



# Win Awenen Nisitotung

January 19, 2022 • Vol. 43 No. 1  
Spirit Moon  
Manidoo Giizis



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

## First group of vaccination lottery winners announced

SAULT STE. MARIE, Mich. — November winners have been announced for November's COVID-19 Rescue Act Vaccination Lottery. Three team member drawings and three tribal member drawings were held by independent third-party accounting firm, each winner receiving \$5,000, for a total of \$30,000 in November vaccination lottery prizes.

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors established a COVID-19 Rescue Act Vaccination Lottery, which will be held every month through April 2022, to encourage tribal members and team members to get vaccinated to help reduce the spread of

COVID-19.

November tribal member lottery winners were Keith Landreville, Jesse Rhom and Courtney Zudell.

Zudell is from Otter Lake, Mich., a small village half in lower Michigan. "I am so thankful for winning the money before Christmas," she said. "I have three kids ranging from 1-and-a-half to 9 years old and this will help me make their Christmas everything they deserve. I've never won anything like this so I am beyond grateful."



Zudell said it wasn't difficult to get a vaccine despite living "in the middle of nowhere." She said, "I work in the medical field so luckily it wasn't hard. I had to drive about 30 minutes to get the appointment but since I live in the middle of nowhere, everywhere is about a 25-30 minute drive."

Rhom is from Cullman, Ala. "I believe it's an absolute blessing to have received this lottery, especially around the holiday season," he said. "While the primary purpose of the vaccine is to



protect yourself and others from COVID, I feel that the lottery can be helpful to provide an additional incentive to become vaccinated."

Landreville, of New Hope, Minn., said it "was an awesome surprise to be one of the lucky vaccination lottery winners." He added, "I might be spending a little extra for the family members on the nice list this year."



Team members winning the \$5,000 vaccination lottery for November were Susan Snyder, Jessica Marble and Richard Dill, front desk worker at the Kewadin Casino Hotel in the Sault.

Marble, a health worker at the Sault Tribe Health Center, said she was overwhelmed with gratitude. "Random Acts of kindness are on the way," she said. "Thank you, and Merry Christmas to all!"

To enter the vaccination lottery, participants must complete and submit only one entry form

on the tribe's website, [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com). Eligible participants will automatically qualify for the next month's drawings if they did not win during the prior month.

To be eligible to participate in the lottery, tribal members and team members must be 18 and older as the entry date. Drawing winners must provide proof they received at least one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccination as of the date the entry form was submitted. (As of the enactment of the vaccination lottery, approved vaccines are the Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccines.) Tribal member drawing winners must submit proof of their enrollment in the tribe as of their entry form submission date and winning date. Similarly, team member drawing winners must submit proof of their employment with the tribe as of their entry form submission date and winning date.

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

See "Lottery Winners," Page 4

## Tribal Board of Directors censures chair

The following is a statement from board members signed below.

Due to the amount of misinformation provided to a few local news outlets, members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors wish to publicly address the recent censure of Chairperson Payment.

On Jan. 4, 2022, at a duly called meeting of the board, the board took action on the (properly noticed) agenda item, Conduct of the Chairperson. The following action was approved by a 10-2 positive majority tribal board vote:

— The Sault Tribe Board of Directors finds that the Tribal Chairperson, Aaron Payment, has:

- Violated his duty to create an environment that fosters respect and dignity;
- Violated his duty to maintain an environment free of harassment and intimidation;
- Intimidated, harassed, and publicly attacked employees;
- Continually committed malicious public attacks upon tribal members;
- Violated the Medical Privacy and Procedures of Individual

Tribal Members;

— Violated Resolution 2012-222 Privacy of Board Member Phone and Computer Records;

— Breached /Released confidential information, violating Tribal Code, Chapter 96;

— Campaigned prior to the Notice of Election pursuant to Tribal Code, Chapter 10; and

— Violated tribal Resolution 93-123 Code of Professional Conduct.

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors hereby:

— Censures Aaron Payment, Tribal Chairperson;

— Publicly notices the Tribal Board of Directors has NO CONFIDENCE in the Tribal Chairperson;

— Removes the Chairperson from any/all internal committees (with the exception of those established in Tribal Code) and external committees that are a result of the Tribes;

— Membership within their respective organizations. Notice of which shall be provided by the Tribes Executive Director;

— Expressly and unequivocally

makes it know that the conduct of the Chairperson is not protected by the Tribe or any of the Tribes Sovereignty. The Chairperson, Aaron Payment is personally liable for his respective actions;

— Authorizes the Executive Director, with the assistance of the Tribes Legal Counsel, to contract and retain an external Firm to investigate and address the Conduct of the Tribal Chairperson; and

— Authorizes the Executive Director to implement all necessary Budget modifications administratively regarding the Firm.

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors has a duty to protect the assets of the tribe, which includes our tribal, team, and community members. The Sault Tribe Board of Directors wants to relay to its members, team members and community partners that we remain committed to our communities and will address the membership with the full details upon their conclusion.

We believe it in the best interest of our tribe that we do not comment any further on ongoing and active investigations. The chairperson's actions have led to this decision and, contrary to other statements, his actions alone resulted in Tuesday's censure.

For more information about the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, please visit [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com).

DJ Hoffman, Vice-Chairman, Unit I

Kimberle Gravelle, Director, Unit I

Michael McKerchie, Director, Unit I

Lana Causley, Director, Unit II

Catherine Hollowell, Director, Unit II

Keith Massaway, Director, Unit III

Bridgett Sorenson, Secretary, Unit III

Denise Chase, Director, Unit IV

Darcy Morrow, Director, Unit IV

Charles Matson Sr., Director, Unit V

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

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Win Awenen Nisitotung  
531 Ashmun St.  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783



Tribal member Janice Schmidt bagged this symmetrical 8-point buck on Nov. 29. Schmidt said he had zero fat on him, which means he was running hard during the rut. Congratulations to Schmidt.

# Attention tribal members! Are you registered to vote?

Unsure if you are registered to vote? You can check with Tribal Enrollment at (906) 635-3396 or (800) 251-6597.

If you need to register to vote, you can go to [www.saulttribe.com/government/tribal-elections](http://www.saulttribe.com/government/tribal-elections) to get a voter registration card, or you can clip the form on this page and mail it in to the Tribal Election Committee, P.O. Box 102, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

**If you live INSIDE the**

**tribe's seven-county service area:** When you live within the seven-county service area you are automatically registered to vote in the unit you live. If you do not know your unit, check the unit listing on this page.

**If you live OUTSIDE the service area:** You can choose which unit to be registered in. Select the unit where you have the closest ties.

Registration is permanent

unless you move in or out of an election unit. You must be at least 18 on election day, June 25, 2020, to vote. **You must be registered by March 26, 2020, to vote in this year's tribal election.**

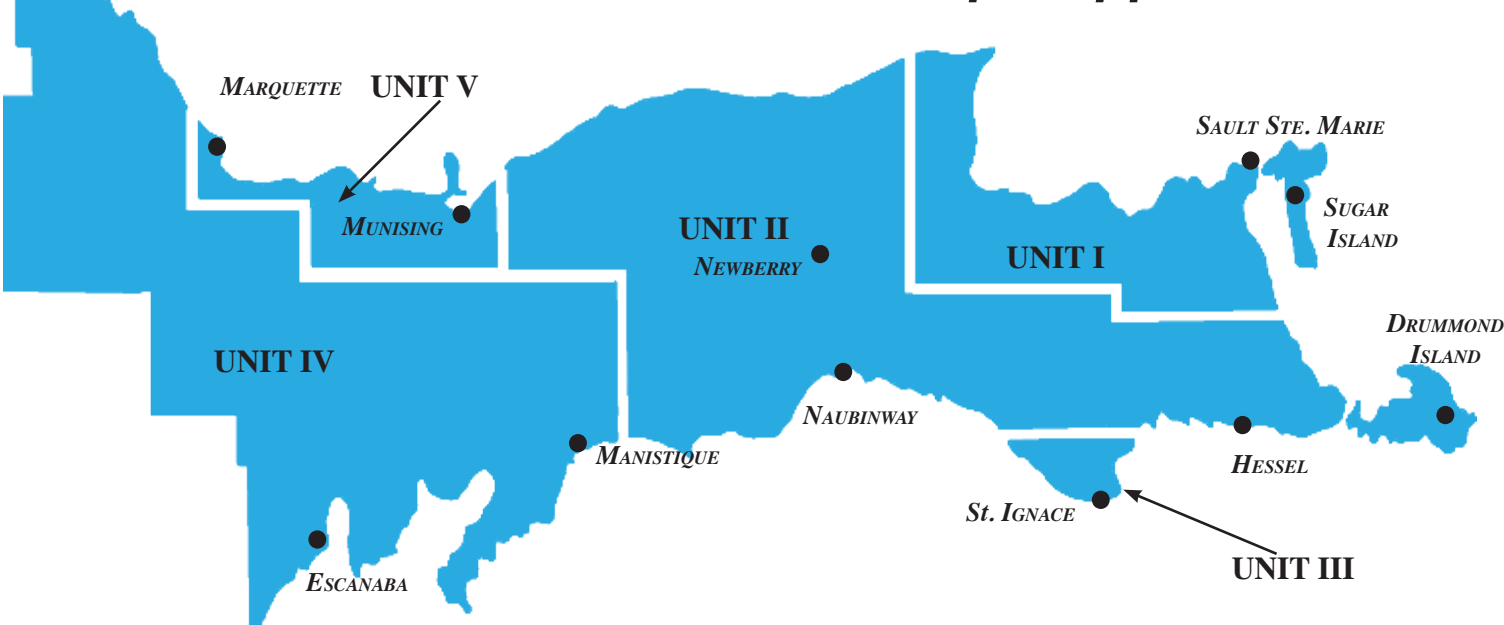
Any questions about voter registration? Please contact the Enrollment Department at 635-3396 or (800) 251-6597, or Joanne Carr at 635-6050 or (800) 793-0660.

## PLEASE CHECK TRIBAL ENROLLMENT'S "BAD ADDRESS LIST"

Sault Tribe members whose addresses are not up to date have "bad addresses" with the tribe's Enrollment Department. The bad address list is online at <https://saulttribe.com/membership-services/tribal-enrollment>.

Please check over these names and if you see a friend or relative on this "bad address" list, let them know they need to update their address. It's simple and quick! Just call (800) 251-6597 or email [jsalo@saulttribe.net](mailto:jsalo@saulttribe.net).

## Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Units



Sault Tribe's service area is divided into five units covering seven counties in the eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

## Information for prospective tribal election candidates

The following is a copy of the letter being sent out to new candidates as they receive their election packets:

Dear Prospective Tribal Election Candidate:

For this election, the list of eligible candidates is due out April 20, after which the candidates will be placed on the Primary Election ballot for a seat on the Sault Tribe Board of Directors.

This letter is to ensure you have enough time to write and submit your 500 words for the Candidates' Forum in the April 27 issue of the tribal newspaper. This and your photo constitute the quarter page space you are being given by the newspaper as a primary candidate. Your piece is due by 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 14.

If for some reason you are not placed on the ballot, we won't publish your forum piece. In order to make press and have the paper published and mailed before the primary ballots are mailed, we must have your pieces by April 14.

Please include a photo if we don't already have it. Call us in advance of the deadline if you need a photo taken. If you email your submission, the text format must be a word processing file such as Microsoft Word, or text in the email window. The photo must be a separate file. We will not accept PDFs or Publisher documents for your 500 words.

For the General Election, unofficial primary results will be announced May 19. Winners of this election must have their free half page ad at the newspaper office Friday, May 20, by 5 p.m. This letter constitutes your notice to do so. The newspaper staff can design your ad and furnish you a proof via email. We encourage you to have your ad in early in anticipation of winning.

Candidates are also welcome to purchase additional paid ad space in the February, March, April, May and June issues.

Call us at 632-6398 or email

me at [jdale-burton@saulttribe.net](mailto:jdale-burton@saulttribe.net). If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to email or call any time.

Attached is a schedule of

the newspaper deadlines and a advertising rate card for your convenience.

Respectfully,  
Jennifer Dale-Burton, editor

Win Awenen Nisitotung  
531 Ashmun St.,  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
[jdale-burton@saulttribe.net](mailto:jdale-burton@saulttribe.net)  
(906) 632-6398, ext. 26073.

## Tribal election unit listing by city and zip code

<b>UNIT I</b>	Germfask 49836	Champion 49814	Traunik 49890
Barbeau 49710	Goetzville 49736	Cooks 49817	Trenary 49891
Bay Mills 49715	Gould City 49838	Cornell 49818	Wells 49819
Brimley 49715	Gulliver 49840	Escanaba 49829	
Dafter 49724	Hessel 49745	Fayette 49835	<b>UNIT V</b>
Eckerman 49728	McMillan 49853	Garden 49835	Arnold 49819
Hulbert 49748	Naubinway 49762	Gladstone 49837	Autrain 49806
Kincheloe 49788	Newberry 49868	Gwinn 49841	Beaver Grove 49855
Kincheloe 49886	Pickford 49774	Ishpeming 49849	Big Bay 49808
Kinross 49752	Rexton 49794	KI Sawyer 49843	Chatham 49816
Neebish Island 49710	Rudyard 49780	Limestone 49816	Christmas 49862
Paradise 49768	Stalwart 49736	Little Lake 49833	Deerton 49822
Raco 49715	Trout Lake 49793	Manistique 49854	Eben Junction 49825
Sault Ste. Marie 49783		Nahma 49864	Forrest Lake 49832
Strong's 49790	<b>UNIT III</b>	Negaunee 49866	Grand Marais 49839
Sugar Island 49783	Brevort 49760	Northland 49869	Harvey 49855
	Mackinac Island 49757	Perkins 49872	Marquette 49855
	Moran 49760	Princeton 49841	Michigamme 49861
<b>UNIT II</b>	Pointe Aux Pins 49775	Rapid River 49878	Munising 49862
Cedarville 49719	St. Ignace 49781	Republic 49879	Palmer 49871
Curtis 49820		Rock 49880	Rumley 49826
DeTour Village 49725	<b>UNIT IV</b>	Skandia 49885	Seney 49883
Engadine 49827	Bark River 49807	Thompson 49889	Shingleton 49884
Epoufette 49762	Brampton 49837		Wetmore 49895
Fibre 49780			

### SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS VOTER REGISTRATION FORM

Non-resident Members must choose one of the five election units in order to vote in Tribal Elections. They should consider selecting the unit in which they have the closest ties and indicate below the unit they select. Registration is permanent unless you move in/out of an election unit. This form must be received by the Tribal Election Committee ninety (90) days prior to a general election in order for the registration to be valid. The address to which my ballot should be sent is:

Please Print

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

STREET (PHYSICAL) ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

To verify identity, please include last four numbers of your social security:  -  -  -

**I understand that this voter registration card must be completed and received at least 90 days prior to a general election to be eligible to vote in Tribal Elections.**

I register to vote in Unit \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

(Must have signature to be Valid.)

**SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS  
NOTICE OF ELECTION  
JANUARY 28, 2022**

The Election Committee of the Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians would like to inform you that a tribal election will be held for the Tribal Board of Directors this year; with a primary held in spring and the general election held this summer. Below are important dates and information pertaining to the election.

The timetable for the election process is as follows: (All deadlines are 5 p.m. ET).

- March 24 .....Deadline for voter registration. Last day to receive Letter of Intent for potential candidates. Roll of registered voters prepared and posted. Nomination petitions available.
- April 13 .....Nominating petition deadline.
- April 20 .....List of eligible candidates available.
- April 25 .....Deadline for contests relating to nominations and voter registration.
- April 28 .....Blank primary ballots mailed to voters.
- May 19.....Primary election date.
- May 23.....Deadline for contests relating to vote count.
- June 1.....Blank ballots for general election mailed to voters.
- June 23.....General Election day.
- June 27.....Deadline for contest relating to vote count.

**OFFICERS TO BE ELECTED**

Unit 1: -2 members-  
Unit 2: -1 member-  
Unit 5: -1 member-

Unit 3: -1 member-  
Unit 4: -1 member-

*The term of all officers will be four years.*

**VOTING PROCEDURE**

All ballots will be mailed to registered voters by first class mail. In order to be counted, ballots must be received by the Tribal Election Committee by 5:00 p.m. at the United States Post Office-Sault Ste. Marie location on May 19, 2022 for the primary election and on June 23, 2022 for the general election. A Post Office Box is provided by the United States Post Office for return of the ballots. The address of the box will be included on the ballot.

**Address Correction Requested:**

The election will be conducted by mail to the address shown in the Tribal Registrar’s records. It is the responsibility of the tribal member to ensure that the address shown for him or her is correct. Please contact the Tribal Registrar’s Office for any changes: Tribal Registrar’s Office, 2428 Shunk Road, Mailing address: P.O. Box 1628, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 phone: (906) 632-8552 or 1 (800) 251-6597.

**NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES**

Any tribal member who meets the requirements detailed in The Tribal Election Ordinance is eligible for election to office. A candidate for nomination must be eighteen years of age or older by June 23, 2022, a qualified voter, and have established one year residency within the Election Unit which they seek to represent. Any member; who holds appointed/elected position in another unit of government, has been convicted of election fraud, misdemeanors involving gambling, theft, dishonesty or fraud, or a felony offense is ineligible for election to office. Any person elected shall voluntarily resign employment position and/or surrender any rights under any contract with the Tribe prior to assuming office. To be nominated, a candidate must file a letter of intent, background investigation forms, nominating petition, campaigning financing forms, etc. with the Tribal Election Committee in accordance with the Election Ordinance. A nomination

petition must bear the original signatures of the proper number of registered voters from the unit to be represented. A voter may sign only as many petitions as there are offices to be filled from their unit. Petitions must be submitted on the forms provided by the Election Committee obtained at the designated offices.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**Finance Reporting:** The Election Committee requires candidates and others who expend money on the election to file reports on campaign fundraising and spending. If you plan to spend money on the election, you must contact the Election Committee to obtain the proper forms before doing so. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in criminal prosecution.

**Election Contests and**

**Complaints:** Any tribal member may raise election disputes before the Election Committee. All disputes must be stated in writing, addressed to the Chairperson of

the Election Committee, contain the original signature and received under procedures provided in the Election Ordinance. The Election Committee will review disputes according to the Election Ordinance.

**Election Ordinance:** This letter is a narrative statement of the requirements of the Election Ordinance and the Constitution. Any discrepancies the Election Ordinance and Constitution are controlling and superlative. Questions regarding the election should be directed to the Tribal Election Committee.

**Designated Offices:** Designated Offices are the tribal offices as to which additional election material is available and for delivery of correspondence. Each designated office is defined in the Election Ordinance. Please note: Unit 1 the designated office shall be The Tribal Court Office, located at the George Nolan Judicial Building, and Unit 3 shall be the Human Resource Office, located at 3015 Mackinac Trail.

# Sault Tribe Committee Vacancies

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

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

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

Election Committee - four vacancies (4-year term)

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

Health Board - four vacancies

(4-year term)

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

Elder Advisory Committee

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

one alternate vacancy

Elder Subcommittee

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

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

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

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

Unit IV - Escanaba (4-year term), three regular seat vacancies, two alternate vacancies

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

Unit V - Marquette (4-year term), two regular seat vacancies, one alternate seat vacancy

## Tribal members: need assistance?

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

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

Unit I — Sheila Berger,

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

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

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

## Elder in residence needed

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

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

The position:

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

Language and Cultural Division, Qualifications are:

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

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

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

## Manistique Senior Employment Youth Elder Worker

Youth Elder Worker position for the Manistique YEA Program is available through the Senior Employment program. The position is 14 hours per week.

The youth elder worker assists YEA staff with chaperoning activities, field trips and outings and ensures that youth are in a safe environment; assists tutor with homework labs; prepares snacks; assists with cleaning and basic office tasks (copying, faxing, filing and telephone assistance). May have to work evenings, weekends and holidays as requested. Must be a Sault Tribe member age 60 or over and

## Reporter wanted for Win Awenen Nisitotung

A staff writer/reporter is needed for the tribe's newspaper, Win Awenen Nisitotung. The position is full time and based in downtown Sault Ste. Marie. Basic duties are to find stories, take assignments, conduct interviews, research, write, photograph, proofread and help lay out the newspaper. Must be able to travel and take assignments evenings and weekends. For more information or to apply, please see position at saulttribe.com.

reside within the seven-county service area. Must undergo and pass a criminal background investigation and pre-employment drug test. Must be able to travel.

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

## Training opportunities available for eligible applicants

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) Program has funding available for on-the-job training and short-term occupational training opportunities. The program may be able to provide tuition assistance for skills training if it leads to an industry-recognized certification or under OJT, the program may reimburse an employer 50 percent of your wage for a specified training period. Candidates must meet certain eligibility requirements and be a resident of the seven-county service area. Please apply at WIOA at Chi Mukwa Community Recreation Center in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., or call Brenda Cadreau at (906) 635-4767 for more information.

## Mobile Food Pantry 2022 Sault schedule

Ten Feeding America West Michigan Mobile Food Pantry distributions will be held in Sault Ste. Marie this year. The distributions will be held on the second Tuesday of each month, except for July and August 2022 (no distribution held these months). The first distribution on Jan 11 provided 30,000 pounds of groceries, enough for 600 households.

Mobile Pantries are like farmers markets on wheels — delivering a variety of fresh fruits, vegetables, dairy products and baked goods to communities with a high need for food support. Because of the pandemic, all Mobile Pantries are providing drive-through service at this time.

Attendees will not be asked to show identification or proof of

income to receive food; however, they will be required to provide basic contact information and affirm their need for food.

In order to pick up food for a household other than your own, you must have written permission that includes: household name and address, how many people live in the household, how many are children, how many are senior citizens and how many are veterans.

## Marquette USDA distribution rescheduled for Jan. 28

Sault Tribe's Marquette USDA distribution for January has been rescheduled for Jan. 28. The USDA office can be reached at 906-635-6076 or 888-448-8732. The previous date was canceled due to inclement weather.

## Scheduling a funeral at Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Building

To schedule a wake or funeral at Niigaanagiizhik Ceremonial Building in Sault Ste. Marie, contact the Sault Tribe Language and Culture Department at Nigaanagiizhik@saulttribe.net, (906) 635-6050, ext. 26142 (Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., regular business hours), or (906) 203-6085 (after hours number).

### Guidelines for Use

Must be:

- Sault Tribe member or family of a member,
- Affiliated with another tribe, or
- Tribal employee (regardless of tribal status)

A family member must review and sign a contract regarding care of the facility prior to receiving the security code.



Jessica Marble was one of three team member winners in the November lottery

From "Lottery Winners," Page 1 other eligible participants may win only once.

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

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

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

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

January 19, 2022  
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Vol. 43, No. 1

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Advertising: \$8.50/column inch.

Submission and Subscriptions:

Win Awenen Nisitotung

Attn: Communications Dept.

531 Ashmun St.,

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Telephone: (906) 632-6398

Fax: (906) 632-6556

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

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(906) 632-6661

1-800-635-6661

1129 E. Easterday Ave., Sault, MI 49783

# Sault Ste. Marie fights CCFP's non-profit status

The Chippewa County Family Project, which oversees the Arfstrom Faunt Teen Foster Home project, recently completed the main phase of its Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) Accreditation and hired a new chief administrator.

Completing the CARF accreditation and having a chief administrator in place is required for state licensing, which is expected wrap up in early February. In the meantime, the CCFP board is also litigating with the City of Sault Ste. Marie, which is challenging the CCFP's non-profit status due to operating the home as an Airbnb during pandemic-related delays.

CARF oversees several agencies, including child and youth services. CARF accreditation assures that providers offer the highest quality services and has helped the CCFP identify its main programming areas.

"We can't thank Tara

Tremblay, our consultant, enough for the assistance she provided during this long-awaited accreditation process," CCFP President Tracey Holt said. "Tara's work was instrumental in getting us through this important phase, and the CARF representatives were impressed with the house and the efforts and commitment of our board."

"I was so thankful to be part of this amazing project," Tremblay said. "I feel very connected to their mission and values, and can't wait to see the success of the program. The surveyor was very impressed with the 'home' setting and the environment that was created. She used words like 'beautiful,' 'amazing,' when reviewing the work and effort put forth. I can't remember how many times she raved about it. It is exciting to announce CARF accreditation, as this will allow the facility to achieve quality outcomes for the residents they

serve."

Tremblay added, "With the growing number of adolescents within the designated population, this facility will not only meet the needs of the teen homeless population but provide patient-centered trauma informed care within the facility. The facility has been structured to ensure all residents receive access to health and dental care, behavioral health, vital community resources and preparation for reunification and/or transition for independent living."

Another important step in the licensing and opening process is having a chief administrator in place. Last week, the CCFP Board of Directors approved the hiring of Marilyn Ledbetter, a 23-year veteran in the social work field. Ledbetter has experience in every facet of the teen foster home's operations, including licensing and opening a new facility. Her various roles include two years with the Michigan

Department of Health & Human Services and Bureau of Child & Adult Licensing, plus being a case worker, staff supervisor and programmer.

"We are so fortunate to have a chief administrator with Marilyn's credentials head our staff," Holt said. "She comes to us from Lake City and is anxious to be a part of the eastern U.P. community. She understands what a big undertaking this is and knows how the process works, step by step."

"I am excited about working with an organization that has proven themselves by the hard work they have already done," Ledbetter said. "They have taken an idea and turned it into a reality. I look forward to the coming months in contributing my knowledge and leadership skills to be able to provide further growth and establish a successful opening of the home. I also look forward to working with commu-

nity stakeholders and promoting the importance of having stability and a safe environment for youth in need."

As the licensing process continues, the CCFP will appear before the state tax tribunal and prove that operating as an Airbnb was nothing more than a means to pay bills until it could open its doors to teens in the foster care system.

"We realize that going before the tax tribunal is now unavoidable," Holt said. "We have every intention of abiding by the law. It's unfortunate that this could wind up costing both sides tens of thousands of dollars. Our focus has always been to provide an important need in our community. We are so close, and stand by our goal of opening our doors to teens at the end of February."

## PART-TIME HELP WANTED

Graphic Artist, Writer, Account Executives, Website Designer for New Independent Online Tribal Newspaper

Job descriptions can be found at <http://SaultTribeGuardian.com>



# New system brings online payments and advanced case management to Tribal Court

FROM TRIBAL COURT

Individuals who have fines and costs due to Tribal Court will now have the ability to make those payments online or in person by credit card with the addition of a new, updated case management system recently implemented at the court.

The FullCourt Enterprise case management system allows judges and court staff to more easily manage case records and electronic data, and streamlines payment processing. It replaces the outdated 2009 case processing

system for Tribal Court.

"We are excited to bring this modern system to our hard-working tribal court, which has the responsibility of the tribe's seven-county justice system," Court Administrator/Magistrate Traci Swan said. "This new case management system will help staff with the tremendous work load, and will also improve public access and allow for online payments of fines and costs."

A proposal to purchase the new FullCourt Enterprise system for Tribal Court was approved

and funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Tribal Justice Support last year in the midst of COVID-19.

"Our previous case processing system was an out-of-the-box program when implemented in 2010 that we made work, but didn't specifically meet the unique needs of a tribal court. An up-to-date system was needed to keep up with today's demands on our very busy Tribal Court," Swan said.

Swan added, "We have had excellent success implementing

FullCourt on time, given the delays presented by COVID-19 and all trainings for the new system being held only virtually. All court staff put in a significant amount of work in identifying the system needs, locating and evaluating a system that could meet those requirements, and getting us to this point of implementation. We are excited to begin."

Online payments can now be made online at [www.citepayusa.com](http://www.citepayusa.com), and by Visa/Mastercard/Discover cards at the Tribal Court.

# From the frying pan into the fire: The Enbridge Line 5 tunnel

BY GARY STREET

A dive into the sordid details of Enbridge Line 5 in Michigan reveals 33 spills and at least 3 anchor/electric cable strikes that potentially could have caused a massive oil spill.



We've been lucky. Incredibly lucky. But our luck will run out.

Enbridge proposes to build a tunnel for Line 5. They assure us - falsely - it will eliminate all hazards. The tunnel will, unfortunately, introduce new ones, even more insidious.

A study by two seasoned engineers, Brian O'Mara (B.S., Geological Engineering) and Gary Street (M.S., Chemical Engineering, P.E.) have confirmed these concerns.

Enbridge recently conducted a limited number of lake bottom borings. But not enough to assure they will not hit a pocket of methane and/or hydrogen sulfide.

Methane was detected in 20 percent of the lake bottom borings and hydrogen sulfide is often found with methane. However, the Enbridge lead tunnel engineer stated "No hazardous gases were identified along the tunnel's path, like elsewhere in Michigan" during a November 2, 2021, public webinar.

Both substances are explosive. Hydrogen sulfide is also extreme-

ly toxic. 28 tunnel workers were killed in 1971 when they hit a pocket of methane while building a tunnel under Lake Huron near Port Huron.

Making matters worse, nearly 20% of the time Enbridge will ship propane and butane thru the pipeline. Both are heavier than air. If during the 99-year life of the tunnel there is a pipeline leak, it will accumulate at the low point of the tunnel, awaiting a source of ignition which is always present. Statistically a leak will happen 2-3 times in 99 years.

A single 1/8-inch hole in the pipeline, will release, within 19 minutes, the propane equivalent of 345 pounds of TNT. What will this do to the pipeline, the tunnel, nearby residences, and any vessels traveling above?

Experience says it will be catastrophic.

We can't afford to guess and find out. The tunnel must NOT be built.

*Gary Street, a retired Chemical Engineer, has a B.S. and an M.S. in Chemical Engineering and is a Registered Professional Engineer in Michigan. He spent 35 years at Dow Chemical in various engineering and management roles. After retiring from Dow, he co-founded Midland Engineering, a consulting firm. For the last 6 years, his primary focus has been the hazards posed by Line 5.*

# KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP

## Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School Kindergarten Round Up for the 2022-2023 School Year



Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is holding Kindergarten Round Up for the upcoming 2022-2023 School Year. **Only those who complete and turn in an enrollment application during the open enrollment period will be considered for the lottery.**

**The open enrollment dates are from Monday, January 31, 2022, through Friday, February 11, 2022, with extended hours from 4:30-5:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 10.**

Applications may be picked up from the school office, school administration building, or printed from the school website at [www.jklschool.org](http://www.jklschool.org) **beginning Monday, January 31, 2022. All applications must be received by the school office by 4 p.m. (EST) on Friday, February 11, 2022.**

The lottery will be held in the school administration building conference room at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 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 Round Up. The dates of Kindergarten Round Up are set for Wednesday, March 9, and Thursday, March 10, 2022.

# Anishinaabemowin 2021

*Becoming a speaker the easy way:* Choose a comment or phrase you'd use often, practice it till it becomes automatic to you, then say it every time it fits in your life. When you're ready, choose another one. Make it practical and definitely fun!

**Bboon!** It's winter!

bi-boon

**Zoogpo** It is snowing.

zoog-po Snow is falling down.

**Goon** There's snow on the ground.

**Goonkaa** There's a lot of snow on the ground.

**Bkaan giishkaagone'igan!** Another snowbank!

ba-kaan giish-kaa-go-ne-i-gan

**N'wii jiishaagonege** I'll shovel the snow.

na-wii jii-shaa-go-ne-ge (I'll clear the snow).

**Write these ideas in Nishinaabemwin** (our language):

Good grief, it's snowing again!

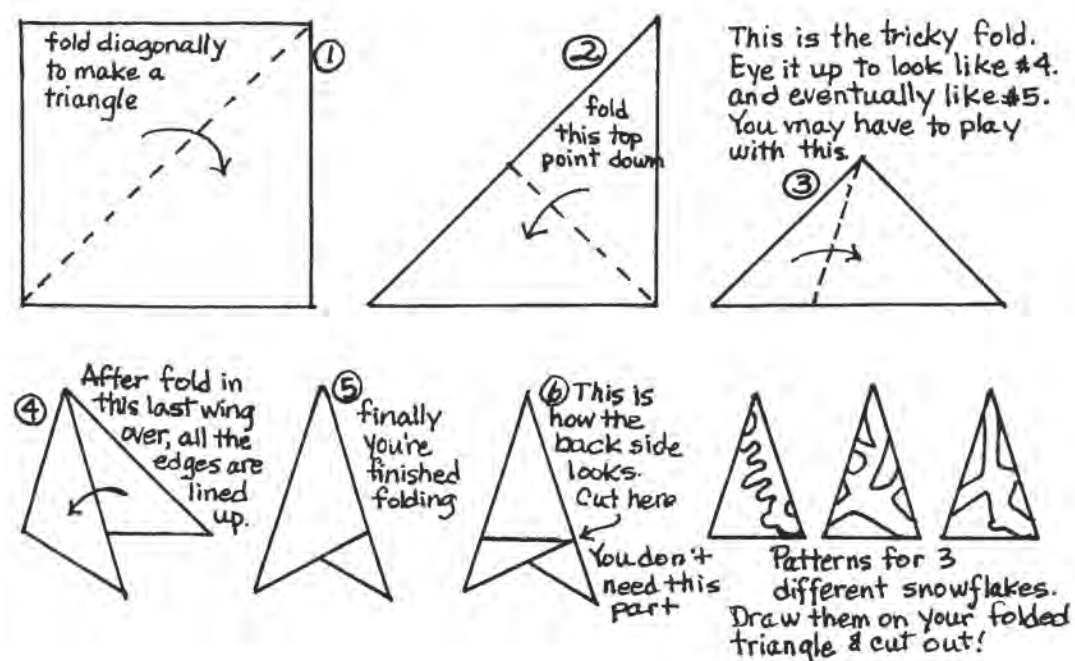
It's a little bit chilly in here.

Another snowbank, of course!

Of course it's cold weather; it's winter!

I'll shovel the snow again.

**Strategy:** Many people find it easier to remember words and phrases when they do something active about those words. So try practicing the words as you make some **goonenhsag** from paper. Any kind of paper would do, but thin paper, like tissue paper or some thin wrapping paper, are easier to cut after it's folded (12 layers in all!).



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

Here are the exceptions.

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

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

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

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

**a** sounds like the a in *about*

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

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

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

Pronounce all the letters. *Underlined, italic type* will tell you which word-parts to stress. Long words are broken up with dashes (-); still, say each word smoothly. And notice "nh" *has NO SOUND of its own. It is a sign to say the vowels just before it, through your nose.*

**Manidoo Giizis**

*Spirit Moon*

by Susan Askwith

**Gisinaa.** It's cold (weather).

gi-si-naa

**Tikate** It's cold in the house

ti-ka-te (It's chilly in here.)

**N'biingech** I feel cold

n-biin-gech

notice the 'n' by itself sounds like it does in 'no' - kind of quiet in your mouth

**Aashiish-maajii** Good grief!

aa-shii-sh-maa-jii

**Bangii** A little bit

ban-gii

**Miinwaa** Again

miin-waa

**Gegeti gwa!** Of course!

ge-ge-ti gwa (it's true!)

**Nashke! Goonenhsag!** Look! Snowflakes!

nash-ke goon-e(nh)s-ag

Note the "nh" has no sound — it just reminds you to make the "e" before it sound nasal. (Look at the pronunciation guide below.)

**Goonenhsag** have six sides. They're crystal forms of water, and water molecules (H<sub>2</sub>O) fit together most efficiently in that 6-pointed way. They form around tiny particles in clouds and tumble down to earth. It might take 10 minutes to get there, but because they may get carried up again, it might take several tries for them to get to the ground. So they might take more than an hour to land in your driveway! To learn more, check out *Science News for Students.org*, "Explainer: The making of a snowflake."



What's a good winter tip: *Never catch goonenhsag on your tongue until all the birds have flown south for the winter.*

What did the big furry hat say to the warm wooly scarf?

*"You hang around while I go on ahead."*

Is it quicker to be hot or cold?

*Hot is quicker, because you can catch a cold.*

What do you call a snowman with a six-pack?

*An abdominal snowman! (Goon-nini = snow man)*



A Native American elder sat beside the road every day. Every morning I asked him what the weather would be like. He was always right. Yesterday I asked as usual and he replied, "Got no clue." "What's different about today, that you don't know?" I asked. He shook his head sadly. "Radio broke."

# About Moontime and Grandmother Moon

Native teachings are about a way of life. The information in this article is only a small portion of the many and extensive Native teachings that exist. Teachings vary from First Nation to First Nation and even from one geographic region to another. For more information, please consult with a Traditional Elder, Healer or Medicine Person.

## Moontime and Grandmother Moon

Native people know that everything in Creation has spirit. The plants, the trees, the water, the wind, the rocks and the mountains have spirit. The sky world, including the moon and the other planets, have spirit. All of these are part of our First Family, the natural world. The moon is called Grandmother Moon and great respect is paid her.

## Recognition of the moon in the calendar

The cycles of the moon determine our yearly calendar. The changes that come with each passing moon indicate the times for planting, harvesting, hunting and gathering. In the Anishinaabe calendar the names of each month include the word "moon" and reflect the close connection between the cycles of the moon and the plant and animal life on Turtle Island.

Spirit Moon **Manidoo-Giizis** (January)

Bear Moon **Mkwa-Giizis** (February)

Sugar Moon **Ziisbaak-doke-Giizis** (March)

Sucker Moon **Namebin-Giizis** (April)

Flower Moon **Waawaas-kone-Giizis** (May)

Strawberry Moon **Ode'min-Giizis** (June)

Blueberry Moon **Miin-Giizis** (July)

Raspberry Moon **Mskomini-ke-Giizis** (August)

Leaves Turning Color Moon **Waabagaa-Giizis** (September)

Falling Leaves Moon **Binaak-we-Giizis** (October)

Frozen Moon **Mshka'odin-Giizis** (November)

Little Spirit Moon **Manidoo-Giisoonhs** (December)

## Grandmother Moon: The female energy

It is said that Grandmother Moon watches over the waters of the Earth. We see this in her regulating of the tides. Grandmother Moon controls all female life. Much of the water life spawn according to the cycles of the moon. It is said that Grandmother Moon is especially close to women because she governs the woman's cleansing cycle, the natural cycle of menstruation known as the moontime.

Just as Grandmother Moon watches over the waters of the Earth, it is said that women watch over the waters of the people. Water always comes before new life.

## Moontime

It is said that the moon cycle is a gift to women. It is a time to cleanse herself mentally, physically, emotionally and spiritually.

The moontime is considered a time of power, second only to the ability of the Great Spirit to give life. That is how strong that power is.

Women can ask Grandmother

Moon for direction in life, for wisdom, and for help for her children and others. Grandmother Moon can give her healing and balancing energy to women.

Some teachings say that when women are on their moontime, the Creator comes closer to them.

When women are on their moontime, their power is at its strongest and this is acknowledged in that they do not prepare foods or medicines, take part in ceremonies or use the pipes and other sacred items. The moontime is a ceremony of life for women and a time for renewal. The moontime is the time for women to relax and take it easy. All the chores are done by other family members. It is a time for women to think about themselves, their families, their relatives or anyone they think needs help. It is a time of reflection.

## Teachings on the moontime

In the past, when a young woman had her first moontime her aunts or grandmothers would take her to a small lodge where she would be close to the natural world. The young woman is sacred at that time. She is now able to give life. She would be given the teachings about her new life from her mother, grandmothers or aunts. She would be taught about her role as a woman in the community.

## Honoring Grandmother Moon

Some teachings say that when the moon is full, women can ask Grandmother Moon to give them new energy. Around the full moon, women on their moontime become very intuitive. It is an opportunity for women to take time for themselves to help foster their intuition and to have strong dreams.

When the moon is full, a woman can do a ceremony to honor and seek guidance from Grandmother Moon. The ceremony can be simple. A woman can sit on the ground and ask Grandmother Moon to replenish her body with new energy. She takes water with her, which she asks the moon to bless. That water then becomes her medicine.

Full moon ceremonies are held in many communities. The ceremony may differ from place to place. It is held either on the full moon or two days before or after the full moon, depending on the teachings given to the women in a particular community. Women gather in a circle, from the youngest to the oldest, representing the life journey from infancy to old age. They drum and sing. Tobacco is placed in the fire and the women ask for the cleansing of the earth, as the water, the lakes, rivers and oceans, constitute women's responsibility.

In some communities, at the full moon ceremony, each woman brings a container of water. They pour this water into one bowl and this water is offered to Grandmother Moon and to the Earth. At the end of the ceremony, the water, now called moon water, can be used as a medicine during the month.

## Referrals to Healers, Elders and Medicine People

As our awareness and knowledge of our traditions and culture increases, so does our honor and respect for these ways. This has

not always been the case in our communities.

There are always those who present themselves as Healers, Elders or Medicine People who have not earned that title and may use the teachings and medicines in the wrong way. It is important for everyone, especially young people, to be aware of this and to exercise caution when they seek healing, teachings or advice. It is advisable to consult with people

whom you trust to get referrals to respected and recognized Traditional Healers, Elders and Medicine People.

To obtain a referral to a Healer, Elder or Medicine Person in your area, or to make an appointment in the seven-county service area, call Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine at 906-632-5200, option 9.

Special acknowledgement is given to the following Healers and Elders who contributed their

knowledge and understanding of the traditions and culture in the preparation of the brochures from which this article was taken: Jake Aguonia, Garnett Councillor; Harlan Downwind, Roger Jones, Rose Logan, Mary Louie, Dorothy Sam, Nelson (SugarBear) Shog-nosh, Geraldine Standup and Ella Waukey.

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## Mkwa Giizis (Bear Moon) February 2022

Calendar submitted by Language & Culture Department

Bear cubs are born during this moon. They are less than a pound and find their way to the mamma milk and warmth. When she finally comes fully awake in another month or so she has cute cuddly cubs.

Niizhwaaso Giizhigat	Ntam Giizhigat	Niizho Giizhigat	Nswo Giizhigat	Niiwo Giizhigat	Naano Giizhigat	Ngodwaaswo Giizhigat
		1 Miikawaadad (It is beautiful)	2 Kokjiish Giizhigat (Groundhog Day)	3 Mino pii (Just in time)	4 Nbazgim (My sweetheart)	5 G'bishgenmin. (I like you)
6 Aabtoojiingeng (Hugs)	7 Makoons (bear cub)	8 Noozhe- makwa (Mamma bear)	9 G'meznin. (I miss you)	10 Niishdaa (Stick together)	11 Gidibenim. (You're cute)	12 Ndeh gidowaa. (You have my heart)
13 Waawaaskone- nesan gmiinin (flowers for you)	14 Zaagidwin Giizhigat (Valentine's Day)	15 Jiimshin! (Kiss me!)	16 Mooshkane Aapkizi-Dibik Giizis (Full Moon)	17 Aapiji gawiishbiz. (You're so sweet)	18 Biindigen. (Come in)	19 Nda bakinaage! (I'm winning!)
20 Giin giizis endaaged. (You are the sunshine)	21 Kiin eta gibezhik. (You're one of a kind)	22 Noozhe- makwa nibaa (Mama bear sleeps)	23 Gewenh (so they say - sarcastically)	24 Makozid (Bear paw)	25 N'wiiyki'enh (My friend)	26 Aaptoojiinshin (Hug me)
27 Naadamooshin! (Help me)	28					

## Sault Tribe Traditional Medicine Program

# Gerard Sagassige

## 2022 February Clinic Hours

**February 1, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23 28**

**Sault Ste. Marie Health Center  
(906)632-0236 Lori Gambardella**

**February 2nd**

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

**February 8th**

**St. Ignace Health Center  
(906)643-48689 or (877)256-0135**

**February 15th**

**Hessel Community Center  
(906)484-2727**

**February 22nd**

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

Any Questions, Please Call Traditional Medicine Program - 906-632-0236

# Stalking Awareness & Human Trafficking Prevention

BY JESS GILLOTTE-KING,  
COMMUNITY EDUCATOR, SAULT  
TRIBE ADVOCACY RESOURCE  
CENTER

January is a time of renewal and starting over for many; however, serious issues still remain and continue to plague our Native people. The Advocacy Resource Center will continue to inform and advocate about sensitive topics throughout the year to bring readers the most updated and informative news and awareness about each of the imminent topics.

January is signified as Stalking Awareness Month and also Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Stalking is defined as “a pattern of behavior directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.” There are a variety of methods or tactics that stalkers use to pursue their victims. Stalking can include but is not limited to having unwanted or unsolicited phone calls, texts, emails, social media contacts, unwanted gifts, showing up or approaching an individual or their family or friends. Also, monitoring, surveillance, property damage and threats to the victim or their family.

Stalking is not limited to certain types of individuals, racial, ethnic or cultural backgrounds, educational levels, or socioeconomic status. Stalkers come from many different backgrounds and have different personalities and approaches to their behaviors. Researchers have developed sev-

**Contact local law enforcement at (906) 632-3344 if you feel you are being stalked. Advocates at the Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center are also available for assistance at (906) 632-1808.**

eral ways of classifying or categorizing stalkers:

The Rejected Stalker is characterized as pursuing a former intimate partner, desiring reconciliation and/or revenge, typically has a criminal assault history, personality disorders are typically predominant.

The Intimacy Seeking Stalker tends to desire a relationship with their “true love,” they are oblivious to the victim’s response, most have erotomanic delusions (an uncommon form of delusional disorder in which an individual has an unfounded belief that another is in love with them) and endows the victim with unique qualities.

The Incompetent Stalker actually acknowledges the victim’s disinterest yet pursues them anyway, hopes the behavior leads to intimacy, does not endow victim with unique qualities, has low IQ, is socially inept, or feels entitled.

The Resentful Stalker feels

persecuted and desires retribution, intends to frighten or cause distress, focuses on a specific or general grievance, may have paranoid diagnoses.

Lastly, the Predatory Stalker is preparing for a sexual attack, stalks their victim to study and observe them, typically has paraphilia (emotional disorders defined as sexually arousing fantasies, urges, or behaviors that are recurrent, intense, occur over a period of at least six months and cause significant distress or interfere with important areas of functioning), commonly has prior sex offenses and offers no warning before the attack.

The majority of stalking victims are stalked by someone they know, typically a current or former intimate partner, acquaintance, or family member and, in some cases, even a stranger. Native women are stalked more than twice the rate of other women. Native women are murdered at more than 10 times the national average. Stalking is a crime in all 50 states but requires documentation of incidents to help solidify a prosecution in the case.

Those being stalked should keep a “stalking log” to record and document all stalking-related behaviors. These behaviors include harassing or repetitive phone calls or text messages, emails, social media contacts, acts of vandalism and threats. Keeping an accurate log with dates, times, locations, even pho-

tos of the stalker in the act, can be helpful to prosecute the stalker.

Your local advocates can assist with safety plans and maintaining your stalking log as many victims feel emotionally affected by the acts of a stalker. Contact local law enforcement at (906) 632-3344 if you feel you are being stalked. Advocates at the Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center are also available for assistance at (906) 632-1808.

January is also the time to focus on Human Trafficking Prevention Month. Human trafficking is defined as “the action or practice of illegally transporting people from one country or area to another, typically for the purposes of forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation.” Human trafficking is the trade of people, especially women and

children, and does not necessarily involve the movement of the person from one place to another. It is also referred to as “modern day slavery.” Native Americans are victimized by human trafficking at rates higher than that of the general population.

Native Americans are a victimized population. Native Americans suffer from high rates of poverty, have sustained historical trauma, homelessness, high rates of involvement with child welfare and foster care, exposure to domestic violence and struggle with substance abuse issues. These factors make Native Americans enticing targets for trafficking.

Some red flags to look for are: chronic runaway/truancy/homeless youth, excessive amounts of cash, having goods or services they cannot typically afford, having multiple hotel keys, scripted or restricted communication, appearing scared or nervous/lacking eye contact, signs of physical abuse and excessive tiredness. There are many red flags to look for and are not limited to this list specifically. If you or someone you know is being trafficked, please contact local law enforcement or the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at (888) 373-7888. Contact an advocate at the Sault Tribe Advocacy Resource Center at (906) 632-1808. For more information on these and other awareness topics, visit [www.arcsaulttribe.com](http://www.arcsaulttribe.com). Happy New Year!

**If you or someone you know is being trafficked, please contact local law enforcement or the National Human Trafficking Resource Center at (888) 373-7888. Contact an ARC advocate at (906) 632-1808.**

**CABIN FEVER**  
Saturdays in February\*

Win your share of  
**UP TO \$46,100**  
CASH & CREDITS

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

**Kewadin CASINOS**

All Sites  
\*Excluding  
Sault Ste. Marie on February 5  
& Hessel February 12

See Northern Rewards Club to register and for more details. Must earn 50 base points to qualify for promotion.

MANISTIQUE \* ST. IGNACE \* SAULT STE. MARIE \* HESSEL \* CHRISTMAS



SAULT STE. MARIE + ST. IGNACE  
HESSEL + CHRISTMAS + MANISTIQUE  
1-800-KEWADIN | KEWADIN.COM

## BLIZZARD OF CASH

Saturdays in January

Win your share of up to \$34,000 CASH & Credits  
Hot Seat Draws Start at 5 p.m.

## I-500 HOT SEAT DRAWS

Sault Ste. Marie | February 5

Hot Seat Draws Start at 3 p.m.

Plus win your share of \$2,000 CASH

## SNOWSFEST 2022

Hessel | February 12

Win up to \$100 Kewadin Credits

Hot Seat Draws 1 p.m. - 9 p.m.

## CUPID'S CASH CASSETTE

Monday, February 14

Win your share of up to \$7,350 CASH

Hot Seat Draws start at 5 p.m.

## TOURNAMENTS

### KEWADIN REWARDS SLOT TOURNAMENT

Sault Ste. Marie | February 1 - March 29

Tuesdays 4p.m. - 7 p.m.

Win up to \$300 CASH & 40,000 Bonus Points Prize Pool

### \$3,000 MINI BINGO

Sault Ste. Marie | February 19 | 3 p.m.

Jackpot game \$1,000 CASH

### VIDEO POKER TOURNAMENT

Sault Ste. Marie | March 25 - 27

Up to \$15,000 CASH / Bonus Points



# StrongHearts Native Helpline on Stalking Awareness Month

During National Stalking Awareness Month in January, StrongHearts Native Helpline joins advocates, sister organizations and communities throughout Indian Country to raise awareness about stalking and to support and honor survivors and victims.

“StrongHearts calls on everyone — advocates, tribal leaders, reservation and urban Indian community members, service providers, Native organizations and allies — to support and strengthen the movement to prevent and end stalking,” said Lori Jump (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians), director of StrongHearts Native Helpline.

Stalking is a pattern of behaviors that include unwanted attention, harassment or threats that would cause someone to fear for their safety. Anyone — children, elders and LGBTQ2S+ individuals — can experience stalking. Stalking can happen to those who do not know the perpetrator, although stalking is a common tactic in domestic violence where one partner tries to exert power and control over the other partner through a pattern of behaviors. Domestic violence has several faces: physical, sexual, emotional,

cultural, financial and digital — oftentimes these are intertwined. Stalking can occur during the relationship and may increase in intensity when the victim attempts to leave.

According to the National Institute of Justice, domestic violence disproportionately impacts Native Americans and Alaska Natives, with more than 1.5 million Native women and 1.4 million Native men experiencing violence during their lifetime, often by non-Native perpetrators — 17 percent of Native women experience stalking in their lifetimes.

Additionally, according to the Stalking, Prevention and Resource Center:

— 74 percent of those stalked by a former intimate partner reported violence or coercive control during the relationship.

— 81 percent of women who were stalked by a current or former spouse or cohabitating partner were also physically assaulted by that partner.

— 46 percent of victims experienced one or more violent incidents by their stalker.

— 76 percent of intimate partner femicide victims have been

stalked by their intimate partner.

— 89 percent of femicide victims who had been physically assaulted had also been stalked in the 12 months before their murder.

Stalking among Native Americans is not natural or traditional. The domination and subjugation of Native Americans began with colonization and continues today. Colonization was and continues to be responsible for the cata-

strophic loss of life, language, lands and culture for Native peoples.

“No matter where Native Americans live in the U.S. — on a reservation, in a small town, a rural area, or in a major U.S. city — StrongHearts Native Helpline is here to help all of our relatives affected by stalking,” Jump said.

StrongHearts Native Helpline is a 24/7 culturally-appropriate domestic, dating and sexual vio-

lence helpline for Native Americans and Alaska Natives, available by calling or texting (844) 762-8483 or clicking on the chat icon at [strongheartshelpline.org](http://strongheartshelpline.org). Advocates offer peer support, crisis intervention, safety planning and referrals to Native-centered services. StrongHearts Native Helpline is a proud partner of the National Domestic Violence Hotline and the National Indigenous Women’s Resource Center.

## An impactful New Year’s resolution: foster a child, change a life

January is known for New Year’s resolutions. We all know the typical go-to resolutions, such as losing weight or quitting a bad habit. New Year’s is full of good intentions, new beginnings, hope and positive changes.

Anishnaabek Community & Family Services (ACFS) is asking you to do something extraordinary for your New Year’s resolution and make a difference in a child’s life by fostering. Helping children in foster care is a resolution to be proud of. Fostering is a way to make a positive difference in a child’s life by providing a stable and loving home, while offering support and encouragement a child needs to flourish and do well.

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, and making a difference in the life of a child please contact Anishnaabek Community and Family Services at (906) 632-5250 or (800) 726-0093.

## Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians members: you have a voice!

The Sault Tribe’s Anishnaabek Community and Family Services (ACFS) 2023-2025 Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Plan is available for your review. The CCDF program provides child care assistance to lower the burden of high child care costs of eligible Sault Tribe households in the Sault Tribe’s seven-county service area. How we administer this program is partly determined by your input.

The plan is available February 21-25, 2022 for comment at the following ACFS locations:

ACFS – Sault Office 2218 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, (906) 632-5250

ACFS – St. Ignace Office 1140 N. State St., Suite 2805, St. Ignace, MI 49781, (906) 643-8689

ACFS – Manistique Office 5698 W. Highway US 2, Manistique, MI 49783, (906) 341-6993

ACFS – Munising Office 622 W. Superior St., Munising, MI 49862, (906) 387-3906

ACFS –Kincheloe 60 Kincheloe, Kincheloe, MI 49788, (906) 495-1232

Advocacy Resource Center 2769 Ashmun St., Sault Ste Marie, MI 49783, (906) 632-1808

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

Newberry Community Health Ctr. 4935 Zeez Ba Tik Ln., Newberry, MI 49868, (906) 293-8181

USDA 3604 Mackinac Trail, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, (906) 635-6076

Public Comment will be heard Thursday, Feb. 23, 2022 from 4 to 6 p.m. at 2218 Shunk Rd., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783. You can also find the CCDF Plan on line at [saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/direct-services/child-care-development-fund](http://saulttribe.com/membership-services/acfs/direct-services/child-care-development-fund).

If you have questions, please contact ACFS at (800) 726-0093.

Ref: Notice of Public Hearing/2023-2025 CCDF Plan.



## JKL Bahweting Anishnabe PSA

### JKL School job openings

JKL Bahweting Anishnabe Public School Academy is accepting applications for the following vacancies:

- Anishinaabe iZhitwaawin miinawaa Anishinaabemowin Kinoomaaged
- Elementary Teacher
- Special Education Teacher
- Paraprofessionals
- School Social Worker

**APPLY ONLINE:** JKL School website at [www.jklschool.org](http://www.jklschool.org). Click on the employment opportunities link on the home page. The application must include electronic versions of the following (if applicable): letter of interest, resume, copy of certificate, transcripts and MTTC results. Only electronically filed applications that are complete with all required documentation will be considered. Positions are open until filled. For further information, please contact JKL School Human Resources at (906) 635-5055 or email Regina Rolstone at [rrolstone@jklschool.org](mailto:rrolstone@jklschool.org).

Employment at JKL is considered “at-will.” JKL is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## Open Enrollment

Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School  
2022-2023 School Year Open Enrollment and  
Lottery Information



Joseph K. Lumsden Bahweting Anishnabe School is a public school academy where all students attend free of charge. **Open enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year begins on Monday, January 31, 2022, and ends on Friday, February 11, 2022, at 4 p.m. (EST),** with extended hours from 4:30-5:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 10, 2022.

**Only those who complete and submit an enrollment application to the school office during the Open Enrollment period will be considered for the lottery.** The lottery will be held in the school administration building conference room at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 15, 2022, for those wishing to attend. **Attendance at the lottery is not mandatory.**

Applications may be picked up from the school office, school administration building, or printed from the school website at [www.jklschool.org](http://www.jklschool.org) **beginning Monday, January 31, 2022.**

Those selected from the lottery will be eligible to attend the 2022-2023 school year provided they respond within 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.

# Self-care tools for chronic health conditions

BY NAOMI HYSO, MSU  
EXTENSION

Adapting self-care techniques can help you to take control of your chronic health condition by maintaining a balance between mind, body and spirit.

You might have heard the term “self-care” as a buzzword to describe pampering yourself.

While doing nice things for yourself occasionally like a massage or spa day is a great idea, the real meaning of self-care gets lost in this context. You might be wondering, then, what exactly does self-care really mean and why is it important for managing chronic health conditions?

According to an article pub-

lished in the British Medical Journal, self-care is “the actions individuals take to lead a healthy lifestyle; to meet their social, emotional and psychological needs; to care for their long-term condition; and to prevent further illness or accidents.”

In other words, we must be proactive about caring for ourselves. We cannot expect our health to be the sole responsibility of our loved ones and healthcare professionals; rather, we must take part in our own well-being, especially during challenging times.

It particularly makes sense to practice self-care if you are dealing with a chronic health condition that needs to be managed every day. Often, our own health doesn't become a priority until it starts failing. Chronic disease can be a major source of stress, which can cause poor mental health outcomes. Adapting self-care techniques can help you to take control of your condition by

maintaining a balance between mind, body and spirit. Keep in mind, self-care practices are very individualized and based on personal preferences and life experiences. While one person might feel relaxed after spending time outdoors in nature, someone else might enjoy listening to soothing music. For this reason, how you achieve optimal wellness is up to you.

There are a variety of ways to create your own self-care plan. It's a good idea to have multiple activities to choose from to develop a self-care plan that best suits you. A good place to start is to come up with a list of ideas for your own toolbox and then start incorporating a few items as part of your daily self-care practice. Not sure where to begin? Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) developed a guide to eight dimensions of wellness that can serve as an example. The guide includes emotional, phys-

ical, occupational, intellectual, financial, social, environmental and spiritual well-being.

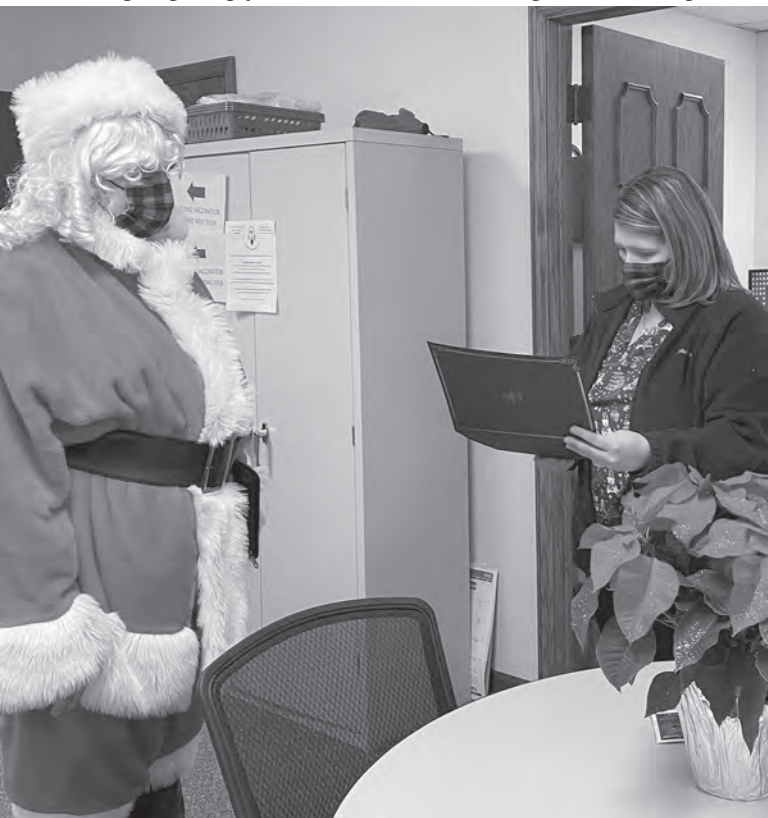
The following are my top self-care recommendations:

## PHYSICAL

— Fit exercise into your day. Physical activity doesn't have to mean a gym membership, buying expensive equipment or doing strenuous activity. It can be as simple as stretching, taking a class, or going for a walk. Exercise has been shown to help with weight loss, reduce stress and help decrease pain.

— Balance your meals. Think of your plate as a palette and fill it with a rainbow of fruits and veggies to support a healthy immune system. Eat regular meals and snacks throughout the day to get steady energy and keep from overeating. It also a good idea to have some meals prepared for days when you are not feeling up to cooking.

— Stay hydrated. Adequate  
See “Self-Care,” Page 15



Health Division's October Employee of the Month is Escanaba Tribal Health Center's Tara Duchene RN, pictured with Health Director Leo Chugunov as Santa.

## Brandi MacArthur accepts Recovery Campus project manager position

FROM STHC

Brandi MacArthur accepted the Project Manager position with the Sault Tribe Health Division as it works to build a Recovery Campus.

MacArthur said, “The new facilities will include a detoxification hospital; inpatient treatment and recovery; medical, psychiatric, and behavioral health services; recovery housing; professional housing; education section and library; outdoor recreation areas; a greenhouse; and other various aspects to create an entire campus focused on supporting those in recovery.”

According to MacArthur, patients will be given the opportunity for Traditional Medicine based treatment, which will incorporate our tribal traditions with their everyday recovery services, including, but not limited to, access to traditional medicines used for detox and cravings; sweat lodges; and other traditional ceremonies such as naming, clans, releasing, treatments, fasts and so on. However, patients can elect for a more Western medicine approach if they choose. The Sault Tribe's Recovery Campus will be considered a Health Care Facility and offer services to both tribal and non-tribal members,



Brandi MacArthur

said MacArthur.

The Sault Tribe is currently accepting bids on the project until Feb. 17 at 3 p.m. The request for proposal summary was posted by the Purchasing Department for Architectural and Engineering firms to place bids on this upcoming project.

MacArthur Sault Tribe member who made higher education a priority. She obtained her first degree from Bay Mills Community College with dual associate degrees in Business Administration and Office Administration. In 2017, she graduated from Lake Superior State University with a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration. She enjoys spending time with her nephew, Maison MacArthur, and their family of three dogs: Bane, Remi and Charlie Brown.

## Food demonstration Feb. 16

You are invited to a Sault Tribe Community Health & Advocacy Resource Center:

**Movement • Food Demonstration • Native Craft Party!**

at the St. Ignace Public Library, 110 W. Spruce St., St. Ignace, on Feb. 16, 2022, at 2 p.m. RSVP to (906) 643-8689, ext. 34532. Deadline to register is Jan. 31

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# Big Bear Nature Trail gets new bridges



Photo by Shondra Gervais

Early Childhood Programs staff snowshoe on the trail during a break.



Photos by Wendy Hoffman

The tribal Transportation Program would like everyone to know that Arrow Construction has finished placing two new pedestrian bridges on the Big Bear/Pow Wow Trail. This would be a great time to visit the trail for a hike or snowshoeing.




**STRONGHEARTS**  
Native Helpline

# January is Stalking Awareness Month

1-844-7NATIVE  
[strongheartshelpline.org](http://strongheartshelpline.org)

# Walking On

## ALEX E. SEYMOUR JR.

Alex E. Seymour Jr., 84, of Nahma, Mich., died Dec. 6, 2021.

Alex passed surrounded by loved ones after a brave fight with cancer. He was born Jan. 2, 1937.

Alex was a loving husband, father, son, brother, uncle, grandfather and friend. He was a talented painter and #1 fan of Dale Earnhardt. He enjoyed slots and bingo, watching sports, specifically the Detroit Lions, and old western shows. His favorite music was classic country, he loved listening to George Jones and Loretta Lynn.

He is survived by his devoted wife of 62 years, Beverly L. Seymour; loving children, Wally, Gayla (Steve), Char, and Steve Miszewski; and his brother, Alfred (Janice).

He was preceded in death by his parents, Alex and Elsie Seymour; siblings, Laura "Sodie," Nelda, Carol, Lawrence (Catherine), Kenneth (Annie) and Donald; and loving son, Randy.

He will be forever remembered and loved by his nephew, Larry; grandchildren, Sarah Veasey, Randy, Dani (Heath) Allen, Lorenzo, Steven Miszewski, Marissa Miszewski, Jace, Dom-



inic Miszewski and Brooklynn; great-grandchildren, Daisy and June Veasey; and nieces, nephews and cousins in the Milwaukee, Wis., and Escanaba, Mich., areas.

Alex is survived by other special loved ones, Lemont "Dee" Veasey, Kathy Caldwell, Lisa Blackburn and Erica Albanese.

Remembrance services were held Dec. 20, 2021, at Peace of Mind Funeral Services in West Milwaukee, Wis.

## ALLEN R. CLEMENTSON

Allen Russell Clementson, 44, recently of Pickens, S.C., passed away unexpectedly Sept. 9, 2021, while visiting family and friends in Northern Michigan. Allen was born on Aug. 29, 1977, at Northern Michigan Hospital in Petoskey, Mich. He was the youngest son of Viann Sue Beebe Clementson and Thomas Lloyd Clementson. Allen grew up in Indian River, Mich.

Allen obtained his GED as an adult. He was very knowledgeable about so many things. He worked at many different occupations in his relatively short life. Some of those occupations were cook, car mechanic and janitorial work. Perhaps one of his favorite



jobs was working at a nursing home. Allen loved and was loved by many of the residents. He treated each one of the residents with compassion, care and respect. Being a very social person, he almost always had time for a chat and, certainly, a smile.

Allen was a kind, gentle, loving, big-hearted person with a delightful sense of humor sense. Like all of us, Allen was not perfect. Allen knew his Lord as Savior. He loved Dolly Parton's Coat of Many Colors and Amazing Grace. Hopefully, we will all be reunited with Allen some day in heaven.

Allen loved animals, especially his pets. Goldie and Lady were probably his favorites. Bella and Max were his current pets, shared with his mom and Aunt Linda. He loved spectator sports — Tigers, Lions, Red Wings and NASCAR.

Allen is survived by his mother; his brother, Thomas David (Criss) Clementson; nephew, Michael Thomas Clementson; and many other friends and family, who loved him. Allen was special and will be truly missed and never forgotten.

Allen was preceded in death by his father, whom he dearly loved and missed.

Allen was so accepting and tolerant of others. He lived with his mother during his last years and made her life much easier, in so many ways. Never a night

went by without, "Night, MOM, I love you." He not only enriched his Mom's life in these last years, but also his Aunt Linda's and Uncle Dan's. Thank you, Allen, for your kindness, love and forgiveness. The world would be a better place if more people could love and forgive as Allen did.

Allen has been cremated. The family is planning on a memorial service in the spring, at home in Indian River. He will be laid to rest in the Indian River Cemetery family plot.

## BENNY E. CAPTAIN JR.

Benny Edward "Pow Wow" Captain Jr., 60, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away on Jan. 1, 2022, at War Memorial Hospital.

Benny was born on Feb. 18, 1961, in Sault Ste. Marie, the son of the late Benny and Delores (Cornwell) Captain Sr. Benny worked for many years at AMI Industries. He was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. Benny enjoyed going to the casino and playing cribbage.

Benny is survived by two sons, Chad Captain and Brent Captain, both of Jackson, Mich.; a daughter, Tanya (Ian) Church of Ionia, Mich.; and six grandchildren, Christian Captain, Kaily Captain, Trinity McKee, Isaiah Captain, Bailey Captain and Alijah Captain. He is also

survived by two brothers, Richie Captain of Muskegon, Mich., and Louie (Jodie) Captain of Kincheloe, Mich.; and three sisters, Liz Brown of Kincheloe, Sherry Captain of Muskegon and Donna Goetz of Traverse City, Mich.

There will be no public services held at this time. A traditional fire was held in his honor.

## MARIA M. BELONGA

Maria Marlene Belonga, 64, of Williamsburg, Mich., walked on Nov. 30, 2021, at her home in Williamsburg. She was born in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., May 23, 1957, to James L. Belonga and Virginia J. Boulley.

Maria graduated from LaSalle High School in St. Ignace, Mich. She married Rodney Challender Aug. 6, 2011, in Williamsburg. Maria was employed by Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Peshawbetown, where she made many friends. She was a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and was proud of her heritage. Maria loved the outdoors as she was a successful deer hunter and fisher-woman. She also enjoyed her time riding the back roads of Williamsburg and hunting for mushrooms.

Survivors include her husband, Rodney; one son, James (Pam) Belonga of Otter Lake, Mich.; sisters, Shelly (Jim) Wilson and Gerry (John) Mantila; brothers, Gene and Steve Belonga; and one

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



# Walking On

grandson, Skyler Davenport. She is also survived by many other relatives, among them brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Mike and Carolyn Challender, special nephew, Cody Gravette, and especially her cousin, Abe Bouley, whom she was very fond of.

She was preceded in death by a daughter, Gerry Ann Davenport, six years ago; her grandparents, Oliver and Mary Elizabeth (LaFave) Belonga of St. Ignace, and Norman and Louise (Williams) Bouley of Sugar Island; her father, James L. Belonga; mother, Virginia J. Bouley; brother, James F. Belonga; and sisters, Lila Herold and Olive Pickard.

A memorial picnic will be held May 21, 2022, at her home at 3811 N. Broom-head Rd., Williamsburg, Mich. Burial will be with her daughter, sister, and her brother-in-law at Circle Hill Cemetery on Vinton Rd. in Williamsburg.

## BNAASWI BIIAASWAH

Bnaaswi Biiaswah passed away unexpectedly Nov. 28, 2021, at the Sault Area Ontario Hospital. He just turned 64 on Nov. 11,

2021. Bnaaswi was born in St. Thomas, Ontario, Canada, where he belonged to the Whitefish River First Nation in Birch Island, Ontario, a true Ojibwe and pipe carrier. He loved our culture.

We are all saddened by Bnaaswi's passing. Surviving family members are: his loving wife, Lola (Greatwalker) Buswa; his daughter, Liza, and her daughter, Rainee; daughter, Carmella, and her sons, Dezmond and Ayden; Bnaaswi's sons, Frankie, Geezhik and Nodin; his siblings, Ruth Ann (John) Waucaush-Goorhouse, Steven Charles, Victoria Lynn and Janie May (Steven) Buswa-Schwander. He is also survived by many nieces and nephews who will surely miss him and a young man who Bnaaswi was mentoring in the Ojibwe culture.

Bnaaswi was preceded in death by his parents, Frank N. and Helen R. Buswa, and our brother, Brian Buswa, in 2009; and grandparents Charles and Lottie Waucaush and Stephen and Helen M. Buswa.

In addition, Bnaaswi has also left, as we can call it, another extended family, the people he has bonded with throughout the many years in what we call powwow country. Some of his close friends have already said they miss him already. And it was also said that Bnaaswi was trustworthy and dedicated and diligent in whatever his responsibilities were. He definitely led a fulfilled life. He was also dedicated to his passions as a powwow dancer and its meaning, and a well-spoken teacher and an excellent artist. He was a proud Ogichidaa (Warrior) serving in the U.S. Marines for eight years. He also got his four-year degree in counseling and substance abuse at Lake Superior State University in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. He loved to read.

His friendships crossed countries and lifetimes. He was known as a comedian, making new friends laugh or a whole room. He will surely be missed in more ways than one. He taught by leading down the red road. Proudly sober for 34 years. Bnaaswi's legacy will live on through the many things he has taught us and shared with all of us.

A memorial will take place in the spring. His ashes will be spread on to Lake Superior, as per his request.

An announcement will be sent out in time, so for those who wish to attend, may attend.

## EDGAR R. WILSON JR.

Edgar Randolph Wilson Jr., 87, of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., passed away at War Memorial Hospital on Dec. 7, 2021.

Edgar was born on Feb. 5, 1934, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to the late Randy and Ida Mae (Albrough) Wilson. He graduated from Brimley High School in 1953. On May 7, 1971, he married Barbara F. Johndrow at the Salvation Army Church. He retired from The Glass Place in 1999 after 40 years of service.

Edgar was a long-time community member of both the Sault and Brimley. His memories of the area's history and family history was astounding and there were no strangers in his world. He loved taking on handy man jobs around the area, especially woodworking, at which he was quite skilled.

Edgar also enjoyed joining senior concerts and trips through the Sault Tribe. A gentle, generous, caring man — he will be greatly missed.

Edgar is survived by two children, Edward (Colleen) Wilson of Grawn, Mich., and Heidi Wilson of Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; a daughter-in-law, Cindy Wilson of Brimley, Mich.; six grandchildren, Calvin (Kara) Wilson, Alex Wilson, Jacob Wilson, Anna (Joe) Johnson, Pam (Cody) Greff and Samantha (Grant) Prindiville; and five great-grandchildren, Gavin, Porter, Haven, Avery, Lauren and another baby due in May.

Edgar was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Barbara Wilson; three children, Mark Wilson, Cynthia Wilson and Garry Wilson; and two sisters, Alma Lesniak and Bertina Moore.

A memorial gathering will be held in the late spring of 2022. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to Bay Mills - Brimley

Historical Society, P.O. Box 273, Brimley, MI 49715. Condolences may be left online at <http://www.csmulder.com>. Memorials may also be left to Elders Services, 2076 Shunk in Sault Ste. Marie, for the Elder Trip Fund.

## DOROTHY D. COOK

Dorothy Diane Cook, 72, of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan passed away on Dec. 18, 2021. Dorothy was born on April 18, 1949, in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., to the late John and Gilda (Tavern) Teets.



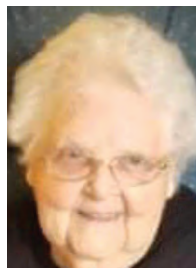
Dorothy was a graduate of Sault High School she then continued her education in business administration. She worked as an administrative assistant at Kewadin Casino for many years, but most people would remember seeing her working at McDonalds. She enjoyed spending time with her family especially her grandkids and great grandkids. She loved animals and had many over the years. She enjoyed playing word games, social media, reading books and anything "Bon Jovi." She also enjoyed regularly attending church and listening to her son sing and worship the Lord. She put her faith and trust in God.

Dorothy is survived by her children, Robert Cook and Heather (Curtis) Weber, both of Sault Ste. Marie; grandchildren, CJ (Chelsey) Weber and Bret Weber; and great grandchildren, Knox and Tatum Weber. Dorothy is also survived by her siblings, Debra Menard of Lansing, Mich., and David (Ann) Teets of Alaska. Dorothy was preceded in death by her parents and brother-in-law, Terry Menard.

A memorial service was held on Dec. 27, 2021, at the E-free Church in Sault, Mich. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to help with funeral expenses.

## MARY A. BURTON

Mary Ann Burton, of Curtis, Mich., 88, passed away peacefully on Dec. 6, 2021. She was born in Gould City, Mich., on Oct. 31, 1933, the daughter of Joseph Oliver and Orza (Braden) Leveille.



She attended schools in Gould City and graduated as Salutatori-

an from the Class of 1951.

Mary Ann married Norman Arthur Burton in Manistique, Mich., on April 4, 1953, and they enjoyed 52 years of married life together. She had a variety of work experience, including housekeeping at Blaney Park, serving as a nurse's aide at Lakefield Nursing Home and working as a clerk at Morrison's Store in Germfask and Seney IGA. Mary Ann spent the greater part of her life in Germfask and was a member of the Methodist Church. She liked knitting, crocheting and reading. She liked visiting with her friends on the telephone and loved spending time with grandkids and great grandkids, who affectionately called her "Grandma Great."

Mary Ann is survived by her son, Norman (Sherry) Burton of Curtis, Mich.; her daughter, Rachel Orza (David) Williams of Germfask; sister, Emely LaBrasseur of Coos Bay, Ore.; four grandchildren, Paul (Josie) Williams, Jennifer Burton, Joselyn (Jeffrey) Mouch, Jarrissa (Brian) Hurst; and nine great-grandchildren, Cheyenne, Faith, Zeke, Levi, Ezra, Serenity, Selah, Zebadiah, and Henry.

Mary Ann is preceded in death by her parents, her husband, eight brothers and five sisters.

Graveside services will be held in the spring of 2022 at Riverside Cemetery in Germfask with times to be announced. Faucett Family Funeral Homes of Manistique assisted the family with arrangements. Online condolences may be posted on their website at [www.fausettfh.com](http://www.fausettfh.com).

## SANDRA R. ULASICH

Sandra Ruth (Harrison) Ulasich, 81, passed away in the presence of family on Dec. 12, 2021, in Grand Blanc, Mich.



Sandra was a devoted full-time homemaker and later retired from food services at Clarkston Community Schools. She loved to travel, camp, snowmobile, boat, craft, listen to music, and, upon retirement, travel in their RV full time.

She is survived by her five children, Michael Ulasich of Ortonville, Mich., Michelle Ulasich of Lake Havasu City, Ariz., Annette (William) Keogh of Cheboygan, Mich., Lorette Ulasich of Denver, Colo., and

Alesha (Andrew) Keelean of New Lothrop, Mich.; along with seven grandchildren, two great grandchildren and several nieces and cousins.

She was preceded in death by Richard Ulasich, her loving husband of 54 years; her brother, Arthur Merritt; and her parents. Sandra was a proud elder member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.

Her children held a private gathering in celebration of her life. Cremation services were provided by Swartz Funeral Home in Flint, Mich.

## RAYMOND I. ARCHAMBEAU

Raymond Ignatius Archambeau, 97, of Engadine, Mich., left this world Dec. 14, 2021. He was born in St. Ignace, Mich., on Feb. 5, 1924, to Goldie (nee Varnes) and Alsem Archambeau.



His siblings included Lucille Glenn, Clara Delphine Archambeau, Laura Drefs, Veronica Ross, Barbara Edgar, Kathleen Kujala and Carl Archambeau.

Raymond was drafted into the United States Army on Jan. 22, 1943, and completed his basic training at Fort Fisher, N.C. He served with the 391 Anti-Aircraft Artillery Unit and went overseas on Feb. 28, 1944. Raymond took part in the invasion of Normandy and landed on Omaha Beach on the second day of the D-Day Invasion on June 7, 1944. He fought through Normandy, Northern France and the Rhineland. He rose to the rank of Corporal and was honorably discharged from the United States Army at Fort Sheridan, Ill., on Dec. 3, 1945. He was awarded the following decorations: Victory Metal, American Theater Ribbon, European-African-Middle Eastern Theater Ribbon with four battle stars and the Good Conduct Medal.

After discharge from the service, he went to work at Michigan Pole and Tie of Newberry, Mich. He spent most of his working years driving a local milk truck, with his last employer being The Rudyard Cheese Company.

He married the former Julia Drefs on Nov. 1, 1950. They were married 60 years and parted only in death when Julia died on Jan. 31, 2010.

Raymond and Julia lived in several places but ultimately put down roots on his wife's family farm in Engadine with their three children, Debra Ann (James) Chrusciel, James Raymond (Mary) Archambeau and David Carl (Kathy) Archambeau. Raymond was a devoted and loving husband, father and grandfather. He is survived by his children, several siblings, six grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three sisters, his wife and one beloved great grandson.

He was an Elder of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. His hobbies included

See "Walking On," Page 20

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# Births



**BENTLEY A. MCKERCHIE**  
Bentley Alan McKerchie was born on Nov. 20, 2021, in Mobile, Ala., to Austin and Ashley McKerchie. Bentley weighed 5 pounds, 2 ounces and was 18 inches in length.

Grandparents are Harold III (Joe) and Megan McKerchie, Chris and Jamie Seaman, Margaret Sprayberry and the late Jamie Sprayberry. Great grandparents are Harold Jr. (Bud) and Linda McKerchie, Alan and Theresa Hobbs, Wayne and Karen Wallace and Carolyn Seaman, all of Mobile, Ala. Great-great-grandparents and tribal members are the late Harold (Cub) and the late Mary Joyce McKerchie of Sugar Island.

Bentley is fifth generation first born male. Beginning with Harold Sr. (Cub), Harold Jr. (Bud), Harold III (Joe), Austin and Bentley.

## Cousins born in August



**WOODROW ROYAL ANDERSON-HERNANDEZ**

Woodrow Royal Anderson-Hernandez was born on Aug. 3, 2021, at 12:03 p.m. in Ann Arbor, Mich., to Sault Tribe member Mallory Anderson and partner Antony Hernandez. “Woody Roy” weighed 8 pounds, 11 ounces, and measured 20 inches at birth. He is named after Antony’s father and late brother who share the same first name. The middle name “Royal” is inspired by Mallory’s father and grandfather to Woody, Roy Charles Anderson.



**FINN WILDER KENT**

Finn Wilder Kent was born on Aug. 19, 2021, at 1:36 p.m. in Atlanta, Ga., to Sault Tribe member Dr. Chelsea Anderson and her husband Jeffrey Kent. Finn weighed 6 pounds, 15 ounces, and measured 20 inches at birth.

Both babies are the first born in their respective families and are welcomed with much love by grandparents Roy and Paula Anderson and extended families.

## MSgt John Williams earns Master’s Degree



**MSgt. John Williams, a proud Sault Tribe member, shown here with his wife Lisa, after receiving his Master’s degree, a longtime goal of his. John is also a Master Sergeant in the U.S. Airforce. Great job, John!**

# Center combines Indigenous and Western knowledge to fight climate change

By **Chloe Trofatter**

Michigan State University and the Sault Ste Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians are fighting climate change while preserving Anishinaabeg cultural practices.

Incorporating Indigenous voices and working with the Sault Tribe has transformed their approach to science and research, according to both Gary Roloff and Eric Clark, co-leaders of MSU’s newly established Center for Cooperative Ecological Resilience.

The center integrates Indigenous and Western sciences to improve and adapt natural resource management.

“One of the big challenges we’re facing is how to integrate Indigenous ways of acquiring knowledge with Western science,” said Roloff, professor and chairperson of MSU’s Department of Fisheries and Wildlife.

The center primarily works with the Sault Tribe and, in the past year, has focused on fire ecology and the use of prescribed fire in the restoration of Michigan forests.

Fire, or ishkode to the tribe, is an important part of their culture and a tool that can be used for wildlife management.

This story is part of an occasional series called “Climate Solutions.”

Climate change has increased the risk and potential damage of wildfires in the United States,

according to the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions.

“We’ve had 100 and some plus years of essentially industrial forest management, this very extractive practice,” said Clark, lead wildlife biologist for the tribe’s wildlife program. “That doesn’t work, that doesn’t create sustainable landscapes that we can depend on.”

To the Anishinaabeg people, including the Sault Tribe, ishkode is a spiritual being of creation and regrowth.

The tribe maintains a relationship with ishkode and, in return, it takes care of the land, said Danielle Fegan, a member and assessment biologist for the Sault Tribe and a student at the center.

Prescribed fires are controlled, planned fires that return nutrients back to the soil, promote growth in native plants and trees, and curb wildfires by clearing underbrush in overcrowded forests, according to the U.S. Forest Service.

“The Sault Tribe has a long relationship with fire in this area, and some fire prevention strategies that have been widely implemented have taken away from that relationship,” she said. “It’s important to restore that relationship and, as an added benefit, take care of the animals and plants that live there as well.”

In 1910, after a series of wildfires in Montana, Idaho and Washington, the forest service

instituted policies of fire suppression, according to the Forest History Society, an archive of conservation and forestry in North America.

These policies prevented and suppressed fires by creating what is now the service’s wildland firefighting program and effectively banning prescribed fire, despite its wide use for land management, according to the society.

In August, Randy Moore, chief of the forest service, announced restrictions on prescribed burning in the wake of the California wildfires.

A group of over 40 forest and fire scientists from across the country wrote a letter protesting the new policy. They wrote that “Even if temporary, these directives will significantly limit options for resource managers in a time when increasing the pace and scale of forest restoration and fuel reduction is of critical importance.”

And forest managers are looking for more tools and more options.

“Future scenarios suggest that we’re going to have a lot more fire prone landscapes,” said Clark, the Sault Tribe’s wildlife biologist. “So, I would argue that we try to bring back traditional land management practices, or we can just let it burn and see what happens.”

The center has given Fegan the opportunity to approach

climate change science and adaptation with an “Indigenous worldview,” she said. Currently, she is researching the impact of ishkode on grouse species in the Hiawatha National Forest.

“The center tries to adopt projects that have direct relevance to tribe culture,” said Roloff.

These projects often take the form of land restoration – like coastal marshes along the St. Mary’s River or “boreal remnant ecosystems,” which are ecosystems from northern regions that are being pushed further north by warming climates.

White cedar trees, or giizhik, are native to Michigan and one of the focuses for the center. The trees are culturally significant for the Anishinaabeg, but they also provide habitat for snowshoe hare, or waabooz.

The center’s work with waabooz represents how Indigenous culture and western science can conflict, said Clark, who is connected to the tribe through his wife, Robin, who is a member of the tribe and a forest ecologist with Michigan Technological University.

“Resource managers are constantly putting species in the winner or loser bin – in general just saying, ‘well snowshoe hares are a climate loser, so we’re going to start thinking about cottontail rabbits instead,’” he said.

“That’s not an option. It’s not

the cottontail rabbit that’s littered throughout Anishinaabeg creation stories, it’s the snowshoe hare, it’s waabooz,” Clark said.

Roloff said that the partnership informs his science.

“Now that I recognize those two ways of knowing, it has made me a better scientist because I look more holistically at the ways that I am studying,” Roloff said.

“The tribes have a different way of acquiring knowledge than Western scientists,” We were taught the scientific methods, and that’s a perfectly legitimate way of acquiring knowledge, but the tribes have a way of acquiring knowledge over time and passing on information from generation to generation.”

Fegan is using her Western-science-based education and Indigenous ties to the land to fuel her work.

“In my personal and my work life, I’ve acknowledged some responsibility for taking care of these places,” she said.

“Anishinaabeg folks, including the Sault Tribe, have had long relationships with the land and everyone else that lives here – including the water and wildlife, tree species and down to micro-organisms,” she said. “So, I think that puts us in a good spot to take care of this land and these ecosystems.”

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# Winter is here to stay and so are invasive species

**SAULT TRIBE ENVIRONMENTAL DEPT.**

As we enter 2022 and winter takes hold, many of our community members will head outdoors to enjoy what Michigan's Upper Peninsula has to offer. Across the Upper Peninsula, and specifically in the Eastern U.P., ice fishing is a frequent and popular form of outdoor winter recreation. Many of the participating anglers also fish in the summer, and are aware of the struggle with invasive species and the need to stop their spread in the Great Lakes basin. What they might not be aware of is that invasive species continue to spread during the winter under the thick sheet of ice covering our water ways.

In the winter, the biggest threat of invasive species spread comes from anglers and improper gear disinfection. Each time an angler changes water bodies or moves from one access point to another, they need to disinfect all of their gear.

There are three main disinfection techniques. First, the easiest method is to leave gear out to dry for a full five days between uses. This is usually enough to kill off water creatures.

The second and third techniques are similar but use different cleaning solutions. Anglers can use either a 2 percent bleach solution or a saltwater solution to spray and wipe down gear. Once covered in the cleaning solution, the gear should be left to soak for 30 seconds to a minute then rinsed off with freshwater from a tap, not from the lake or river being fished. Gear that needs to be disinfected includes fishing poles, lines and reels, bait buckets and nets, ice augers, fishing shanties and any other gear that comes in contact or is splashed with water.

If you follow the above disinfection techniques you will have fishing gear that is cleaner and reduce the risk of spreading invasive species. But many anglers will ask; how do invasive species even spread in the winter? Unfortunately, invasive species spread by anglers' lack of knowledge. They may buy and use bait that they don't

know is an invasive species or release unused bait fish, or transport a fish to a different water body. Whether the fish itself is the invasive species or it contains an invasive species in the form of eggs or other living creatures in or on the fish, it has now been spread. Species that are frequently spread in the winter due to ice fishing include the Eurasian ruffe, spiny or fishhook water fleas, round gobies, and three spine sticklebacks, among others.

For more information regarding invasive species management please call the Sault Tribe Environmental Department at (906) 632-5575.



Eurasian ruffe, length of 4-6 inches



Fishhook waterflea, length of 1/4 of an inch



Round goby, length of 3-6 inches

## Chronic conditions require constant management

**From "Self-Care," Page 10**  
water intake is essential for good health. Drink a glass of water with meals, keep a water bottle with you and sip throughout the day and replace sugary beverages with fruit-infused water.

— Most people don't get the recommended amount of seven to nine hours of sleep. One way to improve your quality of rest is to practice good sleep hygiene. This might include setting a consistent sleep and wake time, assessing your sleep environment for comfort and proper room temperature and reducing blue light by limiting technology a few hours prior to bedtime.

**EMOTIONAL/SPIRITUAL**  
— Be kind to your mind. Mindfulness is the practice of focusing on the present moment with intention and learning to respond to negative emotions with compassion. Take time to appreciate the little things in life and incorporate deep breathing for relaxation.

— It's unhealthy to hold onto difficult feelings. Emotions are temporary, they come and go in waves and we must learn to manage them. It's important to pay attention to negative thought patterns that creep up and work on putting a positive spin on things.  
— Journaling and practicing gratitude are methods shown to help process emotions. Remember, it's not about focusing on what you lack, but appreciation for what you currently have.  
— Do what brings peace to

your soul and connect to what you find meaningful. Whether it's being in nature, yoga or meditation.

**SOCIAL/MENTAL**  
— Self-care isn't just about yourself. Chronic conditions can make us want to withdraw from activities with others. Make spending quality time with friends and family a priority. Connecting with others can give us a sense of comfort knowing we have someone to listen to our problems and gives us something to look forward to.

— Relating to and sharing your struggles with others who find themselves in a similar situation can provide a sense of community. Take a chronic disease self-management class or join a support group in your area.

— Expand your mind. Carve out time for hobbies, reading a book and learning something new.

Think of self-care as your own personal form of healthcare. Since chronic conditions are ongoing, they require constant management. By caring for your-

self through acts of self-care, you can improve your own well-being. For more information on managing your conditions, visit at [https://www.canr.msu.edu/chronic\\_disease/index](https://www.canr.msu.edu/chronic_disease/index).

To get help, make an appointment with the Sault Tribe Behavioral Health Program, 2864 Ashmun St. 3rd floor Sault Tribe Health Center, (906) 635-6075 or (800) 726-9105.

Services include:  
Intake and assessment  
Individual, couples, family and group therapy  
Crisis intervention, urgent care  
Recovery support  
Case management services  
Play therapy  
Client Advocacy  
Continuing Care Counseling  
EAP (Employee Assistance Program)  
Family Spirit Program  
Road to Wellness Program  
Perinatal Care Coordination  
Peer Recovery services  
Recovery Homes (Sober Living facilities)  
Psychological Evaluations  
Psychiatry and follow up care

# Sault Tribe Board of Directors 2022 meeting schedule

**NOTE: Until the State of Emergency is over, all meetings will be held in Sault Ste. Marie.**

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Board of Directors meeting calendar for 2022:

- Jan. 4 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Jan. 18 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Feb. 1 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Feb. 22 – Sault Ste. Marie
- March 1 – Sault Ste. Marie
- March 15 – Manistique
- April 5 – Sault Ste. Marie
- April 19 – Munising
- May 3 – Sault Ste. Marie
- May 17 – Sault Ste. Marie
- June 7 – St. Ignace
- June 21 – Sault Ste. Marie
- July 5 – Sault Ste. Marie
- July 19 – Escanaba
- Aug. 2 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Aug. 16 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Sept. 6 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Sept. 20 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Oct. 4 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Oct. 18 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Nov. 1 – Sault Ste. Marie
- Nov. 22 – Hessel
- Dec. 6 – Sault Ste. Marie

Per the Constitution and Bylaws, Article 1 – Meetings of the Board of Directors, Section 1: "...provided that at least one meeting per year shall be held in each of the five election units established pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the tribal constitution."

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

All special meetings will be announced.

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

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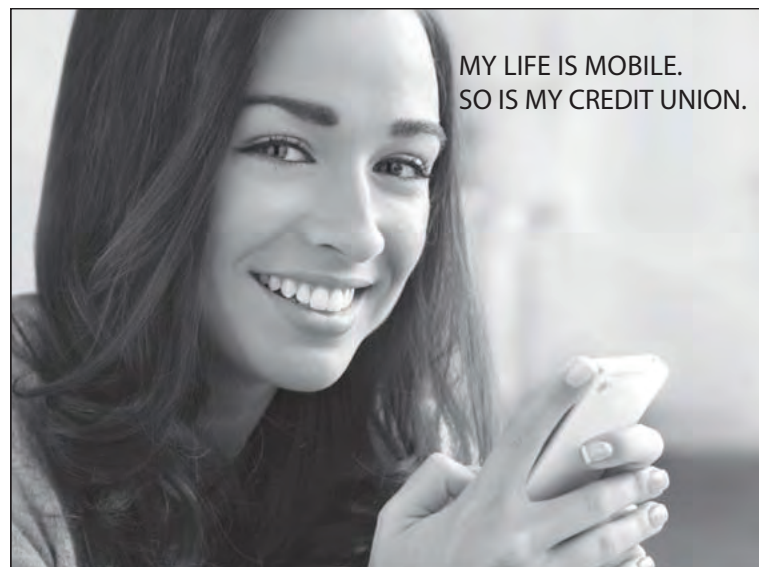
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[www.NuStarInsurance.net](http://www.NuStarInsurance.net)

2081 Ashmun St  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI

# Sault Tribe Thrive Business Directory

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

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

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

517 Coffee Company  
Jamie LaDronka  
Lansing, MI 48911  
(616) 260-0674  
[jladronka@gmail.com](mailto:jladronka@gmail.com)  
[/www.517coffeecompany.com](http://www.517coffeecompany.com)  
Coffee Roastery, Coffee Bar, Specializing in craft coffee

14 PEWS  
Cressandra Thibodeaux  
Houston, TX 77009  
[info@14pews.com](mailto:info@14pews.com)  
<https://14pews.org/pages/home.asp>  
Non-Profit that supports movie screenings, cultural activities and community events.

Above The Bridge Outdoors  
Morgan Gelinas  
Curtis, MI 49820  
(906) 287-0903  
[abovethebridgeoutdoors@gmail.com](mailto:abovethebridgeoutdoors@gmail.com)  
[abovethebridgeoutdoors.com](http://abovethebridgeoutdoors.com)  
RV Rentals to help experience the Upper Peninsula outdoors.

Above The Roots  
Melanie Spencley  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
(517) 803-5105  
[atrootsmi@gmail.com](mailto:atrootsmi@gmail.com)  
[www.abovetherootsmi.com/](http://www.abovetherootsmi.com/)

A Little Golden Studio  
Kaitlin Lenhard  
Lansing, MI 48826  
(616) 902-0191  
[alittlegoldenstudio@gmail.com](mailto:alittlegoldenstudio@gmail.com)  
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Allegra  
Roger Leask  
Traverse City, MI 49686  
(231) 632-4448  
[roger@allegratc.com](mailto:roger@allegratc.com)  
Marketing print mail.

American Dream Builders  
Gary Vallier  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
(269) 365-1969  
[garyadbslm@hotmail.com](mailto:garyadbslm@hotmail.com)  
Construction.

Anchor Systems LLC  
Fredrick Carr  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(202) 306-1365  
[frederick.t.carr@gmail.com](mailto:frederick.t.carr@gmail.com)  
Computer security service.

AndersonMedia906  
Noah Anderson  
Grand Rapids, MI 49501  
(906) 440-2238  
[www.noahandersonmedia.com/](http://www.noahandersonmedia.com/)  
A Michigan based content creator.

Ashmun Creek Apartments  
Randall McGahey  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-4470  
[ashmuncreek@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ashmuncreek@sbcglobal.net)  
<https://www.ashmuncreek.com>  
Apartments located in the Heart of Sault Ste. Marie.

Barbeaux Fisheries  
Paul Barbeaux  
DeTour Village, MI 49725  
(906) 297-5969  
[barbeauxfish@gmail.com](mailto:barbeauxfish@gmail.com)  
Fishing.

Bay Area Demolitions  
Kris Wood  
Interlochen, MI 49683  
(231) 709-5895  
[bayareademopros@gmail.com](mailto:bayareademopros@gmail.com)  
[northernmichigandemolition.com](http://northernmichigandemolition.com)  
Premiere demolition and debris removal.

Bay Pharmacy  
Douglas Goudreau  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-7725  
[bayrxsi@gmail.com](mailto:bayrxsi@gmail.com)  
Pharmaceuticals and prescriptions.

Belonga Plumbing and Heating  
Steven Paquin,  
St. Ignace, MI, 49781  
(906) 643-9595  
[lbelonga@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lbelonga@sbcglobal.net)  
Residential and commercial plumbing.

Benoit's Glass and Lock  
Rick Benoit  
Escanaba, MI 49829  
(906) 786-5281  
[benoitglass@gmail.com](mailto:benoitglass@gmail.com)  
Glass repair shop and locksmith.

Big Bear Arena  
Tammy Graham  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-4785  
[tgraham@saulttribe.net](mailto:tgraham@saulttribe.net)  
Recreation center.

Blondeau Construction  
Matthew Blondeau  
Marquette, MI 49855  
(906) 362-6288  
[mattblondeau@gmail.com](mailto:mattblondeau@gmail.com)  
Residential Construction Company.

Blondeau Properties  
Matthew Blondeau  
Marquette, MI 49855  
(906) 362-6288  
[mattblondeau@gmail.com](mailto:mattblondeau@gmail.com)  
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(906) 205-0275  
[shop@bloomcosault.com](mailto:shop@bloomcosault.com)  
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Lori Parkinson  
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(920) 435-4633  
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<http://www.blueharborfish.com/>  
Wholesale Fish, Seafood, & Chicken.

Bonacci Contracting  
Carmine Bonacci  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 632-1425  
[Bonacci10@gmail.com](mailto:Bonacci10@gmail.com)  
Construction.

Burnside Creations  
Lisa Burnside  
Hessel, MI 49745  
(906) 430-7323  
[Burnsidecreations1@gmail.com](mailto:Burnsidecreations1@gmail.com)  
Handmade crafts.

C.H. Marine Services  
Chris Hank  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 203-6396  
[chmarineservices@gmail.com](mailto:chmarineservices@gmail.com)  
Boat repair services.

Carrow Super Market  
Edward Carrow  
Farwell, MI 48622  
(989) 588-2965  
[eddie2toes@hotmail.com](mailto:eddie2toes@hotmail.com)  
Supermarket.

Caster Construction  
Ed Caster  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-3550  
[elcasterconstruction@gmail.com](mailto:elcasterconstruction@gmail.com)  
Construction.

Castle of Wood  
Nick and Matt DePlonty  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 748-0739  
[nickdeplonty@gmail.com](mailto:nickdeplonty@gmail.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/castleofwood>  
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[thecedarsmotel@aol.com](mailto:thecedarsmotel@aol.com)  
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Clear From Here  
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(818) 415-9025  
[jennifer.jesperson@mac.com](mailto:jennifer.jesperson@mac.com)  
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CompHoppers  
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Livingston, TX 77399  
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[comphoppers@comphoppers.com](mailto:comphoppers@comphoppers.com)  
Travel agency bookings and training.

Contain-A-Pet of EUP LLC  
Melinda Menard  
Dafer, MI 49724  
(906) 290-0478  
[capofeup@yahoo.com](mailto:capofeup@yahoo.com)  
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Cottage UP  
Thomas Clark  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 298-2298  
[cottageup@outlook.com](mailto:cottageup@outlook.com)  
Vintage home decor retail store.

Creative Change  
Alan Barr  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(906) 286-1922  
[alanb@creativechange.org](mailto:alanb@creativechange.org)  
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Creative Memories  
Janet Hess  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
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[jhess4cm@hotmail.com](mailto:jhess4cm@hotmail.com)  
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Zac Crook  
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(906) 259-7400  
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David Derusha  
Ashland, WI 54806  
(715) 730-0734  
[Derushaconstruction@yahoo.com](mailto:Derushaconstruction@yahoo.com)  
Construction.

Dream Catchers Consulting LLC  
Bill Pemble  
Williamston, MI 48895  
(517) 243-2877  
[pemblew@gmail.com](mailto:pemblew@gmail.com)  
Business IT maintenance and management.

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(906) 789-9796  
[Jody@dressup906.com](mailto:Jody@dressup906.com)  
Clothing outlet.

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Garden, MI 49835  
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[mcmilly451@gmail.com](mailto:mcmilly451@gmail.com)  
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[flowersautoservice@gmail.com](mailto:flowersautoservice@gmail.com)  
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Dawn Bumstead  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 440-4457  
[dawn@franksplace.biz](mailto:dawn@franksplace.biz)  
Restaurant.

General Contractor  
Fred Sliger  
Trout Creek, MI 49967  
(906) 852-3232  
[fredsliger@jamadots.com](mailto:fredsliger@jamadots.com)  
General contractor.

Gitche Gumees Handcrafted Jewelry  
Gina Harmon  
Newberry, MI 49868  
(906) 293-3625  
[ginavgc@gmail.com](mailto:ginavgc@gmail.com)  
<https://www.lakesuperiorpendants.com/>  
Handcrafted Lake Superior agate, stone and fossil pendants.

Gitchi Enterprises  
Mike Brown  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 203-4491  
[mikeborwnsells@gmail.com](mailto:mikeborwnsells@gmail.com)  
Used car/mobile home dealer.



Good Fruit Video  
Justin Caine  
East Lansing, MI 48826  
(517) 803-9464  
justin@goodfruitvideo.com  
<https://www.goodfruitvideo.com>  
Video Production Company, Personal and Business capabilities.

Great Lakes Roofing & Insulation Systems Inc.  
Craig Miller  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 647-2916  
info@greatlakesroofing.com  
<http://greatlakesroofing.com>  
Commercial Roofing & Insulation Systems.

Greene Environmental Services  
Mike Greene  
Livonia, MI 48154  
(734) 272-8434  
mgreene@greeneenvironmentalservices.com  
Asbestos abatement services.

Gus' Gourmet Nuts  
Dustin Denkins  
Cooks, MI 49817  
(906) 644-2548  
dustin@denkins.net

Hakola Logging  
Tate Hakola  
Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 440-0842  
Cuts, splits, delivers firewood.

Hakola Porta John & Rental  
Tony Hakola  
Cedarville, MI 49719  
(906) 484-6202  
tonyhakola@hotmail.com  
Rental of porta johns and tents.

Hand Trucking  
Andrew Garvin  
Mount Pleasant, TX 75455  
(469) 403-5930  
persevere12@yahoo.com  
We provide vacuum truck services to oil companies.

Herbal Lodge  
Nathan Wright  
Petoskey, MI 49770  
(231) 622-9063  
native14u@yahoo.com  
Herbal medicines and treatments.

Herbst Seamless Gutters  
Kenneth Peterson  
Manistique, MI 49854  
(989) 329-2139  
herbstsg@gmail.com  
<https://www.herbstseamlessgutters.com/>  
Installing Gutters & Gutter Guards.

Hilltop Bar/Restaurant  
Brandon/Tracy McKerchie  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 259-2621  
mckerchiebrandon@yahoo.com  
Restaurant.

Horn's Odds and Ends  
Irene Horn  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 984-2189  
imhorn517@gmail.com  
Antique, vintage and thrift store.

Huck's Pub  
Tate Hakola  
Rudyard, MI 49780  
(906) 442-1042  
Pub/restaurant.

Hunts Maintenance & Services  
Tyson Hunt  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 748-1920  
tysonhunt2019@gmail.com  
Janitorial/Custodial Work and Maintenance

Innes Welding and Repair  
Mike Innes  
Brimley, MI 49715  
(906) 440-5634  
thepropmaster@hotmail.com  
Boat props and small metal working projects.

Irwin Group LLC  
Mitch Irwin  
Lansing, MI 48826  
(517) 896 6875  
irwinmitch@gmail.com  
Business development, investment and consulting.

ISHPI  
Earl Bowers  
Suffolk, VA 23435  
(757) 809-2302  
info@ishpi.net  
Cyber protection service company.

Iversons Outdoors  
Jim Baker  
Munising, MI 49862  
(906) 452-6370  
baker.jimr@gmail.com  
Handcrafted traditional snowshoes.

IvyTek Inc.  
Sandy Griggs  
Jacksonville, FL 32245  
(337) 212-0994  
sales@ivytek.com  
Loan management software services.

JETA Corporation  
Linda Grow  
Neenah, WI 54956  
(888) 380-0805  
lgrow@jetacorp.com  
Distribution.

Jose's Cantina  
Allecia Gallo  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-1519  
gualoca619@gmail.com  
<https://joses-cantina.business.site/>  
Casual Mexican Restaurant.

Kings Fish Market  
Sally Shultz  
Naubinway, MI 49762  
(906) 477-6311  
benschultz3134@gmail.com  
Fish, gifts and sporting goods.

Kings Fish  
Robert King  
Naubinway, MI 49762  
(906) 477-6282  
Wholesale.

Lajoie Trucking Service and Freight  
Marty Lajoie  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 647-3209  
ltsfl@yahoo.com  
Trucking.

Lockview  
Amy Goetz  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49784  
(906) 632-2772  
lockview2019@gmail.com  
Restaurant.

Long Ships Motel  
Scott Albon  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906)748-0589  
scotty\_joce@yahoo.com  
Motel.

Ludington Outdoor Services  
Caleb Bowman  
Ludington, MI 49431  
(231) 690-1002  
Caleb Bowman1982@gmail.com  
Landscaping and tree removal.

M&M Fishing  
Lynn Rickley  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 984-3209  
Fishing company.

Mackinaw Trail Winery  
Laurie Stabile  
Petoskey, MI 49970  
(231) 487-1910  
stabilelaurie@gmail.com  
Winery.

Manley's Famous Smoked Fish  
Don Wright  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 430 0937  
<https://www.facebook.com/Manleysfishmarket>  
Fish market.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mesick Market  
Carl Brasseur  
Mesick, MI 49668  
(231) 885-1030  
carlbrasseur@gmail.com  
Full line grocery store (Spartan Brand).

MI Playground  
Andy/Nick Behling  
Jensen, MI 49428  
(616) 201-8731  
contact@enjoymplayground.com  
Digital media production.

Mid-American Title  
Amy Goetz  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 379-9555  
amy@mid-americanitle.com  
Title agency.

MidJim Convenience Store  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-4782  
jmacdonald@saulttribe.net.  
Convenience store.

MidJim Convenience Store  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-9906  
jmacdonald@saulttribe.net.  
Convenience store.

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

Moofinfries  
Laura Flatt  
Naubinway, MI 49762  
(906) 630-6932  
moofinfries@gmail.com  
<https://www.facebook.com/moofinfries/>

Moore Trosper  
Ted Moore  
Holt, MI 48842  
(517) 694-6310  
tmoore@mooretrosper.com  
Construction.

Mountainside Apartments  
Marrijo Beckman  
Boyne Falls, MI 49713  
(231) 330-1992  
mjbeckman1@gmail.com  
Rental apartments.

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

Mullenbrock and Associates  
Craig Mullenbrock  
Piqua, OH 45356  
(937) 773-8500  
craig.w.mullenbrock@ampf.com  
A private wealth advisory practice.

Muscotts Painting  
James Muscott  
Petoskey, MI 49770  
(231) 342-7055  
jamesmuscott@hotmail.com  
Painting, residential and commercial.

National Painting Contractors (MBE) LLC  
James McClusky  
Kincheloe, MI 49788  
(828) 989-1395  
nationalpaintingcontractors@gmail.com  
Commercial and residential painting.

Native American Church of Turtle Island  
David Gaskin  
Redding, CA 96001  
(906)-256-0062  
davidgaskin4@gmail.com  
<https://www.nacturtleisland.org>  
Helping to develop Indigenous communities.

Native Steel Welding & Fab  
Trystan Ferris  
Moran, MI 49760  
(906) 430-7816  
nativesteelwelding@gmail.com  
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Cedar Springs, MI 49319  
(616) 970-8016  
hallorjo@mail.gvsu.edu  
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Online store selling natural herbs.

NMK Consulting  
Charlee Brissette  
Dafter, MI 49724  
(906) 630-3082  
cnbrissette@gmail.com  
Consulting services for Indigenous health and wellness education, individual or organization.

Nontrivial Solutions LLC  
James Bearden  
Oklahoma City, OK 73137  
(405) 698-3702  
james@nontrivial.net  
Health care system software management.

Northern Hospitality  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-4800  
smckerchie@saulttribe.net  
Flooring service and furniture sales.

Northern Wings  
David Goudreau  
Newberry, MI 49868  
(906) 477-6176  
dave@northernwings.com  
<https://northernwings.com>  
Aerospace and national defense manufacturer.

Ogitchidaa LLC  
Ann Dailey  
Holt, MI 48842  
(906) 322-2716  
ann@companyk.us  
Military/law enforcement training.

Ojibwe Hazardous Abatement  
Rob Arndt  
Escanaba, MI 49729  
(906) 786-3001  
robarndt95@gmail.com  
Asbestos removal and abatement.

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

Pemble Concrete Coatings  
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PemConCo@gmail.com  
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Gould City, MI 49838  
(906) 477-6303  
Nature and wildlife photo art by Jim O'Neil.

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

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

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

Premier Learning  
Colleen Ford  
Swartz Creek, MI 48473  
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cgkford@comcast.net  
Tutoring and tutor training.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Salon C  
Cathy McClellan  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(906) 635-3964  
cathyann906@gmail.com  
Hair salon.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Sugar Island Shores  
Dave Menard  
Sugar Island, MI 49783  
(906) 440-7644  
sugarislandshores@yahoo.com  
Vacation Rental (VRBO).

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

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

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

Superior Web  
Gina Harmon  
Newberry, MI 49868  
(906) 293-3625  
ginavgc@gmail.com  
[www.superiorweb.net/](http://www.superiorweb.net/)  
Responsive web design, web  
page/site builders.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## "Thank you"

The HSC Foundation Inc. wishes to thank Enbridge Fueling Futures, Graymont Community and Economic Development Fund, TC Energy Build Strong on behalf of our foundation and the surrounding Eastern Upper Peninsula communities, which border the Millecoquin Watershed. These grant monies were awarded and paid out for Phase One and Phase Two of the four phase EPA and EGLE approved Millecoquin Watershed Plan. This watershed plan serves to protect and preserve the health of our Great Lakes, nationally and internationally, as well as, the natural resources this watershed provides to neighboring communities. Through these partnerships with Enbridge Corporation, Graymont, TC Energy and the HSC Foundation Inc., we were able to fully fund the first two years of the Millecoquin Watershed Plan. The combined charitable grant awards of \$20,000 per year

from these generous benefactors made possible this environmental protection and preservation plan for the health and quality of our water resources. Over 88,000 acres of land, the Black River and Sage River systems and the adjoining watersheds are also impacted by the health of the Millecoquin Watershed.

We are in this world together. Partnerships which serve the protection of our natural resources and the people impacted by the quality of life these resources support are the reason we work collaboratively to improve and protect the gifts of nature we all enjoy. Heartfelt thanks go to Enbridge Corporation, Graymont, and TC Energy for their generosity in being a vital source of support and collaboration in getting this important work done.

Most sincerely,

The HSC Foundation Inc.  
Engadine, Mich  
[www.hscfoundationinc.org](http://www.hscfoundationinc.org)

Tipping Point Solutions  
Rick Schmidt  
Centennial, CO 80112  
(303) 353-0440  
info@tp-solutions.com  
Digital media production.

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

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

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

Trucor USA Steel Structures  
Michael DiAngelo  
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783  
(705) 542-7208  
michaeldiangelo@trucor.usa.com  
[www.trucorusa.com/](http://www.trucorusa.com/)  
Manufactures permanent, tem-  
porary & emergency steel struc-  
tures.

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

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

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

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

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

Weddings by Judy in Northern  
Michigan  
Judy St. Louis-Scott  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-7064  
stlouis92@yahoo.com  
Wedding Officiant

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

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

Windy Hills Bison Farm  
Carl Brasseur  
Tustin, MI 49688  
(231) 342-4245  
Brasseur@windyhillsbisonfarm.  
com  
Full bison farm and home to  
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Woody's One Stop  
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Full Service Convenience Store  
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U.P.  
Keith Massaway  
St. Ignace, MI 49781  
(906) 643-8643  
kmassaway@msn.com  
Convenience store.

# SADLY, THIS MAY BE MY LAST CHAIR'S REPORT TO THE SAULT TRIBE MEMBERSHIP



## Representing All Members Everywhere

Ahneen, Boozho, Negee:

On January 4, with no evidence and no due process, the Sault Tribe Board of Directors voted to Censure me and remove me from service as an Executive Officer of the National Congress of American Indians. In their zeal to punish me, they are punishing our Tribe by stripping me of these posts. While they claim they do not intend to remove me from office, they have already punished me based solely on accusations.

Further, in complete violation of any semblance of due process, they have authorized an unlimited expense to hire an investigator to go out and find the evidence to justify what they have already done. I am sure they will not find anything as it simply doesn't exist. The investigator, however, is not an attorney and therefore not bound by any due process or legal ethics. The purpose appears to be to find cause for removal after the allegations have already been made. I have fought for years to establish a separation of powers and Tribal Member standing in tribal court to file suit against our very tribal government for violating our Constitutional rights. In this case, the Board is about to violate our

most fundamental right ~ our democratic right to elect our Chairperson.

Further the Board is entirely violating our Tribal Constitution with respect to the Removal provision which is supposed to start with the Membership who submit a petition with one account per petition and with a threshold of about 650 signatures. The account must be a violation of the Tribal Constitution or Tribal Code with the specific reference to being a removable offense. A high threshold is set if they are to undue your democratically elective choice ~ like a criminal conviction. In the case of the Board's act to censure, they have listed out nine accounts ~ presumably to see what sticks and allow for a broad fishing expedition. I suspect where evidence does not exist, it will suddenly appear.

I am not going to address each allegation but I will assure you that the items they list are not removable offenses per our Sault Tribe Constitution. Next, for me to foster an environment of respect and dignity, I would have to be vested the administrative authority to create that environment. Recall that in 2016, the Board removed my administrative authority and ignored the 500 Tribal Citizen signatures submitted to over turn this decision claiming a loop hole. Reading Board Member unit reports, you can see that Board members routinely spend their unit reports maligning my character notwithstanding having just been re-elected with the highest percentage of Chair candidates in over 1/4 of a century.

Next, the allegation that I have breached medical records or patient right to privacy is troubling because it suggests it is possible. This

paints a picture to the federal government ~ the Health and Human Services Department and Indian Health Services that safeguards do not exist in our Tribe such that our entire Tribe should be investigated for allowing such violations as HIPAA. I can assure all of our patients and IHS that no such violation occurred as it is not even possible. We follow strict accreditation guidelines and federal law with respect to patient privacy. Thus, given this allegation cannot possibly be true with the Tribe itself violating HIPAA laws, it appears to have been lodged to invoke a negative reaction to justify their actions.

With respect to the additional confidentially allegations, these apparently refer to the Tribe's Open Meetings Act which protect information from closed sessions of the Board meetings. Some argue this includes workshops. Per the Tribal Constitution, meetings are open to the membership except under rare circumstances when related to litigation, proprietary or business acquisitions, and disciplinary items of employment team members. Per Tribal law, for violation of the Open Meetings Act to be removable, the Board must motion, second and vote to go into closed session. The mere act of closing the door to keep the Members out does not constitute a closed session nor is any discussion items therein protected through the threat of removal. But even then, they will find no evidence here because it does not exist.

The allegation regarding electioneering outside of an election cycle has already been dismissed by the Election Committee last fall as a frivolous complaint. I don't even know what I did or said that led to the complaint file

by the same individual who is now circulating a petition to remove me from office. I suspect any thing I did say is protected speech under the US Constitutional right to Free Speech. The Board swears to uphold both the Tribal and the US Constitutions which in turn includes the right to free speech. Again, the Election Committee has already dismissed this baseless allegation.

Likely the most egregious allegation is something that is protected under federal law ~ namely the *Whistle Blower Protection Act*. In December, just before the Board granted broad authority for our Tribe's economic development assets to be managed from outside of tribal employment, I reported to the Board and responded publicly that the Tribe had just been cited in violation of a US Commerce Department Grant for "Comingling Funds" and "poor fiscal management". The retribution in response for making this publicly known appears to be a violation of the federal Whistle Blowers Protection Act. Tribes are not exempt and Per a Chippewa-Cree case, individual Board Members hold liability.

### REFERENDUM TO PROTECT OUR ASSETS

With the advent of gaming in the mid 1980s, came an influx of revenues at multiples greater than any federal funding our Tribe received at the time trust obligation. With this huge influx of capital came a lot of *waste, fraud and abuse* on the government side under the guise of economic development. While the casino was raking in over \$35 million a year in net revenues, the Tribal EDC was throwing away over \$50 million in failed business ventures.

In December I reported

Possible collusion with Jerry Campbell who part of the Greek Romulus Deal. This is a comedy of errors as both the Greeks and Jerry Campbell have in common that they sued us for millions. We killed the Greek~Campbell deal with a landslide referendum vote and we can do the same with the impending referendum. It appears like retribution and a violation of the Whistle Blower Protection Act to punish me for exposing this.

Earlier in the Day before Censured, I submitted a referendum petition with 3X as many verified signatures as needed. Stay tuned to see if the Board will honor or violate your Constitutional Right of Referendum. Also, please see my Facebook page for details and updates?

### REFERENDUM TO PROTECT YOUR VOTE

Finally, one last provision, WE THE PEOPLE, can exercise is our Right to Referendum to overturn the Board's Decision to Censure Me and set the stage for removal. Please sign the referendum form below and mail it to me asap so the Members can vote to overturn the Board's decision to initiate my removal from office. I am sure some on the Board will try to find a legal reason to thwart your right of referendum. Watch closely to see who will vote to violate this right. And when we do get to vote, please vote to disapprove.

I am sorry it has come to this. I loved serving our People and did my best with honesty and integrity. If you don't like this outcome, please exercise your right to register to vote and vote in the up coming Tribal elections.

Chi McGwitch, Negee,

**PETITION FOR REFERENDUM SUBMITTED BY ELIGIBLE SAULT TRIBE VOTERS** \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

**Article IX - Right of Referendum:** Any enacted or proposed ordinance or resolution of the board of directors shall be submitted to a popular referendum upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the board or when so requested by a petition presented to the board bearing the signatures of at least one hundred eligible voters of the tribe.

~ Bill of Rights, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Constitution

**WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, ARE ELIGIBLE VOTERS OF THE SAULT STE. MARIE TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS AND ARE REQUESTING A REFERENDUM**

**Motion to Approve the Following Regarding the Conduct of the Chairperson: Censure**

[APPROVED AT THE 1/4/2021 MEETING OF THE SAULT TRIBE BOARD]

Signature	Printed Name	Address	City	ST	Zip	Date

Please Return Original Signed Petitions by 2/2/2022 To: Aaron A. Payment, 1716 Shunk Rd, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

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

REGISTER TO VOTE BY CALLING: 1-800-251-6597

# Apply for Unit IV 2 percent funding by March 31



**DENISE CHASE,**  
**DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

I have been receiving inquiries on when the next round of 2 percent applications have to be in. Applications must be received by Candace Blocher no later than March 31 to be considered for the spring distribution cycle.

Unfortunately, the ongoing coronavirus outbreak, which has recently accelerated with infections becoming more widespread, continues to result in a significant loss of revenue for our Kewadin casinos, which affects the amount of 2 percent available for the short-term distribution cycles.

The following 2 percent application requests were approved for the Unit 4 distribution cycle, in the amount of \$25,477.39:

- Thompson Township Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital new treatment tables, \$6,993;
- Gladstone Area Schools Title VI, \$3,500;
- Rapid River Schools Betterment of our Youth, \$3,500;
- Escanaba Area Schools Title VI, \$3,500;
- Gladstone Area Schools Robotics, \$2,984.39; and
- City of Manistique Little

Bear West, \$5,000.

If you are interested in applying for the spring 2 percent distribution cycle, contact Candace Blocher at (906) 635-6050 or [cblocher@saulttribe.net](mailto:cblocher@saulttribe.net) to receive an application, or stop in at your local tribal center to pick one up.

#### **Fisher relief checks**

Friday, Jan. 7, 102 checks were mailed to commercial captains and helpers. The total amount was \$520,878.65. Helpers each received \$3,000 and captains received \$9,139.39.

#### **Land claim elder checks**

There were 6,960 checks issued to Elders 60 and above in the amount of \$455 each. This was a \$10 increase from last year's check of \$445.

The Sault Tribe Manistique YEA program is looking for a youth elder worker with the Senior Employment Program. The person would work under the Manistique YEA coordinator. The position has been posted for

some time and if you're interested, following is the job posting. It was previously posted at \$9.87 per hour but has been changed to \$12.89 per hour.

#### **Youth Elder Worker Manistique YEA Program**

Part-Time/Regular (14 Hours per Week)

Assist YEA staff with chaperoning activities, field trips and outings and ensuring that youth are in a safe environment; assist tutor with homework labs; prepare snacks; assist with cleaning and basic office tasks (copy, fax, file and telephone assistance).

Includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Assist youth with craft projects and homework
- Assist with general office tasks
- Chaperone field trips and culture camp weekends
- Prepare daily snacks
- Assist with cleaning
- All other job-related duties

assigned

Contacts: Youth, parents, team members, community agencies and the general public.

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

WIOA / Senior Employment Program

Attention: Brenda Cadreau, 2 Ice Circle, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783, (906) 635-4767

#### **Job opportunities**

There are many more job opportunities posted tribal wide. Here are a few for the Manistique and Escanaba area:

#### **Manistique**

Certified Medical Coder, Clinic Nurse, Rural Health Manager, LPN, Maintenance

Repairer, Parenting Educator, Physician Supervisor, Prevention Specialist

#### **Escanaba**

Student Services Assistant

If interested, please apply online at [saulttribe.com](http://saulttribe.com) or call (866) 635-7032.

#### **Christmas thanks**

Big "thank you" to Santa and his band of elves, Viola Neadow, Crystal Martin, Rachel Joslin and Darcy Morrow, on getting Christmas mailers out to all the children

We couldn't have done it without you all, you are very much appreciated, more than you know. For all you do, Miigwech!

I would like to wish you and your families all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Please take care and stay safe!

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

Thank you,  
Denise Chase

## Consistent pattern of abuse, mishandling



**KEITH MASSAWAY,**  
**DIRECTOR, UNIT III**  
Happy New Year to everyone.

I hope this year will end better than the last two for everyone. The tribe is still working on its Covid Relief dollars and Recovery Act funding. Spending these funds are very difficult sometimes as many restrictions and time tables are put in place by the funding organizations. We have found over time that our tribe is not the only one that has many challenges meeting some of the strict guidelines put in place. Many other tribes have complained and even sent back money because it is such a daunting task. We are doing our best and I would like to commend all our staff that works so hard and

keeps all of these funds accounted for.

I realize that some, if not most of you, have heard of our censuring of our tribal chairman. This did not happen without a consistent pattern of abuse and mishandling by the chairman of his duties. We cannot afford to have the tribe divided by rumors, half-truths and badgering of our employees. The tribal government is set up to work within our tribal Codes and to foster a healthy path to move everyone forward. This has not been the path of the chairman for quite some time. I find it very unsettling, many of you have responded to me with

the same feelings but it needed to be done. Now the path forward should be of communication and finding a mutual path to remediate the damage done. I hope this can be accomplished quickly and fruitfully. We hope that the tribal members will understand that we do not want to cause anymore division amongst our members. These are trying times and they will pass, with an outcome that leaves the tribe in a better place.

Thank you for all the calls and e-mails.

Keith Massaway, 702 Hazelton St., Saint Ignace MI, [kmassaway@saulttribe.net](mailto:kmassaway@saulttribe.net), (906) 322-3802

## Board of Directors met Dec. 7 and 17 in Sault Ste. Marie

The Sault Tribe Board of Directors met Dec. 7 and Dec. 17 in Sault Ste. Marie and passed the following resolutions.

#### **Resolution 2021-296:**

Approving COVID-19 commercial fisher assistance program — The board approved the COVID-19 Commercial Fisher Assistance Program to offer financial assistance to eligible tribal member fishers to meet necessary and eligible expenses incurred directly or indirectly as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency and its negative economic impacts.

#297: Board of Director FY 2021 Budget Modification — A change to the personnel sheet was approved.

#298: Cultural — After School Ojibwe Language FY 2022 Budget Modification — Approved for a decrease in Federal HHS revenue monies of \$24,795.29.

#299: Natural Resources — Collaborative Fish, Wildlife, and Ecosystem Assessment and Management Survey Project Establishment of FY 2022 Budget — Approved with U.S. Forest Service monies of \$19,138.31.

#300: Natural Resources — Ruffed Grouse FY 2022 Budget Modification — Approved for a change to the personnel sheet and an increase of Federal BIA

Revenue monies of \$30,231.16.

#301: Demawating Development — Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course FY 2022 Budget Modification — Approved for a FY 2022 budget modification for DeMawating Development to add Tanglewood Marsh Golf Course with Other Revenue monies of \$445,503.

#302: Governmental — Industrial Warehouse Complex and FY 2022 Budget Modifications — The board approved the budget modification for an increase in federal Department of Commerce revenue monies of \$1,898,255.34 and Tribal Support monies of \$232,373. This budget modification will also transfer in \$100,000 from Eagle Lending. The board also approved an increase in state of Michigan revenue monies of \$83,333.36.

#303: Continuing Funding Authority for Fiscal Year 2022 January to December — The board approved continuing funding for designated cost centers for fiscal year 2022, at their 2021 spending levels, for a period not to exceed March 31, 2022.

#304: Transportation Program 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) — The board approved the 2022-2025 Transportation Improvement Plan, for projects that were devel-

oped between the Sault Tribe and the BIA for Tribal Shares funding.

#305: Mackinac County Cooperative Agreement — The board authorized a Cooperative Agreement between Mackinac County Road Commission and the tribe and authorized expenditures up to \$60,000, from the Transportation Maintenance Fund to provide, on certain sections of Mackinac Trail and 3 Mile Road, a measure of snow and ice removal during the winter season, which the County would not otherwise be financially able to support.

#306: Approve Contract Award and Federal Funds for Sault Tribe USDA Reconnect Broadband Consultant Project — The board approved the broadband project between the tribe and the consultant, for contracted services required to complete the Sault Tribe Broadband Project, authorized up to \$200,000 from funding that was discussed in a workshop and approved an administrative budget modification.

#307: Authorization to Apply for a Grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) — The board authorized the Sault Tribe EDC to apply to the Michigan Economic Development Corporation for a grant of up to

\$350,000 for the purpose of renovating the vacant space at 531 Ashmun St. for the enhancement of the Tamarack Business Center.

#308: Authorization to Negotiate - Gladstone Medical Property Acquisition — The board authorized the Sault Tribe EDC to negotiate the purchase of the Gladstone Medical Property, 2002 Minneapolis Ave. Gladstone, Mich., at a price not to exceed the agreed upon terms approved by the board and using funds identified during the workshop the acquisition was discussed.

#309: Sault Tribe Corporate Charter Board Appointment Approval — Pursuant to Article VI, Section 6.6 of the Sault Tribe Corporation Charter, the following individuals are hereby appointed to the Corporate Board of the Sault Tribe Incorporated, to serve time as specified below, replacing the vacant seat of Wendy James: Steve Johnson for a term expiring June 30, 2022.

#310: Reaffirm and Reapprove Loans from the Self Sufficiency Funds to the Tribe — The board re-affirmed and re-approved the \$11 million in loans from the funds to the tribe, with the following terms: Company 905-Education Self Sufficiency 8 percent interest (current balance \$1,195,000). Company

907-Funeral 8 percent interest (Current balance \$1,266,666.90). Company 909-Self Sufficiency 8 percent interest (Current balance \$840,000.01).

#311: Authorizing Temporary Management Agreement with Sault Tribe Inc. — The board authorized and approved the management agreement between Sault Tribe Inc. and the tribe's Economic Development Corporation, providing for Sault Tribe Inc.'s temporary management of the tribe's Economic Development Corporation.

#312: Authorizing Vacation Pay-Out Adjustment Plan - Governmental/EDC — The board approved a one-time pandemic-related vacation pay-out of 80 hours of vacation leave, for governmental/EDC team members with over 160 hours accrued.

#313: Approving an Amendment to the COVID-19 Commercial Fisher Assistance Program — Through Resolution 2021-296, the board adopted the COVID-19 Commercial Fisher Assistance Program that was funded with the tribe's CARES Act Governmental Relief Funds.

The board has determined it necessary to amend and supersede the prior program to now fund the program with the tribe's American Rescue Plan Act state  
*See "Resolutions," page 23*

# Board must come together to prioritize its time



**BRIDGETT SORENSON,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT III**

I hope you all were able to spend some time with family and or friends during the holiday season. I tested positive for COVID on Dec. 22, so that put a damper on my family Christmas Eve party. It was a quiet holiday, and, thankfully, neither of my boys or my mother contracted COVID. I was fortunate enough to really only have a stuffy nose, hoarse voice and sneezing for a few days.

Our first meeting in January consisted of many items placed on the agenda by the chairman that were never discussed in workshop and were very political. It is typical behavior prior to an election to play on the emotions of Elders, team members, fishers and members. Then the big bad board has to say no.

By a vote of 10-2, the board of directors censured the chairman on Jan. 4. I will not be expanding on this as there is an impending investigation and will report when that is completed.

The board has to come together to start prioritizing our time. There are so many things that need to be discussed that end up taking a back burner because of games. We need to go back to program quarterly reviews so we can address the needs of our divisions and we can address our concerns and ideas to help better our membership needs. I really believe we should break up some of the items into committees or subcommittees to be able to accomplish more.

The board needs to do a better job of communicating with the membership. I have a personal board Facebook page that I need to be better at communicating. It just seems like if you want to correct the lies that get posted on social media, it would be a full-time job. I also think all areas should have unit meetings so their constituents can come and ask questions. Keith and I hold these monthly even though sometimes nobody shows up. Since Elders haven't been meeting in person, we haven't had our time to address their questions or concerns either.

According to our CFO, the Elder checks should be about \$455 with the interest being a little more than \$3 million and almost 7,000 elders. Every year, we get angry elders asking why their checks get smaller and every year I try to explain that it is the total interest on the land claims fund account divided by the number of elders 60 years and older. I realize people pass on but not as high a rate as others becoming

eligible. The tribe pays 12 percent interest to the lands claim fund instead of bank rates of 2 percent or less.

It is a shame that in the past, money was taken out of the General Fund to bump up the checks in a political game and compounded our debt issues that led to many jobs cut, programs and services cut as well with the overspending. I remember 2008, when the tribe almost didn't have enough money to cover payroll. So, for the chair to try again to increase the checks without analyzing the impact is not fiscally responsible. Who wouldn't want to increase the elders checks? It's not fun being the bad guys.

I still remain concerned that we are still mandating masks at our casinos. Bay Mills and Kewadin are the only ones I know of doing this. Our casinos are taking a big financial hit and I am afraid we may have a hard time recovering. I realize that some will disagree, saying money over health, but COVID relief funding is going to run out. My

personal opinion is to either allow customers to choose or maybe those who can prove vaccination would not have to wear the mask. Many other casinos are business-as-usual with concerts, events, groups and conventions and we can drive a forklift between the aisles of our casinos.

I would like to get back into having cultural workshops in our area. I am going to work on setting up some of these for the coming months. It will be better when we can do things outside to avoid the COVID spread.

Please try and take precautions with your health during these trying times in our communities with the rise in cases, variants and capacities of our hospitals. Please consider getting vaccinated or boosted.

Anyone having questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at bsorenson@saulttribe.net, bridgett91@yahoo.com, or text or call (906) 430-0536. I usually respond quicker to emails, texts or Messenger as I can do that during meetings.

# Housing assistance available for tribal renters



**KIMBERLE GRAVELLE  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Aanii,  
Hello, I hope all is well with everyone going into the New Year.

Our tribe is at a crossroads! Tribal members are trying to

figure out what information currently being posted in the public arena is truth or outright lies. This information is a deliberate attempt to cause harm and tarnish people's reputation. It's a shame that the BOD has to spend valuable time defending themselves against these comments and accusations, while there is important business to take care of. It is my hope that the New Year will bring about positive changes.

I would like to remind the membership that we have an Emergency Rental Assistance Program. Questions to ask yourself are: Are you at risk for housing instability? Are you facing eviction? Are you behind on your rent or utilities?

These funds are available due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Income-eligible members of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chipewewa Indians and households who rent homes *anywhere in the United States* can make an application for this program. Emergency Rental Assistance can provide funding to assist with:

- Rental Arrears
- Utility Arrears
- Current and Prospective Rent Payments
- Other Housing Expenses incurred related to housing due, directly or indirectly, to COVID-19 that qualify for assistance under federal law.

For more information or to make an application contact: Sault Tribe Housing Authority, 154 Parkside, Kincheloe, MI 49752; (906) 495-1450 or (800) 794-4072; or email Emergency-RentalAssistanceProgram@sault-tribe.net.

tribe.net.

Funding for this program is provided by the U.S. Department of Treasury.

I would like to remind everyone that if you move from your residence to a new address without notifying the Tribal Tax Office, the Enrollment Dept. and the Communications Dept., you may lose the following: possible tax exemptions, tribal election ballots, elder's dividends, important notices sent by mail and newspaper delivery.

As always, I would like to thank team members for their dedication and continued hard work.

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

If you have any questions or comments, you can contact me at (906) 203-6083 or at KKGravelle@saulttribe.net.

Stay safe and healthy.  
Thank You,  
Kim

# Harsh year but had bright spots



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

Ahnee. We hope everyone had safe and happy holidays. The winter has seemed to have settled in and the cold harsh weather is upon us. If you need to travel, please drive safe and allow plenty of extra time to get where you are going. Remember to check in on our elderly to make sure they are all right.

2021 was a very hard year on us as we struggled to survive

through this pandemic. I want to say my heart goes out to those who's loved ones walked on this past year.

Even though our casinos were down this past year, they managed to remain profitable. As with most businesses, we also suffered trying to fill open positions. 2022 should be a much better year with the virus hopefully becoming more under control but only time will tell. Let me say I for one want to say thank you to the casino team members for doing a great job keeping the patrons as safe as possible and still working to do their best helping to keep our gaming establishments up and running.

2021 did have some bright spots. For the first time since Sault Tribe's recognition, we managed to provide monies to every tribal member. We established rental/emergency needs assistance to all tribal members who met income guidelines. The board of directors passed a \$3 per hour raise for all team members.

We established a foothold in the online gaming industry, which brought in much needed revenue this year and will well into the future. We opened three new dispensaries that have proven to be highly profitable.

Our EDC businesses performed very well this year even with the pandemic. Our recently purchased businesses such as the White Pine Hotel, a hazardous abatement company, and the Harvey property/storage units, which did very well this past year and are proving to be solid and profitable investments.

One day I hope to see our past leaders' dreams of self-sufficiency come true. We have a long way to go to see that come true and we need to keep working towards that goal.

Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns at cmatson@saulttribe.net or (906) 450-5094.

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

# Elders, sign up for meal delivery



**DARCY MORROW,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT IV**

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. Director Chase and I would like to thank our Santa helpers Rachael Joslin, Crystal Martin and Viola Neadow. We appreciate all their help with getting the Santa gift card mailers out to the Unit 4 children. It has been sad the last two years not to see all our children and families, but it is the safest way for our members at this time.

Hopefully, next year, we can get back to holding our Christmas parties for the children and our

Elders. As we all know, COVID is back on the rise again, please make sure you are staying safe. And, please check on Elders near you to ensure they have the things they may need.

The Manistique Elder Meal program now offers meal delivery four days a week, Monday through Thursday. If you would like to sign up for meal delivery you need to contact the Elder Service Division Nurse Mark Willis at (906) 635-4971. Mark has an assessment he will go over with the Elder. They have criteria to meet, and Mark has to ensure the Elder lives within the Manistique delivery area. Please contact Mark if you or a family Elder is interested in signing up.

Let's pray we can soon go back to holding our in-person cultural teachings, classes and community gatherings. I miss seeing the Elders at their lunches. I hope you are all doing well.

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

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

# Hessel Ridge is Indian Land we have recovered



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

I am finally about to make an announcement that has been coming for quite some time. Months ago, the tribe started pursuing gaining land known as the Tanglewood Golf course in Sault Ste Marie and Hessel Ridge in Hessel. We have many discussions about each purchase and I would like to speak about only Hessel only. This is INDIAN LAND we lost many years ago. This will enhance our already established business community — Hessel Kewadin Casino, Campground and also our community with the tribal center and housing site needs. Many people do not know, but in the back of that 157 acres of Indian land is an old trail that our ancestors used known as the “Bear Trail”

and it's still visible and there to take care of — this course is much more than just another golf course.

It is with great pride that we acted to pursue and regain our land and I am so pleased that a majority of the board took the position to purchase it. If we play our cards right, we can use this operating course to enhance our business and customers for the casino to build up more customers as well. Many other tribes have a framework in place with courses that are a great asset to their properties, but more importantly, to me and in full disclosure moving forward I personally want much more than just another golf course...This could be a destination for a full outdoor enrichment facility for our Youth, Elders and members.

Our unit has no debt, no Big Bear, no facilities for any kind of recreation or exercise, and this will be an asset for years to come for our members. It could also include culture activities, career paths for golf and training and career paths for those interested in outdoor work for our youth, outdoor teachings such as hunting, fishing, Sugar bush/Maple syrup collection and teachings, cross country snowshoeing, outdoor ice rink, walking paths and many other health and wellness activities — in the dead of winter

we have absolutely nothing for our members to access any kind of well-being indoor activities. We can also host our own tournaments for scholarships for students (we have been paying other courses to host us for years). This will take an enormous amount of planning and work.

I would like to invite anyone to contact me if you have suggestions or input about the use of these lands, and, once we can host community meetings again, I will be taking the lead to gain that input from all our community members. This is such a great opportunity for our land, casino, youth, Elders, membership golfers and our non-Native community. After research in these times a pursuer could NOT build a golf course for anything less than a ridiculous amount per hole. Again, this as an existing, well maintained 18-hole course. I will not disclose the price here or on social media because very frankly I do not believe that's the public's business, this is our tribe's business. But I assure you we gained this land/course for a very reasonable and fair price. We did vote for this in open session and any member who was present at the meeting had access to that amount through our passing of the resolutions as we do that ALL in open sessions of our meetings. (And if you want to

know, call me I will be happy to share any information you would like to know, now that it's complete and I can openly discuss it.) I hope many have visions for the future as I do and will work toward for this to be much more than another golf course. If we look to other tribes, they have and do many amazing things to accommodate this sport and their land use. Having any land back anywhere as a tribe will always be a priority to me especially land that has been in our history and is known as the “Old Bear Trail.”

2021 was such a challenging year for our tribe. Our medical staff administered thousands of vaccinations for our members and the non-Native community. Our success and role in this should be celebrated in saving lives and keeping people safe. Our tribe also compensated those who hosted the clinics in hundreds of thousands of bonus dollars. We attempted to keep everyone safe and did this in a way to thank them for their selfless work. In 2021, our tribe also put over \$80 million into tribal families' households to help with relief during the pandemic; this came with departments working many extra hours to accomplish this. I am thankful for them and their work to get this done to assist our people.

We continue to make great strides with our EDC and STI facets of the tribe. Both have many tribal members working the back and front lines and our Sault Tribe Inc board is made up of mostly tribal members that take great pride in making decisions to advance us. This is a 2021 endeavor that we should all celebrate as well.

We have also increased all employees' wages with a permanent \$3 increase in wages to retain the people we have and recruit the people we still need.

Finally, we have administered and assisted our fishermen, the captains and helpers who demonstrated lost wages during the pandemic. We released over a \$.5 million to be paid to them. It's not perfect but all had relief and that was a priority for the funds.

In closing, I hope 2022 will be successful for our people. I will continue to keep things moving forward and work with all to accomplish advancing services, growing businesses and promoting a better workplace with policy changes brought forward. I apologize for the turmoil and continue to take my responsibility to keep things moving to advance in a sacred and humble way.

Lana Causley-Smith  
Sault Ste Marie Tribe of  
Chippewa Indians  
Board of Directors

## Board of Directors can't change Constitution



**BETTY FREIHEIT,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

Hello Tribal Members, Members please be careful to safeguard your health. COVID is throughout our community and will likely increase. So many of

us have lost loved ones, and others have experience long lasting impacts of this virus. Please wear your mask and practice good hand hygiene. Please avoid closed indoor spaces when possible. And please consider vaccinations if you are not already vaccinated. This will pass, eventually, and we want to keep everyone safe until it does.

Although I am rather confident a number of board members will write about the events of the Jan. 4, 2022, meeting in regard to the chairman, I am choosing not to at this time. I believe more truths regarding this issue will be revealed in time and I will reserve my comment until then. I will however state that I voted against the action. I do not

believe the charges are valid, and I oppose the method in which the select board members went about creating and delivering them.

I have been contacted by a number of members who are upset about the recent tribal board purchase of two golf courses. I did not support these purchases. I believe we should have had a clear plan for use and a budget for maintenance prior to proceedings. We have so many members with basic living needs, that it does not seem right to expand funds for a project that may or may not be lucrative years down the road. We have already done that too many times. People in need of housing and basic necessities for living should be a priority.

I also regret that once again the board refused to act on several members serving resolutions. Tribal employees deserve a livable wage. It should be a budget priority not the last item on the list. If we can find funds for major purchases that will not yield profits for years, we can find funds for employee wages. Other tribes have moved to establish a tribal minimum wage and the results have been improved morale and employee retention.

We need to follow our Constitution in terms of who is eligible to run for office. Years ago, the board implemented a residency requirement that is not found in our Constitution. It should be removed. The board once again refused to act on a resolution to

remove it. As a board we have the ability to interpret the Constitution, but we do not have the authority to change it or add to it. Only the members can do that through a tribal-wide vote.

The election cycle will begin at the end of this month. Half the board is up for re-election and there are vacancies in all units. Candidates will be coming forward. Please read all platforms carefully.

In closing, as always, please take care of yourself and family. Help your neighbors anytime you can and please take care of our elders.

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

## We should be accountable for breaking our laws



**MICHAEL MCKERCHE,  
DIRECTOR, UNIT I**

The stress of the pandemic lingers on. It's compounded with the actions and reactions of our chair and board—our first meeting of 2022 resulted in the board

of directors censuring the chair. You will hear several sides to the censure and why it was done, the entire board has been legally advised not to discuss or do interviews until the investigation can run its course. Of course, some will follow this advice and others will not. It is the nature of politics to try and get in front of a story and get your side out there before the other guy, but getting your side of the story out first doesn't make it true and doesn't always help. I urge the membership to have patience during this time and withhold judgment until the investigation is concluded.

Our tribe has spent the better part of a year tearing at each other; perhaps even longer behind the scenes. We've been

fighting amongst ourselves and it makes things difficult to get anything accomplished. Truth is, we should have censured a long time ago and maybe we would have avoided a lot of this mess that we find ourselves in now. We shouldn't let the little things slide; we should fight the good fight every time. When any board member is “out of order” it should be called out. If the behavior continues, they should be censured and fined. No one is above the law, nor can we turn a blind eye to anyone breaking our laws or abusing our team members, regardless of position, regardless of how well they do something or how many people voted for them—if you break our laws, you should and will be held accountable.

Despite the turmoil and division, the Sault Tribe accomplished many good things this year. We have a long road to get through this pandemic and the loss of gaming revenue is felt everywhere. But several factors help us weather this storm thus far and I am very hopeful of our continued success. Our success and ability are directly attributed to our team members. We continue to diversify our economic development, expand our gaming presence online and great opportunities are on the horizon with our ability to obtain 8a contracts and do additional business with partners on a much bigger scale.

No matter the outcome of the censure, the tribe carries on. We carry on because there are always people in the community and

team members in our workforce that want us to succeed; want our communities to succeed. I am thankful for that. So, take a pause for all the commotion and online quarreling and remember where we came from and keep our eyes focused on where we want to go. We will get past this as we always do. Hopefully stronger, hopefully wiser, and hopefully more united. And, even if none of those things happen, we will carry on anyways because our tribe is bigger than who leads it, it's bigger than any actions or inactions of a few board members.

Miigwech for your understanding and taking time to read this. Any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (906) 440-7768.



Sault Tribe Human Resources held an ugly sweater contest for Christmas. The winner was Jeff Rogers sporting a llama sweater with pouch. Contestants were (L-R) Caroline Neal, Heather Smith, Kim Huskey, Michaela Miller, Jeff Rogers and (kneeling in front) Chelby Archambeau.

### Housing Dress Down funds helps families at Christmas

The Sault Tribe Housing Authority gave away \$1,500 in gift cards to Housing families for Christmas this year. The funds were generated from Housing employees who wish to dress down throughout the year. A total of 30 families were assisted in the Low-Income and Homeownership programs.

The Housing Authority hopes that everyone had a great holiday season and wishes a happy and healthy New Year to all!

From "Walking On," Page 13 photography, reading, model airplane construction, journaling, hunting, fishing, and farming. He was a weather spotter for the local news and attended flight instruction. He was a self-taught guitarist who would occasionally entertain his family by performing original songs, or old French songs from his youth and other jaunty tunes. Raymond was his family's "raconteur," which is a French word for someone who tells anecdotes in a skillful and amusing way.

Per Raymond's request, cremation services were accorded. Raymond will be interned next to his wife at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church Cemetery on a later date in 2022 with full military honors conducted by the American Legion Post #290 and the United States Army Honor Guard.

Condolences may be expressed at [www.beaulieufuner.alhome.com](http://www.beaulieufuner.alhome.com).

Beaulieu Funeral Home in Newberry is assisting the family.

From "Resolutions," page 20 and local fiscal recovery funds to provide more effective assistance to eligible fishers who experienced negative economic impacts as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency.

The program will be funded with the tribe's American Rescue Plan Act State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, which are allocated through the existing administrative and budgeting processes of the tribe.

To see approved resolutions in their entirety, visit [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) and look for the downloads section on the menu bar.



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## In desperate need of an independent judicial branch

Austin Lowes, Unit I January 2022 Report



There has been a lot of misinformation circulating about the allegations and sanctions placed against the Chairperson. In the real world, the accused have a right to defend themselves in a court of law. But we don't live in the real world. We live in the tribal bubble. In the tribal bubble, there is no separation of powers. There is no due process. The board has ultimate authority, and it can make allegations at will. The board can also issue punishments before a verdict is reached, which is evidenced by their recent actions.

I must ask, why is the board authorizing a private firm to investigate the chairperson if they've already reached their conclusion? Why are they doing this if they've already issued their punishment? The answer is simple: political retribution. There is an election beginning at the end of the month, and the chairperson has been critical of many board members. Board seats are lucrative positions where people engage in toxicity to obtain and retain them. If you take the money out of politics, the drama goes with it. But that's not the case. We have a board that puts itself on a pedestal. This allows them to create their own salary, receive a pension more generous than what others will receive, and be exempt from what is required from other team members. This includes drug testing, a dress code, office hours and other forms of accountability.

How should we proceed? I have long advocated for a judicial branch that can perform checks and balances on the board and chairperson. If we had this, an independently elected judge, or a panel of our judges, could review the allegations against the chairperson and make a determination based on tribal law. But we don't have this. We have a board with no legal experience issuing legal remedies. We are also a sovereign nation about to become reliant on a non-tribal firm to make a determination on our highest office. There is something wrong with this picture.

I believe the end game is removal. This would be unfortunate because it would invalidate the 2020 election where the chairperson was re-elected by the largest margin in decades. If this occurs, I implore my fellow board members to follow the precedent set when Denny McKelvie's seat was filled after his death. When this happened, the board held a special election to fill his seat, which was won overwhelmingly by Betty Freiheit. If a removal takes place, the membership, which consists of 44,000 people, should decide our next chairperson, not our board of 12 individuals.

I want to end this by imploring the membership to stay safe. We're all tired of the pandemic, but the Omicron variant is causing record numbers of COVID cases. Please make the best choices for yourself and your family. Also, miigwech to the hunters who donated deer this year. Venison is culturally important for our people, and your actions helped many.

As always, it's an honor to serve you!

Austin Lowes