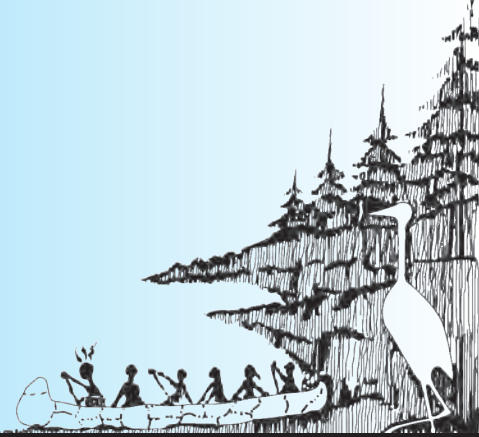




Win Awenen Nisitotung

August 11, 2017 • Vol. 38 No. 8
Raspberry Moon
Mskominike Giizis



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

DOI denial based on flawed legal analysis

The U.S. Department of the Interior denied Sault Tribe's trust land applications involving property in Lansing and Wayne County's Huron Township, Mich. In a letter dated July 24, DOI Associate Deputy Secretary James Cason concluded, "the tribe has failed to meet its burden of demonstrating that its acquisition of the parcels would effect an 'enhancement' of tribal lands as necessary to trigger the mandatory land-into-trust provision in section 108(f) of MILCSA. Therefore, the applications are denied."

Michigan Indian Land Claims Settlement Act Section 108(f) reads, "Any lands acquired using amounts from interest or other income of the Self-Sufficiency Fund shall be held in trust by the Secretary for the benefit of the tribe."

Sault Tribe Board Chair Aaron Payment said, "We are deeply disappointed in the U.S. DOI's decision to deny our mandatory trust land petitions for Lansing and Romulus, largely because it is based on a flawed legal analysis and because our Land Claims Settlement Act approved by the Congress of the United States in 1997 clearly requires that the applications be approved."

Payment said the tribe is evaluating its next step. "We have no intention of giving up and we will soon determine which option — legal, administrative or legislative — we will pursue to continue our fight for our legal rights. The law is clear: the Secretary is required to accept these parcels in trust. It is a clear, plain-language legal argument."

Sault Tribe filed in June 2014 with the U.S. Department of the Interior to take land into trust in downtown Lansing and in southeast Michigan's Huron Township for gaming developments.

At least three federal court developments cleared the way for the tribe to file the applications:

— On Dec. 18, 2013, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit ruled that the Sault Tribe could seek Department of Interior approval of its Lansing casino.

— On May 27, 2014, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in a somewhat similar case that the state of Michigan could not block the Bay Mills Tribe from opening a casino on land not part of its gaming compact with the state.

— Also in 2014, Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette withdrew from the U.S. Supreme Court a lawsuit that effectively blocked the filing of the applications.

The land in Lansing is planned as the location of a new gaming resort first proposed by the Sault Tribe and Lansing Mayor Virg Bernero in January 2012. The land includes two parcels totaling about 2.7 acres at Michigan Avenue and North Cedar Street adjacent to and near the Lansing Center, the city's convention and events facility.

The tribe anticipates the land in Huron Township, totaling 71 acres at 36181 Sibley Road and I-275 southwest of Metro Airport, will also serve as a gaming location. The scope of the gaming project in Huron Township will be determined by an economic impact study.



Photo by Brenda Austin

GENERATIONS — From left, Sugar Island powwow head veteran John Yost and Danielle Becenti during the posting of the colors.

Kewadin Casinos hires marketing VP

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Shawn Carlson has accepted a position as the vice president of marketing for Kewadin Casinos beginning June 25. Marketing oversees numerous departments including Promotions, Player Development, Entertainment, Group Tours and Sales.

Carlson began his career in the casino marketing industry 23 years ago as a media buyer with Kewadin Casinos after graduating from Lake Superior State University with a bachelor's degree in marketing. Over the past few decades he has traveled the country and worked for some of the biggest names in the casino industry. He also owned and operated his own successful consulting business for a number of years; working for the Jicarilla Apache tribes in northern New Mexico, the Odawa Casino in Petoskey, Mich., Ojibwa Casino in Baraga, Mich., a casino in Mississippi and on a casino project in Kansas, among many others.

After spending three years with Kewadin, he moved to Oregon to work on a casino project, returning as the assistant director of sales, to help with the opening of the Kewadin Convention Center and some sales offices in Detroit. He was with Kewadin another three years before leaving for a casino in Santa Fe, N.M. to work two years, then to Las Vegas to work for Mandalay Bay Casino and Convention Center, where he remained for two years in adver-



Marketing VP Shawn Carlson

tising. He has also worked for Turtle Creek Casino in Traverse City, winning best new casino from the American Gaming Association, and for Downstream Casino Resort in Oklahoma.

Carlson said, "What prepared me to be able to work at that level was working here at Kewadin. I am dedicated to Kewadin Casinos and am working to get everything where we need to be within our own operations."

At the age of 23 and with only a month under his belt with Kewadin Casinos, General Manager Bonnie McKerchie offered him the marketing director job. "The opportunity she gave me was huge. She brought in a consultant to teach us the business — Gary Baldwin. He was the general manager for the Landmark Casino in Las Vegas and had also worked for Howard Hughes. Gary came in and taught us how the gambling industry works and what we needed to pay attention to — the things that

really mattered, and what didn't," Carlson said.

Baldwin worked with a small group of Carlson's peers, laying the foundation for them to be successful in the casino business. That group included Alan Bouschor, Ben Baker, Russ McKerchie and Brad Baldwin. "It was an opportunity that I have never forgotten. I have always tried to pay that forward with staff and people I have worked with over the years," he said. "When you go to the corporate side, such as when I did the marketing for Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas, they are much more segmented. You wear more hats in a tribal casino because you have to be versed in it all. I found that when I went to Vegas I had a very well rounded background."

Carlson said it helps having been there before — he understands the market and grew up in the western U.P. in Norway. His wife, Lisa, is an RN working for Munson Healthcare in Traverse City; his oldest daughter, Kelsey, 24, is a chef at a private school; his middle child, Magnus, just graduated from high school and will be attending Northwestern Michigan College in the fall; and his youngest, Erroll, 14, is an avid hockey player and a high school freshman.

Carlson said, "I want to give back for the opportunity I was afforded 23 years ago at the age of 23. I feel I have come full circle by coming home to Kewadin Casinos."

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When to notify the tribal tax office, enrollment

Doesn't matter if you move next door or across the country, if you move from your residence to a new address without notifying the Tribal Tax Office and the tribe's Enrollment Department, you lose important benefits, such as possible tax benefits, tribal election ballots, elders' dividends, important notices sent by mail and newspaper delivery.

State Tribal Tax Agreement Resident Tribal Member (RTM) Status

A resident tribal member (RTM) is the term used for a tribal member whose principal place of residence is in an tax agreement area. The term RTM is not based upon members being enrolled members of the tribe, it is merely to designate between members living in the agreement areas and members who do not live in agreement areas.

The procedure for tribal members to receive their RTM status is only through the submission (to the Tribal Tax Office) of an address verification card along with the required supporting documentation verifying their address is within the boundaries of the agreement areas. It is the **responsibility of the members** to submit this information to the Tribal Tax Office.

A member living in an agreement area is **not automatically registered**. Though a member may have lived in the agreement area prior to registering with the Tribal Tax Office, their RTM status will not begin until the Michigan Department of Treasury has been notified that the member has proven through documentation their principal place of residence is within the boundaries of the tax agreement areas. The Michigan Department of Treasury will then recognize their RTM status (exempt from state income and sales tax) on the first of the following month.

Once a member is registered and given RTM status, it is imperative that any changes to the member's address is reported to the Tribal Tax Office. Per Tribal Code 43: Tribal Tax Code Section 43.1103,

Resident tribal members shall notify the Tribal Tax Office in writing prior to moving their principal place of residence.

— Tribal members must fill out an "Address Verification Card," and provide two proofs

of the address stated on the card. A valid Michigan driver's license or Michigan state identification card must be one of the proofs of address. The address on the identification card must have member's current address. The Tribal Tax Office will not process/register members without an identification card.

— Tribal members who are minors. If the minor has

a Michigan driver's license or Michigan state identification card, a copy must accompany the "Address Verification Card." If they do not have state identification cards, then two utility bills with their parent's name and address (matching the minors stated address) are required. The Tribal Tax Office will not process/register without this information.

— Tribal member parents

are responsible to request their minor children (under 14 years of age) be registered for sales tax exemptions on motor fuel purchases. This does not require proof of address if only for motor fuel purchases.

For all Tribal Tax Office business, call Candace Blocher at 635-6050 or toll free at (800) 793-0660 and ask for ext. 26310. Members may also send email

to her via cblocher@saulttribe.net.

Also be sure to call the tribe's Enrollment Department to ensure your address is current in order to continue receiving important official tribal notices, election ballots, elders' dividends, newspapers sent via the U.S. mail.

Call the Enrollment Department at 632-8552 or toll free at (800) 251-6597.



Farmers Market Coalition

Why Farmers Markets?



Stimulate Local Economies

Growers selling locally create **13 full time jobs** per \$1 million in revenue earned. Those not selling locally create 3.



Locally-owned retailers, such as farmers markets, **return more than three times as much of their sales to the local economy** compared to chain competitors.



Preserve Farmland & Rural Livelihoods

The U.S. loses an acre of farmland a minute to development.

The 7 Seattle farmers markets hosted by the Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance support **9,491 acres of farmland in diversified production.**

25% of vendors derive their sole source of income from the market.



Increase Access to Fresh Food

\$20.2 million in SNAP benefits (food stamps) were spent at farmers markets in 2016. That's fresh food for low-income Americans and increased revenue for local farmers.

60% of farmers market shoppers in low-income neighborhoods say that **their market had better prices than the grocery store.**

For information or to look up farmers' markets, visit mifma.org/findafarmersmarket.



Support Healthy Communities

People who shop at farmers markets have **15-20 social interactions per visit.**

They would have only **1-2 per visit** to the grocery store.

Proximity to farmers markets is associated with lower body mass index.

EUP Farmers Markets: Produce, Baked Goods, Crafts & Much More

CHIPPEWA COUNTY

DeTour Village Farmers Market
178 South Ontario Street
Season: May 27-Oct. 7
Open: Saturdays 10 a.m. -1 p.m.

Pickford Farmers Market

Church of Nazarene, 401 S. M-129
Open: Thursdays, 3-6 p.m.

Sault Ste. Marie Farmers' Market

111 East Portage Avenue
Season: May 20-October
Open: Wednesdays, 4-6:30 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m.-12 p.m.; Winter farmer's market at Bayliss Library on Saturdays 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Bay Mills/Brimley Farmers Market

11386 West Lakeshore Drive
Season: July-October
Open: Thursdays, 4-7 p.m.
Food assistance benefits accepted: WIC Project Fresh, SNAP/Bridge Cards, Double Up Food Bucks

DELTA COUNTY

Escanaba Farmer's Market
9th Street and 1st Avenue North
Season: May - October
Open: Wednesdays, 3-6 p.m. and

Saturdays, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

Food assistance benefits accepted: WIC Project Fresh, SNAP/Bridge Cards, Market FRESH

Gladstone Farmers Market

911 Delta Avenue
Season: Year-round
Open: Mondays, 3-6 p.m.
Food assistance benefits accepted: SNAP/Bridge Cards

SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY

Manistique Farmers' Market
180 N. Maple Street
Season: Late May-Sept.
Open: Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m.
WIC Project Fresh, Market FRESH

LUCE COUNTY

Newberry Farmers Market
1001 Newberry Avenue
Season: June-October
Open: Thursdays, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Food assistance benefits accepted: WIC Project Fresh

MACKINAW COUNTY

Curtis Farmers Market
Corner Main Street & Saw-wa-quot
Season: July-September

Open: Wednesdays, 2-5 p.m.

Engadine Farmers Market
Mill Pond Park
Season: July-September
Open: Saturdays, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Food assistance benefits accepted: WIC Project Fresh, Market FRESH

Les Cheneaux Farmers Market

Hessel Schoolhouse, 3206 West Cedar Road
Season: Year-round
Open: Sundays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Food assistance benefits accepted: WIC Project Fresh, Market FRESH

Bayside Farmers Market

St. Ignace Marina, 13 S. State Street
Season: July-September
Open: Thursdays, 4-7 p.m.

ALGER COUNTY

Munising Farmers & Artisans Market
100 Veteran's Memorial Drive, Bayshore Park
Season: May 30-Oct. 10
Open: Tuesdays, 4-7 p.m.
Food assistance benefits accepted: WIC Project Fresh, SNAP/Bridge Cards, Market FRESH, Double Up Food Bucks, Hoophouses for Health

MARQUETTE COUNTY

Marquette Farmers Market
112 South Third
Season: May 20-Dec. 16
Open: Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Food assistance benefits accepted: WIC Project Fresh, SNAP/Bridge Cards, Market FRESH, Double Up Food Bucks, Hoophouses for Health

Silver Creek Thrift Farmers Market

Silver Creek Road, Marquette, Mich.
Season: June 11-End of October
Open: Thursday, 4-7 p.m.

Jackson Mine Farmers and Crafters Market, Miners Park

U.S. 41 & Maas Street, Negaunee
Season: June 8-Sept. 28
Open: Wednesday, 4-7 p.m.
Food assistance benefits accepted: WIC Project Fresh, SNAP/Bridge Cards, Market FRESH

Skandia Farmers Market

224 Kreiger, Skandia
Season: August-September
Open: Friday, 4-7 p.m.
Food assistance benefits accepted: WIC Project Fresh

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2864 Ashmun,
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
(906) 632-5200
Toll Free: (877) 256-0009

Newberry Tribal Community Health Center
4935 Zeez-ba-tik Lane,
Newberry, MI 49868
Phone: (906) 293-8181

Grand Island Chippewa Community Center
622 W Superior,
Munising, MI 49862
(906) 387-4721
(800) 236-4705

Marquette Tribal Comm Health Center
1229 W. Washington Street
Marquette, MI 49855
(906) 225-1616

Escanaba Tribal Community Health Center
1401 North 26th Street Suite 105
Escanaba, MI 49829
(906) 786-2636

Manistique Tribal Community Center
5698 W Hwy US-2,
Manistique, MI 49854
(906) 341-8469
Toll Free: (866) 401-0043

Sault Tribe Health & Human Services Center
1140 N State, Suite 2805,
St. Ignace, MI 49781
(906) 643-8689
Toll Free: (877) 256-0135

Hessel Tribal Community Health Ctr.
3355 N. 3 Mile Rd,
Hessel, MI 49745
(906) 484-2727

Call Today!



Tribal Court Bench Warrant Amnesty Day on Sept. 5

On Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m., Tribal Court is offering bench warrant amnesty for tribal members and others who have bench warrants out for their arrest for failing to pay their outstanding fines and costs.

During Bench Warrant Amnesty Day, individuals who face arrest for failure to pay their outstanding fines and costs can meet with court staff to make arrangements for payments and have their warrants lifted.

Anyone interested in taking advantage of the amnesty day should appear at the Tribal Court, 2175 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., between 8:30 and 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2017. Anyone appearing at that

time must appear in person and be willing to work with the court to resolve the outstanding issue.

Tribal Court's current list of individuals eligible for amnesty: Nicholas Adamek TR-05-17 \$110; Anthony Adams CIN-05-27 \$750; Dean Anderson TR-10-18 \$165; Re-Al Armstrong CIN-16-27 \$1,450; Gregory Austin Jr. CIN-08-24 \$200; Eric Baker CR-16-16 \$288; Milton Bazinau CR-12-42 \$150; Aaron Berden CIN-05-24 \$100; Jennifer Binger CIN-16-24 \$900; Kelli Blake CIN-07-57 \$200; Henry Bouley Jr. TR-06-13 \$77; Malcolm Brown CR-15-45 \$320; Jerry Cadwell TR-14-09 \$145; Marie Capalbo TR-13-17 \$153.64; Tamika Captain CR-06-54 \$1,685;

Richard Cada CR-06-28 \$320; Robert Campbell CIN-02-22 \$200; Cheyanna Cassibo CR-09-60 \$190; Albert Cress CR-08-11 \$500; Gregory DeRoche CIN-03-01 \$650; Mindy DeRosier CC-16-10 \$50; Brandon Fish C-14-207 \$160; Kari Gamble CIN-07-13 \$300; Austin Garries C-13-121 \$150; Kristy Gaskin CC-16-79 \$50; David Gaskin CC-16-14 \$50; Jesse Germain C-09-136 \$75; Cory Gilley CIN-07-29 \$600; Derek Green CC-16-17 \$50; Andrew Grogan C-14-186 \$220; Chad Guerin CIN-00-62 \$150; Patrick Hodge CIN-06-25 \$800; Dale Jean CIN-02-14 \$750; Donald Krull C-06-12 \$1,500; Michael Laduke CIN-01-01/02 \$680; Randolph CC-16-94 \$50; Theresa Lawson TR-11-33 \$154; Richard Magee CIN-07-28 \$850; Katie Martin TR-07-11 \$220; Bertie Mattinas CR-02-42/43 \$402.50; Clifford McCall C-17-13 \$40; Clifford McCall C-16-146/174/193 \$120; Clifford McCall C-16-250/228 \$80; Janet McCue TR-04-31 \$90;

Jessie McGee CIN-06-20 \$753.73; Robert Meredith CIN-03-33 \$650; David Miller CR-10-43 \$180; Laurence Miller CIN-16-05 \$1,050; Richard Moore CIN-02-28 \$50; Keegan Morrison CR-09-11 \$150; Azalia Neal CIN-06-19 \$800; Jocque Nolan C-15-193/244 \$80; Letha Pauley CIN-01-77 \$180; Raenell Penass CR-13-76 \$100; Jesse Petingalo CIN-07-26 \$300; Michael Pierce CR-03-03/04/05 \$950; Jason Reeve CR-03-54 \$345; Frank Schultz CC-16-43 \$50; Micah Sebastian CC-17-01 \$50; Steven Smith CIN-02-52 \$430; Nathan Snowberger C-15-286/16-09 \$80; Michael Tazelarr CC-16-53 \$50; Jeffrey Thompson CIN-02-50 \$250; Danielle Toulouse CIN-08-09 \$300; Patrick Wallace CIN-03-34 \$750; Mia Wemigwans CC-16-64 \$50; William Wheelock CR-13-75 \$100; Mitchell Wilson CIN-07-23 \$200; Stewart Yokeum CR-14-05 \$300; William Quicksey CIN-00-53 \$650; Deborah Jordan TR-99-160 \$100; Leslie Carrier TR-94-27/28 \$129; Sally Cooper TR-95-35 \$122;

Kyle Councillor TR-95-77 \$85; Wesley Dorn TR-93-66/67 \$294; Brian LaDuke TR-98-01 \$47; Dawn Farnsworth TR-00-54 \$120; Aaron Phillips TR-95-43/44/45 \$321; Joanne Thomas TR-93-162 \$62; Lauren Farley CIN-00-44 \$175; Ivan Fordyce CIN-00-52 \$5,150; Steven Haskell CIN-00-43 \$590; Scott Heathorn CIN-00-03 \$550; John Irving CIN-00-71 \$100; Daniel Sigan CIN-00-26 \$700; Linas Mockaitis CIN-00-74 \$300; Howard Kimball TR-99-126 \$217; Montana Kingbird CR-07-75 \$400; Joseph Landrum CIN-00-57/58 \$2,750; Jeff Hembolt-surety Bond Bonding Agency \$100; William Cain CC-17-05 \$50; Roy Causley CC-17-55 \$50; Cheryl Fair CC-17-15 \$50; Lawrence Harper CC-17-19 \$50; Summer Hodges CC-17-20 \$50; Karen Homminga CC-17-22 \$50; Charles Johnson CC-17-24 \$50; Kenneth Kinney CC-17-28 \$50; Jordan LaBranche CC-17-30 \$50; Chris McLeod CC-17-37 \$50; Jennifer Menard CC-17-40 \$50; Toni Osterhout CC-17-46 \$50; Joselynn Payment CC-17-48 \$50; Samantha Russo CC-17-51 \$50;

Support MI Senate Bill 487

Urgent! Please call your state senator and urge them to support Michigan Senate Bill 487, which would end the use of the racist "Redskins" mascot in Michigan. Tell them Native people are NOT cartoons or caricatures but people who live in their districts or state and demand action.

Here is a link to locate your state senator and district number using your address or zip code: www.senate.michigan.gov/fysby-address.html.

SB 487 was assigned to the Senate Government Operations Committee. Please call the five senators on this committee (listed below) to tell them you support this bill. The volume of calls will determine when and if the bill will get a hearing!

Members of the Senate Government Operations Committee:

Sen. Arlan Meekhof, (517) 373-2751

Sen. Geoff Hansen, (517) 373-1635

Sen. Mike Kowall, (517) 373-1758

Sen. Jim Ananich, (517) 373-0142

Sen. Morris Hood III, (517) 373-0990

Call example: "Hello, my name is [your name] and I'm calling to urge you to support Senate Bill 487 that would end the use of the 'Redskins' name and mascot in public schools."

Make it personal, about that time when you were stopped dead in your tracks, speechless with disgust by what you just witnessed and how it impacted your right to sovereign cultural expression and right to non-discrimination. This includes at board meetings, roundtable discussions, online harassment and racism.

Chi miigwech for your understanding, your care and your help.

Comments sought on ACFS block grant

Sault Tribe members: You have a voice on block grant program!

The Sault Tribe's Anishnabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) 2016-18 Community Services Block Grant is available for your review. The grant program is designed to help in alleviating the burdens of unexpected emergencies for eligible Sault Tribe households in the tribe's seven-county service area. How we administer this program is partly determined by YOUR input.

The plan is available Aug. 11-25, 2017 for comment at the

following places:

ACFS Sault Ste. Marie office, 2218 Shunk Road, 632-5250.

ACFS St. Ignace office, 1140 N. State Street, Suite 2805, 643-8689.

ACFS Manistique office, 5698 W. Highway US-2, 341-6993.

ACFS Munising office, 622 W. Superior Street, 387-3906.

ACFS Kincheloe, 60 Kincheloe, 495-1232.

Advocacy Resource Center, 2769 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste Marie, Mich., 632-1808.

Hessel Community Health Center, 3355 N. 3 Mile Road,

484-2727.

Newberry Community Health Center, 4935 Zeez Ba Tik Lane, 293-8181.

USDA, 3604 Mackinac Trail, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., 635-6076.

Public Comment heard Monday, Aug. 16, 2017, 4-6 p.m., at 2218 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

If you have questions, please contact the Direct Services case manager in your area, or call (800) 726-0093, reference notice of public hearing/2016-18 CSBG plan.

Comments sought on LIHEAP grant

Sault Tribe members: You have a voice in energy funding!

The Sault Tribe's Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) 2016-2017 Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is available for your review.

The LIHEAP program provides assistance to lower the burden of high-energy bills and to increase energy efficiency of eligible Sault Tribe households in the tribe's service area.

How we administer this program is partly determined by YOUR input.

The plan is available Aug. 11-25, 2017, for comment at the

following places:

ACFS Sault Ste. Marie office, 2218 Shunk Road, 632-5250.

ACFS St. Ignace office, 1140 N. State Street, Suite 2805, 643-8689.

ACFS Manistique office, 5698 W. Highway US-2, 341-6993.

ACFS Munising office, 622 W. Superior Street, 387-3906.

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USDA, 3604 Mackinac Trail, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., 635-6076.

Public comment heard on Monday, Aug. 16, 2017, 4-6 p.m., at 2218 Shunk Road in Sault Ste. Marie.

If you have questions, please call the Direct Services case manager in your area, or call (800) 726-0093, reference notice of public hearing 2017-18 LIHEAP plan.

Remember, plan is available at the listed sites from Aug. 11 to Aug. 25.

Public Notification of Opportunity to Comment

Bay Mills Community College (BMCC) is seeking comments from the public about the College in preparation for its periodic evaluation by its regional accrediting agency. The College will host a visit **October 2-3, 2017**, with a team representing the Higher Learning Commission (HLC). Bay Mills Community College has been accredited by HLC since 1995. The team will review the institution's ongoing ability to meet HLC's Criteria for Accreditation.

The public is invited to submit comments regarding the college to the following address:

**Public Comment on Bay Mills Community College
Higher Learning Commission
230 South LaSalle Street, Suite 7-500
Chicago, IL 60604-1411**

The public may also submit comments on HLC's website at www.hlcommission.org/comment.

Comments must address substantive matters related to the quality of the institution or its academic programs. Comments must be in writing.

All comments must be received by **September 1, 2017**.

Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

**August 11, 2017
Mskominike Giizis
Raspberry Moon
Vol. 38, No. 8**

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.

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

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

Advertising: \$8.50/column inch.

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Win Awenen Nisitotung

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Gratitude for STLE Junior Police Academy support

BY ROBERT MARCHAND

At the time of writing this article, Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) is in full-swing planning mode for its 2017 Junior Police Academy, scheduled for July 31 to Aug. 4, 2017.

Since October of 2016, STLE has held three different fundraisers to maintain funding for this great academy! We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the businesses and individuals who have donated either their time, money, products or services for the benefit of these fundraisers.

Individuals include:

Jennifer Mitchell – Jen does

so much for the Junior Police Academy, from volunteering and coordinating the fundraisers with STLE staff, to attending the academy for the whole week and cooking amazing, delicious foods and desserts for the youth and staff. Jen gives so much of her personal time and finances to help make each year successful! We couldn't do it without you, Jen!

Amber Horner – Amber is a go-getter when it comes to finding ways to save money for the academy and make money for it! She unabashedly contacts any businesses we think up to see if they'd be willing to make a donation of any kind! She goes above

and beyond, committing her personal time and finances to the fundraisers and the planning and preparation for the academy and stays out the entire week to ensure the youth who attend have a safe and great time!

Rachel Shreve – Rachel also goes above and beyond when it comes to the fundraisers and spends the entire week at the academy to ensure the youth have a safe and great time! Rachel is dedicated to ensuring the fundraisers go off without a hitch! She has no problem making contact with local businesses to see if they would like to make products, services or financial contributions to the fundraisers or academy!

Rachel, Amber, and Jennifer meet often to discuss different ideas for fundraising and new and fresh ideas to incorporate into the annual academies. We honestly could not do this without their support, determination and assistance!

In one way or another, all STLE staff contribute to ensuring not only that the academies are successful, but also the fundraisers are, too! From officers spending the entire week at the acad-

emies, to officers committed to ensuring road shifts are covered, STLE is blessed to have such committed, caring and dedicated staff to the youth in Sault Tribe's communities!

Local businesses, agencies and other individuals who have contributed to the past three fundraisers held include:

Superior Styling Salon in Sault, Mich.

Annie Rye, Perfectly Posh Consultant

Zak's Candy House in Sault, Mich.

Lockside Mini Golf in Sault, Mich.

Family Video in Sault, Mich.

Kewadin Casinos – Kewadin always goes above and beyond for academies. Any request for assistance we have sent over has been met and then some. We are so appreciative of their commitment to Junior Police Academy and the youth of Sault Tribe.

J.K.L. Bahweting School – Held a basketball game fundraiser between STLE officers and teachers and students in January of 2017 — of course, the youth and teachers won!

Neville's Superette in Sault,

Mich.

Gordon Food Service in Sault, Mich.

Latisha Willette

Jena McKerchie

Jaime MacDonald

Leslie Ailing

Patrick McKelvie

Feeding America

Sault Tribe Board member

Michael McKerchie jumped in to help out in the kitchen at the October 2016 Indian taco fundraiser!

STLE intended to hold a golf scramble fundraiser this year, but time and resources got away from us. We hope to be able to do this in 2018 — everyone had such a great time at past golf scrambles and we made quite a bit of money for the Junior Police Academy. Please watch for more information in early 2018!

Junior Police Academy is truly one of the greatest community policing tools in the STLE tool box and the staff in the department are dedicated and committed to ensuring it continues for future generations.

Robert Marchand is the Sault Tribe Chief of Police.

Newly created tribal conservation committee needs 13 tribal members

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors created a new Sault Tribe Conservation Committee, under *Resolution 2017-135: Re-Establishing the Conservation Committee and Establishing Rules of Procedure.*

Membership of this new committee will be a committee of 13 — six commercial fishers, seven non-commercial fishers. Commercial fishers are defined as a licensed captain, co-captain, permit holder or helper aboard a commercial fishing vessel.

For the initial appointment, six members shall serve a term of two years, six members shall serve a term of four years and the chair of the committee shall serve an initial term of two years.

For this newly created conservation committee, the board of directors is waiving the 60-day publishing of vacant seats to ensure this committee is formed and functioning.

Interested Sault Tribe members, please send a letter of intent, along with three letters of recommendation from other tribal members to Linda Grossett, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Please remember, all letters must have an original signature and must be all turned in at the same time.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Joanne Carr or Linda Grossett at the administration office – 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660.

Tribal committee openings

The following committees have vacant seats as of July 25. Sault Tribe members interested in filling these vacancies should submit one letter of intent and three letters of recommendation from other members to Joanne Carr or Linda Grossett, 523 Ashmun St., Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783. Call (906) 635-6050 with any questions.

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee – Four vacancies – males, (4-year term)

Child Welfare Committee – Five vacancies (4-year term)

Election Committee – Seven vacancies (4-year term)

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

Health Board – Four vacancies (4-year term)

Housing Committee – One vacancy open to all Units (4-year term)

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

Elder Advisory Committee – One regular vacancy Marquette Unit V (4-year term), one alternate vacancy Hessel Unit II (four-year term), one alternate vacancy

Unit III St. Ignace (4-year term), one alternate vacancy Unit IV Manistique (four-year term), one alternate vacancy Unit V Munising (4-year term)

Unit I Sault Elders Subcommittee – One alternate (4-year term)

Unit II Hessel Elders Subcommittee – Three regular (4-year term), two alternate vacancies (four-year term)

Unit V Munising Elders Subcommittee – Two alternate vacancies (4-year term)

Unit V Marquette Elders Subcommittee – Two regular vacancies (4-year term), one alternate vacancy (4-year term)

Spin classes to resume in September

Monday evening and Wednesday morning spin classes at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center are suspended for the month of August and resume in September. Please watch for announcements.

August hours for Keith Smith, traditional healer

Traditional healer hours for Keith Smith are on August on Aug. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30 in Sault Ste. Marie.

For more information, call Peggy Holappa at (906) 632-0220 or Kim Vallier at (906) 632-0236.

GOVERNMENTAL OPENINGS SAULT STE. MARIE, KINCHELOE

Accountant (STHC) full time / regular – open until filled

Health education supervisor – full time/regular – open until filled

Employee specialist (2) – full time/regular – open until filled

Division director (Health) – full time/regular – open until filled

Early childhood education teacher/mentor (w/associates) – full time/regular – open until filled

Sovereignty in Education program manager – full time/regular – open until filled

Tribal Action Plan (TAP) coordinator – full time/regular – open until filled

Chief financial officer – full time/regular – open until filled

Police officer – full time/regular – open until filled

Caseworker – full time/regular – open until filled

Optometrist – STHC – part time/regular – open until filled

PC technician (2) – MIS – full time/regular open until filled

Senior accountant – full time/regular – open until filled

Receptionist (Tribal Court) – full time/regular – open until filled

HESSEL, ST. IGNACE, ESCANABA, MANISTIQUE, MARQUETTE, MUNISING, NEWBERRY

Chief solo dentist (Manistique) – full time/regular – open until filled

Community Health program manager – rural (Munising) – full

time/regular – open until filled

time/regular – open until filled

Diabetes case coordinator (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – open until filled

Registered dental hygienist (St. Ignace) – full time/regular – open until filled

Staff dentist (Manistique) – full time/regular – open until filled

Licensed practical nurse (Munising) – full time/regular – open until filled

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

Police officer (Manistique) – full time/regular – open until filled

Driver – West end (Manistique) – part time/regular – open until filled

Student services assistant (Munising) – part time/seasonal – open until filled

Maintenance technician (St. Ignace) – part time/regular – open until filled

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

Student services assistant (Escanaba) – full time/regular – open until filled

Community Health technician (Munising) – full time/regular – open until filled

open until filled

Line cook – part time/regular – open until filled

Guest room attendants – (4) full time/regular – open until filled

Bar servers – (2) full time/regular – open until filled

Bartenders – (3) full time/regular – open until filled

Deli cooks – (2) full time/regular – open until filled

Deli cook – part time/regular – open until filled

Front desk clerk – full time/temporary – open until filled

Dishwasher – part time/regular – open until filled

Dishwasher – full time/regular – open until filled

Restaurant assistant manager – full time/regular – open until filled

Lead cook – full time/regular – open until filled

Restaurant cashier – part time/regular – open until filled

Cage cashier – full time/temporary – open until filled

Gubernatorial candidate visits



Photo by Rick Smith

Michigan 2018 Democratic gubernatorial candidate Gretchen Whitmer visited the Sault Tribe Health and Human Services Center in Sault Ste. Marie on Aug. 2 while in the area. From left, Sault Tribe Board Chairman Aaron Payment, Unit 1 representatives Mike McKerchie, Jennifer McLeod and Kim Gravelle, acting Health Director Joel Lumsden, Whitmer and Health and Wellness Manager Lisa Myers.

Center for American Entrepreneurship launched

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Center for American Entrepreneurship (CAE), a non-partisan policy and advocacy organization, announces its establishment and launch today. CAE's mission is to engage policymakers in Washington, and at the state and local level across the nation, regarding the critical importance of entrepreneurs and start-ups to innovation, economic growth, job creation, and expanded economic opportunity – and to pursue a comprehensive policy agenda intended to significantly enhance circumstances for new business formation, survival, and growth. CAE is led by founder and President John R. Dearie, former policy director and acting CEO at the Financial Services Forum, and co-author of the book *Where the Jobs Are: Entrepreneurship and the Soul of the American Economy* (Wiley 2013).

"Research has demonstrated that start-ups are disproportionately responsible for the innovations that drive economic growth, and account for virtually all net new job creation," Dearie said. "Alarming, recent research has also indicated that start-up rates in America have fallen near a 30-year low, and that this decline is occurring in all 50 states and across a broad range of industry sectors. Given the importance of new businesses to economic growth, job creation, and expanded economic opportunity, such circumstances are nothing less than a national emergency. Turning that decline around requires changes in public policy focused on the unique economic role and policy needs of entrepreneurs and the new companies they launch, which is why we've established CAE."

CAE's strategic objectives, policy agenda, and tactical effectiveness are overseen by

a geographically diverse board of directors comprised of active entrepreneurs, people who work with entrepreneurs at some of the nation's most prominent incubators and accelerators, and noted academics who study entrepreneurship and its importance to the broader economy.

Blake Patton, venture capitalist, serial entrepreneur and founder of Tech Square Ventures in Atlanta, Ga., is chairman of CAE's board of directors. "Improving opportunities for start-up formation, survival, and growth is essential to innovation, economic growth, and job creation in America," Patton said. "The remarkable team at CAE looks forward to working with entrepreneurs and policymakers in Washington and across the country to achieve that critical goal."

CAE's leadership will also be guided by a distinguished advisory council comprised of Brad Feld, co-founder of Boulder, Colo., based venture capital firm Foundry Group; Norman R. Augustine, former chairman and CEO of Lockheed Martin; and Vivek Wadhwa, Distinguished Fellow at Carnegie Mellon University's College of Engineering.

"CAE has been established to provide something missing in Washington for far too long – a team of experts and practitioners specifically dedicated to educating and working with policymakers regarding the unique economic role, importance, challenges, and policy needs of American entrepreneurs and the start-ups they launch," said Feld. "CAE's mission is to ensure that sound, evidence-driven public policies are a central aspect of the nation's entrepreneurial ecosystem."

For more information, visit www.startupsUSA.org.

New concept: "Buy Sault Tribe" for member-owned businesses

BY JOEL SCHULTZ

I want to begin by introducing the Sault Tribe Economic Development Commission (EDC) to you.

I began with the tribe in December of 2016 in a newly defined EDC director role. Three months later we hired our only other staff member as a project specialist, John McClellan.

Together with our tribe's board of directors and the established tribal departments, we have worked toward the vision of creating and supporting a vibrant tribal community.

We are looking to accomplish this by developing a sense of entrepreneurship in the tribe and its members, as well as



making sound investments and providing support to enterprises to generate diverse revenue to create jobs and wealth for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

One of the many projects we would like to share and ask for some help on is the concept of "Buy Sault Tribe."

We are in the early stages of creating a plan to identify all of the businesses owned by Sault Tribe members with the thought of setting goals to advocate for them with our Sault Tribe Purchasing Department and politically with our Sault Tribe Board of Directors, state and federal representatives. We would market the businesses to our 47,000-plus members and our 1,700-plus employees.

Additionally, we'd like to connect them with the many resources available at the state and federal level to help them market and grow their business.

If you are a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and own a business, please drop me an email at jschultz@saulttribe.net and introduce yourself, or if you know of a member of Sault Tribe who owns a business, please send us their information. We are looking to publish the assembled list of businesses in the near future, so you all can know how to Buy Sault Tribe.

Thank you.

Joel Schultz is the executive director of the Sault Tribe Economic Development Commission.

He comes to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians with a wealth of education and experience in planning and development, business and technology development as well as marketing and management.

He is a Yooper from Naubinway and a graduate of Engadine High.

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State legislators meet tribal officials in Sault

By Rick Smith

State legislators and Sault Tribe officials met for a chance to socialize, discuss issues and become better acquainted with each other over dinner in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center on July 17.

At the invitation of Senator Wayne Schmidt and Representative Lee Chatfield, the legislators came to the area for a familiarization tour of the Soo Locks in support of funding for a new lock. Ron Khoury, a partner of the tribe's lobbying firm, Kandler Reed Khoury and Muchmore, took advantage of the opportunity to divert the legislators for a visit to the reservation. Khoury coordinated the visit with the help of the tribe's legislative director, Mike McCoy.

Essentially, the meeting presented an opportunity for tribal officials to demonstrate a desire to collaborate more effectively with them on finding long-term solutions to many mutual issues such as employment and economic development, education, health care, public safety and others. The objective would be reaching goals and achieving success for the people of the area much sooner and more effectively. The meeting also presented a chance to drive home to legislators that tribes are not partisan, they don't adhere to any specific political party; they work with everyone on tribal concerns.

The meeting provided an opportunity for tribal officials to push for working partnerships with the state, which would provide mutual advantages in achieving goals in economic development, continued Medicaid expansion and in developing state legislation.

Schmidt and Chatfield spoke at the gathering and pointed out some of the recent progress they've accomplished for the area, such as getting an additional \$300,000 in funding for the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver, a boost "2X" funding in which school districts with the lowest funding in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula receive up to twice as much as districts with higher funding levels. They also mentioned funding of \$1 million for repairs to the Carbide Dock, which should benefit local commerce by providing suitable facilities for Great Lakes cruise ships and other traffic. They also mentioned other projects in the works like reducing costs of auto insurance for seniors and others



Some of the attendees mingle and talk before dinner.



Foreground from left, Sault Tribe Acting Health Operations Manager Joel Lumsden, Sault Tribe Economic Development Commission Executive Director Joel Schultz, state House Representative Jim Tedder and Sault Tribe General Counsel John Wernet in discussion.

objectives.

In addition, the legislators commented on their favorable impressions of the JKL Bahweting Public School Academy.

During an interview, both Schmidt and Chatfield encouraged more meetings between tribal officials and legislators. "No question," said Schmidt, "this is good communication."

McCoy noted this wasn't the first meeting of its kind but "it was the most well attended here." He said all 12 tribes attend United Tribes of Michigan receptions once a year in Lansing, which usually draw 35-45 state legislators.

Asked about possibilities of state-tribal collaboration in mutually beneficial undertakings, such as creating a regional living museum along the lines of Colonial Williamsburg or Plymouth Plantation, both Schmidt and Chatfield expressed interest. "I would like to learn more," Chatfield said. They recognized such an endeavor could create gainful employment, generate revenue and add yet another attraction to tap into an existing tourism trade.

Departmental officials who attended the gathering and spoke with the legislators were

Executive Director Christine McPherson, Juanita Bye of Anishnaabek Community and Family Services, Eric Clark of Natural Resources, Jocelyn Fabry of the Chippewa Tribal Court, Joel Lumsden and Tony Abramson of Health Services, Robert Marchand of Law Enforcement, Mike McCoy of Legislative, Joel Schultz of Economic Development and General Counsel John Wernet.

Members of the board of directors attending the affair were Unit 1 representatives Kim Gravelle, DJ Hoffman, Dennis McKelvie, Michael McKerchie and Jennifer McLeod.

State senators at the event were Schmidt, Judy Emmons, Dave Robertson and Darwin Booher. Representatives present were Chatfield, Sue Allor, Holly Hughes and Jim Tedder.

McCoy said he later spoke with all of the legislators who attended the dinner gathering on the following day as they toured the locks and at a luncheon at Lake Superior State University. He said all of them were very impressed with all of the tribe's officials with whom they interacted and want to further discuss and follow-up on issues raised. Some of them even want to come back to tour the tribe's facilities



Photos by Rick Smith

From left, Sault Tribe Unit 1 Representative Jennifer McLeod, state Senator Wayne Schmidt and Sault Tribe Executive Director Christine McPherson in a discussion.



From left, Sault Tribe Legislative Director Mike McCoy speaks with Michigan House Representative Lee Chatfield.



From left, Inland Fish and Wildlife Manager Eric Clark, state Senator Darwin Booher, Sault Tribe Representative Michael McKerchie and Michigan House Representative Holly Hughes discussing various matters from fishing tales to more weighty subjects.

while others want to pursue programs issues involving the state.

Schmidt serves the 37th Michigan Senate District, which covers Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Luce and Mackinac counties.

Chatfield serves the 107th Michigan House District covering Chippewa, Emmet and Mackinac counties, and in Cheboygan County: Koehler, Tuscarora, Beaugrand, Hebron, Mackinaw and Munro townships and the city of Cheboygan.

Indian Country suicide prevention bill reintroduced in Congress

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Raul M. Grijalva (D-Ariz.) and Congressman Tom Cole (R-Okla.) reintroduced the Native American Suicide Prevention Act, which would require states to collaborate with tribes in an effort to curtail the alarming rate of suicide amongst American Indian populations.

The bill would allow each federally recognized Indian tribe, tribal organization and urban Indian organization in the state the ability to provide input on developing and implementing

statewide suicide intervention and prevention strategies.

In tribal communities, suicide is the second leading cause of death for people aged 10-34. The suicide rate is 1.5 times higher than the national average for 15-34 year olds.

"The alarming rate of suicide in our country, and especially among Native youth is a crisis that merits immediate attention" Rep. Grijalva said. "The conversation on suicide intervention and prevention must begin with the input of those who are afflicted

by this crisis most, tribal communities. There can be no solution to this issue without taking into account the complexities that come with it. It must be a multi-faceted approach that increases access to mental health care and resources and does so in a way that is culturally sensitive. This bill is a first step in guaranteeing a reasonable effort is made to reduce the rate of suicide in Indian country."

"We cannot abandon our Native American communities, especially our Native youth,

when it comes to addressing the challenges they face daily, especially in the arena of suicide prevention and mental health support" Rep. Cole said. "Having broader access to resources and help for tribes will be a significant step in reducing the suicide rate in Indian country. I'm proud to join my friend Congressman Grijalva on this effort, and I look forward to witnessing its positive impact in Native communities."

Rep. Grijalva and Rep. Cole are joined by Rep. Betty McCollum (D-Minn.), Rep.

Markwayne Mullin (R-Okla.), Rep. Grace F. Napolitano (D-Calif.), Rep. Norma J. Torres (D-Calif.), Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.), Rep. Michelle Lujan Grisham (D-N.M.), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-Wisc.), Rep. Mike Gallagher (R-Wis.), Rep. Yvette Clarke (D-N.Y.), Rep. Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen (R-American Samoa-At-Large), Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.), Rep. Tom O'Halleran (D-Ariz.), Rep. Walter B. Jones (R-N.C.) and Rep. Doreen E. Issa (R-Calif.).

State relaxes rules on child custody counselors

BY RICK SMITH

New state rules in Indian child custody cases relax requirements on out-of-state attorneys representing tribes. It's possible the changes might eventually enable Sault Tribe to pursue the tribe's goals more vigorously in out-of-state cases.

The Michigan Supreme Court recently adopted new rules to waive fees and other requirements to temporarily admit out of state attorneys to represent tribes in Indian child custody proceedings. The changes to Rule 8.126 of the Michigan Court Rules become effective on Sept. 1, 2017, and stem from tribal-state consultations.

Sault Tribe Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) attorney



Elizabeth Eggert, Sault Tribe ICWA attorney.

Elizabeth Eggert said the new rules eliminate requirements that out-of-state attorneys work with

local counsel, pay Michigan State Bar fees for each appearance and be limited on the number of ICWA or Michigan Indian Family Preservation Act (MIFPA) cases in which the tribal attorneys can intervene on behalf of the tribe. Presently, overcoming the barriers those requirements in other states, she said, is "incredibly expensive, time consuming and risky."

Eggert added, the new rule comes with the hope that other states will follow suit, which would allow for Sault Tribe to be represented in ICWA cases in other states without the barriers. Currently, only two other states have similar rules — Oregon also recently adopted new rules and Nebraska by statute.

Eggert pointed out that some states have case law that has relaxed the "pro hac vice" requirements in those states, because the courts there have decided they place too much of a burden on Indian tribes trying to exercise their rights under ICWA.

"The requirements of some states would have the tribe paying close to \$3,000 per case to intervene where we have a right under federal law to be made a party," she said. "Sault Tribe has not been able to make certain legal arguments in out of state cases due to the restrictions in those states — the process is time consuming and expensive, with no assurance that local counsel understands the issues or the tribe's perspective in the

case."

Further, said Eggert, it would be very helpful for Sault Tribe if other states adopt similar measures. "We would be able to intervene in the cases in other states unimpeded by the current restrictions."

In a letter of support for adopting the new rules Eggert sent last February to the Michigan Supreme Court Office of Administrative Counsel, she explained Sault Tribe works with courts and agencies across the United States monitoring ICWA cases and it is "unduly burdensome to the tribe to intervene and provide input in the ICWA cases, because we do not have legal counsel licensed to practice in those states."

Tribal board passes resolutions

A regular meeting of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors was held in Sault Ste. Marie on July 11, with all board members in attendance.

A total of 21 resolutions were passed, 17 by unanimous vote.

Resolution 2017-128: IHS Special Diabetes 2017 Budget Modification — Federal IHS monies were increased by \$394,971.12, with no effect on tribal support.

Res. 2017-129: Transportation, IRR Roads FY 2017 Budget Modification — A decrease in Federal BIA monies of \$155,000 was approved, with no effect on tribal support.

Res. 2017-130: Health Center Pharmacy 2017 Budget Modification — A change in the personnel sheet was approved.

Res. 2017-131: EDC Mini Storage Establishment of a FY 2017 Budget — A budget was established for FY 2017 of \$6,249.96.

Res. 2017-132: Midjim Sault Ste. Marie and St. Ignace FY 2107 Capital Purchases Budget Modifications — The FY 2017 capital purchases budget modification for the Sault and St. Ignace Midjim's was approved for an increase of \$3,280 each.

Res. 2017-133: Partial Waiver of Convictions for tribal member — A partial waiver was granted for two misdemeanors from 2016.

Res. 2017-134: Partial Waiver of Convictions for tribal member — A partial waiver of convictions was approved for a felony offense of domestic violence from 2013.

Res. 2017-135: Re-Establishing the Conservation Committee and Establishing Rules of Procedure — Tribal Code Chapter 22: Great Lakes Conservation Committee amendments were approved.

Res. 2017-136: Clarifying Management of Kewadin Casinos — The board reaffirmed the management of the tribe's casino operations for the Management Board of the Gaming Authority.

Res. 2017-137: Trust Land Status KI Sawyer Marquette County, Mich. — The board requested the Secretary of the Interior accept title of a parcel of land into trust for the benefit of the tribe to increase its land base and is not intended for gaming

purposes.

Res. 2017-138: Trust Land Status Parr Property, Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Mich. — The board requested the

Secretary of the Interior accept title of a parcel of land located in Sault Ste. Marie into trust for the benefit of the tribe and to declare the parcel to be part of the tribe's reservation. The parcel is not intended for gaming purposes.

Res. 2017-139: Trust Land Status, Fletcher's Addition Lots 10, 12, 13, 14, Block 2, Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Mich. — The tribe requests the Secretary of the Interior take the above parcels of land into trust for the benefit of the tribe to increase land base and for school ground expansion and is not intended for gaming purposes.

Res. 2017-140: Trust Land Status Fletcher's Addition Block 2 Lot 11, Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Mich. — The tribe requests the Secretary of the Interior take the above parcel of land into trust for the benefit of the tribe to increase its land base and for school ground expansion and is not intended for gaming purposes.

Res. 2017-141: Trust Land Status John McNaughton's Addition Lots 1 Through 3, Block 3, Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Mich. — The board requests the Secretary of the Interior to take the above parcel of land into trust for the tribe and declare it as part of the tribe's reservation.

Res. 2017-142: Trust Land Status, Everett and Eveland's Subdivisions Block B Lot 27, Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Mich. — The tribe requests the Secretary of the Interior take the above parcel of land into trust for the benefit of the tribe to increase its land base and for school ground expansion and is not intended for gaming purposes.

Res. 2017-143: Trust Land Status, Everett and Eveland's Subdivisions, Block C, Lot 5-9, Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Mich. — The tribe requests the Secretary of the Interior take the above parcel of land into trust for the benefit of the tribe to increase its land base and for school ground expansion and is not intended for gaming

purposes.

Res. 2017-144: Trust Land Status, Izzard Parcel, Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Mich. — The tribe requests the Secretary of the Interior take the above parcel of land into trust for the benefit of the tribe to increase its land base and for school ground expansion and is not intended for gaming purposes.

Res. 2017-145: Trust Land Status, Speiser Parcel, Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Mich. — The tribe requests the Secretary of the Interior take the above parcel of land into trust for the benefit of the tribe to increase its land base and for school ground expansion and is not intended for gaming purposes.

Res. 2017-146: Trust Land Status, 1360 Marquette Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, Chippewa County, Mich. — The tribe requests the Secretary of the Interior take the above parcel of land into trust for the benefit of the tribe to increase its land base and for school ground expansion and is not intended for gaming purposes.

The board convened again on July 25 in Manistique, Mich., with all board members present except for Kim Gravelle, Jennifer McLeod and Anita Nelson who were away on other business.

The minutes of the July 11 meeting were approved.

A fiscal year 2017 budget modification for the Health Center Medical/Nursing account received authorization for an amount unspecified in the resolution. The modification adjusted funds for personnel changes and reallocated expenses to support placement of a Tribal Action Plan (TAP) coordinator for the health center.

The Indirect Cost and Indirect Membership Services budget was modified for a reduction of \$76,246.34 in tribal support funds to accommodate changes in personnel and reallocate funds to cover equipment.

Resolutions and voting records from meetings can be viewed in their entirety online at www.saulttribe.com, place cursor on the Government drop-down menu, select Board of Directors, select Downloads from the menu, then open Board Meeting Votes and Approved Resolutions.

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Tribal community members walking on ...

BERTHA M. CARTWRIGHT

Bertha Mae (nee Gugin) Cartwright passed away on May 22 at Resthaven Care Center in Holland, Mich.

She enjoyed a long and healthy life for 93 years. Only recently she became ill and needed hospitalization and senior care.

She spent her younger years raising her family in the eastern Upper Peninsula and cleaning tourist cabins for a meager 60 cents an hour. Eventually she got a job working in the kitchen of War Memorial Hospital in Sault Ste. Marie and retired after working there for 29 years.

In 1990 she moved to the Holland area to be near her children and their families after her husband passed away.

She loved helping people and spent many years as a volunteer working in the Holland soup kitchen. Her kind heart and loving personality will be greatly missed by her entire family of six children, many grandchildren and many friends.

Rest in peace, Bertha Mae Gugin, Dec. 3, 1923 – May 22, 2017

I have competed well, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

From now on the crown of



holiness awaits me, which the Lord, the just one, will award to me on that final day and not only to me but to all who have longed to see His face.

JOHN W. LAPINE

John Walter "Walt" LaPine Sr., aged 78, of Rock passed away at home on July 17, 2017.

John was born on Jan. 23, 1939, on Mackinac Island, the son of John and NaDeanne (nee Luckett) LaPine. He served his country proudly in the United States Navy from 1957 to 1961. He was united in marriage to Diana "Sue" Walker in Marquette on Dec. 15, 1978.

John was a member of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Perkins, Carpenters Union Local 1150, lifetime member of the Commemorative Bucks Association, a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, a little league coach and an avid Detroit Tigers fan.

John is survived by his wife, Diana "Sue" of Rock; sons, Jason John LaPine of Cadiz, Ky., and John Walter LaPine Jr. of Escanaba, Mich.; daughters, Crystal Lynn (Jeff) Cretens of Escanaba, Mich., and Lynn Ann LaPine of Escanaba; grandchild-



dren, Victor (Leesa) LaCosse, Garren Heller, Jacob Heller, Zoey LaPine, Skylar LaPine, Dayne Soles-LaPine, Jaycee Almy, Lindsea Wery and Brittany Wery; great-grandchildren, Colton LaCosse and Lucy Heller; brothers, Frank (Sheila) LaPine of Gladstone, Mich., and Delbert (Nancy) LaPine of Marquette, Mich.; sister, Ada Chambers of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., numerous nieces and nephews and his little buddy, "Diesel."

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Dean LaPine; and sister, Ruthie Snyder.

Visitation took place on July 21 at the Skradski Funeral Home in Gladstone. Military honors were presented by Rock American Legion Post 559 and a Mass of Christian burial was conducted on July 22 at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Perkins with Fr. Joseph VanDannoor and Fr. Jacek Wytklo officiating.

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

DAVID LEASK

David Paul Leask was born on July 27, 1953, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. He passed away on July 13, 2017, as a result of a car accident in



Capon Bridge, W.V.

David received his degree from Lake Superior State University before serving as a police officer for 20 years in Sault Ste. Marie. He served in Desert Storm, Afghanistan and Korea before retiring from the active Army National Guard as a major. He loved hockey and riding his Harley all over the country. Nothing meant more to David than family, constantly traveling to enjoy his daughters and grandchildren. He was involved in the Capon Bridge, W.V., community with the American Legion and the VFW.

David was preceded in death by his parents, Shirley and Edward Leask, and his sister, Cheryl Leask.

He leaves behind his wife, Kim Shifflet; daughters, Kristen, Eileen, Meghan and their husbands, Jason, Dan and David; grandchildren, Calvin Hillock, Gabriela Falcioni and Clair and Jack Barter. He also leaves his sisters, Sharon (Oscar) Orazitta, Angie Leask, Linda (Eric) Ayers; and brothers Joe, Mark (Melanie) and Mike (Connie) Leask.

David touched many lives and leaves behind countless broken hearts. He will be dearly and deeply missed.

Visitation took place on July 20 at the National Guard Armory in Sault Ste. Marie followed by funeral services with Brother John Hascall officiating. Burial took place at Donaldson Holy

Family Catholic Cemetery with a celebration of David's life following at the armory.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in David's name to any veteran's charity.

Clark Bailey Newhouse Funeral Home is assisted the family. Online condolences may be left at www.clarkbaileynewhouse.com.

ROBERT EARL HOOVER III

Robert Earl Hoover III, born May 18, 1972, in Grayling, Mich., passed on June 27, 2017.

He is survived by his wife Aimee; children, Robby, Hunter, Ciara and Joshua; mother, Donna Johnston; step-father, Rodney Johnston; brother, Kip Hoover, and many other family members.

He will be joining his father, Robert Earl Hoover II, who preceded him in death in 2008, and his sister, Elyse McCoy, who preceded him in death in 1994.

Rob served in the US Marine Corps from 1993 to 1998.

Graveside service with military honors were held at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, Ore.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.



Reid accepts safety management specialist post

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. —

Joseph Reid, safety management specialist, completed all requirements for a Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) certification. This highly respected certification is awarded by BCSP to individuals who meet eligibility and experience criteria in the safety, health, and environmental (SH&E) discipline and have passed a rigorous examination. Those certified must recertify every five years to maintain certification, ensuring they remain knowledgeable in their practice.

Safety issues have become more complex, and today's safety professionals must continually

be better qualified. BCSP credential holders are among the most highly trained, educated and experienced individuals in the safety field. Having achieved a BCSP certification shows that the individual has mastered the core competency required for professional safety practice. BCSP's chief executive officer, Dr. Treasa Turnbeaugh, CSP, ASP, CET, CAE commented, "It is critical to maintain competent individuals within the SH&E industry because of the impact they have on the safety of workers and the public."

BCSP, a not-for-profit corporation with headquarters in

Indianapolis, Ind., is recognized as a leader in high-quality credentialing for safety, health and environmental practitioners. BCSP establishes standards for and verifies competency in professional safety practice and evaluates certified individuals for compliance with recertification requirements. All certifications are accredited or in the process of becoming accredited. BCSP maintains the highest accreditations for its certifications, proving their value through independent, third party evaluations. Since 1969, over 58,000 individuals have achieved CSP, ASP, SMS, OHST, CHST, STS, STSC or CET credentials.



Joe Reid with his son Holten (left) and daughter Eiley.

McLeod-Dettloff marriage announced

Daraka McLeod-Dettloff and Tyler Dettloff were joyfully married on July 22, 2017, in Brimley, Mich. Marcia Sgriccia and John Dettloff are the parents of the groom, Tyler Dettloff. Shawna MacMaster and James (Sonny) McLeod are the parents of the bride, Daraka McLeod-Dettloff.

The wedding took place at the home of the couple's good friends, Mike and Audrey Breakie, with Jesse Bowen officiating the traditional ceremony. The bride and groom sang a round dance song as a gift for their friends and family. The wedding party included Robert Quinn as the groom's best man and Maranda MacMaster as the bride's maid of honor.

Both the bride and groom are teachers. Daraka, a Sault Tribe member, studied special education at Northern Michigan University and recently accepted an early elementary teaching position at Ojibwe Charter School. Tyler is a musician, gardener and adjunct professor of English at NMU pursuing teaching positions in the eastern Upper Peninsula.

The couple extends a heartfelt miigwech (thank you) to all who helped make their wedding day special.



BMCC offers fall off campus childhood education classes

Bay Mills Community College offers EC107 — Competencies and best practices in children and family programs I, four credits, on Tuesdays, 5-8:50 p.m., beginning on Aug. 28 at the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan at 2956 Ashmun Street in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Available to any Sault Tribe member.

This is the first in the two-course series to be eligible to apply for child development associate credentials.

To apply or for more information, please call BMCC at 248-3354 or online at www.BMCC.edu.

WHITE HOUSE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM SEEKS APPLICANTS

The White House Internship Program (WHIP) website and applications are now live! The WHIP selection process is highly competitive. Applicants are encouraged to submit a thorough application that illustrates their qualifications, character and commitment to public service. Those who want to apply to be part of the WHIP spring 2018 class from Jan. 10 to April 27, 2018, can find more information and complete the application can be found at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/participate/internships/apply>.

The application deadline is 11:59 p.m. eastern time on Friday, Sept. 8. If you have questions about the application or intern hiring process, email Zoe Jackman at Zoe.L.Jackman@who.eop.gov.

Sisters graduate from Kettering University

Sault Tribe members Veronica Mende (left) and Elizabeth Mende (right) attended their commencement ceremony from Kettering University on June 17, 2017.

Veronica received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering with a concentration in bioengineering applications. Elizabeth received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering with a minor in innovations and entrepreneurship.

Parents Bob and JoAn Mende, along with Veronica and Elizabeth, appreciate the support from the tribe through the Higher Education Self-Sufficiency program. The Mendes said the program is a "wonderful means of support and encouragement."



Sault Tribe members Veronica Mende (left) and Elizabeth Mende (right) attended their commencement ceremony from Kettering University on June 17, 2017.

Tolan graduates from South Anchorage High

The family of Tristen Tolan proudly announces her graduation from South Anchorage High School and her acceptance to Elmira College in upstate New York.

She graduated with a 3.9 GPA and magna cum laude honors and was the Taylor Young Memorial Foundation scholarship recipient, which is awarded to one softball player each year.

Tristen was on the All-Academic team for South

Anchorage High School. She made All-Tournament team in the state championship and holds the school record for the most home runs in a season. She enjoys fishing with her family on Alaska's Kenai River.

Tristen will be playing both ice hockey and softball for Elmira College's Soaring Eagles. She is the daughter of Pat and Kim Tolan and the granddaughter of tribal elder James C. Tolan of Anchorage, Alaska.



Tristen Tolan recently graduated from South Anchorage High School.

Training opportunities available for eligible applicants

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) Program has funding available for short-term occupational training opportunities. The program may be able to provide tuition assistance for skills training if it leads to an industry-recognized certification. Candidates must meet certain eligibility requirements and be a resident of the seven-county service area. Please apply at WIOA, 523 Ashmun Street, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., or call Brenda Cadreau at 635-4767 for more information.

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ACFS staff attended suicide prevention training

FROM ACFS

Anishinaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) staff members Jessica Gillotte, Marlo Derry and Margaret Gaus attended Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) in Hessel last June, the two-day training was conducted by the LivingWorks Education organization.

Training subjects consisted of sharing personal stories of suicide and how it affected each participant as well as the trainers, learning about the Pathway for Assisting Life or "PAL" model and putting the model into practice by role playing as caretaker and a person at risk of suicide.

The group is returning in



September and staff would encourage more participants to attend — everyone should become skilled in assisting some-

one at risk of suicide.

The National Suicide Prevention LifeLine is 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

BMCC offering online early childhood education programs

BRIMLEY, Mich., – Bay Mills Community College announces the early childhood education (ECE) faculty and ECE Advisory Committee are in the process of developing a Bachelor of Arts degree in early childhood education. This new four-year program is designed for ONLINE delivery of instruction and is intended to assist in the preparation of teachers and administrators of Native American Head Start/ Early Head Start facilities nationwide. Currently, BMCC offers an Associate of Arts and a certificate of completion in early childhood education completely ONLINE, and has been providing students with ONLINE education opportunities for over fifteen years.

Members of the Bay Mills Community College's Early Childhood Education Advisory Committee include professionals

from the Sault Tribe Head Start and Early Head Start programs, Bay Mills Indian Community Head Start and Early Head Start programs, Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Chippewa-Luce-Mackinac Community Action Agency, Great Start Collaborative, Eastern Upper Peninsula Immediate School District, Lake Superior State University and Bay Mills Community College.

Bay Mills Community College is on the southeastern shore of Lake Superior, in the Bay Mills Indian Community of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. As a tribally controlled college and land grant institution, the mission of BMCC is to provide quality educational opportunities, promote research and facilitate individual development in an accessible, community-based and culturally

diverse environment that supports and maintains the Anishinaabek culture and language. Bay Mills Community College is accredited through the Higher Learning Commission, for more information regarding accreditation visit www.hlcommission.org.

Bay Mills Community College thanks the Administration for Native Americans for assisting in the development of the early childhood education online bachelor's degree to educate students who will embrace and look out for our young children's futures and the next seven generations to come. Chi miigwech!

To learn more about Bay Mills Community College and the Early Childhood Education Program, call Sheryl Hammock, Early Childhood Education faculty, Bay Mills Community College at (800) 844-BMCC (2622).

BMCC joins *Achieving the Dream*

Bay Mills Community College has joined Achieving the Dream (ATD), a network of more than 220 colleges in 39 states dedicated to improving student success, according to a July 11 press release. As an ATD institution, BMCC will build institutional capacity to improve student success.

"Bay Mills Community College is excited to be part of this network of community colleges working together to build

institutional capacity to better serve our students in the Eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan and from across the country in our online learning environment," BMCC President Michael C. Parish said in the release.

ATD President and CEO Karen A. Stout said in the release, "The strength of local and regional economies, our ability to rebuild the middle class, and the possibility that a new generation will achieve their

goals depends on community colleges."

According to the release, BMCC will offer students paid internship opportunities and have funds necessary to provide emergency assistance to those students who would otherwise be forced to drop out of college.

As colleges in the new cohort progress, they may apply to participate in initiatives supported by philanthropic funding and managed by ATD.

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GAO reports on human trafficking of American Indians

BY RICK SMITH

The United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a report on July 24 describing the human trafficking situation as it involves American Indians.

The report, titled *Human Trafficking: Information on Cases in Indian Country or that Involved Native Americans*, can be viewed or downloaded in its entirety at www.gao.gov and scroll down the list of recent reports and testimonies to find releases from July 24.

Human trafficking is defined by the U.S. government as “the exploitation of a person typically through force, fraud or coercion for such purposes as forced labor, involuntary servitude or commercial sex.”

The GAO states human traf-

ficking is ongoing in the United States and usually involves vulnerable populations.

Americans Indians are considered vulnerable because of high rates of poverty, abuse and other disadvantages.

“Vulnerability comes in many forms,” the report authors wrote, “including age (minors), poverty, homelessness, chemical dependency, prior experiences of abuse, involvement in foster care programs and lack of resources or support systems.”

The GAO conducted a survey among tribal law enforcement agencies in which 132 responded. Most of the agencies indicated no investigations into human trafficking were initiated between 2014 and 2016, but 27 of the agencies reported starting investigations believed to

involve human trafficking while six responded it was unknown if they had investigation into human trafficking.

A total of 61 major city law enforcement agencies were also surveyed about initiating human trafficking cases involving American Indians. Of those agencies, 37 reported cases that did not involve Indians, six said they did have investigate human trafficking cases involving American Indians and six reported uncertainty if they had any human trafficking investigations.

All survey respondents said barriers in identifying and investigating human trafficking of American Indians stem from unreported incidences and the reluctance of victims to participate in investigations.

All agencies responding to the

survey also expressed the belief that more human trafficking is occurring than is reported.

Further, while law enforcement agencies along with victim services agencies could provide help for victims, feelings of shame and lack of resources make it difficult for victims to obtain services.

The report states federal agencies offer about 50 grants that could be used to help American Indian victims of human trafficking.

The GAO is the investigative agency for the U.S. Congress.

An oversight hearing on the report was scheduled by the U.S.

Senate Committee on Indian Affairs for July 26 but was cancelled. The hearing is yet to be rescheduled as of press time.

Some of the expected participants in the hearing, according to the GAO, are Gretta Goodwin, director of Homeland Security and Justice Issues for the GAO; Tracy Toulou, director of the Office of Tribal Justice for the Department of Justice; Nicole Matthews, executive director of the Minnesota Indian Women’s Sexual Assault Coalition of St. Paul, Minn.; and Allison E. Kear, executive director of Covenant House Alaska in Anchorage, Alaska.

U.P health survey sent, chance to win gift card

SAULT STE. MARIE — Health surveys were mailed from the Chippewa County Health Department (CCHD) on Aug. 4 to randomly selected households across the Upper Peninsula as part of a community health needs assessment.

This is a collaborative effort including 28 participating health care organizations from the region, including hospitals, clinics, behavioral health agencies, local health departments and health foundations.

“The purpose of the survey, which can be completed in about 10 minutes, is to improve comprehensive health care and access to care for members of our communities across the U.P.,” said CCHD Health Officer Karen Senkus. “By completing the sur-

vey, you can help us plan for the future and bring much-needed services and funding to meet the health challenges of your community.”

Senkus said as a token of appreciation, every household selected and completes the survey by Sept. 8 will be entered into a prize drawing for a chance to win one of 28 \$50 grocery gift cards. The surveys will be delivered in clear plastic envelopes with cover letters and a clearly visible yellow survey booklet.

Survey responses are anonymous and findings will only be published for entire counties, not for individuals. Participants may fill out the paper survey and return it in the business reply envelope provided or complete a convenient online version.

State legislators come to EUP tour Soo Locks

New lock to handle modern ships is a vital need for the region and the United States as a whole, legislators see issues up close at facility

LANSING, Mich. — State Rep. Lee Chatfield and state Sen. Wayne Schmidt toured the Soo Locks on July 18, inviting fellow state legislators to view the inner workings of the locks and demonstrate the need for a new lock at the Sault Ste. Marie facility.

Chatfield, of Levering, and Schmidt, of Traverse City, invited their state colleagues to the tour, which enabled them to see the details of the passageway linking Lake Superior and the Upper Peninsula to the lower Great Lakes.

The locks, which were built between 1896 and 1943, are vital to the national economy with an annual cargo of 75.1 million metric tons going through every year.

Chatfield stressed the need for a new lock, which was authorized by Congress in 1986 but has been delayed because of a lack of federal funding.

“Of the four locks, only one is large enough for today’s massive tankers to navigate, and if that were to be damaged or break down, the economic ramifications would be massive,” said Chatfield. “Senator Schmidt and I arranged this tour so other state legislators can see how the locks operate and how critically important a new lock is to our state.”

Chatfield introduced a House Concurrent Resolution urging the president and Congress to fund the project earlier this year.

“We are not alone in this,” said Schmidt. “Other states have also approved similar resolutions urging the federal government to act because of the tremendous economic impact a failure could have on the entire Great Lakes region.”

Both lawmakers say they hope the tour accentuates the vital need to fully fund construction of a new lock to replace two of the older, seldom-used locks.

“There is strength in numbers, and those who took the tour today can put new emphasis on their members of Congress to allocate the money to get this job done,” Chatfield said.

Schmidt also noted the importance of Tuesday’s tour.

“I was very pleased to hear the governor mention the importance of modernizing the Soo Locks in his State of the State speech earlier this year, and I hope that after today’s tour, my colleagues in the Legislature also recognize the importance,” Schmidt added. “With the governor’s office and the Legislature working together on the same page, I think we can strengthen our case to Michigan’s congressional delegation.”



Michigan state legislators along with Sault Tribe Board Representative Michael McKerchie, fourth from left, at the Soo Locks in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Senator Udall pledges support in strengthening tribal sovereignty

BY RICK SMITH

Speaking at a Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development function called *Indian Nations Rising: Celebrating Native Youth* in Washington, D.C., on July 12, the vice-chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, Sen. Tom Udall, said economic empowerment, stronger cultural identity, improved health care and greater respect for federal-tribal inter-governmental relationships are essential for tribes to achieve sovereignty in all facets of life.

“We must make cultural, political and economic sovereignty a reality for all American Indians and Alaska Native tribes,” said Udall.

The function hosted by the Harvard Project honored four initiatives run by different tribes across the country that exemplify efforts of those tribes to strengthen their sovereignty through cultural education, family support, introducing youth to tribal government and economic development as well as advancing health care. Udall was the keynote speaker and honors master of ceremonies.

Pledging to stand by tribes in their struggles to achieve improvements in indigenous language education, economic support and arts protections under existing laws, Udall specifically pointed out the Esther Martinez Native American Languages Preservation Act and the Native American Business Incubators Act.

“We know that if Native youth carry their traditional values with them in the modern world, they can succeed,” Udall said. “They have the foundation to live according to those values, and we need to make sure they have the tools to navigate the complexities of today’s world.”

He highlighted his efforts on behalf of Indian Country by mentioning the core mission of the Indian affairs committee on which he serves is to support American Indian sovereignty in all facets. He also spoke of his roles in advancing bills to protect and further the causes of tribal independence and sovereignty.

In addition, he also spoke of successes seen in Indian Country because of laws such as the Martinez language act and others.

“Progress has been made, but

we have much more to do,” he said.

He shifted to health care and the unfolding mess in Washington, D.C., surrounding the Affordable Care Act (ACA). He said the federal government has historically underfunded Indian Health Services (IHS).

“This has severely limited the ability of IHS to provide care other than priority or emergency care for Indian patients,” he said. “This has resulted in delays for primary care services, longer delays for specialized services and sometimes no services.”

He said dramatic change for Indian Country health care was seen under the ACA, commonly referred to as Obamacare. Further, Americans voicing their opposition at rallies and marches, in letters, emails, and through attendance at town halls have stopped dismantling of the act, so far.

“But we are not out of the woods,” he said. “I encourage all of you to continue to make your voices heard. I believe together we keep ACA gains in place, improve the ACA and work to make sure each and every American has access to affordable health care.”

Identifying wild foods and how to prepare them

A group of people met on July 22 in Pickford to join MSU Extension nutrition educators and wild food experts in a foraged food adventure. The group learned about a few wild foods that are safe to eat and how to identify them, where to find them on public lands and how to harvest them, how to prepare the foods they gathered and the health benefits of eating wild foods. The class was called "Seasons of the UP, Eating through the EUP...A family nutrition exploration."

the Sault Tribe Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country grant, along with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The next classes in the series are: Aug. 19 in Newberry; Sept. 16 in Rudyard; Oct. 21 in Sault Ste. Marie and Nov. 18 in Brimley. There will be a seasonal topic and food at each location.

To register, or for more information, contact the Mackinac County MSUE office at (906) 643-7307 or email: Jarviem1@anr.msu.edu or abram@anr.msu.edu.

The class was supported by



Photos by Brenda Austin

Michelle Jarvie, a nutrition educator and wild food expert with the MSU Extension, looking for cattails that are not already overly ripe.



Michelle Jarvie explains to the class the morning activities, including preparing a breakfast burrito using some plants that were wild harvested.



MSU Educators Tracie Abram and Michelle Jarvie preparing the burritos.



Participants getting a taste of wild harvested plants.



Michelle Jarvie explains how to harvest cattails. The one pictured is past its prime and releasing pollen, which can be used with flour when baking.

Cedarville canning class



A canning class was held by the MSU Extension in Cedarville July 24. Above, participants chop vegetables for the salsa they will make and can. Below, Instructor Michelle Jarvie fills a canning jar with salsa.



Youth Canning and Preserving Workshop 2017

To register or for more information contact Jennifer Eyler at 632-5210 ext. 41111 or jeyler@saulttribe.net. Register now!

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Sept. 26
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
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MSUE Instructor Michelle Jarvie will be teaching the workshops

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Freezer Jam

Oct. 10
5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Niigaanagiiizhik Cultural Building
Sault Ste. Marie

FREE!

Supported by the Sault Tribe Good Health and Wellness In Indian Country Project. Made Possible with funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Some faces seen at the 36th annual Sault Tribe Traditional Powwow and Summer Gathering

Photos by Rick Smith



Alexxys and Nevaeh Woodhall play a game in the kid's carnival on the first afternoon of the powwow in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.



Britney Fox tries out a slingshot game in the kid's carnival.



A toddler throws a ball aiming to knock down some painted cans.



A young shawl dancer doing an energetic dance.



Plenty of smiling, friendly faces beamed at this year's powwow along with lot's of resplendent regalia over July 7-9. A group from China visiting the area dropped in to enjoy the proceedings. Above, dancers enjoying the fresh air, sunshine, Mother Earth, good company and performances by several drums.



Cute little jingle dress dancer sharing a big smile.



A trio of gentlemen dressed in their finest regalia fill the air with the sound of jingling bells as they dance.



A pair of beautiful ladies in resplendent regalia enjoy a laugh together.

Sugar Island Powwow brings community together

Photos by Brenda Austin



Adrienne "Rene" Shipman

Visit "Photos from Sault Tribe News Archives," on Facebook for more photos!



Otowadjiwan Crafts, Frieda Lewis and Bill Boissoneau, Garden River, Ontario



Gatherine Tucker, 14, (back), Jonnie Tucker, 12, and Kadi Klein, 13, selling their jewelry.



Avery Yellowman, 8, Siddra Yellowman, 15, and Carolyn Yellowman, 37.



Dana LaLonde, Genavieve LaLonde, Mike LaLonde and Aurora LaLonde visiting from Pennsylvania.



Lori McLester, Tina Mueller and Gina Baratono, the Canary Singers with the Medicine Bear Drum Singers from Keshena, Wisc.



Head veteran John Yost.



Powwow grounds from the top of the arbor, taken by Les Ailing.



Grand entry led by head veteran John Yost (right).



Kenny Shipman



Afternoon grand entry



The 21st annual Sugar Island Powwow was held July 14-16 on Sugar Island in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Above, grand entry continues around the arbor.



Mitchell Allen Anthony Sylvester-Jacko, 8 months.



Posting of the colors

Eliminating mold takes knowledge and patience

BY ROBIN BOUSCHOR

Mold is a type of fungi that reproduces and spreads by making spores. The spores float in the air until they land on a suitable surface that meets all three of the following conditions: made up of organic matter, has a supply of oxygen and moisture is present. Mold can come in a variety of different colors that range from white, orange, blue, green, yellow and black.

When mold growth is established, it begins to grow, eating and digesting the surface it is on. Damage caused by mold growth can be prevented by moisture control and cleaning up mold growth. If the area of mold growth is less than 10 square feet, then it is usually safe to clean it

up yourself.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) children, elderly, pregnant women and people with breathing issues should leave the home until clean up is complete. Protect yourself by wearing a disposable respirator, disposable gloves and safety glasses. An N95 mask is a disposable respirator and is available at local hardware stores or online. The mask should fit tightly to your face and cover your nose and mouth. Due to the size of mold spores surgical or dust masks do not provide enough protection. When cleaning is complete wash all clothing in hot water.

The first step to cleaning up a moldy surface is to fix the mois-

Got Mold?

Call Robin Bouschor at
(906) 632-5575
rbouschor1@saulttribe.net
Sault Tribe Environmental
Department

ture issue as soon as possible, like a plumbing leak. Dry all items entirely, mist the moldy surface lightly with rubbing alcohol before cleaning to prevent mold from getting into the air during cleaning, scrub mold off hard surfaces with a solution of detergent and water, dry completely. It is not currently recommended to clean mold with bleach. It

is important to note that moldy absorbent, porous materials, such as ceiling tiles, may need to be replaced.

If the moldy area is more than 10 square feet, then you should consult the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guide, *Mold Remediation in Schools and Commercial Buildings*. The guide is geared toward schools and commercial buildings but it is still relevant towards other building types. The guide can be found at the EPA website, or if you e-mail me at rbouschor1@saulttribe.net, I will e-mail a copy to you.

The best way to help combat mold growth in your home is by eliminating the conditions it needs to grow. This can include

not carpeting areas that have a perpetual moisture problem such as the kitchen or bathroom. It can also include reducing the indoor humidity levels to 30-60 percent, by venting bathrooms, dryers, using dehumidifiers or air conditioning units, and turning on an exhaust fan for cooking or dish washing. It is also important to clean and dry any damp areas in the home within 24-48 hours to prevent mold growth.

The information in this article was made possible through the EPA and CDC, and if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at the Sault Tribe Environmental Department: Robin Bouschor, 632-5575 or rbouschor1@saulttribe.net.

CONSERVATION CORNER: Inland and Great Lakes treaty licensing

BY ROBERT MARCHAND,
SAULT TRIBE CHIEF OF POLICE
Inland hunting, fishing, gathering licenses

Sault Tribe's early deer season is fast approaching! This year, it begins on Sept. 5, and in the early season tribal members holding the harvest license and deer tags are authorized to take two deer, only one of which can be antlered.

Sault Tribe observes a quiet time from Nov. 1 through Nov. 14. During this time, members may continue to hunt but must use a bow or crossbow during this period. Beginning on Nov. 15, members may begin using firearms per Tribal Code. The late season ends on Jan. 7, 2018.

Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) receives many calls and questions related to where members may hunt with Sault Tribe treaty hunting licenses. Please remember that any treaty licenses issued by Sault Tribe are valid only within the exterior boundaries of the 1836 Treaty area. For additional details, please see Tribal Code Chapter 21 (www.saulttribe.com/government/tribal-code).

Members hunting on state, federal or tribal member-owned property follow Sault Tribe's rules, regulations, seasons, methods of harvest and bag limits. Members hunting on property owned by a non-tribal member

must follow state rules, regulations, seasons, methods of harvest and tribal bag limits. They must carry written permission or landowner contact information upon their person.

Staff have been busy preparing the tags and rules for those who were drawn in June's bear lottery. All lottery winners' tags have been mailed to those members who already have a 2017 harvest license. Contact has been made, or attempted, with anyone who has not yet applied for the 2017 harvest license. The ability to bait began July 1. When you are engaging in any activity related to your bear tag, you must have the tag, along with your harvest license and tribal card, on your person. Please contact STLE with any questions.

The elk lottery was also held in June. The Inland Fish and Wildlife Department will be making contact with those tribal members who were drawn.

Did you know?

Members engaged in the exercise of their inland gathering treaty rights can obtain camping vouchers for a specific period of time at designated national forest campgrounds. Members must be engaged in gathering activities, be in possession of a harvest license or non-hunting harvest card and provide all information required on the application. This includes specific gathering activ-

ities, detailed camper description (color, make/model, plate number, etc.), or detailed tent information (color, brand, size, etc.). When a camping voucher is issued, it is only valid for the dates and locations placed on it by STLE staff, and when STLE officers come around to verify activity, members must be able to show they are engaged in the activity stated on their application. Once the voucher is issued, members are not authorized to make any changes to it.

Commercial catch reports

STLE is the tribal department that issues commercial fishing licenses. Previously, all commercial catch reports were sent to Inter-Tribal Fisheries and Assessment Program (ITFAP). With the recent consolidation of ITFAP with the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (also known as the Natural Resources Department), commercial catch reports will now go to STLE. This change is effective beginning with catch reports due on Sept. 10, 2017, for the reporting month of August of 2017.

Commercial captains will be required to send all commercial catch reports to STLE. STLE will log in a database that catch reports were received and when, maintain a copy and the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department will analyze all data. A separate notice will go to all captains prior

to the effective date, providing more detailed information.

Treaty rights related tribal codes

With the changes to commercial fishing and the ITFAP Department noted above, STLE wanted to ensure that members exercising these rights know that the Tribal Code that regulates each license has not changed. Chapters 21 and 23 regulate Inland Fishing, Hunting, and Gathering; Chapter 20 and CORA Code regulate Commercial Fishing and Subsistence/Subsistence Gill net Fishing. The only time this will change is if the board of directors officially changes it.

Reminders:

The inland (called harvest license or non-hunter harvest card) license does NOT allow fishing on the Great Lakes; subsistence and subsistence gill net license does NOT allow fishing on inland lakes and streams. Both types of licenses are effective only within Sault Tribe's 1836 Treaty Area. Your current, updated (not expired) Sault Tribe membership card allows fishing only on the Great Lakes in the 1836 Treaty Area and you must follow State of Michigan rules.

Subsistence and subsistence gill net: Please remember that if you hold one or both of these licenses, you are required to submit a monthly catch report. This

report must be turned in whether you fished or whether you caught anything. These reports are due by the 10th of each month and it must be filled out in its entirety – Name, ST number, location grid/name, gear used, number OR pounds (circle one) of fish caught by type of fish and signature at the bottom of the report. If you did not go fishing during the month you are reporting, please just indicate "Did Not Fish." If you went fishing and did not catch anything, please fill out the report with all information and place a zero across it indicating zero catch.

If you lose your inland harvest card, license or tags, subsistence or subsistence gill net license, or commercial license, there will be a \$10 replacement fee to have new ones issued. This fee applies to any and all license holders, regardless of whether you had to pay to obtain the license in the first place. You must provide a copy of your tribal card with an explanation of why you need replacement and sign and date the sheet.

Treaty hunting and fishing rules and regulations can seem very complex. Members may always contact the STLE office at (906) 635-6065 with questions or concerns. Licensing staff are available Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and officers are available 24/7.

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USFS project benefits black-backed woodpeckers

FROM USFS

Black-backed woodpeckers have unique habitat needs. During periods without wildfires, these birds live in small, dispersed populations in unburned stands of conifer trees. However, after a large wildfire that burns into the treetops, black-backed woodpecker population predictably increases dramatically. That's because black-backed woodpeckers thrive among the dead and dying trees created by intense wildfires. Amidst those burned and blackened pines, their black backs make them difficult prey as they feed on wood-boring beetles and build cavity nests in decaying trees.

However, even without a large wildfire to create black-backed woodpeckers' preferred habitat, in April 2017 Hiawatha National Forest wildlife staff counted over two dozen black-backed woodpeckers breeding in the Raco Plains area. What caused this "irruption," or sudden upsurge in population? In a nutshell: thoughtful, interdisciplinary management practices — specifically,



Photo courtesy USFS

the Rolling Barrel project, which accomplished the difficult task of using a controlled burn to imitate a stand-replacing wildfire. Specialists designed the Rolling Barrel project to help prevent black-backed woodpecker population decline and possible listing as an endangered species.

Black-backed woodpeckers are rare because fire suppression and salvage logging following wildfire have reduced their preferred

burned habitat. However, land managers have learned that a better way to reduce future wildfires (and conserve species diversity) is to maintain a resilient landscape by mimicking the pattern, frequency, and intensity of historic wildfires. Forest Service managers consider the natural history of wildfire when creating new wildlife habitat, maintaining fuel-breaks, producing wood products and simulating the beneficial effects of fire. This kind of interdisciplinary approach guided development of the Rolling Barrel project.

First, a small team of Hiawatha National Forest wildlife biologists, fire managers and foresters devised a 5-year integrated management plan for the Raco Plains — 60,000 acres of dry, sandy, pine-dominated ecosystem, which is historically prone to frequent wildfire and relies on fire for renewal and natural regeneration. The plan specified vegetation removal to reduce fuels, create a safe burn buffer, provide wood products, and create new young habitat, followed by controlled

fire. Some mature trees inside the burn unit were harvested before the burn to create a diverse habitat of grass, shrubs and trees that would make the burn less intense and easier to control.

"The Rolling Barrel controlled burn project is an excellent example of successful management of the fire prone Raco Plains and the species that depend on that ecosystem," stated Brenda Dale, U.S. Forest Service fire management officer for the area.

With thousands of acres managed to mimic wildfire-created habitat, Forest Service specialists anticipate the project will result in increased local populations of many early successional and fire-adapted species in addition to the black-backed woodpecker. Rock harlequin, a fire dependent rare plant, has already appeared at the site. Other species likely to benefit include snag- and cavity-dwellers like bluebird and kestrel; barrens species like sharp-tailed grouse; and the endangered Kirtland's warbler, found only in young jack pine stands.

"This project demonstrates that

strategic planning for controlled burns, combined with good forest management, will create some of the ecological benefits that usually result from wildfire," said Dale.

In addition, the Rolling Barrel project reduces the number of highly flammable trees and shrubs and creates a new fuel break that will help control the spread of future wildfires. The project is one of many that demonstrate many kinds of benefits to the land as well as the local community.

"The public and our public lands resources benefit when experienced specialists work together using a variety of land management methods to strike a balance between minimizing wildfire risk and maintaining healthy habitats," concluded Steve Sjogren, a recently retired USFS wildlife biologist.

For more information about fire management and integrated resource projects, contact one of our district offices or visit our webpage www.fs.usda.gov/hiawatha.

City of Manistique designates its parks smoke-free

The City of Manistique in Schoolcraft County, Mich., was recognized by the Sault Tribe Partnerships to Improve Community Health (PICH) Grant Project for designating parks and outdoor recreation areas tobacco-free, which include cigarettes, chewing tobacco and e-cigarettes.

"The City of Manistique is happy to participate with the Sault Tribe in designating our parks as 'smoke-free' and encouraging users of our park to refrain from tobacco use thereby setting a positive example for our youth and young adults," said Sheila Aldrich, city manager.

The City of Manistique joins over a dozen other communities across the Upper Peninsula that designated its parks and outdoor recreation areas as tobacco-free.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention, tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease, disability and death in the United States. About 20.7 percent of Michigan adults and 10 percent of Michigan youth smoke cigarettes; however, with the emergence of electronic cigarettes and other "vape" products, 23 percent of Michigan youth use these new, unregulated devices according to the 2015 Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System and the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, respectively. Finally, according to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, one in three of its adult members smoke — putting them at 1.5 times the risk of developing chronic disease or dying from

the use of commercial tobacco.

Tobacco-free recreation areas protect and preserve the environment, promote positive community role-modeling for youth and protect the health, safety and welfare of all community members. The Sault Tribe's PICH Grant Project provided funding for signs and posts for all outdoor recreational properties owned by the city. The PICH Grant is funded by the CDC, which works to prevent chronic disease by decreasing tobacco use among adults and youth and decreasing exposure to second-hand smoke.

For more information on tobacco-free outdoor recreation areas, visit www.UP4Health.org or contact David Wesoloski at dwesoloski@saulttribe.net.



Left to right, City of Manistique Recreation Director Kristi King, Sault Tribe health educator David Wesoloski and Manistique Mayor Janet Jeffcott with new tobacco free signage for city parks.

FDA warns grapefruit juice and some drugs don't mix

FROM THE FDA

Grapefruit juice and the actual grapefruit can be part of a healthy diet. Grapefruit has vitamin C and potassium—nutrients your body needs to work properly.

But it isn't good for you when it affects the way your medicines work, especially if you have high blood pressure or arrhythmia (irregular or abnormal heart beat).

This food and drug interaction can be a concern, says Shiew Mei Huang, PhD, of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA has required that some prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs taken by mouth include warnings against drinking grapefruit juice or eating grapefruit while taking the drug, Huang says.

Here are examples of some types of drugs that grapefruit juice can cause problems with (interact):

- Some statin drugs to lower cholesterol, such as Zocor (simvastatin) and Lipitor (atorvastatin).

- Some drugs that treat high blood pressure, such as Procardia and Adalat CC (both nifedipine).

- Some organ-transplant rejection drugs, such as Sandimmune and Neoral (both cyclosporine).

- Some anti-anxiety drugs, such as buspirone.

- Some corticosteroids that treat Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis, such as Entocort EC and Uceris (both budesonide).

- Some drugs that treat abnormal heart rhythms, such as Pacerone and Nexterone (both amiodarone).

- Some antihistamines, such as Allegra (fexofenadine).

Grapefruit juice does not affect all the drugs in the categories above. The severity of the interaction can be different depending on the person, the drug and the amount of grapefruit juice you drink. Talk to your doctor, pharmacist or other health care provider and read any information provided with your prescription or OTC drug to find out:

- If your specific drug may be affected.

- How much, if any, grapefruit juice you can have.

- What other fruits or juices may also affect your drug in a similar way to grapefruit juice.

How grapefruit juice can interfere with medications

With most drugs that interact with grapefruit juice, "the juice lets more of the drug enter the blood," Huang says. "When there is too much drug in the blood, you may have more side effects."

For example, if you drink a lot of grapefruit juice while taking certain statin drugs to lower cholesterol, too much of the drug may stay in your body, increasing your risk for liver and muscle damage that can lead to kidney failure.

Many drugs are broken down (metabolized) with the help of a vital enzyme called CYP3A4 in the small intestine. Grapefruit juice can block the action of CYP3A4, so instead of being metabolized, more of the drug enters the blood and stays in the body longer. The result: too much drug in your body.

The amount of the CYP3A4 enzyme in the intestine varies from person to person, says Huang. Some people have a lot of enzymes and others just a little. So grapefruit juice may affect people differently even when they take the same drug.

Although scientists have known for several decades that grapefruit juice can cause too much of certain drugs in the body, Huang says more recent studies have found that the juice has the opposite effect on a few other drugs.

"Grapefruit juice can cause less fexofenadine to enter the blood," decreasing how well the drug works, Huang says. Fexofenadine (brand name Allegra) is available as both prescription and OTC to relieve symptoms of seasonal allergies. Fexofenadine may also not work as well if taken with orange or apple juice, so the drug label states "do not take with fruit juices."

Why this opposite effect? Instead of changing metabolism,

grapefruit juice can affect proteins in the body known as drug transporters, which help move a drug into our cells for absorption. As a result, less of the drug enters the blood and the drug may not work as well, Huang says.

- Ask your doctor, pharmacist or other health care provider if you can drink grapefruit juice while taking your medication.

- Read the medication guide or patient information sheet that comes with your prescription to find out if grapefruit juice affects your drug.

- If you must avoid grapefruit juice with your medicine, check the labels of fruit juices or drinks flavored with fruit juice to see whether they are made with grapefruit juice.

- Seville oranges (often used to make orange marmalade), pomelos and tangelos (a cross between tangerines and grapefruit) may have the same effect as grapefruit juice. Do not eat those fruits if your medicine interacts with grapefruit juice.

AMSEA brings maritime emergency drill course for commercial fishermen to Bay Mills

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON

Michigan SeaGrant sponsored an Alaska Maritime Safety Education Association (AMSEA) emergency drill course for commercial fishermen, helpers and any others who needed marine safety certification. Instructors for the day-long course were Michigan SeaGrant Agent Ron Kinnunen, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission Planning Director Jim Thannum and Wisconsin SeaGrant agent Titus Seilheimer. The training was conducted on July 18 at the Bay Mills Indian Community Conference Center, next to a marina on Waishkey Bay, Lake Superior, where they could practice.

Taking the course that day were two women and eight men — tribal fishers, tribal fishery and conservation staff, commercial fishers and U.S. Coast Guard personnel. After the course each person received maritime safety certification recognized by the USCG.

The training prepares those out on the water for a number of emergencies, how to assess them and how to survive them. Kinnunen has taught 11 classes around the country so far, and

said the course really saves lives. He related the experience of a fisherman in Saginaw Bay surviving a gritty situation using the skills he had just learned in the course.

In the classroom, Kinnunen went over the seven steps to survival and survival kits. The first step in a survival situation is recognition. Being prepared means less panic and more focus on saving lives. Other steps are inventory, signals, shelter, water, food and play. The class received copies of an excellent book called *Beating the Odds, A Guide to Commercial Fishing Safety*. They got lots of practical tips, videos, drills, exercises and hands on learning.

Skills they drilled on included donning immersion suits, righting and entering a life raft, maintaining personal flotation devices (PFDs) and emergency position indicating radio beacons (EPIRBs), making proper MAYDAY calls, extinguishing fires, starting de-watering pumps and minimizing flooding, abandoning ship, writing a station bill and practicing various cold water survival techniques. They also reviewed federal laws concerning commercial fishing vessel safety requirements.



Left, instructors for the day-long course were Michigan SeaGrant agent Ron Kinnunen (shown), Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission Planning Director Jim Thannum and Wisconsin SeaGrant agent Titus Seilheimer. The training was conducted July 18 at the Bay Mills Indian Community Conference Center, next to a marina on Waishkey Bay, Lake Superior, where they practiced. Taking the course were two women and eight men — tribal fishers, tribal fishery and conservation staff, commercial fishers and U.S. Coast Guard personnel. Each person received maritime safety certification.



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Josh Turner

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TRIBAL BOARD ATTEMPTS TO INFLUENCE PROSECUTION: MANDATORY TRUST SET BACK & STILL NO STAFF!



Ahneen, Boozho, Negee,

At the July 11, 2017 Sault Tribe Board Meeting, the Tribal Board of Directors **stepped way over the line** of any semblance of rule of law and voted to order Executive Staff to review and/or prepare to prosecute me for my exercise of free speech. While the Tribal Prosecutor gave an unsolicited personal opinion about the words I used, prosecution was declined. Excerpts from the declination read:

"We have concluded there was no chargeable criminal offense under Chapter 71 of Tribal Code."

"As to the text message...we do not believe there is evidence sufficient to establish the requisite criminal intent...to harass, annoy, or offend..."

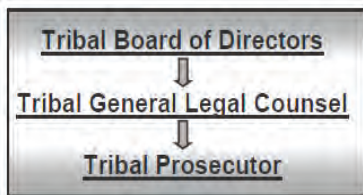
"As to the incident at the Casino...there was no chargeable offense"

What is most egregious, is the Board's action to direct a review of a complaint for tribal criminal prosecution. Never in our history has this ever happened and proves we desperately need a Tribal Membership driven vote to separate the powers of our government. The Tribal Board should not be able to vote to direct or influence a prosecution of their political opponents. I am sure you will hear all sorts of alternate facts by Members of the Board in their so-called unit reports. I address it here as you deserve to know the truth.

Note, however, neither....

- **The \$3 million spent by Bouschor under the cloak of darkness, nor**
- **\$800,000 misappropriations and \$241,000 embezzlement by Paquin and alleged assault of a tribal woman, nor**
- **\$330,000 spent by McCoy on his personal lawyer in secret from the Board...**

... led to a Board to vote to influence the Tribal Prosecutor. In the first and only time in our history, the Board voted to influence the Prosecutor. Under the new authority established when the Chair was stripped of authority, the Prosecutor was moved from a functional separation to working just one step away from the Board as a subordinate "at will" employee. Below is the current authority:



That the Board would fail to act to prosecute millions upon millions leaving tribal coffers, yet vote to prosecute anyone for the exercise of free speech is astounding?

ARE YOU NEXT?

On several occasions, the Tribal Board of Directors has discussed and entertained the idea of making the use of social media illegal under tribal law. The Board is sometimes the target of criticisms as Members question what value we get out of a \$67,000 annual salary or four year total of \$268,000 four year compensation for the Board plus a pension and health insurance and a 20% federal tax exemption (my exemption is just 10%). The collective total for the Board salary per year is \$804,000.

Easily, the most criticized individual is the Chair but it goes with the job. I have argued against restricting free speech as I lean libertarian and strict constitutionalist with respect to speech and our fundamental constitutional rights as Americans. I am 100% against passing a tribal law to limit Tribal Members speech. Pointedly, I have challenged that the Tribe simply doesn't hold jurisdiction over this matter for Members who do not live on the reservation. Nor does the Board have the legal right to enact tribal laws that would abridge our US Constitutional rights for which each Board Member swears to uphold per our Tribal Constitution when they take their oath of office.

'CODE OF CONDUCT' WOULD VIOLATE US CONSTITUTION

As I write this report, the Board has placed on the agenda for the next meeting, to draft up a Code of Conduct

rather than an Ethics Code. I suspect this is to specifically grant the Board or some subordinate body, the authority to discipline, fine, or remove from office the Chairperson for actions in which the majority of the Board disagrees. The last time we saw such a draft code is when a former Chairperson introduced a resolution to shut up Board Member Bob LaPoint and myself for questioning the Greektown Casino deal with partners who appeared (from reports in the Detroit Free Press) to be licensable. Specifically, I insisted that we buy up their shares for which they put less than \$25,000 down yet ended up with \$268,000,000 in equity. The Board refused to enact a Code that would silence Board Members and violate our Constitutional rights to free speech. I am not confident a majority of the current Board will see the wisdom of protecting our basic and fundamental rights as US Citizens.

CHALLENGES ONLY MAKE US STRONGER

As I reflect on the latest challenges with a threatened prosecution or removal, I realize that *God, Gitche Manidou*, or the *Creator* sets a plan before us. I trust in this and have dedicated my life to serve the Creator's and the Members' will. Someone asked me recently if there was a turning point to go from a severely disadvantaged background that many of our people face to where I am today. The answer is yes; it was the moment I realized the Creator puts angels in our path to lighten the way and enlighten our potential.

This epiphany lightens my load to this day. No matter what human jealousies or dysfunctions I face, I know that I live a good, honest, sober life of service to the Creator and his spirit in others. Once you realize how the Creator has helped you, you have an obligation to do so for others. This is not a chore or job, it is a privilege and even a calling.

Facing removal 8 times, enduring smear campaigns with anonymous mailers with horrendous allegations, surviving and thriving even with Board Members handpicking my opponents and doing their worst to try to defeat me, and the ugly lack of respect for the elective choice of Chairperson are just a few of the things we have endured.

The hardest evil to reconcile is that some Tribal Board Members and haters reject the will of the people to do the job I was elected to do. I am very good at my job as evidence in balancing our budget every year as Chair (without cutting jobs or services) and national level recognition and respect from other tribal leaders across the state, region, and nation. Key officials across the last two Presidential administrations have repeatedly called on me for advisement and assistance. Can my haters on the Board say this of themselves? Sadly, hate, jealousy and greed cloud some of our Board from seeing this. Based on the support of Tribal Citizens and leaders outside our Board, I was:

- **Elected 3 times by our people as Sault Tribe Chair,**
- **Elected as Chair (3x) of the 5 tribe treaty council (CORA),**
- **VP or United Tribes for at least 10 yrs.; 2nd year as President,**
- **VP of the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes; 5 yrs.,**
- **Area VP for the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI),**
- **Most recently as an Executive Officer of NCAI,**
- **Invited to meet w/ 2 US Presidents on both sides of the Isle.**

While this should be celebrated - instead several Board Members seethe with jealousy and hate. Rather, they should see the wonderful opportunity this represents for Tribe. I am convinced the political coup last December and the Board excusing away our right of referendum painted our tribe in an illegitimate light in the eyes of Presidential Administration and defeated our casino projects downstate.

With a new President, however, came a new day so I parlayed this new opportunity and was one of the first 8 tribal leaders to meet with President Trump. At a very delicate stage, however, both the Board dysfunction by stripping the Chair's authority and the very public threat to prosecute the Chairperson for nothing more than the exercise of free speech paints a picture to the Presidential Administration and Congress that we are unstable as a tribal nation.

SELECT BOARD PETTINESS HURTS OUR TRIBE'S FUTURE!

Board Members who throw up road blocks to my participation at the highest level think they are punishing me by taking away all staff support and creating a hostile work environment for staff who previously reported to me, are only fooling themselves. A faction of the Tribal Board actually launched an **INVESTIGATION** to determine who authorized staff to assist me with my visit with President Trump!

These efforts to disrupt or stymie our role as a tribe at the National level only serves to hurt our future. Continuing in this manner - with no support from the Tribal Board or Executive staff - only serves to 'normalize' this dysfunction. I will continue to do my best but it is not our best. If or when a skeletal staff is returned, I will be able to more fully resume this responsibility.

I am convinced our Tribal chaos and power grab last December when the Board stripped away all of the authority of the Chair and subsequently failed to provide detail in our Mandatory Trust petition is why we have been denied. In can prove though email communications, the US Department of Interior's expectations were relayed to the Board and staff but since staff did not report to me, they did not include the detail requested by the very individual who grants approval. This failure to include the mandatory trust elements were specifically cited in the denial.

I have faced severe adversity before and I will face the latest head on like our ancestors did and you our Tribal citizens have come to expect of me. I believe I am on the side of right. I also believe our Tribal citizens stand with me. I count each and ever Member and those who made me Chair as my angels put in my path to direct me. I have never taken personal privilege, hired immediate family and certainly have not had any inappropriate relations with fellow Board Members or staff. Your continued support will help me endure the latest onslaught and attack on your democratically elected choice for Tribal Chair.

Chi McGwitch, Negee!

Code of conduct ensures professional environment



DJ HOFFMAN
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

As I begin to write this report several thoughts weigh heavily. Each and every time I draft my report there are multiple re-writes to ensure it remains focused upon the issues at hand in a professional manner. Oftentimes, members are subjected to reading personal attacks, as well as “reporting” targeting and identifying specific individuals in what amounts to nothing more than political rhetoric. It is unfortunate that elected representatives would choose to characterize the actions of the board as always adversarial, or attempt to derive a sense of self worth by tearing others down to build themselves up. The most important thing to remember is that life is not solely about politics. Certain elected officials often forget about the collateral damage their attacks have upon individuals’ spouses and children.

I want to be clear that there is no doubt members of the board have their disagreements and issues do arise. This should not be interpreted as a representation that everything is harmonious. It is acceptable to agree to disagree. Disagreements and differences in opinions are a big part of what can make a tribe stronger and better. The other alternative would be a “YES” board, in which I would not willingly partake. It is understandable to argue and fight for a cause one believes in. However, it is unacceptable to malign and attack others personally and professionally (showing no limits to boundaries) to ensure that one remains seated at the table. The

“I” in “TRIBE” makes up part of the entirety, alone, by itself, it is merely an individual.

Certain times statements and phrases become repetitive, as they are necessary and will continue until such time as these types of activities cease. As a board member it is my goal to move our tribe forward. It is not my goal to get involved in petty squabbles because of personal likes and dislikes. The common theme should always be to approach each topic, each vote, based on the betterment of the tribe as a whole. I prefer documentation and research to assertion and opinion and I prefer actions and results to “lip service” and the “blame game.” I am not always right, however, I believe we as board members have a responsibility to do more than just show up.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The following is pursuant to the Constitution of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians:

ARTICLE IV - GOVERNING BODY

Section 1. The governing body of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians shall consist of a board of directors.

Sec. 2. A chairperson shall be elected at large by the voters of the tribe and shall serve as a member of the board of directors.

Over the past 20-plus years there have been many articles, e-mails and more recently social media posts regarding board actions and inactions, or conversely, those of the chairperson. It is important the membership understands collectively the board of directors includes the representatives from the various units as well as the chairperson. No one board member is without fault for our tribe’s failures, just as no one board member is responsible for our successes. In life, we all have indiscretions. We all have actions or inactions we cannot undo. It is the opportunities that follow and what we do with them when presented that ultimately shapes our futures.

To ensure a more professional environment for the benefit of our tribe, I will be proposing to work with any and all members of the board of directors to adopt a code

of conduct (one with teeth) at the next board meeting.

To ensure no political assertions are made regarding the rationale for this code of conduct it should be pointed out it will be applicable to all board members and cannot be deemed retroactive (ex post facto). The United States Constitution, which we must all follow, prohibits the making of ex post facto law.

TRIBAL LABOR LAW

The tribal board, nearly one-and-a-half years ago, authorized the administration (without objection) to bring forward a proposal regarding the implementation of tribal labor law. I strongly support implementing tribal labor laws to ensure that employees are protected from unfair practices that are occurring in our tribe. In addition, any tribal labor laws adopted should include the proper “teeth” to ensure tribal board adherence to policies and procedures of the tribe for the betterment of all involved. I will be placing this item on an August meeting agenda for an update.

ELECTION CODE

In January of 2017 (as well as two prior meetings in 2016), I proposed legislation to amend the Tribal Election Code to remove all of the unconstitutional provisions that currently reside within the code. In addition, I will once again propose amending the residency requirement to, “...establish residency prior to being sworn in as an elected representative of the Sault Tribe.” In short, if you can vote for a position, you should also be allowed to run for that same position, regardless of where you reside. This legislation was referred to the Election Committee, therefore I will be bringing it back to the meeting agenda in August.

TERM LIMITS

One additional piece of legislation I introduced in January (as well as two prior meetings) is a proposed Constitutional Amendment for term limits for elected officials. It is apparent that stagnation is counterproductive for our tribe’s growth. This legislation was referred to the Election Committee; therefore, I will be bringing it back to the meeting

agenda in August.

To those who may assert that these are a result of the coming 2018 election, I would ask this: Why would anyone knowingly want to create more competition? The answer is that competition is good for the future of the tribe regardless of who sits in these elected seats. The future progress of the tribe is not limited, nor should opportunities be limited, for our respective membership. Everyone deserves a fair and equal chance pursuant to their rights under the Constitution of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

CASINOS

Our casinos are the driving force behind the majority of our non-grant tribal operations revenues. Previously, the revenues generated from our casinos had been in a state of decline. I am hopeful that the new CEO will be able to structure our operation in a manner that increases revenues and overall profitability free of the constraints of tribal politics. While I am hopeful that new management will develop detailed plans to move our casino operations progressively forward and increase revenues and actual net profit for the tribe as a whole, to date we have not been provided any detailed written plans. We will need an aggressive plan to address the threats of our current casino revenues, as well as competition from the new Mackinac City casino. As of today, we have been provided with no written plans to combat this serious threat.

While I have stated it in the past, as well as unsuccessfully proposed legislation to enable it, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors should not be the Gaming Authority or Gaming Commission. These bodies should be comprised of an independent body that has knowledge and experience in the gaming industry — free of politics, with the right management structure in place, our casinos may once again be a potent economic force.

CASINO PROJECTS

Recently, the tribe received a negative “declination” letter regarding our downstate casino projects. While many poli-“tricks” are at play in regards to the por-

trayal of this letter, I assure you the entire board anticipated the letter several months ago. While we would’ve preferred an approval, the poorly crafted negative letter will be challenged accordingly. As I stated earlier, “No one board member is without fault for our tribe’s failures, just as no one board member is responsible for our successes.”

HUMAN RESOURCES AUDIT

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors approved a firm to audit the performance of the tribe’s Human Resource Department. Human Resources is the central hub for all employment-related actions — pre-employment, hiring, discipline, retention and termination. Upon reviewing the audit’s findings the tribal board directed the implementation of certain recommendations designed to address the audit findings. As an update to this process, the board’s direction has not yet been carried out, as evidenced by the fact that none of the recommendations have been implemented to date. I am hopeful that we will address these issues at the next board workshop.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In each and every report I write, I will continue to list economic development as a major emphasis. I have and will continue to stress the need to diversify economically. To ensure we are able to diversify, we must adopt plans and embrace opportunities outside of the realm of casinos. In addition, the tribe needs to ensure its business approaches are separated from its tribal politics.

The tribe’s EDC recently acquired several mini-storage businesses throughout the seven-county service area and is looking to expand its mini-storage rental holdings in the near future. In addition, the EDC director has various business opportunities for diversification. There are also existing businesses with positive cash flow the tribe could consider targeting. The combination of the tribe’s tax exempt status and the businesses existing cash flows could enable the tribe to diversify exponentially.

—See “Hoffman,” page 21

JKL Bahweting School gets facelift for fall, construction

Needed renovations for for JKL School inside and outside— Well before the the first day of school, the school’s interior got new carpeting and paint with some redesign as seen in “before” and “after” photos, left and middle below. Below, right, Tim Krants puts some finishing touches on the exterior paint job, which matches the interior design.



Tribal Action Plan moving forward, and more



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

I want to begin by apologizing for the last two months without written reports in the paper. I almost always make the deadline but this past few months have been busy with many responsibilities in my work and family life.

I want to report on the status of our Tribal Action Plan, it's been a very long time to get to the point of input gathering, date, plans and at last posting to hire a qualified person to implement our plan tribal-wide throughout all our departments and our service area. The entire nation and especially Indian country is seeing the effects of drug and alcohol abuse and our areas are no exception, we have had broken families, incarcerations, deaths and hospitalization touch every community. With this finally seeing the end product, hiring professionals to assist we can utilize best practices used all over that make marks and benefit communities, all know that I have seen this through since the start. I'm hoping that we will recruit a skilled individual in the very near future to assist in this highly important project tribal wide.

The next item that needs to be clarified and discussed is the recent increase that our lowest paid front line workers received. We did increase all the hotel housekeeper positions as well as the kitchen cooks in all locations. We actually did this for two separate reasons. As all know, we have recently hired a new CEO to manage all our casinos operations and after the discussion on not being able to recruit and retain staff to fill all the positions needed for the business... there came a recommendation to increase those positions (long overdue in my opinion). Our goal is to retain those team members in the front line positions to want to remain employed with the increase. We have had an extremely hard time with turnover and, frankly, low interest with the wage (we have competition and need to keep up with that). In this new direction, we have also hired a new marketing director and also a director for our restaurants. I'm very pleased with the first initial introduction that the board has had with both and both come with many years of experience in their respective positions including Indian casinos and non-Indian casinos. I am so grateful that we are looking in a new direction to recruit individuals with experience in the fields. We have had many in the past that did well and for whatever reasons moved on but we have a fresh slate and the new direction

and changes are being implemented. I have actually seen much more marketing strategies implemented as well as rave reviews of our new menus at some of our restaurants.

We do have many plans in the works and those will all be coming soon in each individual business. We still have to remain in line with our budget and meet loan obligations, so it's all a balancing act that comes with many hours of discussions. Also along the lines of changes is the recent Human Resource Audit (surveys). The board was given a presentation yesterday on the changes the Human Resource director is recommending (after viewing the audit) as well as a plan to implement many item changes within the department. In the above paragraph, I spoke about the increase for certain positions and this was done as explained but we also have a pay compression issue that is also being worked on and a presentation, recommendations and identifying funds to achieve that is being worked on as well.

As explained in my past unit reports, I spoke about our new executive for Economic Development. At this point, as a small business endeavor we bought the storage units on Mackinac Trail. This may seem like a very small venture but it is truly growth for us that we have not seen in some time. We have factual information presented, analysis completed and a revenue projection identified on each venue we are looking at. As I stated, there are many that we are looking at and although it seems like we aren't moving anywhere there are many individuals working behind the scenes to secure growth. As these projects evolve into our plan we can share with our members. I just wanted to assure all that nobody that has been recently been hired is sitting around in an office, our unit has even has some attention for growth. It's been so many years since we have had this position and that the entire buy in (reservations to making changes) will take time but I for sure will keep an open mind on all projects and look forward to our future endeavors.

The last item to report on is the recent change the board made to place our Great Lakes Committee and Inland Committee back as one combined committee as it was in the past. We have had many changes within our Natural Resources Department and many struggles with a recent investigation on some items. Since the finding and recommendations for moving forward, a majority of the board made the decision to combine the two committees again. We are seeking positions for the seats and have six for fisherman and six for any tribal members that have a sound interest in all our treaty related activity. Government smoke and mirrors were used often. My rule has been I will not go into the dirty details in my report of the nonsense politics of every decision, but I will say we have major politics used in our fishing industry and frankly I am tired of that, all of our commercial

fishermen, helpers, subsistence fishers need to feel protected and be treated fairly. There need to be real solutions on the outcome of our committee's priorities, a structure needs to be in place for all to have communications of issues and items that are being discussed and decided on at Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA). Our own staff need to have clear direction on what they must do, as most recently many committee members and staff have been used in the process for certain agendas, too (that's a shame).

Some of the board members who have struggled to represent all fishermen will be introducing some solutions for discussions. The most recent alarming item that has transpired is we made a change to our licensing of co-captains. No matter the side you stand on the issue, I can for sure tell you that it was used to divide our fishing communities and wreak havoc during the recent investigation. This was all reported in the last paper (I was frustrated as I see right through that game playing). The fact is that we had no factual data to make a decision if this change was imperative, certain fisherman were targeted, no staff were present to discuss and the hardest part to swallow was this happened after it being voted down at least five times before in meetings. We have rules in place for issues to be discussed and presented; in this case they just kept bringing it back until they wore down people for the votes. We have a rule in parliamentary procedures for business meetings called a "dilatary resolution," but rules are often used loosely and inconsistently during our business meeting (you can view the board meetings for yourself on our website). It was personally targeted to board members with high fishing activity and done to punish certain fisherman and pit all our fishermen against each

other (I have never met a fisherman who would have wanted to take almost 100 working men off the water without real numbers and facts presented). If the facts were all explained and transparent it would be realized that this change was not as important as the change and hard work being done to get to good solid structure to communicate and offer input for fisherman, find real solutions for the overstocking of trout, find real solutions for the decreasing amount of whitefish, find real solutions for the invasive species, real solutions for better access sites, etc.

I could go on and on but already broke my rule enough in this report. Anyway, that's the sad state we have come to at this time but there are many of us who will be working to make it better (view the board meeting so you can see the facts). I would just like to offer the invitation to become involved on this committee and all others and also thank the members who have been in place. I know it's difficult for many to stay committed when dragged into personal agendas. If interested, you can place a letter of intent to become a member of the committee (existing members are also more than welcome to apply please see front page of website for instructions) once we have a full committee secured again, we can move forward from the struggles we were embedded in and have a solid plan moving toward the 2020 treaty negotiations. Many things will be said but just know our government is the one responsible to retain and secure our rights to fish, hunt and gather, the utmost priority and secure measured need to be made to ensure our rights and protect our 1836 treaty rights. Hindering the activity, playing politics and not securing real measured for the future rights is not good government. Director Hollowell and I are both committed and vested that this is our greatest priority at

this time.

In closing, I want to say how impressed I was with the recent homecoming powwow in the Sault. Many people attended and many expressed the same thing, as always — what a good job and honor it was to attend. Chi Miigwech to all involved, so many works hard to make sure our communities are taken care of and our teaching are ongoing. Same for Sugar Island — I did not have the opportunity to attend but heard that everyone had a good time and lots of hard work as well. Thank you to all the people who work so hard for all our powwows and our people. I have the pleasure of attending the 14th annual youth led powwow in Rexton this past month. Seeing the adults shadow the youth to organize and run the gathering was humbling. Thank you to the YEA staff, Mukkwa Geezick Drum and head dancers Rita Bouley and Richard Lewis. Richard's prayer and message to the youth was filled with pride and it showed in the faces I saw. Our annual Hessel powwow will be August 18, 19 and 20. Friday will be the spiritual gathering and feast to be followed by a talking circle. It's the best time of the year and the most important for our tribe and our people.

As for the Newberry powwow this year, I was just informed on July 31 that the committee in the area decided to cancel the event for this year, due to lack of participation. The powwow is usually held in that area in September so it's already close. We will try and see if we can arrange something for a gathering (fall) but in the meantime if you are interested in becoming a member of the committee for next year we will need interest in the area. Contact Lois Bryant at 293-8181 or Barbra Sharp at 430-2842 if interested in being on Newberry's powwow committee. We will also speak to the elders group — See "Causley Report" Pg. 22

Revisiting the past . . .



**ANITA NELSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT V**

Sorry for not publishing a report last month. My dog passed away so can't blame her for chewing it up. I can, however, blame my local network... Jamadots. They changed systems, so neither of my electronics worked. It took a week to get back on track. The Jamadots telephone staff were very helpful. Therefore, I combined the last two months of activities.

Years ago...In the 1970s I

worked for the tribe when it was located at the Greenough office on Portage in Sault Ste. Marie. I really enjoyed my position as a CHR (now they call them CHTs). I would home visit members in Alger and Marquette counties to assess their needs and answer questions. I did not have an office, just a legal pad and pencil. So that is why I titled my report, "Revisiting the Past." This is what I have been doing lately, knocking on doors with a legal pad and pen in hand. Just like back then.

In my previous report, I had announced to my two-county tribal members that I would be available for concerns at my office and to call for an appointment. That didn't work so well. So I went visiting and actually learned more by doing so. It's very difficult to reach the members who don't attend meetings. So when I'm out and about...I may knock on your door. In the future I will be also visiting the elders that can no longer attend our elder meetings. I miss visiting with them. They may also

have concerns.

I would imagine you know by now about the change in our fishing and conservation committees. The Board of Directors passed a resolution called Re-Establishing the Conservation Committee and Establishing Rules of Procedure. Res: 2017-135. The board vote was 7 to 5 in favor of this resolution to combine our committees. I was one of the 5 votes who disagreed with it. Some of my home visits were for this reason. I wanted to get the opinion of members; mainly, the fisherman. I voted according to information collected. It is my hope that the combined committee works out but combining recreational fishing, conservation, and gathering don't seem to mix with commercial fisherman who do it for their livelihood. (Prior) It was reported that both committees met and voted on this change to combine committees and all of them were against it. So that is how my vote went.

Anita Nelson,
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The tribe is about people, not just one person!



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

Well I have had enough of the whining from the chair. Yes, we voted to give your authority to an employee that can be held accountable instead of an elected official. You put it on the agenda and the membership voted for the separation in 2010.

No, we will not cancel every meeting because you get an invitation from the White House, NCAI, MAST, Partner's in Action, etc. True leaders see the true mission and represent. Accept the invitations and be heard, stopping trying to micromanage a board with a vice chair from meeting and voting to keep business as usual.

So, you don't even have a secretary, move on. The executive director has always allowed any of us to seek help or get information to do our job. If nobody is helping you than how is your travel arranged? Who puts together your nice little meeting binder? Where do you get the white papers? You don't have to be someone's supervisor to be effective.

You shouldn't need a chauffeur to get to DC. That person has a job to do and it is not a babysitter for your foster nephew. Where does it state in the job description either of these duties? The rest of us

that have kids or grandkids make arrangements for them so we can attend workshops, meetings, etc. Kids shouldn't have to spend 12 hours a day on the road and in a meeting room sitting on electronics.

Every year we shouldn't have to hear about you not being invited to the chief's feast, not attending because you have no authority, not attending because you don't like someone. The cultural staff and volunteers work hard to facilitate our powwows and then they have to listen to this.

The world doesn't revolve around you! Only children are victims, adults make choices and are responsible for their situations and the life they choose to make. Many members had a rough upbringing but they wake up, put on those moccasins, and make the best of their situation. Nobody ever said life was easy, if it was there would be no lessons learned.

The board went into an executive session at the July 11 meeting and came back into open session to take the following action: There was a motion stating, "The board was informed this morning by executive staff of a disturbing text message containing extremely graphic, offensive, and entirely inappropriate language that was allegedly sent by the tribal chairperson to a tribal employee: staff is directed to immediately refer all material in their possession regarding that text message to the tribal prosecutor for review to determine whether it violates section 71.713 or other provision of the Tribal Code." The chair did not stay in the executive session he stormed out and began verbally harassing a team member outside the room in front of other staff and members. The police were called and statements were made. Within minutes pandemonium breaks out on Facebook as well as embarrassing emails to federal officials. This

conduct is unbecoming of a chairman.

Nobody can talk to this person. He feels no shame, empathy or remorse for anything. It is always somebody else's fault. The board is greedy, uneducated and has no ethics according to him. Pay attention people, the same accusations, excuses, whining, year after year, cycle after cycle. He likes you until you stand up against him and then you are crooked, a BB supporter. This has been happening since the late '90s! Can everyone else be wrong? Do your research. The board doesn't put every conversation, twist facts and cry poor me on Facebook every day so that is very one sided. Many have more important things to do and much more self-respect.

We have an employment crisis in our casinos right now. We have to close wings of the Sault hotel because of lack of staff. The deli at the Shores closes early because of lack of staff. There is a lack of applicants and action should have been taken this spring in preparation for the busy season. When you have a full page of job openings there is a problem. Most are open until filled, the processes are too long and where is the recruitment? Management doesn't have time to recruit people; they can't even choose the best person for the job. We need change! Is anyone listening? I believe this is the tip of the iceberg with the employment crisis. You can't continue to treat people poorly, not hold people accountable, practice nepotism, not allow for advancement or training and give raises across the board instead of based on performance.

Hopefully by the time you read my report, we will have authorized the publication of the HR Audit. The members and team members have a right to know the results and the plan of action. We hired a professional company with HR

expertise to conduct this and there should be no reason not to implement the findings. If people are not willing to do that, then move out of the way.

At the July 25 board meeting in Manistique we were introduced to the VP of Marketing, Shawn Carlson, and VP of Food and Beverage, Mike Bozhack. Both gentlemen seem to have a wealth of experience in casinos across the country and are hitting the ground running. I was very impressed and feel confident that we are building a strong casino executive team.

The resolution combining the inland hunting and fishing committee with the Great Lakes committee passed at the July 11 meeting in the Sault. This means that both past committees will be dissolved and within 30 days tribal members can apply to be appointed to the new conservation committee. There will be six members from the inland hunting, fishing, and gathering side and six from the commercial fishing side. All previous members of either committee may apply for appointment.

I have recently accepted a position as the assistant director of the St. Ignace Visitors Bureau. This does not interfere with my board position, as they know the tribe is my priority and are willing to work around me. Whatever I need to do for them I can do on nights, weekends and days I have no board activity. I have been involved with events for several years and miss that part of my job when I worked at the casino. I think this is good for the tribe and visitors bureau because we need to work together so everyone wins. I have met with the new marketing VP and Shores GM on ways to work together on events and bringing people to St. Ignace. I like to keep busy and feel the busier I am, the more organized and more things that get done.

I am ready to make the tough

decisions to move us forward. Things will not always be popular but it is beyond time for action. As I have always said, I would rather go out doing my job, than going out not doing it.

To my fellow past co-workers and all team members, I appreciate everything you do for our company. I know it is not always easy and seems like things will never change. I am there for you and will be your voice for change. If I could pull up my sleeves to help, I would, but unfortunately that is not allowed. Your dedication does not go unnoticed!

Here is a list of events in August: Unit III elders meeting on Friday, Aug. 11 at noon; Hessel powwow Aug. 19-20; St. Ignace powwow Aug. 26-27; Unit III elders picnic on Aug. 23 at noon; Marquette board meeting on Aug. 15; Unit III meeting on Aug. 21 at 6 p.m.; and mark your calendar on Sept. 21 for the inaugural St. Ignace sobriety walk being organized by Russell Rickley.

We also now have a port-a-john placed at the Wequayoc Cemetery courtesy of tribal member Tony Hakola. It will be in place until the veteran ceremony and closing of the cemetery in November.

We should also have an agreement with the Little Bear Fitness Center very soon.

If you are in St. Ignace stop by our museums. Friday night is Night at the Ojibwe Museum. There is drumming by the Grandmother Moon Singers. The museum has three new sculptures — Fisherman, Traditional Healer and Three Sister's Garden. There is also the new longhouse and clan park. The inside of the museum has also been renovated with easier access and a nice learning center for kids.

As always feel free to contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or 430-0536.

Good things happening in tribe despite chaos



**MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Being on tribal council for only a year, I often get asked "what's it like" or "if I like it," honestly there are great days when we get many things accomplished and bad days where we get bogged down by pettiness, but I'm thankful for the opportunity to be doing this. There are days when we move forward together; we recently voted to hire a position to implement our TAP program (Tribal Action Plan), which will help combat substance abuse and addiction or the donation we are making to the American Legion to help not only our vets

in the area but all vets to obtain health services and benefits.

Then there are days when we get very little accomplished; these days are few and far between but they do happen. Doing what we do and trying to all agree on how our tribe should move forward isn't easy. I often have compared it to having 13 people sit down for dinner and agree to order the same thing and then be happy about the decision that was made — not an easy thing to do.

I have faith in the system and in my fellow board members that this still can be done. The system is strained but not broken. Our members want our leaders to step-up and get things accomplished. Status quo for a few of the departments and programs isn't working and we need our managers and directors to find solutions to address the problems. And we as leaders need to come together and support them and lead with integrity and respect for all.

I enjoyed seeing many of you at our powwow in the Sault and on Sugar Island last month. Our powwow committees do an excellent job as do all the staff and volunteers who contrib-

ute — miigwech. Our tribe also hosted many of the Michigan congressional delegates who recently toured the Soo Locks. It was a great event and was well received. I was appreciative for the opportunity to discuss many issues with the state representatives.

At the federal level, the tribe continues to work on several issues. We recently received notice that our land-into-trust application for downstate properties was rejected. Our stance is we will continue the fight and believe we have a good case. We are currently still exploring all options to move forward.

Construction continues on our elder complex in St. Ignace and on our middle school expansion at JKL Bahweting. Our EDC director continues to expand small tribal enterprises such as storage buildings and billboard partnerships, etc. And our casinos have some new faces as we recently hired a VP of Marketing and a Food and Beverage director; welcome, Shawn Carlson and Mike Bodjiak. I also wanted to thank all our employees especially our housekeeping, hotel staff, and cooks; I realize it is our busy

season and your hard work and dedication is greatly appreciated.

Despite some of our chaotic moments, many good things are happening in our tribe. As always I urge tribal members and

—From "Hoffman," page 19

We do not need to recreate the wheel, nor do we have to swing for the fence on every type of business venture we partake in. While these revenues are not at the level of a casino, the more we diversify, the greater our tribe's potential for long-term economic growth and stability.

JKL BAHWETING SCHOOL

The middle school expansion is progressing nicely. The foundation and floors to the connector have been poured and work continues on the infrastructure. I anticipate that by September steel will commence and the structure will be enclosed by October, with a completion of late November. There should be some photographs of the changes within the interior and exterior of the school within this month's paper, please look at all of the progress that has been made to benefit our tribal children and the children of the community.

COMMUNICATIONS

One of the biggest impediments to our tribe's success is commu-

team members to share ideas and thoughts to help move our tribe forward. Please contact me to further discuss issues at 440-7768. Chi miigwech,

Michael McKerchie

nication. As a tribe we need to ensure that responsible and factual information is provided to the membership on a regular basis instead of the constant influx of "altered-Native facts."

I welcome any other suggestions to bring forward to increase information and input from the tribal membership. One thing is certain, as a board we have never been accused of providing too much information,

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

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

Sincerely,

DJ Hoffman

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Tribal e-mail: djhoffman@saulttribe.net

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Fighting for our children's future, education



**JENNIFER MCLEOD,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aaniin Anishinaabek, this past month, I took a difficult journey to Denver, Colo. I have avoided Denver for about five years now, as the last time I was there I developed altitude sickness. True, the mountains are beautiful, but the "thin air" makes it hard for me to breathe and, of course, it happened again, but it was worth it! Indian education is facing massive cuts (in excess of \$24 million) and our children need us to stand up.

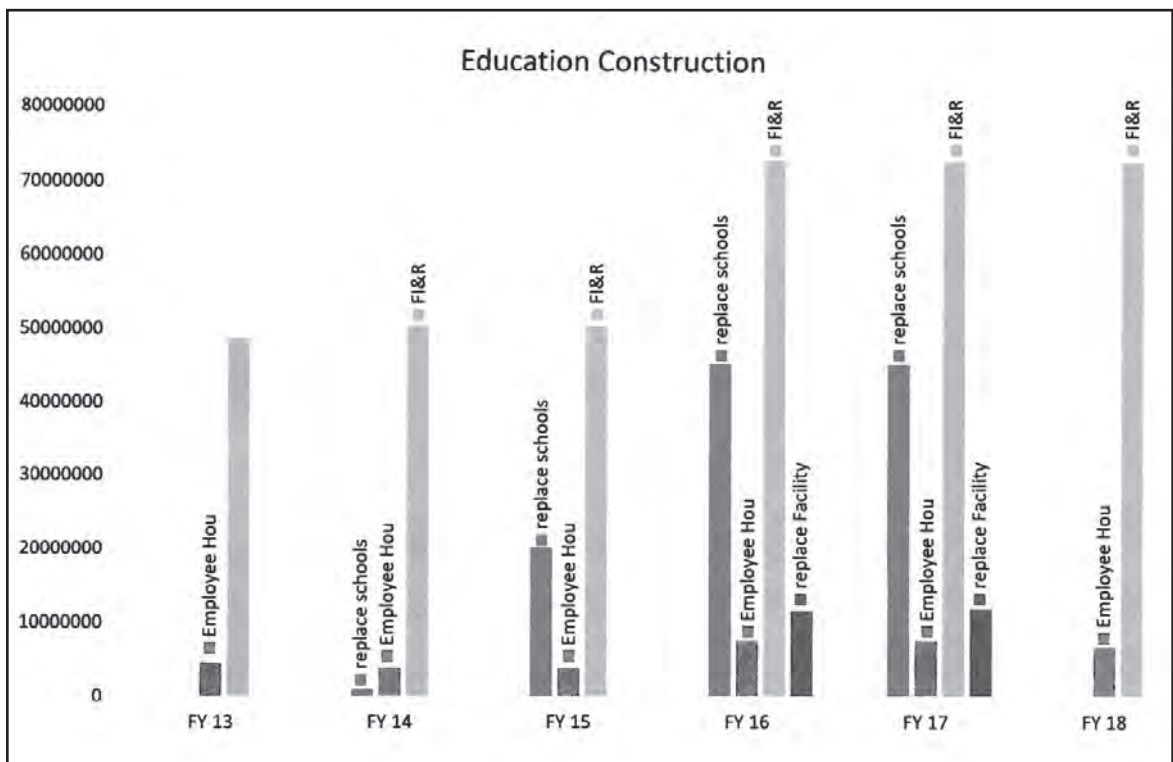
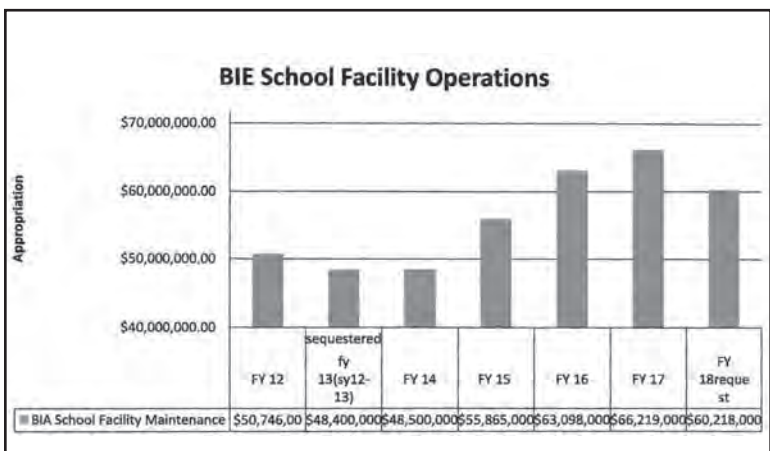
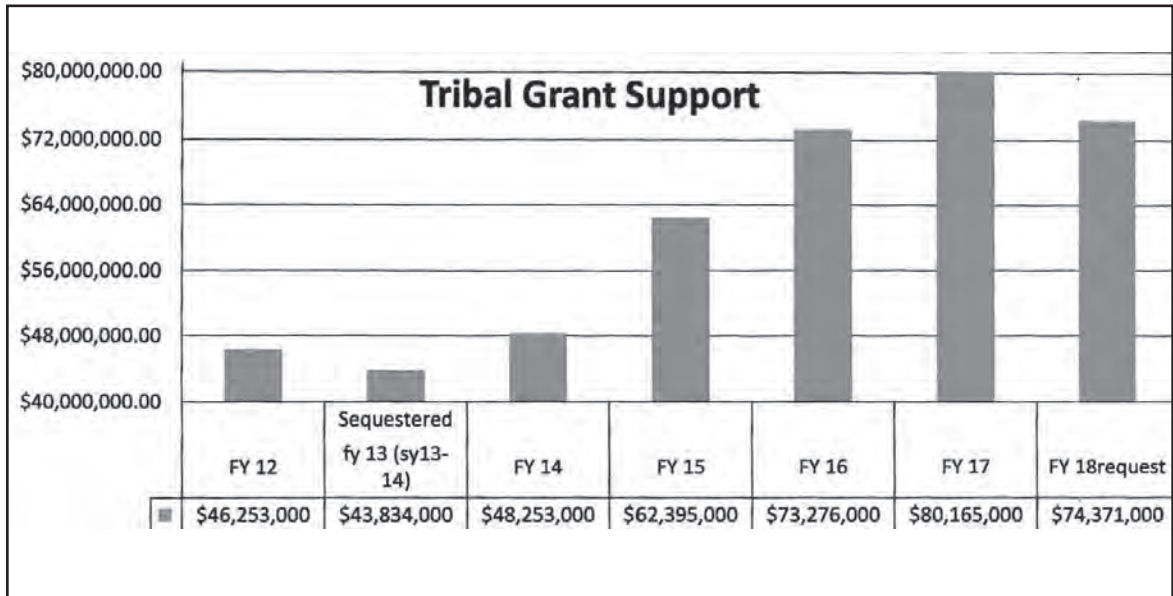
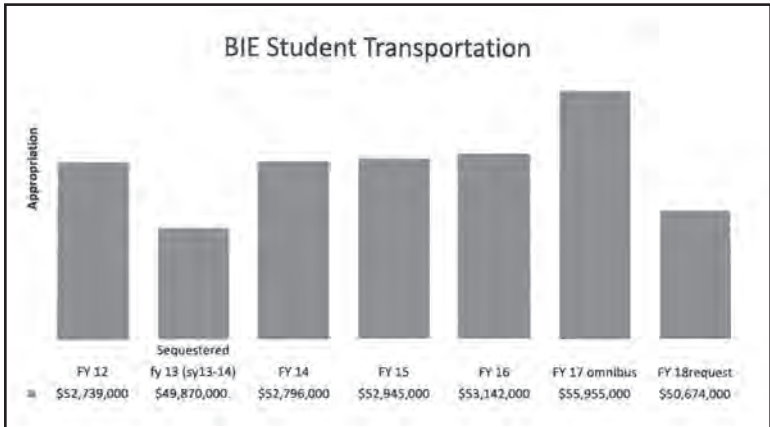
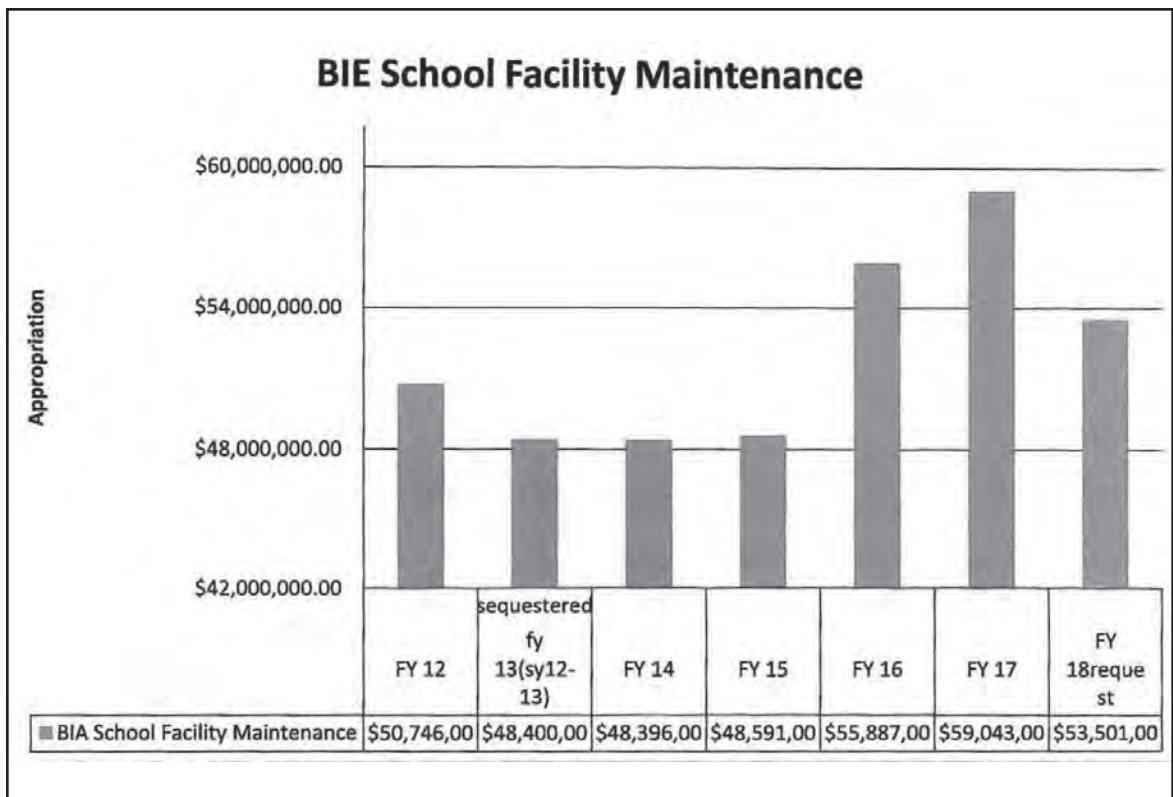
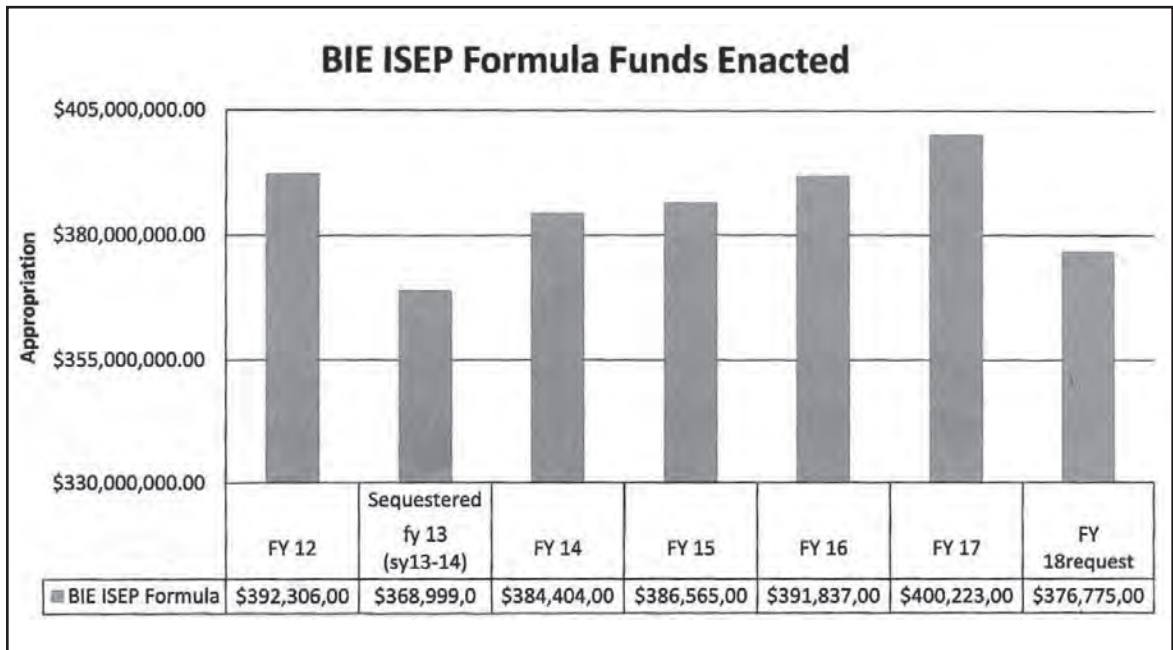
I attended an important meeting of the Association of Community Tribal Schools (ACTS). Dr. Roger Bordeaux very graphically laid out for us, what the proposed cuts would look like. Across the nation, Indian schools are currently UNDERFUNDED, and now we are looking at a 10 to 12 percent cut across the board. School funding is going backwards and the children who have the least to

begin with, are going to have less — a lot less. (See graphs on this page.)

Shockingly, I have had some tribal members tell me they support these cuts — but I DO NOT. I will not just stand by and allow our children to suffer because grown-ups couldn't control their spending, couldn't stick to a budget, FAILED to protect their TREATY right to an education. It isn't just a cliché that the children are our future. It's truth. The ancestors who were made to sign treaties with the federal government KNEW that the world was changing and education was going to be vital to the survival of our people.

Across this country, tribal leaders and tribal organizations will be standing up, speaking out and "educating" the federal decision makers about the true costs of these proposed cuts. This is about children — innocent, trusting children, who are counting on the grown-ups to ensure they will have what they need; that the grown-ups will protect them AND their future.

We cannot let them down.
Anishinaabe gagige
(Anishinaabe for always),
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Causley: Please pray each night for our elders

From "Causley Report" Pg. 20 —

and also with the YEA in the area to assist.

In closing, I want to ask that we do a special prayer each night for our elders in our communities, attending elders meeting for the past 13 years has honored me to meet many close people in my life, I've seen many pass and many are struggling with sickness right

now and they need our thoughts and prayers, That's just on my mind as I finish up this report so please think about them tonight when we settle in. Please contact me if you would like to meet or discuss any items, input or concerns, 322-3818 or 484-2954.

Baamaapii
Lana Causley-Smith
Board of Directors Unit II
Representative

JKL students plant flowers at Hospice House

Photos by Brenda Austin



Left to right, Rayce Rizzo, Miriam Clark and Kalin Reffruschinni hauling mulch to place around the different garden areas.



Jaden Dunkel helps by hauling mulch.



Felicity Madigan and Kiera Brown put mulch around flowers they planted.



Above, Mashya Keway (back left), Alana Dyament, (center), Isabella Stratton (left) and Sabrina Pawley (right). Below, Kiera Brown.



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