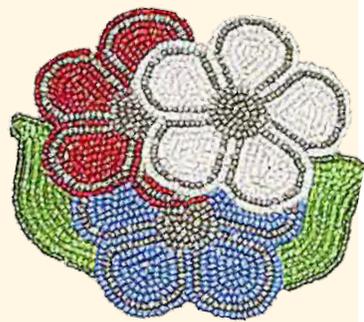




# Win Aweenen NISITOTUNG

The official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians  
May 9, 2008 • Vol. 29 No. 5



Waaskoone Giizis  
~ Flower Moon

## Tribe's primary election set for May 22

### ELECTION COMMITTEE RELEASES OFFICIAL CANDIDATE LIST

SAULT STE. MARIE—The Sault Tribe Election Committee has released the official candidate list for this year's tribal board election.

The chairperson along with those board members, whose terms expire this year, are all running for re-election. Chairperson Aaron Payment

faces three contenders. Unit I incumbents Cathy Abramson, Joseph Eitrem and Todd Gravelle face 10 contenders. Lana Causley in Unit II will face two contenders, and Fred Paquin in Unit III will face four. Unit IV Representative Tom Miller runs unopposed.

The primary election day is set for May 22. Primary election ballots were mailed to tribal members on May 1. Following the primary election,

general election ballots will be mailed to voters on June 5, with the official vote count taking place June 26.

Tribal members may choose one candidate for chairperson. Unit I voters may choose three candidates for a board seat, while voters from Units II, III, and IV may each choose one. There are no seats available in Unit V. All terms are four years in duration.

The following candidates for

the 2008 primary election are listed in alphabetical order with the incumbents' names in italics.

Chairperson — James W. Causley, Darwin (Joe) J. McCoy, Dennis W. McKelvie and *Aaron A. Payment*.

Unit I — *Cathy M. Abramson*, Bernard (Bud) A. Biron, John W. Biron, Bernard A. Bouschor, Luella M. Brown, *Joseph V. Eitrem*, Betty F. Freiheit, Wayne J. Goetz, *Todd*

*K. Gravelle*, Amy S. Sabatine-Kerckaert, John F. Kibble, Lona B. Stewart and Nathan J. Wright.

Unit II — *Lana E. Causley*, Catherine Hollowell, and Robert R. Horn.

Unit III — Leonard V. Adams, James M. DeKeyser, Robert J. Lambert, Patrick D. Rickley and *Frederick J. Paquin*.

Unit IV—*Thomas G. Miller*.  
Unit V — No seat available.

## Sault Tribe honors longtime team members



Photos by Jennifer Dale-Burton

**KUDOS—** Above left, 25-year employees pose with board members and the chairperson, (L-R) Cathy Abramson, Tony Abramson, Marlin Nealen, Rita Vassar, Lana Causley, and Aaron Payment. Above right, 20-year employees Lori Jump, Cheryl LaPlaut, Darlene Mastaw and Sheila Compton (L-) pose w Causley, Abramson and Payment.

SAULT STE. MARIE — Over 500 team members were lauded at the eighth annual employee recognition luncheon at the DreamMaker's Theater on April 9. Employees working for Sault Tribe's organizations and enterprises for five, 10, 15, 20 and 25 consecutive years were recognized this year, along with a special good-bye for Housing Authority Director Carolyn O'Neil who has taken her career to a national level.

The event opened with a welcome from Sault Tribe Chairperson Aaron Payment, a prayer from pipe carrier Cecil Pavlat and an honor song from our drum, Bahweting Singers.

Team members from throughout the tribe's service area were served a buffet of chef-prepared whitefish, beef and chicken, trimmings and beautiful little cakes and cookies for dessert. Beginning with the 25-year employees, Payment and Unit Directors Cathy Abramson and Lana Causley welcomed team members at the podium to receive a gift, a certificate and applause. Fun gifts, such as telescopes, power tools, suitcases and home

theaters, were given away. Due to time constraints and the number of five-year employees (over 100), they were welcomed to come up to the front and pick up their certificates as the luncheon was breaking up. Door prizes were awarded throughout the event. Winner of the grand prize was Cory Wilson who took home a complete Kewadin weekend for two.

Employees honored for 25 years of service for 2008 were Anthony D. Abramson, Deborah Ailing, Marlin J. Nealen and Rita A. Vassar. They all received a ring with a certificate of appreciation, a dozen red roses arranged in a vase and a gift.

Employees recognized for 20 years were Sheila M. Compton, Pauline I. Homminga, Lori L. Jump, Cheryl L. LaPlaut, Janice M. Manning, Darlene A. Mastaw, Marianne L. Sebastian and Ted A. Warne. They received a ring, a dozen pastel roses arrangement and a gift.

The employees acknowledged for having 15 years with the tribe and 10 years with the tribe received certificates and gifts.

## Severance litigation civil suit gets July 1 appeal hearing; cutbacks stall court

By CORY WILSON

SAULT STE. MARIE — The Sault Tribe's civil suit against former chairman Bernard Bouschor, four former key employees and the law firm of Miller Canfield regarding the unauthorized payouts of \$2.66 million in severance agreements still remains in litigation and is in the Michigan Court of Appeals.

Bouschor filed an appeal in March 2007, following a ruling released by Judge Johnson in February 2007, which favored the tribe on several key issues in the lawsuit.

In reaction to the appeal, the Sault Tribe filed a cross-appeal and will, in turn, ask the court to rule in its favor. Bouschor claims that "executive immunity" should have exempted him

from any wrongdoing and will use that argument as the basis for his appeal, despite having the issue thrown out in Circuit Court.

The request for an appeal has languished in the court for over a year. A hearing date was finally announced for July 1. Budget cutbacks in the Michigan court system were identified as one of the main causes for the delay in scheduling.

The jury trial, which was originally scheduled for April of this year, was postponed due to the appeal and will likely be rescheduled after an appeal ruling is announced. A ruling on the appeal will likely be released 1-2 months after the hearing date. The tribe's key claims of breach of fiduciary duty, constructive fraud and legal mal-

practice is projected to continue to jury trial as directed by the court, unless the appeal ruling has an impact on those claims.

The impact of a favorable or unfavorable appeal ruling for Bouschor or the Sault Tribe, as it pertains to the pending jury trial, cannot be determined until the appeal process is fully completed. The Sault Tribe did resolve litigation with three of the seven former key employee defendants last year.

~~Candidate profiles start on page 7~~

## Primary Election Ballots Due May 22!

U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 30  
Gaylord, MI  
49735

# How will treaty hunting be carried out?

**Q**I am wondering if you could answer a few questions relating to our tribal hunting permits. First, is the season changing for deer hunting in 2008? Second, will there be an elk hunt this fall? Third, can a Native American come on to my private property to hunt without my permission?



## MEMBERSHIP Q&A

**A**These are all great questions and I am more than happy to answer them for you, but I would encourage everyone to read our Tribal Code Chapter 21: Hunting and Inland Fishing. This code explains the rules and regulations as put forth by the Conservation Committee and affirmed by the board of directors as required by the 2007 Inland Consent Decree. You can access this code at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com)

The season for the tribe's deer hunt will change in 2008.

Deer may be harvested with a bow and arrow, crossbow, rifle, shotgun or muzzleloader subject to the following seasons: 1) Bow and crossbow shall be the day after Labor Day through the first full weekend in January. 2) Firearm season will have an early and a late season. Early season is the day after Labor Day through Oct. 31 and late

season runs from Nov. 15 through the Sunday of the first full weekend of January. As you can see, this allows for a 2-week "quiet time in the woods" leading up to the state firearm season.

The tribe will hold an annual elk hunt. Pursuant to the Inland Consent Decree, the five signatory Tribes shall collectively receive 10 percent of the permits that are issued by the state and these permits are then split five ways. In 2007 our tribe received two permits, which our hunters successfully filled, and this year that number should increase slightly.

Regarding someone hunting on your private property, no member of any of the signatory tribes shall be able to enter your private property without you giving them permission. Your land would be considered set-

led and thus Article 13 of the 1836 Treaty would not apply there. Also, note that when a tribal member does get permission to hunt any private property with a tribal permit, they must have that permission in writing and they are restricted to the state's seasons and methods of harvest.

In closing, I encourage all members to educate themselves on our hunting, fishing and gathering rights. Knowledge and understanding on how these things are going to work will aid us in addressing any social concerns that may arise along with helping us attend to one of our most important responsibilities — good stewardship and protection of the resources for all the generations that will come after us.

Respectfully,  
Clarence Hudak

### Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors Televised Meetings



SAULT STE. MARIE  
Thursday & Monday  
CH. 2, 3-5 P.M.

ST. IGNACE  
Friday  
CH. 2, 9 A.M.-OVER

ESCANABA  
Wednesday  
CH. 8, 2-6 P.M.

MARQUETTE  
Tuesday  
CH. 8, 7-11 P.M.

# Rabies clinics slated for June 18

Rabies clinics are scheduled for Wednesday, June 18, at three sites for pets owned by members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians:

Lambert Health Center, 9-10 a.m., 225 WaSeh Drive in St. Ignace.

Sault Tribe Housing Services Building, 11 a.m. to noon, 10

Wood Lake in Kincheloe.

Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center, 1:30 to 5 p.m., 2 Ice Circle Drive in Sault Ste. Marie.

For more information, call community health technicians Tom Sauro at 632-5210 or Angie Gilmore at 643-8689.

**Dates for rabies clinics in Munising, Manistique, Escanaba and Newberry will be posted at a later date.**

Responsible pet owners must be present to control animals to be vaccinated or vaccination will not be administered. All animals must be on a leash or in

a carrier.

An animal control officer will be on site at all locations to offer reduced rates for licenses.

Dogs	Cats
Rabies..... Free	Rabies..... Free
Optional:	Optional:
Distemper* ..... \$25	Distemper* ..... \$14
Bordatella ..... \$14	Feline leukemia.... \$14
Lyme disease ..... \$18	
* Includes distemper, hepatitis/adenovirus type 2, para influenza, leptospirosis, parvovirus, and corona virus inoculations.	* Includes rhinotracheitis, calicivirus, panleukopenia, and chlamydia inoculations.

# Gas, tobacco tribal tax discount FACTS

**FROM THE TRIBAL TAX OFFICE DISCOUNT ELIGIBILITY**

Only enrolled members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians are eligible to receive tax discounts on motor fuels and tobacco products. Any tribal member wishing to receive a tax discount on motor fuels or tobacco products must:

- Present a valid tribal membership card;
- Be present at the time of purchase;
- Be the person purchasing the tax discounted fuels or products.

### DISABLED MEMBERS

It may be difficult for disabled tribal members to enter the store to make a tax discounted purchase. As a result,

disabled tribal members wishing to receive a tax discount on motor fuels or tobacco products are allowed to send another person into the store to purchase the products on their behalf.

However, the person making the purchase must present the disabled member's valid tribal membership card and the disabled member must be present outside the store at the time of purchase.

### EXCEPTION FOR DISABLED MEMBERS

Disabled tribal members may authorize a tribal member to purchase their fuel or tobacco products. An authorization card must be obtained from the Tribal Tax Office. This authorization would allow for the purchase of tax-exempt prod-

ucts for disabled tribal members, without the disabled tribal member being present.

### MINORS

Minors must be present when fuel is being purchased with their tribal cards.

### MONTHLY QUOTA

The monthly quota for each tribal member is 70 gallons of gasoline and five cartons of cigarettes.

### TRIBAL CODE

Tribal members shall only purchase tax exempt cigarettes, other tobacco products, diesel fuel or gasoline from the tribe for their own use as stipulated in Tribal Code 43§43.1107.

*Note: The tribe tracks all purchases of tobacco products, diesel fuel and gasoline and has a duty to prosecute violations.*

Be the first to get  
**Breaking News!**

Sign up for your  
**SAULT TRIBE E-NEWSLETTER**  
at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com)

### LATEST NEWS!

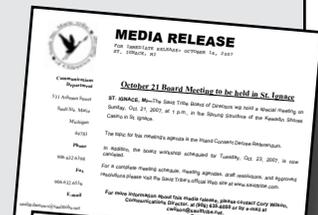
Important updates on issues that affect you.

### MEMBERSHIP SERVICES!

Latest updates to your membership benefits

### NEWSPAPER!

Immediate notification when the latest issue becomes available online.



**Win Awenen Nisitotung**  
THE SAULT TRIBE NEWS  
*The official newspaper of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.*

May 9, 2008  
Waaskoone Giizis-Flower Moon  
Vol. 29, No. 5  
Circulation 19,000

Cory Wilson...Communications Director  
Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor  
Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer  
Rick Smith.....Staff Writer  
Janice Manning.....Administrative Asst.  
Sherrie Lucas...Administrative Secretary  
Nathan Wright...Web Site Administrator  
Darryl Brown...Advertising Sales Assoc.

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 not an independent newspaper. It is funded by

the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and is published 13 times a year by the Communications Department. Its mission is to inform tribal members and non members about the activities of the tribal government, membership programs and services and cultural, social and spiritual activities of Sault Tribe members.

**Our name:** Win Awenen Nisitotung, in our native language, means, "One who well or fully understands," pronounced "Win Oh-weh-nin Nis-toe-tuhng"

**Visit us online:** This issue can be viewed online at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) beginning on its publishing date.

**Subscriptions:** The regular rate is \$13 per year, \$10 for senior citizens, \$25 to Canada, and \$35 to other foreign countries. Subscribe by sending your name and mailing address to the address below with your check or money order made out to the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

**Contact Information:**  
Win Awenen Nisitotung  
Attn: Communications Dept.  
531 Ashmun St.,  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
Telephone: (906) 632-6398  
Fax: (906) 632-6556  
E-mail address:  
[saulttribenews@saulttribe.net](mailto:saulttribenews@saulttribe.net)  
Web site: [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com)

# Ermatinger receives national award for excellence in tribal gaming regulation

Kenneth Ermatinger, executive director of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Tribal Gaming Commission, was awarded the Bruce Longhorn Award for Excellence in Tribal Regulation, the country's highest honor granted to gaming regulators. In addition to overseeing the secu-

rity of all five tribal casinos, Ermatinger is also responsible for ensuring that all Sault Tribe casino operations and staff meet the requirements of tribal, state, and federal laws, regulations, and policies.

Despite tremendous pressure, Ermatinger was one of seven men, serving as techni-

cal advisors to the National Indian Gaming Commission, who stood firm in opposition to the NIGC's proposed Class II gaming regulations. Ermatinger alerted Tribal leaders across the nation that the proposed rules were likely to cause serious damage to tribal economies. Tribal leaders, gaming experts, gaming manufacturers and vendors soon organized in opposition. Ermatinger continued to serve in the forefront of the opposition discussions.

At the award ceremony, Mark Van Norman, executive director of the National Indian Gaming Association, said, "We [the National Indian Gaming Association] appreciated his counsel on the toughest issues of the day."

Ermatinger juggled his service to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe and national leadership responsibilities, with other responsibilities including service as chairman of the Michigan Indian Gaming Communication Network, Midwest area representative to the National Tribal Gaming Commissioners and Regulators Association, and tribal delegate

to the National Indian Gaming Association.

Jaimie Hummingbird, executive director of the National Tribal Gaming Commissioners and Regulators Association, said, "[Ken]...has been fighting for rights of tribes to determine their own destiny." Hummingbird added that Ermatinger has been "a very strong advocate of tribal sovereignty."

Barbara Kyser-Collier, chairwoman of the Oklahoma Tribal Gaming Regulatory Association, said, "Ken has given many years and unknown hours of service towards creating, enforcing and improving regulation of Indian Gaming."



Ken Ermatinger receives his award from the NTGCR Chairperson and the NIGA Chairperson.

# Payment to head inland board

SAULT STE. MARIE— On April 24, during a regularly scheduled meeting of the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA), Chairperson Aaron Payment was elected by a unanimous vote to take the seat of chairman of the Inland Lands and Waters Resources Committee (ILWRC).

The ILWRC is one of two integral committees that oversee regulation under CORA and is tasked with the oversight, regulation and protection of inland resources as they relate to the tribe's right to hunt, fish and gather on the lands and inland waters in the ceded territory of the Treaty of 1836. The other regulatory committee, known as the Great Lakes Resource Committee, oversees fishing in the Great Lakes.

With the recent signing of the 2007 Inland Consent Decree, the ILWRC will be addressing many key areas of importance. Following a referendum vote by Sault Tribe members approving the decree



Chairperson Payment signs a 2006 four-tribe treaty to protect the St. Mary's River.

by 84 percent, work has begun on a real-time permitting system, which will be coordinated between each of the tribes including the development of protocol regarding the distribution of permits for an annual elk hunt and the possibility of inter-tribal law enforcement agreements.

"I am extremely honored and humbled to be elected into this position by the other tribal chiefs and representatives of CORA," said Payment. "When our ancestors signed the treaty they had the strength and fore-

sight to ensure that our rights to hunt, fish and gather would be secured in perpetuity. I pledge to them and their descendants that I will do my utmost to continue to protect these rights."

CORA is comprised of five signatory tribes of the Treaty of 1836 — the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Bay Mills Indian Community, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Each tribe holds two board votes when meeting to conduct business, those votes are made by the highest elected tribal official along with the chairman of the each tribe's natural resource entity. The Sault Tribe is represented by Chairperson Aaron Payment and Conservation Committee Chairman Jason Grondin.

## Commercial fishery HACCP course coming soon

A seafood hazard analysis and critical control point certification course from Michigan Sea Grant is set for Dec. 9-11, 2008, at Bay Mills Community Collegel, near Brimley, Mich.

The HACCP course cannot be held unless the class is full, so call now.

The course is open to all fishers and fish processors. Tribal commercial fishers from Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority member tribes should check with their natural resource departments for additional information.

For details or to sign up, call (906) 632-0043 or (906) 226-3687. Watch for additional information on the course in coming advertisements.

**Bailey Electric, Inc**

Commercial, Residential, and Service Calls  
Serving Sault Ste. Marie & Surrounding Areas

Cell 906-632-8000

**CSB CENTRAL SAVINGS BANK**  
ASK WHAT THE CSB FAMILY CAN DO FOR YOU

WHY WAIT IN LINE  
AT OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS?  
CSB WILL WAIT ON YOU!

# Senior Health and Fitness Day May 28!

The National Senior Health & Fitness Day and Senior Social is slated for Wednesday, May 28, Chi Mukwa/Big Bear. The event begins runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Fun activities such as BINGO, Poker Walk, Health Screenings, Foot Scrubs and Plant Craft are planned. Vendors will be available.

The schedule:

- 9:00 a.m. Registration
- 9:30 a.m. Fitness Walk
- 10:30 a.m. Body Recall Demonstration
- 11:30 a.m. Fitness Walk
- 12:00 p.m. Senior Social/Lunch at Chi Mukwa  
(Don't forget to R.S.V.P. for lunch!)

12:30 p.m. BINGO  
Please R.S.V.P for lunch at (906) 635-7465.



*You Are Invited To Shop At:*

SOO  
CORNER  
STORE

The Most Complete Liquor Store In The Area!

- \* OVER 200 DIFFERENT BEERS IN STOCK
- \* OVER 800 DIFFERENT WINES IN STOCK
- \* THE LARGEST PACKAGE LIQUOR SELECTION AVAILABLE LOCALLY

WE GLADLY ACCEPT SPECIAL ORDERS!

Our promise is to treat you the way a customer should be treated. When you shop Soo Corner Store, you will be greeted with a smile, a friendly hello, and the knowledge that your business is truly appreciated.

204 E. PORTAGE STREET

SAULT, MI

906-632-7672

# Entertainment Interests Group to acquire stake in Detroit's Greektown Casino

DETROIT — Entertainment Interests Group LLC (EIG) is seeking to purchase a significant stake in Greektown Casino, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians confirmed May 6.

EIG and the Sault Tribe executed a Purchase Agreement late Friday under which EIG will acquire a 40-percent interest in Greektown Casino for \$100 million. The Sault Tribe remains majority owners of Greektown Casino, which is in the process of building a 400-room hotel and completing a 25,000-square-foot expansion of the gaming floor.

The transaction now goes to the Michigan Gaming Control Board (MGCB) for approval. EIG will also have to be licensed

by the MGCB, which regulates the three voter-approved casinos in the City of Detroit.

"Presuming the agreement is executed, this moves the casino's ownership structure closer to what was in place prior to the opening of Greektown Casino, when the Sault Tribe had a significant equity partner," said Tom Miller, a Sault Tribe Board member and chairman of the Greektown Casino Management Board.

Miller noted that before Greektown Casino opened in November 2000, the Sault Tribe shared equal ownership of the casino with a group of Detroit developers and community leaders.

Sault Tribe Chairperson

Aaron Payment said EIG's equity investment would improve Greektown Casino's competitive position in Detroit's gaming market and would put the casino on track to provide significant support to programs and services that benefit Sault Tribe members.

"It's no secret that we have been seeking ways to improve our competitive position, to reduce our debt, and to shore up our management," Payment said. "This transaction is necessary for Greektown Casino to become a significant supporter of Sault Tribe member programs and services."

In November, Greektown Casino opened its new attached parking structure, marking the

completion of Phase 1 construction work on the new permanent Greektown Casino and hotel. Phase 2 — construction of the casino's new 400-room hotel and expanded gaming floor — is scheduled to be completed in phases in the coming months. The permanent casino and hotel will include a multi-purpose theater, buffet, three restaurants, and 25,000 square feet of additional gaming space. Total investment in the permanent Greektown Casino project will be about \$500 million.

Located at 555 E. Lafayette Avenue in Detroit's Greektown Entertainment District, Greektown Casino features more than 3,000 slot machines and more than 80 table games in

75,000 square feet of luxurious Mediterranean-themed gaming space.

Greektown Casino opened on Nov. 10, 2000. Readers of The Detroit News and Detroit Free Press have voted Greektown Casino Michigan's and Detroit's "Best Casino" numerous times.

In addition to being named "Best Casino" by readers of The Detroit News and Detroit Free Press, Greektown Casino also placed first in other categories in The News' reader survey, including "Best Slots," "Best Wait Staff Outfits," "Best Craps Tables," "Best Blackjack Tables," "Best High Rollers Area," "Best Casino Restaurant," and "Best Casino Entertainment."

# US Customs recognizes tribal IDs with conditions

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

The final rule for travel documents for Native Americans entering the U.S. at sea and land ports within the Western Hemisphere has been issued by the State Department and Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

After June 1, 2009, people in the U.S. wishing to use tribal membership cards for border crossings must use new enhanced cards. Members with photos on their current cards will be able to use those for border crossings until June 1, 2009.

DHS states it will work with federally recognized tribes if they have strong cultural, historic and religious cross-border ties and are willing to improve the security of enrollment documents or tribal cards.

According to Sault Tribe Attorney Courtney Kachur, on April 29, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors decided to submit a letter of intent to the Department of Homeland Security prior to its May 30 deadline, requesting to work with DHS towards meeting the 2009 deadline for enhanced tribal cards.

"The board has approved moving forward with seeking an agreement with the Department of Homeland Security," Kachur said.

Colleen Manaher, director of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative (WHTI) Program Management Office for the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), said, "CBP is working to increase standards and move into an information sharing agreement with tribes. Tribes have until June 1, 2009, after that, regular tribal membership cards will no longer be valid. Tribes working with CBP will enter into an agreement with us and the enhanced cards will be used after the June 1, 2009, deadline. Tribes have until the end of May to respond that they would like to work with CBP towards this goal. The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) 2008 Mid-Year Conference and Tradeshow is being held June 1-4 and tribes are invited to discuss technical standards regarding the enhanced tribal cards with CBP."

Director of government affairs for NCAI, Heather Dawn Thompson, said, "Tribes will have an all day meeting with DHS on June 1 at the NCAI conference and additional meetings on June 2, with the goal of drafting their memorandums of understanding. Tribes are encouraged to bring a technical person with them to help work out the details of the agreement with DHS." To get your

name on the e-mail listserve for the NCAI Homeland Security Working Group e-mail Heather Thompson at: hthompson@ncai.org.

According to DHS, enhanced tribal cards must establish identity and citizenship and cooperating tribes must provide CBP access to certain parts of tribal enrollment records. In addition, tribes must agree to improve the security of tribal documents in cooperation with CBP.

Youth or adults who don't have photos on their current membership cards must show another form of identification, such as a driver's license or birth certificate, when crossing borders.

"The point of the transition is not to cause confusion," said Kelly Klundt, Customs and Border Protection spokesperson. Klundt said CBP is working to enhance and standardize documents leading to more efficient borders. "We are working with any tribe who gives us a call and expresses an interest in the enhanced tribal card and is willing to raise the standards on their tribal card security," she said. "Working with the tribes, we will be able to ensure their documents are also of the same high caliber as other official secure documents."

As part of the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative,

which began Jan. 31, 2008, travelers crossing the U.S. border are now required to provide documents proving their citizenship and identity. Prior to Jan. 31, 2008, U.S. and Canadian travelers were often allowed entry by oral declaration of citizenship alone.

U.S. and Canadian citizens 19 and older will be asked to present documentation from a specified list of acceptable documents, which includes tribal membership cards with a photo, when entering the U.S. at land or sea ports. A list of other acceptable documents is available at ports of entry and is also available on the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Web site at [www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/home](http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/home).

U.S. and Canadian citizens 18 and under who don't have tribal membership cards with photos will need to present a birth certificate issued by a federal, state, provincial, county or municipal authority.

The final implementation of the travel initiative is expected to take place in June 2009 and will require travelers to present documentation at border cross-

ings showing both citizenship and identity in the form of passports, passport cards used for land or sea port crossings only (not for flight), Trusted Traveler Program cards, enhanced tribal membership cards or other acceptable documentation.

## SOO BUILDERS SUPPLY CO., INC



Lumber Roofing  
Millwork Paints  
Masonry Supplies

632-3384

705 Johnston St.  
(At Bridge)  
Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783

2008  
Come Join Us  
For Family Fun



Come See Our New Look  
It's Hot

Friday and Saturday After 9:00  
**Rock and Bowl**  
Live Music In Bar  
Thursday Friday and Saturday

Sunday After 6:00  
**Bowl \$1.00 per game**

**DONDEELANES**

3162 MACKINAW TRAIL SAULT - MICHIGAN 906-632-2269

## Spring Loan Special

7%  
APR\*  
36 Months  
\$1,000 - \$5,000

SOO CO-OP CREDIT UNION

-Main Office-  
536 Bingham Ave.  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-6819

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

Brimley - Cedarville - Kinross

Home Improvements, Vacation, Recreation



\*APR = Annual Percentage Rate. The Base Annual Percentage Rate is the advertised rate and can vary based on creditworthiness. Your rate can be higher or lower depending on credit performance. Rates are subject to change without notice. Can not be combined with any other SCCU Loan. Some Restrictions do apply.



**VOTE**

# PAYMENT

**Tribal Chairperson**

**Representing All Members Everywhere**

**The old saying goes, "Too many chiefs and not enough Indians." Everyone wants to be chief but not everyone is qualified to serve. I have testified in Congress twice on our behalf and have the education and experience to serve. I have balanced our budget for the last four years. Our tribal debt was created by poor business practices of the former chairperson. We need experience, stability and integrity moving forward. Let's finish what we started. — Aaron A. Payment, MPA**

One of the distinct privileges I have as your elected Tribal Chairperson/CEO is the responsibility to represent our Tribe in many capacities. I take my responsibility seriously and always portray our Tribe in a positive manner. Since becoming your Chairperson, I have balanced our budget every single year by under-spending a whopping \$11.5 million over the last four years. Contrary to the portrayal of some irresponsible candidates (including incumbents) I did not create the Tribal deficit. I have under-spent every year while preserving services and protecting Tribal jobs. While some have decried the costs of returning the Tribal Employee Incentive to all employees, I stand proudly with our casino and government team members and say thank you for your service in helping to balance our budget each year and drive up revenue.

During my administration, I have worked with the Joseph K. Lumsden School Board to expand our school to by nearly 40%! As the former School Board president, I am proud that our school has standardized test scores that exceed the local schools' scores. We worked through the union issue and teachers chose to work together as a team to ensure good benefits, competitive pay, and a cooperative approach to problem solving. Directors Dennis McKelvie and DJ Hoffman both voted against expanding the school. We not only filled the over 100 new slots, we immediately had a waiting list. One of my heroes, June (Curran) Pocaro, is pictured to the left. This great woman inspires me for the work she has done with saving our youth from difficult lives. During my college days, she invited me into her home to do a counseling practicum with run-a-way and foster children. Last fall, the Tribe honored June for her decades of service to our youth.

Greektown Casino continues to represent some serious challenges with construction delays, a poor management team and the constant wrangling of Tribal politics, which threatens our very viability. Make no mistake, the deal to give away 50% ownership to the Greeks was orchestrated by the former Chair, as well as, the deal to give them \$268,000,000 for their \$24,000 investment! With all of the boasting by the Board, arguing to have a "presence" at Greektown, they can point to no one but themselves for our current situation of being nearly \$35 million over budget in the permanent casino development. Long ago, they removed me as the Chief Executive and last year removed me as Chair of the Management Board. Pure politics! Instead of living the high-life by traveling to Detroit weekly and spending lavish weekends at the Greek's luxury four star hotel, attending Piston's, Red Wings', Lions' and Tigers' games on the Tribe's dime (then gambling at our competitors' casinos!) maybe the Board

should focus on moving Greektown from a marginal profit to become the cash cow it is intended to be. To the right is a photo of me with our then Vice-Chair Bob LaPoint at the groundbreaking for the permanent casino. During the last four years, even with our tight financial situation, we have significantly expanded some programs and services of the Tribe. With the dedicated team

members working in our grants department and in our programs and services of health and housing, we have been successful in acquiring USDA funding for our newly renovated Munising Health Center. We also applied for and received a significant level Community Services block grant for housing expansion and added several new quads at our Odenaang site. The picture below shows the team effort from housing team members.

Over the last four years, I have met with Members over 300 times during monthly Tribal Town Meetings. These meetings have been held in Sault Ste. Marie, Sugar Island, Kincheloe, Brimley, Newberry (photo to the right is Elder Joanne Karson of Newberry), Naubinway, Drummond Island, Hessel, St. Ignace, Mackinac Island, Manistique, Escanaba, Marquette, Munising, Mackinaw City, Cheboygan, Pellston, Petoskey, Gaylord, Detroit, East Lansing, and Grand Rapids. I started these meetings three years ago so no one would be able to say I did so just at election time. Through meeting with our Indian relatives across the State, my perspective and support for "At Large" representation and a "Revenue Share" plan to guarantee all Members benefit from the Tribe has become crystal clear.

Giving of oneself and helping one another is our tradition as Indian people. The photos below show my personal commitment to using my position as Chairperson to do good for the lives of others. I give of myself and promote giving. I serve on the Community Action Board as Vice-Chair, Habitat for Humanity Board, and use my position as Chair to challenge casino and government team members to give to the United Way. Each year, I have challenged Team Members by donating over \$1,000 of my own personal funds as a match to their giving. In 2007, the total giving was \$20,000 - nearly \$4,000 more than the previous year. I also promote giving to the Special Olympics by running across the "Mighty Mac" during their annual torch run. In 2006 I ran 13 miles! If I am re-elected, I plan to run from St. Ignace all the way to Cheboygan, which is about 18 miles to show unity and my support of our Members who live South of the Bridge.

As you can see, I love the honor of serving as your Chairperson. I pledge to work harder to bring unity to our Tribe. I humbly ask for your continued support and vote to finish what we started.

Thank you,

*Aaron*



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN THE PAYMENT RE-ELECTION TEAM, PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL:**

**Call: 1-906-632-2446**

**Email: aaronpayment@aaronpayment.com**

**Website: aaronpayment.com**

**\*\*\* Paid for by Tribal Members Everywhere to Re-elect Aaron Payment Tribal Chairperson \*\*\***



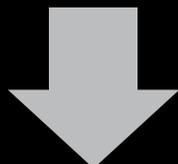
*"The Tribe is a Family made up of many large and extended family Members. While I may share a last name connection with other individuals running for office, I HAVE NO IMMEDIATE FAMILY running for, or currently serving in, TRIBAL OFFICE. Each individual offers their own special assets, and I wish them all the best. However, this election is not about what is best for the "I"ndividual. It is about what is best for the Tribe!"*

## TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

*"It is time the Tribe took a positive step forward from the past administrations and WE can make that happen together."*

*Joe*

**You have  
a choice  
to make**



### POLITICAL INSTABILITY

Tribe is currently facing 15 million dollar operating deficit.

### FISCAL CRISIS

### TRANSITION

Upon election the TRIBAL BOARD will serve as THE TRIBE'S TRANSITION TEAM.

### PLANNING

WE will develop Short Term and Long Term Plans based upon the Membership input and needs.

REALISTIC GOALS will be set.

### GOVERNMENT

WE WILL SEPARATE THE CHAIRMAN AND CEO positions to ensure that politics do not interfere in the workplace and that an emphasis on productivity, profitability, and quality membership service is instilled.

We will be professional.

We will be respectful.

### FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

WE will review and analyze each department, service, and expense of the Tribe to ensure that our resources are being utilized effectively and efficiently.

Waste WILL be cut. Fat WILL be trimmed. We will pay down debt.

### ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION

WE WILL develop a SEPARATE ECONOMIC ARM devoid of the politics of the Tribe to generate revenues necessary to fund services for this, as well as the next 7 Generations.

Government Contracting and corporate set aside business projects will be sought out and developed.

**We will  
do this  
Together**

To join the campaign or for questions call: **1-888-4 McCoy1**  
P.O. Box 93, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 • Email: [joe@mccoy4chairman.com](mailto:joe@mccoy4chairman.com)

Visit me at [www.mccoy4chairman.com](http://www.mccoy4chairman.com)

# It's all about our future and honoring our past

## My Profile

I was born and raised here and I grew up in the midst of our culture and traditions and the beginning of our tribal politics. My father (Ken McCoy), who was elected to the board in the earlier days, taught me the value of serving in our government and about the riches we had in our culture and traditions. My mother (Helen Gurnoe McCoy) taught me the importance of taking care of families and our elders. They both taught me to love and respect myself and others.

Sugar Island was the center of my universe. Like most Anishinabe, I grew up where families would gather together at one another's houses to play cards and wait till dark so that the men could go set nets or spear fish (exercise their rights). Fun times would happen when the adults would play the fiddle and guitar and sing and dance. Our families would go sucker clubbing every spring so that we would be provided with the wonderful smoked fish that our parents would prepare for us. We picked a lot of blueberries, enough to keep for months. My grandmother lived with us and we grew up listening to our elders speaking our language. We were blessed with plenty of fresh fish and venison, wild game and berries, medicinal plants, cold clean water and cool fresh air. We were fortunate to have parents and relatives that took good care of us.

This is who I am. This is what I'm all about. Being Anishinabe is the life I know and love and I'm proud of it! I love our people. I love our land. I love our way of life. This is how I was raised and how I raised my children and this is how they are raising their children. Keeping our culture and traditions alive is what drives me to work hard for our tribal families.

**VOTE FOR AN EFFECTIVE  
PROVEN LEADER  
VOTE FOR  
CATHY ABRAMSON**

**For Strong  
Positive Leadership  
Re-Elect  
Cathy (McCoy)  
Abramson  
Unit 1 -  
Board of Directors**

**In order to keep what  
we have,  
we must develop**



**A more positive image for our tribe-We are a good people.**

This starts with our leadership. Leadership needs to set the example.

Because of the political infighting, we have become our own worst enemies. Instead of tearing each other down, we need to encourage one another to use their talents to help build up our tribe. "The hurt of one is the hurt of all" "The honor of one is the honor of all." If we want to accomplish things, we must show each other respect.

**More promotion and preservation of our people, our environment, our language, culture and traditions.**

### Economic Development

We need to re-establish our Economic Development Commission and Department. There are many business opportunities for us to explore so that we may diversify our business opportunities. Some potential business opportunities include alternative energy source development. We should never stop trying.

Helping members become self sufficient by assisting with native artisans' sales and distribution, small business education, mentoring and incentives.

We are facing hard economic times - Not just our tribe, but the State and the Nation. It is important that we work with other tribes and other units of government to develop partnerships that will prove to be more cost effective and beneficial for everyone.

### Continue to Improve Our Constitution and By-Laws

Amendments need to be made to separate the Judicial Branch and define the roles of the Chairman and Board of Directors.

### Concentrate on Real Issues

Too much time is spent on petty issues when there are real issues that need our full attention. We can do so much more.

I deal with the hard issues that we face. **I fight hard for our People! With your support, I will continue to do so.**

# Mentors with Anishinaabe ancestry needed



Lynda Garlitz, executive director of Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Sault Ste. Marie. The organization serves families throughout Chippewa County.

BY RICK SMITH

Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Sault Ste. Marie is seeking two gentlemen of American Indian ancestry to act as mentors for two 8-year-old boys. The families of the boys came to the

organization specifically seeking mentors who are members of a tribe.

"It's important that these young men have a quality role model to instill the life lessons that every child should be equipped with," said Lynda Garlitz, executive director. "We need someone who's willing to help these young folks. I think the families want them to continue learning their ancestral heritage and cultural life lessons."

She said both mothers of the boys are Sault Tribe members.

Those interested must obtain and submit an application, undergo a criminal background screening and participate in an interview. The criminal background check is usually the longest part of the process and can take one to two weeks. One of the goals in interviews is to

gauge compatibility between mentors and youngsters.

Children in the program also go through interviews to get a sense of their compatibility ranges.

Once a match is established, the mentor and child are introduced in the company of family and a representative of the Big Brothers organization. This is the time to set a routine for visitations; mutual free time is discussed and a visitation schedule is established. It is also a good time to explore potential mutual interests or hobbies.

Ideal candidates are responsible, conscientious individuals with good leadership qualities.

According to Big Brothers, Big Sisters of America, one study of nearly 1,000 children aged 10 to 16 concluded that after 18 months of mentoring, youngsters were 46 percent

less likely to begin using illegal drugs, 27 percent less likely to begin using alcohol and 52 percent less likely to skip school. In addition, the youth were more confident of their performance in school, one-third less likely to hit someone and got along better with their families.

The organization reports Big Brothers, Big Sisters volunteers have the greatest impact in the area of alcohol and substance abuse prevention. For every 100 youngsters between the ages 10 and 16 who start using drugs, the study found, only 54 similar youth who are matched with a mentor will start using drugs. Minority boys and girls were the most strongly influenced; they were 70 percent less likely than their peers to initiate drug use.

"The Bigs and Littles have fun together," the organization

states in introductory material. "They create memories that last a lifetime. We call it 'Little moments . . . big magic.'" Research on our volunteer programs points to the powerful, positive, lasting impact Bigs have on children's lives."

Once a match is made, either of the pair may end the arrangement, if desired, and try again with a more suitable pairing.

If needed, the organization does have some training available.

Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Sault Ste. Marie can be reached at (906) 635-5188 or via e-mail at [bbsssm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bbsssm@sbcglobal.net).

Some Sault Tribe members currently serve on the organization's board of directors while other members are actively involved in a mentorship either as a Big or a Little.

## Parental help sought for "Safe Routes to School"

On May 17, at 9:30 a.m. until 12 p.m., the JKL Bahweting School Safe Routes to School team will host a walking audit of routes students use to walk and bike to school. Safe Routes to School is a national and state program to increase walking and biking to school along safe routes. The walking audit is the main Safe Routes to School activity at JKL Bahweting School.

Community members and parents are encouraged to participate in the JKL Bahweting School Walking Audit. Walkers will help identify the safest routes for children to walk and bike to school. Participants are asked to sign up by contacting Kim Schutz at 635-5055 and to meet at the school in the cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. The event will include directions to use a simple checklist, walking a designated route, mapping results and developing recommendations to increase safe walking and biking to school. The walking portion of the audit will take

approximately 50 minutes.

Findings of the walking audit will be used to create a SR2S action plan to increase safety on routes students walk or bike. A benefit to students from Safe Routes to School is the regular physical activity they receive from walking or biking daily to and from school. A recent national survey found that while 70 percent of parents walked or bicycled to school as children, only 18 percent of their children walk or bike to school today. Three out of five children aged nine to 13 don't get any physical activity outside of school physical education. The Centers for Disease Control predicts that one-third of children born since 2000 will develop Type 2 diabetes unless Americans start eating less and exercising more.

For more information on Safe Routes to School at JKL Bahweting School, contact Kim Schutz at 635-5055 or Donna Norkoli at Sault Tribe Community Health at 635-8844.

## War Memorial Hospital seeks interns from LSSU

War Memorial Hospital's Behavioral Health Center (BHC) has announced available internship opportunities for criminal justice students at Lake Superior State University.

Internships are open to students in their third or fourth year of the program. They will be responsible for assisting BHC staff in maintaining safety and security in the facility.

Some of the duties to be provided by the interns are envi-

ronmental, safety and security rounds in the center, safety education and assisting staff with conflict resolution.

In return, interns will receive work experience in the mental health field and will learn a new skill set relating to interaction with adults in crisis.

Applications can be completed online at [www.warmemorialhospital.org](http://www.warmemorialhospital.org). To learn more about the Behavioral Health Center, call 495-HELP.

### Sault Ste. Marie Farmers' Market open for season

The Sault Ste. Marie Farmers' Market is now open for the season. The market is open Wednesdays from 5:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the Sault downtown parking lot at Maple and Ashmun Street behind the Courthouse Annex. The market accepts EBT Food Stamps. It also offers gift certificates by phone at 635-6368. To become a vendor, call Jim Lucas at 635-6368 or email [lucasj@msu.edu](mailto:lucasj@msu.edu) for details.

## Consider Your Car Buying Options

When vehicle shopping be sure not *only* to consider all the different vehicle options like leather interior, sunroof, etc. but also consider your loan options too! Locally here at First National Bank of St. Ignace we can tailor a loan to fit your specific needs. Be prepared when you set out to purchase a new vehicle, stop in today to see how we can help you through the process and enjoy not waisting a ton of time as all loan decisions are made locally.



It's all about YOU

Trust the Eastern Upper Peninsula's oldest community bank, celebrating 118 years of continuous service to the area.



"We're Right Here at Home"

Branch Offices at:  
NORTH BAY & MORAN TOWNSHIP, ST. IGNACE  
CEDARVILLE • MACKINAC ISLAND  
NAUBINWAY • NEWBERRY

Member FDIC



132 N. State St. • Ph. (906) 643-6800  
P.O. Box 187 • St. Ignace, MI 49781

Member FDIC

**Want to know what other Sault Tribe members are doing in your community? Check out the Community Calendar on page 31 and you just might see something to interest you in getting out and getting involved with them!**

# Canadian groups seek justice for ancestors

BY RICK SMITH

Citing information from eyewitness accounts, survey data, physical evidence and documentary reports, an organization called the Friends and Relatives of the Disappeared recently initiated a media campaign in Vancouver, B.C., aimed at acquiring justice for countless American Indian children who

perished or were raped, tortured or mutilated in Canadian Indian boarding schools and hospitals.

The organization, along with another recently formed group called the International Human Rights Tribunal into Genocide in Canada, seeks the assistance of the world community and the United Nations (U.N.). The friends and relatives group

released a list of 28 sites of mass graves of American Indian children across Canada on April 10, the tribunal launched its official investigations on April 15 and U.N. agencies received the list of mass graves from the tribunal on April 19.

The list bears 13 sites of mass graves in British Columbia, four in Alberta, three in

Manitoba, seven in Ontario and one in Quebec. The sites in Ontario include Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay. The site of the former Shingwauk Anglican school, operated from 1873 to 1969, is the sole listing for Sault Ste. Marie. Algoma University College now occupies the site of the former Shingwauk Indian Residential School.

"Today, we are releasing to this tribunal and to the people of the world the enclosed information on the location of mass graves connected to Indian residential schools and hospitals in order to prevent the destruction of this crucial evidence by the Canadian government, the RCMP and the Anglican, Catholic and United churches of Canada," a Friends and Relatives of the Disappeared press statement noted.

The statement also named presiding members of the tribunal under whose authority the body was established. Those members are Chief Kiapilano of the Squamish Nation; Chief Louis Daniels (Whispers Wind), Anishinaabe Nation; Chief Svnoyi Wohali (Night Eagle), Cherokee Nation; Lillian Shirt, clan mother, Cree Nation; elder Ernie Sandy, Anishinabe

Nation; Chief Steve Sampson, Chemainus Nation; and Chief Red Jacket of Turtle Island.

"We have no confidence that the very institutions of church and state that are responsible for these deaths can conduct any kind of impartial or real inquiry into them," the statement continued. "Accordingly, as of April 15, 2008, we are establishing an independent, non-governmental inquiry into the deaths and disappearances of Indian residential school children across Canada."

The tribunal seeks a U.N. declaration of the mass graves as protected heritage sites and asks for the assistance of international human rights observers. The assistance would be part of a genuine inquiry and judicial prosecution of those responsible for the atrocities, according to the statement.

The organizations pointed out that the released listing is only a partial list. Children who were dying were often sent home by school and church officials, and the remains of other children who died at the school were incinerated in the residential school furnaces, according to the organizations.

# Have disability, will travel

BY RICK SMITH

Folks old and fortunate enough to have had a television may remember the popular series starring Richard Boone as the dashing, hired gentleman gunslinger, Palladin, a sort of black knight of the wild west. His calling cards in the old television program featured a profile of a black knight chess piece and read *Have Gun, Will Travel*. Now, thanks to the federal Web site [www.disabilityinfo.gov](http://www.disabilityinfo.gov), people with disabilities can relate a similar phrase.

The Web site is a portal of information for disabled folks on topics such as employment, education, housing, health, benefits, technology, community life and civil rights.

Simply log onto the site and click on the topic tabs at the top of the page. In the case of transportation, you'll be redirected to a page titled *Transportation: Freedom to travel independently across town or across the country*.

Once there, you will see a brief overview

of the section and subcategories on accessible transportation, emergency preparedness, public assistance, transportation providers and communities. A news archive is also available in this section.

One of the subcategories, *Youth, families and seniors*, is divided into more specific information and links for disabled people at various ages. In addition, there are highlights of news and events, grants and funding, along with laws and regulations.

Subject titles under this subcategory cover tips, resources and links on aspects from a guide for successful and independent travel on public transportation systems training for youth from the National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities to the American Public Transit Association *Resource Guide for Services to Senior Citizens*.

That and much, much more wait to be found at [www.disabilityinfo.gov](http://www.disabilityinfo.gov).

**Editor's note: For Sault Tribe members convenience, the application below for a harvest license, fishing license or both may be completed and mailed to Sault Tribe Law Enforcement. For more information, please read "How will treaty hunting season be implemented?" on page 2.**

## HARVEST LICENSE AND FISHING LICENSE INFORMATION UPDATE/APPLICATION

To receive a harvest (hunt, trap) license and/or a fishing license, you must have a current enrollment card, please include a copy with your update/application to expedite the issuance process.

Effective Feb. 26, 2008, Sault Tribe members are required to follow new regulations in Chapter 21 of the Tribal Code, which will be included with your permit package or may be viewed online at the Sault Tribe's official Web site [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) under the "government documents" menu and "tribal code" sub-menu.

\*\*\*\*\*

APPLICANT: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_ SEX: \_\_\_\_\_

DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

PICK UP: You must check one of the locations if you are intending to pick your permit up at one of these sites on the designated dates and times. Otherwise staff will not know to bring your permit to that location and your permit will not be available at that time.

- Cheboygan       Escanaba       Manistique       Munising
- Newberry       Sault Ste. Marie       St. Ignace

MAIL "For mailing please include \$4 postage fee at time of submittal"

Please designate the type of permit you are requesting by checking one of the following:

- Harvest License (Hunt, Trap)     Fishing License
- Both Harvest and Fishing     Youth

All permit applications and renewals will be held on file at Sault Tribe Law Enforcement for one year pending issuance. You must either check one of the above boxes or pick up at the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Law Enforcement Department in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

Return applications to Sault Tribe Law Enforcement, PO Box 925, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

**Baaweting Anishinaabek T-Shirts**

Credit cards accepted. ASAP shipping. Call 1-888-245-5887

Available in red or blue

**only \$15** + shipping

Sizes: youth small to 3XL

Family discount:  
3 = \$14 each  
7 = \$12 each

google: rapid pilot

www.rapidpilot.com

**26th Annual W.M.H. Auxiliary Flea Market**

Saturday, June 7, 2007  
8:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Kaines Rink  
E. Easterday

**Annual Raffle Drawing**  
3 Chances To Win  
\$1000 - \$500 - \$250  
Tickets May Be Purchased at WMH Gift Shop

Donations of Items Accepted Starting May 27th 9:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m. at Kaine's Rink

**SORRY**  
No Refrigerators, Freezers or Windows can be accepted

# 2008 Primary Election!

Editor's note: The Sault Tribe Election Code calls for newspaper space given to the election candidates so that readers can become acquainted with them. Each candidate is offered a 400-word profile and photo, or equivalent ad. All candidates submitting profiles by the deadline were given space on this and subsequent pages, by category, in alphabetical order. See page 1 for election details!



**ACTION - UNITY**  
 community participation tradition  
**ELECT**  
**Bernard "BUD" BIRON**  
 Unit 1 Board Of Directors



**CONTACT**  
 ogeemachichuk@yahoo.com  
**(906)635-1392**  
 ...or stop by for coffee!!  
 5751 W 6 Mile Rd. Brimley



**VISION FOR THE FUTURE**

We need to establish and make progress toward a clear Tribal community vision. I will advocate that our Tribe establishes a sound vision and path to achieve that vision. Our processes of community planning and governance must honor the needs of our citizenry and utilize our own Tribal member expertise. My focus will be on ensuring the long term cultural, economic and political resilience and success of our Tribe. I have always and will continue to work toward a future where our people understand and embrace our history, language and culture.

**PERSONAL BACKGROUND**

My family is from the north end of Sugar Island and Garden River. My wife and I have been married for 25 years and we are the proud parents of five children. We have raised our children to be culturally grounded and to value their family, tribal community and education. I have remained committed to our Tribal people all my life, as a volunteer, mentor to Tribal youth, traditional singer/drumkeeper, educator and Tribal employee

**QUALIFICATIONS**

Salut Tribe Mary Murry Cultural Camp Director from 1991 through present

Extensive experience directly relevant to Tribal governance including fiscal management, Tribal program operations, administrative leadership and cultural advisement to Tribal BOD and conservation committee

**WHY SHOULD YOU VOTE FOR ME**

I will rely on our traditional value system to guide all decisions made for our members. I will use traditional leadership to achieve cohesion within our Board and cooperate with all BOD members and Chairperson regardless of personality conflicts or political disputes. My focus has always been on service to the community. As a BOD member, I will focus on Tribal Community improvement, not re-election. The members will get my full-time dedication. I have a long standing relationship with members in and the service area. I will maintain open communication for all members  
 Advocate for equal treatment for all members  
 I will focus on the long term health and strength of our Tribe and will not accept short sighted leadership or decision making. Chi Megwetch

## Chairperson candidates

### Chairperson Candidate James Causley



**JAMES CAUSLEY**

Ahneen, my name is James Causley and I am the son of Lorraine and John Causley, Sr. My grandparents are Perry Causley, a Sault Tribe member, and Mary Osogwin, a Mackinaw Band member. I am 55 years old and have been married to my wonderful wife, Dorothy, for the past 33 years. Together, we raised four children and have lived in the Kinross area for the past 26 years. In June 2007, I retired from a state governmental agency (MDOC) after completing 28 years of loyal service.

My goals as chairman of the Sault Tribe will be to:

- Promote integrity through

personal example.

- Advance excellence by facilitating the growth of individuals.

- Encourage teamwork by establishing common and achievable goals.

- Ensure inclusion of the membership in all areas of government.

The moral values of the Seven Grandfathers will form the foundation of my service. As tribal members, listed at the top of our organizational chart, we must eliminate the nepotism, cronyism, favoritism and corruption that have plagued our tribal government. We cannot accept blame any longer. Without tribal membership intervention, a loss of our tribal sovereignty is almost guaranteed.

Teamwork: We've established numerous committees within our government with concerned tribal members, yet we have not established an ethics committee. It's more obvious now than ever before our elected officials need to be held accountable and responsible for their actions. An ethics committee established by the people will provide guidelines and

traditional values that promote honesty, integrity and respect for those whose trust we rely on. As concerned tribal members looking to provide a more promising future for our children and their children, we must accept that responsibility.

Inclusion: We shall audit and examine every department, every enterprise including the expenditures of our elected officials and eliminate exuberant spending and waste of tribal revenue. Every wasted penny results in loss of programs and services now and in the future seven generations.

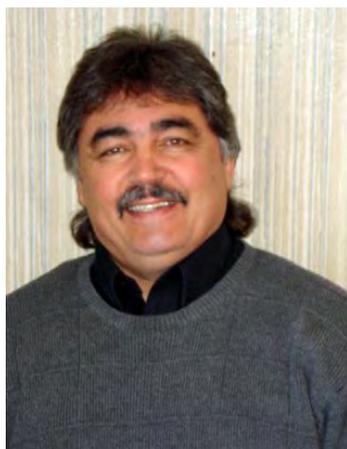
Constitutional crisis: Together most of our tribal members and at least half of our elected officials have identified problems that have plagued our tribal government. We must separate the combined powers of the elected chairperson and tribal CEO. The abuse of this position is well documented and the results have been a devastating loss of tribal revenue.

Our guiding beliefs must always be:

Elders are priority. Our children are the future.

I humbly ask for your support.

### Chairperson Candidate Darwin "Joe" McCoy



**DARWIN "JOE" MCCOY**

My name is Darwin "Joe" McCoy and I am asking you grant me the opportunity and privilege of serving as the next chairman of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

I am a lifelong resident of Sault Ste. Marie and Sugar Island. My parents are Joyce (Leask) McCoy and the late Arthur "Nugs" McCoy. I have seven brothers and sisters, am married with three children, have one granddaughter and one grandson.

Currently, the unprecedented turmoil within our tribe shows that we are at a political cross-

roads. Our financial difficulties are as bad as they've ever been, and we have been consistently overspending our resources. We have repeatedly failed to take full advantage of our resources and opportunities. THIS MUST CHANGE!

As a businessman, I have operated in adverse and difficult climates. However, I have always been able to forge solutions to resolve problems through professionalism, honesty and hard work.

Our tribe is in desperate need of a leader with business knowledge, community awareness and the perspective to bring unity. I am that person!

I have operated successful businesses for over 30 years. I am presently an owner and president of MCM Marine, Inc. and Soo Marine Supply, Inc. Since 1984, M.C.M. Marine, Inc. has been a premier contractor in all aspects of the marine industry. Our employees' experience, training and safety records are exemplary by any standards.

As a father and grandfather, I want to leave our children a

legacy of a strong and healthy community. I want ALL tribal members, from our children to our elders, to once again be proud of our tribe and have faith in its leadership. WE will fulfill the sacred trust and the responsibility of serving OUR membership.

It is time WE move past the current political gamesmanship and refocus on improving the lives of ALL tribal members. Together, WE will make a difference.

I ask that you place your faith in me. I will apply the same professionalism, compassion, dedication and patience to the issues facing our tribe that I have applied to my family and business life.

You have my word that I will always act in the best interests of ALL tribal members and will work tirelessly with the BOARD and membership to unify our community.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at joe@mccoy4chairman.com, toll free at 1-888-4MCCOY1, or visit me on the web at: www.mccoy4chairman.com.

## Chairperson Candidate Dennis McKelvie



**DENNIS MCKELVIE**  
and I have and will continue to work full time for the members.

In 1969, I graduated from Sault High and joined the U.S. Army as a cavalry scout and my first assignment was in Vietnam. I received many awards during the next 24 years, a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart and many more. I retired the day after my son graduated from high school, with the rank of 1SGT/E-8.

The main reason I want to be your chairperson is that I'm not happy with the direction our tribe is going. Most of our board meetings are like small wars of words. Sides have been

taken and most of the time neither side will give an inch.

This must stop, we must put our personal feelings aside and work only to better the tribe, not just for ourselves. I believe I can unite the board not by fear or intimidation, but by being a team moving forward to fulfill our members needs.

I have some beliefs that I follow.

1. Be honest, even if it makes you uncomfortable.

2. Don't be afraid to fail.

You learn by failures, you don't learn if you quit.

3. A person's word is their bond.

4. Believe in our people. We can do anything.

5. Remember we are a team. No one person got the tribe to where we are at and no one by themselves will move the tribe to the next level.

6. This is my thank you to the members and employees for making our tribe what we are.

The words above are almost exactly the same words I wrote four years ago — have you seen anything change?

Dennis McKelvie

## Chairperson Candidate Aaron Payment



**AARON PAYMENT**

As a public servant, I am driven to make the lives of ALL tribal members better — this includes members in Sault Ste.

Marie, Kincheloe, Sugar Island, Brimley and other towns in Unit I; members on the western end like Manistique, Escanaba, Marquette, Munising; along the southern border of the service area like St. Ignace, Mackinac Island; and everywhere in between like Pickford, Hessel, Newberry, Naubinway and DeTour/Drummond Island. We must never forget the 64 percent of our blood relatives who live outside of the service area. During the last four years, I have met with members monthly over a record 300 times throughout Michigan! If re-elected, I will expand these meetings; I only know one way

to represent you — after meeting with you face-to-face.

I am running for re-election to finish what we started. From a high school drop-out at 16 to a master's degree in public administration and two-thirds of my doctorate degree, I am the most qualified of the chairperson candidates to oversee a large governmental operation such as ours. This is real life. My entire career has been devoted to serving Indian people. I am proud to have represented our tribe in the Michigan and U.S. legislatures — twice now, I have testified in the U.S. Congress representing our tribe. None of my opponents can say

this and none have this level of knowledge, education or experience.

As a Catholic/Christian and as a traditional Anishinaabe, I believe that we have a duty and obligation to improve the lives of all of our people no matter where we live. With my specific background in public administration, political science, government, administrative procedures, and public policy, I pledge to continue to use my skills to improve our tribal government.

Each and every day, during my morning prayers, I recommit myself to serving

the Creator, our people and our tribe. Armed with my faith, and the support and "Will of the People," I remain resolute to represent your interests. When times are tough, as a tribe, we must all come together. My sincere hope and dream is to one day unify our tribe. With your help and support, we can reach our collective vision together for today and for future generations.

Thank you for your support and encouragement. I would be humbled to continue to serve you as your chairperson and would greatly appreciate your vote.

# Unit I representative primary candidates

*Editor's note: Unit I primary election candidates Cathy Abramson, Bernard "Bud" Biron, Joseph Eitrem, Wayne Goetz and John "Jack" Kibble did not submit candidate profiles.*

## Unit I Candidate John "Jack" Biron



**JOHN "JACK" BIRON**

My wife, Dawn, and I have been married for 40 years, with two children and six grandchildren.

I am a volunteer Tribal Culture Committee member and a traditional dancer.

I worked in quality control in the paper industry for many years and have owned and operated a successful woodcutting business.

My six-year employment at Kewadin Casino as executive host afforded me opportunities to study casino operations and employee relations. I was responsible for all five casinos and hotel/motel operations. I was authorized as a super user for the marketing, hotel operations, and gaming computer software. I monitored customer gaming habits, possible corruption and inside policies and practices. The knowledge I gained through this experience should be shared with other

board members to help guide decision-making.

My present occupation as a satellite systems technician has provided me an opportunity to work with my family in an Anishinaabe-owned business.

Small businesses are very important to our local economy. They increase economic diversity within our tribal community. By creating jobs and providing services, these businesses help our community thrive. We must acknowledge the role these businesses play and find ways to support them so they can get the upper hand in competitive business relations and growth.

Education is extremely important to the continuous growth and development of our tribe. Our children are the future of tribal sovereignty. We must ensure that all tribal members can go to college. Good examples, like the one in Kalamazoo, Michigan, guarantee that all children who work hard in school will be able to access the halls of higher education, even if they can't afford it.

Our tribal employees deserve respect and recognition. Locker room facilities, fresh uniform changes, discounted meals, wage increases and other incentives will enhance longevity. All we need to do is ask the employees what they need and respond to it.

Negativity has stifled creativity and innovation among our elected leadership. It makes

it hard to succeed in getting the job done if the same people you are supposed to be collaborating with constantly sabotage your efforts. Working together we can get past all this. Working together we can become the greatest tribe of all. I humbly ask you to afford me the opportunity to serve all tribal citizens in the future as a board member in Unit I.

Your COMPLETE  
Underground Utility Contractor  
Over 30 - Years Experience

**SEPTIC SYSTEMS  
SEPTIC TANKS & DRAINFIELD  
WATER & SEWER INSTALLATIONS**

*Belongga*

**PLUMBING & HEATING**

115 Elliott, St. Ignace  
(906)643-9595

Open Mon - Fri 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Local  
Agents

Recently acquired  
Bristol West  
Insurance Group

**Bouschor & Sherman Agency**

NEW LOCATION

2303 Ashmun Street  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
1-906-635-0284  
Toll Free 1-866-635-0284

SAVE up to 40%



**Robert Holmes & Jason Smith**

6 East Spring Street  
Sainte Ignace, MI 49781  
1-906-643-8630



Call for a free insurance quote on  
Auto ~ Home ~ Life ~ Specialty ~ Commercial

**Dedicated And Committed To Serving The Membership**

“We are at the cross roads and your vote is going to be critical. I would be honored to have the opportunity to continue serving you and to be your indepepndent voice.”



**Please Re-Elect**

Your Independent Voice Working Full Time For The Betterment Of All Tribal Members

(906)322-3821  
(906)632-8567

JosephEitrem@yahoo.com

## Joe Eitrem

Businessman  
Sugar Island Elder

### OPEN LETTER TO OUR MEMBERS

I will not ask you to read a bunch of political garbage and outrageous promises that cannot be kept. Let me give you two examples of what I am talking about.

1. Profit sharing for all Tribal members.
2. Country wide health care.

These promises are misleading, presently we cannot fund the current programs for our membership in the seven county service area. Although the above two examples are programs that should be our priorities for the future, they are not financially possible at this time.

If everything goes well financially in Greektown, we will pay down our debt in approximately eight to ten years.

I will ask you to think about this:

How is it that candidates running for our elected offices need to tear down, destroy other individuals. Could it be that these individuals have not or can not offer positive contributions for the betterment of our Tribe?

Don't be fooled by candidates that make outrageous promises that cannot be fulfilled in order to get your vote. What is important is how they benefit the Tribe.

We are in financial tough times both in Greektown and our northern casinos and it is imperative that we have a strong board and Chairman that are willing to work together anddedicate the necessary time to achieve success for our members.

Romulus may take eight to ten years depending on what Congress decides.

In the mean time I am working to secure the 8A Status that will allow us a chance to bid on big government contracts.

We are all in this together and we need to respect each other. It is OK to disagree on the issues but we should also be looking for a way to compromise. Remember, a Tribe divided cannot stand, we need to unite and work together.

Thank You for allowing me to serve these past 31/2 years. With your support and vote, I will humbly serve you for another four years.

Re-Elect

Thank You

# Joe Eitrem

Unit 1 Board of Directors



## Unit I Candidate Bernard Bouschor



**BERNARD BOUSCHOR**

My name is Bernard Bouschor. **I AM A CANDIDATE FOR UNIT I AND I ASK FOR YOUR VOTE.** I urge you to consider what each candidate for office brings to the board of directors.

I am running for election this season to help bring the tribe back to business. We need to get our tribe back on track to preserve what the growth and successes that occurred the past 35 years. I have 29 years of experience in our tribe's government on the board of directors or as chairman with a proven track record that brought positive changes for the benefit of our tribe.

With the help of our past leaders, board, and employees, we were able to bring this tribe out of poverty and develop it to be one of the largest, aggressive and most respected tribal organizations in the country. With the dedication and hard work of past leaders the tribe came together with a common Purpose and Vision: **BUILD A PROSPEROUS AND PROUD COMMUNITY** and provide the opportunity for jobs in government and business. Unfortunately, in the past four years, this tribe which we built, has started to crumble.

It takes solid leadership, knowledge of our tribe, credibility and vision to put our tribe back on track to a positive, growing force in the state and country. I believe that with your help and the help of the others on the board, we can do this.

We need to bring forward a board of directors with gaming and business experience so we do not lose the one business that can sustain essential membership services for many years to come. I have that experience. Unlike any other candidate, I have the background in business, casino management and tribal management that the board of directors needs right now. We must work together using our expertise and bring our tribe back — back to business!

I pledge to you that I will work for the advancement of our tribe, along with the board of directors and chairman. We need to stop the political attacks that have done nothing but tear our community apart. Now is the time we need to come together for the benefit of all members.

Thank you for your time and your vote. Please contact me at (906) 440-4710 or visit my Web site at [www.bernardbouschor.com](http://www.bernardbouschor.com) for more information.

Miigwech,  
Bernard Bouschor

## Unit I Candidate Luella Brown



**LUELLA BROWN**

I grew up in a family of seven, so sharing was not a problem. The nuns of Holy

Childhood were my teachers and Gladstone High was my diving board into life. So, I believe kids should have a good education, but should also learn the value of living. Remember that when you give up the ability to think for yourself, you give up who you are. When it comes to standing up for tribal members, I am ready to RUMBLE. No one has the right to take away your future and that of your family. It's not what you do; it's how you do it. You didn't have a choice about where you came from, but you can choose where you go from

here. Our new Constitution is the key to our future. Make this the year, the year we take back what rightfully belongs to us. My promise to you is this: "I will never turn a deaf ear to you." I am outspoken, and will tell you what I think. You, in turn, can tell me your opinion. Members have ideas that will better our tribe, they have the right to help in our decisions. What comes from our mouths will be for all members to hear. NO more secrets, NO more disrespect.

HONESTY, RESPECT, TRUTH, and WISDOM. This will be our new tribal council one we can be proud of. Until we get a real Anishinaabe council that rules with their hearts and common sense and for the membership we will never be a great nation. This is the responsibility of our leaders; I will work to bring our tribe together as one. I am calling on all Anishinaabe members to change the future and better our lives. In my life, I have had many rolls, some were good, some were not happy, but I know

my life has made me a better human being. I have learned from my mistakes and smiled at my accomplishments. With God's help, I try to be a good Anishinaabe. My life has been fruitful and full and I hope it will be long. I also hope you give me the chance to be a good representative for all Anishinaabe of our tribe. Remember who you are! And, that no one owns you. You are Anishinaabe, which is TRUTH, LOVE and PRIDE. I would really appreciate your vote. Miigwech. Live long and prosper.

## Unit I Candidate Betty Freiheit



**BETTY FREIHEIT**

Tribal members: I am not one of those election cycle candidates who come out of the woodwork every

couple of years. I am deeply involved all of the time. In my long struggle for tribal members' rights, I was able to persuade the board of directors to give tribal members their discount of taxes on gas and cigarettes, which formerly went into the general fund. As a member of the Constitutional Convention Committee, the first and only non-attorney certified to practice law in Tribal Court (lay advocate), and my extensive involvement with Tribal Code, I am especially well qualified to represent you on the Sault Tribe Board of Directors. If elected in Unit 1, consid-

ering the dire financial situation of the Sault Tribe, the very possible loss of Greektown, and tribal employees facing imminent layoffs, I pledge that fiscal responsibility will be one of my top priorities. Evergreen contracts, which give endless job opportunities to favored employees, must be abolished. Tribal business managers should be required to demonstrate they can show a profit or be replaced. Instead of the wholesale disposal of tribal assets that we have witnessed, we need new businesses that will generate income and provide jobs for

tribal members. Any and all wasteful or frivolous spending must stop. We cannot continue to spend millions on outside attorneys; if staff can't handle the tribe's legal matters, they need to be replaced also. No more political patronage jobs like the one awarded to Steve Morello who did NOTHING for the tribe while enjoying his \$1,000 per DAY salary. He might still be receiving that had I not demonstrated to the board of directors that he did not meet the requirements of the tribe's Constitution to hold that position. The great benefits for the tribe from all

his contacts in Washington never happened. No more poor planning, which created the Evergreen Shores nightmare with its \$50 million+ cost overrun. The tribe's head of legal before the election four years ago warned that the trust land status there needed to be resolved before construction began. I make no empty campaign promises like those you heard from others four years ago. I will work with other conscientious board members to salvage what is left after four years of destructive leadership. Please elect me to serve you, Betty F. Freiheit

**Send in your graduation announcements by May 27! See page 2 for contact info.**

**MAY MULTIPLIER MADNESS**

All Sites!  
Every Wednesday in May!  
Beginning May 7th  
Drawings 5pm-9pm  
The More You Play,  
The More You Could Win!

1-800-KEWADIN  
www.kewadin.com

**We ♥ MOMS!**

*Kewadin Casinos is celebrating mothers everywhere!*

May 11th we're giving away special Mother's Day gifts at ALL 5 Kewadin Casino properties!

Beginning at 4 p.m., each woman to visit the Northern Rewards Club will receive her very own rose, and stuffed animal. Supplies at each location will be limited.

**Upcoming Events**

**St. Ignace Caribbean Party**  
May 8th, 2008  
Northern Pines Lounge  
Drink Specials, Draws, & More!

**Mother's Day Buffet**  
Sault Ste. Marie  
DreamCatchers  
St. Ignace  
Horseshoe Bay

**Tournaments**

**Christmas Blackjack Tournament**  
May 30-June 1, 2008  
Sault Ste. Marie  
Spin To Win  
June 13-15, 2008

**Entertainment**

**STYX**  
FRIDAY, MAY 23RD  
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN

**MIRANDA LAMBERT**  
FRIDAY, JUNE 20TH  
SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN

**HONKY TONK TAILGATE PARTY**  
FRIDAY, JUNE 27TH  
ST. IGNACE, MICHIGAN

**Weekly Events**

**Rapids Lounge Entertainment**  
Sault Ste. Marie  
Comedy starts at 8pm - Thurs.  
May 8 Miss Gayle (Kathryn Gayle Barron) & Mike Brody  
May 15 David Graham & Keith Pelt  
Live Music starts at 9pm Fri. & Sat.  
May 9 & 10 Time Trax

**Northern Pines Entertainment**  
St. Ignace  
Wednesday Comedy Shows start at 9pm  
May 7 Miss Gayle (Kathryn Gayle Barron) & Mike Brody  
May 14 David Graham & Keith Pelt  
Live Music starts at 9pm Fri. & Sat.  
May 9 & 10 Micky Rat

**Team Spirits Sports Bar**  
Manistique  
Karaoke  
May 9 & 10  
Nudge  
May 16 & 1

**Party At the Finish Line!**  
St. Ignace  
Call for party schedule

## Unit I Candidate Todd K. Gravelle



**TODD K. GRAVELLE**

Dear tribal voters:  
Elections are about the future. I think we are all tired of hearing that the “tribe is in trouble.” Crying or whining and blaming others will not solve the problems we now face.

You know and I know it is time to change. It is time we focus our talents and experience and set aside petty jealousies and work for the greater good of our community. That is my campaign promise. I know how to forge diverse opinions into real solutions. This race is about electing such people. I am a problem solver. I need your vote to bring this message to the new board. No more talking — it is time to act.

First, we need to fix our failing casino economy that created a \$15 million hole in this year’s budget. Not solving this huge problem means member services dry up and jobs disappear.

Here is my plan to get us through this trying time.

We must sell Greektown now and sell it in its entirety. It’s been a huge drain on our economy for 12 years. It is not viable. We need to cut it loose. The board wants to sell it piece by piece just to pay the bills. I disagree. This is a terrible idea. We make no money that way. Let’s sell the whole casino and make a profit now of between \$100 to \$200 million.

This money solves our deficit, stabilizes our economy, and saves jobs. That’s my solution.

Next, we revitalize our northern casinos to fit the market. Bay Mills, Hannahville and Keweenaw Bay are working wonders in this market that we once owned. We need to follow their lead, focus on customer service, cut top salaries and wasteful spending. Our northern casinos must make money or we have to let top people go.

That’s what happens in the real world. People either produce or they are gone. Our current board has known about this growing financial problem for four years. They have not acted. Kewadin’s top managers have never been held accountable for poor management. I want this to change. We can no longer afford to allow our casinos to fail.

A revitalized economy means we can do more for all members no matter where they live.

This is my plan. I need your vote to make this plan a reality.

Vote Todd K. Gravelle, Unit I, attorney at law, tgravelle@charter.net

## Unit I Candidate Amy Sabatine Kerckaert



**AMY SABATINE KERCKAERT**  
(Visnau) Mitchell, were born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., as were my parents, John and Karen Sabatine.

Hello, my name is Amy Sabatine Kerckaert. I was born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. My husband Mark and I have a family of five sons and one daughter. Patrick, 25, works in the area and helps out at our family business. Thadius, 22, is an airborne ranger in the Army deployed to Afghanistan. Mark, 20, is attending art and photography school in Detroit. Jake, 18, attends Michigan State in the bio engineering field. Michael, 4, attends Sault Tribe Head Start program, and Amy, 22, is in her fourth year of Elementary Education at Central Michigan. My grandparents, Lawrence Mitchell and Luella

I attended LSSU for a year with a general course of study, graduated from Bay Mills Community College with two years of pre-nursing and two years at Bay DeNoc Community College in political science and elementary education. I worked as a store manager at Fashion Bug for five years and then accepted an assistant manager position with National City Bank and worked there for three years. After gaining managerial and financial experience at Fashion Bug and National City Bank, I decided to open my own business called Pet Krazy here in Sault Ste. Marie, where we have served the community for

the last two years.

I’m looking forward to having the opportunity to use my knowledge and skills to benefit the Sault Tribe members. I believe we need to put aside personal issues and work together as a team so that the members’ interest is represented. I will listen to your ideas and concerns pertaining to tribal issues. Adding new faces and ideas to the board of directors can resolve most of these issues. I would appreciate the chance to be one of the new faces that leads the Sault Tribe members in this direction.

Sincerely,  
Amy Sabatine Kerckaert

## Bouschor Is At The Center Of All Our Problems



There has been a silent war going-on for the past four years. The old regime has stalled our progress and has been fighting to hold-on to the old system of rewarding a small group of people. They want all the good jobs for themselves and continue to engage in nepotism and cronyism. They will stop at nothing to hold on to what they have. Most of this war is based upon greed and lust for power. Remember Bouschor’s attempt to hide his \$850,000 annual salary. I drafted a resolution to prevent any more votes in closed session to expose and prevent this type of corruption in the future.

I do not want to be a career politician. I am for Term limits. I was against Double-Dipping. Others campaigned against this but I did something about it. Recently, I put forward a board resolution to cut board pay by 25% to share in the financial burdens facing all Tribal members. It did not pass. This was on top of me resigning my position as an attorney for the Tribe making over \$75,000 a year. Cathy (McCoy) Abramson voted against this reduction in board pay, voted against the lawsuit to recover the \$2.7 million from Bernard Bouschor as well as the Constitutional amendment to end Double-Dipping. Cathy and Joe Eitrem supported the vote to allow our crooked police chief to go back to work. I was adamantly opposed to this. They both need to be held accountable. Cathy was also part of Bernard Bouschor’s so-called Unity Team and ran Radio ads supporting him during the 2004 election. Her nephew, DJ Hoffman is on the board and now she wants another relative (Joe McCoy) to be Chairman. Ask yourself this: Do you think having three (3) members from the same family so closely related and linked to Bouschor running the Tribe is a good thing?



### Let us look back at what Bouschor did in the waning days of the last election:

- 1) Bernard paid-off his cronies the morning after the 2004 election to the tune of \$2.7 million and we are now suing him to recover this money. At the same time, he also paid-off his girlfriend at Greektown over \$200,000. He was fired as the CEO of Greektown because he was incompetent and could not be trusted. He is now suing Greektown, to take another \$3 million from the membership. That is a grand total of \$6 million he is attempting to steal from the Tribe. This is outrageous!
- 2) 74% of the people voted to prevent him from running for office during this lawsuit. Why should any of us vote for him considering what he has done to our Tribe? He and the board members who support him are at the center of all of our problems. We need to move forward, not backwards.
- 3) Some members believe that Bouschor will solve all of our financial problems. Nothing could be farther from the truth. Every business outside of gaming that he has tried to start, using the Tribe’s money, has failed miserably and has cost our Tribe millions.
- 4) For example, the current problems at Greektown began with the terrible deal negotiated with the Greeks when Bouschor gave away \$265 million of the Tribe’s money and now with this crushing debt, it is hard to make a profit because of this bad deal.

### Please Join With Me To Build A Stronger Tribe

Why did I do all of this? I did it because it was the right thing to do. I have kept my promises. I believe I have kept the faith with the people. Please vote for me and I promise to protect the Tribe’s precious resources. I will protect the member’s jobs. I will fight to prevent Bernard Bouschor and his cronies from stealing more of our money. I will protect your rights and I will fight to implement the new constitution so the Board will never again be able to deprive any member of their rights again.



*Vote To Re-Elect* **Todd K.**



# Gravelle

Unit 1 Director / Attorney at Law  
713 Maple Street, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 322-3822

## Unit I Candidate Lona Stewart



LONA STEWART

PLEASE VOTE — LONA STEWART

I am seeking the honor of representing and leading our tribe forward on your behalf, and respectfully ask for your support. As a tribe, we have many challenges facing us and seem to have lost sight of who we are and why we are here.

I am a 37-year-old single mom with two beautiful children — Jordan, 17, and Jacob, 13 — and 1-year-old granddaughter, Autumn Beth. I have worked for our tribe for almost 16 years. I began in July 1992 as a student worker for George Nolan, then vice chairman, assistant executive director,

chief judge and the list goes on. He was my mentor and my friend, and I was honored by his teachings. George had a love for our tribe that I haven't seen in a leader in a long time. He had a vision for our future and worked very hard to help get us where we are from nothing, often putting our tribe ahead of all else.

Many of our members and employees know me and they can tell you the passion and love I have for our tribe, for doing what is right whether it's the popular thing to do or not.

From an employee perspective, many of us give our all in

trying to find solutions to help our people and our tribe. Some of us want to give more to help heal our tribe and bring back our sense of community and caring. No one person can do this on their own. I have an awesome support group of members who provide me with the balance I believe is necessary to be a leader who is responsible for the welfare and prosperity of our tribe, for protecting and preserving what we have and for planning for our future generations. I pledge to take counsel from every member who chooses to share their ideas, thoughts and

opinions with me.

Whomever we choose to elect should have made one promise to all of us — they will put aside their personal feelings and conflicts and be true leaders. Stop playing games with our future, and start working together to provide for the future of our seventh generation.

Please exercise your right to vote, and choose carefully those who you believe will bring our tribe forward in a positive manner.

PLEASE VOTE — LONA STEWART

## Unit I Candidate Nathan Wright



NATHAN WRIGHT

Aaniin (Hello) fellow tribal member, I am Nathan Wright,

son of Mary and Mike Wright. I am a descendent from the Mastaw, Bono, Gogiosh and Cadran families in the Sault Ste. Marie area. Chances are we are related as most Native American families from here can trace back to the Cadran/Cadreau families. My mother raised me in the suburbs of Detroit. My brother, Mike, sister, Delia, and I spent most summers and holidays in the Sault. My father, Mike Wright, an Indian activist, helped to re-establish the Sault Tribe in the early '70s. He shared with me the importance of advocating for Indian rights. He taught me fairness, respect

of my elders and importance of family. At age 18, I joined the U.S. Marine Corps. I was honorably discharged in the late '80s and moved to Minneapolis and pursued a career in communications. I worked with corporate companies like John Deere, Minnesota Mutual and the Center for Diagnostic Imaging to name a few. I also worked with start up Internet companies like NetRadio (the world's first online Internet only radio network). I had a successful career in the corporate world for eight years in Minneapolis, but because of my upbringing by my father, I always felt the need to use my

gifts and knowledge to help our people. In 2002, I decided to move back to the Sault. I now have a beautiful daughter named Autumn. We enjoy camping, fishing and attending tribal activities. My first job with the Sault Tribe was in 1980. Over the last five years I have worked for the tribe in the culture division and I currently work in the Communications Department as your Web site administrator (I will resign my position if elected). As a result of being a team member, I have a good understanding of the tribal infrastructure. I am currently working towards a degree in business admin-

istration. I consider myself fortunate to be a member of our tribe. For all the benefits my family receives, I give back to the tribe by volunteering at activities throughout the year. I have many personal and professional gifts that I believe will improve the current state of the tribe.

Let's take back the tribe. You can help by voting "Wright."

Please call me at 322-2675 or email me at nathan@wright.net to discuss questions or strategies to improve our tribe. Miigwech (Thank you)!

## Unit II representative primary candidates

Editor's note: Unit II Candidate Catherine Hollowell did not submit a profile.

## Unit II Candidate Lana Causley



LANA CAUSLEY

I have had the privilege and honor of serving the membership as a representative of Unit II for the past four years.

I have been an active member of the tribal community my entire life, born and raised within Hessel (Unit II). I have grandparents, parents, uncles, aunts, as well as a large extended family that have taught me to always act as a voice for our Indian families and OUR tribe. My family and tribal roots are what make my representation unique.

My experience and knowledge on Indian issues has always been my priority. I cannot remember a time in my life where I was not actively involved in trying making our reservations better places to live, working to; increase our services to meet the needs of the membership, towards better employment conditions, and immersing myself with our elders and youth in all aspects of community endeavors. I have made it my personal goal to enhance the

well-being of our Indian families. I understand the troubles that we as a people have had in the past and I understand the issues that face us at the national level. I take great pride derived from my experiences expressing and conveying our tribe's housing, medical, gaming, child welfare, economic and overall needs to state and federal legislators.

As a lifelong resident of this unit, I have been personally involved in addressing our community's needs, and the needs of our members that reside elsewhere. I have dedicated my entire adolescent and adult life to understanding the issues that face our tribe. Individuals cannot expect to understand all of the issues that our tribe is facing without taking an active role in the tribal community.

Many within the area as well as outside have been promised many things. I offer positive, proven results. I will humbly continue to dedicate myself towards protecting our tribe's assets (including our children and elders), maintaining financial accountability/sustainability, cultural preservation and retaining our rights as a sovereign Indian Nation. I will continue "fighting the fight" for the future of our tribe.

We may not always take the easiest path, but with hard work and dedication we can and will reach our goals by focusing on the future of our tribe and respecting our traditions.

I would be honored, and

humbled, with the opportunity to continue representing the interests of the membership, and my constituents, in Unit II.

Sincerely,  
Lana Causley

**SMITH & COMPANY**  
REAL ESTATE

3291 I-75 Business Spur  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 497873  
(906)632-9696

1-800-554-0511

"We Make It Easy"

7982 W. Thompson Rd. Kinross 4bdm 2.5b \$165,000  
2049 E. 12 mile Dafter 2bdm ranch \$79,000  
902 Minneapolis St. Great location, 3bdm \$48,000  
1401 W. 12th 4bdm, 2b with garage \$97,900  
711 Peck St. Well maintained 3bdm \$69,000

For more information on these listings or any others please give us a call or visit our website at:  
[www.smith-company.com](http://www.smith-company.com)



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## GOVERNMENTAL OPENINGS:

## Sault Ste. Marie &amp; Kinross:

Community Health Nurse - (Full-Time/Regular), Until Filled  
Legal Aid Attorney - (Full-Time/Regular), Until Filled  
Fitness/Aerobics Instructor - (Part-Time/Regular), Until Filled  
Child Care Instructor - (Full-Time/Regular), Until Filled  
Clinical Social Worker - (Full-Time/Regular), Closes 5/23/08  
Inland Fish and Wildlife Biologist - (Full-Time/Regular), Until Filled

Child Placement Supervisor - (Full-Time/Regular), Until Filled

## St. Ignace:

Headstart Bus Driver - (Part-Time/On-Call), Until Filled

## Manistique:

Chief Solo Dentist - (Full-Time/Regular), Until Filled

## CASINO OPENINGS:

## Sault Kewadin Casino:

No Openings at This Time

## Christmas Casino:

No Openings at This Time

## Manistique Casino:

No Openings at This Time

## St. Ignace Kewadin Casino:

Hotel Manager - (Full-Time/Regular), Open Until Filled

Bartender - (Full-Time/Temporary), Open Until Filled

## Hessel Casino:

No Openings at This Time

## ENTERPRISES:

No Openings at This Time



For more information contact:

Sault Ste. Marie Employment Office  
(906) 635-7032 or toll free (866) 635-7032  
2186 Shunk Rd.; Sault Ste. Marie, MI

St. Ignace Employment Office  
(906) 643-4176

3015 Mackinaw Trail; St. Ignace, MI

Manistique Employment Office  
(906) 341-9561

5968 W. Highway US 2; Manistique, MI

Apply on-line at [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com)

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

JOHN (JACK)

WAYNE

KIBBLE

GOETZ

*WORKING TOGETHER FOR YOU*

Dear Tribal Members,

The tribe has reached a critical point in history. We have a runaway deficit of over \$15 million, possible layoffs for employees, and a board that cannot and will not work together to meet this critical period. Leadership comes from the Chairman **and** the Board.

If given the opportunity to represent you, I intend to reduce my wage by half. True leaders lead by example. This difficult period calls for decisions made with leadership, compassion and with all members in mind.

It's time to establish a two term limit for the board. Then board members will not be seeking re-election simply for wages and benefits derived from this office. Eight years of service is enough.

Wayne Goetz and I decided to run on the same issues. We believe change is possible if board members are elected who have the same principles. Our agenda is a simple one...**TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE TRIBAL MEMBERS.**

I would appreciate your vote in this election.

Respectfully, John (Jack) Kibble



Aanii Tribal Members,

This election could be the most critical election the Sault Tribe has ever held. It's time we deal with the present tribal economy instead of playing politics and wearing bags over our heads. We need a board that will work for the good of all tribal members, not just for themselves and family members. The present board is so dysfunctional! Reality TV could make millions filming their meetings.

If I am elected, I will work for all tribal members,

I will lobby for better pay for tribal members so husbands and wives don't have to pick up commodities the day after payday. I believe that if we have qualified Native American employees for managerial positions, they should hold these positions. It's time to give the Sault Tribe back to its members...where it belongs.

The Chairman was elected by the members of our great tribe and I will show him the respect that he deserves...not like the current board members who are more interested in themselves than the membership. Please vote for me and I will make you proud to be a Sault Tribe member again.

Miigwech, Wayne Goetz

**Jack and Wayne are both TRIBAL ELDERS and VETERANS. They have retired from extensive management careers in Education and the U.S. Postal Service. Both men have what it takes to get YOUR tribe back on its feet again. They are candidates for Unit I Board of Directors. LET'S DO THIS TOGETHER!**

*Paid for by the Committee to Elect John (Jack) Kibble and Wayne Goetz*

## Unit II Candidate Robert Horn



**ROBERT HORN**

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself

and tell you who I am.

My name is Robert Horn; I live in Pickford with my wife and children. I am a delivery driver for UPS and have been with them for 11 years. This is a fortune 500 company with very high expectations of their employees. I am a member of the Pickford Volunteer Fire Department and as a volunteer fireman for the past 18 years.

I have been involved with the EUP Search and Rescue, youth fire safety education and community programs. My grandfather was a fireman and a city councilman for many

years, two jobs that can affect many people and, normally, when they need you the most. However, he also once told me that when you make decisions that affect that many people, the only way you will make the right decisions is to hear what the people you represent want you to do.

I believe that if our board can work together our membership would finally be able see the true benefits of our tribe. I want to be able to ensure our members know the TRUTH about our tribe's financial well being, I have no ties or family

members on the board to steer me in the wrong direction and I will not be forced to vote against the members I represent.

As we get closer to the date when we will all be voting, I ask only one thing, look back over the last three years and ask yourself how far your board members have moved us in a positive or forward direction or how much animosity they have caused with our board and our membership, and then cast your vote!

After talking with many elders within Unit II, locally

and outside the area, I also know that the members in my unit would like to be a bigger part of the informational process that leads to the votes that our board members make. I promise that if you elect me I will make you a part of that process. The best and most valuable information I have ever received has been from my elders and currently they are not being heard.

Thank you for this great opportunity, and hopefully we will have a new start with four good years productive and positive movement.

# Unit III representative primary candidates

Editor's note: Unit III incumbent Frederick J. Paquin did not submit a profile.

## Unit III Candidate Leonard Adams



**LEONARD ADAMS  
(MIGIZIINS)**

My Native heritage goes back to Chief Anse; his granddaughter

was my great-grandmother.

I have been in business for myself for 40 years as a licensed contractor and real estate broker. Our tribe hired me after the February 2004 fire in our Sault casino. I was a project manager for two years and became construction director in February 2006. It gives me great gratification that I can contribute my years of experience and knowledge in construction and business.

I am married to the former Rosemary Corp. I am the proud father of five children and have eight grandchildren with two more on the way.

Thank you for this opportunity to run for the board. It would be an HONOR to SERVE our people.

I am deeply concerned about the direction of OUR tribe. As a board member it would be my job to be a voice for the people. I vow to do everything in my ability to ensure our communities have a voice. I do not have a personal agenda as my platform. However, I feel that, as Sault Tribe members, WE have an agenda to preserve and protect our culture, heritage and rights; strengthen our government through leadership and direction; and LISTEN to the voices of our

people. Sault Tribe has experienced difficult times but our ancestors proved that as a sovereign nation we can overcome obstacles and build a new future. The board needs to pull together to ensure that we as a Native people have a STRONG, healthy productive tribe, not only now but for our young people in the future.

We need to expand our economic development for future needs and be able to provide quality employment through more than just our casinos.

In Unit III, a lot of members live south of the Straits and I promise to make myself avail-

able to all of our people. This will be MY FULL-TIME JOB.

I don't want to dwell on the past. It is time to move forward in a positive manner and take care of OUR business.

I was on the Sault Tribe Board of Directors in the late '70s and early '80s, when we made great progress and functioned well as a board. The fighting, pettiness and self interest was not present then and needs to STOP NOW.

A vote for me will be a step in getting our tribe back on track.

Miigwech, Lenny

## Unit III Candidate James DeKeyser



**JAMES DEKEYSER**

Name: James M. DeKeyser

Born: In 1958 in St. Ignace, Michigan

Family: Married for 30 years to Sheryl Marshall. Children, Nicole Martin and Brent DeKeyser and five grandchildren.

Religion: Catholic  
Occupation: Owner and manager of the 61-unit Super 8 Motel

Education: Graduated from LaSalle High School in 1977.

Experience:  
Manager and owner of the Super 8 Motel for 11 years.

Manager and owner of 29-unit Million Dollar View Motel for 10 years.

Manager and owner of 13-unit Bridge View Motel for 10 years.

Worked for 19 years for Marshall Brothers Construction as a carpenter.

Worked as a supervisor and construction coordinator during the construction of the Super 8 Motel.

Moran Zoning Board.  
Worked with Special Events Committee to help promote and

organize new events.

Member of: (President) Straits Area Snowmobile Club; (Vice President) St. Ignace Visitors Bureau; St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce.

Goals: As a successful business owner I would use my knowledge and experience to ensure that tribal businesses are run in a profitable and economic manner.

I will work to unify the tribal board of directors so that we will operate more efficiently and in a professional manner.

I would safeguard the health and education of all the tribal members and safeguard the elders and employee benefits.

I will address any concern that comes before me in a timely manner.

## Unit III Candidate Robert J. Lambert



**ROBERT LAMBERT**

This is an election we cannot afford to make bad choices on who will represent us. After not being on the board for two years I have seen our tribe deteriorate to a point that we may have to sell our Greentown Casino and give up our biggest moneymaker. Our board meetings are no longer held in a professional and respectful manner. We have spent the principal from our funeral and education funds. We have sold everything

possible just to stay afloat. So you may ask how we as a tribe are going to save this sinking ship.

We need to elect individuals with a sincere desire to get involved and make our tribe a better place for all of us. I am someone you can count on to not violate our tribal constitution. I am someone that has fought for and will continue to fight for each member regardless of age or residency. We are in this mess together and we can only get out of it if we work together.

My proven leadership skills are what allowed me to spearhead the fight to abolish the un-constitutional quarter blood requirement to run for elective office within our tribe. I championed the fight for election reforms. I have a very good understanding of the parliamentary rules that govern our board meetings and know our tribal Constitution from cover to cover. Our tribe is now much

more transparent than when I was elected in 2002 but we still have a lot of work to do. The board still holds closed meetings and the members-at-large still do not have representation on a board level.

Our tribe is worth fighting for and if you elect me I will fight every day to make our tribe a better place for all of us. I promise to not get caught up in the fighting between the chairperson and board members. It is not healthy and it does not help solve our projected \$15 million deficit for this year alone. I choose to use my energy to solve problems and not just make the problems we have even worse.

Thank you for taking the time to read my profile and please vote.

Rob Lambert  
23 Stockbridge Street  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
Cell: 231 622-9595  
E-mail: rlambert8840@charter.net

## Roy Electric Co. Inc.

INDUSTRIAL \* COMMERCIAL \* RESIDENTIAL

P.O. BOX 841  
2901 ASHMUN (M-129)  
SAULT STE. MARIE, MI 49783

BUS. (906)632-8878  
FAX. (906)632-4447  
1-800-611-7572



## Join an Award-Winning Team

Where can you use tomorrow's technology and your knowledge of the area to make a difference in the lives of others? At Coldwell Banker Schmidt Realtors, we make people's dreams come true every day.

You can become part of the state's #1 real estate team. Learn about our national and local marketing support, our innovative technology and career opportunities by calling Ivan Wilde, 643-8525, or John Griffin, 484-3945.



## Unit III Candidate Patrick Rickley



**PATRICK RICKLEY**

My name is Pat Rickley. I am running for the Unit III seat on the tribal board of direc-

tors to represent St. Ignace, Mackinac Island, Mackinac City, Cheboygan and all members registered in Unit III.

I was born and raised in St. Ignace on Rickley Ridge. I left the area for four years to proudly serve in the U.S. Army, achieving the rank of sergeant. One of the best qualities I have learned is to go the extra mile to give more than what it is expected.

I am employed at the Mackinac Bridge. I also serve on our tribe's Conservation Committee (it is a great honor to safeguard our treaty rights).

I'm an ambassador for the St. Ignace Chamber of Commerce and worked last year to establish our first rendezvous powwow at the Straits of Mackinac. I have been in public relations for about 16 years. I have represented our people for over 26 years and I will continue to do so.

During this election, you will hear what everyone has done in the past and what they intend to do in the future. Obviously, we need change. We need positive-minded people right now who can work together for the betterment of our tribe as a

whole. I support the new tribal Constitution; people need to be heard, not pushed aside. I support maintaining the current number of board members in Unit III while adding a northern at-large representative to serve the members who live outside of the service area. The cost for this can easily be borne out by dividing up the current \$67,000 salary of the board members, reducing this amount to \$50,000 with no new cost.

Currently, a big problem is nepotism/cronyism. Too many family members and personal friends of the board members

run the show; making decisions that are biased to say the least. I supported and campaigned to end "double-dipping" in tribal government. We need to bring unity back to our tribe and the only way to do so is to be honest and open with the membership.

I am a man of good will, thoughtful and obliging. I donate to the food pantry, volunteer and help people when needed. I would greatly appreciate your support and vote and would be honored and humbled to represent you as your new Unit III tribal board member.

# The Michigan Indian Elders Association: Who we are

**BY ROBERT S. MENARD, PRESIDENT**

In our culture, elders are looked upon with respect for their wisdom, a wisdom born from experience. Traditionally, elders assumed the roles of leadership, as mentors, as healers, they sat in judgment and they performed many other leadership functions. Today, in our modern society, because of the republican form of government that we have all adopted, elders play a more subdued role in the politics of our communities, however, elders are still regarded as leaders and treated with respect.

Michigan Indian Elders Association (MIEA) membership is a vast pool of that wisdom and resourcefulness, with members from all 12 state and federally recognized tribes and bands of Michigan. The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi are new members this year.

2008 marks the 12th year of existence for MIEA. The organization grew from an idea by Beatrice Kelly, her sister Ruth Antone and other elders of the Lac Vieux Desert Band. Acting on the idea that it would be good for elders of all the surrounding tribes and bands to get together to create new friendships and firm up old relationships, the elder community of Lac Vieux Desert Band, with the support and financial backing of their tribal council, invited representatives of all the

tribes and bands in Michigan to come to Watersmeet to a gathering of elders. The Michigan Indian Elders Association grew from that first meeting and has become a thriving, dynamic organization.

Early meetings of Michigan's Anishinaabe elders were mostly social in nature. It was a time of reconciling past differences and, in most cases, getting acquainted or reacquainted. In ensuing years, even when major disagreements developed between the tribes and bands, the elders have been able to rise above those differences, work together in a positive atmosphere and accomplish good things for our Indian communities.

The association meets three times a year in April, July and October. Each meeting is hosted by a different tribe or band, providing members with an opportunity to get to see and become familiar with each other's communities. Constituent tribes and bands are located across the Upper Peninsula and generally along the eastern shores of Lake Michigan in the lower Peninsula from the Indiana border to the Mackinac Straits. The meetings usually run for 1.5 days. Attendance varies, but generally in the range of 125 to 170 members. Each member tribe or band has two designated voting delegates who represent them by voting on all issues requiring action. All activities of the association are governed by a

set of duly adopted by-laws. A treasury is created and maintained from member dues and fundraisers.

The association has evolved into a proactive force culturally, socially and politically.

Culturally, meetings are started with an introduction ceremony highlighted by a drum and singers; with the drum ceremony, all tribal and band flags are carried in by a veteran and placed behind the delegates table and remain there to be retired at the end of the conference. New since October 2007, an eagle staff, still in the process of development and belonging to the association is carried into the meeting by a veteran as part of the introduction ceremony; invocations are given in our native tongue by a local elder. Starting with the April 2007 meeting, the Seven Grandfathers have been displayed on the delegate table and remain before the assembly until the closing ceremony and program topics, food, crafts and attire are steeped in our heritage.

Socially, the hosting of our meetings by a different member tribe or band each time allows for a better understanding and appreciation of the uniqueness of each community. The sharing of ideas and accomplishments and the camaraderie is enjoyed in an environment underscored by the Seven Grandfathers and makes each conference seem like a true family gathering.

Politically, some noteworthy accomplishments include the adoption and publication of resolutions in support of — or opposition to — various local, state and national issues. For example, in 2004 and 2006, several resolutions were presented to and gained the endorsement of the National Indian Council on Aging giving them the status of nationally supported issues. A few of those issues include support of the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver, opposition to diversion of Great Lakes waters, support of Social Security disability reform, opposition to pollution of the St. Mary's River and opposition to across border transport of solid waste.

The association also participates directly in dialogue with local, state and federal agencies on pertinent issues, an example of which is the seat we hold on the aging network and American Indian elders forum of the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging. Dialogue is established with the Wisconsin elders group, with the idea of pursuing an alliance to better serve the needs of our respective communities.

What we are most proud of is making available monetary awards for academic achievement and scholarships for our students. The major emphasis of our activities is the desire of the membership to bridge the gap between elders and our youth. We have adopted the premise

that it is wise to invest our time, our attention and our resources in the education of our youth with the goal of enhancing our chances to preserve our rights and future as a sovereign people. We are a small minority, around three percent of the population of the United States, and we recognize that, to survive outside reservations, we must be able to depend on trained and educated people to deal effectively with the forces of the dominant society, a society that for the most part is not friendly to the Anishnabek.

MIEA is ready and willing to "put its money where its mouth is" and has on many occasions. Since April 2002, MIEA has distributed \$36,750 to 458 students either as an incentive to go to school every day, to achieve good grades or to help offset the high cost to our students for continuing their post high school education. Incidentally, most of the constituent tribes have adopted similar student incentive programs of their own as a result of the MIEA initiative. After July 2008, we will have invested another \$4,000 in scholarships to seven more of our students.

Our membership feels that it is doing more than paying lip service to the traditional role of elders in our communities. We feel we are demonstrating our commitment to that role . . . we are actively working for the betterment of our people.

## The 2008 Elders Scholarship Program

Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Elders Scholarship

There will be two, at \$500 each. This is a one-time, first-year scholarship for students entering their freshman year at a public college, university or trade school.

July 7, 2008 application DEADLINE

**QUALIFICATIONS**  
To be eligible, applicants must:  
— Be a registered Sault Tribe member.  
— Have successfully completed and passed all five General Education Development (G.E.D.) equivalency tests with a minimum score of 40 and an average score of 45 and must possess a G.E.D. certificate or have graduated from an accredited high school with at least a cumulative 2.50 grade point average.

— Be accepted or enrolled in any two or four year public college, university or trade school in any field of study.

— Be enrolled as a full-time student.

**REQUIREMENTS**

An applicant must submit a letter of application to include:

— Name, address, telephone number, proof of tribal enrollment.

— A high school transcript showing grades from last term or semester attended or proof of having achieved the G.E.D. requirements stated above.

— The name and location of the college, university or trade school to be attended.

— A letter from the college, university or trade school, showing acceptance for the 2008/09 school year.

— The academic major or course of study to be pursued.

— A 300-500 word essay describing how you feel a college education will benefit you, your career objective and why this scholarship will help you achieve your goal.

All requirements listed above must be packaged and received not later than July 7, 2008, by the: Elder Services Division, Nokomis/Mishomis Place, 2076 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

If you have a question, please contact the Elder Services Division at 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

## 2008 youth essay contest rules

The Sault Tribe Elderly Advisory Committee is sponsoring its second tribal youth essay contest.

The contest is open to all youngsters who are Sault Tribe members between the ages of five and 18 and attending school in grades K-12. The topic of this essay is, "I am a Native American Indian: what that means to me."

The essay rules:  
— It must be titled "I am a Native American Indian: what that means to me."

— It may be any length appropriate for age and grade level.

— It may be handwritten (must be legible) or typed.

— Student's name, address and telephone number, for contact purposes only must be included.

— It must be received by June 20, 2008, at Elder Services

Division, Nokomis/Mishomis Place, 2076 Shunk Road, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

Essays will be judged according to content and grammar appropriate to the author's age and grade level. There are four grade categories:

- Kindergarten-Grade 2
- Grades 3-5
- Grades 6-8
- Grades 9-12

There will only be one winner per grade category.

Authors of winning essays will be awarded \$25 checks and winning entries will be published in *Win Awenen Nisitotung*.

Good luck to all of our participating students.

If you have questions, please call Elder Services at 635-4971 or call toll free at (888) 711-7356.

## Births . . .



**ANDREW BONIFACE  
BERNIER**

David and Cheryl Bernier of Brimley are proud to announce the arrival of their son, Andrew Boniface Bernier. He was born at 10:53 a.m. on Feb. 20, 2008,

at War Memorial Hospital.

He weighed seven pounds, 4.3 ounces and was 20 inches in length.

He joins five brothers, Billy, Adam, Jesse, Matthew and Alex.

Grandparents are Hilda Lewis of Negaunee, Mich., and Wayne Tadgerson of Brimley, and Mary Jane Bernier of Brimley.

### NATASHA ANNE ROUSSEAU

Nicole Rousseau and Paul Sims of Millis, Mass., would like to announce the birth of their daughter, Natasha Anne Rousseau, born March 20, 2008. She weighed eight pounds, 11.6 ounces.



Grandparents are Leon and Jean Rousseau of Millis, Robert Sims of Dorr, Mich., and James and Nancy Howard of Kincheloe, Mich.

## High school students experience sugar bush

### Native Lit. class goes to the island

SAULT STE. MARIE — This year, Mr. Houghton from Sault High took his Native American literature class to the Sugar Island culture camp to experience the sugarbush, where maple sap is collected and boiled down to maple syrup.

The sugarbush was extremely rewarding and for the 37 students who attended this year. It was an experience one student, Joe Gravelle (pictured in kettle), said he will "never forget." In fact, to commemorate Joe's visit, Bud Biron (right) put his name on a special bucket that will be kept in the lodge.



## Tribal youth excel in academics and sports



**Nick Cushman and Nick Kibble (L-R)**

**BY DAVE HOUGHTON**

When it comes to the classroom and athletics, two students know how to make their marks. Nick Cushman and Nick Kibble have outstanding accomplishments in the classroom and on the playing field. These two Sault Tribe members are both graduating seniors headed for the university next fall.

Cushman was captain of the Sault High football team this year. The team broke a few records this year: first

time hosting a playoff game, most wins in a season and most points scored in a season. Cushman was Sault High's most valuable defensive player and received the First Team All Straits Area Defensive Player Award. His cumulative grade point average (GPA) is 3.909 out of a perfect 4.0. He plans to attend the University of Michigan next fall to study pharmacy.

Kibble also has high points both on the basketball court

Nick Kibble, a senior at Sault Area High School, has been accepted to the University of Michigan for the Fall 2008 semester where he will pursue a degree in biomedical engineering with an interest in genetics and medical research.

Nick is currently taking three advance placement classes, has a 3.9 GPA and is in the top 5 percent of his class. He has also been involved in many extra curricular activities such as Junior Rotarian, BPA, yearbook, Working on Wellness, National Honor Society, youth basketball camp coach, bowling, track and basketball where he was a tri-captain and named Co-MVP his senior year.

Nick is the son of Cassandra Kibble of Sault Ste. Marie and Richard Mayer of Plymouth and grandson of Sue Blanford and Jack and Holly Kibble of Sault Ste. Marie.

and the classroom. He was co-captain of the Sault High boys basketball team and received the Most Valuable Player Award for his team. He also placed on the Second Team All Straits Conference. His work in the classroom is more than impressive. His cumulative GPA is 3.996. He has the highest ACT score of all Native students in his graduating class, with a science score of 34 and a composition of 31. He also plans to attend University of Michigan to study bio-chemistry.

## Shaski-Ygeal announce their engagement



Heidi Leigh Shaski of Sault Ste. Marie and Carrl Frederick Ygeal of Pickford announce their engagement. Parents of the couple are Jon and Linda Shaski of Sault Ste. Marie, Joann and Joe Smith of Gladstone, Leo and Elizabeth Ygeal of Goetzville and Betty and Paul Raynard of Pickford.

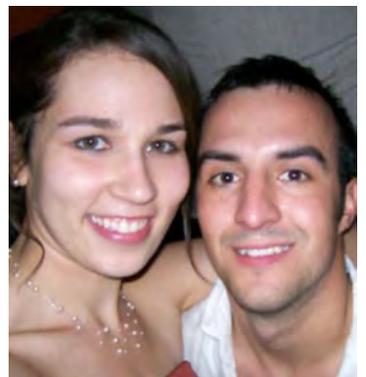
An August 16, 2008 wedding is being planned.

## Landreville-Nyberg engagement

Robyn and Darrell Hill of Cedarville, Ken and Leeann Landreville of Hessel and Todd and Donna Nyberg of Pickford announce the engagement of their children, Donielle Kathleen Landreville and Joseph Michael Nyberg.

Donielle is a 2006 graduate of Cedarville High School and is currently a student at Lake Superior State University. She is working on a bachelor's degree in athletic training and works at the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians Early Head Start in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Joe is a 2002 graduate of Pickford High School. He has



enlisted in the Navy and is scheduled to leave for Great Lakes, Ill., for basic training in July of 2008.

A wedding is planned for June 2008 in Hessel, Mich.

## Young-Clement engaged



Eric Clement and Elaine Young of the Sault are pleased to announce their engagement. Eric is an independent contractor and Elaine works for the Sault Tribe Culture department. A summer wedding in August is planned.