

Win
Awenen
Nisitotung

Sault Tribe employees give \$14,093 to United Way



Photo by Brenda Austin

TRIBAL TEAM —The Sault Tribe United Way workplace campaign committee met and finalized Sault Tribe's 2011 campaign ac totaling \$14,093. This committee works hard all year and hosts a variety of fundraisers including a bake sale and face painting at sidewalk sales and a soup and fry bread event, adding to Sault Tribe employee contributions. Pictured above are (L-R) United Way Director Tracey Laitinen, Sault Kewadin Casino's Rachel McKechnie, Kewadin Shores Casino's Bridgett Sorenson, Sault Tribe Payroll's Lisa Moran, Sault Tribe Housing Authority's Sheila Berger, Sault Tribe CFO Office's Daraka Hudecek, Anishnabek Community and Family Services' Teri Romano, Sault Tribe Executive Office's Mindy Kavanaugh and United Way Campaign Co-Chair Mary Jo Barck of WMH. (Missing from the photo are Sault Tribe Health Center's Connie Watson and Tribal Court's Danielle Christie.)

Tribe seeks approval for Romulus casino

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians has partnered with a successful businessman originally from Sault Ste. Marie on a new proposal to settle the tribe's unresolved Charlotte Beach land claim by seeking federal approval for a new casino in the Detroit suburb of Romulus.

While winning Congressional approval will be difficult, tribal leaders believe it is the absolute right of tribal members to pursue a favorable settlement in the land claim, a dispute involving the illegal taking of lands from the tribe dating back more than 150 years. Tribal leaders believe the tribe's new development agreement with Michael Sawruk, a successful developer and business owner who was raised in Sault Ste. Marie, would provide significant benefits to the tribe with no financial risks.

Sawruk has extensive experience in Indian gaming, having successfully developed five Native casinos. Under an agreement with Sawruk approved by the Sault Tribe Board of Directors on Feb. 14, he will be responsible for securing all project approvals and project financing. He has pledged to work with the board and all members of the tribe to successfully complete the settlement process.

In the coming months, Sawruk will hold public forums throughout the Upper Peninsula where Sault Tribe members can learn more about the project.

"There is no financial risk to the tribe or our members under our agreement with Mr. Sawruk," said Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy. "He is responsible for securing all necessary political and legal approvals and for arranging financing. He is also putting up all of the up-front costs. All of them."

McCoy said members should not get the impression Sawruk is leading the project for free. "If he succeeds, he certainly

stands to make a significant profit," McCoy said. "But he is taking all of the financial risks. And if he succeeds and our land claim is approved in Washington, the tribe will have complete and total control over the casino that we would develop in Romulus with Mr. Sawruk as our partner. That's how he will make his profit, and it will obviously be a benefit to the tribe, too."

Since 2002, the tribe has tried multiple times to settle the Charlotte Beach land claim with the state and in Washington, D.C. The Bay Mills Indian Community has a similar claim

See "Romulus," Page 12

Romulus Casino Development Tribal Community Meetings

March 2: Elder luncheon, 12 p.m., Sault Ste. Marie, Nokomis-Mishomis Place. Discussion with elders after luncheon. Presentation by Chairman Joe McCoy, Unit I representatives

March 9: Elder luncheon, 12 p.m., Sault Ste. Marie, Nokomis-Mishomis Place. More discussion with elders. Presentation by Chairman Joe McCoy, unit representatives and Mike Sawruk

March 9: Open meeting, 6 p.m. at Kewadin Casinos in

Sault Ste. Marie. Presentation by Chairman Joe McCoy, unit representatives and Mike Sawruk

March 10: Open meeting in Newberry Tribal Center, 5 pm. Presentation by Chairman Joe McCoy, unit representatives and Mike Sawruk

March 11: Elder luncheon, 12 p.m., St. Ignace. Discussion with elders after luncheon. Presentation by Chairman Joe McCoy, unit representatives and Mike Sawruk.

Two new referenda spark controversy

SAULT STE. MARIE — Eligible Sault Tribe members will be asked to vote on two more referenda in March — despite the fact neither proposal's outcome will have any effect on the tribe.

The referenda, which will cost the tribe about \$40,000 to complete, seek to reverse actions by the Sault Tribe Board of Directors that resulted from two separate Circuit Court cases involving the tribe. The outcomes of those court cases cannot — under federal, state or tribal laws — be undone by a vote of tribal members because the tribe has signed binding settlement agreements that will save hundreds of thousands of dollars in additional legal bills and other costs.

"The Sault Tribe Board of Directors passed resolutions that saved the tribe literally hundreds of thousands of dollars by settling two cases the tribe had already lost or most likely would have lost," said Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy. "Every attorney we consulted, from our staff lawyers to our contract lawyers, advised us to settle because our chances of succeeding on appeal or in further litigation were slim to none in both cases."

McCoy added, "While set-

tling the cases caused disappointment for most of us, the board took actions that were in the best interest of the tribe by cutting our losses and protecting our limited resources."

"I have been asked repeatedly why certain people would want to put two more referenda to a vote of Sault Tribe members knowing full well our difficult decisions to settle, and knowing the court cases can not be reopened by a vote of tribal members," McCoy said. "We, as tribal members, must guard and respect our right to use the referendum process to challenge decisions made by our elected leaders. But at the same time, it is wasteful of tribal resources and an abuse of the referendum process to spend \$40,000 on referendum elections that can't change the responsible and cost-saving actions the board took to preserve the tribe's assets."

On March 4, the Sault Tribe Election Committee will mail one referendum ballot containing two questions in one first class envelope to each eligible Sault Tribe member. Completed ballots are due back to the tribe by March 25. Members who receive ballots are encouraged to read them carefully before completing and return-

See "Referenda," Page 9

Cloverland offers 2011 scholarships

DAFTER, Mich.— Applications are now available for Cloverland Electric Cooperative's Power of Excellence Scholarship. The cooperative will award one graduating high school senior with a \$1,500 scholarship for use at a post-secondary institution. As part of Cloverland's commitment to community education, the co-op has awarded more than \$17,000 in scholarships since 2002.

"This is a great opportunity for our high school seniors. Every little bit helps these

days when it comes to financing a college education," said Wendy Malaska, Cloverland Director of Marketing and Communications.

Students' parent or legal guardian must be a member of Cloverland Electric Cooperative and receive electric service from the cooperative. The applicant must be enrolled or planning to enroll as a full-time student at an accredited university, college or vocational/technical school for the 2011 fall term.

The application deadline is May 2, 2011. To request an

application by mail or for more information call (906) 632-5181.

One \$250 scholarship will also be up for grabs at each of Cloverland's district meetings held April 26-28. Graduating high school seniors must attend the meeting in their designated membership district with a parent or legal guardian and complete the "Luck of the Draw" registration form available at each location. For additional scholarship opportunities, visit www.cloverland.com.

Established in 1938,

Cloverland Electric Cooperative is a not-for-profit utility located in Michigan's Upper Peninsula providing electricity to 42,000 homes and businesses in Chippewa, Delta, Mackinac, Luce and Schoolcraft counties. The co-op maintains member service centers in Dafter, DeTour, Newberry and Sault Ste. Marie. Cloverland Electric also operates Lighthouse.Net, a wholly-owned subsidiary providing broadband service to the Upper Peninsula.

For more information, visit www.cloverland.com.

Newspaper deadlines

Below is the Win Awenen Nisitotung production schedule for the rest of 2011. If there are any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Jennifer Dale-Burton at (906) 632-6398, ext. 26073, or send e-mail to jdburton@saulttribe.net.

DEADLINE DATE (Tuesdays)	PUBLISH DATE (Fridays)
March 22	April 1
April 26	May 6
May 31	June 10
June 28	July 8
July 26	Aug. 5
Aug. 23	Sept. 2
Sept. 27	Oct. 7
Oct. 25	Nov. 4
Nov. 29	Dec. 9

Higher Education — awards and grants

SUBMITTED BY ANGELINE BOULLEY-MATSON, EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Fall 2010 incentive awards

We are inputting all grade reports received by the Jan. 31 deadline and calculating the award amount. We will be mailing checks directly to students by mid-March. (2010-2011 School Year)

Tribe Memorial and Tributary Scholarships. The eligibility criteria varies for each particular scholarship so please read carefully. Most scholarships are \$1,000. Students are selected based on the quality of essay submitted. The deadline for the 2011 Scholarship competition is June 1. (2011-2012 School Year)

publicly-funded community college or university for full-time study for an undergraduate degree. Students must demonstrate financial need and have a FAFSA on file at their school. The deadline is July 1. The grant amount varies between \$300 and \$500 per semester for two semesters total. (2011-2012 School Year)

Any questions, please contact Sault Tribe Higher Education Programs at (906) 635-7784 or send email to highereducation@saulttribe.net. Miigwech.

2011 Scholarships

Our website should be re-vamped by March 1 and will include a list of Sault

2011-2012 Higher education grants

The grant program assists students attending a Michigan

All three programs require a higher education application and a W-9 taxpayer ID form on file for each school year.

Essay contest for high school students

Describe a challenge facing your tribal community and how it can be met and overcome. That is the assignment for interested high school students. The Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and Holland and Knight Charitable Foundation are sponsoring the sixth annual Young Native Writers Essay Contest.

Five finalists and their teachers will receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C., to participate in an honor ceremony where the winner will be announced and receive a \$2,500 scholarship.

The deadline is April 1. Visit www.nativewriters.hkllaw.com for more information.

Michigan NARFE scholarship

The Paul Davis scholarship application is now available. In order to apply, the student must have a family member who is active in a Michigan National Active and Retired Federal Employee chapter.

The student making application may be a child, grandchild, great grandchild or stepchild.

The scholarship is to help students who may be entering their first year of college or someone in graduate school. Individual scholarships are for the amount of \$1,000. There will be five scholarships awarded this year.

If you would like to receive a scholarship application or if you have questions, please call Selden Collins, 647-2011 or Edna Henderson, 632-7806.

Deadline to have applications submitted is April, 1, 2011.

Free speaker on kids, violence

SUBMITTED BY ANGELINE BOULLEY-MATSON, EDUCATION DIRECTOR

Did you know high school students reported:

- Watching more than 3 hours a day of television on an average school day (30%).
- Playing more than 3 hours of video games and/or using a computer for something other than school work on an average school day (1 in 4).
- Being in a physical fight

in the past year (1 in 3).

- Being bullied in the past year (1 in 4).

By the time the average child reaches age 18, they will have witnessed 200,000 acts of violence and 16,000 murders through visual media such as television and videogames.

Parents and community members are invited to attend a free workshop, "How Our Kids Are Learning to Kill and Learning to Like It," on

Monday, April 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Fine Arts Center at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Internationally renowned speaker Lt. Colonel Dave Grossman will speak about the effects of violent visual media on children and teens.

For more information, email Lisa Jo Gagliardi at the Eastern Upper Peninsula Intermediate School District at lgagliardi@eup.k12.mi.us.

Traditional medicine teachings March 12

Traditional practitioner Keith Smith will speak on offerings and feasts at the Sault Ste. Marie Tribal Health Center auditorium on Saturday, March 12, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Food offered, please bring food to share. All are welcome.

For questions, call Peggy Hemenway or Laura Collins at 632-5200.



Names of moons variable in north woods

The names of late winter and spring moons are highly variable in the great north-woods. In our 1836 Treaty Ceded territory, season changes differ from the northern most boundary to the southernmost boundary.

Spring spawning runs of important fish depend on the rivers and tributaries in which they run. Sucker Fish Moon (Namebini Giizis) could be

as early as February and as late as May. Many places call February Bear Moon (Mukwa Giizis). The longest Bear Moon name "Makoonsaggaa-nitaawaadi-giizis" means "When the Bear Cubs are Born Moon." The month of March is known in some areas as Hard Crust on the Snow Moon (Onaabani Giizis) or Snowshoe Breaking Moon (Bebookwedaagimegiizis),

with variations. Time to make maple sugar is also a wide-ranging regional event, happening in March in some parts and April in others. So, Maple Sugar Moon (Ziisbaakdoke Giizis) will be named regionally.

Here we call January "Manidoo Giizis," February "Mukwa Giizis," and March "Ziisbaakdoke Giizis."

Between late winter and

early spring we are transitioning from a quiet thinking time for legend telling and teachings, to another year of new beginnings.

At this time of year, the bear is having her babies in her den while she still sleeps. A hard crust is forming on top of the snow that can bear our weight. We are getting ready for our sugar camps and looking forward to getting out. We start feeling energetic — even though spring is a spiritual time, it's also a physical time.

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

March 4, 2011
Ziisbaakdoke Giizis
Maple Sugar Moon
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Jennifer Dale-Burton.....Editor
Brenda Austin.....Staff Writer
Rick Smith.....Staff Writer
Sherrie Lucas.....Administrative Secretary

Win Awenen Nisitotung welcomes submissions of news articles, feature stories, photographs, columns and announcements of American Indian or non-profit events. All submissions are printed at the discretion of the editor, sub-

ject to editing and are not to exceed 400 words. Unsigned submissions are not accepted.

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

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

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 beginning on its publishing date.

Subscriptions:
The regular rate is \$18 per year, \$11 for senior citizens and \$30 to Canada. Please call for other foreign countries. Subscribe by sending your name and mailing address to the address below with your check or money order made out to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

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Nominations sought for LSSU annual Outstanding Native American Student Award

The Native American Student Organization of LSSU is now accepting nominations for the Outstanding Native American Student Award. This award is given to a graduating senior at LSSU who has shown remarkable character during their time at LSSU.

Candidates may nominate themselves or be nominated by peers. The nomination packets must include GPA, at least one letter of recommendation explaining why the candidate is an outstanding student, any

activities they participate in on or off campus, tribal affiliation (Canadian students may apply), and a brief letter stating goals after graduation.

Nominations can be hand delivered, mailed or faxed to LSSU, Attn: Stephanie Sabatine, Director, Native American Center and Campus Diversity, 650 West Easterday Avenue, Sault Ste. Marie MI 49783; phone 635-6664 or fax 635-2848.

The deadline for nominations is Friday, March 11.

Kewadin casinos, Sault Tribe offices participate in recycling program

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — In 2008 the Sault Tribe Board of Directors signed a resolution making the tribe and its entities responsible for recycling and a committee was formed with Purchasing Director Bradley Pringle serving as its chairman. The Recycling Committee developed policy and procedure guidelines, work instructions for employees and a recycling pick up schedule.

In 2010 the tribe sold their paper, plastic and magazine recycling material to local vendors at the going market rate, which fluctuated from .00 to .03 per pound, generating an income of about \$700 from what would otherwise have been thrown out with the trash.

Currently recycling efforts are concentrated in the Sault Ste. Marie community including the tribes administration complex, Tribal Health Center, Northern Hospitality, Chippewa Service and Supply, Midjim and the Sault

and St. Ignace Kewadin Casinos. The Christmas, Hessel and Manistique casinos are not located close enough to a recycling facility to make it economical to recycle at this time. Pringle said, "Our recycling program is effective and efficient – a lot of our recycling can be done economically."

Recycling efforts have more than doubled since the programs initiation.

The tribe's two casinos recycle between 16- to 20-tons of cardboard a month, the equivalent of about 12 full dumpsters. "That is money that doesn't go into the compactor that we would have had to pay \$55 a ton to get rid of," said Pringle. "Currently we pay \$90 a month for each cardboard recycling container, but even with this cost we have saved about \$110 in waste charges for every two tons of cardboard we recycle."

High schoolers get free admission and t-shirt at Ann Arbor powwow

ANN ARBOR — The 39th Annual Dance for Mother Earth Powwow will be held on March 19 and 20 at Saline Middle School in Saline, Mich., just south of Ann Arbor. The powwow is sponsored by the Native American Student Association at the University of Michigan and community members, including tribal members Rachel Derusha, Rayna Caskey,



Purchasing Director Bradley Pringle

Products the tribe has been most successful at recycling include: office waste – shredded and un-shredded paper, magazines, newspapers, cardboard and plastic; glass and plastic liquor bottles, four-foot fluorescent light bulbs; used fry oil from the casinos; used laser toner cartridges, electronics and unbroken glass containers.

Not all recycling is free. The tribe is charged for recycling fluorescent bulbs and some electronics.

Other tribal programs participating in the recycling effort are: motor pool, judicial building, Big Bear, elder center, human resources, executive host Kewadin Casino, Northern Rewards, Group Tours, Convention Sales, Purchasing, mail room, Kewadin Accounting, Kewadin Marketing, ACFS, Enrollment and Sault Tribe Construction.

Pringle said the goal of the program is to lighten the tribe's waste footprint and become more environmentally responsible.

The committee meets at least bi-monthly to review ongoing projects and discuss the possibility of new projects. Members of the Recycling Committee are: Bradley Pringle, Joe McKerchie, Michelle Bouschor, Kristi Harwood, Bill Connolly, Kathie Brosemer, John Cleary, Mindy Kavanaugh, Rachel Mckechnie and Barb

Alexandria Cadotte, Andrew T. Cadotte and Seann Smith.

Native high schoolers who are interested in attending are eligible to receive a voucher in the mail for free admission and will get a free t-shirt if they visit the U of M admissions table at the event. For more information, please visit www.umich.edu/~powwow/index.html or call (734) 408-1581.

Willis.

A plan has been initiated by Purchasing to increase the amount of recycled products the tribe uses and purchases. For instance the tribe purchases copier paper with recyclable content and the remanufactured ink and toner purchases are almost 100 percent recycled by a local vendor.

Sault Tribe Fisheries is benefiting from recycled fry oil from the casino. The oil is collected in their original five-gallon containers and used by tribal fisheries to make bio diesel. A local vendor, Sanamax, pays the tribe .04 a pound for leftover fry oil not used by fisheries.

The committee has initiated many projects including a successful negotiation with Waste Management in 2010 that eliminated fuel surcharges, environmental fees and collection costs were froze for 16 months, reducing the tribe's monthly waste collection bill by about \$5,500. "Waste Management has been an excellent partner for our waste and recycling needs and we look forward to working with them in the future," Pringle said.

If you are a tribal employee or Sault Tribe member and would like to learn more about recycling within the tribe, contact Purchasing Director Bradley Pringle at (906) 635-7035 ext. 53063 or by email at bpringle@saulttribe.net.



Stephanie Payment with the tribe's MIS Department recycling some old plastic coffee containers. Photos by Brenda Austin



WANTED

Tribal members who may be interested in joining the Sault Tribe Housing Board of Commission/Utility Authority Commission.

Housing two openings on the Commission and because these vacancies have existed for several months, Housing is able to fill the seats with any interested tribal member no matter what unit they reside. The Commission meets once a month on the third Monday of the month.

- Must be 18 years of age;
- Live in any of the five Units ;
- Do not need to be a resident of Housing;
- However, residents are eligible to sit on the Commission.

This is a volunteer position;
Lunch is provided to Commissioners;
Mileage is paid at federal levels.

Some of the duties associated with the position are:

- Approving policies for Housing/Utility Authority
- Hearing tenant grievances
- Reviewing and approving budgets for Housing/Utility Authority

You must submit a letter of intent with three letters of recommendation from tribal members. These documents can be sent to The Housing Authority, 154 Parkside Drive, Kincheloe, MI 49788. If you have any questions please contact Sheila Berger at (906) 495-5555.



Large part of fall 2010 2 percent contributions went to educational programs and area schools

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — Last fall the Sault Tribe paid out \$379,854 in 2 percent slot machine revenues across its seven-county service area. Most of those funds went to educational programs and school renovations.

One of the larger projects was the renovation of Munising Elementary School for which the tribe donated \$21,750. Superintendent Barbara Hase said the elementary school was formerly a middle and high school. In order to accommodate young children from preschool to grade six, some bathrooms and a cafeteria had to be added on the lower floor. Additionally, the locker rooms are in the process of receiving a facelift with the installation of all new lockers.

Hase said the student population is about 400 including the preschool program, with a 25 percent Native American population.

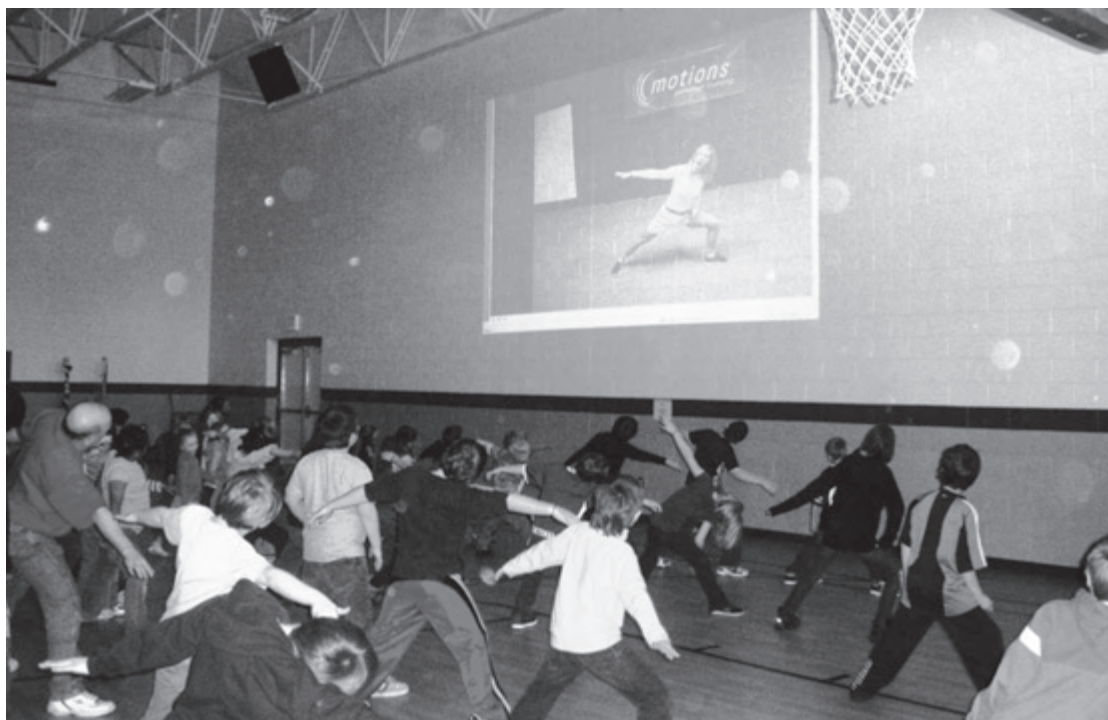
Sault Area High School received \$17,207 towards a new scoreboard for the swim team and an additional \$6,111 that was used to purchase supplies and computers for the swim team. Sault Area Schools Athletic Director Tony Haller said the new scoreboard was a tremendous upgrade for the school's pool. "Without the help of the tribe and the 2 percent money they afforded us, we certainly couldn't have done it," he said. In addition to computers and pool supplies, the additional \$6,111 went toward paying for bleachers and software to help run the swim meets.

There are 55 swimmers on the high school team and 200 on the Sault Aquatics Competitive Team, comprised of younger swimmers from the Sault and outlying areas, all using the high school pool. With a number of swimmers being Sault Tribe members, Haller said that he can't thank the board of directors enough for supporting their program.

Another program that benefited from the tribe's 2 percent donations was Newberry Elementary, which received \$500 to purchase a much needed data projector. According to School Principal Meg Hobbs, the projector is used by connecting it to a teacher's laptop computer. It can be used for doing research on the Internet or live video streaming, and students can watch educational videos streamed through their local Intramural School District.

Hobbs said that with the current economic crises and budget issues the way they are, that it is a privilege for the school to have the new equipment. The elementary school is home to about 780 students in grades K-12, 135 of which are recognized as being Native American.

An elementary school geared towards environmental teachings, Three Lakes Academy in Curtis received \$5,000



North Star Public School Academy in Marquette was the recipient of \$5,000 for a unique Internet-based fitness program. About 125 students participate in the program each morning before heading back to their classrooms for a nutritious breakfast.



Professor Gary Johnson and LSSU Model United Nations students outside Crawford Hall on the LSSU campus shortly before leaving for the 2010 conference at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls. LSSU received \$11,611 in 2 percent funding to help host this year's event.

for its program "Get Them Outdoors." The tribe's donation went towards the purchase of 25 snowshoes. Keith Shearer, administrator, said the kids have been learning snowshoeing techniques and go on walks around the school's property. The snowshoes are proudly displayed on the main wall in the school with a painted mural behind them depicting children snowshoeing.

"The 2 percent money is really appreciated and well used. It is money that you don't count on and when it comes available we are able to do something very special with it," Shearer said.

Lake Superior State University received \$11,611 in 2 percent funding towards an Arrowhead Model United Nations conference it will be hosting this April. According to Professor of Political Science, Gary Johnson, who is also the conference organizer, the tribe's donation is allowing him to invite a very special keynote speaker to this year's

event — Mary Robinson, the former president and the first woman president of Ireland. Robinson is also the UN High Commissioner of Human Rights and was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama.

Johnson said they are expecting students and faculty from 16 or 17 colleges and universities from North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Ontario Canada and Michigan. About 340 students will be representing 70 countries that are members of the United Nations.

Johnson said 250 seats would be made available to the public on a first-come basis for Mary Robinson's keynote address. One of the issues Robinson is most noted for, according to Johnson, is her support for the rights of indigenous peoples all over the world.

"The 2 percent monies from the Sault Tribe helped us get this speaker that we would not otherwise have been able to afford," he said.

The conference will be held

April 7-10 on the campus of LSSU.

Rudyard Schools Public Library received \$12,900, and according to Librarian Donna Porterfield, will use the 2 percent funds to support the purchase of periodicals, materials and supplies.

A new section will be added to the library to provide material, books and other media to assist community members addicted to gambling. The current section dedicated to Native American studies will be updated and new materials on health topics will be made available. Porterfield said that library patrons will also soon have access to downloadable digital audio books and ebooks seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

The Rudyard Schools Public Library is located on one end of the school building but offers the public a separate entrance and complete use of the library. "A school-public combination library is unique today," Porterfield said. "We feel this

opportunity has been beneficial to the residents and students of our area.

Pickford Public Schools welding program received a shot in the arm with \$5,243 that, according to industrial arts teacher Larry Warner, made all the difference in the program being able to start its first year off with some new equipment.

"The tribe's donation got us started," Warner said. "When I started here five years ago we had two welders about 30 years old and no metal work classes being offered to students. This has given the kids an avenue to excel in." The start-up program has a class of 10 enrolled students this year.

North Star Public School Academy in Marquette was the recipient of \$5,000 for a unique Internet-based fitness program. School Superintendent Karen Anderson said a professional fitness trainer - who also happens to be an elementary school teacher - leads the kindergarten to sixth grade students in an interactive fitness program each morning for 25 minutes. A 25-foot image of the fitness trainer is projected onto the wall and she can also see the students as they do their workout.

About 125 students participate in the program and then head back to their classrooms for a nutritious breakfast. Anderson said one surprise side benefit was the number of kids eating breakfast every morning has tripled.

According to Anderson the tribe's donation paid for about a quarter of the projects cost. With a high Native American population and a number of at risk students, Anderson said the school is doing everything it can to bring them a healthy lifestyle and get them used to living that way.

Nine schools in Units IV and V of the tribe's service area received 2 percent funding for their Title VII Indian Education programming. Negaunee Public Schools, Ishpeming Public Schools, Gladstone Area Schools, Rapid River Public Schools, Escanaba Area Schools, Manistique Area Schools and Big Bay De Noc School each received \$3,000, while Munising Public Schools, received \$7,000 and Marquette Area Public Schools \$10,000. Additionally, Schoolcraft County MSU Extension received \$3,401 for community baskets, JKL Bahweting Anishnabe Public School Academy received \$2,500 for its Young Wildcat program and Nah Tah Wahsh Public School in Hannahville received \$22,500 for its Willow Creek Building.

The tribe distributes 2 percent payments twice annually and has disbursed over \$31 million in the EUP since 1993. For information on how to apply for 2 percent funding contact Candace Blocher at (906) 635-6050.

Coalition acting against prescription drug abuse in Chippewa County

All are invited to help save lives and curb crime

BY RICK SMITH

A variety of professionals, officials, parents and college students in Chippewa County are meeting and working together as a group, developing plans to spread awareness and address an array of other components surrounding the dangers of prescription drug abuse.

Growing misuse of prescription drugs in the county is evident in climbing emergency room treatments and deaths in recent years. Some interested officials in neighboring counties are watching the group and its proceedings, indicating they, too, must come to terms with similar developments.

Chippewa County Prosecutor Brian Pepler said about 200 emergency room treatments now take place each year for prescription drug overdoses and, last year, five young people under 23 years of age died from overdoses. In January, one person died from an overdose of prescription drugs.

Professionals in the group come from health and social services, law enforcement, judicial offices and other representatives serving Chippewa County and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.



Photo by Rick Smith

Seen here at a meeting in January at Lake Superior State University are some of the working groups discussing issues involved in addressing rising prescription drug abuse in Chippewa County. The county prosecutor, Brian Pepler (standing) speaks with one of the groups which includes Sault Tribe personnel. Attendees at the meeting consisted of area professionals, officials, parents and college students. All county residents are welcomed to participate in the meetings.

“We’re looking for solutions,” said Pepler. “We have the conversation started.” And all county residents are invited to hear and be heard at the meetings.

Pepler said the direction of

the group is currently focused on prevention and expanding public awareness of the magnitude of prescription drug abuse in the county. Other facets include developing law enforcement protocols and procedures,

establishment of a drug court based on the Sault Tribe model and drug dependency recovery.

While the coalition represents another instance where mainstream and tribal agencies are working together in sup-

port of a mutually beneficial end, it is one of the few where participation by all concerned is sought.

One Sault Tribe member, wife and mother who attended a meeting of the group with her husband in January said she now feels involved with the community in a way that will help her family, friends and fellow residents. Further, she said the meetings have proven to be quite interesting and hopes to see more people coming to take part.

The group is experiencing gradual growth, from nine people beginning last October to about 70 in January.

Anyone interested in learning more about the group may contact Karen Senkus of the Chippewa County Health Department at 253-3103 or ksenkus@chippewahd.com, Jessica Gillotte of the Sault Tribe ACFS Child Advocacy Center at 632-4001 or jgillotte@saulttribe.net, the Chippewa County Prosecutor’s Office at 635-6342. A way to connect with others interested in the movement is by logging onto Facebook and searching for Chippewa County Against Abusing Prescription Drugs.

Congressman Benishek meets Sault Tribe



Photos by Rick Smith and Brenda Austin

U.S. Congressional Representative Dan Benishek recently visited the new St. Ignace health facility and met more tribal representatives in Sault Ste. Marie. Above left in St. Ignace, (Left to right) Sault Tribe Rural Health Program Manager Marlene Glaesmann, Unit III representatives Patrick Rickley and Keith Massaway, Benishek and Sault Tribe Health Department Director Bonnie Culfa. In Sault Ste. Marie, (Left to right) Congressional aid Dan Blough, Laura Bouschor, Unit I Representative Bernard Bouschor, Vice Chairwoman Lana Causley, Benishek, Sault Tribe Government Relations Director Mike McCoy, Chairman Joe McCoy, Lead Counsel Tom Dorwin, Jean Massaway and Massaway.

LSSU seeks high schoolers for geology excursion

For the second year, Lake Superior State University will take high school students on a two-week summer geoscience program that will include a variety of important and interesting sites of geologic and Native American significance across the northern United States. The program particularly seeks participation of Native American students in the 10th and 11th grades.

Geological Reasoning and Natives Investigating the Earth (GRANITE), features geology instructors, high school teachers and American Indian experts guiding students on a two-week field trip tentatively scheduled for July 7-21. Participants will study, hike, and camp in many beautiful locations from Sault Ste Marie

to the Black Hills of South Dakota. Students will learn geology field skills and use computers and other technology to study geologically interesting sites, many with special significance to American Indians.

In 2010, 11 students visited the Mississippi River, Pipestone in Minnesota., Devil’s Tower in Wyoming, and Bear Butte, Badlands and Black Hills of South Dakota.

In the Black Hills, students visited the Crazy Horse monument, Mt. Rushmore, caves and a variety of other sites.

All travel expenses, lodging, and meal costs are covered by a grant from National Science Foundation. This year’s itinerary features many of the same stops.

“The GRANITE experience provides a strong background for participants wanting to enroll in a university-level geoscience program,” said Paul Kelso Ph.D., LSSU geology professor and program director. “They learn how their lives and their communities are affected by geology and gain hands-on science experience.”

Students in the 2010 program camped out in tents for most of the trip, slept under the stars in South Dakota, panned for gold, explored the upper reaches of the mighty Mississippi River and saw a great variety of beautiful country. For some, it stimulated their interest in studying natural science in college.

“It definitely confirmed my interest in studying geology in

college,” said Alex Pink, one of the participants. “The trip exceeded my expectations. Every day that I thought was the best day so far was surpassed by the next. I truly cannot express in words the beauty of the landscape we saw.”

Besides Kelso, the students were accompanied by Brimley Schools math/science teacher Chris Whealy, Whitefish Township Schools teacher/principle/superintendent and LSSU alumnus Nate Beelen, and LSSU geology student Liz Goetz.

“The students were very hard-working and had positive attitudes,” said Whealy. “I do believe all involved had a unique experience being exposed to the geology and the Native culture of the region.”

Applications and more information about the program may be obtained on the web at www.nac.lssu.edu/geology/main.

Students may also contact Kelso at 635-2158 or pkelso@lssu.edu, or Native American Center Director Stephanie Sabatine at 635-6664 or email ssabatine@lssu.edu.

In addition to the website, applications are available at Brimley High School, Rudyard High School, Sault Area High School and Whitefish Township Community Schools.

Mail, e-mail or fax completed applications by March 15 to the LSSU Native American Center, 650 W. Easterday Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., 49783. Email ssabatine@lssu.edu or fax 635-2848.

Kids learn lessons at winter survival camp



Graz Shipman and Jim Ailing (L-R) at Ailing's shelter for the Sasquatch Group.



BY LORI GAMBARDILLA,
CULTURE DEPARTMENT

The Mary Murray Culture Camp held its first winter survival camp of 2011 this January. The camp had 32 participants, eight of them joining from the Escanaba Youth Education and Activities Program.

Friday night began with a talking circle and then the group identified the camp rules for the weekend. Dinner and the movie, *Snow Dogs*, helped wind down the evening. The morning started with a presentation on cold weather survival and hypothermia by Sault Tribe conservation officers Sam Gardner and Allen TenEyck. The presentation provided extremely useful information that could save lives. Did you know that cotton should not be worn in cold weather conditions because if it gets wet, it dries very slowly?

Afterward, the camp participants split into four groups, each choosing a name for their group. They chose "Wiigwaas," "Wolves," "Sasquatch" and "Polar Bears." Teams geared up and went out in the frigid temperatures of -17°F with high spirits, excitement and a survival

kit containing waterproof matches, string, a knife, a magnesium strip and lunch. The youth led the way in finding a site, gathering natural supplies and designing and constructing their shelters. Three of the four shelter fires were started with flint and the groups cooked their lunches at the shelters.

When the teams came inside, they were greeted with warm new socks and cups of hot cocoa. The day concluded with a group discussion on personal experiences about the day's events. Each team chose an individual from their group who they felt was the most helpful: Katie DesArmo from the Polar Bears, Holly Mathias from the Wolves, Robert Broeders from Wiigwaas, and Courtney Mathias from Sasquatch. By a show of hands, the Polar Bears were voted as the group with the best shelter.

The Mary Murray Culture Camp staff would like to say g'tchi miigwech to the Sault Tribe conservation officers and all the families and children for helping make the winter survival camp educational, safe and fun. A special appreciation to Lacey Reyne Ailing for her wonderful cooking.



Pictured above are some members of the Polar Bear Group (L-R), Maggie Gaus, Rita Devoy, Katie DesArmo, Jesse Bowen, Lori Gambardella and Abbi Lovin. Pictured at left is the Wiigwaas Group (L-R): Christopher Jones, Nathan Webber, Brendan Shipman, Robert Broeders and Graz Shipman.

Elders, youth host traditional seasonal feast



Photos by Connie Watson

FEAST — Sault Tribe Traditional Foods Grant Program, Youth Education and Activities, and language class had a traditional feast in January. Tribal elders assisted and taught tribal youth different ways to cook and prepare venison and whitefish. Community members gathered to share the feast, hear the Ojibwe language, and enjoy stories of the past. Left, Jill King, Jasmine Williams and Rita Devoy (L-R) prepare fry bread, venison and blueberries and whitefish. Above, Kendra Becker; Cheryl Flowers; Edye Nichols (L-R) working on feast foods.

Kewadin Casinos sponsors pond hockey

BY BRENDA AUSTIN

ST. IGNACE, Mich. — Kewadin Casinos was the main sponsor of one of the largest pond hockey tournaments in North America, and the largest in Michigan — the Labatt Blue U.P. Pond Hockey Championship held in St. Ignace Feb. 18-20. Kewadin Casinos donated \$7,500 to the three-day event.

This year's championship drew between 1,200 and 1,400 players from 40 states and brought in over 2,400 spectators a day. In its fifth year, the pond hockey games are a fundraising effort for local youth hockey programs and special events.

Mark Sposito, chair of the St. Ignace Events Committee and a board member of the St. Ignace Visitors Bureau, said the tournament brings in about \$60,000 annually, which is then split by a couple of local organizations. James DeKeyser, president of the St. Ignace Visitors Bureau and owner of the Super 8 Motel in St. Ignace, said that having Kewadin Casinos as their main sponsor is "huge."

"We appreciate the casino's sponsorship, not just with the pond hockey but in everything they do for us," DeKeyser said.

With both men's and women's divisions, including a novice division,



Photo by Brenda Austin

Left: Shores Casino General Manager Steve Sprecker, James DeKeyser, president of the St. Ignace Visitors Bureau, Mark Sposito, chair of the St. Ignace Events Committee and a board member of the St. Ignace Visitors Bureau and Kewadin Casino COO Tony Goetz.

each of the 160 teams were guaranteed to play at least three games. Players ranged in age from 21 to over 70.

Three years ago the tournament purchased a used Zamboni to smooth

the ice on the 30 "wild ice" rinks.

DeKeyser said the purchase of the zamboni has cut out the work of 30-40 volunteers and countless hours of flooding the ice to make it smooth. "With

this machine we just scrape the ice until it's smooth," he said. The games are four-on-four hockey with no goalies and are played on the all-natural ice of Lake Huron's Moran Bay overlooking Mackinac Island.

As part of the U.P. Pond Hockey Championship weekend, Detroit Red Wings alumni played an exhibition game Feb. 18 at the Little Bear East Ice Arena, sponsored the past three years by Kewadin Casinos. Tournament games began late Friday morning and ended Saturday about 6 p.m. Sunday morning were the finals and award presentations.

Kewadin Shores Casino General Manager Steve Sprecker, said, "We like to donate money to local communities to support activities and hopefully we create a win-win situation by doing that. We look forward to the tournament every year, it brings a lot of people into the area."

Kewadin Casinos COO Tony Goetz said a lot of local businesses work together on the event and all benefit from it. "We are really leading the way in the community in stepping up and sponsoring these events that benefit everybody in the community," he added. "This is just one of the big events that Kewadin Casinos sponsors."

Community Radio Act poses possibilities

BY RICK SMITH

Both chambers of the U.S. Congress recently passed the Local Community Radio Act at the end of 2010. President Barack Obama signed the bill into law on Jan. 4, it relaxes the regulations and broadens the scope of licensing for non-profit, low power, FM radio broadcasting stations. The new law creates opportunities for thousands of component groups in communities and millions of individuals in populaces across the country to acquire relatively inexpensive licensing to operate radio stations to serve specific group interests.

According to findings disclosed in the legislation, the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) seeks to "create opportunities for new voices on the air waves and to allow local groups, including schools, churches and other community-based organizations, to provide programming responsive to local community needs and interests."

Under the recently enacted law, as an example, Sault Tribe or interested members could become licensed to operate non-profit, low-power radio stations for the purpose of providing timely dissemination of a wide variety of important news, information and programs of specific interest to members that has historically been long neglected on mainstream radio. Individual stations could be licensed for every area with a significant population of Sault Tribe members.

"The Local Community Radio Act signed by President Obama is a big win for radio listeners," said FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski in a statement about the enactment. "Low power FM stations are small, but they make a giant contribution to local communi-



ty programming. This important law eliminates the unnecessary restrictions that kept these local stations off the air in cities and towns across the country . . . the FCC will take swift action to open the dial to new low-power radio stations and the valuable local service they provide."

Full power FM broadcasts can cover radial areas of 20 to 50 miles distant from transmitting antennas, depending on power, terrain, equipment and configuration. Low power FM stations broadcast over areas of about 3 to 5 miles from antennas, once again depending on the same elements for full power stations.

In addition to supporting the new regulations for low power stations, the FCC has initiatives, resources and publications specifically in support of improving radio and other forms of telecommunications in Indian Country.

Prior to the passage of the Local Community Radio Act, licensing for low power FM stations were often severely restricted by mandated gaps between commercial radio station frequencies.

The Prometheus Radio Project notes the new law enables local coverage of information from vantage points not available elsewhere, it gives local groups and individuals platforms to learn about issues

important to them and to voice their views. Furthermore, such stations could contribute to strengthening communities, training students interested in telecommunications careers and providing a source to turn to for

information during local emergencies.

The legislation was pushed by advocate groups, such as the Prometheus Radio Project, and gained the approval of the National Association of

Broadcasters after certain protections for commercial radio interests were negotiated.

Former Police Chief Paquin in federal prison

Former Sault Tribe Police Chief Fred Paquin is now serving time in federal prison after admitting he misused federal funds awarded to the Tribal Police Department between 2002 and 2008.



Fred Paquin

Federal prosecutors said Paquin admitted to obtaining false and fictitious purchase invoices to divert grant funds to accounts held by various vendors without any oversight and in complete violation of the grant terms. Federal officials said Paquin also funneled federal taxpayer dollars into "slush funds" that only he knew about and controlled. Prosecutors said he used grant funds to purchase an ATV that was to be used for a charitable raffle, but told people he purchased the ATV with his own money. He also admitted that he used credits at one vendor to help finance his son-in-law's lease of a vehicle and that he purchased sporting items for his personal use.

Paquin also defrauded the Sault Tribe by maintaining his daughter as a full-time employee of the Sault Tribe Police Department for almost a year

despite the fact she had left the job to become a full-time student teacher, Tribal leaders said.

"Fred was a trusted Tribal official who held a position of significant authority and respect, yet he admitted that he defrauded the federal government and the tribe," said Sault Tribe Chairman Joe McCoy. "He is now serving prison time for those crimes. It is one of the saddest chapters in Sault Tribe history, one we all regret and are pleased to put in the past."

Federal prosecutors began investigating Paquin in early 2008. The Sault Tribe put Paquin on indefinite suspension pending the outcome of the investigation in October 2008.

Paquin had a valid and binding employment contract with the tribe when he was suspended. The tribe filed a civil lawsuit in October 2008 to invalidate the contract and seek reimbursement of any funds he may have improperly received. Over a year later, federal prosecutors formerly charged Paquin with the crimes. As a result of the federal charges being filed, the judge in the tribe's civil lawsuit against Paquin stopped the case, which is a standard action to give him the opportunity to defend himself in the criminal case without having to deal with the civil case at the same time.

While the tribe's case was

on hold, Paquin admitted his wrongdoing in the criminal case. With the criminal case ended, the tribe entered into a settlement to pay Paquin \$18,000 to cover the contract before it was invalidated. This amount represents a small portion of his accrued vacation and sick time. Had the tribe not terminated the contract, Paquin would have been paid more than \$200,000 more over the life of the agreement. In addition, had the tribe not entered into the settlement, attorneys cautioned Paquin would likely sue to collect far more than the settlement amount. The settlement saved the tribe thousands of dollars in additional legal fees, affirmed the tribe's right to terminate the agreement, resolved any ambiguity about whether the tribe had the right to put Paquin on suspension and avoided a possible higher judgment in the case.

Paquin was sentenced to one year and one day in federal prison and ordered to pay \$231,000 in restitution, followed by two years of probation. He is lodged in the U.S. Penitentiary-Canaan, a high-security prison in north-eastern Pennsylvania which also has a minimum security work camp. His current projected release date is Nov. 30 of this year, which reflects credit for time he may receive under the federal "good time" system.

VA expands outreach to American Indian veterans

NEW OFFICE TO SERVE AS ADVOCATE FOR TRIBAL VETERANS

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Department of Veterans Affairs announced the creation of a new Office of Tribal Government Relations to ensure the more than 200,000 military veterans who are American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians receive the VA benefits they have earned.

“There is a long, distinguished tradition of military service among tribal peoples,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki in a recent news release. “VA is committed to providing these veterans with

the full range of VA programs, as befits their service to our nation.”

Although VA has long provided benefits to veterans in tribal lands, the new office will further strengthen and expand that relationship.

Stephanie Elaine Birdwell, an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation from Oklahoma, has been selected as the office’s first director, according to the release. A former social worker, she has spent nearly 15 years working on tribal issues with the Bureau

of Indian Affairs and, most recently, the Bureau of Indian Education.

She will oversee a six-person office responsible for “establishing, maintaining and coordinating a nation-to-nation, federal-tribal relationship.”



VA publishes final rules to aid veterans exposed to Agent Orange in Korea

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Veterans exposed to herbicides while serving along the demilitarized zone in Korea will have an easier path to access quality health care and benefits under a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) final regulation that will expand the dates when illnesses caused by herbicide exposure can be presumed to be related to Agent Orange.

Under the final regulation recently published in the federal register, VA will presume herbicide exposure for any veteran who served between April 1, 1968, and Aug. 31, 1971, in a unit determined by VA and the Department of Defense to have operated in an area in or near the Korean

demilitarized zone in which herbicides were applied.

Previously, VA recognized that Agent Orange exposure could only be conceded to veterans who served in certain units along the Korean demilitarized zone between April 1968 and July 1969.

In practical terms, eligible veterans who have specific illnesses VA presumes to be associated with herbicide exposure do not have to prove an association between their illness and their military service.

This “presumption” simplifies and speeds up the application process for benefits and ensures that Veterans receive the benefits they deserve.

The VA encourages veterans

with covered service in Korea who have medical conditions that may be related to Agent Orange to submit their applications for access to VA health care and compensation as soon as possible so the agency can begin processing their claims.

Individuals can go to www.vba.va.gov/bln/21/AO/claimherbicide to get a more complete understanding of how to file a claim for presumptive conditions related to herbicide exposure, as well as what evidence is needed by VA to make a decision about disability compensation or survivors benefits.

Paquin DVD, booklet on building birch bark canoes now available

By Rick Smith

Lessons on building birch bark canoes by Sault Tribe member Ron Paquin are available on DVD and come with a 33-page booklet highlighting steps in the construction process.

According to the Chippewa County Historical Society, Paquin demonstrated construction techniques while building a traditional birch bark canoe at the Sault History Fest in 2009. Paquin is a noted craftsman of traditional and contemporary Anishinaabe arts. Thanks to grants through the society from the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs and the Sault Ste. Marie Chase S. Osborne Historic Trust, a video production company recorded the construction process Paquin employed at



Chippewa County Historical Society Vice President and Bayliss Public Library Assistant Director Susan James displays copies of the Rob Paquin DVD and booklet on building birch bark canoes.

the History Fest and produced an instructional DVD, *Ron Paquin's Honest Canoe* —

Making a Contemporary Ojibwa Birch Bark Canoe — Wiigwaas Jiimaan. In addition to showing construction highlights, the accompanying booklet contains an educational children’s Anishinaabe language activity.

The DVD and booklet sets are available for purchase at the Chippewa County Historical Society at 115 Ashmun St. in Sault Ste. Marie, the River of History Museum at 531 Ashmun St. in the Sault, via mail at Ron’s Honest Canoe, 2433 Polish Line Rd., Cheboygan, MI 48721 or email at mmpaquin@charter.net.

Those interested in acquiring copies from the society or the museum should call before visiting due to seasonal fluctuations in hours of operation. The society can be reached at (906) 635-7082, the museum number is 632-1999.

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NANABUSH
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STIR
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SUGAR
SUN
SWEET
SYRUP
TAP
TEA
TEMPERATURE
THAW
THUNDER
TRAIL
TREE
WOOD
YUM

Paquin's 2011 workshops

Porcupine quill box — Mondays, July 12, 19 and 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All materials provided; bring your own lunch. Learn the basics of quill-work. \$100

Dreamcatcher — Monday, Aug. 2, 9 a.m. to noon. Weave a dreamcatcher web onto red willow and embellish with a feather and beads. All materials provided; bring your own lunch if you are taking both classes on this day. \$25

Necklace — Monday, Aug. 2, 1 to 4 p.m. Necklace made with porcupine quills, beads, fish vertebrae and an antler carved feather. All materials provided; bring your own lunch if you are taking both classes on this day. \$25

Blueberry basket — Mondays,

Aug. 16 and 23, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Two full days.) Six-sided birchbark basket sewn with sweetgrass and embellished with pine cones. All materials provided. Bring your own lunch. \$100

To register, send your check or money order for full amount payable to Ron Paquin, 2433 Polish Line Rd., Cheboygan MI 49721.

Your reservation is confirmed only upon receipt of your payment. First-come, first-served. Classes fill quickly. Should Ron Paquin have to cancel for any reason, he will refund your total amount. All classes will be at his home. Please include your name, address, phone and email with your payment.

New intellectual property protection brochure released

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Indian Arts and Crafts Board (IACB), an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, has released a new intellectual property rights protection brochure, created in collaboration with the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), and entitled, “Introduction to Intellectual Property for American Indian and Alaskan Native Artists.”

The brochure provides an introduction to the various intellectual property rights protections — trademarks, copyright, design patents, trade secrets — afforded to

American Indian and Alaskan Native artists and artisans.

Intellectual property protection is important to every business, including American Indian and Alaskan Native artists, and this brochure will help teach artists and artisans how they can protect their intellectual property, economic livelihood and cultural heritage.

For copies of the brochure, contact the IACB toll free at (888) 278-3253, or email iacb@ios.doi.gov.

The brochure can also be viewed on the IACB’s website at www.iacb.doi.gov.

Meet State Senator Howard Walker

BY JENNIFER DALE-BURTON
 Republican 37th District State Senator Howard Walker's main concern seems to be a healthy environment and economy. Walker is working on a new compact similar to the Great Lakes Water Compact that would keep out new exotic invaders. At the same time, he introduced Senate Resolution 7 to support Attorney General Bill Schuette's lawsuit to permanently close the waterways between the Mississippi River and the Great Lakes to keep out the Asian carp.

"A resolution represents the will, the interest, of the legislature," said Walker. "Although it doesn't carry the weight of law, it sends a strong message."

Res. 7 is out of committee, headed to the full state Senate. If approved, the resolution will go through the same process in the House, after which it will be sent to U.S. Senators Levin and Stabenow and the rest of Congress.



Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton
Sen. Walker chats with JKL Bahweting School Curriculum Director Carolyn Dale and technology teacher Vincent Gross during a visit to the Sault last fall.

"We have an interest in protecting the Great Lakes from a threat that could cripple the ecosystem and a fishing industry valued at \$8 billion, and, really, cripple our way of life," he said.

The Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a study until

2015, and that's too late. "It's simple. Close the locks until a more permanent solution is found," Walker said. "It's a matter of millions versus billions."

A project Walker is just embarking on is the development of a Great Lakes exotic species compact similar to the Great Lakes Water Compact; in this case to protect the Lakes from invasive species the way the water compact protects the lakes from water diversions. He is interested in involving all the states, provinces, Indian tribes and First Nations of the Great Lakes along with other stakeholders. He thinks getting the shippers onboard will be more likely with consistent regulations across the lakes. All of the states have different standards right now, he said, and making them all the same should be of value to the shipping industry.

Walker thinks tribal participation in the compact would be valuable to both the tribes and the compact. "Tribes throughout the Great Lakes and Canada provide the continuity we need," he said.

The senator is comfortable working with tribes and accepts treaty rights and gaming. His entire district — Antrim, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Mackinac and Presque Isle counties — lies within the 1836 Treaty Ceded territory. The implementation of treaty rights has been ongoing for decades, Walker said.

"These issues have been through the highest courts in the land and we are a country of laws," he added. "The rights exist."

Walker further sees the consent decrees and other agreements as a framework for the tribes and state to work together on natural resource issues. "There is an understanding that both governments value the resources, have mutual respect for the resource and for working together," he said.

Tribal gaming is up to the tribes. He does recognize that some people have a gambling problem and sees that the tribes address that with educational programs. "It's a good enhancement for Michigan tourism," he added.

Another measure that will help Michigan's economy is the Pure Michigan campaign. Walker recently introduced a bill to make Pure Michigan permanent. Senate Bill 143 dedicates

a portion of the revenue derived from the 4 cent sales tax to Travel Michigan for the express purpose of tourism marketing and promotion, making the campaign sustainable. Although he thinks the governor supports the concept, Walker thinks it will only last three to four years.

As a state representative, Walker once chaired the DNR budget, and now he serves on the Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee as its vice chair. One of his priorities is to keep the cormorant population in check. The population of the sometimes-native bird is "out of whack" and needs control, he said. And, now that control measures have been in place, perch are starting to come back and this is beneficial to both the environment and the economy.

Walker is on another standing committee — Energy and Technology — and he is very interested in all sorts of new energy. "Michigan imports \$20 billion in electricity every year. We are sending all of that out of the state," he said. "Keeping that money in the state at Michigan facilities would make a huge economic impact."

Walker sits on Michigan's Appropriations and Energy and Technology Standing Committees. His Appropriation Subcommittees are DEQ; DNR; Higher Education; and K-12, School Aid and Education. He can be contacted at his Lansing address, District 37 State Senator Howard Walker, P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909-7536, (517) 373-2413.

State Representative Districts



State Senate Districts



Michigan reps of Sault Tribe service area

- Governor Rick Snyder
 P.O. Box 30013, Lansing, Michigan 48909
 (517) 373-3400
- Northern Michigan Office
 1504 West Washington, Suite B, Marquette, MI 49855
 (906) 228-2850
- District 37 State Senator Howard Walker
 P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909-7536
 (517) 373-2413
- District 38 State Senator Tom Casperson
 P.O. Box 30036, Lansing, MI 48909-7536
 (517) 373-7840

- District 107 Representative Frank Foster
 S-1486 House Office Building
 P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909
 (517) 373-2629
- District 108 Representative Edward McBroom
 P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48933
 (517) 373-0156
- District 109 Representative Steven Lindberg
 P.O. Box 30014, Lansing, MI 48909-7514
 (517) 373-0498

March 4 referenda ballots due back March 25

From "Referendum, Page 1
 ing them. Members who have questions about the referenda are encouraged to contact their unit board representatives.

Both referendums deal with recent resolutions approved by the Sault Tribe Board of Directors following settlements in cases involving the tribe. One referendum seeks to overturn Resolution 2010-292, the other Resolution 2011-09.

Resolution 2011-09 approved the final settlement of a six-year legal battle, which the tribe lost in Circuit Court. After losing the case and to avoid at least \$1.2 million in likely additional legal costs that would have resulted from an appeal, the Sault Tribe agreed to settle the so-called "7 + 2" lawsuit against a former tribal chair-

man and key employees. The referendum seeks to overturn the settlement of \$295,000 the tribe's legal team negotiated as full and final settlement of the matter, which was approved by the Circuit Court and a majority of the Sault Tribe Board of Directors.

The lawsuit was filed by the tribe in an effort to recover about \$2.66 million. Emmett County Circuit Judge Charles Johnson and a Chippewa County jury ruled against the tribe and in favor of the other defendants in November 2010. Five of the tribe's attorneys, including its staff lawyers, examined the case and set the tribe's odds of winning on appeal very low. Most alarming, if the tribe had appealed, the tribe would have been required

by law to put \$1.2 million in cash into an escrow account controlled by the court to cover fees and other costs associated with the appeal. While many are disappointed about losing the case, tribal leaders determined the additional costs would have placed a significant burden on tribal budgets when the chances of winning on appeal were slim.

Resolution 2010-292 approved a settlement payout of \$18,000 to former Sault Tribe Police Chief Fred Paquin, who is now serving time in federal prison after admitting he misused federal funds awarded to the Tribal Police Department between 2002 and 2008. In 2008 the tribe sued Paquin and asked the court to void his employment contract.

After the criminal case against Paquin ended, the tribe agreed to end its civil case by entering into a settlement to pay Paquin \$18,000. This amount represents a small portion of his accrued vacation and sick time.

Had the tribe not terminated the contract, Paquin would have been paid roughly \$200,000 more over the life of the agreement. In addition, had the tribe not entered into the settlement, attorneys cautioned Paquin would likely sue to collect far more than the settlement amount. The settlement saved the tribe thousands of dollars in additional legal fees, affirmed the tribe's right to terminate the agreement, resolved any ambiguity about whether the tribe had the right to put Paquin on suspension,

and avoided a possible higher judgment in the case.

McCoy said tribal leaders are going to examine reforms that will protect the members' right to referendum while ensuring the tribe is able to do business in an efficient manner.

"We must always, as tribal members, have the right and ability to use the referendum to challenge decisions that can be changed," he said. "But people who have their own political agendas should not be able to waste scarce tribal resources on referenda that are irrelevant and waste tribal funds. This money could be used for many other tribal services that could directly impact our members. Using the referendum process like this is simply wasteful and an abuse of our rights."

Keel delivers 2011 State of Indian Nations Address

BY RICK SMITH

In the annual State of Indian Nations Address, National Congress of American Indians President Jefferson Keel said tribes are experiencing the beginning of a new era in inter-governmental relationships bringing them strength and growth across the land.

“We expect that in years to come — in seven generations — our children’s children will look back and say, ‘This was the moment when the future of Indian Country changed forever,’” he said.

Keel reported that bipartisan achievements in Washington, D.C., benefiting tribal nations is not only making Indian Country itself stronger, but creating stronger relationships between tribes and the United States.

Citing actions of the federal government, such as the periods of Indian relocation and termination, allotments, reorganization and promises, Keel said the federal government historically defined relations with Indians. But the redefined relationship is powered by tribal nations that



STATE of INDIAN NATIONS

have worked hard to demonstrate the capacity for self-governance that can achieve self-sufficiency and contribute well to the United States as a whole.

“This new era is defined by what we, as Indian nations, choose to do for ourselves,” he

remarked. He said historians may call it what they will, but, “Whatever it is called, it brings us closer than ever to the true Constitutional relationship between the United States and Indian nations.”

Progress by the federal government on behalf of Indian Country is also contributing to the development of the new era. Keel called the passages and enactments of the Tribal Law and Order Act and the Indian Health Care Improvement Act as monumental achievements. Indian Country is further encouraged, he said, by the settlements of the Cobell litigation over federal failure in Indian revenue management and the Keepseagle lawsuit over discrimination against American Indian farmers.

Looking at the present as it leads into the future, Keel said American Indians must remain resilient and keep the spirit to “see every challenge as an opportunity.” He encouraged indigenous nations to set upon lingering challenges, such as fostering employment and

economic development, by tapping into expanding potential resources, such as renewable energy resources and electronic communications. He also cited a huge potential in investing in high quality care and education of the younger generations from inception to college or job training programs.

Other challenges include resolving the Supreme Court decision in the Carcieri case that threatens the restoration of tribal lands and, in some cases, hinders economic development.

Keel called for the federal government to “clear the way” and for American Indian nations to continue the work needed in building their own communities.

“Toss a stone into the water and the ripples are felt far away,” said Keel. “In the same way, the decisions before us today will be felt in tribal life for seven generations and beyond.”

A transcript of the speech can be viewed in its entirety at www.ncai.org.

President’s budget strengthens pensions

WASHINGTON, D.C.

— President Obama’s proposal, which for the first time would allow the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) to set its own premiums, will help strengthen the pension safety net, said PBGC Director Josh Gotbaum in a recent release.

The proposal, contained in the President’s fiscal year 2012 budget, would allow the PBGC to set its own premiums based on the financial health of the premium payer and the circumstances of the individual plan. Historically, Congress has raised PBGC premiums by legislation, but has generally not taken the individual circumstances of different company sponsors into account. As a result, financially sound companies are forced to subsidize those that are not.

The new pension insurance proposal was modeled on the deposit insurance system operated by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). The FDIC has, for two decades, set its own premiums based on the circumstances and risks of individual banks. It implemented its most recent premium structure only after several years of careful study, and consultation with the business community, labor, and other stakeholders. The PBGC would be required to undertake a similar process prior to implementing any changes.

Furthermore, any changes would be required to be phased in over a period of years. In addition, the PBGC would be directed to set premiums to avoid increases when the economy is weak.

The PBGC has never received taxpayer funds. To help the agency meet its obligations, Congress has repeatedly raised premiums. At least two biparti-

san budget review groups, the Simpson-Bowles Commission, and the Domenici-Rivlin Commission, have recommended that the PBGC’s premiums be raised again. The President’s proposal was designed to allow premium increases that are fairer to the business community and encourage preservation of pension plans.

“The question is not if or when premiums will be increased, but how it is done,” said Gotbaum in the release. “What the President proposes is a better and fairer approach than raising premiums across the board and forcing responsible companies to subsidize those that are not.”

In addition to the two bipartisan commissions, the U.S. Government Accountability Office and the Congressional Budget Office have all recognized that the premiums and premium structure under current law are seriously flawed, according to the release. The Debt Reduction Task Force of the Bipartisan Policy Center suggested that the PBGC be given the same authority to adjust premiums as exercised by the FDIC and by governmental pension insurers in the United Kingdom, Germany and Japan.

The PBGC is a federal corporation that guarantees payment of basic pension benefits earned by 44 million American workers and retirees participating in over 27,500 private-sector defined benefit pension plans. The agency receives no funds from general tax revenues and never has. Operations are financed entirely by insurance premiums paid by companies that sponsor pension plans and from the assets and recoveries on behalf of plans that have been assumed by PBGC.

Batchewana First Nation Chief Dean Sayers re-elected

BATCHEWANA FIRST NATION — After seven long hours of counting ballots Feb. 4, Batchewana First Nation’s 2011 election results are in. Chief Dean Sayers was re-elected with 406 votes to running opponent Joe Corbiere’s 306 votes, according to press release from Batchewana First Nation of

Ojibways Rankin Reserve 15D, Goulais Bay Reserve 15A, Obadjiwan Reserve 15E and Whitefish Island 15.

Top Councilor Harvey Bell received 354 votes. Also elected to the council were Councilors Gregory Agawa, Trudy R. Boyer, Dorothy Gingras, Robert (Gary) Gingras, Gary Roach Jr., Peter

Sewell and Vernon Syrette.

The chief will propose the first meeting date for the new council.

For more information, contact Alexandra Syrette, Communications coordinator, Batchewana First Nation, (705) 759-0914, ext. 207, communications@batchewana.ca.

White House unveils new initiatives

BY RICK SMITH

United States citizens are invited to take advantage of a new entrepreneurial support partnership, become White House advisors, or both.

The White House recently launched the Startup America Partnership initiative to promote high-growth entrepreneurship across the country. High-growth is defined by the partnership as double-digit growth for a sustained period of time — for example, 20 percent growth for five consecutive years.

Leaders of innovative business, education and philanthropic organizations have formed an independent, non-profit alliance



to work toward a sharp increase in the numbers and successes of American entrepreneurs.

The partnership seeks to achieve its goals by identifying sources of help willing to commit funding or other assets to starting or growing enterprises.

Much more can be learned about the initiative at www.startupamericapartnership.org.

Have you ever wanted

to tell the gang at the White House how to get things done? The White House now has an online direct line for you called Advise the Advisor where you can connect with some of the president’s senior staff advisors.

Each week, one of the staff members will post a short video at www.whitehouse.gov/advise in which he or she will speak about what they are working on at the White House and you’ll have the opportunity to give them your advice about those issues. After as much of the feedback has been read as possible, a summary of the responses will be posted a few days later.

U.S. DOL upgrades online help portal

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The U.S. Department of Labor has upgraded its re-employment web portal to provide access to assistance beyond career and job searches, according to a recent DOL release. The www.careeronestop.org/reemployment site now offers a single source for information on jobs, career training, unemployment benefits and assistance with necessities such as food, housing, health care and utility payments.

The resources will prove useful to everyone from recently laid-off workers and unem-

ployment insurance claimants to individuals who have exhausted their unemployment benefits and those seeking to change careers.

“Being laid off is devastating. It cuts off an individual’s, and often a family’s, income. It also affects virtually every other critical aspect of daily life,” said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis in the release. “This newly revamped site streamlines the daunting task of finding information about everything from career support to government benefits. It brings all of this information together in one

place.”

The portal offers information and guidance related to such varied topics as food stamps, the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, continuing health insurance coverage under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, credit counseling, avoiding foreclosure and pursuing education and training, according to the release.

In addition, visitors may search for both federal and state resources.

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Author's first full-length novel debuts in Sault

Author Noelle Sangster's first full-length novel was hot off the press in February. A freelancer for years, Sangster had a story idea whose time had come. *A Perfect Body* is about two lifelong best friends who, by trial and error, are determined to stay focused on their quest for a perfect body.

"This one has been in my mind for awhile," she said. "I had to get it onto the page." Many readers can relate to Sangster's characters and their preoccupation with crazy diets and body image, she said. "Although my characters are completely fictional, it's amazing how much of the story they've seemingly written on their own."



Sangster said, "Dieting and weight management is a multi million dollar industry, as well as a very serious health subject. I've never met anyone who

hasn't tried some kind of dieting for one reason or another." While staying true to the seriousness of the subject, Sangster manages to give a real, heartfelt and humorous perspective of how we view ourselves and others.

A Sault Tribe member, Sangster was born and raised in Sault Ste. Marie. Most of her family still resides here, including her mother and step-father, Frank and Diane Naccarato, sisters, Holly Haapala and Stephanie Sabatine, and her brother Jim Roy. Her father and step-mother, Bill and Patti Roy, reside in Menominee, Mich.

"Many of my cousins, aunts and uncles are in the area as well. And I have three beauti-

ful and brilliant children that God has blessed me with," she added.

Sangster left the Sault in 1990, moving from the Sault to South Carolina to Arizona.

Like many writers in their early lives, she has a lot of experience under her belt doing everything but writing.

"I've done everything from waiting tables to building houses and all the in betweens," she said "I spent the last 10 years in real estate."

But Sangster always came back to writing and in 1997 she began her writing career as a freelancer. She came home last June to finish her novel and is already at work on her second.

Reviewers have called *A*

Perfect Body "great story telling" and "an absolute must read."

Book World of downtown Sault Ste. Marie is hosting the signing of *A Perfect Body* Saturday, March 19, from 1 to 4 p.m. Also planned for March 2011 are book signing events in Marquette, Michigan. Signings for April will be in Traverse City and Mount Pleasant in Michigan as well as Phoenix and Tucson in Arizona.

A Perfect Body is currently available at www.NoelleSangster.com, participating Book World stores and on Amazon.com. Check the website for book signing, sales outlet updates, workshops and other available titles.



Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton

Uniting Three Fires Against Violence staff — Trainer Bea Jackson, outreach coordinator Anita Sherman, Executive Director Kellie LaVictor and resource center coordinator Dulcey Garber — at the recent UTFAV open house at 531 Ashmun in the Sault.



Photo by Brenda Austin

ANNUAL TRADITION — Every year at JKL Bahweting School, kids build a snowsnake run and compete against one another to see who can make the longest toss.

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Whitesnake tickets on sale March 1

Tickets to see '80s rock band Whitesnake are now on sale. The band, including original founding member David Coverdale, will perform in the DreamMakers Theater at Kewadin Casinos on Aug. 26 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$54.

The band's new album, *Forevermore*, will be released March 25. It was recorded, produced and mixed by legendary singer/songwriter and founder David Coverdale, guitarist and co-writer Doug Aldrich and Michael McIntyre at Snakebyte Studios and Grumblerott Studios & Villas in Lake Tahoe, Nev. (with additional work at Casa Dala, Sherman Oaks, Calif.) *Forevermore* draws effortlessly from Whitesnake's sensational past while cutting new, dynamic teeth to show the future which lies ahead.

"It has all the classic Whitesnake flavors, but it is very much its own beast," said Coverdale, bristling with pride. "I always say that Whitesnake albums are one large family, that the songs share a common bloodline, and with *Forevermore* you can hear all the relatives mixing effortlessly in the room."

Tickets can be purchased online at www.kewadin.com, in person at the casino's box office at Kewadin Sault, or by calling (800) KEWADIN.

From the hip-shaking, blues-fueled stomper "Steal Your Heart Away," to the beautifully-crafted, classic "Snake Balladry" of "Easier Said Than Done," there is indeed a clear lineage running through Whitesnake's body of work. Its roots lie in Saltburn-by-the-Sea, North Yorkshire, England,



Photo by Ash Newell

David Coverdale's hometown, and then Redcar, Teesside, from where a brave 21-year-old singer/songwriter answered a music press ad to become the new singer for Deep Purple in 1973.

Coverdale went on to form Whitesnake in 1977, and thus began a journey that has taken him from the heavy blues rock of the late '70s "Lovehunter" and "Come an' Get It" era through to the explosive hard rock reincarnation of the 'Snake sound with 1987's self-titled mega-million-selling smash-hit album.

Forevermore forges an immediate rapport with the listener both musically and lyrically, Coverdale continuing to find empathy with the audience as he weaves his way through all the classic elements of love and romance. The first video from *Forevermore*, "Love Will Set You Free," is a shining example of the romantic that

resides within.

"It's about when I met my wife, Cindy..." he explained, "And the lyric 'something in your smile was so inviting, something in your eyes told me to stay, something in your touch electrified me,' because it was exactly like that. When we held hands for the first time, it was simply electrifying. And I think, well, I hope, that most of us have enjoyed such memorable, electric moments in our lives. It still resonates..."

There is also the mighty and monstrous title track, "Forevermore" a bombastic, epic ballad which encapsulates Whitesnake for Coverdale.

"It's a love song, but it's one about reflecting on everything I've been through in my life and how it has all been a preparation for me so I could realize and appreciate what I have going for me now is very special and precious. It's a per-

fect Whitesnake song for me. It has all the elements I enjoy."

Indeed, for those who have wondered what Coverdale has been up to, *Forevermore* is your insider's guide. "You really can know aspects of who I am through my lyrics and through my songs," said Coverdale, "Because most of the songs are diaries, snapshots from particular episodes from my life experience. I'm not one to dwell on the past, but I do like to remember it fondly when I can."

"Forevermore" is the fruit of perhaps Whitesnake's most cohesive teamwork yet, Coverdale having put together a band which has the perfect balance of talent and temperament. Guitarists Doug Aldrich (ex-Dio) and Reb Beech (Winger) came onboard for Whitesnake's 25th anniversary back in 2003, and they have been joined by drummer Brian Tischi (Billy

Idol, Foreigner, Lynch Mob) and bassist Michael Devin (Lynch Mob, Kenny Wayne Shepherd).

"Nothing delights me more than teamwork," says Coverdale, "And this band feels perfect. I have an inspiring writing partnership with Doug who is based on friendship and mutual respect and a shared vision for what we feel should be Whitesnake. There is the added bonus of a great sense of fun within this band which I cannot wait to share with audiences on the road."

The album also features former Whitesnake keyboardist Timothy Drury, and a special guest appearance by Jasper Coverdale, son of David.

"I am blessed with two astonishing children," beams Coverdale, "And this seems to be a family affair, with my wife featured in the first video, as well as Jasper. He would wander down while we were recording and add some stuff here and there, a bit of percussion on the swamp mix of 'Whipping Boy Blues', a bit of singing, and it was great fun!"

Fun, energy, drive and passion remain at the forefront of Whitesnake's ethos, and for Coverdale it would be impossible to continue without possessing bags of the stuff. "I don't think I could be here without having a root passion for this, and for life in general. I am fortunate that caravans of camels deliver wondrous blessings to my doorstep to charge me up everyday," he beams.

It makes "Forevermore" not just a statement of now but a 'Snake statement of intent.

Casino developer to meet with tribal community

From "Romulus," page 1 to the Charlotte Beach lands.

After lengthy legal proceedings, an initial settlement agreement was reached between the tribes and the State of Michigan on Dec. 20, 2002, and executed by then Gov. John Engler. The final step required Congressional approval, which was blocked by special interest groups who opposed opening a casino in Romulus. A subsequent agreement was reached with Gov. Jennifer Granholm on Nov. 14, 2007, and also required Congressional approval as a final step. Attempts by Congress to ratify that agreement also failed, derailed by powerful casino companies and politicians who feared the opening of two new casinos in Michigan.

On Nov. 30, 2010, the tribe entered into a development agreement with developers Jerry Campbell and Ted Gatzaros, who agreed to assist the tribe in seeking Congressional approval for the settlement and a Romulus casino. The agreement with Campbell and Gatzaros specifically provided that it was subject to a referendum period.

A referendum petition was circulated and approved by Sault Tribe members, thereby termi-

I am willing to take all of the risks to try to get this done because I believe I have a good chance at getting it done.

—Mike Sawruk

nating the agreement.

On Feb. 14, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors considered and passed a second development agreement offered by Sawruk, who has a track record of success with other Native American tribes and casinos. He was actively involved in the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa project in Petoskey, Mich., as well as projects in Washington State, Kansas and Florida.

Under the agreement with the Sault Tribe, Sawruk will serve as a consultant capitalizing on his extensive experience in Indian gaming, and using the personal, professional and business relationships he has built over his career in Washington and Lansing. Here are details of the agreement:

— Sawruk will pay all the bills resulting from seeking the required approvals in

Washington and Lansing over the next two years (until the current session of the U.S. Congress ends).

— He will only be paid if we succeed in opening a casino in Romulus.

— If he succeeds, he will receive 14 percent of the Romulus casino's gross revenue (as that term is defined by tribal code) for just under seven years. His first payment will come only after the tribe takes an initial annual payment of \$5 million.

— The tribe will have the option of buying him out of the project after two years.

— The tribe retains total control of the development, financing and operation of any casino that results from Sawruk's efforts.

Sawruk said he knows the tribe has been unsuccessful each time it has tried to win Congressional approval of the land claim settlement over the past decade.

"I am from Sault Ste. Marie, so I know and respect the tribe and I can feel the disappointment they have experienced in their attempt to settle what amounts to an illegal taking of lands from their ancestors," Sawruk said. "I am willing to take all of the risks to try to get

this done because I believe I have a good chance at getting it done. It's not going to be easy and I will make no promises, but if I succeed, it will be a good business deal for me and a good business deal for the tribe and its future generations."

McCoy said the Sault Tribe Board of Directors believes the settlement is worth pursuing with Sawruk.

"Again, there is virtually

no financial risk to the tribe in this agreement," he said. "Yes, Sawruk will earn significant profit if he succeeds, but only if he succeeds. He stands to make millions on a 14 percent stake for just under seven years, but the tribe stands to make 86 percent for those seven years and 100 percent in the years after. These are funds that will help the tribe for many generations to come."

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Tribal Court and STLE launch Ejejiweiang: We Who Return



FROM SAULT TRIBE COURT
Tribal Court and Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (STLE) are very proud to announce the implementation of our Ejejiweiang Community Service Program. The spirit of the program echoes in its name, Ejejiweiang, which means “we who return.”

Conventional court-ordered community service is defined as the performance of unpaid work to repay the community for an offense committed. One goal of Ejejiweiang is to promote a “giving back” mentality by cultivating a positive environment, positive role modeling and positive interaction between youth and adults. Another goal is to provide volunteer services to our tribal community, once again developing good working relationships between tribal youth and community members.

Ejejiweiang has been spearheaded by Tessa Laaksonen, Sault Tribe Enhanced Probation, with the assistance of STLE Detective Michael Pins, STLE resource officer Alan TenEyck, Tribal Court Chief Judge Jocelyn Fabry, Specialty Court coordinator

Pat McKelvie and Juvenile Probation officer Jennifer Blair. This team will also be responsible for the oversight of the youth participants. Some of the youth participating will include youth on probation, members of Teen Court, defendants in Drug Court and Domestic Violence Court and members of YEA.

Events on our calendar include the spring gathering in early April after the first thunderstorm. On May 7, Ejejiweiang will be volunteering at the Earth Day Fair sponsored by the Environmental Department. Also in May, we will be opening the Junior Police Academy Camp at Bodne Bay — cleaning and getting it ready for the summer months.

Although a date has not been set, Ejejiweiang will be clearing a space in the woods and participating in the construction of a new sweatlodge at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building. They will also participate in grooming the powwow grounds. Ejejiweiang will be involved in the construction of two Wabaano lodges, one here on the powwow grounds and another on Sugar Island.



Photo by Jennifer Dale-Burton

WE WHO RETURN — Tribal teens Johnathon Bailey, Janelle Willis and Dakota Hickman (front L-R) participate in the newly implemented Ejejiweiang Community Service Program with help from staff like Specialty Court coordinator Pat McKelvie, Enhanced Probation officer Tessa Laasonen and Chief of Police Bob Marchand (back, L-R).

If your project or agency is interested in accessing Ejejiweiang services please contact Tessa Laaksonen, Sault

Tribe Enhanced Probation officer. Please try to give us one month’s advance notice. Tessa can be contacted at P.O.

Box 932, Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783; Phone (906) 635-7746, ext. 57746, or via facimile at (906) 635-4952.

Health Director addresses lack of funding

Editor’s Note: The following column is part of an effort to bring the readership a wider perspective by providing operational updates from some of the tribe’s senior staff.

BY BONNIE CULFA RN MSN, HEALTH DIVISION DIRECTOR

Aanii,
Most questions that I am asked as the health director are about why we do not offer a particular service at our clinic sites or why the Health Division or Contract Health Services (CHS) cannot pay for something that is provided somewhere else. The short answer to both of these questions can be boiled down to one answer. This answer is “lack of funding.”

So where does our funding or lack thereof come from, and

why is there a shortage? The Health Division receives funding from four major sources:

- Annual funding agreement from Indian Health Service,
- Grants such as the Special Diabetes funding, Strategic Alliance for Health,
- Traditional Foods, Healthy Heart, Indian Health Care Improvement Act, etc.,
- Third party revenue we collect from insurances, and
- Tribal support.

In the past few years, we have benefited from an increase in CHS dollars and from increases in our funding agreement from IHS.

However, the Bemidji area tribes (which covers Sault Tribe) are still the lowest funded in comparison to the other area offices throughout Indian Country. Currently, we

are funded at 46 percent of our level of need.

The reasons for the financial shortfall are many, and often is because tribes are not a priority and not heard often enough in Washington, D.C., and the legislators do not fully understand the trust responsibility and tribal governments in an already tight economy.

Congress and the President have many competing priorities when preparing the federal budget and this is why we need tribal elected leaders to go speak with and educate Congress on tribal priorities of healthcare funding and our health disparities.

The way this happens is part of the government-to-government relationship that is unique to tribes. This also is why the federal agencies and staff will

only enter into consultation and negotiation sessions with the tribe’s elected leaders and not solely with tribal employees. The federal government wants to be sure the persons speaking for a tribe during consultations and negotiation meetings have been elected to do so.

As the tribal health director, I have attended meetings concerning health issues, policies and programs, funding priorities and can let you know the discussions and negotiations are a vital part of the funding pie. I have attended a few with Cathy Abramson, our tribal board member. During the meeting she often asks me questions about our programs and issues while honing her message in readiness to speak and add to the dialog. She is advocating for our tribe and

the Bemidji area and we are very fortunate that she has been elected on the National Indian Health Board and is the chairperson. Because she has been appointed on several national Indian task forces and committees, she is recognized on a national level now as being able to speak on behalf of tribes from the Bemidji area and on behalf of our tribe.

The more voices that are consistently speaking on an issue from our area, and having the message fine tuned so that it is heard, is the key to success. A solid consistent message is what translated to additional funding for CHS during these past two years.

In next month’s column, I will write about some coming program additions and changes. Baamaapii.

Pre-Law Summer Institute for American Indians

Applications are due May 25 for those interested in attending the Pre-Law Summer Institute (PLSI) for American Indians and Alaska Natives. The PLSI is an intensive two-month program that prepares individuals for the rigors of law school.

The course is offered by the American Indian Law Center, Inc. in Albuquerque, N.M.

Any American Indian or Alaska Native who plans to attend law school may benefit greatly from attending the institute the summer before.

Law school is unlike any other course of study at either the undergraduate or postgraduate level. The skills required

to study law are both unique and vital to success in law school, and these are the skills that the PLSI begins to teach.

Participants do not receive academic credit for the PLSI. The advantage is that the participants’ law school records are not prejudiced by less than stellar grades that might be the result of students making the necessary adjustments to law school.

Attending the PLSI will give you the opportunity to become part of a cohort of Native American law students from around the country who will have established relationships with Native lawyers nationwide when you begin

practice.

PLSI graduates have gone on to such prestigious schools as Cornell, Harvard and Stanford, as well as to a wide spectrum of both state and private universities around the country. Graduates may be found throughout federal, tribal and state governments and courts, as well as in private practice and in industry.

There are no tuition or other charges to qualified participants to attend the Institute, and the PLSI provides a modest living allowance when funds permit. The amount of the allowance when it is provided depends on the number of qualified participants who

are admitted (a maximum of 36) but not funded by their tribes, and the amount of funds actually received to administer the Institute.

Because the PLSI is funded on a year-to-year basis, the dates and deadlines given are contingent on money being

available for the program. Applicants who miss the deadline will be considered on a space available basis.

The applications are in two parts and the first part is due May 25. Registration is June 1-2 and classes start June 6 and end July 29.

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Pharmacy gets help from ScriptPro robot

BY TOM MEEHAN,
CHIEF PHARMACIST

Sault Ste. Marie tribal health services pharmacies in Sault Ste. Marie and St. Ignace moved into the 21st century with the installation of ScriptPro robotic and workflow technology. Prior to this, the pharmacies used only the most basic tablet and capsule counting machines. These machines were well over 20 years old, no longer manufactured and no longer supported. Integrating ScriptPro

Renovating the physical layout of the Sault pharmacy to accommodate the 2.5-by-11.5 foot robot was accomplished over the course of three months, finishing at the end of October 2010. Updates included changes to improve workflow efficiency. The St. Ignace pharmacy, being newer, required very little physical renovation. All changes were performed in stages, after normal hours to minimize disruptions in patient care. Thanks to the hard work and flexibility of contractors, maintenance, housekeeping and pharmacy staff, no closures of the pharmacy were required. It was a stressful, but rewarding process where everyone pulled together to get the job done.

The "go live" date with the new ScriptPro robotic and workflow system was Nov. 8, 2010. As with any other change there have been bumps along the way and a learning process to experience. We believe we are now over the hump and are beginning to realize the full potential of the system.

BENEFITS
The benefits realized as a result of this new technology include improved safety, accountability and a streamlined workflow process.

SAFETY
Since each step of the process (after being released to the ScriptPro system) is bar code driven, a wrong drug or wrong dose error becomes much less likely. Since the system prompts for the pharmacist to include any medication guides required, the patient receives the proper written medication informa-

tion. The system also prompts to use non-safety caps, when requested by the patient. This ensures that patients unable to open conventional closures receive their medications with easy open caps.

The ScriptPro robot counts tablets and capsules using a gravity feed mechanism. Other systems, including the machines in use previously, used vacuum driven systems. Gravity feed prevents medication dust from being inadvertently introduced into the air staff breathe in the pharmacy. **ACCOUNTABILITY**

Each step of the process in the ScriptPro workflow system is recorded with which staff member performed the task and at what time. When the staff member completes the step they scan their bar code badge. Upon review, if problems are noted additional training is provided. This improves accountability and safety as well.

WORKFLOW PROCESS

The system prompts for the orders to be batched to a location. This helps assure that, when requested, a patient's medications are delivered to the proper tribal site.

Tracking and recording each step of the process proves helpful when patients request information as to the status of their prescription(s). Once the order is released to the ScriptPro system, pharmacy staff can see where it is at in the process.

The workflow process is more organized.

OTHER BENEFITS

The robot can be programmed to prepackage medications. Prepackaging medications for use at tribal facilities without on-site pharmacists is now easier and less expensive.

Pharmacy technicians spend a very significant portion of their time assisting patients at the pharmacy door/window or on the pharmacy phone helping patients. Having the robot working in the background helps keep the workload moving. While the technician may actually be able to count the prescription faster, the robot works without interruption.

Many patients have commented on the improved print on our labels. Also noted is that the number of refills available and the expiration date of the prescription are now clearly indicated on the bottom left of the patient's medication label. Having this information clearly available helps assure the patient knows which medications to have their doctor update at their regular appointment. We recommend that patients request all prescriptions close to being out of refills or expired to be updated.

The overall trend has been and most likely will continue to be that prescription volume increases. The new technology helps meet this demand.



STEP ONE



STEP TWO



STEP THREE



STEP THREE



STEP FOUR



STEP FIVE

There are five steps in prescription order processing:

ONE — The order received from the doctor is reviewed by a prepping pharmacist for completeness and accuracy, drug interactions etc. Any questions or discrepancies are then clarified with the doctor before proceeding. After this is complete, the prepping pharmacist completes the order in the patient's electronic medical record.

TWO — The order is passed to a data entry pharmacy technician who enters the order into the pharmacy prescription processing computer, completes billing and accounting functions, resolves billing problems and then releases the order to the ScriptPro system. This technician also puts the paperwork for the order in a color-coded bin designating it as a waiting, regular refill, or delivery. From this point forward all actions on the order, including those orders not specifically filled by the robot, are performed and recorded using the bar code technology of the ScriptPro system.

THREE — The order goes to the filling pharmacy technician who pulls medications not being counted by the robot, scans the package bar code (if the wrong medication is inadvertently chosen the system alerts them to this), counts it if needed and labels the medication. These are then batched with any other orders for the patient that were filled by the robot. Any medication contained in a vial is capped (the system prompts if the patient requires non safety caps). The system then prompts the technician to assign them to the proper batch location such as waiting, refill or delivery site in the ScriptPro workflow system. The filling technician then attaches the bar coded batch label to the bag.

FOUR — The batch of orders for the patient, in the color-coded bin, is passed to the verifying (final check) pharmacist. This pharmacist scans each individual prescription's bar coded label, reviews compliance and other order data and does a visual verification for the correct medication. A picture of the medication appears on the ScriptPro screen. At this point the ScriptPro system prompts the pharmacist to include any required medication information sheets. The verifying pharmacist then scans their bar code badge to indicate that the order has received the final check. At this point, if the order was batched as waiting, the patient's name will appear on the display board in the waiting room indicating to the patient that their prescriptions are now available for pickup.

FIVE — When the patient arrives at the pharmacy, a pharmacy staff member retrieves their medications. The ScriptPro system tells them if the order is on the shelf, in oversized storage or in the refrigerator. The batch (bag) label is then scanned displaying all prescriptions contained in the bag. If other medication batches are available for the patient, for example in a separate batch bag in the refrigerator, the pharmacy staff member will be alerted to this. Finally, the patient is counseled by a pharmacist, if needed and the patient's signature for the medications is captured and stored electronically.

(Photos by Jennifer Dale-Burton)

Thank you

There were many people involved in making this possible. Special thanks to the following: Chairman Joe McCoy, the tribal board, Health Director Bonnie Culfa, Clinic Director Tony Abramson, pharmacy staff, Sault Tribe Construction's Bill Sams and Randy Franklin, Sault Tribe telecommunications' Bob Flowers and Isaac McKechnie, MIS Department staff, Jerry Gates and the maintenance and housekeeping staff, Supply Department's Renee Anderson, Northern Hospitality, EUP Drywall, Rudyard Electrical, Ledy Cabinetry and Pat Killips.

2011 Family Celebration

Local organizations and businesses have tables with program information for parents and interactive activities for children in the basketball court.



Event Information

Tuesday, March 22, 2011
5 to 7 p.m.

Chi-Mukwa Recreation Center
(Big Bear) 2 Ice Circle
Sault Ste. Marie

Special Features:

Free Pizza and Snacks provided in Hospitality Room

Free Skating with skate rentals 6:30 to 7:20 p.m.

Door prizes throughout the night!

Everything is FREE!

March Is Parenting Awareness Month
Community organizations coordinate this event
By promoting parent child interaction

Family Celebration is brought to families by:
Anishnaabek Community & Family Services,
Chippewa County Council for Youth & Families, Chi-Mukwa Arena,
EUP Intermediate School District, Sault Tribe Head Start,
Sault Tribe Housing, Kewadin Casino,
And Youth Education & Activities

Parental Supervision Is Required



Photo by Rick Smith

VALENTINE'S SCULPTURE — What began as a girl's small snow fort on the Sault reservation housing area "snowballed" into this huge heart fashioned Valentine sculpture. The idea for the opus came from 6-year-old Samantha Hale as a tribute to her mother, Carrie Hale. Samantha created the colorful sculpture with help from her mom, it features a "wolf's den," ladder, slide, cherub decor and electric lighting.

Sault Tribe employment opportunities

SAULT STE. MARIE KINROSS AND KINROSS —
Family nurse practitioner/physician assistant (Community Care Clinic) — two part time, two on call and one full-time — open until filled
Staff pharmacist — full time/regular — open until filled
Community Health nurse — full-time/regular — open until filled
Community Health nurse — part-time/regular — open until filled
CSW-victim services specialty — full-time/regular — open until filled
Gaming system administrator — full-time/regular — 3/18/11
Pro shop worker II — full-time/regular — open until filled
CASINO OPENINGS —
St. Ignace — *Restaurant asst. manager I* — full time/regular — 03/17/11

For more information or to apply, contact Sault Tribe Human Resources:

Sault employment office
(906) 635-7032 or
toll free (866) 635-7032
or STEmployment@saulttribe.net
2186 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie

St. Ignace employment office
(906) 643-4176
3015 Mackinaw Trail, St. Ignace
Apply at
www.saulttribe.com

Sugar Island Traditional Powwow

SUMMER 2011

Spiritual gathering
Friday, July 15

Powwow
July 16 & 17

Grand entries —
Saturday 1 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m.

- Drums and delegates to be announced
- Campers and vendors welcome
- Save the date and reserve your space

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Many hands make light work . . .

If you are interested in helping,

please contact committee members:

Les Ruditis, chairperson, (906) 632-0031,
leslieruditis@yahoo.com

Elaine Young-Clement, (906) 322-3961,
eclement@saulttribe.net or

Cecil Pavlat, (906) 635-6050

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- No additional charge to call 9-1-1
- No additional charge to dial "0" for operator assistance to complete a call

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Weber to play NMU football



Photo Courtesy Heather Weber

Sault High senior and tribal youth CJ Weber has signed a letter of intent to play football at Northern Michigan University. Pictured above is (front, L-R) Sault High Assistant Coach Gordy Campbell, CJ Weber, Head Varsity Football Coach Scott Menard and (back, L-R) parents Curtis and Heather Weber. CJ's parents are very proud of him. "He has been dedicated to working out and keeping honor roll grades while involved in football, basketball and track," said his mother. "He has wanted to play college football since he was young and has worked hard at that goal."

Nelson makes dean's list

Sault Tribe member Brittany Nelson earned a 3.8125 GPA for the fall semester at the University of Saint Francis, Fort Wayne, Ind. She made the dean's list and qualified for

the John Duns Scotus Honors Program. She is majoring in biology and physician's assistant and is one of four members to receive the Gates Millennium Scholarship in 2010.

Nelson is the daughter of member Philip and Mary Nelson of Fremont, Ind., and daughter of Michelle and Brett Buehrer of Angola, Ind. Her proud tribal grandma is "Gama D" Nelson, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and her proud grandpa is Cleo R. Nelson from Fort Wayne, Ind.

She would also like to thank her dad for the new car.

Have a Heart Campaign



Photo by Brenda Austin

ACFS staff and high schoolers give out information on teen dating violence at Sault Area High School. Pictured are (L-R) Nancy Gates, Darlene Soloman, Annette Thibert, Faith Gubonche, Angie Ellis and Kendra Becker.

Moving ?



Members!
Before you move to your new address, call tribal enrollment to let them know where you are headed! That way you won't miss one issue of your tribal paper.

Call (800) 251-6597.

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Births



SOPHIA BARBEAUX

Steven and Angelia Barbeaux would like to announce that Sophia Lynn Runger Barbeaux made her way into our world on Feb. 19, 2011, at 8:14 a.m.

Sophia was born a healthy 6 pounds 5 ounces at Ballard Swedish hospital in Seattle, Wash.

She is a wonderful birthday present for her grandfather, Sylvester "Butch" Barbeaux, born on the same day in 1943.



ISAIAH GOETZ

Isaiah Christopher Goetz was born Jan. 13, 2011, to Chris Goetz and Nichol Strong.

He weighed 7 pounds, 15 ounces and was 19.75 inches in length.

Grandparents are Melanie (nee Nolan) Leask of Sault Ste. Marie, the late Rick Goetz of Hessel, Alison Simmons of Kincheloe, and John and Donna Strong of Dafer.

Birthday baby



ALYSSA FERRO

Alyssa Lynn Ferro was born on March 7, 2010, to Eric and Kris Ferro.

Alyssa is the granddaughter of Jim and Jane Karacson of Marquette, Mich.



Happy first birthday to Keaton McLeod, March 8.

Love you,
Papa, grandma and auntie Mara

Kindergarten Open Enrollment



Joseph K. Lumsden
Bahweting Anishnabe School

Kindergarten Enrollment, Screening and Orientation 2011-2012 School Year

Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is holding Open Enrollment for Kindergarten for the upcoming 2011-2012 School Year. Only those who fill out an enrollment application during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery. The Open Enrollment dates are from March 7, 2011, through March 18, 2011, with evening hours 5-6 p.m. on March 16. All applications must be received by the school office by 4 p.m., March 18, 2011. Applications may be picked up from the school office, or from the school's website, www.jklschool.org, beginning March 7, 2011.

The lottery will be held in the school cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 22, 2011, for those wishing to attend. Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.

The parents of those children selected from the lottery will be notified by phone to set up the appointment for the screening and orientation. The dates of Kindergarten Screening and Orientation are set for April 14 and 15.



SHIRLEY M. COURTNEY

Shirley Mae Courtney, 68, passed away with her children by her side on Feb. 20, 2011. Shirley was born on Aug. 14, 1942, in Detroit, Mich.

She enjoyed watching the Detroit Tigers, NASCAR, woodworking and traveling. She retired from the Michigan Department of Corrections and was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Shirley passed at a young age but had a full life.

Surviving are her parents, Shirley Mae Nichols and Melvin Biang; children, Danelle (Ryan) Carigon and Terri (Eric) Carigon; two grandchildren, Leighton and Danielle; six sisters, Elizabeth Majinska, Linda (Howard) Shearer, Rene Kerns, Deborah White, Caroline Biang and Nanette Biang.

She was preceded in death by her brother-in-law, Richard Majinska.

For those desiring, memorial contributions may be made to the family. Online condolences may be made at www.schraubenlehman.com.

KAREN L. FISH

Karen L. Fish, 50, of Cheboygan passed away Feb. 1 at her home.

She was born Nov. 5, 1960, in Denver, Colo., the daughter of Michael and Barbara (nee Curry) White. On June 24, 1977, in Cheboygan, Karen married Patrick Fish, who survives.

Karen worked as a secretary for Dental Clinics North and Sault Tribe at the Lambert Center in St. Ignace. She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and enjoyed flower gardening, her cats and spending time with her grandchildren.

Survivors include her husband, Patrick, of Cheboygan; three children, Sonya (Mark) Ellwanger of North Carolina, Shawn Fish, stationed at Fort Lewis, Wash., with the U.S. Army and Stacey Fish of Cheboygan; her parents; two sisters, Una (David) Ingalsbe and Jackie (Denny) Berden, both of Cheboygan; one brother, Duke White of Cheboygan; two grandchildren, Lathen and Alexa Ellwanger; and several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by one brother, Glen White.

A memorial service was conducted on Feb. 9 at St. Mary/St. Charles Catholic Church. Memorial contributions in Karen's name may be directed to Hospice of the Straits. Those wishing to sign an online register book are invited to do so at www.stonefuneralhomeinc.com. Arrangements were handled by the Nordman-Christian Funeral Home.

JUNE GARDENER

June Roberta Gardner, 83, of Kincheloe, Mich., passed away Jan. 26, 2011, at War Memorial Hospital. June was born on Jan. 23, 1928, in Trout Lake, Mich., to the late John and Ruth (Davey) Siegwart. On

July 5, 1961, she married Fredrick Gardner in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. She was a member of St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church and the Blue Star Mothers.

June enjoyed gardening, baking, and canning (she was so famous for her pickles she was also known as Grandma Pickles). She was an avid Tigers baseball fan and loved to spend time with her family, her friends and her dogs. Christmas was a really big deal for June. She had gifts for everyone. She even had extra gifts wrapped and ready to go just in case someone showed up whom she wasn't expecting. She truly cared about everyone.

June is survived by six children, Suzette Plummer of Kincheloe, Mich., Samuel (Tina) Gardner of Sugar Island, Conrad Gardner of Kincheloe, Sarah (Rick Weber) Gardner of Kincheloe, Daniel Gardner of Sugar Island, and William (Debra) Gardner of Sault Ste. Marie; 22 grandchildren, 44 great-grandchildren, three great-great-grandchildren; and a sister, Dean Wice of Detroit, Mich.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband; a son, Richard Cadreau; four sisters, Harriet, Fern, Elaine, and Roberta; and five brothers, Claire, Conrad, Robert, Perry and Kenny.

Visitation and evening prayers were at the C.S. Mulder Funeral Home. Mass services were Jan. 29 at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church with Brother John Hascall as celebrant. Burial will be at Wilwalk Cemetery.

Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

RAYMOND MCLEOD

Raymond L. McLeod Sr., 79, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away Jan. 23, 2011, at Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey, Mich., due to a car accident. He was born on March 8, 1931, in Bruce Mines, Ontario, Canada.

Ray loved to work on vehicles, he worked as a mechanic all his life. He had a workshop in his garage for many years.

Ray is survived by his sons; Raymond McLeod Jr. of Sault Ste. Marie, Gilbert Bonnu of Detroit, Mich., and Harold McLeod of Sault Ste. Marie; two daughters, Julia Alan of Kinross, Mich., and Sue Alan of Florence, Ky.; a brother, Norman (Meme) McLeod of Sault Ste. Marie, and sister, Kay (Colin) Connell of Lapeer, Mich. Also surviving Ray is his favorite niece, Beverly McLeod Marble, and his special friend (son) Roy Lee Hammond, who helped him work on his cars, along with many nieces and nephews and grandchildren.

Ray was preceded in death by his wife, Sadie McLeod; his mother, Susan McLeod



Tullion; his father; George (Lonnie) McLeod; step-father, David Tallion; sisters, Agnes Burlew and Mary McLeod Frost; and brothers, Lorn and Morris Johnston, and George and Wilfred McLeod.

Visitation and services were Jan. 26 at C.S. Mulder Funeral Home, Brother John Hascall officiating. Burial will take place in the spring at Riverside Cemetery. Condolences may be left online at www.csmulder.com.

ROSE MENARD

Anna Rosethel Menard, or "Rose" as she was known to her family and friends, was called home to be with her family in Heaven on Jan. 27, 2011. Rose was born on July 22, 1952, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and passed away at War Memorial Hospital surrounded by her family after a short battle with cancer.

She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and had proudly served on their board of directors as a Unit IV representative. She was employed with the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians as a women's shelter worker.

Rose enjoyed spending time with family and friends and prided herself on making sure that everyone who visited her home felt welcomed.

She enjoyed cleaning her home, playing cards, tending her yard, feeding the animals

that came into her yard, making people laugh, and above all else, caring for children — she had such a special way about her that children were just naturally drawn to her gentle nature.

She is survived by her daughters, Tiffany Sue Menard and Miranda Rose (Chrissy Yawn) Menard, both of the Sault; her loving companion and friend, James Lewis; her brothers, Robert "Buck" (Kathy) of Negaunee, Mich., Ronnie (Julie) of the Sault, Thomas (Mary) of Negaunee, Wilfred "Scott" (Barb) of the Sault, Michael of Royal Oak, Mich., Kerry (Charo) Dillon of Indianapolis, Ind.; and her sisters, Dorothy (John) Leach and Patricia (Lyle) Willette, both of the Sault. She is also survived by several very special aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, cousins and close family friends.

Rose joins her parents, Louis Hector and Dorothy "Teeny" (nee McCoy) Menard; her brother, Louis "Jiggs" Menard; her grandparents, John and Florence (nee Rickley) McCoy and Louis and Rose (nee Myotte) Menard, along with numerous others she held near and dear in Heaven.

The family respectfully requests that in lieu of flowers donations be made to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians women's shelter or to St. Jude's Children's Hospital.

Visitation, rosaries and traditional teaching were at Clark Bailey Newhouse. A Mass celebrating her life was held at Holy Name of Mary Pro-Cathedral on Jan. 31 with Father Sabatian Kavumkal as celebrant.


ANNA BLANCHE MENCH

Anna Blanche Warner Planck Mench, 87, passed away Dec. 4, 2010, in Grand Rapids, Mich.

She was born Nov. 17, 1923, in Sault Ste Marie, Mich., to Walter Warner and Elena Coleman Warner.

Blanche "Dot" spent her formative years in Eckerman, Mich., and graduated from high school in Hulbert, Mich. She married Albert Mench in 1957. They operated the Tumble Inn in Eckerman until 1965. They moved to Mesa, Ariz., with their daughter, Catherine. Blanche was employed by Motorola and retired after 28 years.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband. She is survived by her sister, Miriam Westervelt, Mesa, Ariz.; children, Wallace (Judy) Planck III, Simpsonville, S.C., Katherine (Les) Planck Derusha, Grand Rapids, Mich., and Catherine Mench Owen, Mesa, Ariz.; four grandchildren; two great grandchildren; and five nieces, one nephew and their spouses.

A memorial service took place in December at Maple Grove Nursing Home in Grand Rapids. Graveside services followed with Pastor Robert Gruver (nephew) officiating. She was then interred with her husband at Cave Creek National Cemetery in Arizona.

JOE MERCHBERGER SR.

Joe Merchberger Sr. born May 14, 1945, and walked on Nov. 17, 2010. He served in the Army and was a veteran. Joe had an ongoing illness for quite some time and was in the Gordon Lane Care Facility in

See "Obituaries," page 18

Open Enrollment

Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School 2011-2012 School Year Open Enrollment & Lottery Information



Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is holding Open Enrollment for the upcoming 2011-2012 School Year. Only those who fill out an enrollment application during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery. The Open Enrollment dates are from March 7, 2011, through March 16, 2011, with evening hours from 5 to 6 p.m. on March 18, 2011. All applications must be received by the school office by 4 p.m. on March 18, 2011. Applications may be picked up from the school office or from the school web site at www.jklschool.org beginning March 7, 2011.

The lottery will be held in the school cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 22, 2011, for those wishing to attend. Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.

Those selected from the lottery will be eligible to attend the 2011-2012 school year provided they respond within three (3) school days of notification. If the deadline is not met, those children will be dropped from next year's roster and the next name on the waiting list will be accepted.

From "Obituaries," page 17

Fullerton, Calif.

Joe is survived by his daughter, Melinda Merchberger of Okalahoma; his brother, Richard Merchberger Sr. of California, and his sister, Elizabeth Merchberger Wall of Sault Ste. Marie.

He was preceded in death by his son, Joe Merchberger Jr., and a brother, Ron Merchberger Sr.

His sister remembered, "Growing up with my brother was a lot of fun he was protective of me because I was the only girl. And, I enjoyed watching all three of my brothers wrestling around. Of course, I was blamed for everything because I was the youngest. I will always remember my brother, Joe Merchberger."

LILLIAN ROBERTS

Lillian Leveille Roberts, 97, of Manistique, died Feb. 16, 2011, at the Schoolcraft Medical Care Facility in Manistique.

She was born Oct. 8, 1913, on Garden Island, Mich., the daughter of William and Lida (Vincent) Wachter and attended school in Naubinway, Mich. On Nov. 15, 1933, she married Lyle Leveille in Naubinway. She was later married to Lou Roberts.

Lillian was formerly employed as a meat cutter at the A&P Store in Ypsilanti, Mich. She was a member of St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church of Manistique, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the American Legion Auxiliary. She enjoyed dancing and traveling and loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren.

She is survived by her daughter,

Margaret McKenna of Manistique; daughters-in-law, Judy Leveille of Gould City, Mich. and Pat Leveille of Dearborn, Mich.; grandchildren, Mark, Vincent, Maureen, Martin, Michelle, Rene, Andree, Yvette, Kevin, Karlene, Mary, Beth, Valerie, Greg, Alan, Cindy, Doug, Cheri and Lori; 33 great grandchildren; six great great grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

In addition to her husbands and parents, she was preceded in death by her sons, Dale Leveille, Lyle Leveille Jr., and Carl Leveille; granddaughter, Danielle Leveille; brothers, Isadore "Dutch" Wachter and William Wachter; and sisters, Annie Browning, Lucy Houghton, Christine Maudrie, Agnes King, Lydia Miller, Mamie Wachter and Julia Wachter.

Visitation and parish liturgical prayers were held at the Messier-Broullire Funeral Home in Manistique. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church with Father Glenn Theoret officiating. Burial will be in the Newton Township Cemetery at Gould City, Mich.

Memorials may be directed to St. Francis de Sales Church, 210 Lake Street, Manistique, MI 49854. Online condolences may be expressed at www.mbfuneral.com.

FREDRICK SCOTT

Fredrick L. Scott, 64, of Levering, died Tuesday, Jan. 25, 2011, surrounded by his family. He worked as a policeman in Mackinaw City and in Emmet County, as well as in security at Kewadin Shores Casino.

He was born Oct. 31, 1946, in Detroit, to Fred W. and Rose Marie (nee Hillenburg) Scott. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a firefighter in Alaska from 1964 to 1968. He married Karen Kilpatrick Aug. 10, 1991, in

Brutus.

He was a police officer in Mackinaw City for 10 years. He then worked for the Emmet County Sheriff's Department for 13 years, retiring as a sergeant. He also worked as assistant manager of security at Kewadin Shores Casino in St. Ignace for 15 years.

He enjoyed woodworking, photography, and auto body work. He loved the outdoors, and going to the casino. He had a great sense of humor, friends said, and was always willing to help anyone.

He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

He is survived by his wife, Karen; three children and their families, Sean Scott of Madison, Wis., Cathy and Eric Ward of Pellston, and Ryan and Jennifer Hunt of Levering; three grandchildren, Emily, Ethan, and Elysia; his mother, Rose Marie Scott of Mackinaw City; two brothers and their families, Michael and Sarah Scott of Reese and Patrick and Mary Sikken Scott of Carp Lake; one sister and her family, Angela and Mike Florek of Indian River; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father and one sister, Gloria Schramm.

Services were held at Nordman-Christian Funeral Home in Cheboygan with Mr. Scott's brother-in-law, Gary Boden, officiating.

Memorials may be made to St. Joseph's Indian School or Hospice of Northwest Michigan, with envelopes available at the funeral home.

WILLIAM R. SHANNON

William Russell Shannon, 52, passed away unexpectedly at his home on Jan. 24, 2011. He was born Feb. 16, 1958, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to David and Shirley (nee Compo) Shannon.



Bill was a graduate of Sault Area High School, worked for the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, then opened a small gas engine shop. He loved to work in his garage, a Jack-of-all-trades, able to fix almost anything.

Bill is survived by his wife of 21 years, Beverly (nee Benner) Shannon of Sault Ste. Marie and three children, Melissa (Everett) Williams-Palmer of Grand Blanc, Mich., Melissa Causley of Sault Ste. Marie and Jeffery (Alicia) Dale Causley Jr. of Sault Ste. Marie. Bill was blessed with five wonderful grandchildren, his pride and joy: Evan and Cameron Palmer, Cyrus and Isis Howell from the Sault, and Hayden Causley from Sault. "Papa" loved his grandchildren dearly and they made him very proud. Bill is also survived by his brother and sisters, David "Peanuts" (Eve) Shannon, Cindy MacArthur, Terry Mendoskin and Patty Shannon. He had many nieces and nephews. Bill came from a very large extended family and was loved by many. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends.

Arrangements were handled by Hovie Funeral Home of Sault Ste. Marie with visitation and services at the Niigaanagizhik Cultural Building in Sault Ste. Marie. His final resting place is Wilwauk Cemetary on Sugar Island, Mich.

The family would also like to thank the many family, friends and community members who came together and honored Bill with their contributions of time, food, flowers and donations.

CHARLES R. SMITH

Charles Robert Smith passed peacefully at his home on Feb. 20, 2011. He was 73 years old. Bob was preceded in death by his parents, Leo G (Sonny) and Aletha Smith of Newberry, Mich., and his only son, Michael Robert Smith (Smudly), of Howell, Mich.

Bob was born on July 12, 1937, in Newberry, Mich.,

and graduated from Newberry High School in 1955 and went on to get a pharmacy degree from Ferris State College. Bob

then went on to work for Merck in North Dakota, Montana, Wisconsin and Minnesota. From there Bob ventured into two drug stores (Bob's Pharmacy) in Howell and Brighton, Mich. During this time he met Donna Cardiff who would then become his lovely wife of 30 wonderful years. In 1986, Bob and Donna purchased the gift stores across from the Soo Locks and in 2004 bought the Indian Village gift stores in St. Ignace, Mich.

Bob's greatest enjoyments were family, friends, fishing and music. He played the harmonica whenever he could for the pleasure of all. He belonged to the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. He was a member of the Loyal Order of the Moose 717, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Shriners Club, Elks Club for 45 years and Sons of the American Legion.

Bob is survived by his wife, Donna; his children, Carrie Ferris (Joe), Deborah Froneo, Donald Cardiff (Brenda), Dale Cardiff, Constance Raymore (Randy), Dawn Cardiff; 13 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; his sister, Ann Parker; brother, Dan Smith (Lois); and several nieces and nephews.

A celebration of his life took place on March 2 at American Legion Post 136 in St. James City.

SALLY ANN SMITH

Sally Ann Smith, born Dec. 9, 1945, passed away at her home on Jan. 29, 2011. Cremation has taken place at her request and no services will be held.

Sally is survived by her long time companion and many sisters and brothers and nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by both sets of her parents.

See "Obituaries," page 19



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From "Obituaries," page 18

FRANCIS CADREAU

Proud tribal member Francis "Miles" Cadreau passed away Jan. 29, 2011, at Oakwood Hospital, Dearborn, Mich.



He was born in Wyandotte, Mich., on Jan. 5, 1924. Miles was a World War II veteran, having served in the U.S. Navy from 1941 until 1947. Before that he served in the CCC camp building the road into the Tahquamenon Falls. He was an avid hunter and took his last buck at age 83. He also won many ribbons for his snow-snake throws in Down River, Mich., at our Southwind Group. Baseball and football kept his attention in season.

Miles is survived by his wife of 65 years, Jane; his children, Roger Miles Cadreau, Joyce Ann Williams and Keith Francis Cadreau; grandchildren, Erik and Kelly Cadreau, Thomas Cadreau, April Williams, Wendy and Joel Gutierrez, John and Lisa Williams, Jessica, Julia, Jamila and Joseph Labaire, and Allan Cadreau; great grandchildren Matthew Cadreau, Brooklyn Cadreau, Laney and Jackson Williams, Donald Hellebuyck, Grace and Cassandra Gutierrez.

Miles' parents were John Joseph Cadreau and Ruby Teresa Bebo. His grandparents were Joseph and Rebecca (Cadotte) Cadreau and Mary (Laliberty) Bebo-LaCoy, married to first Joe Bebo and second Peter LaCoy. His siblings, all deceased, were Loretta (Wilks) Payneter, John Clifford Cadreau, Eva Mae (Cadreau) Fletcher, Gates, Rosemary (Cadreau) Albert. Many nieces, nephews, and cousins such as Clarence (Bouncer) Cadreau of the Sault and Anita (Bebo) Nelson of Munising.

His ancestry comes from Sugar Island (Baie de Wassie), Sault Ste. Marie and AuTrain, Mich. He will be missed greatly. Rest well, dad.

ORSON DE MOTT SR.

Orson Hugh De Mott Sr., 87, of Whitewater, Wisc., faithful servant of the Lord and loving husband of Rosemary (La Mountain) De Mott, passed away on Feb. 23, 2011, at the Fort Atkinson Memorial Hospital, in Fort Atkinson, Wisc.



Orson was born in DeTour, Mich., on Nov. 24, 1923, the son of Hugh Joseph and Agnes (McCann) De Mott.

He served his country in the Army Air Forces during WWII in the American Theatre from 1943-1946, serving as a B-17 airplane mechanic. On July 18, 1953, Orson married Rosemary La Mountain in Oconto, Wisc.

He began a welding career as a ship builder in Sturgeon Bay, Wisc., and was employed at

Weiler and Company for 30 plus years prior to his retirement. He also served for several years on their board of directors.

Orson was a former real estate broker.

He was an elder in the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church since 1961 and a former member of the church council. Orson served on the Whitewater City Council in the 1970s. He was a great-father of 12 children. He was an avid Packer fan, a jokester and story teller, and he enjoyed gardening.

Surviving are his wife, Rosemary De Mott; children, Joseph O. (Arlene) De Mott of Milwaukee, Wisc., Mary P. De Mott, Theresa A. Munger, Francis G. De Mott — all of Whitewater, Michael A. (Sherry) De Mott, Upland, Ind., Carol J. (Barry Pike Jr.) De Mott, Diamond Bar, Calif., Lorraine B. De Mott, Elkhorn, Wisc., Elmer J. (Deb) De Mott of Birkdale, Southport, England, Marguerite R. De Mott of Whitewater, Orson H. (Michelle) De Mott Jr. of Fort Atkinson, Wisc., Merel C. De Mott, Aurora, IL, and Earl C. (Jadwiga) De Mott of Virginia Beach, Va., 14 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and siblings, Marcus De Mott, Sister Frances — IBVM (Merel) De Mott, Joan Grossback, Lester (Joyce) De Mott, Sister Marguerite — SSND De Mott, Norma Killips, and Gerald (Cindy) De Mott.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a sister, Carol De Mott; and a daughter-in-law Rose Marie De Mott.

Services were Feb. 26 at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Whitewater with Fr. Thomas Perrin celebrating. Burial will be at Hillside Cemetery.

Nitardy Funeral Home assisted.

PETER J. SABASTIAN

Peter J. Sabastian, 76, died on Feb. 17, 2011, at Tuomey Regional Medical Center, Sumter, S.C. Born Feb. 13, 1935, in Sault Ste. Marie, he was a son of the late Christine Sabastian O'Connor, and the late Joe O'Connor, stepfather.



He spent his youth in the public schools of DeTour. He was an avid reader, hunter, fisherman, and a lifelong student of education. He served 10 years in the Army, and 10 years in the Air Force, where he was stationed in Sumter, after serving two tours in Germany and two tours in Thailand. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, and a member of the Fraternal Order of Orioles Nest 311, Kinross.

He is survived by a son, Chris Sabastian, and his wife, Debbie; a daughter, Heide Sabastian Englehart, all of Sumter. One brother, Bob O'Connor and his wife, Alice; one sister, Marie O'Connor Pauze, all of Sault Ste. Marie; four grandchil-

dren; three great-grand children; numerous nieces, nephews, friends, and his partner, Heide Odom.

He was preceded in death by a brother, Joey O'Connor.

Services will be held at a later date in the Oakland Cemetery.

GARY A. WITTENMYER SR.

Gary A. Wittenmyer Sr., 46, a lifelong resident of Newberry, died on Feb. 6, 2011.

Born on June 10, 1964, in Manistique, Gary was a son of Rev. Amos and the late Joyce (Babcock) Wittenmyer.

He attended Tahquamenon Area Schools, but graduated from Au Gris Sims High School in the class of 1983. Gary was employed as a manager for Banks Hardwoods Inc. (formerly Sustainable Forest Products) for over 16 years. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and he enjoyed traveling with his family, kayaking, car shows, ice skating, watching his son play hockey and his daughter at her dance practices.

Survivors include his father

and step-mother Rev. Amos (Lavon) Wittenmyer of Newberry, daughter Felicia (Nick Lentz) Wittenmyer, son and daughter-in-law Gary (Toni) Wittenmyer, daughter Brittney Wittenmyer and granddaughters Addie and Evey Wittenmyer, all of Newberry; siblings, Henry (Rachelle) Wittenmyer of Boyne City, Wanda (George) Sperry of Newberry, Amos Wittenmyer of Newberry, Joline (Jerry) Hellwege of Elmira, Jeannine (Albert) Burton of Newberry, Gloria (Rex) Matchinski of Newberry, Helen (Larry Pare) Hunter of Brampton, Betty (Al) Maratte of East Liverpool, Ohio, Suzan (Peter) Smith of Newberry, Sandra (Stuart) Morrison of Newberry, Sally Miller of Honolulu, Hawaii, and Clifford (Loretta) Brown of Gwinn.

Friends and family gathered at the River of Life Worship Center in Newberry on Feb. 11, 2011, for visitation and services with Rev. Sean Lester officiating. Interment will be in Forest Home Cemetery in Newberry.

Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry assisted the family

with their arrangements.

MARCIA M. HASCALL

Marcia M. Hascall went to be with our Lord on Feb. 22, 2011, at the Straits Area Hospital in St. Ignace, Mich. Marcia was born on June 15, 1942, to Clinton D. and Viola Hascall Sr. in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.

Marcia was a member of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians and enjoyed crafting, drawing, coloring and eating out.

She is survived by brothers, Patrick (Nancy) Hascall of Brimley, Hudson (Evelyn) Hascall of Hawaii, Fr. John S. Hascall of Sault Ste. Marie and Paul Hagmeier of Palm Desert, Calif.; three sisters; Wanda Denny of Brimley, Crystal (Dennis) Kelley of Pt. Roberts, Wash.; sister-in-law Dorothy Hascall of Gastra, Mich.

Marcia was preceded in death by her parents; brothers Clayton Hascall and Clinton D. Hascall Jr.; and sisters, Sharon Montgomery and Clintia Sevoy.

Visitation and services were on Feb. 26, 2011 at St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church with Fr. John Hascall as celebrant.

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NMU hosts Indigenous Earth Issues Summit

MARQUETTE, Mich. — A call to action on environmental issues impacting indigenous communities, the fourth annual Northern Michigan University Indigenous Earth Issues Summit is set to take place from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday, March 25, in the NMU Whitman Hall commons. The event is free and open to the public, but registration is required for meals and recommended for the children's activities. The goal of the summit is to inform, inspire and offer participants skills they can take out into the world to effect positive change for Mother Earth.

Award-winning Chickasaw author and international speaker Linda Hogan will be featured as the summit's keynote presenter and will be part of the NMU events celebrating Women's History Month. A novelist, poet and essayist, Hogan writes pro-

lifically on indigenous environmental philosophies and various threats posed to indigenous nations by the culture of industrialism. Her books include *Solar Storms*, *Dwellings: A Spiritual History of the Living World* and *Mean Spirit*, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize.

An exciting array of workshops and presentations will also be part of the summit, offering information on regional mining threats, practical skills for living more gently on the earth and lessons in activism. Presenters and facilitators confirmed so far include the following:

— Bobby Bullet, an Anishinaabe musician and 2010 NAMMY Award winner who has played guitar with Loretta Lynn, will present a "music in activism" workshop.

— Nick Hockings of Lac du Flambeau, a well-

respected teacher of traditional Anishinaabe ecological knowledge, will facilitate workshops on traditional firemaking skills.

— Martin Reinhardt, a citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe and scholar with multifaceted research interests, will present on ways to de-colonize our diets.

— Noted Ojibwe-Lacandon author and birchbark-biting artist Lois Beardslee will discuss her art and the issues surrounding the birch tree in Michigan.

— Red Cliff elder Tony DePerry will offer his view of Anishinaabe environmental philosophy as part of a presentation on the mining threats facing the tribes in the U.P. and northern Wisconsin.

— Frank Koehn, longtime environmental and social justice advocate, will conduct a workshop on environmental activism strategies and skills

learned from Anishinaabe activist Walter Bresette.

Rounding out the events will be an evening music and poetry jam session with an open mic.

The summit is a family-friendly event. Native American cultural activities geared toward children 6 and under will be offered, though children of all ages are welcome.

Past summits have featured a variety of speakers ranging from an aboriginal Australian delegation to Evon Peter of the Gwich'in near the Arctic Circle. Presenters have spoken on industrial threats to indigenous lands (such as mining, biomass plants, dams and megawindfarms), various indigenous environmental philosophies and proactive projects that have been undertaken to address environmental racism and other similar concerns.

To register for the summit or for more information, call (906) 227-1397 or visit www.nmu.edu/nativeamericans. Deadline for registration is March 22.

The 2011 summit is sponsored by the NMU Center for Native American Studies with generous support from the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and the following NMU entities: Multicultural Education and Resource Center, geography and English depart-



The fourth annual Northern Michigan University Indigenous Earth Issues Summit takes place on Friday, March 25 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Whitman Commons, NMU, Marquette, Mich.

With a focus on the northwoods, the summit workshops range from pre-colonialism diets of the Anishinaabeg to firemaking to using music in environmental activism.

ments and the College of Arts and Sciences.

This year's summit concludes "Down to Earth Week," a series of environmental activities on campus hosted by NMU Students for Sustainable Living and other student groups. For more information on these activities, e-mail Mindy Otto at motto@nmu.edu.

Reward for tips on wolf killings

The Department of Natural Resources and Environment and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are seeking information regarding two wolf poaching cases, one in Chippewa County and one in Luce County.

On Friday, Feb. 18, a dead wolf was found in the Roxbury Creek area of Curley Lewis Rd. in Whitefish Township. Forensic examination determined that the wolf died of a gunshot wound. Evidence shows that the wolf was killed at another location and then transported to the location

where it was discovered.

In Luce County, the wolf was found south of Newberry on Friday, Feb. 11, and had died of an apparent gunshot wound.

A reward is being offered for information that leads to the arrest of the subject or subjects involved in these cases. Anyone with information is asked to call the Report All Poaching hotline at (800) 292-7800, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, or to contact their local DNRE office or conservation officer. Information may be left anonymously.

The maximum penalty for poaching a wolf is 90 days in jail or a fine of up to \$1,000, or both, plus reimbursement of \$1,500 to the state for killing an endangered species. Poaching convictions also usually include a suspension of hunting privileges for a period of three years.

Wolves are a federally protected species in Michigan and cannot legally be killed except in the defense of human life.

For more information on wolves in Michigan, go to www.michigan.gov/wolves.

Bay City Man Pleads Guilty to Killing Three Wolves in Upper Peninsula

A Bay City man has pled guilty to charges of illegally killing three wolves in Mackinac County in January. William Hayward, 58, also pled guilty to malicious destruction of property for destroying two tracking collars that had been placed on the wolves by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment.

Hayward was sentenced on Monday, Feb. 14, in 92nd District Court in St. Ignace to 365 days in jail, with 90 days to be served immediately and the remaining time suspended if all terms of his 24-month probation

are met. Additionally, Hayward was ordered to pay \$3,000 in restitution for the wolves, \$590 for the replacement of the tracking collars and \$1,500 in fines and court costs. Hayward's hunting privileges were also revoked for a period of three years, and the rifle he used to kill the wolves was condemned.

DNRE conservation officers conducted the investigation after locating three dead wolves in northwestern Mackinac County in January that had died from gunshot wounds. Hayward was developed as the suspect, and Mackinac County

Prosecutor Alfred Feleppa reviewed the case and issued the charges against Hayward.

Hayward also faced possible federal charges from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; however an agreement was reached with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that federal charges for these three illegal wolf kills would not be brought if Hayward resolved the matter in state court. Wolves are federally protected under the Endangered Species Act and a person may be charged in both state and federal court for illegally killing wolves.

2011 Harvesting licenses available

As previously reported, we are making several changes for 2011 to our inland permitting process in response to feedback from members. An application form is on page 21. You can also find the 2011 inland harvesting license applications online at www.saulttribe.com after March 1.

We are returning to a licensing system that uses a hard-card license that will cover many of the Sault Tribe hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering activities. Harvest tags for deer, bear, elk, fisher, marten, bobcat and turkey will continue to be issued in the same manner as in

2010.

We are simplifying the fee structure for 2011. Members between the ages of 17 and 59 will be required to pay a \$15 administration fee. The \$4 mailing fee will no longer be assessed to inland licenses and permits. Youth (16 and younger) and elders (60 and over) are still exempt from administration and mailing fees. In 2011, a \$4 application fee will be assessed for the elk and bear lotteries.

Members should contact Sault Tribe Law Enforcement for all licenses and permits. All issues pertaining to harvest reporting should be directed

toward the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (IFWD). The IFWD has been relocated next to Law Enforcement in the George K. Nolan Judicial Building at 2175 Shunk Road. We hope this will help streamline permitting and reporting for the membership.

We hope that the planned changes will simplify the process for the membership. If you have questions regarding changes to the permitting process, please call Sault Tribe Law Enforcement at (906) 635-6065, and for questions regarding harvest reporting please call the IFWD at (906) 632-6132.

How do you envision our natural resources?

2011 Integrated Resource Management Plan survey

FROM THE IFWD

As previously reported, Sault Tribe received grant funding from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to develop an Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP). The IRMP is a document that will articulate a long-term vision sustaining our natural resources for seven generations and a strategy to achieve that vision. The Sault Tribe has many different programs and departments that both directly and indirectly manage our natural resources. We will use this strategy will help us manage our resources in a deliberate manner with a focus on efficiency and effectiveness.

In developing this strategy, the tribe is gathering ideas and information from our membership. You may have completed a pilot survey or participated in a focus group in the past year. In the early months of 2011, Sault Tribe

will be working with Michigan State University to conduct a mail and online survey of the membership. This survey will provide the tribe with valuable new information and follow-up information to the 2005 inland fishing, hunting, and trapping survey. If you receive a survey in the mail, please take the time to fill it out and return it to Michigan State University. Your input is truly vital to our understanding and protection of the ways that members use our shared natural resources and member feelings and opinions regarding resource management directions.

By completing this survey, you can help create our long-term vision for Sault Tribe natural resource management. If you have any questions about the IRMP project, please contact the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department at 632-6132.

IFWD expresses thanks

The Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (IFWD) would like to thank everyone who took the time to fill out 2010 harvest reports. The feedback we received from the has been very helpful. We would also like to remind those who haven't submitted reports to please get it filled and returned as soon as possible.

Consultation meetings at the state and federal level are coming up in the next few months

and the information gathered from our harvest reports plays a vital role in those meetings.

We would also like to remind those who have yet to turn in a harvest report that they will not be issued 2011 licenses until they do. Harvest reports can be found at www.saulttribe.com under the conservation section, or one may call the IFWD at (906) 632-6132 and we will mail one to those who so desire to receive one.

Sault Tribe Earth Day activities set for May 7

BY KATHIE BROSEMER,
ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTOR

Boozhoo, we are having a party for Mother Earth and you're invited.

Earth Day is officially April 22, but if you check the calendar, that's not a great day for a party this year, unfortunately. We're delaying two weeks, to May 7.

On Saturday, May 7, the building and grounds at 206 Greenough Street in Sault Ste. Marie will come alive with a party Honoring Mother Earth.

We're planning great things for the whole family to share and enjoy. Plan to come and learn, eat and sing, play and dance together.

Joe Riley, noted Indian singer-songwriter, will be here to sing songs for Mother Earth, hold a songwriting playshop for kids and celebrate spring

with us. We're planning lots of hands-on activities including potting up the invasive plant Purple Loosestrife, to get ready to grow the loosestrife beetles in our garden shed and release them along the shorelines where this plant has taken hold. We'll try our hand at making rainbarrels and the first to give it a try will get to take their handiwork home with them to catch rainwater for their gardens. We'll sort out compost worms, have outdoor composting boxes on display to look at, and if we can manage it, we'll have a few freebies to give out from the power companies, too.

A habitat game and other kids' fun will keep the young ones occupied while adults find out how cheap and easy it is to caulk a window to save money on energy bills, learn how to save water and garden without

chemicals and enjoy the other demonstrations and displays. It's going to be a busy scene.

We're trying to plan for some food on site too – perhaps chili and frybread if we can get it organized. Definitely fair trade coffee, and maybe the friends of the library will be on hand with a table full of environmental books you can browse through and buy.

If you live nearby, bike or walk over and you can enter a draw for prizes. If you have to come by car because it's too far, fill up your car with people so it's less pollution per person, and you can enter too. Walk, run, swim or fly, but get here and have a wonderful time honoring Mother Earth with us.

If you'd like to help us with any of this, we'd be honored to have you – please call the Environment Department at

632-5575 and let us know what you'd like to do. There are only four of us trying to manage all of this, so anything you can do to help would be appreciated.

Other not-to-be-missed spring events :

March 26, Lake Superior State University — The Environmental Summit sponsored by the Binational Public Advisory Council working to clean up the St. Marys River. This year's theme is "Appreciation of the St. Marys River."

Our own Crystal Bole is helping organize this and she wants you to know it runs from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. and there will be presenters on the culture and history of the river, recreation on the river and environmental protection, information, kids' activities, all centering on the river.

May 21 — The Chippewa County recycling depot is holding the first of three household hazardous waste collection days. Check local information for the exact times and what they'll accept, but typically these events take household quantities of paints, auto fluids, and pesticides, among other things. Time to clean out the garage and the basement.

Watch for the tribe and the county to co-sponsor an electronic waste (e-waste) recycling program. We're discussing dates right now and a few details have to come together for us before we're ready to announce, but we're looking at an early June event. We'll recycle computers and anything that plugs into a computer, as well as other types of electronics to be announced when we have the date and the final details.

Helping Mother Nature to help your garden

BY LARRY DYER
MSU EDUCATOR

All gardeners share some of their produce with insects and other creatures. Most of us are willing to share a little bit, but we would like to keep insect feeding from rising to the level of "pest" damage.

The key is attracting insects that will be garden helpers, or beneficial insects. Two of the most important ways insects can benefit our gardens is by pollinating our crops and by eating the insects that want to eat our crops.

Many of our vegetable crops need to have pollen transferred from one plant to another in order to produce the fruit we

want to harvest, including tomatoes, melons, cucumbers and squash. Most of us have heard of the importance of honey bees for pollination, but they aren't the only ones. There are a number of wild bees, flies, butterflies and moths that pollinate our crops as well.

Beneficial insects need habitats that provide for some of their needs, like pollen, nectar and other insects. Some families of flowers with very accessible nectar and pollen are the daisy family (aster, daisy, goldenrod) and the carrot family (Queen Anne's lace, coriander, fennel, common cow parsnip). It helps to have an assortment of flowers that will provide a floral display

over the whole growing season.

A stable habitat to keep beneficial insects around for the whole season and from one season to the next provides shelter, nesting sites and overwintering sites. It is important to have some sites where both the plants and the soil are undisturbed. Some of our most common predators, such as ground beetles are soil dwellers, and some of the native bees are ground nesters.

Perennial plantings are best for providing stable habitat, but annual plants can be part of your floral display as well, especially of the perennials are just getting established. For more about growing native perennial plants

to attract beneficial insects see www.nativeplants.msu.edu or call Larry Dyer.

I'd love to hear what you think about this and about your gardening experiences. Please feel free to give me a call.

Larry Dyer is a tribal extension educator with Michigan State University Extension working with the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Hannahville Indian Community, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and the Sault Sainte Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. His office is at the Emmet County MSU Extension office in Harbor Springs. He can be reached at (231) 439-8982 or dyerlawr@msu.edu.

Brown bag lunch series on gardening

Dyer hosts an informative series, *Talk Gardening With Larry*, a brown bag discussion series on the fourth Thursday of each month from 12-12:50 p.m. in the Sault Tribe Health Center auditorium.

- Dates and topics:
- March 24 – Starting your own seeds
- April 28 – Back yard composting
- May 12 – Planning for seed saving
- June 23 – Weed management
- July 28 – Insect and disease management
- Aug 25 – Seed saving.

2011 Sault Tribe harvesting license application

Please fill out the following application indicating all harvest tags that you would like in addition to your 2011 Harvest License. The Harvest License authorizes you to participate in activities pursuant to Chapters 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code only. Great Lakes activities require separate permits pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Tribal Code.

In 2011, the cost for each member will be 15 dollars. Please note, there will no longer be a mailing fee assessed in addition to the 15 dollar administration fee. You must pay with a check or a money order payable to Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. If you have questions, please contact the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department (906.632.6132) or Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (906.635.6065). Youth (under 16) and Elders (over 60) are not required to pay fees

First Name Middle Name Last Name

Address City State Zipcode

File Number (Red # on Tribal ID) Phone Number

STS # Date of Birth Sex email address

Application Harvest Tags	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Deer
<input type="checkbox"/>	Spring Turkey
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fall Turkey
<input type="checkbox"/>	pine marten, bobcat, river otter, and fisher harvest tags**

*Bear and Elk Applications will be available on the Sault Tribe website and the newspaper in the May 2011.

***walleye and steelhead permits for the specially regulated seasons will be available by contact Sault Tribe Law Enforcement, see website for details (www.saulttribe.com).

****For all other permits pursuant to chapter 21 and 23 of the Tribal Code, you must contact the Sault Tribe Law Enforcement (i.e. State Firewood and State Maple Sap).

Please mail completed applications to:

PO Box 925
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Let's look at our future instead of our past



DARWIN "JOE" MCCOY
TRIBAL CHAIRMAN

Aanii!

As I have said in many of my past reports, the board and I are looking to move this tribe forward. To stop looking back on our past, and to look into new investments, new opportunities that will allow us to increase the services for our membership, and allow us to continue to expand our current businesses.

In this edition of the paper, you'll see an article detailing our latest partnership with Mike Sawruk, a successful businessman originally from Sault Ste. Marie, on a new proposal to settle the tribe's unresolved Charlotte Beach land claim by seeking federal approval for a new casino in the Detroit suburb of Romulus.

The board voted on to move forward on this proposal with

Mr. Sawruk because of his extensive experience in Indian gaming. He has successfully developed five Native casinos. Under our agreement with him, he will be responsible for securing all project approvals and project financing. He has pledged to work with us as a board and all members of the tribe to successfully complete the settlement process.

Details of our agreement are outlined on the front page. This investment could lead to big things for us, and I am very pleased to be moving forward on this project.

To hear more on this investment from Mr. Sawruk and me, we have scheduled meetings throughout the area. They will be held:

March 2: Elder luncheon, 12 p.m., Sault Ste. Marie, Nokomis-Mishomis Place. Discussion with elders after luncheon. Presentation by Chairman Joe McCoy, Unit I representatives.

March 9: Elder luncheon, 12 p.m., Sault Ste. Marie, Nokomis-Mishomis Place. More discussion with elders. Presentation by Chairman Joe McCoy, unit representatives, and Mike Sawruk.

March 9: Open meeting, 6 p.m. in Sault Ste. Marie at Kewadin Casinos. Presentation by Chairman Joe McCoy, unit representatives and Mike Sawruk.

March 10: Open meeting in Newberry at the tribal center, 5 p.m. Presentation by Chairman Joe McCoy, unit representatives and Mike Sawruk.

March 11: Elder luncheon, 12 p.m., St. Ignace. Discussion with elders after luncheon. Presentation by Chairman Joe McCoy, unit representatives and Mike Sawruk.

We had a great opportunity this month to have dinner with some of our new legislators during a special meeting in Lansing. Those the board met with included Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville, Senate Majority Floor Leader Arlen Meekhof, senators Howard Walker, Tom Casperson, Geoff Hansen, representatives Ed McBroom, Frank Foster, Matt Huuki, Steve Lindberg and deputy legislative director for Governor Snyder, Darin Ackerman.

Many things are covered during meetings like this—highlights include maintaining the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver within the higher education budget, pushing for Community Health dollars for Upper Peninsula programs, fighting for fair and equal treatment of tribal members from the Department of Natural Resources, non-expansion of non-Indian gaming and fully funding tourism promotion programs, especially those that effect the Northern areas.

Also during the meetings, the topic of "exotic species" came up. So, the following week, the board and I were able to meet one-on-one with Sen. Howard Walker and members from our fisheries staff to discuss the impact of this on our tribe.

Finally, in early March, eligible Sault Tribe members will be asked to vote on two more issues via referenda — despite the fact neither proposal's outcome will have any effects on the tribe.

The referenda will cost us about \$40,000 to complete and seeks to reverse actions by the board of directors that resulted from two separate Circuit Court cases. The outcomes of those court cases cannot be undone by a vote of tribal members because the tribe has signed binding settlement agreements which have saved hundreds of thousands of dollars in additional legal bills and other costs. The full article on this topic is on the front page.

The issues looking to be overturned are in regards to settlement payments the board approved on the Resolution 2010-292, payout of \$18,000 to former Sault Tribe Police Chief Fred Paquin, and Resolution 2011-09, where the Sault Tribe board agreed to settle the so-called "7 + 2" lawsuit against a former tribal chairman and key employees after losing the case in Circuit Court. While settling

the cases caused disappointment for most of us, the board took actions that were in the best interest of the tribe by cutting our losses and protecting our limited resources.

We must guard and respect our right to use the referendum process to challenge decisions made by our elected leaders. But at the same time, it is wasteful of tribal resources and an abuse of the referendum process to spend \$40,000 on referendum elections that can't change the responsible and cost-saving actions we took to preserve the tribe's assets.

In the coming months, we are going to examine reforms that will protect the members' right to referendum while ensuring the tribe is able to do business in an efficient manner.

I feel that tribal members have the right and ability to use the referendum to challenge decisions that can be changed, but people who have their own political agendas should not be able to waste scarce tribal resources on referenda that are irrelevant and waste tribal funds. Doing this is an abuse of our rights and our tribal Constitution.

As always, please contact my office toll free at (800) 793-0660 or locally at 635-6050 with any concerns.

Sincerely,
Darwin "Joe" McCoy
Tribal Chairman

Working hard on behalf of our tribal people



CATHY ABRAMSON,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Before I begin my unit report, I would like to thank and recognize Ms. Stacy Bohlen, executive director of the National Indian Health Board, for all the hard work she does on behalf of our tribal members. Stacy is a Sault Tribe member who has worked tirelessly in Washington, D.C., to make sure our people are represented and heard by many of our legislators and many federal government agencies.

I can't tell you the importance of the work so many of our members who live outside our service area do so that we may continue to receive the services we have. We have many warriors out there who are protecting our rights and resources. I appreciate that our tribal newspaper staff has chosen to give them the proper recognition by featuring them in our paper. Rob Capriccioso was just recently featured in the last paper.

Congratulations, Rob, on being hired as the new Washington, D.C., Bureau Chief for Indian Country Today Media Network! I appreciate all that you do to keep the world informed of who we are as a people! You are helping to keep our voices alive!

On March 1 and 2, I attended Tribal Consultation Advisory Committee to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). I, along with other tribal leaders, advised the heads of the departments (many in attendance) of how important it is we use our culture and traditions to bring back the health and well being to our nations.

Oneida Vice Chair Kathy Hughes and I both emphasized how programs such as our Traditional Foods Program provide the foundation our members need to get back on the path to recovery in so many very ways. CDC must support more programming such as this.

On March 3, I testified about state-tribal relations and urged the agency to honor the trust responsibility with tribe and not delegate that responsibility to the states. I also testified about the need to build public health infrastructure within Indian Country and asked CDC to assist NIHB with that effort financially and with expertise.

I also testified about tribal voluntary public health accreditation, an area of work NIHB has developed for more than three years. Nationally, CDC has invested a great deal to assess and build the capacity and

performance of local and state public health systems; however, very little has been invested to build tribal public health system. CDC has not invested in the tribes' ability to develop tribal public health accreditation. We asked them to do so.

While in Atlanta, I attended a tribal leaders' and state health officials' meeting to discuss tribal-state relations issues. Tribal leaders from Michigan, Wisconsin, New Mexico, Alaska and Arizona were represented. State health officials were represented from approximately 10 states including Maine, New Mexico, Arizona, California, North Carolina and Georgia. Representatives from several centers of CDC participated, including Dr. Judith Monroe, director of the Office of State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support.

The meeting, which was a moderated and directed conversation, offered the opportunity for tribes and states to discuss issues that need to be addressed in order to work together better. The meeting was very productive and offered an opportunity for everyone to really LISTEN to each other. It was interesting that the state representatives had a number of questions about Indian Country and tribes and largely sought greater understanding. It was very clear that various levels of understanding exist about trust responsibility between the tribes and the federal government. Each tribal leader spoke about the trust responsi-

bility and our sovereignty. The most pressing issues brought forth by the tribes was federal funding flowing straight to the tribes — or through the state if clear accountability measures are in place to ensure the tribes receive appropriate funding. This is to be the first in a series of conversations of this kind.

While in Lansing, Directors Pine, Rickley, Miller and I had the opportunity to meet and have meaningful discussions with our state representatives. They included Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville, Senate Majority Floor Leader Arlen Meekhof, senators Tom Caperson and Howard Walker, representatives Ed McBroom, Steve Lindberg and deputy legal counsel for Governor Snyder, David Murley. Also joining us were members of our staff, Legislative Director Mike McCoy, Staff Attorney Courtney Kachur, ACFS Division Director Juanita Bye, Child Placement Services Supervisor Jamie Moran and Child Placement Services Manager Melissa Vanluven.

Issues that were discussed were DNR/fishing rights, judges refusing to pay tribes our private agency administration rate for children tribes supervise for foster care placement, maintaining the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver with the higher education budget, push for Community Health dollars especially for Upper Peninsula programs and no expansion of non-Indian gaming. This includes

lottery and Keno games and full funding of tourism promotion programs, especially those that affects the northern areas.

It is important that we find solutions to work together better with our state. I had the opportunity to suggest to the deputy legal counsel for the governor that Wisconsin had law that tribes would not only have consultation with the governor's office, but also with all of their state agencies. This works very well for the tribes of Wisconsin.

There are many ways we could work together so that our communities both win in an effort to provide services. This can be done and should be done.

I would like to take this time to recognize another warrior for our tribe and our country. Staff Sgt. Shawn Menard will be leaving to return to duty in Afghanistan in the coming months. He and his family were featured in the tribal paper recently. Staff Sgt. Menard, who has four more years before retirement, will be deployed in the combat arena. In the past, he has spent thousands of his own money for equipment not provided by the military that was necessary to his survival in Afghanistan, and he is now gearing up for more.

Thank you all for your words of support and please continue to contact me if you have any questions or areas of concern.

My cell phone is (906) 322-3823 and my email address is cabramson@saulttribe.net.

Tribal Audit Committee is proactive governance



KEITH MASSAWAY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT III

The board has been discussing ways to be more proactive and less reactive in our approach to governance. This is a lot easier said than done. Being proactive means you have to have reliable information on events that might, could or can happen. These events

have to be then, investigated, understood and then we must prepare a plan to persuade them to have a positive outcome.

Since I have become the treasurer of the tribe I have reinstated the Audit Committee. This committee receives the audits run by the auditing firm of Anderson Tackmen and reviews them and then passes them onto the full tribal board.

We've begun to expand the scope of the Audit Committee to include the function of independent audits done to areas that are seldom monitored or reviewed. Since I have been a board member, there have been several cases of employee theft and misappropriations of the tribe's holdings. I have seen the board put in many policies to correct the flaws but this is a reactionary move after a lot of damage has been done.

The Audit Committee wants

to work with the different departments and managers to find flaws in the system and fix them before they become a devastating problem. The committee wants to have quality checks on procedures and spot checks on inventories and cash drawers. This also sounds easy, but to reach the right conclusions with the right information, a very strict guideline must be set up for both the Audit Committee and the auditors when they do these functions.

I guarantee that the audit committee will continue to work on and fulfill its promise to protect the tribe's assets and its employees in any way it can. If you have any concerns or comments please call me and I will keep any information I receive confidential.

I would like to commend the board for passing a pay

increase for the employees of the tribe. It has been long overdue and I assure you that the board has been trying to be both fiscally responsible to the members and appreciative of the employees as best as they can.

The increase in wages will cost the tribe more than a half a million dollars this year. The board hopes yearly increases will be available but it always relies on the performance of our casinos.

The casinos were slightly up last year in profits. The overall gross was nearly the same but many cost savings that were implemented helped. We still look for ways to increase profits but cutting gets harder each year as less and less fat is available to trim. With the new competition opening here and there down state we are left on the outside of the major metro-

politan areas where most of the money is being spent.

Recently, I have read that Lansing, Grand Rapids and other major towns are now seeking gaming for these cities. I fear that if we are not actively working to expand our business enterprises, we will once again be left out of the lions share of the profits.

Expanding gaming is always a very tough nut to crack and many obstacles lie in the path but I stubbornly believe that we have to go forth and make our own way if we wish to succeed into the future and for our children.

Thank you again for all the cards and the phone calls. I also wish to thank all the employees for all the hard work they do.

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

Protected right to referendum not frivolous



LANA CAUSLEY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT II

The two recent decisions to settle with the 7+2 plaintiffs and the former chief of police have been petitioned for referendum. In the next few weeks you will be receiving your ballots. Per the Constitution, any petition bearing at least 100 valid signatures must be sent to the membership for a vote. As stated in my last report, we the leadership supported settling with the 7+2 to avoid having to place a cash bond of over \$1 million as well as

additional legal costs for both cases.

I have listened to many members speak about these decisions. Many do not agree that we should have had to pay legal fees back or pay out the vacation on the former chief of police. However, most agree it was a necessary so that we were able to move forward fiscally and that there is closure for tribal members.

Approximately 200 members signed each of these petitions. It is my hope that the circulator told these petitioners the honest facts. We have already paid out \$18,000 to the former chief of police as we were advised to do by our legal team. We will now expend another \$20,000 for the referendum. In the end, we will have paid out \$38,000 on this case and the other, the initial legal team (William Horton) advised was our only true option on the 7+2.

The board of directors deliberated long and hard on this issue. On one hand, we had to see that the member's

right to referendum was protected, yet we also had to make sure the process was not being abused in a wasteful or frivolous way in the name of politics.

Please call your board members or speak with family members so that you are able to get the facts on how we came to our decisions. We will be reviewing the referendum process, so please don't hesitate to contact me if you have thoughts or input on this.

This past week I attended the "Native American Housing Needs Assessment Session" with staff from our Housing Department and Housing Commissioner Shirley Goudreau. At the session our Housing Director Joni Talentino, housing specialist Marica Pine Mongene and Executive Director Kristi Harwood brought a wealth of knowledge to the table.

We prepared a study prior to the session that identified the funds needed to house our tribal members on the waiting list and those that are in need

— it is estimated at \$95 million!

Without our members having safe and warm homes, many struggles ensue for them. We may need to look this priority within the tribe. Health and education are very important, but without a home, families are unsettled. This serves as a catalyst for health issues, drug abuse, children's lack of attendance in school, just to name a few.

Many ideas were shared about new and "out of the box" solutions that we can implement to sustain and assist us in using our funding so that it reaches its maximum potential. Economical development within our housing needs to be pursued. We worked very hard on goals and resources for future funds with the HUD Office of Native American Programs. I support the dedicated staff within our own department here at home who understand the challenges and are well prepared to create and advocate more housing and resources for our members.

We will be holding a community meeting at the Newberry Tribal Center on March 10 at 5 p.m. This meeting will be with Catherine Hollowel and I, the chairman and Mike Sawruk. Mr. Sawruk is a businessman who leadership has identified to pursue our Charlotte Beach land claims settlement. Please attend, as we will be presenting the plan and you are encouraged to ask any questions. We will hold more meetings in the area. For Unit II members we will be holding one in St. Ignace, as well since it is centrally located for all of Unit II. Please see the schedule on the front page of this newspaper.

I will be holding office hours at the Hessel Tribal Center on Monday, March 21, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

In closing, please me call at (906) 484-2954 if you would like to discuss any concerns or meet with me.

Baamaa pii minwaa kaawaabmin,
Lana Causley

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BERNARD BOUSCHOR,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Dear Tribal Members,
The tribe moves forward with the establishment of tribal work group for the school construction project at Sault Ste. Marie Odenaang site. I am proud to be part of the project team for the tribe. This reminds

me, when I was chairman, the tribe purchased the present school site because the tribe needed additional space due to expansion of member service programs. The BIA approved the Sault Tribe application for setting up a school. The tribe funded renovation and the first year of operation. Education is one on the most important priorities of the Sault Tribe. The need for a larger school facility has been requested by the JKL School Board.

Background

I am 62 years old, the only member of the tribal council with 41 years of tribal institutional history. I was a volunteer, an employee, a member past and present of the tribal council, and former tribal chairman for 17 years. I was involved with early leadership of our tribe, the elders and community members

in the drafting of the Sault Tribe constitution in the earlier '70s — all 16-plus versions. As a student going to college, raising a family and volunteering for the tribal community, I read every tribal historical record that existed prior to 1970.

Our Past and Our Future

The tribe's early years were tough. It was not "cool" or beneficial to be Indian and many members past and present denied their heritage. The stereotype of being an Indian, at least in this community, was you lived in a ghetto (Marquette and Shunk area in Sault Ste. Marie), you were drunks and uneducated.

Today, the Sault tribe and members can take pride in our many accomplishments and proud to be a Sault Tribe member.

As a volunteer, I prepared a

report for the tribal council and members as to expenditures, revenue and how much cash the tribe had in its checking account — I recall one month it was \$654. The source of the money was from donations. The expenses were for stamps, coffee and paper. In comparison, 30 years later, the Sault Tribe peaked when I was chairman. The tribe's revenue was nearly \$550 million, self-sufficiency funds and cash were \$90 million and we had close to 5,000 jobs.

In my tenure as tribal chairman (1987-2004), our tribe continued to prosper financially, expanded membership services, continued to build on our financial goal of self-sufficiency and employment opportunities expanded.

During the three decades in various leadership roles, I was

involved in every major decision of the Sault Tribe up to election of 2004. I am blamed for every mistake that has been made by my opponents as former tribal chairman (1987-2004). The Sault Tribe enjoyed, under my leadership, success and growth.

Today annual revenue from governmental operation and our five northern casino is about \$200 million, self-sufficiency funds and cash are at \$5 million and the tribe has less than 2,000 jobs.

In closing, when did this tribe have it together, when did the tribe have a common direction and a goal? And, was the change in leadership in 2004 beneficial to our tribe?

Sincerely,
Bernard Bouschor
Tribal Council
Unit I

Board: lack of communication with the people



DJ MALLOY,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

DATELINE MONDAY,
FEB. 14, 2011, 3 P.M. — On the heels of a referendum in which almost two thirds of the voters turned down the idea of

efforts to seek congressional approval of the Charlotte Beach Land Claim in return for a casino in Romulus, Mich., the Sault Tribe Board of Directors passed a new resolution to do just that with Mike Sawruk through Sawruk Management, Inc. The idea being purported is that the membership took issue with the partners/investors, not the deal. At present, plans are being made by the chairman and the Public Relations Department to introduce Mr. Sawruk and the new contract to the surrounding communities at Elder meetings and other planned informal gatherings.

I was not in attendance at this special board meeting due to illness and my “no” vote

would not have changed the outcome.

In my opinion, these events should have been reversed if the cause is worthwhile. Why not show enough respect for the voters to at least provide these meetings to the members BEFORE entering into the same contract (minus one previously named investor) that was just shot down by referendum?

How can we say we know the intent of the voters when we don’t ask? The number one complaint to this board is the lack of communication with the people. We just further validated the complaint and added fuel to the fire. I will not be surprised if this latest Romulus

effort is seen as a giant “Who cares?” in the face of the membership.

I do not see the urgency for yet another casino outside of our immediate purview. Now, if the agreement would have been to contract someone to meet with the state legislators to speak for us during the current budget cuts to state programs, I wouldn’t be so flippant.

But we didn’t hire anyone to fight to ensure the continuance of the tuition waiver, health care, education, or housing. These programs are being cut to the bone to balance state budgets, and, in my opinion, we need a voice here more than we need someone advocating at the federal level to open

another casino near Detroit. But that’s just my opinion and the opinion of the members I’ve spoken to.

I apologize for the sour report. I usually try to provide a better balance, but this month I am at a loss to sweeten the tea, as it were. Next month, I hope to provide you with a brighter outlook and be able to give you a progress report for efforts to plan for our future and to advance beyond a reactionary style of government.

If you’d like to weigh in on this or any other issues, if you have ideas to contribute, or if you would like to discuss something, please contact me at dmalloy@saulttribe.net or (906) 440-9762.

Staffs’ talent and abilities made raise possible



DEBRA PINE,
DIRECTOR, UNIT I

Ahniin kina gwaya!
Hello everyone!
Aniish na? How are you?
Niishin! Good!
Giin dash? And you?
Just some basic conversational Anishinaabe for you all. I promised my elders I would help bring our beautiful language back to the board. I even got our chief to say a couple of words so far, DJ Malloy and I were giving “yea” or “nay” in Anishinaabe at one meeting and Joanne Carr didn’t miss a beat recording it! It is small steps but it still feels awesome, people!
Language immersion went very well for us. It was held on Sugar Island at the Mary Murray Culture Camp and language teachers came down from Manitoulin Island to work with us. I want to say g’tchi miigwech to Cecil, Leonard and Orien for making this weekend a success.

The month had its usually high and low points. My older relatives always delivered news like this, “Which do you want? The GOOD news first or the bad?” Emphasis on the word “GOOD.” I guess they figured it was like getting sugar before you had to take the medicine, it made the hard part easier to deal with but it was always my choice.

We had a good beginning of the month! The tribal board was able to approve a wage increase for our tribal employees. These were the employees that were not affected by the Horn Group/health care workers wage increase or any other tribal group who was already given wage increases within the

last eight months.

I’m sure all my fellow board members are writing about this same subject and to our credit, we stood united and made this a priority.

We understood that the wage grid has not been adjusted since 2003. Our next goal is to move to a “competitive market based” system of wage adjustment. Our organization is immense, this will take some time to accomplish and we still have further to go with re-structuring Human Resources.

Our Human Resource department took some big hits during the 2008 budget deficit that was run by the previous administration. Looking back, I don’t believe we understood what a “hub” our HR department truly is. Well, we know now and it is a priority to get it back under control and functioning to meet the needs of our organization.

We are very happy to have been able to approve this wage increase but the credit lies with our professional staff of tribal employees — casino, governmental, enterprises — battling valiantly through one of the worse economic recessions in the history of this country. Their talents and abilities truly are what made this decision possible. Our tribe is truly fortunate to reap the rewards of such professionalism.

I am also happy to report that we will be hosting informational meetings with regard to our latest efforts to settle the Charlotte Beach land claims issue.

We have a new person, Mike Sawruk, working on our behalf. Mr. Sawruk and his family have ties to the Sault area and I look forward to seeing what he can accomplish. This issue has languished for far too long and it’s time for the government to settle up with our tribe.

Okay, folks, that was the sugar. Two more referendums were submitted and the board acknowledged their validity. (I have a difference of opinion on their so-called “validity.”) The board followed the tribe’s Constitution and sent them out knowing full well that no matter how you voted, it is not going to effectuate any change in the outcome of either situation.

Essentially, \$40,000 PLUS was thrown away in order to protect membership’s right to referendum.

Personally, I believe that money would have been better spent on any number of things such as the funeral fund, heating assistance or elder care services, all three of which had to be drastically cut and gutted because of the 2008 budget deficit. I believe that knowing that these referendums would not effectuate any change made them an enormous waste of tribal resources and tribal dollars.

It also calls into question our definition of “valid.”

Opportunity. This is what I am viewing this as.... an opportunity for good change. So we had to make a difficult decision based on a flawed system. Yet, at this time, I see it as an opportunity for growth as a tribe and essentially a “re-tooling” of our system. After consulting our Election Committee, it came to light that they had done all the work we needed them to do to fix the system. We have recommendations that are currently being reviewed and will be moving forward to the board for review and a vote.

This work and recommendations have been languishing since 2004, 2006 and 2008. Folks, this is just not right. This work is done. This board needs to review it, make final adjustments if necessary and get this into law.

Good policy will prevent wasteful expenditures of money in the future. Our job, as board members, is make certain we have good policy and procedures in place in order for our tribe to function within a healthy environment.

The second part of that job is to be consistent with the application of those laws. One of my biggest interests is to separate the board and the court system. We need to take the next step and bring ourselves to the next level of a separate and autonomous court and court of appeals.

In closing, I need to report that directors Rickley, Abramson, Miller and I, along with Mike McCoy, our legislative guy, and Courtney

Kachur, our tribal attorney, were recently down in Lansing, Mich., meeting with the new in-coming Republican senators. We were fortunate to have our ACFS staff join with us. It was good but it is exhausting as a Native person to always have to explain ourselves and who we are as a people. They don’t teach about us in school unless there is a turkey attached to the story.

I told one senator this: “When talking to non-Natives about who we are, I first explain that we are not a ‘race’ based situation like the African-Americans, we are ‘government-to-government,’ we are ‘nations within a nation.’ It is important to you, as a non-Native, that the federal government honors our treaties; do you know why, Senator? Because if they can’t be trusted to honor the treaties between us, what makes you think they will honor the paper between you? That paper being the Constitution of the United States.”

The senator did get to another level of understanding about who we are as a people and I have in my old uncle Edward “Pie” Pine to thank for teaching me that lesson as a young child. When I think of the definition of America, I think of him.

He was patriotic and yet lived his life as a warrior. He understood the definition of us as a nation and I am grateful that he passed it on to me and I was able to bring this senator to a better understanding of who we are as a nation. Nzhishenh (my uncle) g’tchi miigwech.

Baamaapii kwaabmin

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Onaabanigiizis miinawaa Ziinzibaakwadookeyiizis Mazina'igan

Aaniin Abinoojiinyag miinawaa
Weniijaanisijig!
Hey kids and parents!

Amy McCoy indizhi-wiinigoo.
My given name is Amy McCoy

Miskwaanakwadookwe dash indizhinikaaz.
But my name is Miskwaanakwadookwe.

Aamoo indigoo gaye omaa Bawating.
They also call me Bumblebee here at the rapids.

Oshkagoojin wa'aw giizis!
It is a new month!

Mii azhigwa ji-onaabanak.
Now is the time for the snow to have a hard crust.

Mii iw wenji-izhinikaazod "Onaabanigiizis"
noongom d'aw giizis omaa Bawating.

That's why it's called the Hard Crust Moon now here in Sault Ste. Marie.

Mii zanagak ji-waabandamowaad waa-
boozog obimikawaanan wii-agooodowaad
Anishinaabeg.

This means that it will be harder to see rabbit tracks for snaring.

Enda-wenipanad ige ogijay'ii da-inaagonewaad
Anishinaabeg.

It also means that it will be easier to walk on top of the snow.

Ziinzibaakwadookeyiizis" ige izhinikaanaa
noongom giizis. Mii wapii mayaaajigaamagak
i'iw ziinzibaakwadwaaboo.
It is also called the "Sugar-making Moon"
because the first run of sap is beginning.



Nashke, yo'ow!

Wegonesh ge-izhichigeyang noongom giizis? Akwa'waadaa!
What should we do this month? Let's spear fish through the ice!



Gagwejitoonan onow ikidowinan...
Practice these words...

Akwa'waa
s/he fishes through the ice with a spear

Dwaa'iba(an)
hole(s) made in the ice for water

See, this!

Dwaa'ige
s/he makes a hole in the ice

Bimaadagaako
s/he walks along on the ice

Bazhiba'
stab/spear someone

Nibazhiba'waa
I'm spearing him

Nibazhiba'waa okeyawis
I'm spearing a herring

Wewebinaabii
s/he is fishing (pole)

Giigoonyike
s/he is fishing

Mikwam
ice

Anit(iin)
fish spear(s)

Okeyawis
herring

Asaawe
perch

Biidaasigekwe Odibaajimowinens Angeline Williams from The Dog's Children

(Continued from Nanabush and the Ducks in last month's language section.)

O'ow ige gaa-aadizooked:
This she also told:

Mii dash gii-maajitaad gii-boodawed, gii-gichi-boodawed.
Then he set about building a fire, a big fire.

Ogii-waanaawanga'aan i'iw oboodawaan.
He dug a pit in the sand for his fireplace.

Gii-gizhaawangideni oboodawaan aapiji.
The fire made the sand very hot.

Mii dash gakina imaa gii-asaad minik gaa-nisaad zhiishiiban
anooj.
Then he placed there all the ducks of various kinds, as many as he had killed.

Mii sh gakina gii-nangwawaad wii-minozonid, gii-gichi-
boodawed. Jiigaajiwan gii-aawan ashpadaawangaag.
He buried them all in the sand to roast where he had made his big fire

Jiigaajiwan gii-aawan ashpadaawangaag.
It was on a high sandy bluff by a stream.

Mii dash gii-ozhishing gii-nibaad.
Then he lay down to sleep.

Mii dash gii-mookidiyeshing.
He lay with his buttocks sticking out.

Naasaab gii-izhinaagozi odiyaang.
He looked just the same on his buttocks.

Miinawaa gii-odengwayaa odiyaang.
He also had a face on his buttocks.

"Akawaabin" ogii-inaan iwidi odiyaan oshkiinzhigoon.
"You keep watch," he said to the eyes that were there on his buttocks.

Nandawaabandan nawaj Biidaasigekwe aadizookewin ge-
aginzo d Iskigamizigegiizis.
Look for more Angeline Williams' story when it will be the Sap Boiling Moon.

Wegonesh ge-izhichigeyang netamnising iskigamiziganing?

What will we do first at Sugarbush?

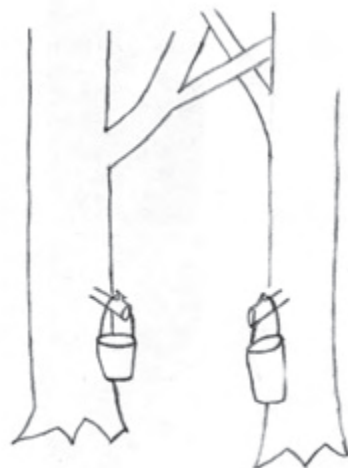
Nitam biindaakoojige
First, she makes a tobacco offering

Mii dash ozhiga'iged
Then she taps trees

Ininaatig
Maple tree

Ozhiga'ige
s/he taps trees

Indoozhiga'ige
I tap trees



Giwe-biboon ikidowinan (Winter turns to spring words)

Maajigaa(magad)
it is the first run of sap

Gizhigaa
runs hard (sap)

Mooshkinebii
it is full of liquid (like a bucket full of sap)

Onaabanad
there is a crust on the snow

Ningide
melts, thaws



Ojibwemowin Pronunciation Key

Short vowels (are said short, or quick)

- /a/ = "uh" like u in up
- /i/ = "ih" like i in sit
- /o/ = "oh" like o in wrote

Long Vowels (must say twice as long, or just longer)

- /aa/ = "ah" like a in father
- /ii/ = "ee" like ee in keep
- /oo/ = "oo" like o in nope also "ou" in soup
- /e/ = "eh" like eh in get

As you read a word, look for syllables with (Consonant+Vowel) or (Consonant+Vowel+Consonant) combinations.

For example:

word	meaning	pronunciation
Babaa	About, around, here and there	Ba + baa (Buh + Bah)

AVON Breast Health Outreach Program awards grant to Sault Tribe for breast cancer awareness program

LOCAL ORGANIZATION RECOGNIZED WITH SUPPORT FROM NATIONAL PROGRAM

The Avon Breast Health Outreach Program awarded a \$50,000 one-year grant to Sault Tribal Health Center to increase awareness of the life-saving benefits of early detection of breast cancer and to provide assistance in access to care. It is the fourth year that the program has received funding from the Avon Foundation for Women to support its work on this important health issue, and in recognition of the Sault Tribe Breast Health program's excellence.

The breast health program Get on the Path to Breast Health at the Sault Tribe Health Center will educate women in the Sault Ste. Marie and surrounding areas and refer them to low-cost or free mammograms and clinical breast exams in their own communities.

This vital program will provide transportation assistance to rural women who drive over 30 miles one way to receive mammograms at the Sault Tribe Health Center by providing a \$10 gas certificate upon completion of their mammogram.

In addition, patient navigation services such as assistance with scheduling, transportation and insurance issues are available for patients receiving care at one of the tribe's clinics.

Since January 2010, the Get on the Path to Breast Health at the Sault Tribe Health Center has reached more than 1,237 women with information about the importance of early detection of breast cancer and has referred 1,022 women for mammograms and clinical breast exams.

In addition, 244 women received a \$10 gas certificate through the program's transportation assistance.

Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women in the United States,

and the leading single cause of death overall in women between the ages of 40 and 55.

According to the American Cancer Society, 7,340 new cases of breast cancer will be detected in Michigan this year and 1,320 lives will be lost. Nationwide, there is a new diagnosis every three minutes and a death from breast cancer every 14 minutes. While advances have been made in prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure, early detection still affords the best opportunity for successful treatment. Programs such as Get on the Path to Breast Health help ensure that all women have access to early detection information and options, even poor and medically underserved women.

"We are proud that the Avon Foundation for Women shares our mission and has chosen to support our program. With these funds we will be able to assist native women with important screening and necessary treatment," said Michele Bickham, radiology supervisor, Sault Tribe Health Center.

"By educating our communities on the importance of early detection, and encouraging women to get annual screenings, we are decreasing the health disparity that we as Native people face," added Amanda Leonard, patient navigator, Sault Tribe Health Center. "This program allows us to be able to assist women in getting screening and treatment for breast cancer. It brings me great joy to be able to help patients and this is made possible through our Avon grant."

Since 1993, the Avon Foundation has awarded more than 1,425 grants to community-based breast health programs across the United States, including Get on the Path to Breast



Photo by Brenda Austin

GET ON THE PATH — Navigator Amanda Leonard LPN, Radiology supervisor Michelle "Mickey" Bickham RT(R)(M), AVON grant assistant Dana Andrews and Missy Halabrin RT(R)(M) (pictured L-R) promote the AVON program.

Health at Sault Tribe Health Center. These programs are dedicated to educating underserved women about breast cancer and linking them to early detection screening services.

THE AVON FOUNDATION FOR WOMEN AND BREAST CANCER CRUSADE

The Avon Foundation for Women, an accredited 501(c)(3) public charity, was founded in 1955 to improve the lives of women and today is the world's largest corporate-affiliated philanthropy focused on issues that matter most to women.

Avon philanthropy focuses its funding on breast cancer research and access to care, efforts to reduce domestic and gender violence, its women's environmental movement to nurture nature, and efforts to provide relief and recovery in times of major natural disasters and emergencies.

Since the Avon Breast Cancer Crusade launched in 1992, Avon breast cancer programs in more than 50 countries

have raised almost \$700 million for research and advancing access to care, regardless of a person's ability to pay.

In addition to receiving generous support from Avon Products, Inc., and its sale of Avon "pink ribbon" products, the Foundation raises funds through a variety of events and walks, such as the U.S. Avon Walk for Breast Cancer series, which is the Foundation's largest fundraising source.

THE AVON BREAST HEALTH OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Avon Breast Health Outreach Program is administered by Cicatelli Associates Inc. to support community-based, non-profit breast health programs across the country.

The Fund's National Advisory Board selected Get on the Path to Breast Health at Sault Tribe Health Center as one of 125 new grant recipients nationwide in the 2010 cycle of Avon Foundation Breast Care Fund grants. These organiza-

tions were chosen based on their ability to effectively reach women, particularly minority, low-income, and older women, who are often medically underserved.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information on Get on the Path to Breast Health at Sault Tribe Health Center, please call Amanda Leonard at (906) 632-5237.

For more information about breast cancer, contact the American Cancer Society at (800) ACS-2345 or visit www.cancer.org, or the National Cancer Institute at (800) 4-CANCER or www.cancer.gov.

To learn more about the Avon Foundation for Women, call (866) 505-AVON or visit www.avonfoundation.org, where you can access free printable Breast Health Resource Guides in English and Spanish. For information or to register or support the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer events, visit www.avonwalk.org or call (888) 540-WALK.

National Diabetes Alert Day a wake up call

BY LINDA COOK, RN,
SAULT TRIBE DIABETES NURSE

The American Diabetes Alert Day is an annual one-day "wake-up call" to inform

the American public about the seriousness of diabetes. Observed each year on the fourth Tuesday of March, Alert Day is a time when the American Diabetes Association encourages people to take the Diabetes Risk Test and find out if they, or their loved ones, are at risk for developing type 2 diabetes.

Let's focus on risk factors within families: If you have siblings, parents and aunts or uncles who have diabetes you are at higher risk for developing diabetes. This makes diabetes a family affair because of your genetics and the environment you live and grow in.

You can be at risk for diabetes because of your age, **your weight, not getting enough activity** and just because you are Native American.

More risk factors are if you had gestation diabetes during pregnancy, which is when you were pregnant you had blood sugar that was too high; if you have **high blood pressure** or **high cholesterol**. **Smoking** increases the risk of many diseases as well as your risk of diabetes. **Too much life stress** and **lack of sleep** are also included.

When looking at all of these risks you can probably see which risks you can change and realize that there are some risks you cannot change. (The ones you can change are in bold type!)

Believe it when I say the best way to change the risk of you, or your family members, getting diabetes is to set a good example.

Starting a regular exercise

routine and inviting family members to come walk with you after a family dinner sets a good example. Bringing a healthier choice to the family meal or eating smaller portions when you are at a community feast also sets a good example.

Talking about your diabetes in a positive way can help. I have been known to say, "Getting diabetes can be your reason to get healthy."

Diabetes is a reason to get healthy. We teach that one should look at food as "medicine." Food can help you be healthier all throughout the day.

Eating right and exercising can help to lose weight, if that is one of your risk factors. If you are at the right weight, eating right and exercising will help to maintain your weight,

which is also important in the fight against diabetes.

Seeing your doctor for regular check-ups is another way of preventing diabetes. If an elevated blood sugar, blood cholesterol level and blood pressure are caught early you can get in to see your diabetes nurse and dietician to learn how to make changes quickly.

Do not let your risk get you down. Start something now. When you exercise, quit smoking, get enough sleep, decrease your stress, eat right, maintain a good weight and get regular check-ups you are on your way to reducing your risk of diabetes.

What are you going to do?

Call Sault Tribe Diabetes Program if you need help reducing your risk. We can be reached at (906) 632-5210.

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Sault Ste. Marie

Anishinaabemowin classes, Thursdays, 6-8 p.m., at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building.

These Ojibwe language classes begin with potluck dinners and you are invited to bring your favorite dish to share.

Instructor demonstrates different stories and language sheets are provided to those in attendance for vocabulary recognition.

It's a great time to eat, visit and enjoy our culture.

Everyone is welcome. Call (906) 635-6050 for more information.

Drumming, Mondays, 7-9 p.m., at the Niigaanagizhik Ceremonial Building.

The drum is the heartbeat of the Anishinaabe people.

Hear different songs and styles of singing. It's a great time for family participation in singing and dancing or just listening.

For more information, call 635-6050.

Anishinaabemowin language class, Thursdays, 12-1 p.m., at 531 Ashmun Street.

No registration is necessary. Please bring your own lunch.

For more information, call 635-6050.

Unit I Elderly Committee meets on the first Wednesday of each month after the noon meal at the Nokomis/Mishomis Center, 2076 Shunk Road.

For questions, call 635-4971 or (888) 711-7356.

St. Ignace

Anishinaabemowin language classes, Tuesdays, 6-8 p.m., at the McCann Center.

Participants will enjoy a potluck dinner at 6 p.m. followed by a language lesson at 7 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

For more information, call 635-6050.

Unit III Elderly Committee meets on the second Friday of each month after the noon meal at the McCann Building.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Unit III constituents meet on the fourth Monday of each month, 6 p.m., at the McCann Center.

For more information, call Keith Massaway at 643-6981 or Patrick Rickley at 440-5149.

Hessel

Anishinaabemowin classes, Mondays, 5-7 p.m., at the tribal center.

For more information, call (906) 635-6050.

Unit II Elderly Committee meets on the third Monday of each month after the noon meal at the tribal center.

Call (888) 711-7356.

Newberry

Elderly Advisory Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 12:30 p.m. at the tribal center.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Unit II Elderly Committee meets on the third Friday of each month at 11 a.m. at Zellar's Village Inn.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Anishinaabemowin classes, Tuesdays, 2-3:30 p.m.

Call Orien Corbiere at 635-6050 or the Newberry Tribal Health Center at 293-8181 for more information.

Manistique

Unit IV Elderly Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month after the noon meal at the tribal center.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Naubinway

Unit II Elderly Committee meets on the last Wednesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. at the Naubinway Pavilion. For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Escanaba

Unit IV Elderly Committee meets on the third Thursday of each month on the second floor of the Willow Creek Professional Building, 3500 Ludington Street. Catered meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by meeting.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Munising

Unit V Elderly Committee meets at the tribal center at 4 p.m. on the first Monday of each month.

Dinners on the third Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Unit V meeting for all tribal members, 6 p.m. at the tribal center on the second Thursday of each month.

For more information, call Joan Anderson at 387-2802.

Anishinaabemowin classes, Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m., at the tribal center.

For more information, call (906) 635-6050.

Marquette

Unit V Elderly Committee meets on the first Thursday of each month, 6 p.m. at the Holiday Inn.

For questions, call (888) 711-7356.

Notices

General meetings of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors typically take place on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. Open forums for members start about 5 p.m. and meetings start around 6 p.m. All Sault Ste. Marie meetings will be held at the Kewadin

Casino and Convention Center, other locations are to be announced.

Special meetings typically take place on the second and last Tuesdays of each month. Special meetings may be called from time to time by the chairperson or by majority vote of the board of directors. Locations, dates and times for meetings are subject to change. In the event a special meeting is called that is open to the public, an official announcement will be released.

General meetings, special meetings and workshops are open to the public unless otherwise noted as closed. To view approved resolutions, please visit www.saulttribe.com and go to the board downloads section.

Meeting schedules are published in the Sault Tribe newspaper annually prior to the start of yearly meeting cycles. Schedule information can be acquired anytime at www.saulttribe.com with a search for "board schedule" or by calling (906) 635-6050.

Foster homes provided by Sault Tribe members are needed for our young.

Make a difference in the life of a child, consider being a foster parent.

Call Anishinaabek Community and Family Services at 495-1232 or (800) 347-7137.

Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities needs your help.

We are looking for volunteers to serve on our Parent Advisory Committee.

The committee is instrumental in developing programs for our children throughout the seven-county service area, creating policy and representing their communities to determine where spending will be most beneficial to the greatest number of our youngsters.

The committee is comprised of volunteers from throughout our tribe's service area and meets once a month on the third Wednesday.

We encourage all relatives of children or anyone interested in their welfare to join us.

All meetings are open to the public and we welcome your participation.

For more information, please call Youth Education and Activities at (906) 635-7010.

Sault Tribe Youth Education and Activities in Sault Ste. Marie offers many fun and educational services to youth from kindergarten age to high school seniors.

Computer lab, Monday through Friday, 3:30-6:30 p.m., and on Saturday, 11-4 p.m.

Computers are available for use in a relaxed atmosphere with opportunities for socializing and other fun.

Free tutoring is available daily for everyone. Young folks can learn how to animate objects, customize websites and other exciting media proj-

ects every Monday.

On Tuesdays, we can conduct science experiments concentrating in school core subject areas such as chemistry and physics.

We dabble in art on Wednesdays, creating all sorts of masterpieces.

On Thursdays, the local tribal youth council works on developing projects for our community and gets some play in as well.

We have parties on Fridays and show off our moves in Dance Dance Revolution tournaments.

Board game lovers of all ages can enjoy a peaceful afternoon dueling in a fierce game of Scrabble or other games every Saturday.

Come visit for a good time and to meet new people or old friends. Free drinks and snacks are every day.

We're waiting for you at 2428 Shunk Road next to the enrollment office.

If you have any questions, please call Jill King at 440-4494.

Book your party at the Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center.

We're equipped to accommodate skating parties, group parties and birthday parties and we rent our hospitality room, basketball and volleyball courts.

Call (906) 635-7465.

DeMawating Development Property Sales and Rentals offers three and four bedroom duplexes for rent. Low move in costs only \$200 for Sault Tribe and Kewadin team members.

First three months of payroll deducted rent will be increased to cover cleaning and pet fees, if applicable. Rent must be deducted from pay to receive the low move-in cost benefit.

Attention American Indians: lease to purchase three bedroom 1.5 bath duplexes available if qualified.

DeMawating is within one of the Sault Tribe's tax agreement areas and an equal opportunity company.

You do not need to be American Indian to rent a home.

For information on any of our properties, please contact the DeMawating office at 42 Wood Lake, Kincheloe (906) 495-2800.

Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program available for appointments in Sault Ste. Marie, Kinross, St. Ignace, Hessel, Manistique, Marquette and Munising health centers.

Bring semaa for an offering to appointments with healers. Traditional healing is holistic. Women on their moon cycle should make appointments before or after their cycles.

For information, call 632-5204, 632-0236 or 632-0220.

Sault Tribe arts and crafts exhibitions and sales are scheduled for second Thursdays-Saturdays until October,

then it is weekly, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. in the Bawating Art Gallery at the Kewadin Casino and Convention Center in Sault Ste. Marie.

The events feature hand-crafted gifts for all occasions.

Participating vendors must be members of a Sault Tribe member's household.

For further information, call Rachel McKechnie at 632-0530 extension 53573.

Sault Tribe extends an open voter registration policy to all members. Once members register to vote, it is permanent unless members change residency into or out of election units where living when originally registered.

Sawyer Village in Gwinn, Mich., is a Sault Tribe housing enterprise. Housing units consist of three and four bedroom townhouse apartments, duplexes and single homes.

Rentals range from \$350 to \$725 per month. The units include ranges, refrigerators, basements, garages, washer and dryer hook-ups and most of them have a dishwasher.

Flooring options are hardwood or carpeting. Most pets are accepted and we have month to month leases.

Eagle Ridge Apartments, located in Marquette, consists of two buildings with eight two-bedroom apartments in each building. These apartments include all utilities and are \$575 per month with one-year leases.

We have eight experienced team members who manage Sawyer Village and Eagle Ridge.

Come make one of our houses your home. Call (906) 346-3919 to set up an appointment today.

Children must have at least one biological parent who is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians before they can be enrolled as full, bonifide members.

Simply submit a copy of the child's courthouse birth certificate or state copy, social security number and current mailing address. You may mail or fax this information to the enrollment office, or drop it off in person. Please allow two to three weeks for children's tribal cards to arrive in the mail.

Sault Tribe flags are available for purchase by calling 632-6398 or toll free (800) 793-0660.

Desk flags (3x5 inches) are \$3, banners (18x24 inches) are \$30, parade flags (3x5 feet) are \$50, pole flags (4x6 or 5x8 feet) are \$75 and \$100.

Add six percent sales tax and \$4.50 for shipping of first item plus \$1 for each additional item.





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