribes, social workers, child welfare attorneys — to ensure that Indian children, families and tribes continue to enjoy the protections of this important federal law. We want to hear your stories and ideas. Your views will inform how we do outreach, conduct training, set standards and present our arguments in court."

The United States passed the Indian Child Welfare Act in 1978 as a measure to stem the

widespread removal of Indian children from their families and tribal communities. Further, it addressed the erosion of tribal cultures and identity among American Indian youngsters in custody of state child welfare systems. At its core, the act requires Indian children to be placed — if possible — in the care of nurturing Indian relatives or members of their tribes.

An irony rises in the assertion that the act often goes unrecognized by state authorities, whether it is due to unfamiliarity by courts or because of other reasons, as the law primarily serves as guidance for state agencies and courts. The act does not mandate a major role for the federal government, which is why the federal government has not, historically, had a great deal of involvement in implementing the statute.

It gets worse, according to Hirsch. While he could not go into details about pending litigation, he said the Department of Justice is handling lawsuits challenging the constitutionality of the ICWA along with guidelines interpreting the law from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. "The claims in these cases are broad attacks on ICWA and go to the heart of Congress' authority to pass legislation to benefit Indian tribes and Indian people. These cases could potentially have

**Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Sam Hirsch of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) said American Indian tribal sovereignty in ICWA cases frequently goes unrecognized in courts and media coverage, 38 years after the act was signed into law.**

repercussions for other laws benefiting Indian tribes and their members."

A similar situation is found in mainstream media coverage of ICWA cases, Hirsch said, "There is no recognition of the sovereignty of tribes, the significance of tribal citizenship or the legal and moral framework that underlies federal policy in this arena. What we are seeing in the court cases and in the press is the notion that ICWA harms, rather than helps, Indian children and their families."

A case in point — the recent and brief mainstream media coverage of the court ordered return of a six-year-old girl named Lexi with American Indian relatives in Utah. She lived in foster care with a Euro-American family in California who fought a long legal battle against her removal. Mainstream stories often emphasized the overwrought state of the family at the time of the girl's removal and her

alleged small American Indian blood-quantum. The foster family knew all along the girl would be returned to family according to the ICWA at an appropriate time. Further, the American Indian relatives of the girl stayed in contact with her throughout her foster care, a fact not often mentioned in the mainstream accounts. The National Congress of American Indians and the National Indian Child Welfare Association called for "an informed, balanced" coverage of the case to encourage a better understanding of such situations.

The National Indian Child Welfare Association explained that court transcripts indicate the foster parents were aware since 2011 that Lexi had loving relatives wanting her return and her placement with the foster family was temporary. "Despite this and numerous court rulings dating back to 2013," the association noted, "they chose to reject the consensus of the court, the county child welfare agency, the child's parent, her court-appointed attorney and her tribe, who all agreed it was in her best interest to be with her sister and family." The association added, "Now she is with family. Court documents elaborate on the longstanding and close relationship her relatives have with her; they explain that she has long known them as 'family from

Utah.' These are not strangers. These are family members who she knows well."

The association also noted the media should have respected the girl's right to privacy as should be given to any other child in similar circumstances.

Jacqueline Pata, executive director of the National Congress of American Indians, was quoted in a release, "Lexi should have gotten a stable, long-term kinship placement years ago. This is why laws like ICWA exist. Regardless of a child's Indian status, the goal of foster placement has always been to provide a safe and loving temporary home. It is regrettable that Lexi and her relatives have been dragged through a lengthy legal process, and NCAI extends its support to her family for their long-term stability and well-being."

Hirsch said the stories of all concerned with Indian Country foster care must be told to illustrate how the law is valuable and benefits the country. "We can't rest on the knowledge that ICWA is the law," explained Hirsch. "We must persuade our fellow citizens, lawmakers, and judges that it is an important law that must be maintained and should be adhered to."

He invited interested respondents to contact [icwa@usdoj.gov](mailto:icwa@usdoj.gov).



# DePlonty credits work program for opportunities

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe member Nicholas “Nick” DePlonty is a Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) success story.

Each year eligible Native American youth and adults sign up for and participate in a number of different WIOA programs, including the Work Experience program offering short-term temporary employment to youth ages 14-21; On-the-Job Training allows adults to learn real life job skills at a place of business and employers are reimbursed 50 percent of the client’s wage for a specified training period; the Summer Youth Employment program provides temporary summer employment for youth ages 14-21; the Elder Employment program provides part-time employment opportunities for Sault Tribe members age 60 and over who reside in the tribe’s seven county service area; and Classroom Training provides skills training through selected vocational programs that are targeted to meet current and future employment trends.

DePlonty started with the WIOA Work Experience program in December 2011, going to work with the Sault Tribe Environmental Department.

He graduated from Sault Area High School in May 2012 and the WIOA Work Experience program was done at the end of the school year. “My program was going to be going on hiatus until November the following year, but Environmental Manager Cathy Broesmer referred me to a U.S. Forrest Service internship program based out of Wisconsin. My internship there opened doors for me because my supervisor, Tony Holland, who worked with me at the J.W. Toumey Nursery in Watersmeet Mich., let me test the waters in a lot of different programs the Forest Service has,” DePlonty said. “I did a few days with fisheries, a day with forestry timber markers, a day with surveyors - but the one that really hit me was when I did three days with USFS Law Enforcement. That flipped the trigger for me wanting to get into law enforcement. I changed my major after that first day of riding with them. I finished my internship and came back to LSSU in the fall of 2012 and started studying criminal justice.”

DePlonty said he resumed his participation in the WIOA program and started working this time with the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan environmental services department under the direction of Dwight Sargent, and from there he transferred to Sault Tribe Law Enforcement and was able to ride with police officers from March to May of 2014. “The WIOA program is a good opportunity for youth in the community. It opens a lot of doors and can broaden your horizons if you are searching for a career that you want to try out first,” he said. “I feel it is important for youth to start early, it helps

develop good work and time management skills and good communication skills. This program helps you get into the workforce and get to know people and figure out what they do, how they do it and why. It is really important to know the why behind these things. When I was riding with Sault Tribe Law Enforcement I learned a lot about criminal jurisdiction and about the community that I didn’t know.”

In the summer of 2014 he spent two days a week for six weeks doing an internship with the Drug Enforcement Administration’s Detroit Field Division. Then that fall he started back up with the WIOA program and went from November through February riding with tribal police officers once again.

All his hard work was about to pay off. In August 2014 he applied with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) Law Enforcement. Following his internship with the DEA, he went through an eight-month hiring process with the BIA and took an early departure from Lake Superior State University to pursue his new career.

He has since graduated from the 16-week Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) on Feb. 23, 2016. The FLETC program partners with the U.S. Department of Interior to train tribal officers employed with the BIA. DePlonty graduated at the top of his class with the highest academic average of 92.04. After graduation from the training center, he resumed his work for the BIA Office of Justice Services in the Western Nevada Agency where he works out of a substation on the Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation in northern Nevada – with a combined population between the town of McDermitt and the reservation of about 300 permanent residents.

His mother said that under WIOA Manager Brenda Cadreau’s guidance, he accomplished a lot. “Nick did a summer internship with the DEA out of Detroit and secured that on his own. He secured the ride along position with the Sault Tribe on his own – these were non-paid positions so he was doing this all on his own dime to gain experience because he wanted as much experience going into the field as he could get,” she said. “All these little things that he did led up to him getting employed by the BIA. That has a lot to do with how Brenda opened her arms to him and guided him through making the right contacts.”

DePlonty said the WIOA program helped him by allowing him to have firsthand experiences in different occupations. “It let me see what officers do right from the passenger seat. I was able to talk with the officers, go through their daily schedules with them and see what their tasks involved. I wasn’t going into this occupation blind,” he said.



Sault Tribe member Nicholas “Nick” DePlonty graduated from the 16-week Federal Law Enforcement Training Center on Feb. 23, 2016.

ITCM Environmental Services Director, Dwight Sargent, said, “The opportunities offered through Brenda Cadreau’s programs are excellent and we really promote all types of internships through our office - I try to add one to my

grant every year. If you look at my staff, at least two and maybe three were interns at one time and are now full time employees.”

DePlonty will be resuming his college classes this summer, and with about three semesters

left to complete, he will graduate with a degree in Criminal Justice and Homeland Security.

“As a member of the tribe it’s important for me to give back to the Native American community that I am a part of. I know that I am far from home and working on a reservation that I am not a member of, but I am still a Native American and I am still trying to give back and trying to make the community that I am a part of better. I am trying to help the people here in the Fort McDermitt Paiute Shoshone Tribe. In turn I think that will help my people back home,” DePlonty said.

His mother, Connie (David) DePlonty, said, “His parents and family are extremely proud of Nick’s accomplishments, especially his grandfather Wallace K. DePlonty, who passed away while Nick was at the academy. We all hope that one day he will return to his hometown to serve and protect his tribal community.”

To learn more about what the WIOA has to offer, contact Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767 or by email at: BCadreau@saulttribe.net

### 2016 Sault Tribe Elk Application

The 2016 Elk application period will run from May 1, 2016 to May 31, 2016. All applications must be received by the Sault Tribe Inland Fish and Wildlife Department before **5:00pm on May 31, 2016**. Applications received after 5:00pm on May 31, 2016, will **NOT** be accepted. A lottery will be conducted at the June Conservation Committee Meeting.

First Name  Middle Name  Last Name

Address  City  State  Zip code

File number (red # on Tribal ID)  Phone number

STS number (red # on harvest card)  Date of Birth  Sex  E-mail address

**There is a \$4 application fee. Each elk application must be accompanied by a check or money order for \$4. Elders (60 and older) and youth (16 and under) are not required to pay application fees.**

Please send all applications to:

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

For questions, please contact the Sault Tribe Inland Fish & Wildlife Department @ 906-632-6132

### 2016 Sault Tribe Bear Application

The 2016 bear application period will run from May 1, 2016 to May 31, 2016. All applications must be received by the Sault Tribe Inland Fish & Wildlife Department before **5:00pm on May 31, 2016**. Applications received after 5:00pm on May 31, 2016 will **NOT** be accepted. A lottery will be conducted at the June Conservation Committee Meeting. Please be sure to indicate which Bear Management Unit you are applying for (see map below).

First name  Middle name  Last name

Address  City  State  Zip code

File number (red# on Tribal card)  STS number (red # on Harvest card)  Phone number

Date of birth  Sex  E-mail address

Please select **one** of the following Bear Management Units. Please note that all Sault Tribe bear permits are only valid within the 1836 Ceded Territory. See map for generalized boundaries of each Bear Management Unit

Upper Peninsula	Lower Peninsula
<input type="checkbox"/> Drummond	<input type="checkbox"/> Baldwin
<input type="checkbox"/> Baraga	<input type="checkbox"/> Gladwin
<input type="checkbox"/> Gwinn	<input type="checkbox"/> Red Oak
<input type="checkbox"/> Newberry	

**There is a \$4 application fee. Each bear application must be accompanied by a check or money order for \$4. Elders (60 and older) and youth (16 and under) are not required to pay application fees.**

Please send all applications to:

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

For questions, please contact the Sault Tribe Inland Fish & Wildlife Department @ 906-632-6132



# Workforce place environment and other issues



**CATHERINE HOLLOWELL,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

I want to start this report off by recognizing our tribal employees — every single one of them — from entry-level team members to our highest executive positions. You are dedicated, professional, problem solvers and innovators. Your contribution and insights are all extremely valuable. I appreciate your hard work, kindness and respect.

There are pockets in our tribe where working conditions are not so great. Even so, I see smiles and professional conduct despite those conditions. When chronic issues are not addressed, it weighs heavily on the whole organization.

You deserve to work in a hostile-free environment, without retribution, disdain or public humiliation. We've lost quite a few valued employees recently and they will surely be missed.

We can do so much better in creating a healthier work environment for everyone. That, in turn, will be reflected in better service — both to our tribal members

and to our customers. It starts at the board level. We are not managers and our duties do not include interjecting ourselves into the chain of command or undermining department heads. At the same time, there is an expectation of accountability, from the top down. It is our responsibility to ensure we invest in our employee's training and development, and that departments have the resources they need to be successful at their jobs. The responsibility to effect that change rests with us. And I will leave it at that for now.

Treaty rights and Consent Decree — 2015 was a very difficult year for our fishermen. Without getting too deep into the details, there has been much political pressure since August 2015 to amend our Tribal Code and restrict co-captain rules in such a way as to take fishermen off the water permanently.

When you are faced with making a hard decision that would do away with the livelihood of so many families and severely depress the local economy, you don't make that decision lightly, and you best have all the information and cards on the table. We were not getting all the information we needed from staff or the chairman — who represents our tribe at the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) — in order to make good policy decisions. There were valid concerns about the accuracy of the systems used to collect, report and calculate harvest limits.

Ultimately, CORA voted unanimously to shut down MM-123

(Lake Michigan) in the early fall through the remainder of 2015. The shut-down was economically devastating to many fishing families. It drove a wedge into the community and a lot of bad feelings. And I take great exception to board members, pointing their finger at the fishermen and calling them "violators" without one shred of material evidence in front of them. That was unfounded, uncalled for and won't be forgotten.

And, after all that hardship and turmoil, it turns out the state had some issues with reporting as well (sport fishing) and they are now eager to "discuss" changes in reporting systems and harvest limits. If the issue had been revealed earlier, MM-123 would not have been shut down. I'm glad we stood our ground and did not restrict co-captain regulations. Does that make all our problems fade away? No, it does not. But neither would taking co-captains off the water resolve the fragile state of the Great Lakes' ecology. This is complex stuff, involving biological and environmental science, legal, policy, regulation and economics. And when we are compelled to take action, all those elements have to be taken into account.

- Our traditional native values mandate we protect the resource for future generations. That is foundational to who we are as Anishinaabe people. It should not and cannot be in dispute.

- When our grandparents signed treaties with the U.S. government, they ceded the territory but retained all other inherent

God given rights of self determination.

- Treaties and treaty obligations are firmly imbedded in the U.S. Constitution. The federal trust doctrine is always evolving as we continue the struggle to hold the federal government accountable to their trust responsibility to respect and uphold treaty rights and obligations.

- The 1979 Judge Noel Fox decision (United States v. State of Michigan) vigorously affirmed that our grandparents never gave up the vital right to fish in the Great Lakes. And that our grandparents understood that right would never be taken from them. As well, he firmly acknowledged our sovereignty and right to self-regulation.

The Judge Fox decision is the supreme law of the land. The problem is that tribes don't control the laws, rulings, decisions and permitting that results in adverse impacts on the environmental and ecological health of the Great Lakes. It's pretty hard to uphold our traditional Anishinaabe obligation to future generations when adverse environmental impacts are out of our jurisdictional control. It is not fair that our right to fish and right to self regulate are the only topics on the table when degradation of the resource is primarily the result of laws passed and actions taken by the state, the feds and other jurisdictional entities. The federal trust doctrine has entered a new era of environmental legal scrutiny and our treaty rights hang in the balance.

The 2020 Consent Decree

negotiations are fast approaching. Director Causley and I sponsored, by motion and a vote, the drafting of a request for proposals to recruit a legal team to advise and assist in Consent Decree negotiations. We've established periodic meetings with the community to discuss treaty rights and to solicit input. We need to stay focused and on track to get this essential step complete so we can map out strategies. The good news is we received some high caliber interest from numerous legal firms with proven track records in tribal fishing rights and inter-governmental agreements. I want to say that since the closure of MM-123 last year, there has been an improvement in dialog between staff and the tribal board, a better flow of information.

Graymont — This is a very difficult and complex issue. The chairman has stated publically there is "nothing we can do." That "we lost." I happen to disagree.

I do not believe we have explored all options. I am wondering about the whole permitting process and whether we have conducted adequate analysis from an environmental perspective. And, to the best of my knowledge, there has been no challenge or even analysis to the whole notion that the state has the right to claw back federal public lands (Hiawatha) in order to accommodate an ultimate sale to Graymont mining. We have discussed at length and that door is probably closed. And, frankly, the state does not have a treaty

See "Director Hollowell," pg 31



Speaking at one of 11

**Aaron A. Payment  
Tribal Chairperson**

As Chairperson of our Tribe and Chair of the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (an inter-tribal treaty council over the 1836 treaty waters) I have spoken at over 10 rallies, meetings and press events on the threat this aging pipeline represents. On April 16th, I spoke at a forum on this issue.

Our people have inhabit-

## *A Spill at the Mackinac Bridge is Imminent & Will Devastate Our Treaty Territory:*



There are only two outcomes for the future of Line 5, and one of these two things WILL happen:

- **Either it is decommissioned before it ruptures, or**
- **It is decommissioned after it ruptures.**

Picture the unemployment rate exceeding 50% or more if the impending oil slick chokes off our tourism and gaming industries.

The wanton disregard for the environment by a Governor (who knowingly sat idle as children in Flint were drinking lead laced water) is immoral. His refusal to pull the easements to shut down Line 5 is no less derelict.

I am puzzled why my fellow Board Members in the St. Ignace area (Massaway &

Sorenson) have not been to even one event to shutdown Line 5. This represents a threat to our fisheries and our people who live on Mackinac Island (Turtle Island), Mackinaw City, Cheboygan, or even St. Ignace.

### **FLINT MEMBERS**

**Our ongoing efforts to help our Members in the Flint area continue. If you need help accessing local resources, please call my office toll free at 800-793-0660. I am working on getting new funding from the Departments of U.S. HHS and IHS to do more intensive outreach in the Flint area. Thank you Intern Robin Bouschor for your volunteer work with our Members in Flint.**

Chi McGwitch!

ed the Great Lakes Basin since time immemorial and lived in balance near the Great Lakes for our home, our food and drink, our work and our spiritual connection to our treaty territory. We have an inherent responsibility to protect and preserve our waters.

At 62 years this pipeline is beyond its lifespan and it will fail. A catastrophe is imminent. Will we take the responsible action to prevent it or will we be forced to remediate a tragedy that could have been prevented? A decommission plan must be put in place immediately and a plan devised to take this line out of service before it destroys our fisheries, tourism and the livelihoods of so many ~ Michigan residents and tourists. Why would tourists want to come to see an oil slick or devastated wildlife?

The waters that would be impacted by a spill from Line 5 in the Straits area include Northern Lake Michigan and Lake Huron, which includes fishing areas within

the 1836 Treaty territory. It is estimated that more than half of our treaty fishing will be destroyed upon a spill.

A million gallons of oil sit under the bridge at any given moment. A spill in the Straits of Mackinac would result in a shutdown of municipal water intakes for numerous communities; and devastate the Mackinac Island, St. Ignace and Mackinac City ecosystem and our surrounding tourism industry.

Tens of Millions of Tourism revenues are at stake. For the eastern UP community, we have one of the largest seasonal unemployment rates in the nation. Local hotels and our casinos are the largest employers.





# On gratitude, medical staff change and survey



**DARCY MORROW,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

I would like to thank Jerome Peterson for his years of service as the chair on our Manistique Elders Committee; he retired

from the committee this year. He always volunteers during our powwow in Manistique, which we greatly appreciate! If you see Jerome around the community, please wish him a "happy retirement" and thank him for his service.

My family attended the second annual Escanaba powwow on March 26 — a big "thank you" to Jennifer and Chuck Raspor and the powwow committee; they had a great selection of traders, dancers, drums and spectators. This event has grown in size from last year; it is a really nice to have it here in the community.

At the last board meeting in Kinross, a new position for a Community Health program manager for the Munising Health

Center and Marquette satellite clinic was approved. Marlene Glaesmann is currently the Community Health program manager for all facilities — Manistique, Newberry, Escanaba, Munising and Marquette. She will continue to manage Manistique, Escanaba and Newberry. She is a Sault Tribe member and veteran and has dedicated 25-plus years to the Sault Tribe. She has grown with and managed the opening of every one of our facilities on the western end.

Marlene always steps up and helps out in any way she can. She also managed the opening of the new health center in St. Ignace.

The western end has grown through the years with the increase of services such as den-

tal, optical, pharmaceutical, medical, behavioral health, etc. From the size of our facilities to the number of team members, there is a need for more hands on supervision out in the field — this new position will do that. I would like to thank Marlene for all she has done throughout the years and all our western end staff — you keep our members healthy and it is greatly appreciated!

Sault Tribe Housing Authority mailed out their 2016 Housing Needs Survey to every household in the seven-county service area and they are due back to them by April 30.

If you didn't receive a survey, please contact Annie Thibert at (800) 794-4072 and she can send you one. Please make sure you

fill this survey out and send it back; it will help define the housing needs of our membership and tribal communities. Your input is very important to services being brought to your communities. Housing team members have been holding community meetings and also attending all the elder meetings for their input.

May 14 will be the elders annual Indian Pointe Cemetery clean up in Nahma, Mich. Please bring your lawn chair and rake, we start at 10 a.m. We will have cold drinks and lunch. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at (906) 298-1888.

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

## Politics interfere with accountability, common sense



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

We had posted to hire an education director and the next thing we are told is that they have a recommendation to hire. Usually

when a key employee is hired the board is asked if any of us are interested to serve on the interview panel. We were told that the chair picked two Unit I directors to sit on the panel. So now we have a hand-picked interview panel. Director McLeod has an education background as a school administrator and Director Causley has continuously fought to hire an education director and wanted to be on the interview panel, but many of us didn't even know interviews were being conducted. I abstained from the vote because I believe this was corrupt.

The tribe, the board and the Election Committee are currently being sued by a past employee/board member who was removed from office more than 10 years

ago. This individual is interested in running for the board again and was once the executive director for the tribe when our current chair was the assistant executive director. The Election Ordinance states when a board member is removed they can no longer run for office.

At our last meeting in Kinross, there was a resolution to hire another management position for the clinics on the west end. This would be a duplicate position to the current management structure. There was minimal support when this was discussed during our workshop and when it came to the meeting the same board members that were adamantly against it miraculously changed their mind. The chair stated this would increase services to the

members. Please explain to me how adding a duplicate management position does this? The proper route would have been to hire an assistant. We can't even allow our current front line people who provide services to take their current wage with them when they try and better themselves in another position within the Health Division. They are told it isn't in the budget but we have resolutions every meeting from savings from vacant positions to give management more money.

The tribe is hosting another health conference this year on Mackinac Island in June. I do not understand why we would not host the conference at one of our own properties so we pay ourselves for rooms, food and

meeting space. Everyone loves Mackinac Island but it costs our Health Division thousands of dollars to host a conference over there. Not to mention many of our members could not afford to attend. With all the needs we have in the tribe, this money could be better spent and create revenue for our casinos.

I will be giving away my yearly Unit III \$1,000 scholarship. The deadline to apply is May 15. Please email me at Bridgett91@yahoo.com for an application.

Office hours are by appointment, so please call 430-0536. Reminder — we hold unit meetings on the third Monday of every month at the McCann School.

Welcome to spring!

## Powwow, weatherization, housing and funds



**DENISE CHASE,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Manistique Gathering of the Clans Powwow, 5698 W U.S. 2, Manistique, Mich., June 11-12. Grand entry Saturday, June 11, at noon, feast at 5 p.m., auction after feast, grand entry at 7 p.m. Grand entry Sunday, June 12, at noon. Free admission, rough camping, call Viola Neadow at (906) 341-6993 for more info.

Can you believe it? Already another year has flown by and the Powwow Committee is in the process of planning and organizing the 10th annual Gathering of the Clans Powwow.

On behalf of the Powwow Committee, I would like to invite you all to attend. We are looking for items to be donated for the auction. If you can donate an item please drop it off at the ACFS

window at the Manistique Tribal Center to Viola Neadow. Any and all donations will be greatly appreciated. I also had a chance to attend the Escanaba area mid-winter powwow organized by Jennifer and Ronald Raspor. Big miigwech to them for all their hard work and to all the volunteers who helped out.

**Energy assistance** — If you are still in need of heat assistance, there are still three programs open through the ACFS Department: 1) LIHEAP — heat assistance, 2) Crisis energy and 3) Elder heating.

Call or stop into your local tribal center. For more info or assistance, you can reach Viola Neadow, direct services worker, at 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137 to learn the qualifications and guidelines.

**Weatherization program** — The weatherization program opens on May 1 and runs thru June 30. The goal of this program is to provide weatherization services to tribal member home owners who have inadequate living conditions and face costly repairs or replacement. Following are some of the weatherization services you may apply for:

- Roof repair/replacement
- Window replacement
- Exterior doors
- Insulation
- Mobile home skirting
- Seal basement opening and foundations

— Insulation and air sealing of roof/attic

— Insulation/ pipe wrapping

— Caulking and weather stripping

— Venting of bathroom fans/dryers/range hood

— Energy efficient light fixtures and bulbs

— Repair and efficiency mods to central heat system

For more info and to receive an application, call Jamie Harvey, homeowner specialist at (800) 794-4072 or 495-1450.

**Sault Tribe Housing Needs Survey** — By now you should have received a housing needs survey in the mail. Every household in the seven-county service area was mailed one. It's very important that all households complete and return the survey. You don't have to put your name on it unless you want to be entered in for the drawings.

The info gathered will be used to plan for future housing community needs and to develop the 2017 Indian Housing plan.

We're always told we don't have enough statistics from the outlying areas when trying to push for expansion of services, housing and programs. So please take the time and make sure to get your input included.

**2 Percent spring distribution funding** — Under the current agreement with the State of Michigan for gaming revenue sharing, 2 percent of the tribes

gaming revenue is set aside and made available to local units of government as determined by the Sault Tribe.

There are two distribution cycles throughout the year in the fall and spring. At this time of my report, we do not have the final dollar amount which will be available for distribution to the projects. Projects are awarded funding based on a number of factors: the availability of funds at the end of each cycle, the project merit and the potential benefit to tribal as well as governmental communities. Other factors like project sustainability may also be considered.

If you would like your project to be considered in the fall cycle, contact Candace Blocher at (906) 635-6050 to receive an application or more info.

**Access to care** — At the April 19 board meeting a resolution for "After Hours Health Care Clinic contracts will be considered.

I look forward to this resolution being passed. This will allow tribal members access to after hours and weekend walk-in clinics across our service area, including: Manistique, Escanaba, Marquette, Munising, Newberry, Sault and St. Ignace. The goal was to establish urgent care access conveniently located across our service area when our main clinics are closed. If the resolution passed the time line to implement should move fairly

fast. I will update you in my next unit report.

I hope you are all enjoying the sunshine and warm temperatures finally.

You can reach me by calling (906) 203-2471.

Thank you,  
Denise Chase, Vice-Chairwoman

### **Notice of St. Ignace housing road construction**

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Transportation Program announces its intent to reconstruct various roads at the St. Ignace Tribal Housing Site. The project is east of Mackinac Trail in Mackinac County, Mich. This project is scheduled for construction during the 2016 construction year.

Work includes adding aggregate, pulverizing, grading and HMA resurfacing with signage, restoration items and all related work related.

Plans and other information concerning this project available for viewing by contacting Wendy Hoffman, transportation planner, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, (906) 635-6050.



# Visions for running all our casino properties



**LANA CAUSLEY,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT II**

I want to update our casino properties status and other changes made and coming. One of my priorities was to hire and

do an evaluation with expertise for our gaming businesses. We took steps to hire an educated, experienced executive to come in, restructure and revamp our operations for better atmosphere, quality customer service, increased revenue, identify savings and work on morale issues and better workplace conditions. It's been a little over a year that we have had the executive in place and making strides in assisting management to manage with accountability and training.

We initially had recommendations to trim comps that had absolutely no benefit to our business to save about \$4 million (that was tough but it prevailed). We approved a capitol budget to remodel structure deficiencies; we implemented

a management matrix so that our executive staff could grade management for accountability and vision for each property; we were presented a strategic plan for each property (per each manager); we have a new drug policy in the works (many team members expressed this concern); we are also looking at a special comp system for our elders and a new Northern Rewards card system; and we secured a wage increase for team members.

Our revenue we get from the casinos absolutely does not get us rich as we provide most back to the service programs for the membership, but we are on a path that has some vision. This does not go without a struggle at the board level for support to

keep moving forward. I've handled that the best I can and the vision to be a respected gaming destination is my priority.

We could have remained doing the same and continued to bleed and lose each year but I'm confident we took a turn. Changes are never easy and we have a long way to go but I want to recognize the team members and managers who are taking pride in the changes and looking to our future. I see some who resist and complain, but we cannot NOT make changes within our businesses. It so competitive and we have to always DO better.

With all this being said, I have heard from many on the increase of our drink prices. This was done for specific rea-

sons, our own increased prices for product and that fact that we have had no substantial increase in many years. It will also increase our bottom line at an estimated million dollars over a year period.

This change could greatly benefit our continued structure renovations and give us extra resources in other areas of our business. It's a vision in the works and, again, chi miigwech to all you team members who take pride in your positions and our tribe. I know it's difficult to be on the front lines but it's appreciated and noticed by me.

I'm limited to 500 words.

Baamaapii. Please contact me with input or help: (906)485-2954, (906) 322-3818, lcausley@saulttribe.net.

## On prioritizing and planning for our future



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin, Anishnaabek, over the past four years, I have spoken to you of the need for our tribe to prioritize and to plan for the future. In December, I brought forward two resolutions that

would have brought action to this need. The first was to create an emergency financial plan, and the other was to allocate any unspent tribal support dollars to the tribe's Land Claims Fund (AKA the Elders Fund). However, although I followed the rules and met all the deadlines, these resolutions were met by vehement objections and accusations by some members of the board, and actual mockery from the chairman. They were not read into the agenda during our meeting; consequently, it was not publically brought before the people.

As a board, we are failing to fully address our tribe's future financial stability. This month, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians plans to open up a casino in Mackinaw City.

This casino, even though just a Class II facility, WILL affect our tribe's financial picture, and not in a good way. Recall when the Bay Mills Tribe opened their little casino in Vanderbilt? We lost nearly \$1 MILLION dollars in revenues in just a few short months. Sadly, it looks like history is about to repeat itself in Mackinaw City. This will be a difficult situation, and the chairman, the board of directors and staff will probably be scrambling to create priority plans and contingency plans the likes of which I (and a few other board members) have been asking for repeatedly over the last four years. Please do not be lulled into believing the chairman has a plan for the future of our tribe — because, if he does, the board of

directors has not seen it.

Moving on to GREAT NEWS! Our school finally has their gymnasium! Watching the children as they saw their gym for the first time on April 13, 2016, will always be one of the most memorable days of my life. The looks on their faces, the things they said (one little boy even knelt and kissed the floor!) was priceless! The sheer JOY as they danced to the first drum social held in that magnificent building was incredible. Many thanks to Moore-Trosper, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors, Sault Tribe Construction and many other tribal employees for all of their support, hard work and assistance. Thanks too, to the school board and parents. But, my most heartfelt thanks go out to Directors DJ

Hoffman and Kim Gravelle; what a good team we made! Chi miigwech!

My final good news for this month: I am pleased to announce that tribal member Alvin Menard (age 92, WWII veteran) will be flying to D.C. on the U.P. Freedom Flight in May. Fundraising efforts raised enough additional funds for his son Dave Menard to travel as a companion! We are so proud; safe travels Alvin and Dave! Enjoy!

Anishnaabe gagige (Anishnaabe for always),

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## Audit says casino staff, managers doing well



**KEITH MASSAWAY,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

I have served on the Audit Committee for several years, we have reviewed many different financial reports and have had many different findings brought forth to the committee by outside auditors.

We have to follow up and fix or change how we do things to comply with the agreed upon standards put forth by both the federal government and the tribe.

The audits include grants and businesses. They go through finances and procedures to make sure we are in compliance.

The Audit Committee just approved the comprehensive review of the operations and

cash handling of the casinos. I have to say this is the cleanest report we have ever seen from an auditor.

Auditors test practices and procedures to see if they are followed exactly as prescribed. They also test some areas until they can find a material weakness to report.

I was very pleased to see most of our casinos had no findings or material weaknesses.

I want to acknowledge what a great job our casino staff and managers have done, and also the gaming commissioners who watchdog the casinos to help spot problems and correct them before they become much more.

These audit findings are passed along to the federal levels to show our compliance and our corrective actions we are undertaking to fix the errors. The governmental audit is also nearing completion soon and we are awaiting the findings to be brought to the Audit Committee.

The new gym is open at the JKL School in the Sault. Congratulations to the school and all the students. A big "thank you" goes out to everyone involved, especially the tribe's Unit I directors on the JKL Fiduciary Committee and the JKL School Board. Without them this never would have happened.

We passed the first budget of three for 2017. The first budget is mainly grant funded cost centers and have very little opportunity for changes.

The next budget is much bigger and has a large amount of cost centers in the Health

Division. We hope to get the draft budgets in front of us soon so we can go through them to make sure they adequately address that the goals of the tribe are reached. A new board being elected in two months makes it even more important that we

receive it as early as possible.

Thank you for all the phone calls and emails.

Keith Massaway  
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(906) 643-6981.

**Director Hollowell's report continued from page 29** —

trust responsibility with us. But the U.S. Forest Service, as a federal agency, does have a trust obligation to tribes. That is a conversation we have not had with them yet: starting with a formal government-to-government consultation. Direction was given over six months ago to initiate the process. A letter was drafted and that's the last we have heard about it. Clearly there is some resistance or obstruction within tribal administration. Obviously, passing a resolution does not get the job done. You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make them drink.

Enbridge Line 5 — I think all the media attention about Line 5 where it runs through the water at the Straits of Mackinac is a very good thing. That is the power of education and awareness. It's elevated the issue to the level that the governor has commissioned a comprehensive report with findings. As well, the University of Michigan has recently issued a report highlight-

ing the environmental impact of a Line 5 break.

This issue is not going away and has rightfully garnered increased attention thanks to environmental and political activism.

Most people did not even know the line existed when we first brought attention to the imminent threat it posed — except many of the elders in our tribal communities who happened to work on the pipelines construction back in the day.

People care about our Great Lakes. You don't have to be tribal to be concerned about how a spill in the straits would irreparably harm the waters and habitat. But one thing that should be an exclusive tribal concern: The pipeline has direct contact with spawning grounds. That makes it an immediate threat to our treaty-protected rights!

Currently, some board members are getting "poked" and "jabbed" by the chairman for failing to attend protest events

and other media events to shut down Line 5. If the chairman finds personal value in taking a prominent political role on the media circuit, I applaud his efforts.

But there is something much more important that we can do, something that only the 13 of us who make up your duly elected tribal government can do: file a law suit against the Department of the Interior and the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration over violations of the National Environmental Protection Act that pose a direct and imminent threat to our treaty protected fishing rights. That is far more important than any media event. I urge the chairman to work with all of us on the board and take immediate legal action to shut down Line 5!

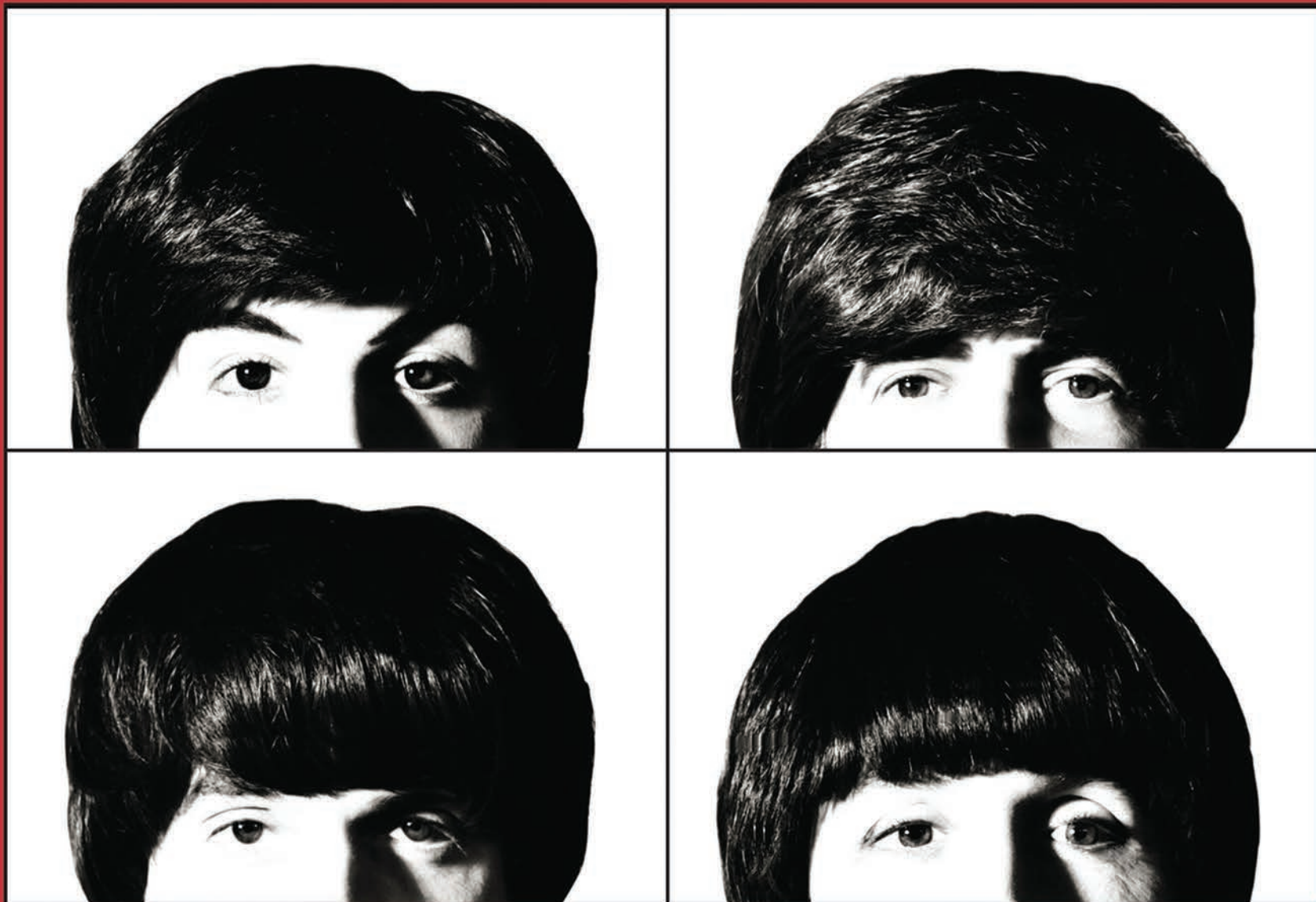
Spring has arrived! As always, please contact me with your questions or concerns.

chollowell@saulttribe.net  
(906) 430-5551



# YESTERDAY

A TRIBUTE TO THE BEATLES



Sault Ste. Marie

## DREAMMAKERS THEATER

**Saturday, May 28**

**Show Starts at 8 p.m.**



1-800-KEWADIN | kewadin.com

**Sunday, May 29**

**Show Starts at 4 p.m.**

**Ticket Price**  
**\$12.50**



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