



# Win Awenen Nisitotung

November 17, 2021 • Vol. 42 No. 11  
Mshka'odin Giizis  
Frozen Moon



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

## Tribe's Rescue Act Vaccination Lottery to reduce spread of COVID

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich.— The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors has established a COVID-19 Rescue Act Vaccination Lottery to encourage tribal members and team members to get vaccinated to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.

The lottery will include three team member drawings and three tribal member drawings per month from December 2021 through April 2022. Eligible winners will receive \$5,000 each.

To enter the vaccination lottery, participants must complete and submit only one entry form on the tribe's website, [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) (see the top of the Sault Tribe homepage). Eligible participants will automatically qualify for the next month's drawings if they did not win during the prior month.

To be eligible to participate in the lottery, tribal members and team members must be 18 and older as of the entry date.

Drawing winners must provide proof they received at least one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccination as of the date the entry form was submitted. (As of the enactment of the vaccination lottery, approved vaccines are the Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines.)

Tribal member drawing winners must submit proof of



**Sault Tribe Health Director Dr. Leo Chugunov was the first person in the community to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. Now the tribe is holding a lottery to encourage unvaccinated tribal members and employees to get their shot.**

their enrollment in the tribe as of their entry form submission date and winning date. Similarly, team member drawing winners must submit proof of their employment with the tribe as of their entry form submission date and winning date.

Tribal members who are also team members are eligible to enter both drawing categories and are eligible to win up to one prize from each drawing category. All other eligible participants may win only once.

The vaccination lottery drawing will be administered by the independent third-party accounting firm, Dennis, Gartland & Niergarth. To view the complete vaccination lottery rules and complete the lottery entry form,

please go to <https://fs29.formsite.com/SaultT/bpxrit2ewm/index.html> beginning Nov. 5.

The vaccination lottery program will be funded with the tribe's American Rescue Plan Act state and local fiscal recovery funds and other federally approved vaccination funding received by the tribe.

## Tribe makes \$3 per hour raise permanent

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich.—At its Oct. 19, 2021, meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors authorized the temporary \$3 per hour salary increase for the tribe's governmental, gaming and EDC team members to address COVID-19 wage inflation.

Tribal Chairperson Aaron Payment said, "I would like to recognize our appreciation for our team members for their diligence over the years and our Executive Director and Human Resources team for pulling a plan together to finally bring our team members to market value."

Payment added, "I also appreciate the board of directors' approval of an interim plan this summer, then through adoption of a permanent increase ahead of the final market analysis plan."

In August, the Sault Tribe Board had set a temporary \$3 per hour raise through Oct. 2 for team members under the Sault Tribe umbrella to address COVID-19 wage inflation while reviewing the results of a wage compensation study. In September, the \$3 raise was extended



Photo by Brenda Austin

**Woodland Sky Native American Dance Company came to the Arts Center at Lake Superior State University on Oct. 29 to present a musical and theatrical story of Native American culture. Above is Woodland Sky co-founder Michelle Reed. See more photos on pages 14 and 15.**

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## A light of hope for those worried about lung cancer

**Cancer found early is more likely to be treated successfully.**

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in Michigan. Fortunately, lung cancer screening can catch cancer before symptoms even start. So, if you're a current or former heavy smoker between the ages of 50 and 80, talk with your health care provider about lung cancer screening and learn more at [Michigan.gov/Cancer](https://Michigan.gov/Cancer).



## OUR BEST HOPE IS THE COVID-19 VACCINE.

### Why should I get mine?

The COVID-19 vaccine is safe and effective. It will save lives and help Michigan move forward. Protect us all, by getting your dose of hope.

To find your vaccine or to learn more visit [Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine](https://Michigan.gov/COVIDvaccine).

Text your zip code to 438829 or call the COVID-19 Hotline at 888-535-6136 and press 1.





# Seeking information about Missing and Murdered Sault Tribe members

In an effort to create an informational database for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons (MMIP), the Advocacy Resource Center (ARC) seeks information regarding missing and murdered individuals who belong to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

The information provided does not be current information. The ARC is seeking information for ALL missing or

murdered tribal members including the seven-county service area and tribal members across the world.

Please ask for community educator, Jess Gillotte-King (extension 73104), when calling the ARC.

If messaging the ARC Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC](http://www.facebook.com/saulttribeARC)), please leave the following information: First/middle/last name, date of

birth, date of death, murdered/when/where, and perpetrator name, if applicable.

If missing: Nickname/alias, date last seen/went missing, physical description, distinctive physical features, and any vehicle information.

Any information would be appreciated.

Thank you for your participation in this matter. Please feel free to share this information.

# Sault Tribe Committee Vacancies

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

Anishinaabe Cultural Committee - nine vacancies - four males (4-year term), five female (4-year term)

Child Welfare Committee - two vacancies (4-year term), 1 vacancy (expires May 2023)

Election Committee - four vacancies (4-year term)

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

Health Board - four vacancies (4-year term)

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

Elder Advisory Committee Unit I - Sault (4-year term),

one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy

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

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

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

Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term) one regular vacancy and one alternate vacancy

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

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

Elder Subcommittee

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

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

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

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

Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year

# VETERANS DAY 2021



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**The American Legion and Win Awenen Nisitotung**

salute our military veterans of all eras this November 11 - and every day. Thank you for serving America with honor, courage and commitment.

## Win Awenen Nisitotung

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

November 17, 2021  
Mshka'odin Giizis  
Frozen Moon  
Vol. 42, No. 11

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Tribal members: need assistance?

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

The liaisons respond to membership issues and follow up to ensure they are resolved. Sault Tribe members are encouraged to contact the liaisons when they need help with tribal issues by emailing [membersconcerns@saulttribe.net](mailto:membersconcerns@saulttribe.net) or contacting them individually at:

Unit I — Sheila Berger,

Office of the Chairperson, Sault Ste. Marie, (906) 635-6050, (800) 793-0660, [sberger@saulttribe.net](mailto:sberger@saulttribe.net)

Units II and III — Clarence Hudak, Lambert Center, St. Ignace, (906) 643-2124, [chudak@saulttribe.net](mailto:chudak@saulttribe.net)

Units IV and V — Mary Jenerou, Manistique Tribal Center, (906) 341-8469; Munising Centers, (906) 450-7011 or (906) 450-7011, [mjenerou@saulttribe.net](mailto:mjenerou@saulttribe.net).

## Senior Employment Youth Elder Worker sought in Manistique

Youth Elder Worker position for the Manistique YEA Program is available through the Senior Employment program. The position is 14 hours per week at \$9.87 per hour. The youth elder worker assists YEA staff with chaperoning activities, field trips and outings and ensures that youth are in a safe environment; assists tutor with homework labs; prepares snacks; assists with cleaning and basic office tasks (copying, faxing, filing and

telephone assistance). May have to work evenings, weekends and holidays as requested. Must be a Sault Tribe member age 60 or over and reside within the seven-county service area. Must undergo and pass a criminal background investigation and pre-employment drug test. Must be able to travel.

Contact Brenda Cadreau at 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, (906) 635-4767, if interested.

## Elder in residence needed

An elder in residence position in the Sault Tribe Language and Culture Division is available through the Sault Tribe Senior Employment Program. The position is 14 hours per week at \$9.87 per hour.

The elder in residence will

provide assistance in the Ojibwe Learning Center and Library at 531 Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie. The library is open Monday-Friday. Special events with hands on construction of traditional crafts may be scheduled during non-public hours.

The position:

- Works in the Ojibwe Learning Center and Library,
- Provides historical and cultural information about the tribe,
- Provides demonstrations of traditional arts and crafts,
- Provides guidance to Language and Cultural Division,

Qualifications are:

- Extensive knowledge of history, culture, and customs of Great Lakes Anishinaabe,
- Good verbal skills and presence,
- Ability to work with individuals and in group settings,
- Knowledge of Ojibwe language.

Must be a Sault Tribe member age 60 or over and reside within the seven-county service area. Applicant should be self-motivated with the ability to prioritize and communicate clearly. Must undergo and pass pre-employment drug testing.

If interested, contact Brenda Cadreau, WIOA / Senior Employment Program, (906) 635-4767.

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**Advertising:** \$8.50/column inch.

**Submission and Subscriptions:**

Win Awenen Nisitotung

Attn: Communications Dept.

531 Ashmun St.,

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Telephone: (906) 632-6398

Fax: (906) 632-6556

E-mail: [slucas@saulttribe.net](mailto:slucas@saulttribe.net) or

[jdale-burton@saulttribe.net](mailto:jdale-burton@saulttribe.net).



# Tribal Transportation Program, planning for the future

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Sault Tribe Transportation Program Planner Wendy Hoffman oversees large scale construction management, transit, community planning, maintenance, safety and grant administration, among other duties. Hoffman works to ensure her department strategically brings together various aspects of construction management, transportation, community planning and land use to promote a prosperous quality of life for tribal communities, while being mindful of tribal member's Anishinaabe values and traditions.

One of the areas Hoffman oversees is capital and project construction management, which focuses on projects and initiatives identified through community input sessions across the service area.

To get identified projects and initiatives beyond the idea phase, she has to develop and manage budgeting, procure contractual services from general contractors and design teams, plan project scheduling, phases, contract administration, oversight, and budgeting and financial administration.

Hoffman said that transportation planning brings together tribal departments, and local, state



The Sault Tribe Housing Development in Hessel received new sidewalks.

and federal governments through working partnerships.

During the last seven years, the Transportation Program has developed and directed numerous community input sessions, membership surveys and meetings with tribal staff, and membership and local officials to compile data and statistics on needs, issues, safety, transit and project prioritization. Hoffman said areas of focus include cultural tourism, economic development, harbors, docks and the design and management of public spaces, known as placemaking.

After extensively researching mobility options currently available within the tribal service area,

the Transportation Department has developed a Public Tribal Transit Implementation Plan. Regional Transit Programming is currently being implemented by collaborating with local providers to expand services.

Hoffman said the department has received federal grant funds from the Federal Transit Administration and Community Transportation Association of America to be used to implement regional programming. Tribal transit partnerships currently include CLMAA St. Ignace Transit with new services recently implemented; EUP Transportation Authority service continues with ridership growing; and

Schoolcraft and Delta Transit Authority offering services, with a ridership and needs assessment planned.

Another important part of what the Transportation Department does is asset management, which includes monitoring infrastructure conditions. This protects tribal investments, including roads, bridges, trails, sidewalks and also includes general maintenance.

Hoffman said that projects are prioritized using the Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council Asset Management Guide, which provides standards and processes to rate the condition of roads and road systems for prioritization. The program currently has agreements and pending agreements with the City of Sault Ste. Marie for facilities in the city limits; Mackinac County Road Commission for roads in Mackinac County; and Sault Tribe Construction for roads at the Odenaang Housing Community.

Making safety a priority, a professional consulting team was recruited to assist with developing several safety plans, including a Regional Tribal Safety Plan (funded by a grant received from the Federal Highway Administration and AAA Foundation). Hoffman said

this plan provides a foundation to collaborate, identify key areas of concern and create a framework to accomplish identified goals and objectives with emphasis on engineering, education, enforcement and emergency medical services. Council members, staff, elders, the tribal youth council and community members were involved in the process of developing various safety plans.

Grant funding the department wrote for and received, include a \$650,000 FHWA Safety Grant; \$1,000,000 ERFO Federal Lands Natural Disaster Grant (Sugar Island Roads); \$950,000, FTA Transit Planning; \$35,000 FHWA Safety Study Grant; \$25,000 FHWA Safety Plan Grant; \$437,000 FTA Formula Funding; and a Community Transportation of America (CTAA) Technical Assistance Grant.

Hoffman said that projects that have been completed in 2021, or are near completion, include a sidewalk and trails project that is now completed in Hessel, St. Ignace, Newberry, Munising and Manistique.

There are currently 17 transportation projects slated for 2022, with the lowest cost item estimated at \$50,000, to the highest at \$3.5 million.

## Firekeeper's Daughter used for talking points in Zoom discussion

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

Michigan Indian Legal Services and Uniting Three Fires Against Violence sponsored a Zoom discussion on domestic violence and criminal jurisdiction on tribal land Oct. 25, using characters and scenes from the best-selling young adult novel *Firekeeper's Daughter*, by Sault Tribe member Angeline Boulley.

Panelists included Boulley; counsel with Barnes & Thornburg, LLP, Jeff Davis; Sault Tribe Chief Judge Hon. Jocelyn K. Fabry; Chief Judge of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi Tribal Court, Hon. Melissa L. Pope; and Wayne State University Law School Professor Kirsten Matoy Carlson.

Fabry said, "It was humbling to be on a panel with colleagues who I admire so much. I thought the format of using Angeline's book to highlight some of the jurisdictional gaps in Indian country was a great way to illustrate how these situations can come



Angeline Boulley, author of *Fire Keeper's Daughter*, participated in a Zoom discussion recently about domestic violence and criminal jurisdiction on tribal land.

up in real life. It's one thing to talk about these gaps in jurisdiction sort of in an abstract or academic way, but *Firekeeper's Daughter* included scenes and scenarios that showed how crimes can occur, tribal members can be victimized and justice cannot or will not be sought — in a way that drives the

point home to the reader. Unfortunately, even though *Firekeeper's Daughter* is a fictional story, those types of situations really happen far too often on our reservations."

View the discussion online at: <https://www.mils3.org/our-work/community-legal-education-videos>.



Sault Tribe Chief Judge Hon. Jocelyn Fabry



Panelist moderator Rachel Carr-Shunk

## Sault Tribe's 2021 Christmas parties mostly drive-thrus, kids gift cards

### Newberry Children's Drive-Thru Christmas party

Newberry Tribal Center Drive-Thru Christmas Party  
Date: Dec. 10

Gift Pick Up Time: 4 - 6 p.m.  
You MUST call (906) 293-8181 by Nov. 29 to register your child(ren).

Information needed: Parents' name(s), names and ages of child(ren) and hobbies.

Tribal Families Only.  
Sponsored by Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

### Unit II Children's Christmas Drive-Thru

Dec. 11 from 1-4 p.m.  
At the Hessel Tribal Center Families must be registered by Nov. 12. Register with Y.E.A. by calling (906) 484-2298, or email-

ing: [lburnside@saulttribe.net](mailto:lburnside@saulttribe.net). Sponsored by the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors and Unit II Y.E.A. Program.

Note from Unit II Youth Service Coordinator Lisa Burnside: We will only have one Christmas Drive Thru this year held in Hessel. The Drive-Thru is for Unit II families residing in Pickford, DeTour, Hessel and Cedarville. YEA will not be traveling to DeTour this year. Visit them on the Web at: [www.facebook.com/saulttribeYEAunit2](http://www.facebook.com/saulttribeYEAunit2).

### Unit III Children's Christmas Party

The Unit III Children's Christmas party will be a drive-thru party again this year on Sunday, Dec.

12, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Kewadin Shores Casino. Gifts will be provided to kids 0-12 years. You do not need to call ahead.

### Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Children's Drive-Thru Christmas party

for children ages 0-12 at the Big Bear Arena, 2 Ice Circle in Sault Ste. Marie:

Dec. 14, 4 to 7 p.m. for head of households with last names starting with M-Z.

Dec. 15, 4 to 7 p.m. for head of households with last names starting with A-L.

Please fill out the form below for each child in the household. The form can be filled out on a phone or computer.

Family Holiday Party Giveaway

Form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cGJiWD5qLuxq5JwM8qJiXAZ9ESGB6URMox-CW8iL0-zg/edit>

Sponsored by Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Unit I Board of Directors.

### Kinross Children's Drive-Thru Christmas Party Dec. 4

Dec. 4, 2021 at 1 p.m.

Kinross Rec Center

Drive thru  
DeeDee Frasure – (906) 495-5350

### Unit V Drive-Thru Children's Christmas Party Dec. 19

Unit V Tribal Children's Drive-Thru Christmas Party Dec. 19, 12-3 p.m., Youth Education Building, N6379 Atmik

Ameg Dr. in Wetmore, MI. Ages: birth to 13 years. Sign up before Dec. 2. Call Jenn Meyer at (906) 450-5246.

### Unit 4 Children's Christmas gift

Unit 4 children will receive their Christmas card in the mail this year from Santa. Due to COVID, the Unit 4 children's Christmas parties are cancelled for this year. We want to ensure our children and families safety. Santa Claus will be mailing each child in Unit 4 a Christmas card with a gift card just like last year.

### Marquette Area Children's Christmas

Santa will be doing a mailing to send all the children ages: 0-18 yrs.



# Tribal Board meets Oct. 19 in Sault Ste. Marie

## 21 RESOLUTIONS PASSED - FROM TRUST LAND LEASES, TO PERMANENT PAY INCREASES, NATURAL RESOURCES

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors met Oct. 19 in Sault Ste. Marie, and passed the following 21 resolutions

**Resolution 251: Deployment of Funds from Opioid Claims** — Funds awarded to the tribe as a result of the tribe's claims against opioid manufacturers and distributors, whether through settlement, bankruptcy proceedings, court-awarded damages, or otherwise, will be used for tribal substance abuse programs or other substance abuse related treatment and prevention actions.

**252: Permanent Increase Allocation** — The board authorized and approved the temporary \$3 per hour salary increases for the tribe's governmental employees and the tribe's Economic Development Corporation employees (authorized under Resolution Nos. 2021-197 and 2021-198) be made permanent.

**253: Approving Revisions to Tribal-State Gaming Compact's Memorandum of Agreement and Understanding** — The board approved changes to the "Memorandum of Agreement and Understanding Regarding the Construction and Interpretation of Section 4(D)(2) and (3) of Tribal-State Class III Gaming Compact for Purposes of Compliance and Enforcement" in the revised Tribal-State Compact MOU, and authorized the tribal chairperson

to transmit the proposed Tribal-State Compact MOU to the state of Michigan and to proceed in negotiating the terms of a final Tribal-State Compact MOU, subject to final review and approval by the board.

**254: Establish FY 2022 Budget for Michigan Tribal Food Access Collaborative** — The board approved the establishment of a FY 2022 budget for the Michigan Tribal Food Access Collaborative with Other Revenue, Inter-tribal Council monies of \$8,216.66.

**255: Natural Resources - Inland Fish & Wildlife FY 2021 Budget Modification** — The board approved the FY 2021 budget modification to Inland Fish & Wildlife for an increase in Federal BIA monies of \$29,888.82.

**256: Natural Resources - TRP Fire Ecology Establishment of FY 2022 Budget** — The board approved the establishment of a FY 2022 budget for TRP Fire Ecology with Federal BIA Revenue monies of \$27,086.38.

**257: Establishment of FY 2022 Budget GLRI Adaptive Management of wolf in remnant boreal forest ecosystems** — Approved with Federal BIA monies of \$60,426.50.

**258: Establishment of FY 2022 Budget for After School Ojibwe Language Recreation** — Approved with Federal Department of Health and

Human Services monies of \$82,609.

**259: ACFS - Community Service Block Grant FY 2022 Budget Modification and Establishment of FY 2022 Budget** — The FY 2022 budget modification was approved to ACFS Community Service Block Grant for a decrease in Federal HHS monies of \$107,500. The establishment of a FY 2022 budget for ACFS - Community Service Block Grant with Federal HHS monies of \$150,000 was also approved.

**260: ACFS - Child Care Development Fund FY 2022 Budget Modification** — approves the FY 2022 budget modification to Child Care Development Fund (2801) to decrease Federal HHS monies \$554,101.08.

**261: ACFS - Child Care Development Funds (2800, 2803) FY 2022 Budget Modification and Establishment of FY 2022 Budget** — Approved for an increase in Federal HHS monies of \$743,914.92 and to change the personnel sheet and reallocate expenses.

**262: Sault Tribe Thrive Acceptance of Grant and Establishment of FY 2022 Budget** — The U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency, has awarded the tribe \$600,000 for an additional two-year award for the operation of

a project under the FY21 American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Board Agency. The board authorized the acceptance of the FY21 American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Board Agency Announcement Project. The board also approved the establishment of an FY 2022 budget for Sault Tribe Thrive with Federal Department of Commerce monies of \$299,681.24, for the first-year spending.

**263: DeMawating Development FY 2021 Enterprise Capital Outlays Budget Modification** — The board approved the modification to the FY 2021 Enterprise Capital Outlay budget to increase the expenses for DeMawating Development of \$85,000 from the fund balance.

**264: Authorization to Negotiate - DeTour Medical, DeTour Mich., Property Acquisition** — The board authorized the Sault Tribe EDC to negotiate the purchase of the DeTour Medical Property-TIN 041-925-045-00 at a price not to exceed the agreed upon terms approved by the board of directors.

**265: Authorization to Negotiate - Gardenville Road, Sault Ste. Marie, Property Acquisition** — The board authorized the Sault Tribe EDC to negotiate the purchase of the

Gardenville Road Property - TIN 051-046-005-00 at a price not to exceed the agreed upon terms approved by the board of directors.

**266 - 271: Trust Land Leases and Cancellations** — All approved.

To view resolutions in their entirety, go to Saulttribe.com, and under the "government" link on top of the page click on "board of directors," then the "download" link to the left in the sidebar.



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**SATURDAYS IN DECEMBER\***

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**HOT SEAT DRAWS STARTING AT 5 P.M.**

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See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details. Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion. \*Excluding Christmas on December 4 and 11.



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**WILD TURKEY**  
Saturdays in November (Excluding Sault Ste. Marie November 20)  
Punch-A-Bunch Win up to \$250 CASH  
Hot Seat Draws Start at 5 p.m.

**CAN-A-THON**  
November 1-30  
Donate three non-perishable canned goods, receive \$5 Kewadin Credits

**BONUS BUCKS**  
Hessel, Manistique & Christmas Sites  
November 13-21  
Daily Prize Draws, Grand Prize Draw November 21  
Show your hunting license receive \$5 Kewadin Credits

**HEALTH CARE HEROES**  
December 2  
Show your Health Care ID and receive \$10 Kewadin Credits

**ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS**  
Christmas Site | December 3, 4, 10, 11  
Win your share of \$15,000 CASH

**COUNTDOWN TO CASH**  
December 31  
Win your share of up to \$38,600 CASH & Credits

**TOURNAMENTS**  
**FALL FRENZY SLOT TOURNAMENT**  
November 1 - December 12 | 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	SUNDAY
Sault Ste. Marie	Hessel	Manistique	St. Ignace	Christmas

Daily \$200 CASH & 40,000 Bonus Points Prize Pool plus Bonus Draws

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# Anishinaabemowin 2021

## Mshka'odin Giizis

### Frozen Moon

by Susan Askwith

*Mshka'odin Giizis* is designated as Native American Heritage month. Our *Anishinaabe aadziwin* (Anishinaabe way of life) is our inheritance from our many generations of *nookomisak* (grandmothers) *miinawaa* (and) *mishoomisak* (grandfathers). So we will take time to remember some of the practices that make up that *aadziwin*.

## Niizhwaaswi Mishomis Kinoomaagewinan The Seven Grandfather Teachings

niizh-waas-wi (7) mi-sho-mis kin-oo-maa-ge-win-an (teachings)

These are the values that shape our traditional practices and thus our *Aadziwin*, our heritage.



### Gwekwaadziwin Honesty

gwek-waad-zi-win

With honesty we can look with straight eyes at ourselves and others, with nothing to hide. We can be honest without being mean-spirited in our words and actions.

#### In Practice: Visiting

**Nbwaachidwak:** We visit with n-bwaa-chid-wak each other

We take the time to talk with each other, telling stories about what we've done, what's going on in the world, our families, and more. There is always humor and laughter. We share a cup of tea or coffee. We leave feeling good. Even in today's hectic world, we haven't left this tradition behind.

Inevitably, differences of opinion arise and we talk through those. Honesty with respect leads to clear and productive communication.

### Minadendmowin Respect

min-a-den-di-mo-win

We show respect to people by listening carefully, trying to understand them and letting our speaking show we value them.

We respect our mother earth, *Shkakimikwe* (sh-ka-ki-mi-kwe) by taking care of all of her aspects and by not wasting things.

#### In Practice: Indian Time

**Baabiiskan.** Take your time.

baa-biis-kaan

This isn't about arriving somewhere "on time," but the advice to give yourself time to think about what you're doing. Also it speaks of respecting the pace at which each of us moves through life — some slower, some more briskly!

### Semaa (se-maa) Tobacco

We can make a **tobacco tie** in the traditional way by putting a couple pinches of tobacco in small square of fabric (often red) and tie it closed with a small piece of string. This is given to a person to show respect when you ask them to do something for you. Of course for immediate use you can just give the tobacco hand to hand.

### Aakdewin Bravery

aa-ka-de-win

It takes bravery to stand up against difficulties with integrity. It takes courage to choose what is right even when the consequences are unpleasant.

#### In Practice: Drum & Sing

**Dewegen.** Use a drum.

*De-we-gen.* (**Dewegan** is a drum)

**Ngaman** Sing/Chant.

n-gam-an

Sometimes our challenges make a confusing "mess" that is hard to figure out. We need a break to let our subconscious untangle it all. The sound of a drum is a heart song, so full it communicates what we can't say in our words. Even tapping your chest gently in rhythm will do. Chanting sounds without meaning does that, too. A typical phrase is "waya, waya" and is sung to any simple repetitive melody that is similar to what you may have heard at powwows.



### Debwewin Truth

deb-we-win

Use your heart/intuition to take in the truth of situations. We try to learn all we can to understand what is really happening.

We strive to speak the truth to ourselves and to our people, when it is easy to hear and when it's hard to take.

#### In Practice: Voting

**Wenaabanjigen:** Choose.

we-naa-ban-ji-gen

As a group we need to decide how we will get along, how things will get done. So we have two responsibilities: to find the truth about the issues under consideration, and letting our choices and decisions be heard by the community. This is as true today as it has been among our earliest ancestors.

### Making our Sounds Most letters sound like in English.

Here are the exceptions.

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

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

**i** sounds like the i in *dip*

**oo** sounds like the o in *go*

**o** sounds like the oo's in *wood*

**e** sounds like the e in *end*

**g** sounds **ONLY** like it does in *go*

**nh** has no sound; it says "pronounce the previous vowel nasally"

Otherwise, pronounce all the letters. *Italic type* will tell you which word-parts to stress.

No italics in a word means the parts have equal stress. Long words are broken up with dashes (-); still, say each word smoothly. Take time to enjoy the words, even the long ones. Roll the sounds around in your mouth. The sounds of our language have been voiced for generations. Keep them going!



# Niizhwaaswi Mishomis Kinoomaagewinan The Seven Grandfather Teachings

niizh-waas-wi (7) mi-sho-mis kin-oo-maa-ge-win-an (teachings)

These are the values that shape our traditional practices and thus our *Aadziwin*, our heritage.

## Sunrise Practices

### *Biidaaban aakmendawin*

bii-daa-ban aak-men-dam-win

#### Mindfulness at Dawn

To live out these Grandfather Teachings, our people have traditionally found it helpful to set a purpose at the beginning of the day. These are simple, personal moments and each of us finds our own.

If possible, step outside for a moment to inhale the good air and appreciate the gift of another day. Some quietly drink a cup of coffee or tea, maybe spilling a little of it on the earth. Some place a pinch of tobacco by a plant. Some stretch their bodies. Some sing or quietly drum. Some pray. All of us think about how we will live in a good way (*weweni* (*we-we-ni*)) today.



## *Dbaadendizwin* Humility

di-baa-den-diz-win

Humility is to know yourself as a sacred part of creation. Humility is knowing what we know and what we don't know. We do our part and together we create a good life.

### In Practice: Smudging

*G'pkwenezigemi.* We are smudging.

*g-pak-we-ne-zi-ge-mi*

To smudge, we set fire to some *semaa* or maybe the end of a braid of *wiingashk* (sweetgrass), then blow the flame out to make it smoke. We move our hands in the smoke so they may be constructive and helpful. They then direct the smoke to parts of our bodies

We smudge our head to clear our minds of worries and fear so we will have good thoughts. Our eyes so we will see good things in people. Our ears so we will listen carefully. Our mouths so we will speak good things. Our hearts so we will heal from any pain held there and be strong. Our feet so we will walk a path full of purpose, compassion, balance and kindness.

## *Zaagidwin* Love

zaa-gid-win

To love is to practice absolute kindness. No exceptions. When people are weak they need love the most. Love is not only something we feel, it's something that we do.

### In Practice: Providing

*G'naagidowendimi*

*g-naa-gi-do-wen-di-mi*

We take care of each other. When we notice the needs or preferences (large or small) of others, and are able to take the time or effort or resources to assist them in their positive outcomes, that is an action of love. This is deeply embedded in our oldest times. It meant survival. And the relationships formed were as vital to a good life as food and drink.

Still, many times nutritious, delicious food served and shared with the warmth and laughter of friendship has been a way of showing love.

## *Nbwaakaawin* Wisdom

ni-bwaa-kaa-win

Wisdom is shaped by our life experiences, both positive and challenging. It values learning. It is using good sense. We use wisdom when we speak and act from a place of good spirit. It is a stance of moving forward from "what is" without having to use force.

### In Practice: Learning

*N'wii nsistatam.* ni-wii n-sis-ta-tam

I want to understand.

"The point of maintaining our language and culture is to build strong human beings who are OK in their own skin as load-bearing members of the country and the world, and with a toolbox for health and happiness." (from Anton Treuer)

Life requires us to learn many things. For us, learning to speak at least some of our language is one of the three foundations of our very sovereignty. It is perhaps the oldest and most powerful gifts of our heritage.



### Corn Soup Recipe

- 1/2 cup chopped onions
- 2 ribs celery finely diced
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 cloves garlic minced
- 1 tablespoon flour
- 1/4 teaspoon dry thyme
- 2 cups corn kernels fresh frozen or canned
- 1 large potato, peeled and diced 1/2"
- 3 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup milk or light cream
- 1/2 teaspoon each salt & pepper

- Fry (medium heat) onion, celery and garlic in butter until onions soften (4 min).
- Add flour and thyme. Cook one minute more. Stir in corn and potatoes. Add the rest of the ingredients and simmer 15-20 minutes uncovered or until potatoes are tender.
- Enjoy! Leftover soup can be stored in the fridge up to 3 days



### Start learning with useful phrases:

*Mino-kizhep aawan.* mi-no-ki-zhep aa-wan

It's a fine morning

*Aasina gmintoon.* aa-si-na gi-min-toon

That sounds good!

*Enh, mii wi!* Yes, that's it! You got it!



# Celebrating Native American Heritage Month

FROM SAULT TRIBE ADVOCACY RESOURCE CENTER

During November we want to take this time to celebrate Native American Heritage month by remembering our Native American ancestry.

The Anishinaabeg (which means “Original People” or “Spontaneous Beings”) have lived in the Great Lakes area for millennia and archeologists have found Anishinaabeg sites that date back to 3000 B.C in the Great Lakes region. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians ancestors were fishing tribes whose settlements dotted the upper Great Lakes region. They hunted, fished, gathered and preserved food for the winter. The Anishinaabeg lived this way for hundreds of years until the arrival of European settlers in the 1600’s. The Anishinaabeg had dealings with the French, then the English and then the United States. The Anishinaabeg way of life began to deteriorate as the people were

placed on reservations, sent to boarding schools and with other attempts to matriculate them into American mainstream society.

The roots of today’s Sault Tribe go back to the 1940s, when a group of Sugar Island residents gathered to talk about their common history. Those discussions turned into action plans and the meetings grew larger. Those residents are the decedents of Anishinaabeg who greeted the French from Montreal who had come to the Sault to obtain beaver pelts for the emerging fur trade. When the French sovereignty ended in 1763, the English took over the wealthy fur trade and by 1820 the British had been replaced by Americans. In the 1820 Treaty of Sault Ste. Marie, the Anishinaabeg at Sault Ste. Marie ceded 16 square miles of land along the St. Mary’s River to the United States to build Fort Brady.

A second Treaty, the 1836 Treaty of Washington ceded Northern Lower Michigan and

the Eastern portion of the Upper Peninsula to the United States. In return, the Anishinaabeg of the Sault received cash payments and ownership to about 250,000 acres of land. In 1855, after 20 years of watching settlers moving into Northern Michigan violate the terms of the treaty, the chiefs signed another treaty, the 1855 Treaty with the Ottawa and Chippewa with the Americans which allotted lands to Michigan Indian families. The Sugar Island residents came to understand that while the treaties granted large tracks of land to the federal government, the documents did not end their sovereignty nor terminate their ancestral right to hunt and fish on ceded lands and waters of the Ojibwe.

Federal recognition took more than 20 years to complete. The decedents built their case by searching archives, gathering historical documents and culling census rolls, church records and military records. In the mid

1960’s the group included members from six historical Ojibwe bands: Sugar Island, Sault Ste. Marie, Drummond Island, Garden River, Grand Isle and Point Iroquois. In the early 1970’s the leaders of the Original Bands of Chippewa traveled to Washington and successfully submitted their historical findings and legal argument to the Secretary of the Interior who granted the tribe federal status in 1972.

Once recognized, the original bands became the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Land was taken into trust in March 1974 and Sault Tribe Members adopted the tribe’s constitution in the fall of 1975. At the time the tribe adopted their tribal constitution, it had fewer than 10 employees, almost no outside funding and no revenues of its own. With grants awarded to the tribe from the Federal and State governments, it was able to gradually open member service programs such as health, housing

and education. Even with the new member services, the needs of those members far outweighed the meager funding sources available, so to close those gaps, tribal leaders created a business based economy. The tribe has spent the last 49 years building a tribal economy providing member services, employment and revenue for the betterment of its people.

One of those services the tribe is able to provide is the assistance available to all victims of crime at the Advocacy Resource Center. The mission of the ARC is to provide a comprehensive, culturally honoring and trauma informed response to those impacted by the abuse of power and control. If you are in an abusive situation or are the victim of a crime REMEMBER YOU ARE NOT ALONE YOU ARE NOT TO BLAME AND HELP IS AVAILABLE. Contact the advocacy Resource Center to see what we can do to help you.

## Michigan Education Savings Program earns top national ranking

LANSING, Mich. — The Michigan Education Savings Program (MESP) is one of the nation’s premier college savings plans, according to a recent analysis of state-administered 529 plans by Morningstar Inc. MESP was one of only three plans to receive a “Gold” rating. Morningstar rates plans based on four pillars: process, people, parent and price.

Morningstar looked for the following in each of the 529 savings plans it evaluated: a well-researched asset-allocation approach; a robust process for selecting underlying investments; an appropriate set of options to meet investor needs; strong oversight from the state and investment manager; and low fees.

Gold-rated plans embody most or all of these attributes.

In its review, Morningstar

identified MESP as “Summa Cum Laude,” describing it as a “top notch plan” that “set the curve for their peers, offering exceptional investments while emulating savvy stewardship.”

Managed by TIAA-CREF Tuition Financing Inc. on behalf of the Michigan Department of Treasury, MESP has earned silver and gold ratings from Morningstar each year since 2012.

MESP, sold directly to families that are saving for college, offers 18 investment options. The plan, which marked its 20th anniversary last November, has more than 290,000 accounts with total assets exceeding \$7.6 billion.

MESP can be used at any eligible college, university or trade school in the nation.

More information about MESP is available at MISaves.com or (877) 861-6377.

## National Adoption Awareness Month

Each year, November is recognized as National Adoption Awareness Month. While all adoption-related issues are important, the particular focus is the adoption of children currently in foster care. The goal of National Adoption Month is to raise awareness for children and youth in foster care who are waiting for permanent families.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, through the services of the Sault Tribe Binogii Placement Agency, has provided adoption services since 1985. Sault Tribe actively participates in cases involving tribal children across the country. The priority of placement for the tribe is to keep tribal children with



their families whenever possible. Situations may arise where children cannot remain with their families, and in those cases the Sault Tribe works actively to match tribal children with tribal families to preserve the child’s cultural connections.

There are currently tribal children across the country in foster care that are not matched with a family and are in need of a committed family to help them to find their forever home. The shortage of tribal placement resources is a problem across the state, country and in other tribes. Sault Tribe is no exception — they, too, are in need of dedicated foster parents and adoptive parents.

There are no unwanted children, just unfound families. If you are interested in making a difference in a child’s life and becoming a foster parent or an adoptive parent, please contact Anishnaabek Community and Family Services at (906) 632-5250 or (800) 726-0093.

### TRIBAL MEMBER REGISTRATION IN THE TAX AGREEMENT AREA

#### TRIBAL MEMBERS’ RESPONSIBILITIES

(Including the Issuance of Certificates of Exemptions)

#### INITIAL REGISTRATION AND OR CHANGE OF ADDRESS

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

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

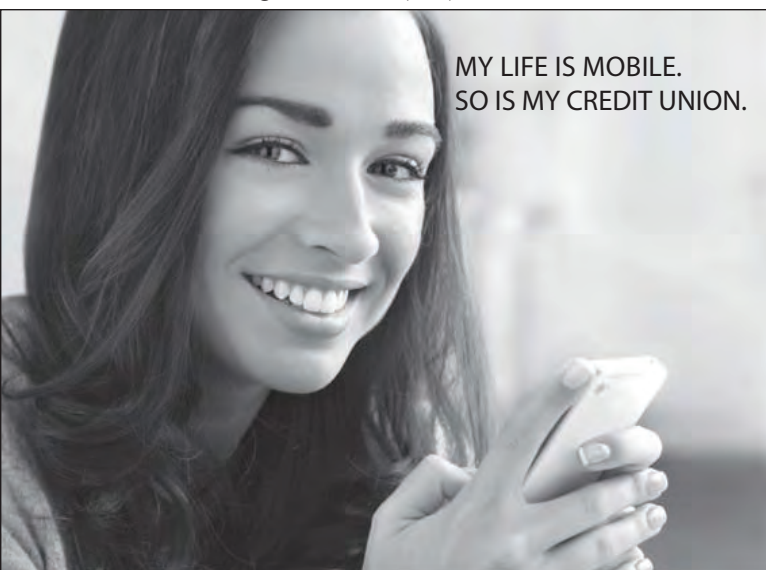
**The Tribal Tax Office cannot register a member with the MI Department of Treasury unless these documents are included with the “Address Verification Card.”**

#### CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTIONS

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

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

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



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# Strangulation Awareness for the Month of November

November is being recognized by the Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center as Strangulation Awareness Month. Strangulation is a lethal form of assault that can kill a person within minutes. Strangulation is not to be confused with “choking.” Strangulation is described as pressure being applied from the outside, cutting off airflow and/or blood vessels in the neck, preventing oxygen from reaching the brain. Choking, meanwhile, refers to a blockage or obstruction inside the throat which makes it difficult to breathe.

Strangulation is a major warning sign for lethality in domestic violence cases. Perpetrators often use strangling as a form of power and control over their intimate partner. Pressure placed upon the victim’s throat can cause unconsciousness and death. Strangulation is just below homicide on the continuum of domestic violence risk assessment.

Strangulation is relatively easy to identify as many symptoms occur in the facial areas. Some common visible signs of strangulation include, petechiae (red spots) in the eyes or the whites of the eyes may be completely filled with blood, swollen lips, droopy eyelids, facial drooping or swelling, scratch marks to neck or face, raspy or hoarse voice, trouble swallowing, drooling, petichiae on earlobes, bruising

on or bleeding from ears, swollen tongue, and/or bumps on head from falling or blunt force trauma. There are also signs that are not visible that a victim may suffer from such as intense pain, vision changes, ringing in the ears, cuts in the mouth, swelling of the neck or throat, difficulty breathing, and/or voice changes.

Strangulation may not cause death immediately and has been known to cause death several days later due to collapsed trachea and/or tracheal damage. Strangulation can cause serious health issues and psychological problems. Data on strangulation reveals a harsh picture of the severity of this kind of assault. One in four women will experience intimate partner violence in her lifetime. Of those, up to 68 percent will suffer near fatal strangulation at the hands of their partner.

Michigan law states that any person who assaults another person by strangulation or suffocation is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment for up to 10 years or a fine of up to \$5,000, or both. The law defines “strangulation or suffocation” as “intentionally impeding normal breathing or circulation of the blood by applying pressure on the throat or neck or by blocking the nose or mouth of another person.” Under the law, it is not necessary for a victim to suffer any actual injury

in order for the State to charge a person with assault by strangulation. An aggressor’s intent may be inferred simply from the use of physical violence.

Strangulation was deemed the cause of death of 27-year-old former Sault Ste. Marie resident Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Amy Ignatowski on May 31, 2008, in her apartment in Corpus Christi, Texas. Amy Ignatowski’s body was found on the floor of her apartment by a friend who took care of Amy’s dog. Police believe she was followed home from a nearby bar to her apartment where she was accosted by 21-year-old Micah Spanutius. An autopsy revealed Amy had been strangled.

Amy’s mother, Robin Ignatowski, said that investigators found the case particularly interesting as it was a stranger attack against another stranger. Many of the investigators noted that strangulation is often an intimate

partner crime. Amy’s mother said she found it a little easier to deal with the tragic situation knowing that it was someone who didn’t know Amy as everyone else did. She said with Amy’s happy and giving personality it would be impossible for anyone who loved her to do something like that to her. Robin noted that Spanutius used a WWE stranglehold technique, one was later discovered that he had used on two other women prior to Amy’s attack. Spanutius was found guilty of Amy’s murder and sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Amy was a 1998 graduate of Sault Area High School and attended Grand Valley State University in Michigan. She joined the U.S. Coast Guard in 2005 and had been stationed in southern Texas as a helicopter mechanic since 2007. Amy will be remembered for her vivacious spirit and gigantic smile that could light up any room.



Strangulation was deemed the cause of death of 27-year-old former Sault Ste. Marie resident Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class Amy Ignatowski on May 31, 2008, in her apartment in Corpus Christi, Texas.

## Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) Low Income Housing Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) open Nov. 1

ACFS has funding available for income eligible tribal households with a water shut off. The water assistance program opened Nov. 1.

The program requires documentation of a water shut off. The program will also assist with minor repairs/maintenance to well and septic that prevent adequate water supply to the home. The program will be open until funds are exhausted.

Please contact your local ACFS office to make an appointment with a Direct Service worker to complete an application.

ACFS office locations:  
Sault Ste. Marie – 2218 Shunk Rd., (906) 632-5250  
St. Ignace – 1140 N. State, (906) 643-8689  
Manistique – 5698 W. US-2, (906) 341-6993  
Munising – 622 Superior, (906) 387-3906

## Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) opens Nov. 1

The LIHEAP program opened Nov. 1, 2021.

The program assists income-eligible tribal households in lessening the burden of high heating energy costs and can assist with heating shut-offs or can put a credit on your account.

The program will be open until funds are exhausted.

Applications are available at all of the following ACFS sites and at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

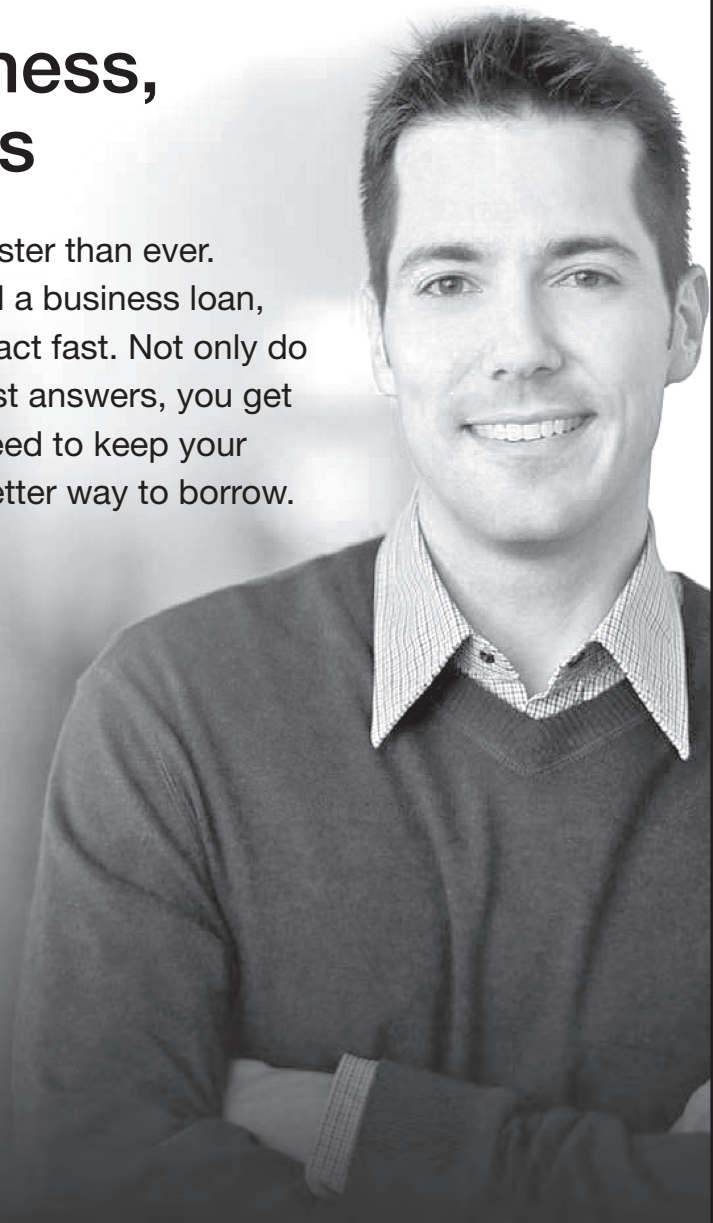
Please contact your local ACFS office with any inquiries.

ACFS office locations:  
Sault Ste. Marie – 2218 Shunk Rd., (906) 632-5250  
Kincheloe – 60 Kincheloe, (906) 495-1232  
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# Jiibay wiikongewin—Ghost feast customs

## FROM LANGUAGE & CULTURE

Win Awenen Nisitotung is offering a new monthly column about our Anishinaabe ways and how to learn more. This first one is a timely article about the ghost feast held this time of year.

Every season brings special ceremonies and activities Anishinaabe have traditionally followed. During dagwaging (fall time), we have a special ceremony called jiibay wiikongewin — ghost feast. Here are some reminders and teachings that have been given to us to help you when attending these feasts.

What is a ghost feast? Jiibay wiikongewin is when we remember and honor our ancestors, our relatives who came before us. These may be our grandmothers, grandfathers, mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters and cousins by blood or by clan. We would also honor tribal chiefs, spiritual leaders, medicine people and all others who had roles of leadership or contributed to our communities in any way.

Do you have to be spiritual leader or a pipe carrier to have a jiibay wiikongewin gichitwaawin (ghost supper or spirit feast)? No. Families and communities often have ghost feasts, there is no wrong way when your intentions are good. Those manidoos (spirits) will recognize your intentions and accept your offerings. There

are many different ways this ceremony is done and it varies depending on families and communities.

How do you prepare for a jiibay wiikongewin? A sacred fire is lit so that asemaa (tobacco) and food offerings can be made. This would be done at the beginning before any food is eaten. Those who carry our dewe'iganak (drums) and nagamawinan (songs) can be invited to share what they carry. Manidoos (spirits) enjoy the sound of our dewe'igan (drum) and the sacred songs that go with them. The area, building and participants, are smudged when you begin. After the food is cooked it is also smudged. We are asking medicine, which can be one or all of the sacred medicines — giizihik (cedar), weengashk (sweetgrass), mshkadewashk (sage) and asemaa (tobacco) for help. Anyone can do this smudge, as long as it is not a woman on her moon time. It is not about the person doing the smudge; we ask the medicines for their help through this special ceremony.

What are you supposed to cook? We cook what our departed loved ones enjoyed. This is a time to bring out all those dishes your grandma, grandpa, mom, dad and relatives liked. It could be corn soup or it could be macaroni and cheese — whatever they

enjoyed. You are offering this to their spirit and eating for their spirit. We are giving thanks for all the goodness they brought into our lives, giving thanks for all we have received and will receive in the future.

Who is supposed to do the cooking? Anyone can cook and we are reminded to think of those good memories and happy times we had with those who passed. Even if you did not get to spend time with your grandmother or great grandfather, think of the stories and good things your mother or father told you while they cooked the food your relatives enjoyed.

The only people who cannot cook are women during their moon time. Women on their moon time attending the ceremony should be served by someone else so they do not touch any of the sacred food. It isn't that women having their moon time are shunned or cast out. They are at their time of strength and have the ability to overcome those spirits in the food and at the ceremony.

What do you do after the food is cooked and what do I do if I am bringing a dish to the ceremony? After all the food is cooked, several different things may happen depending on family practices. Some may go feed the fire themselves with some

of what was prepared for their relatives. A chair may be left empty with everything placed in front of it as though someone would sit and eat, so there is a place for spirit to sit. Some may designate a family member to eat for the spirit, but a spirit plate is usually always made to feed the fire before anyone physically eats. If you are bringing a dish, just ask the family who is holding the feast what is appropriate, or if you have special instructions discuss it with the family first so they understand you have a special way.

Should I be afraid to go to

a jiibay wiikongewin? If you have not had the opportunity or have stood back from attending this special ceremony, do as you would in any new situation or meeting someone for the first time. Be respectful.

If you have a question, take some asemaa to someone who has the knowledge or is having the feast and ask for their guidance.

That asemaa leads the way and you will be welcomed and comforted in your uncertainty.

These are customs we were taught and they may vary from what others have been taught.



**THE RICKLEY FAMILY** of St. Ignace held its annual ghost feast Nov. 6. Family got together for a feast and ceremonial fire at the home of Veronica and Russ Rickely. Generations of the Rickley family visit the back yard to offer tobacco to the fire (above left), while inside (above) a feast of gigantic proportions is served. It only takes a little bite to fill up the ancestors with their favorite foods. The Rickleys have been holding their ghost feast for many years. Articles about the family's ghost feast appeared in the Detroit Free Press in 1974 and in WAN in 1995. Until COVID, the family had opened the feast to the community, but it is once again just family.

## Stories from Sugar Island: Ghost Feast

BY CATHY DEVOY, LANGUAGE AND CULTURE DIRECTOR

I remember when I was growing up, my great aunt Mary and my mother would sit at her kitchen table talking about life on Sugar Island as they were growing up. In the fall of the year, the topic would always turn to what they would call "ghost feast."

They related how back in a day, every house in the village of Baie de Wasai would put up a feast of whatever they had (which usually wasn't much) with a table set for guests and bowls of food. After everything was ready, the family would leave and go visit someone else's house and partake of what had been left. They explained that they were traveling from house to house all over the village to eat for those who passed away, not too long ago and sometimes

very long ago. This was letting the spirits know they were not forgotten. It was a reverent time, a ceremony. They said that there would be a fire, too, I suppose in the wood stove or outside. Little bits of food were also put in the fire for the spirits. Aunt Mary would chuckle and relate how sometimes they would even put a drop or two of some wine or whiskey in the fire for a certain uncle who really liked that.

I asked when this ghost feast was held. They told me it was always on Nov. 1, All Saints Day in the Catholic Church. They would just smirk and change the subject. In time, I began to understand why. So much of our tribal beliefs in the spirit were regarded as evil, pagan and sinful. Many of our people were survivors of boarding schools and local missionaries who pounded in their soul that every-

thing about being Anishinaabe was to be forgotten.

Today, what we call Jiibay (Spirit) Wiikongewin (feast), was a special time for the village. The people hid the remembrance of all their loved ones within the façade of that Christian holiday. They apparently could go about feasting at everyone's home in plain site without it being questioned.

So, when my kids were still young, I gathered all the knowledge I could about this ceremony and started having ghost feast at my home. Then we began to have it in the community. I haven't had it for a few years because of the COVID, but I still put a small food offering in my wood stove or make a small fire in the yard just to pray and feed those ancestors on the other side. That is what it really all about after all.

### Native Nutrition Facilitator Wanted

The EUPISD is looking for a dynamic individual to offer Native American Nutrition education to elementary students in the region using hands-on experiences. Must have knowledge of the Ojibwe culture, language, and traditions, experience working with children, understanding of basic nutrition concepts and cooking skills, an Associates or Bachelor's degree in Native American Studies, Anishinaabe/Ojibwe language, Health Nutrition, Education or similar programs preferred. For more details regarding this position and to apply go to <https://www.eupschools.org/jobs>. The EUPISD is an at-will and equal opportunity employer. This position is open until filled.

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# Births announced



## ELIOTT TERAN JACOB

Sault Tribe member Melissa Beard Jacob and her husband Jason Jacob are happy to announce the birth of their son Elliott Teran Jacob. Elliott is their second child and joins the family with big sister Eloise June.

Elliott was born at the Ohio State University Hospital on Aug. 31, 2021, at 6:54 a.m. He weighed 5 lbs., 15 oz., and was 19.5 inches in length.

Grandma Corrina (Schmidt) Huffman and great-grandmother Phyllis (Cassibo) Schmidt are both Sault Tribe members.



## ASHLYNN LEONA BROWN

Proud parents Scotty and Arianna Brown are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Ashlynn Leona Brown. Born on Oct. 28, 2021, Ashlynn weighed 9 pounds, 10 ounces and measured 19.5 inches in length. Ashlynn is the first child of the family and is welcomed with love.



**Congratulations to Clinical Social Worker Mallinda Lumsden for being named the Health Division's August Employee of the Month. Mallinda has been doing the job of three for several months. During this time, she has maintained a positive attitude and given excellent customer service to both external and internal clients.**



**Deanna Eggert was named September 2021 Health Division employee of the month. She is shown here with Health Director Leo Chugunov.**

# Clark receives 'Biologist of Year' award

The Native American Fish and Wildlife Society honored Sault Tribe lead wildlife biologist Eric Clark with the Biologist of the Year award. This award was accepted on Clark's behalf by Great Lakes Director Don Reiter. Additional awards included the Chief Sealth Award for exceptional leadership and positive impacts in Indian country, and that went to Robert Sanders, Wildlife Division manager for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Thomas Jones, Game Warden of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation was awarded Conservation Officer of the Year for his dedication to the conservation of fish and wildlife.



## Need a ride to your Sault Tribe Behavioral Health appointment?

Are you an active client of Sault Tribe Behavioral Health? Don't have a ride to your next appointment? Don't miss your appointment — call us. We may be able to help with the Road to Wellness Program: (906) 635-6075 or (906) 259-3254.



# Environmental gives European Frog-bit the boot

BY HADLEY REED, ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

Earlier this summer, several Sault Tribe Environmental Department employees helped take on one of the Eastern Upper Peninsula's newest invasive species, European frog-bit. Nearly 30 crew members from several community partners, including Lake Superior State University's Center for Freshwater Research and Education, the Sault Tribe Wildlife Department, and the UP Resource Conservation and Development Council, came together for the event. The frog-bit pull, organized by Three Shores CISMA,

was a resounding success with over 1,300 pounds of European Frog-bit removed from the wetlands.

European frog-bit is an invasive aquatic plant similar to native water lilies. Unlike water lilies, European frog-bit grows in large, dense patches. These patches consist of tangled cordlike roots and prevent the growth of other species. The leaves are 0.5-2 inches wide and kidney-shaped. Frog-bit flowers are small with three white petals and yellow centers.

Currently, European frog-bit is mainly found in Munuscong

and Raber Bays, with small patches near the Les Cheneaux Islands. There are no confirmed identifications of European Frog-bit anywhere else in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, making management of the current population key to protecting the surrounding habitats. In order to prevent the spread of European frog-bit, be sure to inspect all of your boating and fishing gear before and after each year. Additionally, if you find European frog-bit while enjoying our beautiful waterways, please report it to the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575.



One of Eastern Upper Peninsula's newest invasive species, European frog-bit.

# Dangerous invasive plant growing on tribal lands

BY HADLEY REED, ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT

Wild parsnip is a tall perennial plant with an umbrella-shaped yellow flower, originating from Eurasia. This invasive plant has unfortunately spread throughout most of the U.S. wild parsnip not only outcompetes other plants for resources but can be very harmful to humans if they're not careful. You've probably seen this plant – it's widespread and while it's in flower it's quite noticeable. Keep an eye out for it!

Wild parsnip sap contains photochemicals, and when the sap comes into contact with skin, the sap becomes extremely sensitive to sunlight, causing "phyto-photodermatitis." This can happen easily when handling the plant, whether doing lawn care, picking the flowers, or if children run into the area where it's growing chasing a toy or a dog. The plant can grow up to 5 feet tall. When the sap of a wild parsnip comes into contact with skin and is exposed to the light, the affected area will start to burn, redden and can be followed by blisters within 24 to 48 hours. The sap will burn the skin even on cloudy days, as there is still enough light to trigger the reaction. The blisters may be painful, and, in many cases, the blisters will lead to scarring and a brown pigmentation that can last for years. It is recommended that the blisters not be ruptured if possible. Sap in the eyes can cause blindness.

The sap of the wild parsnip comes from broken stems, flowers, or leaves. The reaction that is caused by wild parsnip is not an allergic reaction. It is caused by a toxin from the sap and is absorbed by the skin and energized by ultraviolet light. If there is moisture or perspiration, then the toxin is absorbed faster. It's important to avoid touching or brushing up against the plant unless you are trained in handling it, especially in the summertime because that is when the sap is most potent.

This plant will be found growing alongside roads, in ditches and fields, and has a very wide range of conditions it can grow in. Unfortunately, it has been identified on tribal lands, where there was a rather large infestation at the Odenaang housing site.

For two months last summer, the Housing Division worked

closely with the Environmental Department and the Three Shores CISMA to inform residents of the danger and to combat the infestation. The infestation was located near the playground and trail area and unfortunately was in flower by the time Housing was made aware of the noxious weed. The Environmental Department put up numerous signboards, the area was flagged with warning tape, and notices were sent to Odenaang residents with information about the plant, in hopes that no one would have an unhappy run-in with it.

With advice and assistance from the Environmental Department and the Three Shores CISMA, the Housing Division weighed its options for the treatment of the dangerous invasive. The options for treatment of wild parsnip are limited to mechanical (regular mowing, digging and hand pulling) and chemical treatment. Most control efforts use a combination of these methods. Whenever working with this plant, it must be stressed that everyone must wear protective equipment (gloves, goggles, closed shoes, and long pants/long sleeved shirts) and thoroughly wash themselves and the equipment afterward.

Due to the proximity to the playground and the flowering stage of the parsnip, it was decided that a chemical application would be most appropriate for this tricky situation at this time, as the safety of the children in the housing development was the priority.

Using chemical treatment on invasive species on tribal lands is not something that is done regularly and these decisions are made meticulously. Unfortunately, controlling invasive species is not a simple fix and the Odenaang infestation was rather large, so we expect the control of this infestation will take years. The Housing Division is continuing to work on best management plans for this infestation, in the hopes that a chemical application will not need to be implemented again. Environmental is seeking control options through other governmental bodies (state, province, federal and other tribes) and researching all options. As with many invasive plants, we may never be able to eradicate it, so please help us control the risks by learning what to avoid.

Please be aware of the dan-



Above, a detail of wild parsnip blossoms. Below, the whole plant. This invasive plant can cause painful burns and blistering, so use care when working with it.

gers of this plant, take caution around it and educate your friends and family. Watch small children closely when outdoors, especially in areas where this plant might be, as children are more likely to rub their eyes accidentally after contact with it. If you come into contact with wild parsnip, immediately cover the area of skin, and get to a place where you can wash the sap off immediately. A cool, wet cloth can provide some relief and it's important to keep the affected area clean and out of the sunlight. AVOID SUNLIGHT for 48 hours, because it's the sunlight that triggers the burn. If you are concerned it got into your eyes, flush your eyes thoroughly with water and avoid sunlight. Severe reactions to wild parsnip may require medical attention.

If you are mowing an area with parsnip, please wear protective clothing and eyewear. Mowing is the number one way this invasive species is spread so it is very important to wash your equipment after mowing. Make sure to mow before the parsnip gets to the flowering stage, if you mow during the flowering stage, you are further spreading this plant.

If you spot wild parsnip on or near a tribal property, please report it to the Environmental department at (906) 632-5575. When we spot it early, we can take care of it mechanically and avoid further use of pesticides.





# Human Resources gets in the Halloween spirit

## FROM HUMAN RESOURCES

The Sault Tribe Human Resource Department held a pumpkin throw down for those team members who wanted to bring in an entry.

Three team members from outside the HR Department acted as judges — JJ Shields, Ashlee Mielke and Dale Joseph.

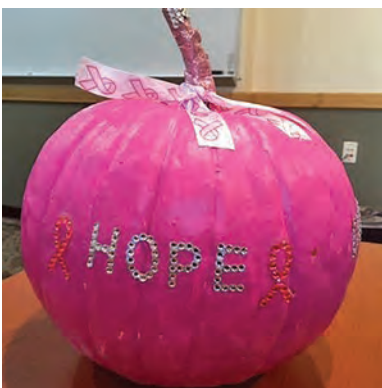
The winner was the “Choose Cannibal” pumpkin that took

Employment Coordinator Michaela Miller over five hours to carve.

Other entries were Hailie Michaliski with cupcake pumpkins (right), Diane Sliger with the raven pumpkins, Michelle Huyck with the popcorn pumpkin (far right), Heather Smith with pumpkin owls, Caroline Neal with the Hope pumpkin and Kim Huskey with the Jack pumpkin.



Winner of the Human Resource Department Pumpkin Throw Down was the “Choose Cannibal” pumpkin that took Employment Coordinator Michaela Miller over five hours to carve.



Caroline Neal's Hope pumpkin.

Kim Huskey's Jack pumpkin



Heather Smith's pumpkin owls.



Diane Sliger entered her raven pumpkins. Judges were JJ Shields, Ashlee Mielke, and Dale Joseph.



Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians  
Anishnaabek Community and Family Services  
Child Care and Development Fund

ACFS has Child Care Assistance Applications for CCDF Subsidies for:

- Income Based
- Essential Employees (Income Waived)

Eligible families have the right to choose from high quality child care services that best meet their needs for child care without regard to cost. Applications can be found at <https://www.saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/direct-services/child-care-development-fund> or can be obtained by mail, fax, or email. Our number is 906-632-5250 or email us at [apeer@saulttribe.net](mailto:apeer@saulttribe.net) or [psterling@saulttribe.net](mailto:psterling@saulttribe.net).

Eligible families must be working, attending an educational program or in a job training program. The child in need of care must be a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians between the ages of birth through 12 years.

You can choose from the following types of providers:

1. State Licensed Child Care Center;
2. Tribal Licensed Child Care Center;
3. State Licensed Family/Group Home Providers;
4. Relative Care Provider;
5. In-Home Aide.

If you are choosing a **Relative Care Provider** they must meet the following criteria prior to providing care:

- must be a relative of the child(ren) needing care (Grandparent, Great Grandparent, Uncle, Aunt, Sibling)
- be of at least 18 years of age; -live in a separate residence; -must care only for children they are related to;
- obtain a clear MDHHS Clearance; -obtain a clear ICHAT (ACFS runs this report);
- obtain a clear Tribal Registry Clearance (ACFS runs this report); -Provide a signed Open Door Policy, Provider Registration Form, and a signed Client/Provider Agreement; -follow the CCDF Payment schedule and payment paperwork requirements; -complete initial Home Visit with CCDF Coordinator.

If you are choosing an **In-Home Aide** they must meet the following criteria prior to providing care:

- be of at least 18 years of age; -live in a separate residence; -must provide care in the child's home and only provide care for children listed on Child Care Certificate; -obtain and pass FBI fingerprint background check;
- obtain clear MDHHS Clearance; -obtain a clear ICHAT (ACFS runs this report);
- obtain a clear Tribal Registry Clearance (ACFS runs this report); -Provide a signed Open Door Policy, Provider Registration Form, and a signed Client/Provider Agreement; -follow the CCDF Payment schedule and payment paperwork requirements; on-line Health and Safety training; -CPR and 1<sup>st</sup> Aid; -complete initial Home Visit with CCDF Coordinator.



**BECOME A TRIBAL WATER OPERATOR**

**HELP KEEP TRIBAL COMMUNITIES SAFE ONE DROP AT A TIME**



For more information, contact your local tribal utility or the ITCA Operator Training Program at 602.307.1548.



The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer. This material is based upon work supported under a grant by the Rural Utilities Service, United States Department of Agriculture. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Rural Utilities Service. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.





# Woodland Sky Native American Dance Company taught traditional crafts and dance at LSSU

Woodland Sky Native American Dance Company came to the Arts Center at Lake Superior State University (LSSU) on Oct. 29, to present a musical and theatrical story of Native American culture. Their century-old tales are told with eagle feathers, moccasins, traditional flute and drums, a hoop dancer, and legendary warriors and hunters.

Woodland Sky was established in 2013, and consists of Native American dancers from the Ojibwe, Sioux,

Potawatomi, and Apache tribes. The company employs styles of dance that are all from this region, including traditional, fancy, jingle, grass, and hoop. Their focus is the telling of historic tales and stories using traditional native songs and dances.

Woodland Sky provided an authentic and respectful Native American dance performance with a goal of helping to educate their audience about traditional Native American culture, values and storytelling.

LSSU President Dr. Rodney S. Hanley, said he was excited to see live public performances being restored on the LSSU campus and in the Eastern Upper Peninsula, while honoring an important part of the region's heritage. Hanley said the show exemplified diversity, inclusion, and belonging, key components of LSSU's strategic plan.

Woodland Sky's performance culminated a three-day residency at LSSU, and was funded by a National Endowment for the Arts Big Read grant.



Linda Batiste-Cohen (Michelle Reed's mother) shows LSSU Arts Center Business Manager Shelby Smith how to make a leather medicine pouch.



LSSU students Tori Misiak (left) and Halle MacLachlan get some instruction from Michelle Reed.



James Cohen (center) and his mother Linda Batiste-Cohen, show students how to make a leather pouch.



LSSU students Allison Orr and David Wren make leather medicine pouches with the help of Michelle Reed of the Woodland Sky Dance Company.



Haven Borghi, Kelly Olthof, and Logan Halverson working on their leather pouches with help from Michelle Reed.



Student Payton Cheng being shown by Michelle Reed how to cut the leather to make fringe to add beads to.



LSSU students Cescily VanSingel and Holly Watkins get help with their dream catchers from Linda Batiste-Cohen.



Diego Penz makes a dream catcher with help from Woodland Sky Dance Co. co-founder Michelle Reed.



Michelle Reed and her brother James Cohen do a presentation about different types of regalia and dance styles.



Linda Batiste-Cohen of Woodland Sky Dance Company helps Dr. Therese McBride with her dream catcher.



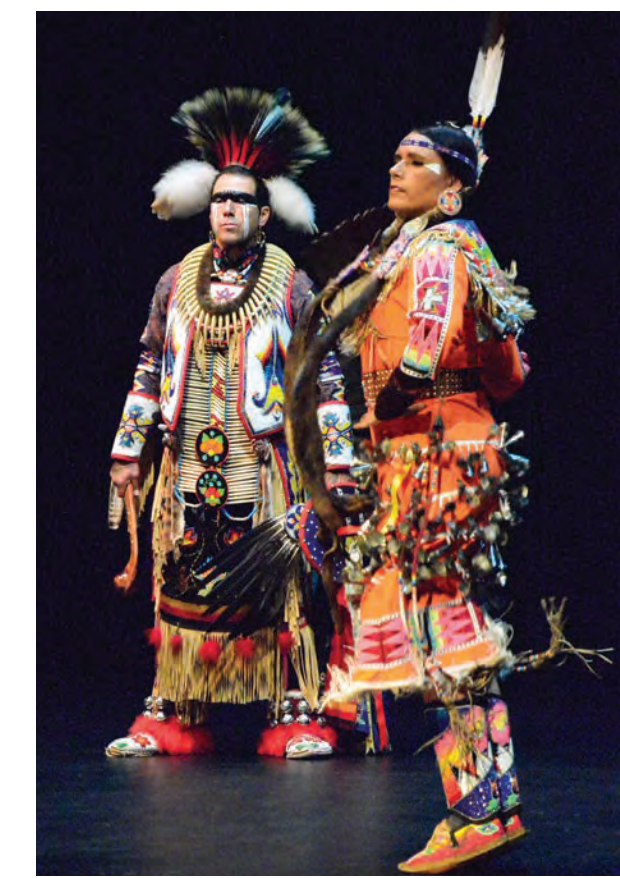
LSSU student Candice LeBlanc holds up her finished dream catcher.



Chandler Davis works on his dream catcher with help from Woodland Sky's co-founder Michelle Reed.



Storyteller Ronnie Preston, captivated the audience with his traditional storytelling style.



Co-Founder of Woodland Sky Dance Company, Michelle Reed (right).



Linda Batiste-Cohen (right) and her grandson, Hunter Reed, hoop and fancy dancer.



Ronnie Preston telling the story of the hoop dance and introducing Hunter Reed, young hoop and fancy dancer.



Hoop dancer Hunter Reed.

Photos by Brenda Austin



Michael Charette, traditional flute player.



Members of the Woodland Sky Dance Company during the Oct. 29 performance at Lake Superior State University's Art Center, presented a musical and theatrical story of Native American culture using century-old tales portrayed with the use of eagle feathers, moccasins, a traditional flute and drums, hoop dancer, and legendary warriors and hunters.





# Sault Tribe's Rural Health held flu shot clinics in Marquette, Munising and Newberry



Valerie Ford, RN, CHN, and NMU nursing student McClain Smith gave an influenza vaccine to tribal member Diane Walsh at the Marquette Tribal Community Health Center on Oct. 2.



L-R: Amber Perry, CHT, Program Director Marlene Glaesmann, Marquette Clerk Elizabeth Delene, Valerie Ford RN, CHN, at the Marquette Tribal Community Health Center flu clinic Oct. 2 with the Mobile Medical Unit.



Amber Perry, CHT, Valerie Ford, RN, CHN, and tribal elder Ronald Matson Jr., at the Munising Tribal Health Center Flu Clinic on Oct. 9 with the Mobile Medical Unit.



Valerie Ford, RN, CHN, and April Morgan, CHT, in front of the Mobile Medical Unit at the Newberry Tribal Health Center flu clinic Oct. 18.



April Morgan, CHT, standing in front of the Mobile Medical Unit at the Newberry Tribal Health Center flu clinic on Oct. 18.

## Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program

# Gerard Sagassige

December: 6, 8, 13, 15, 20, 21, 27, 28, 29th

Sault Ste. Marie Health Center  
(906)632-0236 Lori Gambardella  
(906)632-0220 Annie Thibert

December: 7th

Escanaba Community Center  
(906)632-0236 Lori Gambardella  
(906)632-0220 Annie Thibert

December: 14th

St. Ignace Health Center  
(906)643-8689  
(877)256-0135

December: 22nd

Munising Health Center  
(906) 387-4721  
(800) 236-4705

December: 1st

Manistique Health Center  
(906) 341-8469  
(866) 401-0043

## 2021 DECEMBER CLINIC HOURS

Please call for questions or to set up an appointment

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  - Personal Days
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  - Cultural Leave



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www.saulttribe.com



## Chronic Wasting Disease in Deer

What hunters should know and how to get involved

### What is chronic wasting disease (CWD)?

**A deadly disease in cervids, such as deer and moose, that affects the brain and nervous system, caused by a contagious, misshapen protein (prion).**

- Similar to mad cow disease, scrapie in sheep, and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in humans.
- It spreads from direct contact, body fluids and antler velvet, and can stay in the environment for years.



CWD in Free Ranging Deer (Map: MDNR)

### Sault Tribe Wildlife Program

(906) 632-6132



### Are people at risk for CWD?

**It is unclear if people can get CWD, but currently it is NOT recommended to eat venison from sick or CWD positive deer**

The riskiest parts of a deer include:

- Brain
- Spinal cord
- Spleen
- Lymph nodes

**Wear gloves and avoid these organs as much as possible!**

### How do you know if a deer has CWD?

**You often can't. It can take 2-5 years for a deer to look sick, they can appear healthy and still carry CWD.**

Symptoms can include:

- Being very skinny, loss of muscle
- Drooling or salivating a lot
- Unusual behavior such as:
  - Not being afraid of people
  - Stumbling, trembling
  - Drooping head or ears

## CWD Drop Off Locations



### Look for the bins outside of these buildings!

1. STNRD Wildlife, 2428 Shunk Road in Sault Ste Marie
2. Lambert center (west side of building), 225 Wa Seh drive in St. Ignace
3. Manistique Tribal Community Center, (south side of the parking lot) 5698 W. US2 in Manistique.

### Note:

- If possible, please freeze your head before dropping it off.
- If submitting a buck, you can cut off the antlers as you normally would.

# Walking on...

CARMEN TOCCOA CHIPPEWA

Carmen Toccoa Chippewa of Sugar Island, Mich., 76, a strong, traditional, Anishinaabe Kwe citizen of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians,



started her journey to the spirit world on Oct. 11, 2021.

Carmen was born in St. Louis, Mo., on Oct. 1, 1945, to Oscar Joseph Chippewa of Suttons Bay, Mich., and Winnegene Ruth Peter of Grand Rapids, Mich. She grew up in Wyoming Mich., with her adoptive parents (her uncle and aunt), John and Eleanore Bosin of Grand Rapids, Mich.

Carmen graduated from Kelloggsville High School where she was a cheerleader and member of the Pep Club. She participated in many powwows for the Grand Valley American Indian Lodge from which her adopted father was a sub-chief and head drummer.

Later in life, Carmen came to live in the Upper Peninsula. She quickly made close friendships with her coworkers and the local community in her 20-plus years at Kewadin Casino. She was a force of nature with a genuine love and appreciation for her co-workers, customers and the tribe. It was here that she met her husband, Dave Lahti. They married in 2004 and loved spending time at their Sugar Island home.

She is survived by her husband Dave Lahti and his loving daughters; her three children, Ronald Allen Crow, Tricia Marie Brown of Grand Rapids, and Tan-A Hoffman (DJ) of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; siblings, Douglas Bosin, Sandra Bosin (sister-in-law); seven grandchildren and three great grandchildren; and many cherished nieces as well as so many loving friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents as well as her sister Lorraine Shephe, brother Warren Bosin, and sister-in-law Marie Bosin.

A traditional Anishinaabe ceremony was held at the Niigaanagizhik building in Sault Ste. Marie on Oct. 15. A traditional burial was held at Wilwalk Cemetery for immediate family members.

The family requests in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Carmen's name to the Hospice of the EUP, 308 W. 12th, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

GEORGE TERRANCE FRANCIS



George Terrance "Terry" Francis, 68, unexpectedly passed away October 16, 2021 at Aiken Regional Medical Centers in Aiken, South Carolina.

Terry was born on Nov. 22,

1952, on Mackinac Island, the son of the late John Vincent and Juanita (LaPeer) Francis. Terry was a graduate of Mackinac Island High School.

After graduation, Terry joined the Michigan Army National Guard to fulfill his draft requirements, and served two-and-a-half years in the Army. After a brief return to Mackinac Island when his commitment to the Army was complete, Terry enlisted with the United States Air Force. He was a fuel specialist for several years, then he earned his private pilot's license, and cross-trained as a load master for C-141s. During his time stationed in Germany, Terry met his beloved wife Ann, who was also serving in the Air Force as a fuel systems mechanic. Terry served his country for a total of fifteen years, including both his enlistments in the Army and Air Force.

After serving in the military, Terry and Ann both held positions with the nuclear power industry, which afforded them the opportunity to travel to and live in various parts of the country. They settled in Aiken, South Carolina in 1990, where they finally planted roots and raised their family.

Terry spent a total of sixteen years as a quality assurance engineer in the nuclear field. In his third career, Terry drove long-haul tractor-trailer for Schneider National, his boyhood dreams finally realized. Terry was able to see the country he loved up close and personal, and most especially enjoyed bringing his children on the road with him during their breaks from school. Terry's fourth and final career was with Lowe's Home Improvement, where he served as a plumbing and electrical professional. He retired from Lowe's in 2015.

Terry spent most of his retirement mastering his various hobbies, which included woodworking, furniture making, landscaping, fishing, and any other activities that kept him outdoors. He oftentimes helped his family and neighbors complete home improvement projects. He was a very friendly and personable individual; he did not know a stranger. He would find a way to connect with every person he encountered, which would oftentimes make simple trips to the store a long adventure.

Terry was very proud of his three children and enjoyed spending time with them. Terry and Stephanie always dreamed of opening a restaurant together. They spent much time perfecting family recipes and discussing how much they would enjoy feeding their family and friends. (Food is a love language in the Francis Family!) Terry and Chris enjoyed working on their respective cars and trucks, comparing their military experiences, telling Yooper fishing stories, and playing golf together. Terry and Jeannie shared a love of Roy Orbison music and home improvement/DIY projects. They spent much time pouring over plans for furniture pieces they

See "Walking on," page 18



# Walking on continued...

From "Walking on," page 17 planned to build.

Terry was proud to be an elder with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He loved his Native heritage and enjoyed educating others about it.

Terry is survived by his loving wife Ann (Kjos) Francis; three adoring children, daughter Stephanie Francis of Aiken, SC, son Christopher (Erin) Francis of Aiken, SC, and daughter Jean (Scott) Flowers of Ladson, SC; a beloved sister, Denise (Jerry) Railling of New Bern, NC; and a slew of cousins and friends around the world.

Terry was preceded in death by his parents John Vincent and Juanita (LaPeer) Francis, his sister Patricia (Francis) Mercer, and his grandson Liam Andrew Flowers.

Terry chose to be cremated; his remains will be buried alongside his wife Ann when her time to "walk on" comes, but a portion of his ashes will be brought home to the Upper Peninsula, a place he always wished to return. At Terry's request, there will be no funeral; however, his family will hold a Celebration of Life Dec. 12, 2021, at the community center in his neighborhood in Aiken, S.C.

The family thanks the staff of Aiken Regional Medical Centers Intensive Care Unit for their help, care, and compassion over the last week of Terry's life, and the staff at Cole Funeral Home and Cremation Services in Aiken, S.C., for their kindness in handling the final arrangements for Terry.

## WAYNE ALLEN MORLEY

Wayne Allen Morley, 55, passed away on Oct. 12, 2021, at McLaren Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey, Mich.



Wayne was born on Sept. 19, 1966, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to Francis "Mo" and Dorothy (McPherson) Morley. He graduated with the Sault Ste. Marie Class of 1985. On Nov. 2, 1991, he married his wife, Symantha, at St. Mary's Catholic Church. Wayne worked doing what he loved, as a car mechanic. He also worked for the City of Sault Ste. Marie as a heavy equipment operator.

Wayne was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He enjoyed rebuilding cars, camping, boating, snowmobiling and spending time with his family and friends.

Wayne is survived by his wife, Symantha; his daughter, Alyssa Morley of Sault Ste. Marie; his mother, Dorothy; and his sisters, Patti (Joe) Forrest and Karen Harlukowicz, all of Sault Ste. Marie. Wayne is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Wayne was preceded in death by his father, Francis "Mo" Morley.

Visitation and prayers were held Oct. 17 at C. S. Mulder Funeral Home. A funeral mass was held at St. Mary's Catholic Church Oct. 18, with Father Nick

Thompson as Celebrant. Burial was at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens. In lieu of flowers, donations may be left to Gift of Life.

Condolences may be left online at [www.csmulder.com](http://www.csmulder.com).

## JOHN ROY DUTCHER

John Roy Dutcher, age 89, of Hessel, Michigan, died Nov. 4, 2021, in St. Ignace, Michigan. He was born Feb. 2, 1932, in Cedarville, Mich.,



to George Luther and Pearl Margaret (Chenier) Dutcher.

John was a lifelong resident of the Cedarville/Hessel area. After elementary school, he started his work life with a team of horses he used logging. He married Frances Irene Kramen on May 1, 1950, at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church in Hessel. While raising their family, he worked as an industrial painter and then as a meat cutter at the Cedarville Red Owl before owning and operating a crib dock building business in Hessel for many years.

John was a member of Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church in Hessel. He also volunteered as a firefighter and was a member of Knights of Columbus. He was assistant leader of the local Boy Scout Troop for a total of 27 years while his sons, and then his grandson, were growing up.

John was a talented artist. He was a woodcarver who created many carved animals and a basket weaver who made special baskets for each family member. He also made wooden trunks for each of his children that included wood burned drawings of the animals or birds they requested.

John is survived by his children, John Roy (Karen) Dutcher Jr. of Hessel, Jerry P. (Donna) Dutcher of Hessel, Cynthia Rose (Robert) Smith of Cedarville, Frank Allen Dutcher of Hessel, Rita Cheryl (Ray) Nettleton of Pickford, Michigan, David Gerard Dutcher of Hessel, and Jeffery Daniel (Kim) Dutcher of Brighton, Michigan; twenty grandchildren, Ian Roy (fiancé, Katlyn Frantz) Dutcher, Joseph Kramen Dutcher, Thomas James Dutcher, Kathryn Raye Dutcher, Kerriane Rose Dutcher, Sheena Michelle Dutcher (Jeremy) Burnside, DeAnna Jean Dutcher (Rob) LaPonsie, Matthew John (Caryn) Smith, Jennifer Marie Smith (Brian) Hopkins, Jessica Michelle Smith (Ryan) Hudson, Amber Faye McGruther, Joseph Michael McGruther, Casandra Lynn McGruther, Ashley Marie McGruther (Aaron) Sherlund, Lance Michael Nettleton, Lisa Marie Nettleton, April Lynn Dutcher (Justin) Schilman, Ashley Ann Dutcher (Greg) Golden, Jeffery Daniel Dutcher II, and Angelique Nicole Dutcher; and five great grandchildren, Isabella Rose Hopkins, Shaelyn Irene Hopkins, David Heinz Hudson, Claire Julianna Hudson, Christopher Michael Haddox, Mackenzie Lynn Sherlund, Liberty Belle

Sherlund, Briar Lynn Smith, Tristan Alexander Forgrave, Corbin Ezra Dutcher, Scarlet Beau Schilman, Brandon Schilman, Jacob Francis Golden, and Asher Michael McGruther; and one sister, Jeanne Mary Haynes of Indiana.

John was preceded in death by his wife, Frances; brothers, Edwin, George Jr, William, and Francis Dutcher; and sisters, Doris Callaghan, Helen Leach, and Dorothy Royer.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church in Hessel on Nov. 9. Burial was in Edgewood Cedar Cemetery in Cedarville.

Galer Funeral Homes & Cremation in Pickford, Mich. served the family.

## KATHLEEN ANN OSBORNE

Kathleen Ann Osborne, 71, of Bristol, VA, and formerly of Euclid, Ohio, passed away Nov. 4, 2021 at University Hospital.



She was born Dec. 30, 1949 in Detroit, Mich., to the late Bruce and Evelyn Osborne.

Kathy was a retired machinist at Swagelok in Solon.

She was a proud tribal member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. She loved her family, especially spending time with her grandchildren.

Kathy was the loving mother of Scott (Mary Long) Osborne; beloved grandmother of Zackery, Scotty and Zane Osborne; dearest sister of Patricia "Patty" Osborne, Tommy Osborne, Carolyn (Pawlo) Myhal and the late Susie (Craig) Bascom; aunt of many.

The Osborne family received friends Nov. 9, 2021 at The Abbey, 38011 Euclid Ave., Willoughby (located on the grounds of McMahan Coyne Vitantonio Funeral Home). A funeral service was held at The Abbey, with burial at Osborne Family Cemetery in Virginia.

Arrangements were entrusted to Jeff Monreal Funeral Home.

## PAULINE ANNE HICKMAN

Pauline Anne (née: Sipiński) (Roy) Hickman passed into heaven on Nov. 3, 2021 in Ishpeming, Mich. She was born June 6, 1923 in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to the late Walter and Lucy (née: Myotte) Sipiński, eldest sister to Mary Monroe, Theresa Monroe, Lorraine Moran, Jean Link and Walter Sipiński Jr. Pauline was the beloved wife of the late Donn Lewis Hickman and the late Leo James Roy, loving mother to Richard (Mercedes) Roy, Philip (Kathy) Roy, David (Linda) Roy, Raymond (Barbara



Walls) Roy, Judy (Randy) Merrill, the late John Hickman, Trude (William) Peterson, the late Terry (Veronica Beaumont) Hickman, the late Jeremy (Marva) Hickman, the late Julia Mantyla, Mary (the late Edward) Angellotti, Sally (the late Ronald) Bahling and Timothy (Vicki) Hickman. Pauline was blessed with 39 grandchildren and great-grandmother to 44 children and great-great grandmother to two boys and one girl.

Pauline was an elder in the Sault Ste. Marie Chippewa Tribe. Pauline enjoyed her life to the fullest, she loved her family, worked hard, hunted, fished, picked buckets of wild berries, drove school bus, was an amazing cook, lent a helping hand to many people, was the neighborhood barber, enjoyed watching the Detroit Tigers and Detroit Lions, played the clarinet and was a synchronized swimmer in school and many more activities and wonderful events made up her life.

Pauline loved life completely and was loved by her family and friends immensely.

There will be no memorial service. Please remember her when you saw her last, smiling, happy, enjoying a good meal, sitting in her favorite chair or playing a great game of cards.

## ROBERT "BOBBY" F. OSBORNE

Robert "Bobby" F. Osborne, 49, of Claridon, formerly of Collinwood, passed away suddenly in a tragic car accident on Oct. 24, 2021. He was born Aug. 30, 1972 in Cleveland.



Bobby loved his family and his childhood friends. He was a proud tribal member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He was a friend of Bill W. and will be dearly missed by all who knew him.

Bobby was the loving son of Patricia "Patty" Osborne; beloved brother of Tonya (Mike Ingrassia) Osborne; dearest uncle of Jacob Robert Osborne and Cole Atwood; dearest grandson of the late Bruce and Evelyn Osborne; nephew of Kathleen Osborne, Bruce T. Osborne, Carolyn (Pawlo) Myhal and the late Susie (Craig) Bascom; cousin of many.

The Osborne family received friends from 3-7:30 p.m. Oct. 29, 2021, at The Abbey, 38011 Euclid Ave., Willoughby. The Funeral Service took place 7 p.m. at The Abbey. A private burial will be held at a later

date.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Jeff Monreal of Jeff Monreal Funeral Home

# Sault Tribe, Inc. names Joel Schultz first CEO

Sault Tribe, Incorporated (STI), is proud to announce that Joel Schultz, currently head of Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians' Economic Development Corporation, has been hired as STI's first CEO.

Schultz, who was selected from over 50 applicants for the position, was the unanimous choice of the STI Board of Directors. The robust selection process saw STI board members conduct over a dozen interviews before selecting a group of three finalists, all of whom were Native American. Final panel interviews for finalists focused on demonstrated business acumen, experience managing multiple businesses and vision for creating generational economic opportunity for Sault Tribe membership.

Alan Barr, STI's acting board chair, said, "We had many strong candidates from all over the country, but in the end, Joel's skill set and knowledge of the ways that STI as a holding company can grow and thrive to best serve Sault Tribe were apparent. We are excited to support him in this role and to see his unique talents applied to STI. We've been able to observe his strong business acumen firsthand as he served as acting CEO while also running the tribe's EDC. Our achievements to date at STI are due in large part to Joel's vision and foresight."

Schultz is expected to take the helm of STI in January 2022, where initial focus will be on NationPoint, a joint venture between STI subsidiary Chippewa Government Solutions and Sault Tribe member-owned Tipping Point Solutions that was the recent awardee of a \$7 million project with the U.S. Army.

In addition to online gaming and other ongoing business initiatives, near-term projects include securing initial joint venture projects for STI subsidiary Ojibway Hazardous Abatement and Hawkeye Facility Services.

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# Sault Tribe Thrive Business Directory

Thank you to all the Sault Tribe member-owned businesses who have reached out and contacted us so far. Another month of continued GROWTH! If your business is not listed, please contact us so we can get you or your business set up with our office and into the directory going forward. We will update the list as needed and republishing every month to ensure new members and changes are seen consistently. The Sault Tribe Thrive office is here to help any and all Sault Tribe member-owned businesses.

If you have not already please check out our new website and social media sites at <https://saulttribethrive.com> and <https://www.facebook.com/saulttribethrive>.

Sault Tribe Thrive Office: [Info@saulttribethrive.com](mailto:Info@saulttribethrive.com), (906) 635-6050, ext. 26121.

Above The Bridge Outdoors Morgan Gelinas Curtis, MI 49820 (906) 287-0903 <a href="mailto:abovethebridgeoutdoors@gmail.com">abovethebridgeoutdoors@gmail.com</a> <a href="http://www.abovethebridgeoutdoors.com">www.abovethebridgeoutdoors.com</a> RV Rentals to help experience the Upper Peninsula outdoors.	Belonga Plumbing and Heating Steven Paquin, St. Ignace, MI, 49781 (906) 643-9595 <a href="mailto:lbelonga@sbcglobal.net">lbelonga@sbcglobal.net</a> Residential and commercial plumbing.	Construction.  Castle of Wood Nick and Matt DePlonty Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 748-0739 <a href="mailto:nickdeplonty@gmail.com">nickdeplonty@gmail.com</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/castleofwood">https://www.facebook.com/castleofwood</a> Custom woodwork and various crafts.	(906) 259-7400 <a href="mailto:crookedmusicstore@gmail.com">crookedmusicstore@gmail.com</a> Music lessons and instrument sales.	(906) 286-9763 <a href="mailto:jbasse2112@yahoo.com">jbasse2112@yahoo.com</a> Restaurant.
Above The Roots Melanie Spencley East Lansing, MI 48823 (517) 803-5105 <a href="mailto:atrootsmi@gmail.com">atrootsmi@gmail.com</a> <a href="https://www.abovetherootsmi.com/">https://www.abovetherootsmi.com/</a>	Benoit's Glass and Lock Rick Benoit Escanaba, MI 49829 (906) 786-5281 <a href="mailto:benoitglass@gmail.com">benoitglass@gmail.com</a> Glass repair shop and locksmith.	Cedar's Motel Tim or Kathy St. Ignace, MI 49781 (906) 643-9578 <a href="mailto:thecedarsmotel@aol.com">thecedarsmotel@aol.com</a> Motel.	D & S Custom Upholstery Dwayne Lehn Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 748-1047 <a href="mailto:dwayne191@gmail.com">dwayne191@gmail.com</a> Custom upholstery.	Feathers Upholstery LLC Emily McGeary Escanaba, MI 49829 (906) 446-3406 <a href="mailto:mcemily451@gmail.com">mcemily451@gmail.com</a> Sewing repair shop residential and commercial.
A Little Golden Studio Kaitlin Lenhard Lansing, MI 48826 (616) 902-0191 <a href="mailto:alittlegoldenstudio@gmail.com">alittlegoldenstudio@gmail.com</a> Photography/video and handmade gifts.	Big Bear Arena Tammy Graham Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 635-4785 <a href="mailto:tgraham@saulttribe.net">tgraham@saulttribe.net</a> Recreation center.	Clear From Here Jennifer Jespersion North Hollywood, CA 91601 (818) 415-9025 <a href="mailto:jennifer.jespersion@mac.com">jennifer.jespersion@mac.com</a> Music clearance and consulting for film/television.	Dance of the Sun Day Spa Dawn Cremeans Marquette, MI 49855 (906) 249-9084 <a href="mailto:hello@danceofthesun.com">hello@danceofthesun.com</a> <a href="http://www.danceofthesun.com">www.danceofthesun.com</a> The holistic approach to personal care and wellness.	Floor Masters Art Derry Dafter, MI 49724 (906) 322-0252 <a href="mailto:art.derry@yahoo.com">art.derry@yahoo.com</a> Flooring and carpet.
Allegra Roger Leask Traverse City, MI 49686 (231) 632-4448 <a href="mailto:roger@allegratc.com">roger@allegratc.com</a> Marketing print mail.	Blondeau Construction Matthew Blondeau Marquette, MI 49855 (906) 362-6288 <a href="mailto:mattblondeau@gmail.com">mattblondeau@gmail.com</a> Residential Construction Company.	CompHoppers Vickie Griggs Livingston, TX 77399 (337) 739-3664 <a href="mailto:comphoppers@comphoppers.com">comphoppers@comphoppers.com</a> Travel agency bookings and training.	Derusha Construction David Derusha Ashland, WI 54806 (715) 730-0734 <a href="mailto:Derushaconstruction@yahoo.com">Derushaconstruction@yahoo.com</a> Construction.	Flowers Automotive James Flowers Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-8074 <a href="mailto:flowersautoservice@gmail.com">flowersautoservice@gmail.com</a> Automotive Repair Shop
American Dream Builders Gary Vallier Kalamazoo, MI 49009 (269) 365-1969 <a href="mailto:garyadbslm@hotmail.com">garyadbslm@hotmail.com</a> Construction.	Blondeau Properties Matthew Blondeau Marquette, MI 49855 (906) 362-6288 <a href="mailto:mattblondeau@gmail.com">mattblondeau@gmail.com</a> Home rentals, storage units and an Air BnB.	Contain-A-Pet of EUP LLC Melinda Menard Dafter, MI 49724 (906) 290-0478 <a href="mailto:capofeup@yahoo.com">capofeup@yahoo.com</a> Electronic pet fencing and dog training.	Dream Catchers Consulting LLC Bill Pemble Williamston, MI 48895 (517) 243-2877 <a href="mailto:pemblew@gmail.com">pemblew@gmail.com</a> Business IT maintenance and management.	Franks Place Dawn Bumstead Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 440-4457 <a href="mailto:dawn@franksplace.biz">dawn@franksplace.biz</a> Restaurant.
Anchor Systems LLC Fredrick Carr Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (202) 306-1365 <a href="mailto:frederick.t.carr@gmail.com">frederick.t.carr@gmail.com</a> Computer security service.	Bloom Co. Maddie Lockhart Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 205-0275 <a href="mailto:shop@bloomcosault.com">shop@bloomcosault.com</a> Online floral designing for every day, events and weddings.	Coonen Law, PLLC Rose Coonen Grand Rapids, MI 49525 (616) 951-1531 <a href="mailto:rcoonen@coonen-law.com">rcoonen@coonen-law.com</a> <a href="https://coonen-law.com/">https://coonen-law.com/</a> Business planning, estate planning and special needs planning	Dress Up and Tuxedo Jody Bugay Escanaba, MI 49829 (906) 789-9796 <a href="mailto:Jody@dressup906.com">Jody@dressup906.com</a> Clothing outlet.	General Contractor Fred Sliger Trout Creek, MI 49967 (906) 852-3232 <a href="mailto:fredsliger@jamadots.com">fredsliger@jamadots.com</a> General contractor.
AndersonMedia906 Noah Anderson Grand Rapids, MI 49501 (906) 440-2238 <a href="https://www.noahandersonmedia.com/">https://www.noahandersonmedia.com/</a> A Michigan based content creator.	Blue Harbor Fish Lori Parkinson Green Bay, WI 54303 (920) 435-4633 <a href="mailto:blueharborfish@yahoo.com">blueharborfish@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://www.blueharborfish.com/">http://www.blueharborfish.com/</a> Wholesale Fish, Seafood, & Chicken	Cottage UP Thomas Clark St. Ignace, MI 49781 (906) 298-2298 <a href="mailto:cottageup@outlook.com">cottageup@outlook.com</a> Vintage home decor retail store.	Eagle HVAC Services LLC Bryan Goudreau Garden, MI 49835 (906) 450-0408 <a href="mailto:groundsourcehtg@gmail.com">groundsourcehtg@gmail.com</a> Residential/commercial heating/cooling service and installation.	Geo Shelter Michael DiAngelo Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A5A8 (705) 542-7208 <a href="mailto:mdiangelo@geoshelter.ca">mdiangelo@geoshelter.ca</a> Steel homes and buildings.
Ashmun Creek Apartments Randall McGahey Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-4470 <a href="mailto:ashmuncreek@sbcglobal.net">ashmuncreek@sbcglobal.net</a> <a href="https://www.ashmuncreek.com">https://www.ashmuncreek.com</a> Apartments located in the Heart of Sault Ste. Marie	Bonacci Contracting Carmine Bonacci Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-1425 <a href="mailto:Bonacci10@gmail.com">Bonacci10@gmail.com</a> Construction.	Creative Change Alan Barr Manistique, MI 49854 (906) 286-1922 <a href="mailto:alanb@creativechange.org">alanb@creativechange.org</a> Communication/job performance services.	Eagle's Dream Rachel Mandelstamm Greensboro, NC 27406 (989) 385-2129 <a href="mailto:eaglesdream2@yahoo.com">eaglesdream2@yahoo.com</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/eaglesdream2">https://www.facebook.com/eaglesdream2</a> Authentic native handmade dream catchers, quilting, embroidery, crochet and knitted items.	Gitche Gumee Handcrafted Jewelry Gina Harmon Newberry, MI 49868 (906) 293-3625 <a href="mailto:ginavgc@gmail.com">ginavgc@gmail.com</a> <a href="https://www.lakesuperiorpendants.com/">https://www.lakesuperiorpendants.com/</a> Handcrafted Lake Superior agate, stone and fossil pendants.
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(734) 272-8434  
mgreene@greeneenvironmental-services.com  
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Rudyard, MI 49780  
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Hakola Porta John & Rental  
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tonyhakola@hotmail.com  
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Hilltop Bar/Restaurant  
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imhorn517@gmail.com  
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Suffolk, VA 23435

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Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49784  
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lockview2019@gmail.com  
Restaurant.

Long Ships Motel  
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https://www.facebook.com/Manleysfishmarket/  
Fish market.

Mark and Sons Plumbing and Heating  
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St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-9597  
markandsonsp@gmail.com

Plumbing/heating/HVAC.

Massey Fish Co.  
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St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 984-2148  
masseysfish@hotmail.com  
Fish market.

Matson’s Fisheries  
Katy Matson  
Munising, MI 49862  
(906) 202-0025  
matsonfish@yahoo.com  
Fish market.

McGahey Construction  
Randall McGahey  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-4272  
ashmunecreek@sbcglobal.net  
Construction—General Contractor

McCabes Flooring  
Bill McCabe  
Marquette, MI 49855  
(906) 228-8821  
mccabesflooring@aol.com  
Flooring.

Medical Arts Optical  
Melanie Cook  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-2289  
melaniebea@aol.com  
Glasses and hearing aids.

Mesick Market  
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Mesick, MI 49668  
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carlbrasseur@gmail.com  
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Jensen, MI 49428  
(616) 201-8731  
contact@enjoymiplayground.com  
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amy@mid-americanitle.com  
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(906) 635-4782  
jmacdonald@saulttribe.net.  
Convenience store.

MidJim Convenience Store  
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jmacdonald@saulttribe.net.  
Convenience store.

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Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-5755  
mikemike1962@hotmail.com  
Vehicle repair shop.

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moofinfries@gmail.com  
https://www.facebook.com/moofinfries/  
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(517) 694-6310  
tmoore@mooretrospers.com  
Construction.

Mountainside Apartments  
Marrijo Beckman  
Boyne Falls, MI 49713

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mjbeckman1@gmail.com  
Rental apartments.

Mountainside Grille  
Marrijo Beckman  
Boyne Falls, MI 49713  
(231) 330-1992  
mjbeckman1@gmail.com  
Restaurant.

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craig.w.mullenbrock@ampf.com  
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jamesmuscott@hotmail.com  
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James McClusky  
Kincheloe, MI 49788  
(828) 989-1395  
nationalpaintingcontractors@gmail.com  
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Native American Church of Turtle Island  
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davidgaskin4@gmail.com  
https://www.nacturtleisland.org/  
Helping to develop Indigenous communities.

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Moran, MI 49760  
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nativesteelwelding@gmail.com  
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hallorjo@mail.gvsu.edu  
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NMK Consulting  
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Dafer, MI 49724  
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cnbrisette@gmail.com  
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James Bearden  
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james@nontrivial.net  
Health care system software management.

Northern Hospitality  
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(906) 635-4800  
smckerchie@saulttribe.net  
Flooring service and furniture sales.

Northern Wings  
David Goudreau  
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(906) 477-6176  
dave@northernwings.com  
https://northernwings.com  
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ann@companyk.us  
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Escanaba, MI 49729  
(906) 786-3001  
robarndt95@gmail.com  
Asbestos removal and abatement.

Pedersons Lawn and Landscape LLC  
Heather Pederson  
Garden, MI 49835  
(906) 644-2150  
dr.pederson@hotmail.com  
Lawn and landscaping service.

Pemble Concrete Coatings  
Charles Pemble  
Marquette, MI 49855  
(906) 361-6562  
PemConCo@gmail.com  
Epoxy floor coatings/polishes concrete in industrial, commercial and residential settings.

Peninsula Shores Gallery  
Eirnella O’Neil  
Gould City, MI 49838  
(906) 477-6303  
Nature and wildlife photo art by Jim O’Neil.

Pennzoil  
Tracy Smart or Mickey  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-3018  
tsmart1218@gmail.com  
Oil change/car wash.

Peterson Building & Contracting  
Kenneth Peterson  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(989) 329-2139  
Peterson\_building@hotmail.com  
Construction—General Contractor

Pink Giraffe Beauty Products  
Maddi Lynch  
Gladstone, MI 49837  
(906) 280-6994  
pinkgiraffebeautyproducts@gmail.com  
www.pinkgiraffebeautyproducts.com  
Candles, Lip Balms, Scrubs & More

Premier Learning  
Colleen Ford  
Swartz Creek, MI 48473  
(810) 732-6493  
cgkford@comcast.net  
Tutoring and tutor training.

Prescription Oxygen  
Ron Gordon  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-3772  
ron@prescriptionoxygen.com  
Durable medical equipment.

Project Pomona  
Meghan Roberts  
Driftwood, TX 78619  
(281) 248-7406  
meghan2roberts@gmail.com  
https://projectpomona.com

Proline Auto  
Mike Pages  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 259-0809  
mpages73@gmail.com  
Vehicle repair shop.

Red Sky Woman Designs  
Helen Wilkins  
Kincheloe, MI 49789  
(906) 322-3370  
hwilkins5@gmail.com

See “Thrive,” page 21



# Sault Tribe Thrive Business Directory continued

*From "Thrive," page 20*  
Handmade crafts.

Regal Home Health LLC.  
Breana Eby  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(620) 308-0277  
regalhomecare@outlook.com

Rock Road Masonry & Construction Inc.  
Brandon Deno  
Escanaba, MI 49829  
(906) 789-7892  
scs@chartermi.net  
Residential and commercial work, ICF foundation work and exterior concrete applications.

Ron's Birchbark Studio  
Ron Paquin  
St. Ignace MI 49781  
(231) 420-3518  
mollyronpaquin@gmail.com  
Native American artist with in-store items, workgroups and demonstrations.

Roy Electric  
Jeff Roy  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-8878  
royelectric@lighthouse.net  
Electrical, mechanical and maintenance business.

Ruddle's Native Painting  
Carol Ruddle  
Mackinac Island, MI 49781  
(906) 430-1728  
nativepaintingmack@gmail.com  
Painting contractor.

Sabatine Appraisals  
Stephanie Sabatine  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 322-2960  
stephsabatine@gmail.com  
Appraisals and rental properties.

Sacred Tattoo Studio  
Danielle Pemble  
Marquette, MI 49855  
(906) 273-0800  
sacredbooking@gmail.com

Salon C  
Cathy McClellan  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-3964  
cathyan906@gmail.com  
Hair salon.

Saulteur, LLC  
Scott Lavictor  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
https://www.saulteur.com  
Consulting, Advisory and Contracting Services

Sault Printing  
Ron Maleport  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-3369  
ron@saultprinting.com  
Printing and office supplies.

Sawyer Village  
Gwinn, MI 49841  
(906) 346-3919  
jpage@saulttribe.net  
Rental apartments.

Say it with Swag, LLC  
Cassandra Pasque  
Macomb, MI 48044  
(248) 953-1933  
sayitwithswagllc@gmail.com  
http://sayitwithswag.net  
Custom Apparel & Promotional Products

Sears Hometown Store  
Roger Charles  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-6900  
Sears Brand Appliance Store

Seniors Helping Seniors LLC  
Chad Lawson  
Jacksonville, FL 32258  
(904) 716-5680  
clawson5454@yahoo.com  
Non-medical personal services.

Seriously SEO  
Dustin Denkins  
Cooks, MI 49817  
(906) 644-2548  
dustin@denkins.net  
https://seriouslyseo.com/  
Marketing services with serious results

Snowbelt Brewing Co.  
Angielena Muellenberg  
Gaylord, MI 49735  
(989) 448-7077  
drinklocal@snowbeltbrewery.com  
Brewery.

Soo Welding  
Charles Fabry  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-8241  
soowelding@outlook.com  
Welding and metal working.

Sore Arms Fishing Charters  
Aaron Hendrickson  
Gwinn, MI 49841  
(906) 360-6035  
sorearmscharters@gmail.com  
Fishing and market.

St. Ignace in Bloom  
Alex or Samantha Belonga  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-9480  
greenhouse@stignaceinbloom.com  
Flower and plant shop.

State Farm Insurance Office  
Kristi Harwood  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-5377  
kristi.harwood-causley.ke8b@statefarm.com  
Insurance agency.

Sugar Island Shores  
Dave Menard  
Sugar Island, MI 49783  
(906) 440-7644  
Convenience Store

Sunset Motel  
Armand Horn  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-8377  
sunsetmotel786@gmail.com  
Motel.

Superior Custom Blinds  
Jennifer Roy  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 630-6939  
jennroy209@gmail.com  
Custom window blinds

Superior Satellite Solutions  
Gary Talarico  
Germfask, MI 49836  
(906) 450-7675  
chieffishfinder@gmail.com  
U.P. Satellite TV and Internet installation and service

Superior Web  
Gina Harmon  
Newberry, MI 49868  
(906) 293-3625

ginavgc@gmail.com  
https://www.superiorweb.net/  
Responsive web design, web page/site builders.

Surface Tech Applicators  
Nathan Cremeans  
Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 203-9397  
Industrial paint applications.

Synchronized Networking Solutions  
Robert Gonczy  
Penrose, CO 81240  
(719) 371-2315  
rgonczy@syncns.com  
http://www.syncns.com/  
Provides networking expertise for service providers, government agencies and enterprise businesses.

T & K King Fisheries  
Theron King  
Moran, MI 49760  
(906) 643-1068  
kingsfishmarket@gmail.com  
https://www.facebook.com/kingsfishmarketandrestaurant/  
Wholesale and retail.

The Bostique  
Cindy King  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(906) 283-3245  
Bohemian shop.

The Brickyard Bar and Grill  
Tate Hakola  
Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 442-1099  
Restaurant and bar.

The Buckley General Store  
Carl Brasseur  
Buckley, MI 49620  
(231) 342-4245  
carlbrasseur@gmail.com  
Convenience store.

The Ice Cream Shoppe  
Jill or Jeff McLeod  
Cedarville, MI 49719  
(906) 484-5525  
jmcleod@eupschools.org  
Ice cream and treats.

The Palace Saloon  
Doreen Goetz  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-7721  
palacesaloon1903@gmail.com  
Restaurant.

Thermal Kernels  
Cathy Baker  
McMillian, MI 49853  
(231) 675-1060  
lovethermalkernels@gmail.com  
Therapeutic hot and cold pads, wraps and more.

Tickled Pink Antiques  
Carole Prisk  
Negaunee, MI 49866  
(906) 475-4567  
caroleprisk@yahoo.com  
Antique shop.

Timberdoodle  
Janelle Gross Dudeck  
DeTour, MI 49725  
(906) 297-1011  
Timberdoodle.mercantile@gmail.com  
Handmade crafts.

Tipping Point Solutions  
Rick Schmidt  
Centennial, CO 80112  
(303) 353-0440

info@tp-solutions.com  
Digital media production.

Total Outlook  
Connie Payment  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-6936  
totaloutlooksalon@gmail.com  
Hair Salon.

Tribal Voices  
Cressandra Thibodeaux  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(310) 880-3907  
cressandra@mac.com  
Photography and Videography.

Trim and Tan  
Kelly Hatinger  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(906) 341-8746  
khatinger@centurytel.net  
Hair salon with tanning beds.

U.P. Auto Group  
Gerald Jackson  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 259-1559  
gjackson@upautosales.com  
Used car sales / car detailing.

U.P. Carpet Mart LLC  
Derrick Eitrem  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-1026  
https://upcarpetmart.business.site/  
Residential and commercial flooring.

Up Cycled Hippy  
Jessica Shields  
Escanaba, MI 49829  
(906) 553-8430  
jessicaloushields@gmail.com  
Handmade hippie/bohemian clothing.

Walsh Service Solutions LLC.  
Rich Walsh  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
(269) 823-1051  
rich@walshservicesolutions.com  
Environmental consulting services.

White Pine Lodge  
Christmas, MI 49862  
(906) 387-1111  
whitepinelodgeonline.com  
Hotel and convenience store.

Wholistic Energy Healing  
Shelly Kucharczyk  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
906-440-2224  
s.kucharczyk@yahoo.com  
https://www.facebook.com/wholisticwellnessolutions  
We clear the negative energy, allowing wellness.

Wicked Walleye Tackle  
Mendy Kolbus  
Rapid River, MI 49878  
(906) 286-1886  
wickedwalleyet@yahoo.com  
Handmade lures for walleye fishing.

Willis Pest Control  
Willard Willis  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 322 7445  
Full pest control services.

Windy Hills Bison Farm  
Carl Brasseur  
Tustin, MI 49688  
(231) 342-4245  
Brasseur@windyhillsbisonfarm.com  
Full bison farm and home to award winning animals.

Woody's One Stop  
Nick and Pam Louricas  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 440-2248  
Full Service Convenience Store  
"A true 1 stop shop"

Zodiac Party Store, Taste of the U.P.  
Keith Massaway  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-8643  
kmassaway@msn.com  
Convenience store.

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**(906) 632-8074**  
3750 East 5 Mile

## Native Nutrition Facilitator Wanted

The EUPISD is looking for a dynamic individual to offer Native American Nutrition education to elementary students in the region using hands-on experiences. Must have knowledge of the Ojibwe culture, language, and traditions, experience working with children, understanding of basic nutrition concepts and cooking skills, an Associates or Bachelor's degree in Native American Studies, Anishinaabe/Ojibwe language, Health Nutrition, Education or similar programs preferred. For more details regarding this position and to apply go to <https://www.eupschools.org/jobs>. The EUPISD is an at-will and equal opportunity employer. This position is open until filled.

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# UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED TO NCAI

Virtual Swearing in of the NCAI Officers following the UNANIMOUS ELECTIONS of President Fawn Sharp (Quinault), Treasurer Shannon Holsey (Stockbridge Munsee), & Me. Winning his election as 1st Vice President, we are joined by Chairman Mark Macarro (Pechanga Band). We have a great Team of Officers working to Advocate for All Tribes Everywhere!

## Advocating for All Tribes Everywhere

I am pleased, honored and humbled to report that I was recently elected ~ unanimously as an Officer to the National Congress of American Indians. The national level support I

receive from tribes across the nation is appreciated. I also enjoy support regionally and at the State level as I serve as President of the Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes and United Tribes of MI. With the Sault Tribe Members, and tribal leaders at all levels supporting my leadership, why do

some on our Board claim I have nothing to do with securing valuable resources for our Tribe? The answers in a word is JEALOUSY. As an example, at the last meeting, Director Hoffman violated our meeting rules by motioned to adjourn while I had the floor to advocate re-opening our rolls.

Then, Director Sorenson yell out loud, "**THE CHAIRMAN NEEDS A MENTAL HEALTH EVALUATION**". Her actions were unprofessional, demeaning and disqualifying. Quite frankly, her actions are a disgusting embarrassment to our Tribe and our Tribal Members. She should resign.

With a positive and resilient focus, I will move forward. While others stew in their jealous dysfunctions, I will continue to secure BILLIONS for Indian Country and HUNDREDS of MILLIONS for our Tribe. But, just imagine what we could accomplish if Board hate were a thing of the past.

# \$15 BILLION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR INDIAN COUNTRY

## Representing All Members Everywhere

Ahneen, Boozho, Negee:

I begin with some phenomenal news. While the Oppositional Tribal Board Members claim that I had nothing to do with securing over \$300 million for our Tribe during the pandemic, the following proves otherwise. Please click the link below [or email me for the link] for a Tribal Infrastructure Town Hall video hosted by NACI and other Native organizations.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GIFp3iwE&fbclid=IwAR34GokRNFADaryUayLX03MZHoHRRMvJ2s\\_48fqEQqfp2FuldGd84E6k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2GIFp3iwE&fbclid=IwAR34GokRNFADaryUayLX03MZHoHRRMvJ2s_48fqEQqfp2FuldGd84E6k)

While Congress postponed the *Build Back Better* budget reconciliation, it is important to recognize the threshold moment of the new \$15 billion bi-partisan appropriations just enacted for tribal infrastructure. Add \$13 billion more slated for tribes in the BBB Budget Reconciliation bill on top of the \$31 billion American Rescue Act tribes received and the total commitment to tribes by the end of the year is likely to reach a total of nearly \$60 billion!

Tribal infrastructural needs have languished for generations. Not since the *New Deal* and *Great Society* programs have we seen such a significant commitment from the federal government. During a time when our country is rebounding economically and recovering from a world-wide pandemic, the infrastructure funds just enacted will accelerate economic recovery by stimulating unprecedented shovel ready projects including a huge proportion of the \$1.2 trillion allocated to road and bridges with nearly a \$4.5 billion tribal set aside. Tribal provisions also include \$4.5 billion for tribal water and sewer projects, an additional \$2 billion for tribal broadband on top of the

\$1 billion appropriated in January, and \$4 billion more for what I anticipate will be funds for tribal health, schools, and other tribal infrastructure. Tribes also qualify like States and territories for an additional \$143 billion through competitive and/or formula funding.

It's important to note that this funding to tribes didn't just happen. Tribes were the deciding factor to maintain or turn key battle ground states which provided a 60 electoral college vote margin for President Biden who had a strong tribal sovereignty platform. Tribal leader efforts at the national level during the transition period and after months of Consultation, through the appointment of Secretary of Interior Deb Haaland, and through skillful advocacy of key American Indian presidential appointees, we have secured a solid voice in the Biden Administration. Of course, bi-partisan tribal leader advocacy with Congress has also been key as our issues are non-partisan.

Our work is not done as the commitment to Indian Country in the BBB Budget Reconciliation Act is slated to include tribal provisions for housing, early childhood education, higher education and vocational opportunities including funding to tribal controlled community colleges, Indian Health expansion, and economic reforms to strengthen tribal self-governance. These additional reforms are needed to strengthen tribes and surrounding local, state, regional and national economies as tribes have done for years.

### STRAIGHT TALK

As you know from my reports from over the years, I error on the side of telling it to you straight and letting you make up your own mind regarding what I believe is a corruption of the public trust. If I don't sound the alarm, you'd never know. Endemic to these

controversies is the fact that our Tribe operates under a corporate charter 1934 Indian Reorganization Act Constitution. While the Board spent over \$300,000 in drafting up Constitutional amendments, when it became apparent that the Board's authority would be put in check by the people through "standing" in Tribal Court to sue the Board, the Board abandoned all reforms.

Two examples of why a separation of powers is needed is when the Tribal Board conspired and secretly voted behind closed doors to give a former Chairperson a \$856,275 annual salary! When questioned, the recording of the meeting disappeared. The other example was when a former Tribal Chief of Police was on suspension for assaulting a Native woman, pled out and was ultimately indicted and pled out again to embezzling over \$200,000 of federal Department of Justice grant funds.

### BOD COMPLICITY OR CONSPIRACY?

I believe certain Board Members knew what they were doing and covered for their former Board colleague. After, the former Chief of Police was suspended, I listened to the State Police wire tap of him threatening the victim to stop cooperating in the investigation. I then consulted with Tribal Legal and HR who advised to terminate his employment. Despite the fact, the Tribal Board voted to reinstate this individual. Again, this individual served time in prison for embezzlement. To make matters worse, after I left office in 2008, the Board voted to reward this individual a severance of over \$100,000!

### COLLUSION OR COVER-UP?

From select Tribal Board unit reports, you would never know of this level of corrup-

tion. After the former Chief of Police pled out and received a delayed sentence for assault and while he was being investigated for embezzlement, Board Members were strident in their efforts to reinstate him. While the former Police Chief had to step out of a workshop, staff at the Dream Catcher's restaurant texted me that two Board Members were updating [in real time] the former chief of police as the Board was deliberating. In sharing this information, I have not divulged anything said in closed session.

After I recommended termination given both the alleged assault of a Tribal woman and threats to terminate her father from Tribal employment, I changed the organization chart to insulate the victim's father from termination. In turn, Board Members drafted up a new org chart to place the Detention Center back under the Chief of Police and the victim's father was terminated. I reported in my Chair's report my justification for termination and the org chart change but Board Members drafted up a Press Release of the Board of Directors to simply claim none of this was true.

### SEPARATION OF POWERS

Had we had a separation of powers, the Members of the Tribe would be able to challenge the very actions of their Tribal Government. Without judicial standing in Tribal Court, you are powerless as Sault Tribe Citizens to prevent such corruption or to eradicate it. The effort to rally together a majority of the Board to sign a piece of paper to simply dispel the very corruption they are engaged in is the very definition of gaslighting and altering facts for a self-serving purpose - to act with impunity. While you do not have judicial standing, we do have a Constitutional right to select the very people who represent us.

The most recent example of gaslighting Tribal Members was the alienation of 2/3 of our Tribal Membership by denying equal payment of relief funds. Despite NEVER having received any guidance from Tribal Legal or the Feds to justify discriminating against our blood relatives who live outside of the Seven County Service Area, a majority of the Board shamelessly lie that we were disallowed and then discriminated against 2/3 of our people. What is most disturbing about this is that Board Members voted to deny At Large Members from receiving the very same \$1,000 that Board Members qualified themselves to get. If we had a separation of powers and you had judicial standing in Tribal Court to bring suit, you could challenge such actions.

The Board acts with impunity because they know that the majority of At Large Members are not registered to vote. As a reminder, the deadline to register to vote in Tribal elections is mid March during election years. To register to vote, simply call the toll free number below. I fully expect after reading this report, you will once again be inundated with falsehoods and a signed press release by a majority of the Board to say it is not true.

### DON'T KILL THE MESSENGER

Watch for some Board members to deny everything. This level of open corruption is disqualifying but also sends a message to other governments that we are corrupt. This is why we desperately need a separation of powers and a tribal attorney general. I realize the threats of my removal will come from select Board Members. Stay tuned.

Chi McGwitch, Negee,

*Aaron*

Call: 800-793-0660 Cell: 906-203-5159 Email: aaronpayment@yahoo.com Facebook 'Aaron Payment'

AT LARGE MEMBERS CAN REGISTER TO VOTE BY CALLING :

**1-800-251-6597**



# Christmas cards to be mailed to Unit IV kids



**DARCY MORROW,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Unit 4 children will receive their Christmas card in the mail this year from Santa. Due to COVID, the Unit 4 children's Christmas parties are canceled for this year. We want to ensure our children and families safety. Santa Claus will be mailing each child in Unit 4 a Christmas card

with a gift card just like last year. Great news the board approved \$3 million of the American Rescue Act Covid funding per board member per unit to use for housing and/or community centers. In Unit 4, we have received \$6 million in total to use for more housing throughout Unit 4 along with a much-needed community center in Escanaba. Director Chase and I are working on setting up meetings with staff to move forward on a plan to ensure we get the most out of the money we have received. We are both very excited to be able to ensure our members will have a community center to call their own in Escanaba.

Throughout this pandemic we have been utilizing Zoom and it has made it easy for me to participate in all workshops and board meetings along with our Consent Decree fishing meetings. During my sickness this last year, I have not missed a board meet-

ing except for one on June 15, the day of my cancer surgery.

I am at the end of my cancer treatment and I was finishing up my Keytruda chemotherapy. A few days after my last chemo, I got extremely sick. I was sick for six straight days. We were able to contact the Northwoods Airlifeline. This company has volunteer pilots who fly people who are too sick to drive to their medical care. They flew me and a family member out to the Mayo Clinic on Oct. 9 and they helped save my life. I was very lucky to be flown out to Mayo Clinic, after being hospitalized and treated they diagnosed me with adrenal failure and saved my life.

Now, I must report on some not so nice items that have been happening. About a year and a half ago, I was sitting outside the board room and a contractor who was hired to tape our meetings was sitting across from me. Betty Freiheit came out of the board

room with Austin Lowes and she told me to f\*\*k off. Then a week after I was released from Mayo Clinic with adrenal failure, Chairman Payment said during the meeting "Darcy over there can't show up to the meetings," and Betty Freiheit said, "Yeah, Darcy, get your wig on and get to the meeting." They are a disgrace to this tribe; nobody should be treated like this! How dare she disrespect cancer patients or anybody fighting for their life like that! This is just an example of the treatment, there are so many more you have no idea. If they are willing to say this in the open board session, you can imagine the hate we endure during closed sessions.

Betty has also said other hateful things to other board members, which I am sure they will address in their articles. The chairman's job is to run the meeting, not to be attacking and not allowing attacks. The chairman

allows Betty's nastiness. He can't control her in a meeting because he is afraid of Betty; she knows too many of his skeletons. The way the chairman talks to women is just outrageous! He puts on a big act about how he stands for women's rights — how dare he, as he sits there and cuts women down.

I would like to say miigwech to everyone who has called or sent a text, card, flowers, or laid tobacco down in a prayer during my latest battle during my fight with inflammatory breast cancer.

I would like to wish everyone a good deer season and a Happy Thanksgiving!

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

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

# Lots of help out there for Sault Tribe families



**DENISE CHASE,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

On Sept. 21, 2021, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors passed the following resolution: **COVID American Rescue Act Funds Housing and Community Centers.**

Resolution 2021-247  
COVID AMERICAN RESCUE ACT FUNDS HOUSING AND COMMUNITY CENTERS

WHEREAS, the spread of COVID-19 has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization, a public health emergency by the United States Secretary of the Health and Human Services, a national emergency by the President of the United States, and a Tribally declared emergency by the Sault Tribe Board of Directors; and WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has determined that the COVID-19 global pandemic and corresponding impacts to the national and local economy has and will continue to strain the financial resources of the Tribal Membership and Employees, necessitating the invocation of assistance programs to help protect their respective health and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians has currently received \$234,000,000 from the American Recovery Act; and

WHEREAS, the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians has identified our Housing and Community Centers as a Priority to be addressed from the American Recovery Act funds received by the Tribe.

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sault Tribe Board of Directors has identified Housing and Community Centers as essential to the Health and Welfare of its Membership and hereby budgets \$36 million dollars from the American Recovery Act funds (currently received), of which: \$15 million is earmarked for Unit 1, \$6 Million is earmarked for Unit 2, \$6 million earmarked for Unit 3, \$6 million earmarked for Unit 4, and \$3 million for Unit 5, to address these future Board Actions.*

This is extremely good news for all units. The board approved \$36 million from the American Recovery Act Funds (\$3 million per representative). Our unit has received \$6 million to use towards our unmet needs. Director Morrow and I have identified some projects and we have already started meeting. We will work with staff to come up with a plan, budget and timeline. The biggest unmet need we have is the lack of a community center in Escanaba.

Director Morrow and I are very happy to report that with this available funding, Delta County area tribal members will have a new community center built on the Escanaba housing site. This will be a welcome addition to the community — no longer will we have to go out and rent other buildings to hold our children and elder Christmas parties or powwows or cultural teachings (where we are not allowed to smudge or use our medicines).

The funding was approved for housing and community centers. Our second project we have met on is an exercise room addition off the side of the Manistique Community Center. This will be a great health and wellness benefit to our membership.

Housing is a huge unmet need tribal wide and Unit IV is the second largest unit in population. So housing is a huge priority across our unit. We will meet with staff to come up with a plan, cost and timeline.

With the coronavirus pandemic continuing into a second holiday season, the children's Christmas

party committee has made the difficult decision that we will not be holding any in-person children's Christmas party this year across our unit because of the highly contagious new COVID variant and increase in cases, locally. We are looking to keep children, elders and families safe.

Santa and his elves will do a Christmas card mailer to each child with a gift card like last year. Every child in our unit will receive a card from Santa Claus.

I hope and pray that next year we will be able to get back to our normal way of doing the children's Christmas parties. I miss seeing the children's smiling faces as they tell Santa what they want for Christmas, or hand him a letter, and especially when they receive their gifts.

**The Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)**, opened up on Nov. 1. LIHEAP helps with energy and heating bills, including natural gas, propane, electric and wood pellets. The funding is available to income-eligible tribal households that meet the program requirements. The program can assist with heating shut offs, or can put a credit on your account. The Senior Heating Assistance is available as well at a higher income guideline.

If you are in need of heating assistance, stop in at your local tribal center for an application, or call Direct Services Worker Viola Neadow at (906) 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137. Or, call Heidi Cotey at (906) 387-3906 or (800) 236-4705.

If you are in need of water/sewer utility assistance, the following are two programs the tribe has that might be able to assist you.

**COVID-19 Emergency Utility Subsidy**

Sault Tribe Housing Authority still has funding available for the water/sewer utility subsidy program. Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis, until all funds are exhausted. If you are in need of water/sewer assistance and meet the program eligibility criteria and requirements, please contact

the Housing Authority office at (906) 495-1450 or 1(800) 794-4072. You may also pick up the applications at any tribal center, Housing office, or ACFS office, or download on Sault Tribes website, under the Housing tab.

**Low Income Housing Water Assistance**

ACFS has funding available for income-eligible tribal households with a water shut off. This new water assistance program opened up Nov. 1, 2021. According to the flyer/program information, the program requires that a water shut off is documented. This program will also assist with minor repairs and mainte-

nance to well and septic that prevent adequate water supply to the home. The program will be open until funds are exhausted. Please contact your local ACFS Direct Services worker to complete an application, or to find out more information.

Manistique, (906) 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137

Munising, (906) 387-3906 or (800) 236-4705.

I wish you all a happy and safe Thanksgiving holiday!

If you need to contact me, call (906) 203-2471 or dchase@saulttribe.net.

Thank you!  
Denise Chase

## Sault Tribe Board of Directors 2021 Meeting Schedule

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors meeting calendar for 2021:

- Jan. 5 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Jan. 19 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Feb. 2 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Feb. 16 – Sault Ste. Marie
- March 2 – Sault Ste. Marie
- March 16 – Manistique
- April 6 – Sault Ste. Marie
- April 20 – Munising
- May 4 – Sault Ste. Marie
- May 18 – Sault Ste. Marie
- June 1 – Sault Ste. Marie
- June 15 – St. Ignace
- July 6 – Sault Ste. Marie
- July 20 – Escanaba
- Aug. 3 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Aug. 17 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Sept. 7 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Sept. 21 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Oct. 5 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Oct. 19 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Nov. 2 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Nov. 23 – Hessel
- Dec. 7 – Sault Ste. Marie

Per the Constitution and Bylaws, Article 1 – Meetings of the Board of Directors, Section 1: .....provided that at least

one meeting per year shall be held in each of the five election units established pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the tribal constitution.

General meetings of the Board of Directors are held the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month.

All general meetings start at 5 p.m. All Sault meetings will be held at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center, other locations to be announced. Meetings with \*\* are changed to accommodate the Chair/Board attendance at MAST, NCAI, United Tribes, various Wash. D.C. meetings or holidays.

All special meetings will be announced.

For further information please call Joanne Carr ext. 26337 or Linda Grossett ext. 26338 at the Administration Office, 800-793-0660 or 906-635-6050.

(Until the tribal State of Emergency is over, all meetings will be held in Sault Ste. Marie.)



# Hunters help donate venison to those in need



**AUSTIN LOWES**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Aaniin!  
I'd like to make a prediction. I predict that several board members will use their unit report, which is precious space meant to update the membership, to discredit other board members and possibly the chairperson. Much of this political mudslinging will be directed towards Betty Freiheit. This is becoming an unfortunate trend. Betty won her election with an 850-vote cushion, which was an absolute landslide.

Since the two of us were elected, we have faced fierce opposition with issues such as abolishing the board pension, deciding board pay through a referendum, term limits and other important issues. Rather than discredit our positions, which is the will of the people, the board has resorted to other strategies. The latest is complaining that Betty is mean to them. Let that sink in for a moment. Your elected officials, who are middle-aged

adults, are using the tribal paper to complain that Betty Freiheit, who is a 72-year-old elder, is mean to them. Has our tribal paper become a place for political tattling? Is it no longer a place where news is shared to the membership? Are unit reports nothing more than board propaganda?

Make no mistake, the board is not in a position to complain. Board members receive \$67,000 a year to attend one meeting a week. Board members receive a pension that none of the tribe's 1,400 employees will ever receive. Board members attend meetings remotely with Zoom, which employees are not allowed to utilize. With these perks, I'm shocked that complaining is occurring. The membership is sick of it. Let's get along, get to work and improve our tribe.

With that said, it's time for an update. The tribe recently gave

all employees a \$3 per hour pay raise. This increases our labor costs roughly \$8 million per year. This also increases our minimum wage from \$9.65 to \$12.65.

The board is still reviewing the wage study, which was recently completed, to consider other improvements with our wages. Increasing wages was a major goal of mine when I ran for office, so I'm proud to be part of this.

The tribe is also working to address our housing shortage. \$8 million was recently allocated to construct new homes, which will build a minimum of 35 units. Due to it being the end of the building season, construction will begin next year. This will help reduce the long waiting list that we currently have for housing.

Finally, with deer season underway, Betty and I purchased commercial deer processing

equipment to donate venison to low-income tribal families and tribal elders. Access to indigenous food is a critical part of sustaining our traditions and cultural identity. Many tribal members do not have access to venison, which is something that has nourished our people for thousands of years. Our efforts are an attempt to change this. Treaty rights allow us to harvest

up to five deer. For many hunters, this is too much to consume independently. If you're one of these hunters, please consider donating a deer to us. We'll pick it up, process it, and donate it to those who need it. Several hunters and volunteers have helped so far. It is our goal that this will be a tribal program one day.

Miigwech and stay safe!  
Austin Lowes



# ITC is utilizing suicide prevention protocols



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Hello,  
The Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Board of Directors passed a resolution to accept \$160,000 for COVID-19 Emergency Response for Suicide Prevention Initiative from the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan. This project will provide screening, treatment and referral services for suicide care. Staff will ensure that clients are being referred to another level of care by utilizing suicide prevention protocols. They and their families will be assisted with access to support groups and cultural healing ceremonies.

Suicide is usually brought on by someone who is experiencing intolerable pain and thoughts and doesn't know how to make it stop. Substance abuse and depression are two of the main causes that are contributed to suicidal thoughts. Statistics show that depression is the cause of

the majority of suicides. Alcohol and drugs also play a role in one in three suicides.

As we gather for the holidays and you suspect someone is having suicidal thoughts, please talk to them. Your questions will not make it worse but will give them an opportunity to tell you how they feel. You can then assist them in making an appointment with a health professional.

You can contact the following numbers for assistance:

Sault Ste. Marie: (906) 635-6075 or (800)726-9105

St. Ignace: (906) 643-8689 or (877) 256-0135

Manistique: (906) 341-6993 or (800) 347-7137

Munising: (906) 387-4721 or (877) 256-0009

Additional Crisis Resources:

— Talk to a trained crisis counselor via text message by texting: "Start" To 741-741

— The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: Call (800) 273-8255; Available 24 hours for the hearing impaired, contact the Lifeline by TTY at: (800) 799-4889

— The veterans suicide hotline (Veterans Crisis Line): (800) 273-8255, press 1 or text to 838255 (available 24 hours a day, seven days a week)

— Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) Suicide Hotline (the Trevor Lifeline): (866) 488-7386 (available 24 hours a day, seven days a week)

— TrevorChat online chat: <http://www.thetrevorproject.org/>

pages/get-help-now (Available seven days a week 3-9 p.m. ET, 12- 6 p.m. PT).

— The Trevor Project website: <http://www.thetrevorproject.org/>

— Teen suicide hotline (Thursday's Child National Youth Advocacy Hotline): (800) USA-KIDS (872-5437) (available 24 hours a day, seven days a week)

— The International

# Housing shortage one of tribe's top priorities



**KEITH MASSAWAY,**  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

One of the tribe's top priorities is remedying the housing shortage. The board is exploring every opportunity to help alleviate that for our members. We have started the plan to put approximately 40

Association for Suicide Prevention: [http://www.iasp.info/resources/Crisis\\_Centres](http://www.iasp.info/resources/Crisis_Centres)

— Befrienders Worldwide: <http://www.befrienders.org/need-to-talk>

The Canadian border has allowed traffic to enter the United States again and we would like to welcome our neighbors back.

As always, I would like to thank team members for their

dedication and continued hard work.

Please keep the men and women in the armed forces in your prayers and thoughts for a safe return to their families.

If you have any questions or comments you can contact me at (906) 203-6083 or at [KKGravelle@saulttribe.net](mailto:KKGravelle@saulttribe.net). Stay safe and healthy.

Thank You,  
Kim

homes in the Odanaang Housing Development in the Sault. This plan is moving forward very quickly but both contracting and building these homes will be a huge challenge in the current time we live in.

Our housing needs extend all the way across the seven-county service area and we are pledging our diligence towards putting homes in each unit. We know this won't fix the housing shortage, but it will alleviate it some and working with our partners both in the county governments and the townships we hope to start others on the path to building more affordable housing.

Now that the infrastructure bill has been passed by the federal government we hope that many of the tribe's infrastructure needs can be helped. New roads and parking lots are a must but this is

hopefully a kick off to the high speed Internet infrastructure we hope to install across the Upper Peninsula. I have written about this earlier and we have yet to hear anything back on our large grants we wrote for. The infrastructure bill is laden with direct money for high speed and we hope to couple that with our plans to help everyone in the area.

Winter is coming soon and if you are having financial trouble, please call our ACFS and seek help. There are many opportunities within our tribe to help and we can coordinate with area relief agencies also. We hope your holidays are filled with joy and happiness. Thanks again for all the e-mails and phone calls.

Keith Massaway  
702 Hazelton St., St. Ignace,  
MI 49781; (906) 643-6981;  
[kmassaway@msn.com](mailto:kmassaway@msn.com)



# Code of conduct and accountability is needed



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

The board workshops and meetings have been getting out of hand, as you may have heard. I would contribute some of it to the election being eight months away, which means the chair likes to “resolution shame” the board with items to make him look good, while knowing they won’t pass.

It is no secret that Aaron only supports Betty and Austin. He always seems to see their hand to speak before anyone else. Many times, I am on the list and he continues to talk just to avoid recognizing me. He writes resolutions including their names in them. In the nine years I have been on the board, never has a resolution named board members.

Betty gets to continue to make derogatory remarks and threaten each of us with no consequences from the chair. He actually laughs and smirks. She has gone so far as to call me a “lesbian” a couple months ago and “a want-to-be lesbian” during the Oct. 19 meeting. I am not sure what my sexuality has to do with anything, but I very much know what my sexuality is and maybe it is her that has a problem with her sexuality. Twice she has made comments about a surgical procedure that I had. Once outside after a meeting she was walking right at me with a smirk and walked right in my face and said, “I should have my stomach stapled.” During the

Nov. 2 workshop, she said she liked me better before my surgery.

Apparently, my HIPPA rights are being tossed around, most likely from the chair since the first time she mentioned it was when their circle Aaron, Austin, Betty and Sheila broke up and Aaron said don’t say anything. I am not ashamed of my procedure; however, I believe it is my story to tell.

It is no secret that many board members gain weight when being on the board, with the long meetings and stress of the position it comes with the territory. Hell, many of past and present board members have had cancer whether it comes from the stress or some practicing bad medicine.

In 2017, I had a knee injury that really inhibited my ability to be physically active and I had continued to gain weight. So, I had consulted with a doctor in 2018 and started the process to prepare for bariatric surgery. I had the surgery Dec. 26, 2019, in Traverse City. I have worked very hard physically and mentally to get to this point. The surgery is not a magic wand but rather a tool to help you make better choices. After my one-year follow up appointment, my doctor had said that I was in the top successes of his patients and that made me very happy.

Weight loss surgery should be encouraged if patients want to make the commitment to a healthier life. Many times, there are issues with insurance, support from family or friends and sometimes society looks at the surgery as cosmetic instead of life-saving. I am not perfect and have times of weakness but I try to stay on track and continue to see a dietician and follow up appointments. I have learned that I need to not always put myself last and that I need to care and love myself before I can others. You have to make the time to be physically active, to prepare meals, snacks etc. I used to fly by the seat of

my pants for my lunches at work and now I bring everything with me.

I would like to give a shout out to those who have guided me through this journey: Dr. Postma, Dr. Garlinghouse, Stacy Storey, Christina Burlak, Heather Hemming and Josh Firack. My wraparound team at the tribe has helped me be successful. My bariatric doctor, Steven Slikkers, and staff are top notch and very supportive. I plan to start a support group for those thinking of having a procedure and those that have already. Feel free to contact me with questions or concerns.

The board voted at the Oct. 19 meeting to make the \$3 extra per hour for team members part of their permanent wage structure. The compensation study will still move forward but we wanted to guarantee everyone would receive the minimum of the \$3 per hour increase. The team members will be receiving hams this year and will be contacted for distribution. There was also a form to receive a \$250 cash advance instead of gift cards to be payroll deducted. Please see your supervisor as restrictions apply.

The board meeting got out of hand on the 19th. Aaron, Betty and Austin had placed two items on the meeting agenda: Indigenous People’s Day and Opening the Rolls. We voted in 2016 to recognize Indigenous People’s Day and encourage our local governments to do the same. The City of St. Ignace has done this and I believe the only one in our area at this point. The holiday is not a paid one at this time.

When placing items on the agenda, there should be discussion time. Many times, other board members or staff bring up valid points or concerns that others didn’t think of. We did not have what this would cost the departments in wages nor how much third-party revenue is lost when people cannot attend appointments. This also takes a day away from members being

able to seek services such as commodities, applications, meals, in-home services, etc. Holidays are great for the team members but we need to consider the total impact. The governmental team members now enjoy three tribal holidays that the enterprise and casinos do not receive, so those should also be considered.

Opening up the enrollment rolls is not a quick vote decision. There are many things to consider and the Registrar and Enrollment Committee should be included in these conversations. I know there are many families that have someone who was not enrolled for one reason or another and these are valid concerns. This is not an item that should be used to campaign.

There are so many areas that the board and executives need to focus their time on and taking directives from one or two board members is not helpful. I am fed up with the new board members bringing up every single issue that affects their family. I don’t know how many times this needs to be said but apparently taking care of your own family is a priority of some. In the public eye, they portray themselves to be all about the members and at the table it’s all about personal gain. The chair needs to do a better job of running a meeting. He needs to stay off Facebook and pay attention to the conversations and the list. Just because you don’t like us does not mean we do not get a chance to speak on issues. After all, we all have started out in our political career by being liked by the chair only to be vilified when there is a difference of opinion or questioning certain things.

It is truly time for a reformed code of ethics having enough teeth for people to be held accountable. Social media for some has turned into a way to spew hatred and throw out misleading statements or flat out lies. It should be used as a communication tool.

A reminder that those living

in the service area can apply for the youth development fund to help with costs of sports, camps, equipment, senior pictures, driver’s ed., etc. Please find the application on the tribe’s website or contact the Education Department at (906) 635-6050.

The elder application for the annual lands claim distribution has been mailed out. At the time of this report, I do not know what the amount will be but I believe there have been many more elders eligible this year. The service area elders will also be getting a gift card this year in lieu of the elder holiday meal.

LIHEAP heating assistance applications are now available. Contact your local ACFS office, get the application online, or in the St. Ignace area, contact Angie Gilmore at (906) 643-8689.

The Unit 3 Christmas party will be a drive through again this year on Sunday, Dec. 12, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Kewadin Shores Casino. Gifts will be provided to kids 0-12 years. You do not need to call ahead. Please check out the tribe’s website for a list of other unit parties.

Keith and I have monthly unit meetings at the McCann building on the third Monday of the month at 6 p.m.

I would like to acknowledge that Russ Rickley and Tony Grondin have been doing a great job with their grassroots Well-briety Meetings on Wednesday nights. I have not been able to get there yet for the teachings they are offering but hear lots of good things. If you would like to attend, please reach out to Tony or Russ. Meetings are currently being held at the McCann building at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Good Luck to all the hunters out there!! Happy Thanksgiving as well!! Take time for your family as we never know when it will be the last for some.

I can be contacted at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com or (906) 430-0536.

## Board needs to follow the tribal Constitution



**BETTY FREIHEIT,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello Tribal Members,

I am very pleased that the board voted to permanently increase all staff wages by \$3 per hour. This raise is long overdue and I hope just the first step in bringing up wages for our lowest paid employees. We cannot stop here. No one should work full-time and still earn a wage so low that she or he must rely on social service programs in order to make ends meet and provide for their

families. But this is what many of front line and lower paid employees have had to do. We must do better. We cannot exploit our workers while we allocate funds to other initiatives that could take years to generate any real profits.

We talk a lot about self-sufficiency. And, often folks interpret this to mean that the tribal board and tribe as a unit should strive to be self-sufficient, meaning they can provide goods and services without being dependent on federal dollars. But that is not true self sufficiency. Not the self-sufficiency our ancestors worked for. True self-sufficiency is helping our own members rise out of poverty by paying them sufficient wages so they lead independent lives by having control over where they live and how they live. And they do not need to be dependent on any entity, including the tribe, to survive.

At the last meeting, Austin Lowes, Aaron Payment and myself sponsored two resolutions. One was to declare Indigenous People Day as a tribal holiday and the other was to re-open the tribal

rolls, which have been close for 23 years. Both resolutions were motioned to be sent to a board workshop for further review. Hopefully, we will see some action in the next few weeks. Pass or not, these resolutions should be voted on in a public meeting and members deserve to see how each board member votes.

There are a lot of opinions on opening the rolls or keeping them closed. But as a board, we need to follow our tribal Constitution, regardless of our opinions. Once we start imposing our own opinions and preferences over the Constitution, we have crossed a line. Our tribal Constitution provides the guidelines for membership. Period. It does not state that we only allow a set number of members in, or that we can close the rolls indefinitely as a means of keeping members out. If we do not want to follow the Constitution, then we need to revise it. We cannot ignore it.

As winter approaches, it’s time to think of elders and others in need. I have always believed that those of us who can should give

to others however and whenever we can. This is especially true for tribal board who make salaries in the upper ranks of all communities in which they live. Some boards are very open about giving and I believe that is a good thing as it demonstrates their commitment to their communities and to helping members.

In the spirit of giving, Austin Lowe and I are asking hunters who harvest more deer than they or their families can consume to consider donating it to an elder.

We will pay all the cost for pick up, processing and delivering to an elder. Please message either one of us if you are interested.

I want to wish you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving. Please take care of yourself and family. Help your neighbors any time you can and please take care of our elders.

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

## Preparing for holiday stress

Make time for you with this FREE online programming Mondays, Dec. 6-20, 12:30 p.m. ET via Zoom. Five sessions of trying a wide variety of strategies in mindfulness, leading to stress reduction and healthier living:

- Begin with the breath
- Mindful eating
- Mindful walking and thought surfing
- Be kind to your mind
- Laughter is good medicine

Registration for Online Stressless With Mindfulness is open at: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/events/preparing-for-the-stressful-holidays-using-mindfulness>

Registration closes at 11:59 p.m. on Dec. 1, 2021.



# Tribe has distributed over \$80M to members



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

We are coming to the end of the relief checks being mailed to all members within the tribe. By the time this report hits, we will have distributed over \$80 million throughout our membership. The Enrollment Department has been buried down for that last few months and has done an amazing job trying to keep up enrolling minors (under 21), which turned out to be in the thousands and has been updating addresses for members, again a mind-boggling amount of work. This was an undertaking beyond compare. If you have not received your distribution yet, be assured that more checks are slated to be mailed the third week in November and they will be coming until the end of the year. Chi-miigwech to all our staff at the department and those who assisted in any way

to accomplish this for our tribal membership. A reminder that we still have rental assistance funds, home improvement funds and emergency need and heating needs for you to access. You can access applications at all the tribal centers as well as by calling or visiting our website saulttribe.com.

I am very pleased to announce that we have completed the process of acquiring a location for a medical clinic in the DeTour area! This is a priority we have worked on for quite some time and frankly I was tired of saying "we will get there" in my reports because I was afraid it was impossible to locate a purchase that would be ours for a health clinic. This will service Drummond Island and surrounding areas as well. This will benefit those who have to get medicine, labs, program applications, nurse visits and Community Health. We have advocated a very long time to secure this again and I am happy to know that our community members in those areas do not have to travel to the Sault or Hessel to have service, especially in the dead of winter when that route is extremely wintery. I am hoping this will be open to our members in the very near future. As stated in the last report, we have many other irons in the fire and I hope to have more great news next month. Director Hollowell, staff and I have visions that would benefit members for many years to come.

Since the onset of the pandemic, as a tribe, we have had to recreate how we deliver services to our members. This came with such unknowns and difficulties for our members and staff but it also came with very good outcomes. I want to take the opportunity to talk about the virtual Language and Cultural activities that all our members can participate in. Now, this will never replace real ceremony, gatherings, fires, visiting and food, but we adapted at this time to make sure that we could still keep members learning and participating, feeling a part of our communities as well as to helping to relieve for mental health and well being. This did get us better at expanding those that we reach for teaching, crafts and language. Our website saulttribe.com has calendars of events hosted for all to be involved in. I simply cannot wait until we are able to host drum practices and our gatherings and powwows again without fear of a hug or getting anyone sick.

Our Elder Division did not waiver, either, as we still provide meals through home delivery or drive through. We also have our Elder Care workers who are amazing at home visits and working throughout the areas to access care and items that you may need. I have referred many to them and the outcomes are always accommodating to the members. If you need this, please let me know and we will make arrangements for

you to try to assist in any needs you have.

Our youth programs continue to take very serious measurements to ensure safe activities and learning. We have been able to reach more children to service them via virtual programming. Thank you to our staff who continue to think out of the box to help our people.

We continue to struggle at our casinos with the International Bridge being closed and the mask mandates and such. We have been looking at very high success in our online gaming, which came with many hurdles to get through from our EDC and casino staff, they held to the letter and a reminder has got us to the finish line on that as well. I am sure all did receive our annual financial report edition of the tribal paper and hope you had the time to review the growth we had with our enterprises. Our casinos continue to pursue better business options through our restaurant services and, hopefully, in the future this will be made as a change as how we host our customers. As always, we have many irons in the fire and I will continue to report as I can the outcomes on new avenues that we discuss, vet and vote to pursue. I am not one to write it all on Facebook due to sensitive information and being prohibited per our Codes for property and business ventures, but, as soon as items close and all due dili-

gence and closings are done, I am always excited to get it out. Rumors about "this" and "that" sometimes frustrate me, but I respect the staff who work hard to bring the property and business plans to a completion.

Once again, I have received many calls about when the Elders can once again meet for their monthly meetings to get back to business. As a tribe, we have a detailed criteria based on numbers of active cases in each area. We remain in a State of Emergency with our Health Director recommending that in-person Elder meetings do not take place yet. I, along with many others, had been hoping to start again late summer but the spike in positive cases delayed that. I fully support the recommendations put in place by our professionals. Keeping all our Elders safe is top priority from our Health and Elderly Divisions – and me, too. I am confident that this will pass and only be a moment in time and we can all resume soon enough for our meetings. Until then, continue to call me if needed or if you want to talk about an ideas or concerns you have with our direction: (906) 484-2954, (906) 322-3818 or email lcausley@saulttribe.net. Baamaapii.

Lana Causley-Smith, Unit 2 Representative  
Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians  
Board of Directors

## We need leaders to stand up for what is right



**MICHAEL MCKERCHIE,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Why do good, logical people turn to hateful, opinionated sites and channels for information? It all boils down to an optics war — people who are only concerned with how things "look" have a much easier opportunity

to influence. They appeal to how people feel and often flat-out lie because once you make someone "feel" slighted or alienated, no amount of logic or truth of how things really happen changes that (or it's very difficult to change). So, what's the answer? Do you play the game, too? Do you just tell people what they want to hear? Do you try and get them to hate the others? The answer is no. We don't need these things. We need leaders who stand up for what is right, tell the truth and fight to bring our people together and not apart. Leadership is found in many places; within the front lines at our casinos, at our health centers, at our powwows, sitting at our drums or standing behind our drums and it should always be found at our board table.

Politicians who stoke divi-

siveness and are willing to tear our tribe down expect everyone else to play by the rules while things run amuck and then they play the victim while continuously attacking anyone who threatens to try and bring back order. I fully expect more personal attacks and continued campaign tactics as we enter the holiday season and new year. I expect additional resolutions that go through no workshops; have no input from staff, the membership or committees; and that are designed to fail. I would much rather be discussing the strides our tribe is making on our EDC ventures, or how our casino staff is doing an excellent job mitigating all the loss that the pandemic has created, or our Health staff helping vaccinate while continuing operations also while planning and preparing future clinic

sites and making steps forward on a treatment center. But we're oftentimes putting out fires that can be avoided and issues that can be addressed through cooperation.

I will always fight for my tribe. We may have a perfect storm hovering over our tribe but there will always be good people to pick up the pieces and keep moving forward. Our tribe needs better protections for our staff, we need our executives to gain consensus before changing any policies or procedures and we need to start holding everyone accountable for their actions.

On a positive note, I want to give a huge shout out to our team members who organized and worked the recent Advocacy Resource Center's Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Walk (car parade this year). It

was an amazing turnout and helps facilitate much needed discussions surrounding domestic awareness. Our tribe is lucky to have such talented team members that advocate at local, state and national levels.

Despite all our bickering at the board level, our tribe marches on. As a member of our negotiating team, we continuing to meet three times a week trying to resolve what treaty rights look like on the Great Lakes with the other tribes, the state of Michigan and our trustees from the federal government. I want to thank all the fishers, our biologists and other team members for their continued support and expert knowledge in helping guide us during these meetings.

Chi Miigwech and, as always, any questions or concerns, please contact me at (906) 440-7768.

## Apply to Housing for emergency needs funding



**CHARLES MATSON SR.,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT V**

Ahnee,  
Let me start out by saying I

hope everyone is safe and doing well. We have come to the realization that the pandemic is still very much spreading at a rapid rate in our communities due in large part to the COVID variants and increased contact amongst the populations. Hopefully, the worst is behind us and the health risks to our communities starts to go in the right direction.

If you are struggling to pay your bills through these tough times do not hesitate to reach out for help. The Sault Tribe board of directors, for the first time in the history of the tribe, voted to allocate emergency needs monies for all tribal members no

matter place of residency. These funds can be accessed to help with rent or utilities and a shut off notice is not required. There is still plenty of funding left in this program so do not stress and struggle wondering how you are going to pay bills when you do not have the funds to make the payments. Contact Sault Tribe Housing Authority at (906) 495-5555 to apply for the emergency needs funding.

Our businesses outside our gaming operations have proven to be very profitable and a step in the right direction. Business diversification has and is proving to be a solid way for us to

move away from being so reliant on gaming, which is becoming a very saturated and unstable market. Not that our gaming industry does not provide much needed revenue streams to help provide for membership services. I am just saying that competition has become more fierce and overcrowded now and in the foreseeable future. Diversifying the tribe's business portfolio will provide more stability for us into the future.

The holiday season has begun. We all understand that it can be a very stressful time of the year for many. Sometimes it can be very hard for us as the

holiday season can remind us of loved ones who have walked on. Not that there is anything wrong with remembering the ones that we love and cherished that are not with us any longer, but sometimes it just can be overwhelming for some of us. I really hope that everyone enjoys the holidays and their time with family and friends.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at (906) 450-5094 or Cmatson@saulttribe.net.

Respectfully,  
Charles J. Matson Sr.  
Unit 5 Sault Tribe Board of Directors



# ARC Car Parade - Domestic Violence Awareness Event



Photos from ARC

The Advocacy Resource Center sponsored its annual Domestic Violence Awareness event Oct. 21, with a twist — due to COVID, the event was a car parade rather than a walk. Participants were encouraged to decorate their vehicles with purple and white décor. The community event is meant to promote healthy relationships and to end domestic violence. Above, kids Jameson and Genevieve get ready for the parade.

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Jessica Gilotte and Ethan give away car magnets and flags with Domestic Violence Awareness messages.



Women's New Hope parade entry!



Yet more swag — bags full of useful items with awareness messaging.



ARC Secretary Faith Goetz gearing up to join in the parade.

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